

free SOIL SCREENINGS

SEPTEMBER 23, 2024
5:00-7:00PM

DELAWARE PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT
470 S. SANDUSKY STREET
DELAWARE, OH

(FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS)

**Screen your soil for free!
Bring in samples to identify
any lead that may be lurking
in your edible gardens or
outdoor play areas.**

SoilSHOP (Screening, Health, Outreach, and Partnership) will offer free soil evaluations by screening soil on site and provide a report in 3-5 minutes using an x-ray fluorescence (XRF) instrument.

Where do toxic hazards in soil come from?

- Abandoned automobiles & houses can contaminate vacant lots.
- Exhaust from leaded gasoline is still in bare soil areas.
- Highway overpasses and bridges are likely spots for lead contamination.
- Factories which process metals can release toxic smoke for miles in all directions.



HOW TO COLLECT SOIL SAMPLES

Step 1: Identify an area of interest for your soil sample. It is highly suggested to collect soil from along the dripline of home, from gardens, and in areas where children and pets play.

Step 2: For a garden area, collect 5 samples, scooped to about 6" to 8" deep and placed in a clean container. For a play area, collect 5 samples, scooped only from the top 2" of the soil surface and place in a separate clean container.

Step 3: Mix the soil in each sample well and remove debris such as pebbles, rocks, and roots. Then let the sample dry in the air. (Do not use a flame, oven, or hairdryer to dry the soil!).

Step 4: Bring 1 - 2 cups of the mixed soil into a clean one-quart Ziplock bag, labeling each bag with the source of the soil.