



April 11, 2025

MEMORANDUM

Re: Requirements for Imported Screened Topsoil

This memo serves to outline the required specifications and quality expectations for any screened topsoil imported to the site. The integrity of site restoration and planting success depends on adherence to the following standards.

Definition: Imported screened topsoil must be a well-balanced mixture of mineral particulates, organic matter, and microorganisms capable of supporting healthy and sustained plant growth appropriate for the intended use.

Required Specifications:

1. **Soil Texture (Canadian System of Soil Classification):**
 - 20–70% sand
 - Minimum 7% clay
 - 4–10% organic matter by weight
2. **Chemical and Physical Characteristics:**
 - pH range: 5.5 to 7.5
 - Free of toxic substances or any growth-inhibiting materials
 - Consistence: friable when moist
 - Free from subsoil, clay clumps, stones, excess moisture, frost, and other extraneous matter
3. **Debris and Vegetative Matter:**
 - Finished surface must be free of:
 - Debris greater than 50 mm in diameter
 - Coarse vegetative material (exceeding 10 mm in diameter or 100 mm in length), which must not occupy more than 2% of the soil volume
4. **Testing Requirements:** A soil quality test must be completed and approved by the Rehabilitation Supervisor prior to delivery. The test must include the following parameters:
 - Organic Matter (% by weight)
 - Bicarbonate Phosphorus (Bicarb P)
 - Bray Phosphorus (Bray P)
 - Exchangeable Potassium (K), Magnesium (Mg), Calcium (Ca), Sodium (Na), and Aluminum (Al)
 - Soil pH and Buffer pH
 - Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC)



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- Percent Base Saturation of Cations
- Percent Phosphorus (%)
- Total Nitrogen (%)

All test results and documentation must be submitted for review and approval prior to soil placement. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in rejection of the material and additional corrective measures at the contractor's expense.

Please direct any questions or requests for clarification to Colleen Bradley, crbradley@toarc.com.

Sincerely,

Danielle M. Solondz
Program Manager, TOARC