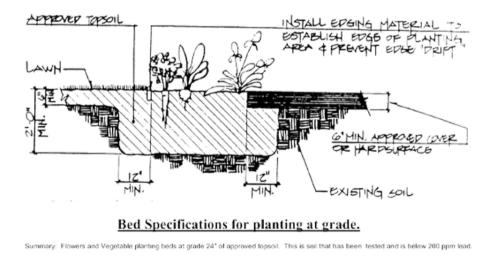


Navigating Park City's Soil Cover Ordinance



The Cap: What it is and how you can maintain it on your property

"The Cap" refers to an additional 6" of topsoil, as well as vegetation that act as a barrier to the contaminated soil. The cap can also be weed barrier fabric topped with 6" of bark, mulch, or gravel. In order to maintain the cap, residents must make sure that all vehicles are parked only roads or driveways. If construction is happening on a property, take extra precaution to ensure that workers are protected from any dust kicked up during construction activity.



History

The settling of Park City created a booming mining community with dozens of underground mining operations. Metals like silver, lead, copper, and zinc were all processed and milled in town. The operations of the underground mines, including their construction, resulted in large waste piles that contained large amounts of tailings, or waste rock. Streams were used to transport the tailings away from the original sites and they were damned in what is now the Prospector neighborhood. In the 1980's the US government enacted the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), leading to community conversations that resulted in Park City's Landscaping and Maintenance of Soil Cover Ordinance or "Soil Cover Ordinance" for short.

Soil Handling

If you live within the boundaries of the Soil Cover Ordinance, there are ways to protect yourself by taking certain precautions when handling potentially contaminated soil. All exposed soil must be managed for dust control. Residents should make efforts to keep exposed soil covered or wet when not actively working. Disposal sites may have different requirements for waste acceptance. If you want to get rid of potentially contaminated soil it is best to call the disposal site directly for acceptance requirements. When handling contaminated soil on your property, wear gloves and shake off loose dirt from clothes and shoes before entering the home.

Maintaining a Garden in the Soil Cover Ordinance

Having a garden is a wonderful way for homeowners to grow their own food or add beauty to their property. Maintaining a garden under the ordinance may seem daunting. Park City Municipal has developed a gardening care guide. These materials and more can be found by following the link through the QR code or by visiting:

parkcity.org/departments/building-department/building-plan-review/soil-ordinance

