

MassDEP

Soil Management Policies & Approaches



Paul W. Locke
Acting Deputy Commissioner
Policy & Planning
One Winter Street, Boston, MA 02108
617-556-1160

Paul.Locke@mass.gov

www.Mass.Gov/dep



Why are we talking about soil?

- Development/Redevelopment or Reclamation projects often require management of large volumes of soil - either excavation/removal or import/fill.
- Common questions include: *Where is the soil coming from?*, *What's in it?*, *Who oversees this?*, and *Is it safe?*
- Concerns that whatever is in the soil could get into the water we drink, the air we breathe and the dirt we play/garden in.



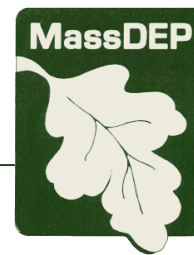
Soil Quality

What is “Clean Fill” or “Clean Soil”

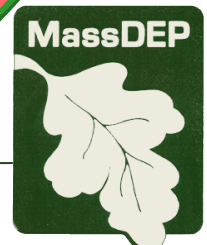
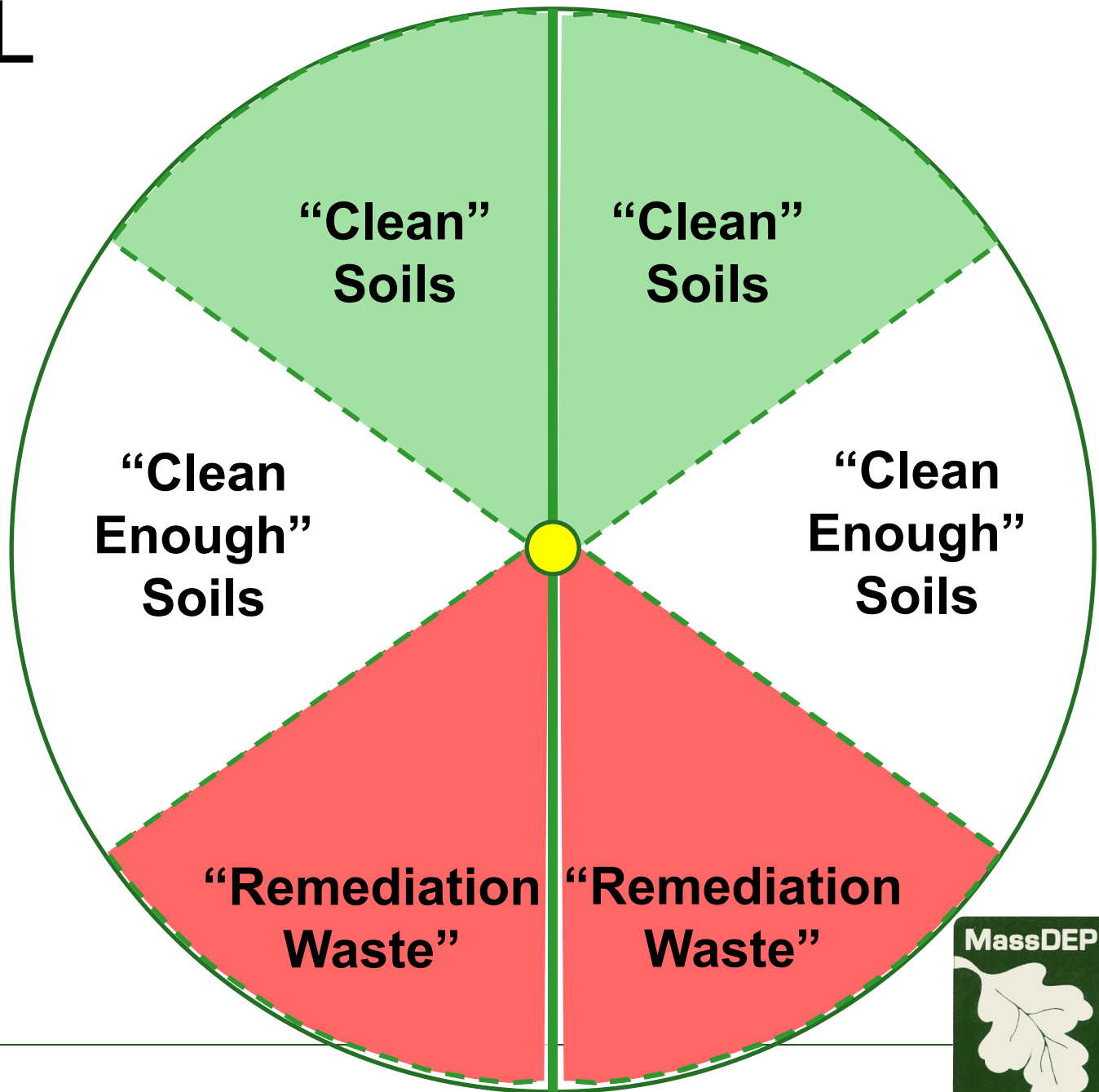
- Clean enough for a playground?
- Clean enough for gardening?
- Clean enough for landscaping?
- Clean enough for wildlife habitat?
- Clean enough for leveling a parking lot?
- Clean enough roadway sub-base?
- Clean enough for reclaiming an abandoned gravel pit?

