Restored Soils BMP

Prevent Runoff from Landscape and Hardscape Areas

Overview

Simple, cost-effective practice for restoring and preserving long-term permeability of soils compacted by vehicular or, in the case of clayey soils, even foot traffic. Till the soil as well as compost the soil.

Why Amend?

Compaction reduces soil voids, reducing permeability. In other words, healthy soil contains equal amounts of air and water, but when soil is compacted then there is no air and therefore the soil cannot hold any water. This increase runoff as well as reduces agriculture and the ability to plant.

Cost

Real estate agents estimate that the landscape accounts for about 5-10% of the total sales for a house. Costs vary depending on work and whether the law is returned to a lawn or if it is replaced with a shrub garden or meadow. Costs range from $0.92 per square foot if you do the work yourself and simply return the area to a lawn to $4.46 per foot if you replace the lawn with a garden or meadow using hired professionals.

Siting

Restored soils should be used anywhere soils have been disturbed and where a future landscape area is proposed with few exceptions:

- Within sensitive areas
- On slopes greater than 2:1
- Over utilities with any material that may be less than 12 inches deep