Areas Excluded from Soil Cleanup

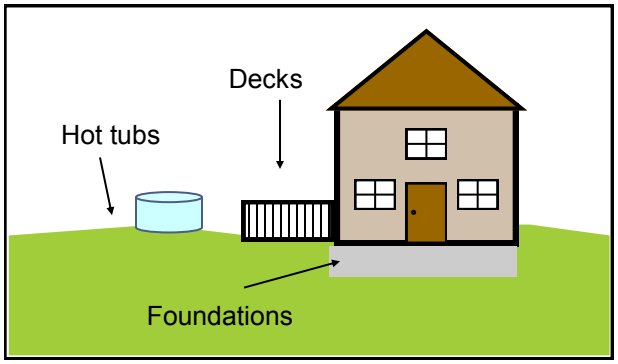
Tacoma Smelter Plume **Revised June 2015**

This handout lists the areas that are excluded from soil removal in the **Yard Sampling and Cleanup Program**. We cannot clean up areas of the yard that are hard to reach, could create hazards, and where possible exposure is low. County or city ordinances may also exclude an area from cleanup.

Permanent Structures

Ecology cannot cleanup or sample under permanent structures, where we cannot access soil.

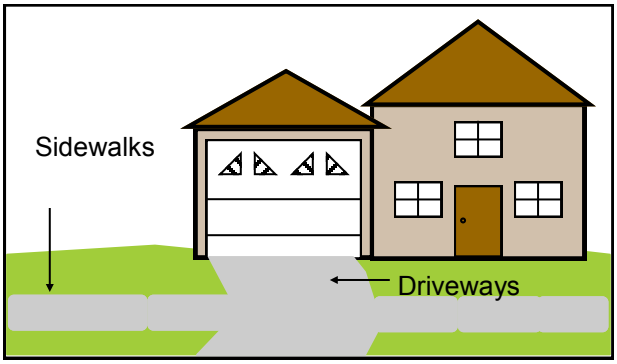
- Buildings with foundations
- Decks with limited access underneath (less than three feet)
- Pools/hot tubs, or structures that can not be moved
- Temporary structures that the homeowner is not willing to move, such as animal kennels, lawn equipment, tool sheds



Concrete or other cap materials

Ecology will not cleanup or sample under concrete, asphalt, pavers or other cap materials.

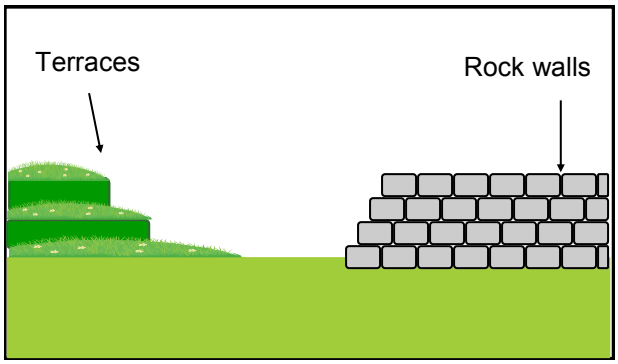
- Driveways
- Sidewalks
- Patios
- Parking structures



Permanent Landscaping

Ecology will not cleanup or sample areas under permanent landscape structures.

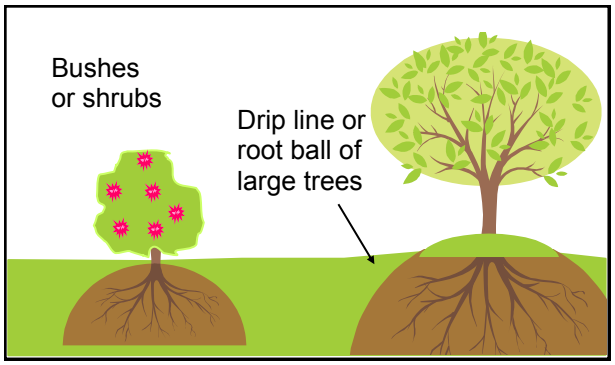
- Retaining walls
- Rock walls
- Terraces
- Rock gardens



Large trees, bushes or shrubs.

Ecology will not cleanup within the drip line or root ball of large trees, bushes or shrubs. If a homeowner would like cleanup near a bush or shrub, they must remove the plant themselves to allow access to the soil.