This is MassDEP’s eternal question:

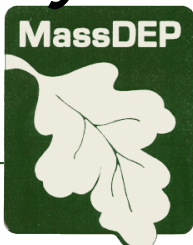
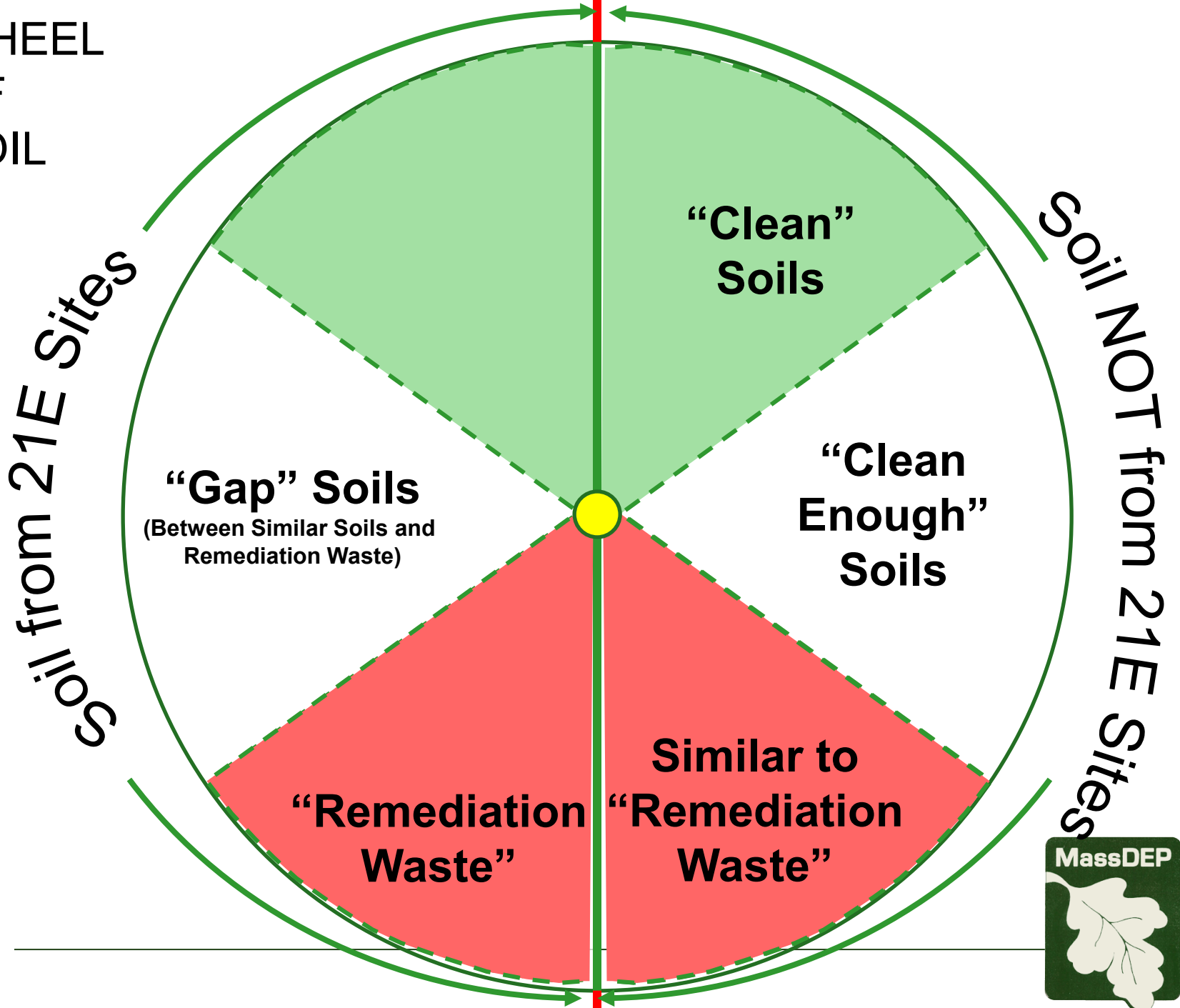
How clean is clean enough?



