



Soil and Water Conservation District of Lake County

Soil Testing Program

<p>*LCSWCD office use only*</p> <p>Lab number: _____</p> <p>County: _____</p> <p>Payment: _____</p>

Soil and Water Conservation
District of Lake County
 100 N. Atkinson Rd., Suite 102-A
 Grayslake, IL 60030-7805
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www.lakeswcd.org

Soil Test Application

Name and Address	Price: \$20.00 per sample
Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____ Phone No. _____	Location of Soil Sample: Flower Bed ____ Vegetable Garden ____ Lawn ____

The soil test will include the relative pH, potassium, phosphorus, texture, structure, and color of the soil, along with other tests when found necessary. General recommendations for remediation will also be included in the results.

Sample #	Date	Fertilizer Application	Predominant Vegetation	Special Situations	Reason for Test

Sample #: If submitting multiple samples please assign them a number to ensure they are not contaminated as it will affect the results of the sample.

Fertilizer Application: List any applications of fertilizer used in the past year, additionally any remediation made to the soil (topsoil, compost, mulch, lime, sulfur, etc.).

Predominant Vegetation: Primary vegetation planted (this will assist in interpretation of pH results).

Special Situations: If the area has abundant shade, poor or excessive drainage, moss or algae, etc.

Reason for Test: Is there a specific problem you wish to be addressed or simply want the condition of your soil?

The Soil Testing Program is not intended for use in large scale operations by developers or professional landscapers. The Soil Testing Program is also not suitable for agricultural settings. The Soil Testing Program should also not be used to settle disputes between landowners, builders, or developers. If producers have an agricultural operation or you are looking for certified soil testing results, LCSWCD can provide a list of nutrient management laboratories or certified soil classifiers.



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Soil Sampling Instructions

Materials:

- Clean bucket
- Garden trowel or Shovel
- SWCD provided soil sampling bag
- Newspaper

Methods:

1. Clean all tools before you begin the soil sampling process. Never use tools or containers that have been used for fertilizer application. Any remaining fertilizer residue could contaminate and skew soil testing results.
2. Dig five random holes 6-8" deep with a garden trowel in your garden or flower bed. Please spread out the sample holes, so that you have an accurate sample of soil from the entire area. *For customers sampling lawn soil, please dig 10 random holes at a depth of 4 inches.*
3. Cut a thin slice of soil from the holes in your planting area. Please eliminate surface soil, because this could skew the pH test. Cut from the top of the ground to the bottom of the hole. Place the thin slice of soil from each hole into a clean bucket.
4. Thoroughly mix the collected soil in the bucket. Mixing the soil will provide more accurate and representative results.
5. If the soil is wet, spread the mixed soil onto newspaper to dry completely. Wet soil could cause a skewed soil report. Please give your soil time to dry. Soil with high clay content could take a couple of days to dry.
6. When the soil is dry, fill the SWCD provided soil bag completely up with mixed soil. If you have excess soil, return excess soil to the flower bed, garden, or lawn.
7. Fill out the application and the label on the soil sampling bag and return the sample to the SWCD office or mail the sample to the office.

Cost: The cost of soil testing is \$20.00 per sample tested.

Disclaimer: The intent of the soil test is to provide the customer general results and recommendations on how to remediate your soil problems. Lake County SWCD is not responsible for any recommendations that do not reach your desired outcome.

Questions: Contact Nick Spittlemeister at SWCD office by email at nspittle@sbcglobal.net or by phone at 847-223-1056.