

STEP 1:

First, divide the property into sections like front, back, left side, right side. This is important, because you are allowed 4 samples with each test. Then, plan to mix some soil from each section into a small container or bag. You may not have access to a plug puller like we have depicted, but not to worry!

Just use a small garden trowel and gather soil from where the grass roots are (1"-4" down). Take a little bit of soil from different spots in each section to make a composite sample, rather than getting all the soil from one spot.

STEP 2:

Clearly mark your samples with your name, address, phone number, and email. Most importantly, indicate your desired crop. We suggest this: "CROP: LAWN" (or vegetables, flowers). This way, the recommendations will come back specific to your desired outcome.

In New Haven County, mail your samples to:

The CT Agricultural Experiment Station
Slate Laboratory
Soil Testing
P.O. Box 1106
New Haven, CT 06504

Or, you can drop your sample off:

The CT Agricultural Experiment Station 123 Huntington Street New Haven, CT 06511

STEP 3:

The soil test results will arrive by mail or email shortly after your submission. The results will show your soil pH (acidity) and other helpful factors like soil texture, organic matter, and Nutrient levels. The main ones are the three numbers on a fertilizer bag - Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Potassium (NPK).

Take a look at our example to the right of exactly what you can expect from the report. The lab even takes the guesswork out of the job with a great explanation of the what and why.

STEP 4:

Bring your results to Soundview for specific product and quantity recommendations.



