
Garden & Lawn Soil Testing

Soil sampling and testing is one of the most important steps in establishing a healthy and successful garden or lawn.

Garden soil testing is \$15 and includes a report tailored with recommendations for your garden or lawn. In most cases it is recommended that you test your soil once every three years. Sample bags can be picked up from the county office.

Instructions for submitting samples can be obtained at: <http://uwlab.soils.wisc.edu/farmers/lawn-garden/> or at the county office.

Samples can be submitted to the county office or directly to the lab at :

Soil & Forage Analysis Laboratory

2611 Yellowstone Drive
Marshfield, WI 54449
phone: 715-387-2523

What you can expect from a soil sample submission:

- *soil pH*
- *percent organic matter*
- *nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium analysis*
- *lime recommendation*
- *fertilizer recommendation*
- *other environmental tips*



Don't forget to check out the information on our website: <http://marquette.uwex.edu/horticulture>

If you have questions about how to submit a sample or need more information, please contact us at:

UW-Extension, Marquette County
Marquette County Service Center
P.O. Box 338
480 Underwood Ave.
Montello, WI 53949

Phone: 608-297-3141
WI Relay: 711
Fax: 608-297-9161
E-mail: lyssa.seefeldt@ces.uwex.edu



Marquette County

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University of Wisconsin-Extension

Marquette County

Horticulture Services

- Plant Identification
- Plant Disease Diagnosis
- Insect Identification
- Soil Sampling



Plant Disease

Plant disease samples should include:

- A sample of the diseased plant, including all parts showing disease
- Include whole plant if possible
- Submit transition areas if possible (areas of healthy tissue that progress into disease areas)

In general, specimens should be wrapped in dry paper toweling and placed in a plastic bag.

Complete instructions for submitting samples and submission forms can be found at: <https://pddc.wisc.edu/sample-collection-and-submission/>.

If we can't identify the disease in-office, we will notify you. If you want further identification, samples can be sent to the Plant Disease Diagnostic Laboratory. Laboratory fees start at \$20-25 on up depending on diagnostics used.

Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic
Department of Plant Pathology
University of Wisconsin-Madison
1630 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706-1598



Plant Identification

Plant identification samples should include:

- All parts of the plant if possible (including roots and flowering structures)
- Description of area where found
- Information about growth (i.e. annual, perennial, etc.)
- Flower color if known, if flower not present on sample
- Flowering period (i.e. March, summer, etc.)
- Indicate no flower if known there is no flower
- Type of soil it was growing in (i.e. sandy, clay, loam, etc.)
- Mature height if known

The more information that you give us, the more likely we will be able to accurately identify the plant.

Submitting Samples

Bring your samples for plant identification, plant disease, insect identification, or soil analysis to the Marquette County UW-Extension office between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm. Please arrive by 4:15 pm so that the necessary information can be gathered before our office closes.

We are located in the County Services Building (building furthest from the road) at the back of the parking lot. Walk in the doors and go straight back: you will see the office.

Insect Identification



Insects can be a challenging part of growing plants. If you have an insect problem in your home or garden, consider submitting the insect(s) for identification. Insects need to be intact and uncrushed for submission. Do not stick the specimen to tape. Soft-bodied insects should be preserved in alcohol (70% ethanol is best, rubbing alcohol or other clear alcohol could work).

There is currently no charge for this service. You will get the insect identification and control options.

Submission form and instructions for submission can be obtained at: <http://labs.russell.wisc.edu/insectlab/>

A great resource for identifying common insects yourself: <http://labs.russell.wisc.edu/insectid/>



Alternatively, insect samples can be submitted directly to the Diagnostic Lab, but it is preferred that you check with your county agent first.

Insect Diagnostic Lab
240 Russell Labs
1630 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706

