

Urban Soil Primer

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March 9th, 2010

Urban Soil Primer- A NRCS Publication

- For homeowners & renters, local planning boards, property managers, students and educators.





Urban Soil Primer

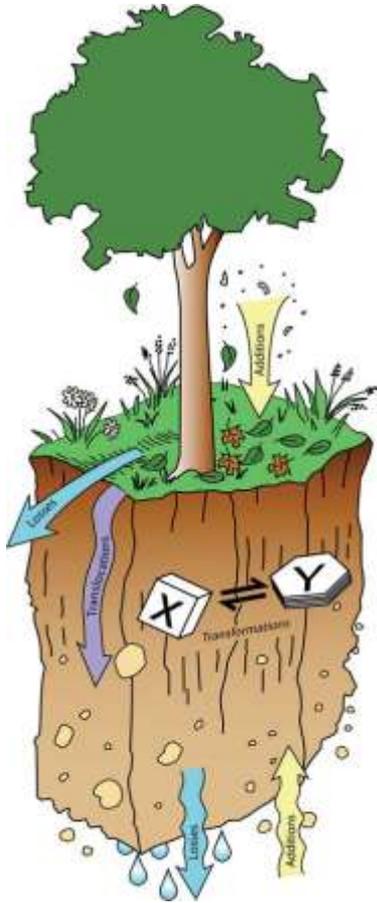
- Primary goal to help those who live in cities understand soil and to help them know where and how to get more information about soil.
- Supports good decision making for planners and citizens as they use their soil as a basic and valuable resource.



Common Ground!

- ❑ Soil is a common link to all projects whether one wants to build a park, a street, a golf course, or a large building, landscape a yard or plant a garden.
- ❑ Project Managers and homeowners can predict trends in a soil's behavior under similar situations.

Soil Forming Processes-Human Induced in Urban Areas



- Additions- organic matter, pollution, fertilizer, and soil deposits
- Transformations- microorganisms
- Translocations- movement
- Losses- water induced

The Soil Profile





The Urban Difference

- ❑ Horizons can be manmade layers formed from dredge spoils, fill or any other mixed material
- ❑ Human Artifacts- bricks, bottles, plastic, glass, pesticides, petroleum products etc.
- ❑ Differ from natural soils because they have been altered to some degree.
- ❑ No longer possess natural soil properties.



Great Variability

- ❑ Variation caused by moving and mixing of materials during construction or changes in any of the soil forming factors.
- ❑ Can limit or improve the soil for specific use.
- ❑ Affects water, nutrient, and contaminant absorption.
- ❑ Their ability to function is determined by what types of foreign objects are in it.



Urban Soil Primer

- ❑ An excellent easy to understand synopsis of soils in urban landscapes
- ❑ Use and Management Dependent
- ❑ Essential to understand for planning purposes
- ❑ Discusses differences between natural soils and human altered soils.
- ❑ A useful resource!!!!

Enjoy your copy in your
goodie bags!!!

Thank You!