SOIL CHARACTERISTICS



There is a direct relationship between native plants and the soil they occupy. View the soil characteristics below that support native plant species:

Clay is the predominant native A Horizon soil type at Mehaffey Park. Clay holds more water but is slow to absorb water and slow to release water. Loam is created by adding sand and organic material to make the soil porous to absorb water while retaining moisure.

What's In It? O Horizon - Organic Matter (humus)

A Horizon - Topsoil (rich in humus and minerals) -0-B Horizon - Subsoil (poor in humus, rich in minerals) - 1 FT. C Horizon - Parent Material (weathered rock) - 2 FT. The roots of the dryland grasses that built this soil were this deep - and deeper! - 3 FT. Mature Soil - Rainwater does not regularly seep this deep, so lime accumulates rather than washing down and out. - 5 FT.

- 6 FT.

D Horizon - Bedrock