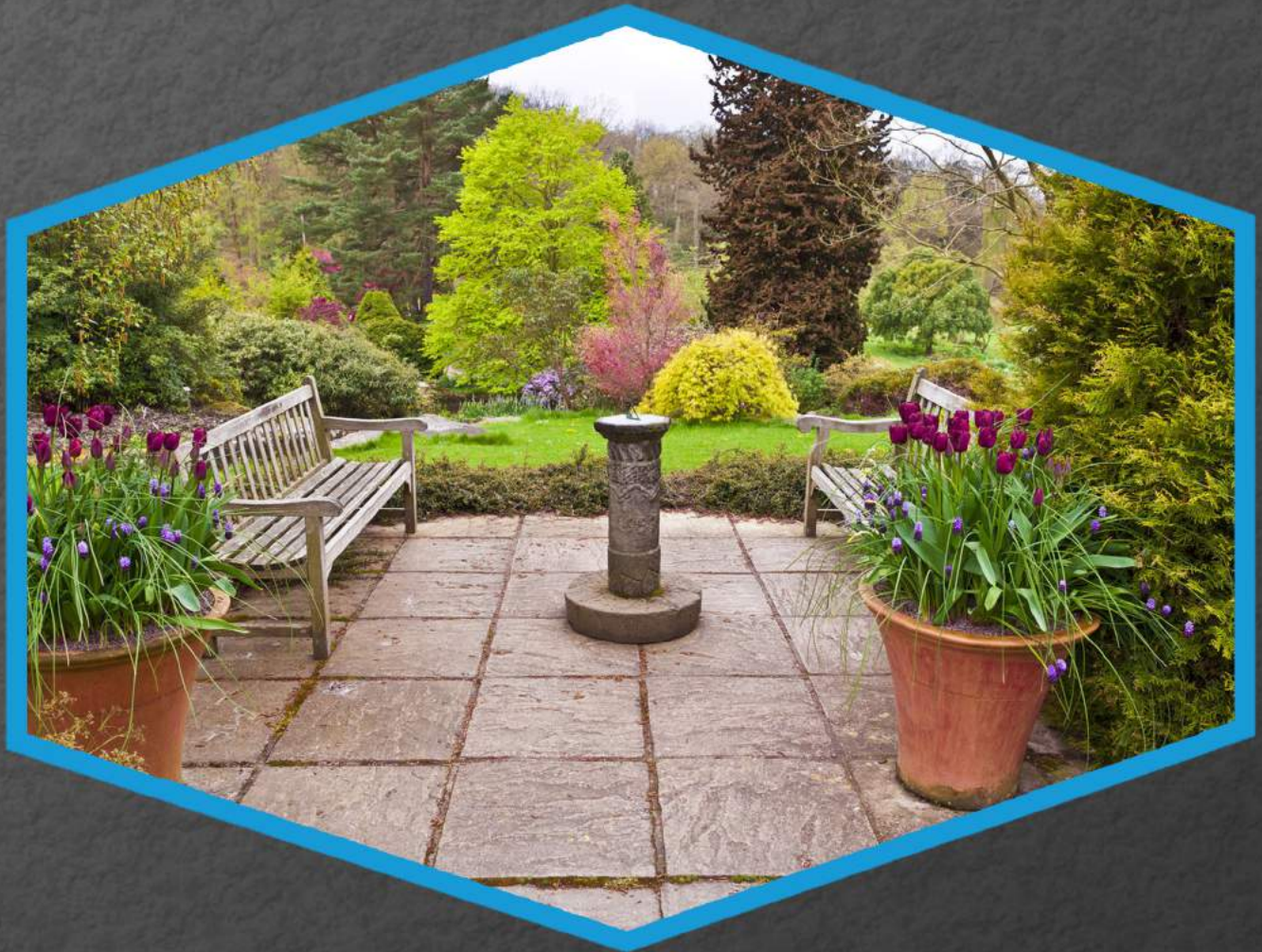


# THE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO MULCH & TOPSOIL



# THE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE

## TO MULCH & TOPSOIL

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# THE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE

## TO MULCH & TOPSOIL



Looking to improve the quality of your plants or garden or having your landscape flourish, but not too sure how to? It's actually quite simple. By adding mulch or topsoil to your plants or garden, you can significantly improve the quality and look of your landscape.

Mulch and topsoil both support the robust health of plants and gardens by retaining moisture and giving them the proper resources to thrive in any condition. There are many uses for mulch and topsoil that should be utilized for your landscape that can significantly improve the overall quality.

Commercial and residential property owners can use topsoil and mulch to generate professional-quality results from their landscaping projects. Mulch and topsoil will keep your landscape looking healthy and beautiful.

If you have any concerns with overall health and appearance of your lawn, garden or plants, adding a layer of topsoil or mulch is beneficial for both you, and your landscape.



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# THE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE

## TO MULCH & TOPSOIL

### MULCH



#### Overview

Mulch, in its purest form, is a layer of material that is placed on top of soil or another ground covering. It is one of the best things you can do for your flowerbeds, gardens and areas near your walkways.

Mulch is primarily composed of decaying leaves, bark or compost, that is spread around plants to enrich or insulate the soil.

Mulch is also defined not only as wood, but also known as rubber materials, decorative rocks, leaves or straws. You'll find that some of the more popular wood mulches are cedar, pine and cypress.

#### Benefits

- Conserves moisture in soil, supporting healthy plants and grass.
- Improves soil health and fertility.
- Reduces weed growth.
- Prevents soil compaction and improves overall soil structure.
- Keeps soil cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter, maintaining an even soil temperature.
- Provides a clean, finished look to your landscape.

