

Alex Summitt



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Advisor: Dante Fratta

Previous Education:

BS in Geological Engineering and Geology from UW-Madison

Research Focus:

Currently I have 2 research projects that I am working on. The first is tracking Effluent Plumes from septic leach fields using geophysical methods. This project has field sites that include a single-family residence in a recently developed sub-division in Sun Prairie, WI and a state park on a lake near Stevens Point, WI. Using Electrical Resistivity, Ground Penetrating Radar, and Induced Polarization changes in conductive properties of the ground down gradient of septic leach fields are monitored over time. The other project is measuring changes in hydraulic properties of kaolinite-diatom mixtures over wetting-drying cycles. The ultimate goal of this project is to engineer soils that can be used in landfill liners and caps and will degrade less over time than traditional covers. This research project has led me to spend the summer of 2008 working at UNAM in Mexico City.

Outside Interests:

I play hockey and soccer. I enjoy a number of outdoor activities, especially downhill skiing.