Why a soil test?
Soil in its natural state is rarely fertile enough for the best growth of pants. Usually it is necessary to replenish the earth's store of plant nutrients to obtain the most vigorous lawn, the most abundant and brilliant flowers, the prettiest trees and shrubs and the greatest yield of fresh veggies.

When is the best time to test soil?
Proper sampling is important to obtain accurate results. Samples can be taken any time during the warmer months, when soil temperatures are at least 55 degrees. If the soil is too wet to spade, rototill or hoe, it is generally too wet to take a sample. On the other hand, extremely dry soil should not be sampled either.

How often should I test?
Ideally, soil should be tested every 3-5 years, more frequently with intensive use. Try to sample during the same season each time for the best comparison.

Why does Farm Bureau provide this service?
Kane County Farm Bureau was founded in 1912 as the Kane County Farm Improvement Association, to help farmers improve their production practices and increase the fertility and productivity of their soil. This program is an extension of that. It helps you take the guess work out of gardening!

Additional help for your lawn & garden is available through the University of Illinois Master Gardeners. Contact them at 630-584-6166 or visit their office at 535 Randall Rd., St. Charles.

What is Farm Bureau & how do you join?
Farm Bureau is a voice for farmers and others who have an interest in agriculture. Think of us like a chamber of commerce for agriculture. We have over 16,000 members in Kane County and you can be a member too! There are many benefits – just one of which is discounted pricing on soil testing. Annual dues are $20 for non-farmers and $37 for farmers and landowners. Our mission is to "Enhance the quality of life for member families, promote all aspects of agriculture and advocate good stewardship of our land and resources". Call 630-584-8660 to join or download an application at www.kanecfb.com.

Improve Your Lawn & Garden

With

SOIL TESTING

AVAILABLE AT

KANE COUNTY
FARM BUREAU®
Since 1912
Farm. Family. Food.™

2N710 RANDALL ROAD
ST. CHARLES, IL
630-584-8660

Monday - Friday 8:30am - 5pm

Name_____ Date _____/_____/_____

Farm Bureau number _____ ☐ N/A

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please answer each question to the best of your ability:

1. Drainage: Good_____ Fair_____ Poor_____

2. Soil Type: Sandy_____ Loam_____ Clay_____

3. Topography: Flat _____ Slope_____ Steep_____

4. Crops Grown:
_____Vegetables _____Fruits _____Flowers _____Lawn

Approximate size/dimensions of lawn/garden _____

5. Light Exposure:
_____Full sun _____Part-Shade _____Shade _____Heavy shade

Shade due to: Buildings Large trees (please circle one)

6. Soil amendments:

Lime:
Spring _____ Fall _____
Amount: _____

Manure/Composts/Organic Matter:
Spring _____ Fall _____
Amount: _____

7. Fertilizers Applied: Analysis (ID. 10-6-4)_____
Vegetable Garden (lbs./sq. ft.)_____
Grass (lbs./sq. ft.)_____

Why are you having your soil tested? Provide details to describe any problems you are having with your lawn or garden.

_____

_____

_____

_____

Word/Soil/SoilBrochure2014

SOIL TEST PRICES

	Basic Test	Lawn/Garden Test	Lawn/Garden Plus
Non-member	$30	$40	$60
Member	$20	$30	$50
PLUS Member	$18	$27	$45
	Soil pH, Phosphorus (P1), & Potassium (K) with fertility recommendations.	Basic test plus organic matter and recommendations on amount & timing of fertilizer.	Lawn & garden test plus micronutrients iron, zinc, manganese, copper, sulfur and boron.

How to collect your soil sample

1. For one soil test, collect 5 soil samples by cutting a one inch hole about 6 inches deep (three inches deep for existing lawn), you should have at least one cup of soil. Do not include any dead or live plant material in the sample. Place sample in a quart size sealable bag.

2. Complete the Soil Test Form *(on other side).* Please be as detailed as possible - the more we know, the better your recommendations.

3. Bring sample in a resealable plastic bag to Kane County Farm Bureau 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL. Monday-Friday 8:30am - 5pm Accepted forms of payment: cash, check, Visa or MasterCard.

Results mailed directly to your home in 7-14 days

Questions? Call 630-584-8660

For Office Use Only

___ Test Group 1**(Basic):** pH (soil) available phosphorus (P1), and exchangeable potassium (K).
___ Test Group 3 **(Lawn & Garden Plus):** Test group 1 and 4 plus iron, zinc, manganese, copper, sulfur and boron.
___ Test Group 4 **(Lawn and Garden):** Test group 1 plus organic matter.

___ Lawn ___ Garden