Don't just ask your neighbor:

Bring us your dirt.

Don't guess…..Soil test!

Michigan State University Extension Soil Testing Program
April 5… April 12…April 19…April 26
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Over-application of fertilizers wastes money, damages plants and pollutes water. Soil testing determines what your plants need for optimum health and growth. It's easy! Just follow these directions.

1. Select one of these tests: lawn, flower garden, vegetable garden or trees and shrubs. (You can get more than one test, but the samples must be collected separately.)
2. Using a clean trowel and a pail, collect ten representative soil samples from the area you're testing. (Remember, the ten samples must be from one type of landscape area in your yard, i.e. your lawn.)
3. For each sample, remove a trowel-full of soil which extends to the proper depth for your test. Depths: lawn – 3 inches; flowers and vegetables – 6 to 8; shrubs and trees 8 – 12 inches below the surface. Do not include roots, thatch, plant materials, rocks or gravel in the sample. Mix the ten soil samples together in the pail.
4. Place 1 cup of the well-mixed soil in a clean plastic bag or container. Dry or damp soil is okay, but soggy soil should be allowed to air dry.
5. If you wish to test more than one area of your yard, use a clean pail and trowel to repeat steps #1 -#4 for each area. Label each bag carefully.
6. Bring your soil sample to a participating retailer listed between 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. along with $15 per sample. Master Gardeners will be available to assist you on these days.
   **Saline & Willis locations until noon & Dexter until 1 p.m.
7. Your soil will be tested for pH, essential nutrients for the plants you intend to grow, and organic matter.
   Note: this is not a test for contamination of soils.
8. The Soil & Plant Nutrient Laboratory at MSU will be testing samples. The results will be forwarded to your local Extension Office, where agents will provide individual recommendations.

Participating Washtenaw County Retailers

Ace Barnes Hardware
2015 W. Stadium Blvd.
Ann Arbor 734-665-7555

****Dexter Mill** (open until 1 p.m.)
3515 Central
Dexter 734-426-4621

Downtown Home & Garden
210 S. Ashley
Ann Arbor 734-662-8122

Farmer's Supply
122 Jackson Street
Chelsea 734-475-1777

****Growing Hope**
(Open Mon-Fri 10am to 5pm)
32 North Washington, Suite 11
Ypsilanti 734-786-8401

****Saline Town & Country**
(open until noon)
773 W. Michigan Ave.
Saline 734-429-2909

****Willis Feed Mill**
(open until noon)
10200 Railroad
Willis 734-461-1760

Results will be mailed directly to you in time for spring planting.

A partnership of the MSU Extension office of Washtenaw County, MSU Soil & Plant Nutrient Laboratory, Washtenaw County Drain Commissioner's office and the Huron River Watershed Council.
MSUE Washtenaw Co. 734 997-1678