

FOR PARTICIPANTS

STORMWATER TOOL

Depaving

What is Depaving?

- Depaving is an opportunity to turn your paved yard or lot into a pervious surface that absorbs stormwater.
- Depaved areas can be turned into a lawn, area with clean stone, rain garden or other landscaping.
- In Philadelphia, many homes contain yards that are entirely covered with concrete, making them great candidates for depaving.

Benefits of Depaving Your Yard

- Depaving clears space for lush and attractive yards that filter pollutants from our water and air and provide numerous ecological benefits.
- By removing an impervious surface, such as concrete or asphalt, water can be absorbed into the ground and recharge groundwater aquifers.
- Water absorbed by the ground is less likely to end up in storm drains and transport pollution to our waterways.

What Will It Cost?

- If you choose depaving, a masonry contractor will visit your home to provide an estimate.
- Depaving costs vary depending on what you choose to replace the existing surface.
- Removal of the existing surface costs about \$15/sq. ft.
- PWD will pay \$8/sq. ft. up to a maximum of \$2,000. The homeowner pays the remainder of the total cost.



Depaving: The removal of concrete, asphalt or other impervious surfaces can provide space for a lawn, rain garden, clean stone or other landscaping.

Tips on Caring for Your Depaved Area

- Before you depave, decide what you would like as a follow-up treatment. This could include a rain garden, grass seed, clean stone or landscaping. Otherwise, the loose soil from the depaved area can end up in the stormdrain and pollute our creeks and rivers.
- Do not plant edible food in a depaved area. Stormwater running into the area may carry dirt and debris not suitable for edible plants. In addition, urban soils should be tested before being used for growing edibles.

Next Steps:

- Go to www.pwdraincheck.org and visit the "Pick Your Project" section to see if this tool is right for your property. Then sign up for a free workshop.

For more information, frequently asked questions and price points, go to www.pwdraincheck.org