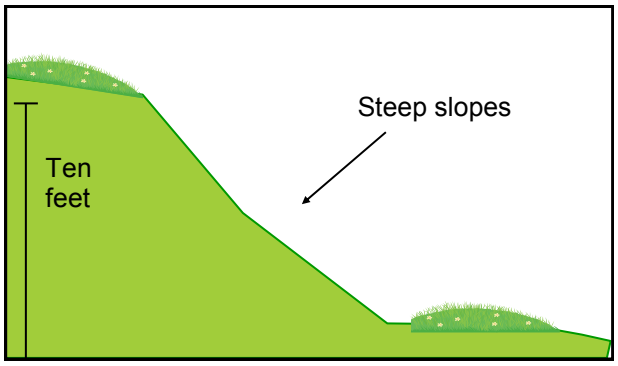
- Forested Areas
- Bushes that must remain in place during cleanup.



Steep slopes

Ecology will not cleanup soil above, on, or below steep slopes. We have to meet county development standards for steep slopes.

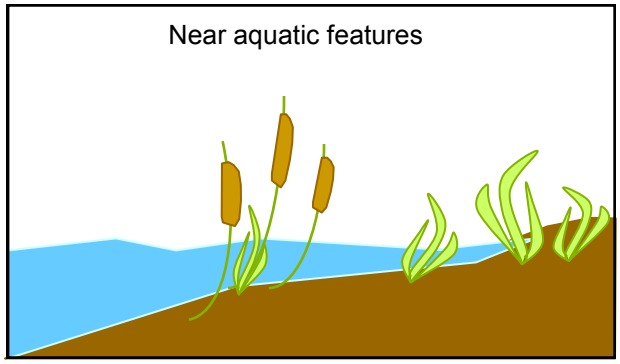
- Slopes greater than 33% slope
- Slopes greater than 10 feet high



Aquatic Features

Ecology will not cleanup or sample in, around or under aquatic features.

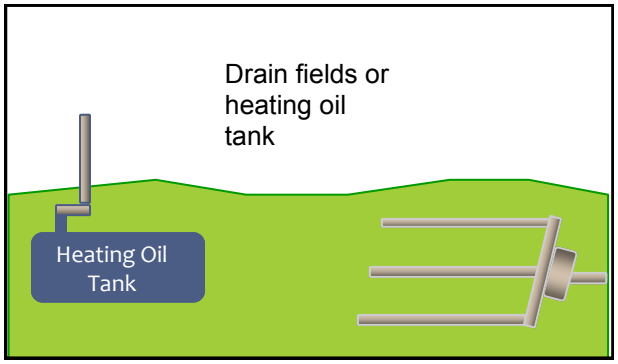
- Wetlands
- Ponds
- Streams or creeks
- Beaches



Underground tanks/drainfields

Ecology will not cleanup above or right next to underground tanks or drainfields.

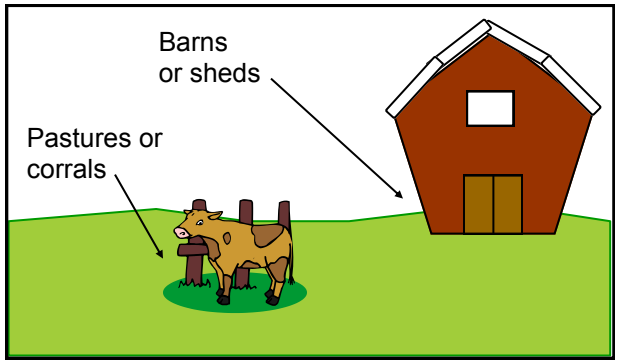
- Septic Systems
- Home heating oil tanks



Livestock Areas

Ecology will not cleanup or sample in, around or under livestock areas.

- Barns
- Sheds
- Corrals
- Pastures



Questions? For more information about areas excluded from the Yard Program, please contact Crescent Calimpong at (360) 407-6790 or Crescent.Calimpong@ecy.wa.gov.

To request ADA accommodation or materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at (360) 407-6245, Relay Service 711, or TTY (877) 833-6341. FSID # 89267963 CSID # 3657