

## GROWING ENVIRONMENT TERMS OUTLINE

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Aeration

- Exposing **soil** to air flow.

### Aggregation

- The collection or clumping of soil **particles**.

### Capillary Water

- The water that is held against the force of **gravity** in the pore spaces of the soil.

### Clay Soil

- Soil that must be at least **30 percent** clay and holds moisture and plant food well.

### Gravitational Water

- The water the soil cannot hold against the force of gravity.

### Leaching

- The process of **nutrients** washing out of soil.

### Limestone

- A type of rock that raises the **pH** levels in the soil.

### Loamy Soil

- The most balanced soil containing nearly **equal** parts of clay, silt, and sand.

### Medium

- Soil or soil substitute in which plants grow.

### Mulch

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- Product placed on the soil surface to help retain soil **moisture**.
- Example – Wood chips

### Peat Moss

- Decomposing **vegetation** that is found underwater.

### Perlite

- Gray colored **volcanic** material used to improve aeration.

### Permanent Wilting

- The point when wilting reaches an extreme and causes **death**.

### Photoperiodism

- The response of a plant's growth to the different periods of day and night.

### Relative Humidity

- The amount of **moisture** in the air.

### Soil

- Organic material composed of sand, **silt** and/or clay.

### Sandy Soil

- Soils that contain less than **20 percent** of silt and clay by weight and do not hold moisture or nutrients well.

### Slow-release Fertilizers

- Plant food that is slowly made available to plants.

### Sphagnum Moss

- The dried remains of acid **bog** plants that is shredded and holds moisture well.



### Transpiration

- The evaporation of water through the plants **leaves** and stems.

### Tree Bark

- Bark from **pine** or oaks trees that is broken into small parts.

### Vermiculite

- Light material that has a **neutral** pH which holds moisture in planting media.