



## Soil Sampling Guide for the October 19, 2014 West Eugene My Garden Project

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### Requirements:

- Participants live in the West Eugene area
- One sample per home
- Soil for sample should come from existing gardens or an area planned to be used for gardening

### Tools/Equipment Needed:

- Clean trowel, spoon or scoop
- Quart size zip-lock bag
- Foil pan or similar clean open container to mix soil
- See attached picture instructions on reverse side

### General Collection Procedures:

1. Identify the sample collection site.
2. Consider drawing a sketch of the sample site or take a photo for future reference.
  - Collect a grab sample (one) or composite sample (multiple samples mixed together). Because the My Garden project can only arrange for one sample per resident, a composite sample is the best choice. See attached picture instructions on reverse side.
3. Sample depth – collect samples from roughly the root depth of the vegetable or plant. This is usually between four to six inches.
4. Using a clean trowel, scoop or spoon, collect from 5 to 10 small samples (a few ounces each) from the sample area, place into the foil pan (or similar clean container), and mix well.
5. IF THE SOIL IS VERY MOIST or WET (rule of thumb: stays in a ball when you squeeze it together) ALLOW IT TO DRY OVERNIGHT by leaving it spread out on the pan before bringing in for analyses (very moist soil takes longer to analyze by FPXRF)
6. Place the soil into a clean ziploc, quart-size plastic bag. Half full should be fine.
7. Please do not provide your address. Instead, please write the street you live on and the nearest cross street in the space provided below.
8. Bring this form and your sample to the My Garden event. Each sample will be assigned a number which will be given to the resident at the time the sample is received. Results will be available in about 1 hour. However, wait times may increase if many samples are brought to us in a short period of time. For people who cannot wait sample results will be posted to a website by their sample numbers.

Street Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cross Street Name: \_\_\_\_\_

SAMPLE #: \_\_\_\_\_

(Assigned by USEPA when sample is presented for analysis)



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## Procedure to collect the soil sample:

