

How to Take a Soil Sample

Always follow the procedures included with your soil sampling materials or recommended by your agronomist.

Below are general guidelines.

1. Use a sampling tube, spade, trowel, or long knife. Sample soil 6-8 inches deep for crops, gardens, shrubs or trees, and 3-4 inches deep for lawn. Be sure to remove any surface residue, thatch or stones.
2. Sample different areas of the field, lawn, garden or landscape separately. Take several cores or slices from each separate area.
3. Combine the cores or slices in a bucket and mix well. Transfer one cup of the mixed sample to a soil sample or plastic bag. Label and number bag as needed.
4. Enclose sample bag in a shipping box. Place information sheet and payment in the box and ship via your preferred method.

OR

Bring samples to the place you obtained your testing materials for shipment.

OR

Follow the instructions included with the sampling materials or by your agronomist.

The Missaukee Conservation District has a soil probe available to borrow in order to take your samples.



Missaukee Conservation District

6180 West Sanborn Road, Suite 3
Lake City, MI 49651

Phone: 231.839.7193
Fax: 231.839.5411

www.missaukeecd.org

2021 Soil Sampling Cost-Share Program Guide

Made possible by the 2018 Missaukee Conservation District millage which will be up for renewal in 2022

Living better with

~Fresh air~

~Healthy soils~

~Clean water~

~More recycling and~

Our mission is to provide leadership in promotion and protecting our County soil, water and other natural resources through education and technical assistance.

All district programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis.

Program Overview

This soil sampling cost-share program is available to any Missaukee county landowner that would like to know and understand the makeup of their soil. Farmers, gardeners, and landowners can take advantage of this incentive. Governmental entities are not eligible for this program.

How does this work? Take a soil sample, bring the soil test results and receipt to the Missaukee Conservation District where you will be partially reimbursed for the testing costs. The program is funded by

Why Test Your Soil?

- Choose the correct fertilizers
 - Give your plants what they really need
- Helps avoid excessive fertilizer use
 - Saves money
 - Protects the environment
 - Prevents damage to the plant
- Improves crop yield and plant growth

What You Need to do to Participate

1. Obtain soil testing materials. *Missaukee Conservation District does have a soil probe to loan out.*
2. Take the samples and send them out for testing
3. Bring a copy of your receipt and test results to the Missaukee Conservation District
4. Get reimbursed for a portion of your testing costs

If interested, contact Jodi DeHate at 231.839.7193 or by e-mail at jodi.dehate@macd.org.

Where to Bring Soil Samples

ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Ceres Solutions

260 East Prosper Road
Falmouth, MI 49632
231.826.3301

Ceres Solutions, McBain

101 N. Pine St
McBain, MI 49657
231.825.2483

Basic Test.....\$15 per sample

Obtain free soil sample bag or use plastic baggie, collect sample, bring 1 cup of soil to Ceres Solutions to be sent to testing lab. Customers using their own bags will need to place soil in the soil sample bag once at Ceres Solutions. ****Note**** Micronutrients are **NOT** included in sample cost, that's \$5 extra per sample. Please ask staff to give you nutrient recommendations.

McBain Grain

111 W. Maple Street
McBain, MI 49657
231.825.2172

Basic Test.....\$7.50 + \$2.50 shipping per sample. Add \$6.80 for micronutrients.

Obtain free soil sample bag or use a plastic baggie, collect sample, bring 1 cup of soil to McBain Grain to be sent to testing lab. Customers using their own bags will need to place soil in the soil sample bag once at McBain Grain.

MSU Extension

6180 W. Sanborn Road, Suite 2
Lake City, MI 49651
231.839.4667

Field Crop Test.....\$12.50 postage **not** included

Lawn & Garden Test...\$26.25 postage included (e-mail required for results)

The Missaukee Conservation District will cost-share 50% of the cost of each test not to exceed \$100 per Missaukee County household per calendar year. This will be done on a first-come first-serve basis and will continue until funds are depleted.