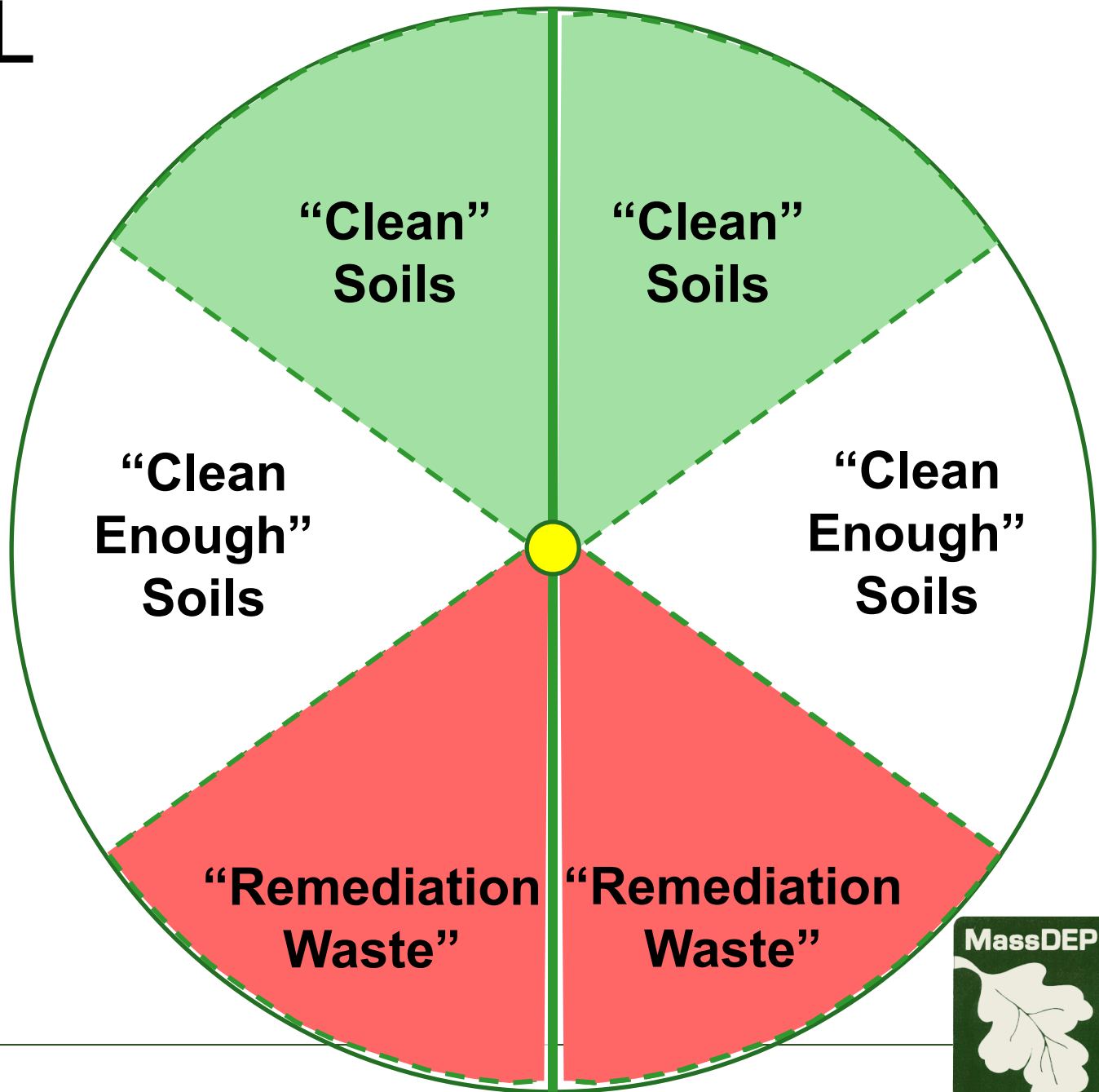
WHEEL OF SOIL



WHEEL
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SOIL



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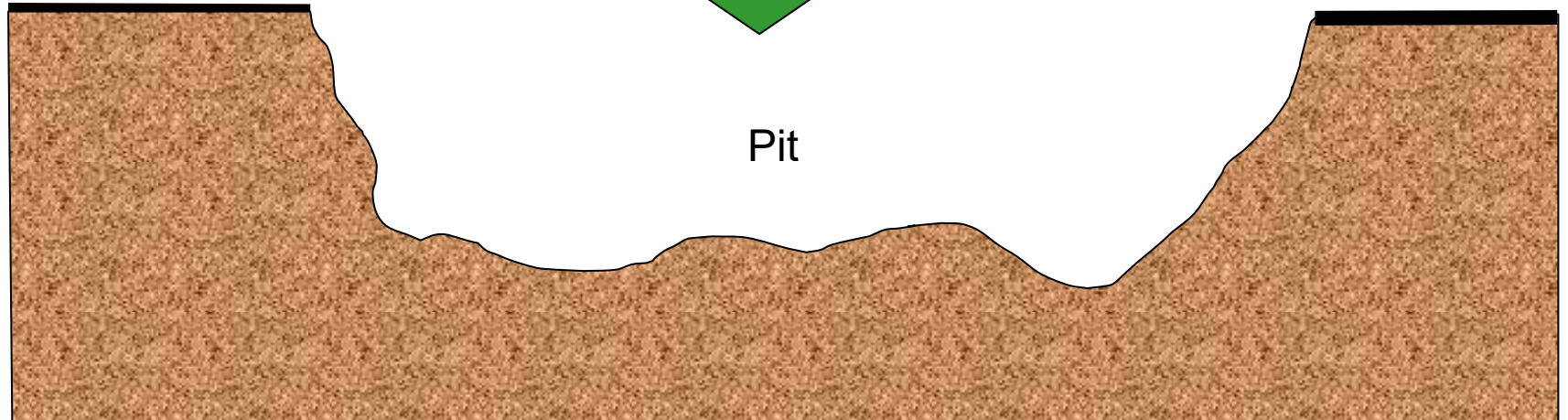
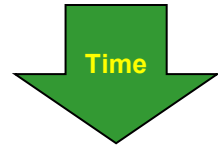


***Where Can This
Uncontaminated Soil Go??***

Example: Bring soil to prepare an old gravel pit to restore the site...
For ecological restoration or development

("Artist" Rendering)

