



# Sand Based Structural Soil

Canal Plaza in Portland, ME underwent a makeover with multiple urban tree plantings set under paved areas.

Completed Summer 2017

Sand based structural soils are highly engineered to be used in urban tree planting environments. Soils that are placed beneath pavement or in confined spaces face stressed conditions from day one of the project. Providing a soil media that has a high infiltration rate and aeration capacity are key to the success of the tree in a confined space. Reducing the ability for the soil to compact and controlling the organic material used in the soil will create favorable conditions for healthy soil biology.

Canal Plaza, located in downtown Portland, ME sits between three large commercial buildings and sees foot traffic from employees and visitors to the area each day. Four large tree pits were installed around a new central structure to create a more inviting place to gather and enjoy the city. The material was installed in three lifts with compaction being tested for each 18” section before moving forward with installation.



