



# FREE SOIL TESTING

## for Community Gardens

### Who can get their soil tested?

Community gardens and urban farms in the City of Columbus or that provide food to City of Columbus residents

### Why test your soil?

- Soil test results pinpoint plant nutrient needs
- Can identify heavy metals in the soil
- Can help the grower maintain good plant health and maximize productivity of vegetable gardens and fruit crops

### What does the test evaluate?

The final report contains the chemical analysis of the soil along with lime and fertilizer recommendations for the specified crops. In addition, each sample is analyzed for the following:

- Water pH
- Mehlich buffer lime requirement
- Phosphorus, potassium, magnesium and calcium by the Mehlich 3 (ICP) test
- For agronomic crops, Mehlich 3 zinc, copper, and sulfur are also reported
- Additionally, heavy metals will be tested for in each sample and the results included in the final report

### Request a soil testing kit today!

Each garden can pick up one soil testing kit, along with soil sampling instructions, from the Franklin County Extension office (530 W. Spring St. #275, Columbus, OH 43215). To obtain a kit and for questions, email Mike Hogan, OSU Extension, Franklin County at [hogan.1@osu.edu](mailto:hogan.1@osu.edu) or call 614-866-6900.

