



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

EARTH DAY BERKS!

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024
12PM-6PM AT CITY PARK
WASHINGTON AND NORTH
11TH STREET, READING, PA

Are you interested in knowing the condition of your soil? Do you garden or grow crops? Do children spend time in your yard? Are you concerned about soil exposures?

Join the Pennsylvania Department of Health, US Environmental Protection Agency, and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry at Earth Day Berks for a free community soil lead screening! Bring a dry soil sample in a freezer bag and we will screen it for lead! Instructions on back.

Common soil lead sources:

- Soil next to older homes and under roof drip lines
- Living in urban areas or near highways
- Living near industry that emits lead

What to Expect:

- Your soil screening result
- Best practices to avoid lead exposure
- Tips to garden safely
- Blood lead testing resources



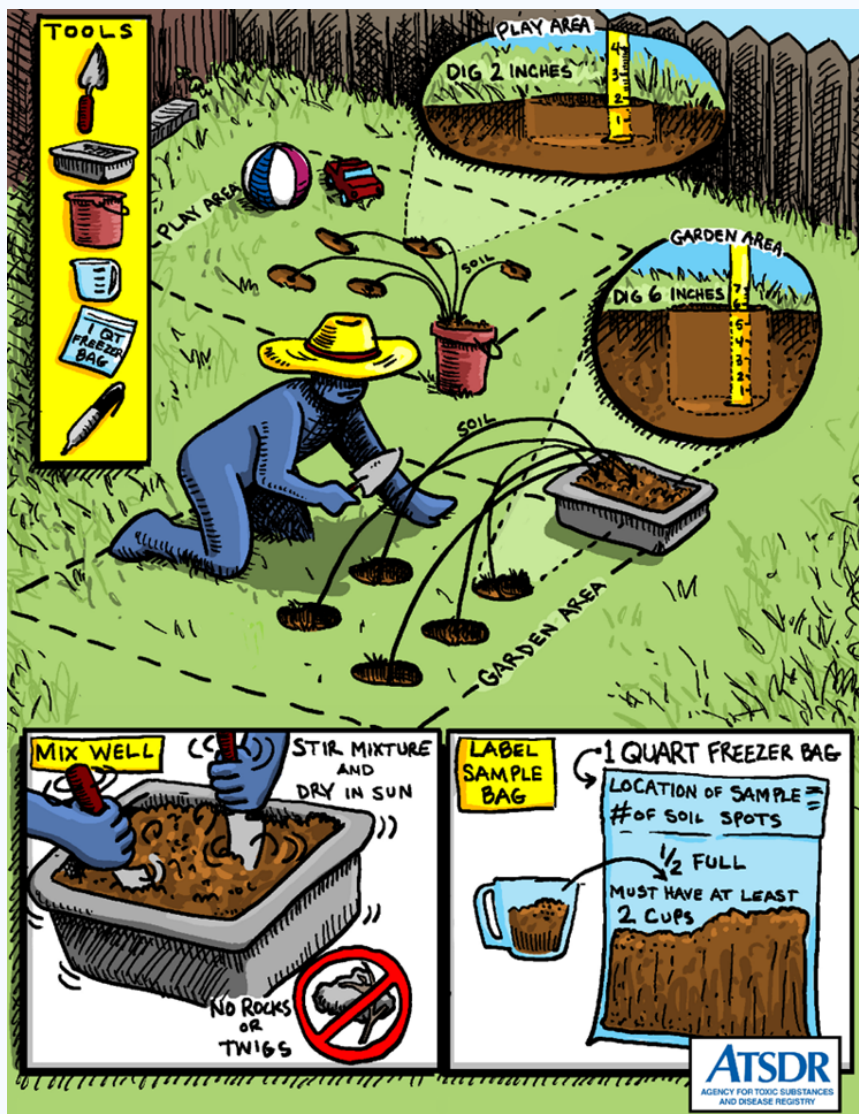
SOIL COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

How-to video:

<https://youtu.be/GM7-19oSfD8>

- **Step 1:** Identify an area of interest for your soil sample.
- **Step 2:** Collect Soil - For a large area, collect soil from 5-10 random spots in that area, and combine in a clean container. For a small area, collect soil from 3 random spots and combine in a clean container.
- **Step 3:** Mix soil well in clean container.
- **Step 4:** Remove pebbles, rocks, and roots, and air dry.
Do not use a flame, oven, or hairdryer to dry the soil!
- **Step 5:** Transfer 1-2 cups of the mixed soil into a clean one-quart Ziplock bag and label.

LIMIT 3 BAGS PER PERSON



How deep do I collect my soil?

- For Garden samples, collect soil at the surface and down to 6-8 inches deep.
- For Play Areas/Non-Garden areas, collect soil at the surface and down to 1-2 inches deep.

For more information or to RSVP

✉ RA-DHISOILSHOP@PA.GOV

RSVPS ARE ENCOURAGED BUT NOT REQUIRED