

**Description:**

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

**Related Sections:**

- 32 80 00 Site Irrigation

**Effective Date:**

January 1, 2021

**Applicable Standards:**

- TBD

**General Requirements:****Removal and Storage of Existing Soil Material:**

- The top layer of soil from designated locations on the project site shall be tested to determine its suitability as a component as planting media. If it is determined to be suitable, the contractor shall be required to remove, stockpile and protect the top layers of designated soil to a singated 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.
- Landscape installations shall be accomplished by companies that are skilled in landscape/planting installation. All planting must be accomplished during the appropriate seasons. The awarded 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.
- Placement of the backfill planting media shall be done so there is no equipment driven over the top soil. This will require that utilities are designed to be installed at specified depth and landscape plants be placed onto the sub-grade before installation of soil backfill. Only after utilities and plants have been installed, should final placement of soil and compaction occur as specified, starting from one end of the site and working away from finished areas.

**Soil Testing and Acceptance for Reuse:**

- Stripped soil used for the planting media shall be treated by contractor and amended if necessary to meet specifications prior to replacement 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 500 PPM. Suitable soil shall then be mixed with compost not to exceed 1/3 by volume and blended so the mixture is uniform.