

Item No. 601S
Salvaging and Placing Topsoil

601S.1 Description

This item shall govern the removal, storage and placement of approved topsoil to the depths and area shown on the Drawings or as directed by the Engineer or designated representative.

This specification is applicable for projects or work involving either inch-pound or SI units. Within the text and accompanying tables, the inch-pound units are given preference followed by SI units shown within parentheses.

601S.2 Submittals

The submittal requirements of this specification item shall include the test results and soil classification necessary for approval of material as suitable topsoil.

601S.3 Materials

A. Topsoil

1. The topsoil shall be composed of 4 parts of soil mixed with 1 part compost, by volume. The compost shall meet TxDOT Specification Item 161. The soil shall be locally available native soil that meets the following specifications:

Shall be free of trash, weeds, deleterious materials, rocks and debris.

100% shall pass through a 1.5-inch (38-mm) screen.

Soil to be a loamy material that meets the requirements of the table below in accordance with the USDA textural triangle. Soil known locally as "red death" is not an allowable soil. Textural composition shall meet the following criteria:

Textural Class	Minimum	Maximum
Clay	5%	50%
Silt	10%	50%
Sand	15%	67%

- An owner/engineer may propose use of onsite salvaged topsoil which does not meet the soil texture class required above by providing a soil analysis and a written statement from a qualified professional in soils, landscape architecture, or agronomy indicating the onsite topsoil will provide an

equivalent growth media and specifying what, if any, soil amendments are required.

- Soil amendments shall be worked into the existing onsite topsoil with a disc or tiller to create a well-blended material.
2. All disturbed areas to be revegetated are required to provide a minimum of six (6) inches of topsoil. The topsoil shall be able to support the growth of planting (Standard Specification Item No. 608S), seeding (Standard Specification Item No. 604S), sodding (Standard Specification Item No. 602S) and native grassland seeding and planting (Standard Specification Item No. 609S).

B. Water

Water shall be furnished by the Contractor and shall be clean and free from industrial wastes and other objectionable matter.

601S.4 Sources

The topsoil may be obtained from the right-of-way at sites of proposed excavation or embankment when shown on the Drawings or identified by the Engineer or designated representative. The approximate quantity of acceptable topsoil to be salvaged from the project will be shown on the Drawings. The topsoil may also be obtained from approved sources, which are located outside the right-of-way and have been secured by the Contractor.

601S.5 Construction Methods

Precautions will be maintained at all times to protect all trees in the area of construction. Where removal of trees is indicated on the Drawings, they shall be marked as directed by the Engineer or designated representative.

Construction equipment shall not be operated nor construction materials stockpiled under the canopies of trees, unless otherwise indicated on the Drawings and/or specified in the Contract Documents. Topsoil materials shall not be placed within the drip line of trees until tree wells are constructed that conform to Item No. 610S, "Preservation of Trees and Other Vegetation " and Standard Details 591S-1 and 610S-6. The source and stockpile areas shall be kept drained, insofar as practicable, during the period of topsoil removal

The existing topsoil shall be removed from the area indicated on the Drawings, stockpiled in a windrow along the right of way or spread over an area that is ready for topsoil application in accordance with the Drawings or as directed by the Engineer or designated representative.

Trash, wood, brush, stumps, rocks over 1 1/2 inches (37.5 mm) in size and other objectionable material encountered shall be removed and disposed of as directed by the Engineer or designated representative prior to beginning of work required by this item.

Grass and other herbaceous plant materials may remain. Large clumps shall be broken up.

After the grading has been completed to the required alignment, grades and cross-sections and prior to the spreading of the salvaged topsoil, any clay or tight soil surfaces shall be scarified by plowing furrows approximately 4 inches (100 mm) deep along horizontal slope lines at 2 foot (600 mm) vertical intervals. The spreading of the salvaged topsoil shall be undertaken as soon as the grading has been completed. The topsoil shall be spread so as to form a cover of uniform thickness indicated. After the topsoil has been placed and shaped, it shall be sprinkled and rolled to provide a suitable seed bed.

601S.6 Measurement and Payment

Salvaging, removal and/or placing topsoil materials will not be measured for payment, but shall be included in the unit price bid for the item of construction in which these activities are used.

End

<u>SPECIFIC</u> CROSS REFERENCE MATERIALS
Specification 601S, "Salvaging and Placing Topsoil"

City of Austin Standard Specification Items

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Description</u>
Item No. 602S	Sodding for Erosion Control
Item No. 604S	Seeding for Erosion Control
Item No. 608S	Planting
Item No. 609S	Native Grassland Seeding and Planting For Erosion Control
Item No. 610S	Preservation of Trees and Other Vegetation

City of Austin Standard Details

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Description</u>
591S-1	Dry Stack Rock Wall
610S-6	Typical Tree Well Applications

<u>RELATED</u> CROSS REFERENCE MATERIALS
Specification 601S, "Salvaging and Placing Topsoil"

City of Austin Standard Specification Items

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Description</u>
Item No. 102S	Clearing and Grubbing

Item No. 104S	Removing Concrete
Item No. 110S	Street Excavation
Item No. 111S	Excavation
Item No. 120S	Channel Excavation
Item No. 132S	Embankment
Item No. 606S	Fertilizer

City of Austin Standard Details

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Description</u>
610S-1	Tree Protection Fence Locations
610S-2	Tree Protection Fence, Type B Chainlink
610S-3	Tree Protection Fence, Type B Wood
610S-4	Tree Protection Fence, Modified Type A
610S-5	Tree Protection Fence, Modified Type B

Texas Department of Transportation: Standard Specifications for Construction and Maintenance of Highways, Streets, and Bridges

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Description</u>
Item No. 100	Preparing Right of Way
Item No. 110	Excavation
Item No. 160	Furnishing and Placing Topsoil
Item No. 164	Seeding for Erosion Control
Item No. 204	Sprinkling

Texas Department of Transportation: Manual of Testing Procedures

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Description</u>
Tex-103-E	Determination of Moisture Content of Soil Materials
Tex-104-E	Determination of Liquid Limit of Soils
Tex-105-E	Determination of Plastic Limit of Soils
Tex-106-E	Method of Calculating the Plasticity Index of Soils