



INFORMATION SHEET ---- SCREENING TEST FOR SOIL LEAD

SOIL TESTING LABORATORY -- UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE -- NEWARK, DE 19717-1303

1. NAME AND ADDRESSES		LAB USE ONLY																		
		BAG #																		
NAME (PRINT)	SEND ADDITIONAL REPORT TO: (PRINT)	LAB #																		
ADDRESS	AGENCY / COMPANY	REC'D																		
CITY STATE ZIP	ADDRESS																			
TELEPHONE NUMBER	CITY STATE ZIP																			
2. SAMPLE IDENTIFICATION																				
<table border="1"><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></table> <p>YOUR SAMPLE NAME OR NUMBER (UP TO 15 CHARACTERS)</p>																	<table border="1"><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></table> <p>DATE SAMPLED (MONTH/DAY/YEAR)</p>			
DEPTH SAMPLED: <input type="checkbox"/> 0-2" -- Sample depth for areas where there has been little or no soil disturbance or where paint chips are visible on the surface (e.g., lawns or areas adjacent to the house).																				
<input type="checkbox"/> 0-8" -- Sample depth for areas thoroughly mixed, rototilled or substantially disturbed (e.g., garden areas).																				
INTENDED USES - Check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable garden <input type="checkbox"/> Children's play area <input type="checkbox"/> Flower/other garden <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Please specify: _____																				
3. COMMENTS:																				

Instructions for Collecting a Proper Sample for the Soil Lead Test

----- University of Delaware Soil Testing Laboratory -----

1. **Determine what location(s) should be tested for soil lead.** Possible sites to be tested include areas adjacent to old homes or buildings which, in the past, may have been painted with lead paint or where flaking paint is obvious now, gardens -- especially those where vegetable plants are to be grown, and areas where children are likely to play and/or come into direct contact with soil (e.g., around swing sets or other playground equipment).
2. **Collect soil only from the area of concern (e.g., the area adjacent to the house, within the boundaries of the garden or children's play yard).** Including soil from other areas, especially when lead is not likely to be a problem in those locations, could dilute the overall lead content of the sample submitted and result in inaccurate test results.
3. **Collect soil from the appropriate sample depth (e.g., 0-2 inches or 0-8 inches) according to the following criteria.**

Selection Criteria	Sample Depth
Site is essentially undisturbed. Soil has not been rototilled, excavated or significantly mixed. Areas adjacent to homes and buildings often fall in this category. Paint chips may be visible on the soil surface.	0-2 inches
Site has been disturbed. Soil may have been rototilled, excavated or otherwise mixed to a depth of 6-8 inches or more in the past. Gardens usually fall into this category,	0-8 inches

4. **Using a clean trowel or spade and bucket, collect 8-10 subsamples in a random pattern over the site. To avoid possible contamination of the sample, do not use tools or buckets which have previously been used to mix or store paint.** For each subsample, carefully remove any surface litter such as grass thatch, mulch, stones or **paint chips**. Using the trowel or spade, vertically cut a slice of soil about 2 inches in diameter to the appropriate depth. Place each subsample in the bucket.
5. **Thoroughly mix all the subsamples in the bucket.**
6. **Fill the plastic bag supplied with the soil test kit with about 1-1½ cups of the mixed soil. Close the plastic bag and place inside the cloth bag. Tie the cloth bag closed.**
7. **Carefully complete the Sample Information Sheet on the other side of this form. Enclose the completed sheet in the envelope portion of the soil test kit. Record the serial number of the kit for future reference.**
8. **Return the completed soil test kit to the nearest Cooperative Extension office or mail it directly to the University of Delaware Soil Testing Laboratory at the address printed on the kit.** Postage usually costs about \$2.00.
9. **A soil test report containing analysis results and interpretation for your sample and related Soil Test Note will be mailed to you (and to anyone else you specify on the information sheet) within 10 working days of the sample's arrival at the laboratory.** For additional information on lead in soil or the soil lead test, contact the University of Delaware Soil Testing Program at (302) 831-1392.

Remember:

A soil test is only as accurate as the sample collected. Proper sampling can mean the difference between correctly identifying a soil high in lead and obtaining a false answer. Follow sampling instructions carefully for best results.

Instructions for Collecting a Proper Sample for the Soil Lead Test

----- University of Delaware Soil Testing Laboratory -----

1. **Determine what location(s) should be tested for soil lead.** Possible sites to be tested include areas adjacent to old homes or buildings which, in the past, may have been painted with lead paint or where flaking paint is obvious now, gardens -- especially those where vegetable plants are to be grown, and areas where children are likely to play and/or come into direct contact with soil (e.g., around swing sets or other playground equipment).
2. **Collect soil only from the area of concern (e.g., the area adjacent to the house, within the boundaries of the garden or children's play yard).** Including soil from other areas, especially when lead is not likely to be a problem in those locations, could dilute the overall lead content of the sample submitted and result in inaccurate test results.
3. **Collect soil from the appropriate sample depth (e.g., 0-2 inches or 0-8 inches) according to the following criteria.**

Selection Criteria	Sample Depth
Site is essentially undisturbed. Soil has not been rototilled, excavated or significantly mixed. Areas adjacent to homes and buildings often fall in this category. Paint chips may be visible on the soil surface.	0-2 inches
Site has been disturbed. Soil may have been rototilled, excavated or otherwise mixed to a depth of 6-8 inches or more in the past. Gardens usually fall into this category,	0-8 inches

4. **Using a clean trowel or spade and bucket, collect 8-10 subsamples in a random pattern over the site. To avoid possible contamination of the sample, do not use tools or buckets which have previously been used to mix or store paint.** For each subsample, carefully remove any surface litter such as grass thatch, mulch, stones or **paint chips**. Using the trowel or spade, vertically cut a slice of soil about 2 inches in diameter to the appropriate depth. Place each subsample in the bucket.
5. **Thoroughly mix all the subsamples in the bucket.**
6. **Fill the plastic bag supplied with the soil test kit with about 1-1½ cups of the mixed soil. Close the plastic bag and place inside the cloth bag. Tie the cloth bag closed.**
7. **Carefully complete the Sample Information Sheet on the other side of this form. Enclose the completed sheet in the envelope portion of the soil test kit. Record the serial number of the kit for future reference.**
8. **Return the completed soil test kit to the nearest Cooperative Extension office or mail it directly to the University of Delaware Soil Testing Laboratory at the address printed on the kit.** Postage usually costs about \$2.00.
9. **A soil test report containing analysis results and interpretation for your sample and related Soil Test Note will be mailed to you (and to anyone else you specify on the information sheet) within 10 working days of the sample's arrival at the laboratory.** For additional information on lead in soil or the soil lead test, contact the University of Delaware Soil Testing Program at (302) 831-1392.

Remember:

A soil test is only as accurate as the sample collected. Proper sampling can mean the difference between correctly identifying a soil high in lead and obtaining a false answer. Follow sampling instructions carefully for best results.