TINY FOREST SOIL PREPARATION

A Worthwhile Investment



foretcapitaleforest.ca

URBAN SOILS AND TINY FORESTS

The goal of a Tiny Forest is for the plants to feel as if they are growing in a natural forest to accelerate establishment and increase survival rates. A natural forest has a complex ecosystem that exists beneath the soil where many biological and chemical reactions take place to transform nutrients into a form plants can use. Many urban sites have had these nutrients stripped and removed during land development. The Miyawaki Method incorporates soil amendments, with the intention to bring back some of the qualities of healthy soil that allow for nutrient cycling to take place.

HOW DO AMENDMENTS IMPROVE SOIL?

ERODED ORGANIC LAYER

Urban development strips away nutrient-rich organic layer

ORGANIC MATTER

Leaf mulch, compost, manure

AERATION

Leaf mulch, hay or straw, compost, gypsum

COMPACTION

Poor structure from increased foot traffic and equipment use

LOW NUTRIENT AVAILABILITY

Either low in nutrients or incapable of releasing nutrients for plant uptake

WATER LOSS

Susceptible to drought and further erosion

POOR DRAINAGE

Can lead to flooding, nutrient loss, and root rot



BIOAVAILABLE NUTRIENTS

Trace minerals, mycorrhizal inoculant, kelp, humic acid

GOOD DRAINAGE

Leaf mulch, hay or straw, composted pine mulch

MOISTURE RETENTION

 Coconut coir, compost, biochar, vermiculite, manure

Materials made possible by the generous support of:

