SPECIFICATION

SECTION 14.0: <u>Organic Planting Soil (60/40)</u>

14.1 Description:

This work shall consist of preparing a consistent, free draining soil containing all the physical, chemical, and biological properties to create a sustainable landscape. This blend is designed to be used as a planting soil mix in the establishment of native planting beds. This mix will be pre-blended offsite and delivered ready for installation.

14.2 Materials (component specifications)

The materials will consist of the three components listed below which must meet the corresponding testing standards for each component.

A: <u>Base Loam Topsoil-</u> (20% by volume)

Native topsoil which is fertile, friable, which has sandy loam, loamy sand soil classification. Topsoil needs to be free of subsoil, clay lumps, brush, weeds, and free of stumps, roots, and stone larger than one and one-half (11/2) in diameter and other extraneous or toxic material harmful to plant growth.

B: <u>Nutrient Grade Compost</u>: Quality compost must be manufactured by a composter enrolled in the **U**nited **S**tates **C**ompost **C**ouncil's (USCC) **S**eal of **T**esting **A**ssurance (STA) Program. (20% by volume)

1. Compost must meet following parameters as tested by an STA approved lab using the Test Methods for Evaluating Compost and Compost Manufactures method.

2. Plant Nutrients	<u>%, dry weight basis</u>	TMECC <u>Method</u>
Nitrogen	>1.2	4.02D
Phosphorus	>0.50	Calc.
Potassium	>0.50	Calc
Calcium	>0.90	4.05
Magnesium	>0.20	4.05
Organic Matter Content	>50%	5.07-A

3.	Soluble Salts dS/m (mmhos/cm)	<4.0	4.08-A
4.	Particle Size % under 9.5 mm	95% or greater	2.02-B
5.	Stability Indicator (respirometry) CO2 Evolution mg CO2-C/g OM/day	<2	5.08-F777
6.	Maturity Indicator (bioassay) Percent Emergence Relative Seedling Vigor	85% or greater 85% or greater	5.05-A
7.	Select Pathogens (pass/fail per US EPA Class A standard, 40 CFR 503.32(a))	Pass	Standard Method 9221E

C: Blackened Manufactured Top Soil (60% by volume)

1. Must be aged, processed bark/humus based topsoil that is friable, and free of weed seeds and containments.

2. Must be screened to 3/8”

14.3 Organic Planting Soil (60/40) – performance requirements

The final mix shall be tested to insure that the following requirements are meet;

A. Permeability- ASTM D2434 .5 in/hr. or greater.

B. Water holding capacity 20% or greater

B. Plant Sustainability requirements- Mix shall meet the following requirements:

1. Organic Matter	4.0% rate or better
2. Soil pH	6.0-7.0
3. Cation Exchange Capacity	7.5 or better
4. Estimated Nitrogen Release	medium or higher as tested by soil analysis
5. Potassium	medium or higher as tested by soil analysis
6. Magnesium	medium or higher as tested by soil analysis
7. Calcium	medium or higher as tested by soil analysis

End of Section