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/ Soil Survey Manual (SSM) The newly updated Soil Survey Manual (issued March 2017), USDA Handbook No. 18, provides the major principles and practices needed for making and using soil surveys and for assembling and using related data. The Manual serves as a guiding document for activities of the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS). National Soil Survey Handbook (NSSH) The National Soil Survey Handbook (NSSH) provides the main operational and procedural guidance for conducting the NRCS portion of the National Cooperative Soil Survey program. The NSSH is a subdivision of the NRCS directives system. It consists of Title 430, Soil Survey, parts 600 through 659. The Soil Survey Manual, USDA Handbook No. 18, Fourth Edition, provides the major principles and practices needed for making and using soil surveys and for assembling and using related data. This work is performed by the National Cooperative Soil Survey in the United States and by other similar organizations worldwide. Soil Survey Division Staff, "Soil Survey Manual," Handbook 18, US Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, 1993. has been cited by the following article: TITLE: Coliform Bacteria: The Effect of Sediments on Decay Rates and on Required Detention Times in Stormwater BMPs