



from parking lots
to *paradise*

Depave Soil Testing Recommendations

Depave promotes the strategic removal of pavement. We do not encourage community members to remove pavement that is covering contaminated soil.

If contamination is currently present in the soil under the pavement on your site, the contamination is capped which may be reducing the negative environmental or health impacts. If the soil is uncapped, through depaving, unless there is a cleanup plan in place, removing the pavement may do more harm than good.

Depave strongly recommends that the soil under the pavement be tested before it is removed. As a community-focused organization, we are committed to testing soil to ensure that we are not exposing volunteers to harmful pollutants during the project process and the public as they use the new greenspace.

If the vision for the greenspace does not include growing food, Depave requires that the soil be tested for:

- Lead
- Cadmium
- Hydrocarbons
- Arsenic

If the vision for the greenspace includes growing food, Depave requires additional testing for organochlorine pesticides.

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. Depave will assist Site Hosts in evaluating whether or not additional tests may be needed.

Possible Adverse Health Effects of Exposures to Lead

Lead exposure affects the nervous system and can cause a range of health effects, from behavioral problems and learning disabilities, to seizures and death. Children six years old and younger are most at risk.

Children

If not detected early, children with high levels of lead in their bodies can suffer from:

- Damage to the brain and nervous system
- Behavior and learning problems, such as hyperactivity
- Slowed growth
- Hearing problems
- Headaches
- Anemia
- In rare cases of acute lead poisoning from ingestion of lead, seizures, coma and even death.

Pregnant Women

Lead can accumulate in our bodies over time, where it is stored in bones along with calcium. During pregnancy, lead is released from bones as maternal calcium is used to help form the bones of the fetus. This is particularly true if a woman does not have enough dietary calcium. Lead can also be easily circulated from the mother's blood stream through the

placenta to the fetus. Mothers with high levels of lead in their bodies can expose their developing fetuses, resulting in serious and developmental problems including:

- Miscarriages,
- Premature births or low birth weight,
- Brain damage, decreased mental abilities and learning difficulties, and/or
- Reduced growth in young children.

Adults

Adults can suffer from:

- Hearing and vision impairment,
- Reproductive problems (in both men and women),
- High blood pressure and hypertension,
- Nerve disorders,
- Memory and concentration problems,
- Poor muscle coordination, and
- Muscle and joint pain.

Source: Environmental Protection Agency: <http://www.epa.gov/lead#effects>

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.

Please sign below, noting that you understand the potential health and safety implications associated with depaving above contaminated soils.

Site Host

Date