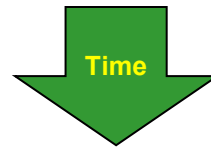
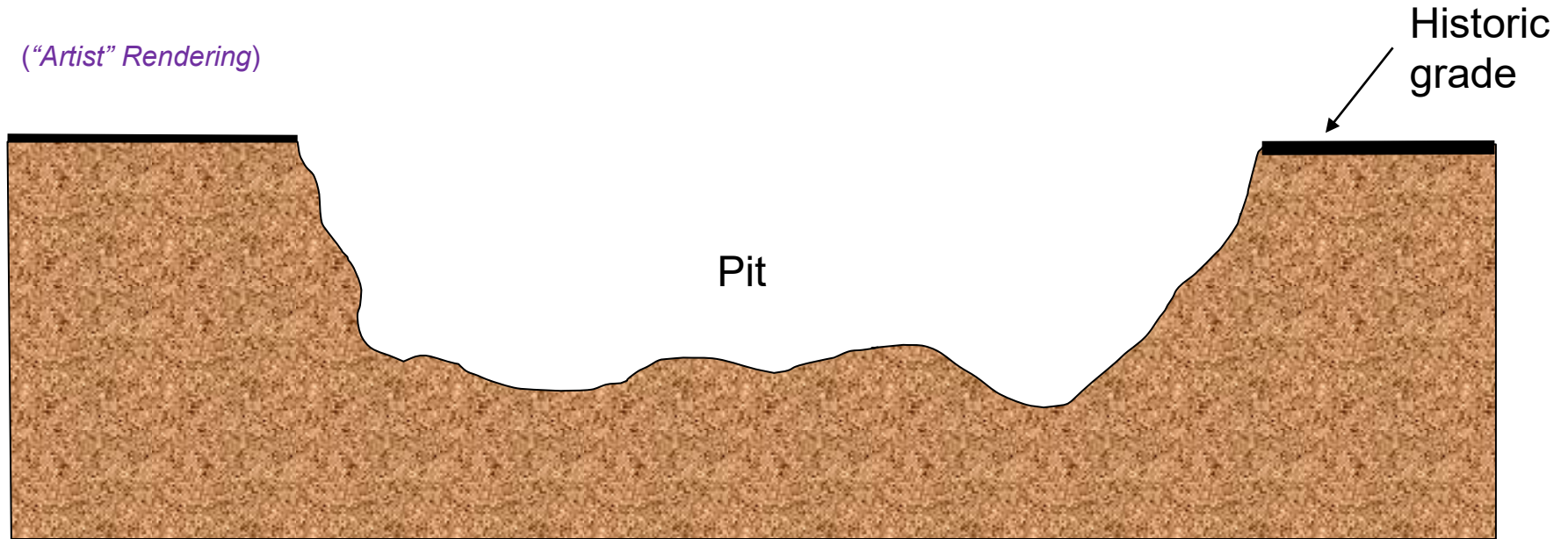
Historic grade



Example:

Bring soil to prepare an old gravel pit to restore the site...
For ecological restoration or development

("Artist" Rendering)



MassDEP's ALL THINGS SOIL on the web

<https://www.mass.gov/soil-transport-re-use-and-disposal>

Soil Transport, Re-Use and Disposal

The excavation, transport and re-use (or disposal) of soil can be complicated, particularly if there is oil or hazardous material discovered in the dirt.

There is no single program at MassDEP that regulates all aspects of soil management. The rules that apply will depend upon the facts unique to your problem. In fact, most excavation and re-use of soil occurs without MassDEP involvement.

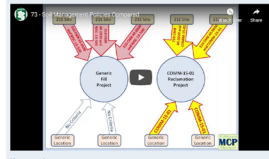
The Department's interest in soil can arise in two ways. First - and most commonly - contamination is found in the soil. The contamination may trigger regulatory action, depending on the nature of what is found. A typical example would be a leaking underground storage tank that releases gasoline to the surrounding soil.

The Department also has interest in soil that is brought to any facility already regulated by MassDEP. A typical example is soil used as daily cover at an operating landfill.

Also a fun little video further down the page

Video: Comparing Similar Soils Policy & Reclamation Soils Policy

This instructional video compares and contrasts the application of two MassDEP policies on managing soil.



