

**** SOIL is a SCIENCE ****

SOIL GUIDELINES at a High Level

Each plant, grass, seed, lawn and environments are different, and the following are guidelines. You need to make your own decisions with your own research or consult with a professional landscaper on your specific soil needs.

Before ordering or picking up any soils, compost, etc. make sure you understand what you are getting and whatever is best for your plants/grass, etc. because our goal is to have a satisfied customer. When wet, damp or humidity Topsoil may have clumps and most of the time it's a clump of soil that has been damp (from rain) and makes what we'll call a "snowball" but will break apart once it is dry and crushed.

We recommend to "TILL" all soils into your existing soil for best results. If your plants, seed, lawn need a specific mix, please contact our office as we can make most all specialty blends can be made once you are onsite and pay for your order.

TOP DRESSING CURRENT LAWN:

1. Aerate (because this will allow holes for the compost to fall into the cores and settle for penetration).
2. Only use about $\frac{1}{4}$ " compost OR compost and sand blend (don't use too much as it can smother the lawn). You can use $\frac{1}{2}$ " of compost however that is max and only if your grass is already 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick. NEVER USE TOPSOIL for Top Dressing.
3. Water/irrigate your lawn to allow the compost in the aerated holes.
4. Keep moist but follow the instructions for your plants/seed/sod.

PLANT NEW GRASS:

1. Are you going to spray old grass out? Customer's do not have to but good to get weeds out before tilling.

"TAT" RULE: T=TILL; A=Add/Amend; T=TILL again

2. TILL current soil as deep as you can (minimum 3" to 4"). If roots are around till towards the tree so you don't cut any big roots. (Rent a "Tiller" from Triangle Equipment Company (919) 781-7910 or a local rental company of your choice. If you can Till fairly easy you can use compost - if you can't till well use 50/50.
3. Amend/Add the NEW Compost or 50/50 Soil on top of the Tilled existing soil.
4. TILL the NEW Compost or 50/50 soil into the existing soil to get a good homogeneous mix (mix/blend well).
5. **Level the SOIL with a Rake and pull out any sticks/rock** if using the 50/50 Soil, because remember we use a $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 1" screen for our Topsoil as small things will get through.
6. Put down **Seed**. (Follow seed/sod direction).
7. Use a **ROLLER to press down the Seed** into the Compost/Soil to have a good "Seed/Soil Contact".
8. Use **Wheat Straw** to cover to hold seed in place. (if there are inclines they will have "washout" of soil with a hard rain).
9. Make sure you water, keep moist and follow the instructions for your plants/seed/sod.
10. Use 10% Rule. Ex: If you believe you'll need 5 CY you may need a little more because we've never seen anyone spread a $\frac{1}{4}$ " evenly and people usually run out. Most anyone can grow grass (fescue) in the "Fall" season because its cooler.

SOILS for PLANTS/FLOWERS/LAWNS:

1. **50/50 Soil Blend:** The most popular soil blend combines **50/50 pH Balance (PART organic compost and PART screened topsoil/sandy loam)** See Topsoil details below) This was created to make an easy to use planting medium which has organic nutrients to make a mixture that will both provide structure to your plants and allow water to flow through. An all-around product that may be used for planting shrubs, building berms, or flower or gardens, as well as, many other landscape applications.
2. **TOPSOIL:** Our topsoil is from our surrounding area so it's a "**NORTH CAROLINA NATIVE TOPSOIL**". It's screened with a 3/4" screen to eliminate most debris/materials (sticks, rocks, etc.) and it **WILL NOT ELIMINATE EVERYTHING**. For example: it's very clean but a few sticks, rocks, etc... can get through our screen because the diameter is around 3/4" so please understand how this works before you order or pick up.
3. **FLOWER BED MIX 1 (Needs to be Tilled Into Existing Soil):** This soil is for flower beds however NEEDS to be "TILLED" into your existing soil. (Mixture of Certified Compost, Probase and Coarse Sand). This is a specialty blend will need advanced notice to mix as we do not stock pile. All specialty blends need to be paid in advance at time of order & no refunds or returns even if it's not pick up.
5 CY to 9 CY MINIMUM for Delivery with \$60 Delivery Fee within 10 miles. 1 CY MINIMUM for Pick Up.
4. **FLOWER BED MIX 2 (Ready to Use, Does Not Need Tilled):** This soil mix is for any type of flower, vegetable garden, raised beds, pots and ready to use. Does not need to be tilled into existing soil. (Mixture: 80% 50/50 & 20% Probase) This is a specialty blend & will need advanced notice to mix, we do not stock pile. This is a specialty blend will need advanced notice to mix as we do not stock pile. Needs to be paid in advance at time of order & no refunds or returns even if it's not pick up.
5 CY to 9 CY MINIMUM for Delivery w/\$60 Delivery Fee within 10 miles. 1 CY MINIMUM for Pick Up