SOIL SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS

March 2012

MSU Extension has streamlined the process for soil testing; please read the instructions below. If you have questions, please call the Kalamazoo County MSU Extension office at (269) 383-8830.

SUBMITTING A SOIL SAMPLE

A soil sample kit may be purchased from the MSU Extension Bookstore for submitting a soil sample for your lawn or vegetable garden. To order a kit for \$20, (farm & commercial \$12.00) visit www.bookstore.msue.msu.edu. Each soil sample kit contains everything needed to submit a sample, including a postage paid envelope.

A customized report will be mailed or emailed back to you with recommendations for your soil.

If you have follow-up questions about your soil diagnosis, you may call or email the MSU Soil Lab, or the Kalamazoo County MSU Extension office.

SOIL SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. For a lawn or garden, 5 to 10 sub-samples should be taken from different locations in the area you want to test.
 - o Avoid road edges, next to concrete foundations, walks, driveways, etc.
 - o Collect soil 4" deep for lawn and 6" deep for a garden. See diagram below.
- 2. Mix your sub-samples together to create a soil sample for each area you want tested.
- 3. Air dry the soil on paper for 24 hours (never oven dry). Fill plastic bag provided in soil sample kit, place in mailer with completed information form, and mail.