View transcript

What would you like to do?

Top tasks

Manage Soil as Hazardous Waste →

Re-Use Soil at Landfills →

All other tasks

Re-Use Soil for Reclamation Projects →

Apply the "Similar Soils" Approach →

Manage Soil Along Rail Trails →

aka "Comm-15" Projects





DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

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Interim Policy on the Re-Use of Soil for Large Reclamation Projects

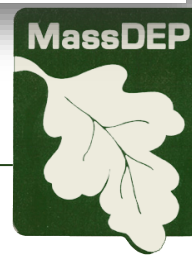
Policy # COMM-15-01

August 28, 2015

www.mass.gov/doc/interim-policy-on-the-re-use-of-soil-for-large-reclamation-projects-policy-comm-15-01/download

Policy Statement

This Interim Policy provides notice of MassDEP's intent to issue site-specific approvals, in the



We'll focus of Soil Managed under Policy COMM-15-01 (aka, the “Reclamation Soils” Policy)

BASIS OF COMM-15-01

The Charge (Section 277 of the FY15 Budget):

Not later than June 30, 2015, the department of environmental protection shall establish regulations, guidelines, standards or procedures for determining the suitability of soil used as fill material for the reclamation of quarries, sand pits and gravel pits. The regulations, standards or procedures shall ensure the reuse of soil poses no significant risk of harm to health, safety, public welfare or the environment considering the transport, filling operations and the foreseeable future use of the filled land. The department may adopt, amend or repeal regulations establishing: (i) classes or categories of fill or reclamation activities requiring prior issuance of a permit issued by the department; (ii) classes or categories of fill or reclamation activities that may be carried out without prior issuance of a permit issued by the department; and (iii) classes or categories of fill that shall require local approval based on the size, scope and location of a project; provided, however, that local approval shall not be required for projects involving less than 100,000 cubic yards of soil.



The Important Words

- June 30, 2015
- regulations, guidelines, standards **or** procedures
- suitability of soil
- reclamation of quarries, sand pits and gravel pits
- poses no significant risk
- transport, ...operations and the foreseeable future use
- activities requiring prior issuance of a permit
- activities that may be carried out without...a permit
- categories...that shall require local approval



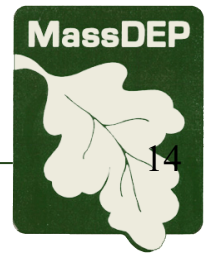
MassDEP's Approach

Develop guidance and approval process for the appropriate use of soil that contains some level of “hazardous” constituents.

- Focus on using (or re-using) the soil
- Will not address “disposal” of soil.

Disposal facilities are already covered by the Solid Waste Program regulations

Q: *How do you distinguish between “re-use” and “disposal”?*



Re-use vs Disposal

Re-Use

- Receiving location is a specific development or reclamation project
- Development or reclamation project has input from the host municipality

Disposal

- Dumping, landfilling or placement ...
- Into or on any land (or water) ...
- Of useless, unwanted or discarded material.



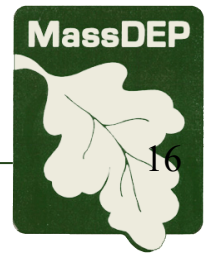
Why Are DEP & Local Inputs Important?

DEP approval because...

- Need to prevent creation of new 21E sites
- Soil comes from both well characterized & less well known sources
- Large soil volumes means mismanagement could create significant problems

Local input to the development or reclamation project because...

