

## SOIL STABILIZATION (NON-VEGETATIVE)

Soil stabilization practices seek to protect soils by minimizing disturbance that would cause soil erosion and sediment transport to surface waters. Disturbed bare soil can be protected by various means to avoid becoming a contributing sediment source. Paving driveways and parking areas and installing parking barriers are common practices in the Lake Tahoe Region. In general, impervious surfaces cumulatively can modify natural hydrologic regimes and exacerbate water quality problems. But paving driveways and parking areas can be considered a best practice when it removes obvious sediment sources, such as rutted dirt surfaces continually disturbed by vehicles, or scraped by snowplows in the winter. Parking barriers are intended to prevent soil compaction by keeping vehicles off areas that are not intended for parking (e.g. yards). Deck armoring protects bare soils under decks from rainfall impact and erosion. Bare soil protection discusses ways to physically cover bare soil surfaces with mulches to minimize erosion and retain soil moisture, while still retaining fire defensible space. Refer to Chapter 5 Soil and Vegetation Management, Section 5.3.2.5 Fire Defensible Space for more detail.