

**Description:**

The purpose of the section is to highlight current applicable UMCP Design Standards for the preparation of soils, due to the disturbance of any established soil conditions.

**Related Sections:**

- TBD

**Effective Date:**

July 10, 2009

**Applicable Standards:**

- TBD

**General Requirements:**

- The top 18" of soil at the project site shall be tested to determine its suitability as a component of the planting media. If it is determined to be suitable, the contractor shall be required to remove and stockpile the top 18" of soil in areas that are to be re-graded or otherwise disturbed. This includes staging areas and areas where equipment or materials is stockpiled.
- If the top 18" is found not to be suitable, it must be amended to meet minimum specifications listed in the "Stripped Soil" section below, prior to placement on site. In addition, soil prepared for backfilling shall be protected from compaction and contamination.
  - Landscape installation shall be accomplished by companies that are skilled in landscape installation and planting must be accomplished during the appropriate season. The successful bidder shall have on staff a "Certified Professional Horticulturalist" or Registered Landscape Architect and show proof of having satisfactory completion of similar size landscaping projects in both dollar value and size of plant material to be installed.
  - Stripped soil used for the planting media shall be tested by the contractor and amended if necessary to meet specifications prior to placement on the site. Soil shall be a sandy loam or silt loam in texture with a minimum of 3% organic matter, stones and debris no larger than 2", pH of 5.0 - 7.0, and soluble salts not greater than 500PPM. Suitable soil shall then be mixed with compost not to exceed 1/3 by volume and blended so the mixture is uniform.
  - Placement of the backfill planting media shall be done so there is no equipment driven over the top soil. This will require that utilities be installed at specified depth and landscape plants be placed onto the sub-grade before installation of soil backfill. After utilities and plants have been installed, place soil and compact as specified starting from one end of the site and working away from finished areas.