What Gold Mine Tailings Look Like

Very few Nova Scotians who live in historic gold mining districts are anticipated to be living on tailings. The information on this website can help you determine if your property has regular soil or tailings on it.

Tailings are a sand-like material, generally with no rocks mixed in. The colour of them can vary between light brown and dark grey.



This is normal soil



This is rocky soil



These are tailings



Tailings often look like a 'fine sand beach' but inland without the water

If you think you live in a historic gold mining district and you have material that matches the description of tailings, you can contact an expert by calling the provincial public inquiries line: **424-5200 in Halifax Regional Municipality or 1-800-670-4357**. Calls will be directed to the appropriate department for answers.