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### TYPES OF MULCH FOR SALE



#### **Black Mulch**

Some people prefer black wood mulch rather than red because its darker color provides a neutral look that may add a unique feel to their landscape.

#### **Natural Mulch**

Made of all-natural, untreated raw materials, this type of mulch consists mainly of chunks of reclaimed wood and bark. It reduces environmental impact by recycling raw materials, and helps diminish the burden on New Jersey's landfills while providing excellent insulation, moisture protection and pest repellent properties.

#### **Red Mulch**

This type of decorative mulch is made from quality woods with natural pest protection properties, such as cedar. The dyes used to make red mulch are environmentally friendly and 100% safe.

# THE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE

## TO MULCH & TOPSOIL

### CHOOSING THE RIGHT SUPPLIER



#### What To Look For

Wholesalers and manufacturers that sell mulch directly to consumers are better options when it comes to getting the best possible value when buying mulch. When buying from wholesalers, you eliminate the middlemen, therefore, you'll avoid price-bloating markups while enjoying premium quality.

Another reason to buy from wholesalers is a simple reason: the service. When you go to purchase mulch at a chain store, employees tend to be busy and cannot provide quality customer service or advice that a wholesaler can provide.

You might also run into trouble at a chain store when trying to buy a large quantity of mulch.

They might not provide the best deals for large quantities, and you may find yourself saving time and money by buying directly from the wholesaler.



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# THE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE

## TO MULCH & TOPSOIL

### TOPSOIL



#### Overview

Just as the name implies, topsoil is comprised of the top 2"-8" of earth and is frequently used to revive damaged grass or to promote good growing conditions in residential and commercial gardens.

Typically, people use topsoil to improve the quality or quantity of soil in a given area. It is most commonly used in outdoor gardens or lawns that need reseeding.

Topsoil is made up of six primary types of ingredients: minerals, water, oxygen, microorganisms and silt.

#### Benefits

- Contains a carefully balanced mixture of vital nutrients that enrich growth and help create full, healthy lawns and beautiful gardens.
- Helps retain water, as well as nutrients, promoting healthy plant growth.
- Topsoil can be used to give new plants a healthy start.
- Improves the quality and quantity of the soil in the area being worked.
- Prevents erosion and provides a good foundation for hard surfaces and lawns.

# THE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE

## TO MULCH & TOPSOIL

### TYPES OF TOPSOIL



#### **Clay**

Clay topsoil contains more clay than other types of topsoil and is known for its ability to hold moisture. This type of soil is usually used in regions where rainfall is infrequent and drought conditions occur frequently. Clay topsoil can also be very fertile and holds beneficial nutrients to help maintain a healthy landscape.

#### **Loamy**

Loamy soil is comprised of a fairly equal balance of clay, sand and silt that is ideal for standard gardening applications. It's the most commonly selected type of screened topsoil because its organic matter and composition provides healthy growing conditions for most vegetation including flowers, lawns, vegetables, etc.

#### **Sandy**

This type of topsoil has more sand than would normally be found in a loamy topsoil. Since sand doesn't retain moisture very well, sandy soil is best suited for plants that need or benefit from a lot of drainage. Sandy topsoil is typically comprised of 40% silt, 40% sand and 20% clay.



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## TO MULCH & TOPSOIL

### WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN YOUR TOPSOIL



#### **Color**

It's been said that the darker the topsoil in appearance, the richer and better it is for plants. While this is a good general rule of thumb to go by, you should also keep in mind that if the soil is too dark, it could mean that there is too much organic matter present. Ultimately, this could create problems with compaction.

#### **Texture**

Ideally, you want your topsoil to be loose and crumbly in texture. Be on the lookout for large clumps as this can indicate a problem. Keep in mind that texture will influence the sustainability of the soil for plant life.

#### **Moisture**

While there should be some moisture retained in the blend, you shouldn't be able to form a ball that will stick in your hand. This could mean that the clay content is actually too high. Unless you are looking for a clay-based topsoil, this is not what you want.

# THE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE

## TO MULCH & TOPSOIL

### TOPSOIL AND MULCH DELIVERY



Braen Supply has bulk landscape & construction material delivery available to homeowners, contractors, cities, townships, schools, religious establishments and universities. Our drivers are experienced and will do their best to accommodate your delivery requests.

While our core service area for landscape material bulk deliveries is in New Jersey, depending on the quantity, we deliver in bulk throughout the entire Northeast.

#### **Our core delivery area in New Jersey:**

Bergen County, Passaic County, Hudson County, Essex County, Union County, Middlesex County, Somerset County, Morris County and Sussex County (Northern New Jersey and Central New Jersey).

#### **Our core delivery area in New York:**

NYC, Manhattan, Brooklyn, The Bronx, Queens, Staten Island, Long Island, Rockland County, Orange County and Westchester County.



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# THE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE

## TO MULCH & TOPSOIL



Landscaping with mulch and topsoil is one of the most beneficial things you can do for your lawn, plants and garden. The nutrients from mulch and topsoil keep your landscape looking healthy and beautiful.

Mulch plays an extremely vital role in creating and maintaining healthy lawns and gardens. Mulch is also one of the most versatile landscaping products on the market, offering gardeners and landscapers a wide range of benefits.

Topsoil ensures that you are giving your plants and lawn the proper nutrients to survive. When the right materials are selected, you can enjoy vibrant colors and nutrient-rich vegetation throughout your property, all while doing it on a budget you can afford.



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