



SOIL TESTING SERVICES FOR HEALTHIER SOIL & BETTER YIELDS

DON'T GUESS. KNOW WHAT YOUR SOIL NEEDS TO THRIVE.

WHY SOIL TESTING MATTERS

Understanding what's happening below the surface helps you:

- Optimize crop yields and forage quality
- Correct pH imbalances that limit nutrient availability
- Apply fertilizers more efficiently and economically
- Reduce nutrient runoff and protect local waterways
- Build long-term soil health and resilience
- Support sound conservation planning

Better data leads to better decisions.

WHAT DOES A SOIL TEST MEASURE?

A standard soil test evaluates key indicators of soil health, including:

Soil pH

Critical for nutrient availability and plant growth.

Macronutrients

Including phosphorus and potassium needed for productive crops and forage.

Organic Matter

An important indicator of soil health, water-holding capacity, and fertility.

Soil Texture & Composition

Available upon request to support management and conservation planning.

Results can be used to guide fertilizer applications, nutrient management planning, and conservation practices tailored to your land.

SOIL SAMPLING ASSISTANCE

Under NRCS guidelines, soil health assessments must be completed by a certified Qualified Individual (QI). Our trained technicians serve as your QI, handling field mapping, sampling, and lab submission. Once results are available, we'll help interpret the data to establish a baseline and guide future land management decisions.

Priority Consideration

Sampling assistance is prioritized for:

- Farmers updating a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) developed with us using goCrop
- Farmers planning to develop a Nutrient Management Plan in the coming year
- Farmers with soil health sampling as an NRCS contract item.

Important Information

- Sign up by June 1 to be considered for the current field season schedule.
- Sampling appointments are scheduled on a first-come, priority basis.
- Staff sampling assistance is provided at no cost when capacity allows.
- Orleans County NRCD covers shipping costs.
- Landowners are responsible for laboratory analysis fees.

NOT SURE IF YOU QUALIFY? CONTACT US TO FIND OUT

*Agriculture Resources
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(802)487-9226

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SOIL TESTING SERVICES

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT
HEALTHIER SOIL & BETTER YIELDS

DON'T GUESS. KNOW WHAT YOUR SOIL
NEEDS TO MEET YOUR YIELD GOALS

WHEN SHOULD YOU TEST YOUR SOIL?

For certified and permitted farms,
Vermont RAP's require sampling every 3
years.

Additional testing is recommended:

- Before establishing a new crop or pasture
- When crop yields or plant health decline
- Prior to developing or updating a Nutrient Management Plan
- After major flooding or weather events that may affect soil conditions
- To know and track soil health over time

Regular testing provides a clear picture of changes over time and supports proactive management.

DIY SOIL SAMPLING OPTIONS

Prefer to collect your own samples?

We offer:

Soil Probe Rental

Free with a \$50 refundable deposit

Soil Probe Purchase \$125

Guidance is available to ensure samples are collected correctly and produce reliable laboratory results.

LEARN MORE & SEEK ASSISTANCE

Agriculture Resources

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HOW THE PROCESS WORKS

1. Sign Up

Request sampling assistance or DIY guidance.

2. Develop a Sampling Plan

Review soil maps, cropping history, management practices, and realistic yield goals.

3. Collect Samples

Work with our staff or sample independently.

4. Laboratory Analysis

Samples are sent to a certified laboratory.

5. Review Results

Interpret findings and identify management opportunities.

6. Put Results to Work

Apply recommendations to improve soil health, nutrient utilization, and productivity.

GET STARTED TODAY

TAKE THE GUESSWORK OUT OF SOIL SAMPLING

Sign up for soil sampling assistance by June 1.

For sampling support, probe reservations, or DIY guidance:

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