

Soil Sampling & Testing

If you are not sure what tests to run, we recommend the standard fertility test for \$45.00. That test will provide excellent information on pH, organic matter, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium levels. Make sure you fill out the soil testing form completely.

How to sample: Soil sampling is not difficult, but to ensure an accurate soil test reading, you should take several soil samples (5 to 20) from the area in question. Make sure you go down to a depth of 10-12 inches. It is important to have soil from the top and down to 10 or 12 inches for an accurate reading. Use a shovel or soil probe (hollow metal tube) to take samples. Remove any plant material or mulch on the soil's surface before taking samples. If you use a shovel, take a wedge of the soil out and put it aside. Slide the shovel down the side of the hole to obtain a slice of soil from the surface down to 10-12 inches. Do this in several different spots. Mix all the samples together thoroughly in a plastic bucket and remove a pint of soil to send for analysis.

How to send the soil: Mail the envelope of soil with the sample form and your check. Soil results may take 2-4 weeks, depending on the time of year. The remaining soil in the bucket can be returned to your yard.

When you receive your soil report: Call Professor Bell at the number listed below to have your test results interpreted.

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