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# AN APPLICATIONS GUIDE FOR LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONALS

## *When using Expanded Shale, Clay and Slate*

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Sustainable building practices and environmentally sound designs have become an increasingly important part of landscape design. For innovative, cost-effective, long-term solutions to modern horticulture and landscape design challenges, design professionals have turned to Expanded Shale Clay and Slate (ESCS).

### WHAT IS ESCS?

ESCS is lightweight, porous ceramic material produced by expanding and vitrifying select shales, clays and slates in a rotary kiln. The process produces a high quality ceramic aggregate that is structurally strong, physically stable, durable, environmentally inert, light in weight and highly insulative. It is a non-toxic, absorptive aggregate that is dimensionally stable and will not degrade over time.



### HOW CAN ESCS ADD VALUE TO A LANDSCAPE DESIGN?

Whether it is creating an ideal planting media for a rooftop garden, designing a soil for an athletic field or improving an existing soil to sustain a plant design, ESCS is the logical solution.

## DESIGN APPLICATIONS FOR ESCS



### ROOFTOP GARDEN PLANTING MEDIA

Combining ESCS with varying amounts of organic matter creates a lightweight planting media for intensive and/or extensive rooftop gardens.

### DESIGNER SOILS

With ESCS, soils can be created or altered to meet design specifications or address precise project

requirements. Designer soils are often required for rooftop gardens, raised planters, containers and urban tree plantings.

### SOIL AMENDING

Incorporating ESCS into heavy clay soil can provide permanent aeration and drainage within the root zone. ESCS can improve the properties and qualities of existing soils to meet the requirements of the landscape design.

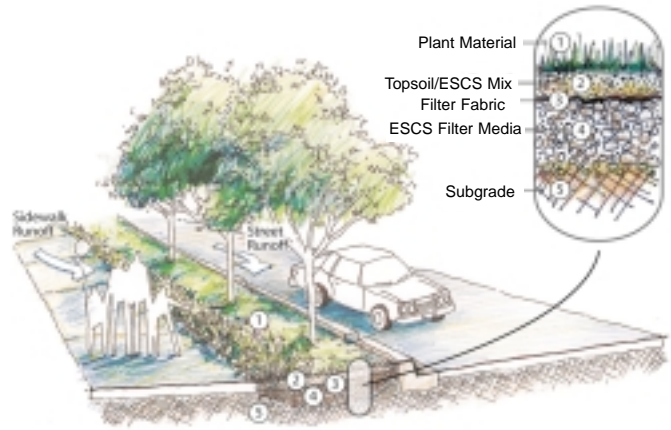
### TURF

ESCS is combined with peat, sand and other amendments to form root zone soil mixes for golf courses, athletic fields and related turf surfaces. It is also applied as topdressing over established turf.



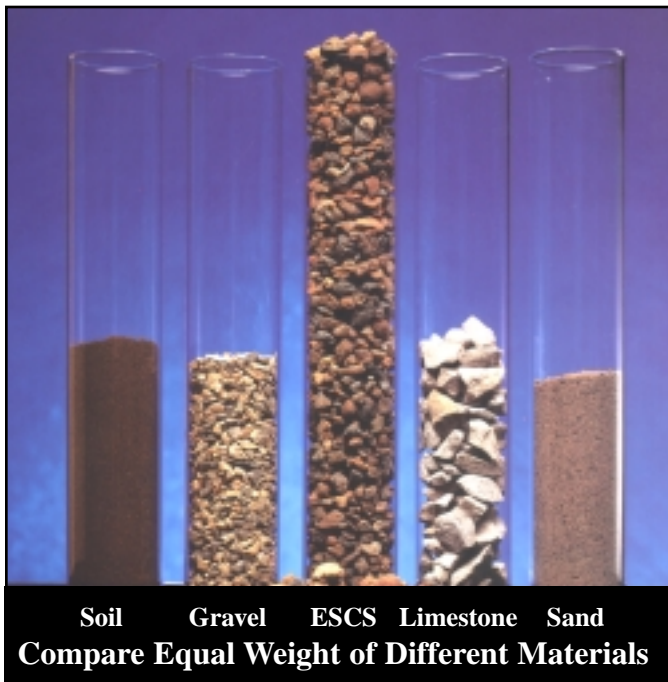
**STORM WATER MANAGEMENT**

ESCS amended soil reduces surface runoff by permitting storm water to percolate and infiltrate the soil surface. Rain gardens, vegetated filter strips and turf pavers are examples of storm water management tools that benefit from ESCS.



**INFIELD CONDITIONER FOR BALL FIELDS**

Adding ESCS to the infield mix prevents the skinned surface from becoming hard and compacted. It also improves drainage, allowing the infield to dry out quickly after inclement weather, reducing down time.



**LIGHTWEIGHT FILL**

At nearly half the weight of common fills, ESCS provides an ideal lightweight fill for backfilling retaining walls, reducing loads over structures or insulating thermally sensitive elements.



**Expanded Shale Clay and Slate is readily available throughout the United States and Canada, and is sold under various trade names. For additional information and technical support contact the local supplier.**



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