- Ensures site-specific issues are raised & addressed
- Ensures that the proposed project is real and viable for the community



Nuts & Bolts

- **Come and Talk – Early & Often**
 - Talk to the MassDEP Regional Director
 - Talk to the municipal officials
 - Talk with us all together and/or separately
- **Listen to Local Concerns & Be a Good Partner**
- **Work with DEP to develop an approvable Soil Management Plan**



Projects Underway (with ACO's)

Complete List of the Nine (9) Facilities at:

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/reclamation-soils-policy-and-facilities>

- Bridgewater, MA - Marilyn's Landing
 - [Administrative Consent Order \(ACO\)](#)
 - [Soil Management Plan \(SMP\)](#)
 - More documents: [search the MassDEP File Viewer](#) using
 - RTN 4-0028626 for Phase 3 activity
 - RTN 4-0026987 for Phase 1 & Phase 2 activity
- Carver, MA - Route 44 Development Project
 - [Administrative Consent Order \(ACO\)](#)
 - [Amendment to the Fill Management Plan 10/24/17](#)
 - [Amendment to Appendix D of the Fill Management Plan](#)
 - [Fill Management Plan \(FMP\) - Part 1](#)
 - [Fill Management Plan \(FMP\) - Part 2](#)
 - [Fill Management Plan \(FMP\) - Part 3](#)
 - More documents: use RTN 4-0026986 to [search the MassDEP File Viewer](#)
- Dudley, MA - Dudley Reclamation Project
 - [Administrative Consent Order \(ACO\)](#)
 - [Fill Management Plan \(FMP\)](#)
 - More documents: use RTN 2-19820 to [search the MassDEP File Viewer](#)

ACO

Soil (Fill)
Management Plan

Link to
Documentation

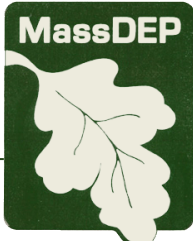
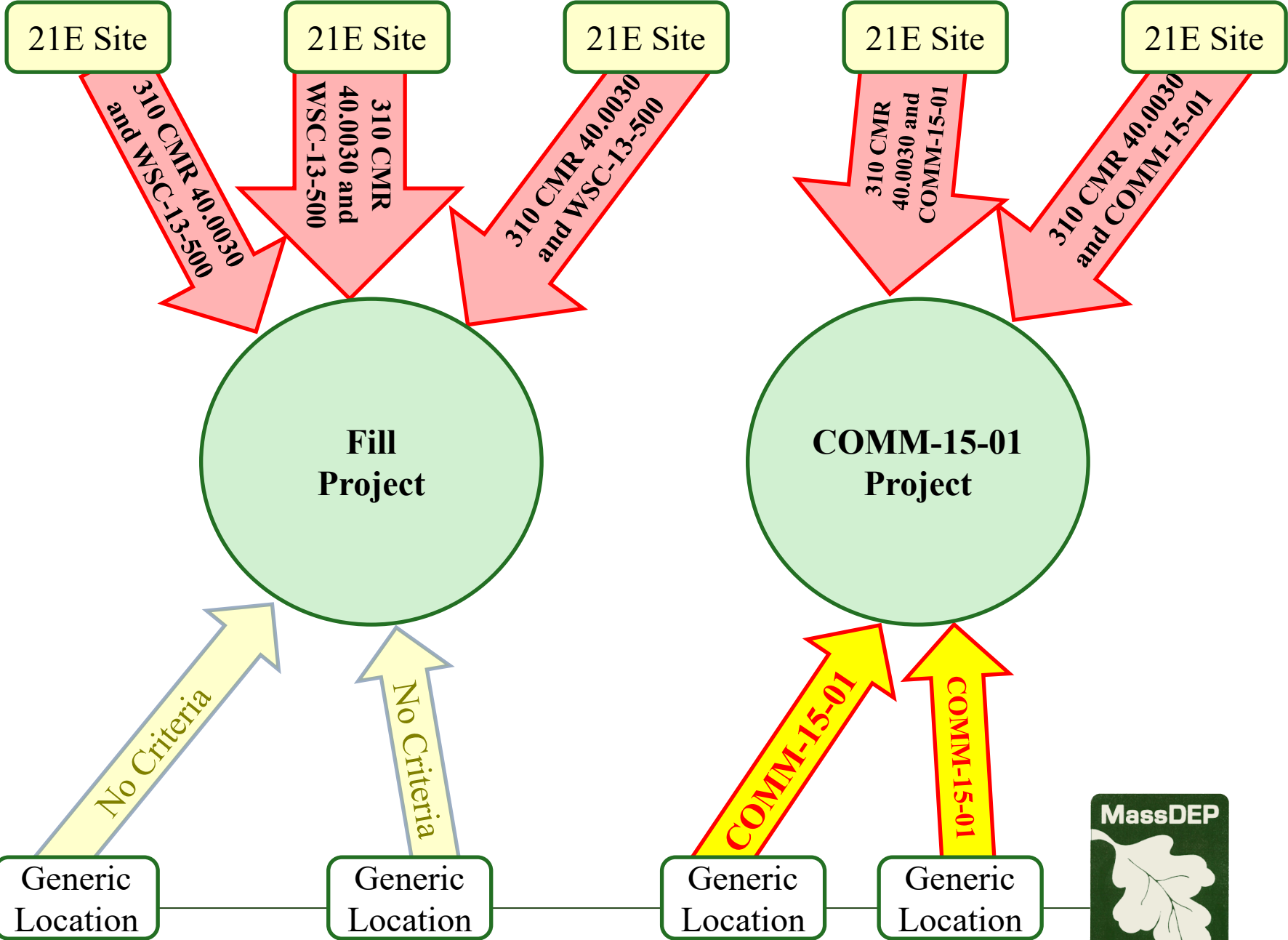


