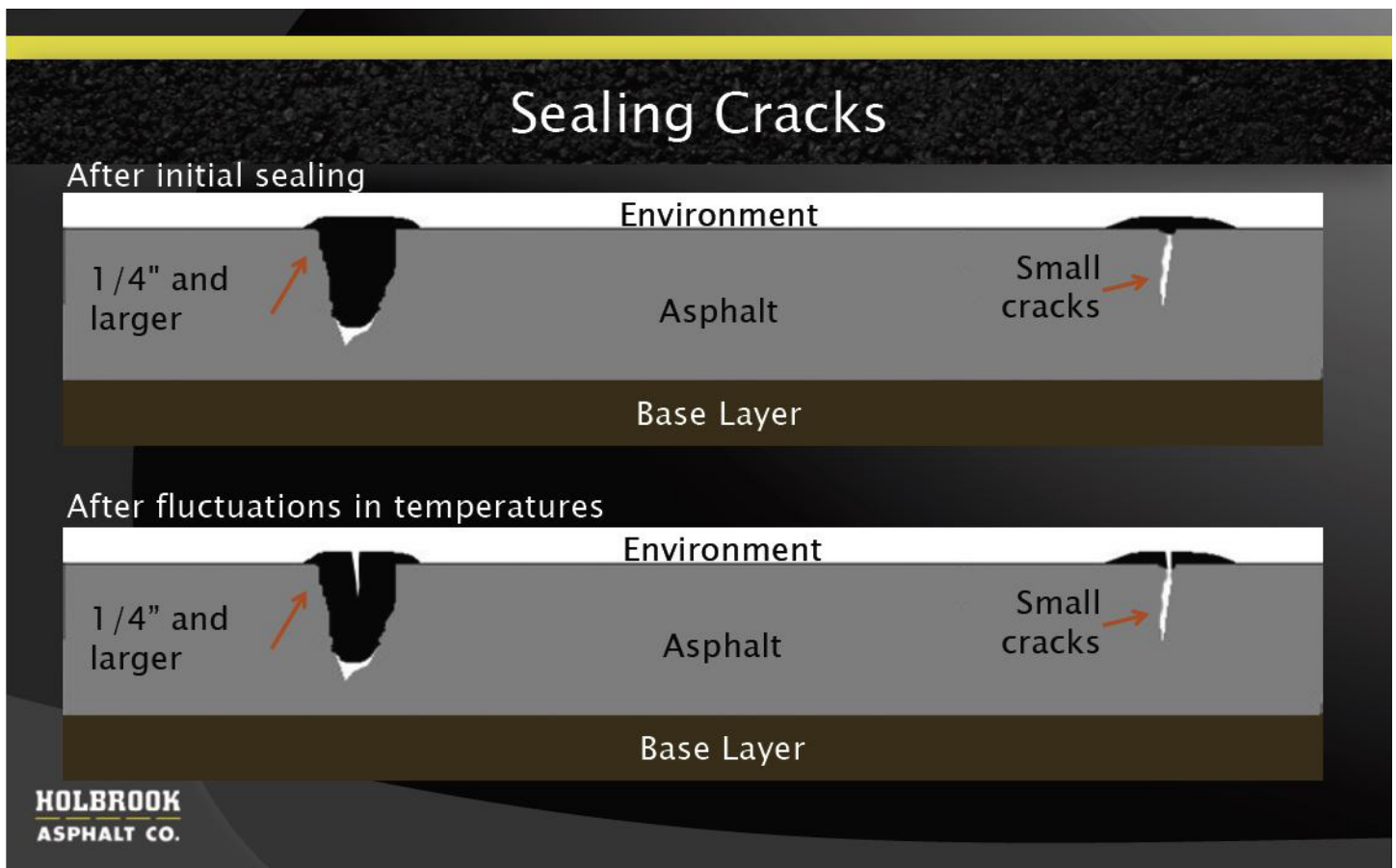


The asphalt industry has been very successful at convincing people that if you see a crack then it must be filled or extensive damage will occur. This statement holds true in Flagstaff, AZ, Salt Lake City, UT or Denver, CO. However, here in the desert climates we simply do not get enough natural moisture setting on the pavement long enough to penetrate the asphalt profile and get into the base course and subgrade. Therefore, it is NOT necessary to fill cracks less than 1/4 inch and we would be wasting your funds to do so. That being said, be cautious that extensive landscape water overflowing onto asphalt surfaces can penetrate the asphalt and cause base failure.



When cracks are sealed, as the climate and temperatures fluctuate from season to season, or summer to winter, most if not all of those previously sealed cracks will re-open. Although they appear to be cracked, the crack is only in the top 1/16th to 1/4 inch of the crevice. The entire profile of the crack is still adequately sealed even though there is a visible crack present. The best way to determine if the crack needs to be sealed again is to take a 1/4 inch flat blade screwdriver and insert into the crack. If the screwdriver goes down 1-1/2 inches deep then the crack should be resealed. If the screwdriver does not penetrate to that depth the crack does not need to be sealed. Sealing those cracks only adds un-necessary build up and adds no additional protection to your asphalt.