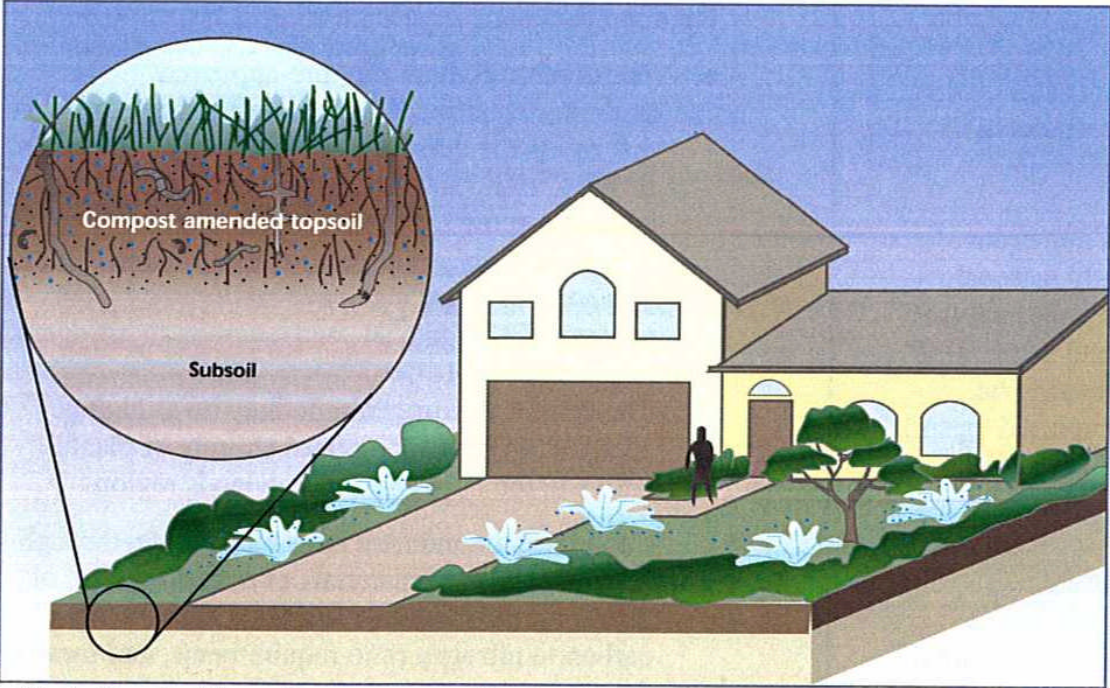


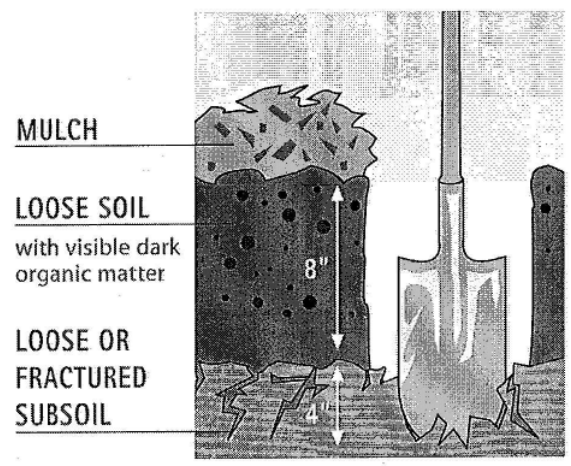
Amend Site Soils After Construction



Amending soils with compost or other organic materials can restore soil functions:

- Restores soil water infiltration and storage capacities
- Decreases surface water runoff and erosion
- Traps sediments, heavy metals and excess nutrients; and biodegrades chemical contaminants
- Rebuilds the beneficial soil life that fights pests and disease, and supplies plants with nutrients and water
- Improves plant health, with reduced need for additional water, fertilizers and pesticides
- Aids deep plant root growth and vigorous vegetative cover.

Illustrations for this section were created by the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks



Test holes should be about one foot deep (after first scraping away any mulch) and about one foot square.

Eight Inch Depth of Amended Soil. The top eight inches of soil should be easy to dig using a garden spade driven solely by your weight. The soil should be darker than the unamended soil below, and particles of added organic

Design Basics
Site soils must be amended on all disturbed areas which will remain pervious (landscape areas)