EXAMPLE of Project Documents Available to EVERYONE through eDEP:

2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	10/15/2020 5:42:21 PM	39 mb	5945 Submittals-Approvals_5 Aug 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	10/15/2020 5:42:34 PM	49 mb	5945 Submittals-Approvals_6 Aug 2020 Reduced.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	10/15/2020 5:42:45 PM	49 mb	5945 Submittals-Approvals_7 Aug-Sept 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	10/15/2020 5:42:58 PM	50 mb	5945 Submittals-Approvals_8 Sept 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	10/15/2020 5:43:11 PM	17 mb	5945 Submittals-Approvals_9 Sept 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	10/15/2020 5:43:22 PM	1 mb	5945 Submittals-Approvals_10 Sept 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	10/19/2020 8:47:57 AM	12 mb	Construction Status Report October 2020 v2.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	10/19/2020 9:05:56 AM	12 mb	Construction Status Report October 2020 10 15 20 v2.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	11/9/2020 11:30:25 AM	8 mb	Third-Party Inspection Letter for October 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	12/3/2020 1:38:47 PM	8 mb	Third-Party Inspection Letter for November 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	12/28/2020 2:10:50 PM	16 mb	Third-Party Inspection Letter for December 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC102 Release Amendment Form- 541	12/29/2020 4:00:35 PM	1 mb	2-0019820 Dudley MBTA Green Line Memo MW-5 12-18-2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC102 Release Amendment Form- 541	1/6/2021 1:35:23 PM	17 mb	2-0019820 - Green Line MW-5 Memo_final 01-04-2021.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	1/15/2021 3:08:09 PM	17 mb	January 2021 Construction Status Report.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	1/15/2021 3:21:32 PM	51 mb	5945 Submittals-Approvals_1 October 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	1/15/2021 3:21:48 PM	47 mb	5945 Submittals-Approvals_2 October 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	1/15/2021 3:28:23 PM	48 mb	5945 Submittals-Approvals_3 November 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	1/15/2021 3:28:34 PM	51 mb	5945 Submittals-Approvals_4 November 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	1/15/2021 3:28:46 PM	47 mb	5945 Submittals-Approvals_5 December 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	1/15/2021 3:28:58 PM	48 mb	5945 Submittals-Approvals_6 December 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	1/15/2021 3:29:11 PM	41 mb	5945 Submittals-Approvals_7 December 2020.pdf
2-19820	BWSC126 Miscellaneous Document Transmittal Form- 570	1/22/2021 11:43:03 AM	1 mb	Third-Party Inspection Letter for January 2021.pdf

The documents viewable here include only site information submitted electronically via eDEP.





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