RAIN CHECK

Are you thinking about depaving?

When you remove concrete or asphalt that has been in place for a long time, it exposes the soil underneath.

If you have a hard, impermeable surface that you want to remove through the Rain Check Program, but do not want permeable pavers, consider this information about your soil before making your final decision.

About Lead in Soil

• Most urban soils carry some level of lead.
• Sources of lead have historically included: industrial emissions, auto exhaust and lead based paints.
• Children are most at risk in an environment with lead.

Recommendations for Homeowners

• If you have any concerns regarding lead in your soil, we recommend you choose another Rain Check option.
• If you decide to move forward with a depaving project, don’t leave the area exposed. Follow up with grass, plantings, or mulch.
• Don’t grow vegetables in soil if you think lead is a concern.
• Don’t let children play in exposed soil.

For more information, visit these sites and search, “lead in soil”:

www.psu.edu
Recommended resources:
• Lead in Residential Soils: Sources, Testing, and Reducing Exposure
• Gardening from the Ground Up

www.jhsphs.edu
Recommended resource:
• Soil Safety Resource Guide for Urban Food Growers

www.ag.udel.edu
Recommended resource:
• Managing Lead Contaminated Soils

visit www.pwdraincheck.org

A Philadelphia Water Department program.
Managed by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society in partnership with the Sustainable Business Network.