



from parking lots
to *paradise*

Depave Soil Testing Policy

Depave requires that the soil under the pavement be tested before we will participate in its removal. As an organization, we are committed to testing soil to ensure that we are not exposing our volunteers to harmful pollutants at the depaving work party and the public as they use the greenspace. The site host is expected to pay to test their soil before we start the project.

If the post depave plan does not include growing food, Depave requires that the soil be tested for:

- Lead
- Cadmium
- Hydrocarbons
- Arsenic

If the post depave plan includes growing food, Depave requires the testing of organochlorine pesticides in addition to the contaminants listed above.

If the site is located near a stream, lake, pond or other body of water, future site design and implementation may require additional soil testing. A depave site coordinator will assist project organizers in evaluating whether or not additional tests may be needed.

Soil Testing Process

Depave Led Projects:

For sites where Depave is leading the project, Depave will take samples and submit them to a lab for testing. The site host will be required to pay for the soil testing.

Depave will cut three holes in pavement, exposing the covered soil below. Samples will be collected from each area and combined to create one composite sample. Samples will be logged for date and location and are sent to a third-party soil tester in the Portland area for analysis.

If no or acceptable, low-levels of contaminants are found, Depave and the site host will proceed with the project.

If contamination is found and the site host is still interested in depaving, the site host will pay for further testing. If we are able to isolate the contamination and determine it is safe to proceed with the depaving, the site host will create a plan for cleanup. If the contamination level(s) is determined to be too high for us to safely depave the property, Depave will not continue with the project.

Depave Assisted Projects:

For sites where Depave is a site advisor but not the lead project organizer, Depave requires the results of soil testing as described above, or a payment of \$200 plus test costs for Depave to take the soil samples.

Depave is not an expert in soil testing, contamination or remediation. For questions regarding contamination issues contact the Portland Brownfields Program, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality or the Environmental Protection Agency.