

## SOIL pH TEST

Reviewed by:

**Charlene H. Costaris, Horticultural Associate**  
**Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Ocean County**  
**May 1, 2015**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Paid \_\_\_\_\_ Staff initials \_\_\_\_\_

Approximately **one (1) cup of dry soil** is needed for the test. Please allow (2) two weeks for a written reply. For questions, call Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Ocean County in Toms River at **(732) 349-1246**.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

When was the last time that you applied a garden chemical (fertilizer, lime) to the area?

\_\_\_\_\_

Did you follow the Rutgers Cooperative Extension soil sampling directions?      Yes      No

**The soil sample was taken from: (Circle one)**

**Vegetable garden      Trees: Evergreen      Trees: Deciduous      Flower bed      Lawn**  
**Shrub bed: Broadleaf evergreen      Needled evergreen      Deciduous**

### **\*\*SOIL PREPARATION DIRECTIONS\*\***

To prepare a sample for a soil pH test, gather five or six random samples of soil, taken to a depth of six (6) inches. Place all samples in a single container and mix thoroughly. Remove (1 cup) from the container for the test. Test garden and lawn soil separately.

## RESULTS

**Your pH is** \_\_\_\_\_. Optimum pH: Turf (6-7); Shrubs - Deciduous (6-6.5) ;

Broadleaf - Evergreen (4.5-5.5) ; Needled - Evergreen (5.5-6.5) ; Flowers (6-7) ; Vegetables (6-7)

**For this site: add** \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. of lime per **100 sq . ft.** or

**add** \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. of lime per **1,000 sq. ft.**

If topdressing, apply no more than **40 lbs.** per application, six months apart.

**To decrease pH** by a half unit, add 1 lb. of aluminum sulfate per **100 sq. ft.** in early spring,

September and November.

**Re-test soil in (3) years.**

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

**Staff:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteer:** \_\_\_\_\_