

SOIL SAMPLING



WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN EPA SAMPLES YOUR YARD

Why is EPA Sampling Yards?

- EPA is sampling to make sure you are protected from lead exposure.
- Past industrial practices, lead-based paint, or past use of leaded gasoline can deposit lead in yards.
- Children under 7 years old are the most sensitive to lead exposure.
- Sampling will tell us if we need to clean up your yard.

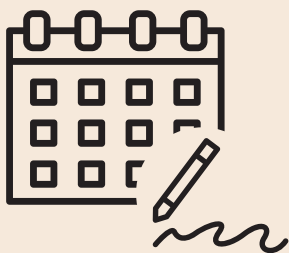
What is the Risk from Exposure to Lead In Soil?

- People can track soil into their homes on their shoes and hands, or on their pet's fur and paws.
- Babies and young children may put their hands and toys in their mouths while playing in soil.
- When a pregnant woman is exposed to lead in soil, it can result in exposure to her developing baby.

1 Sign Agreement and Schedule Sampling

Soil sampling is free, voluntary and strongly encouraged.

- Sign the access agreement to allow EPA to sample your yard.
- EPA contractors will schedule the testing at a time that works for you.
- You do not need to be present for the testing.



2 Collect Soil

A small tool is used to dig small holes from all parts of your yard (front yard, back yard, side yard, gardens).

- The whole process can take up to 4 hours.
- The samples are put in a container and taken to a lab for testing.



Sample holes can be up to 3 inches wide and are commonly 6 inches deep.

3 Test the Soil

Your soil is tested by a certified lab through EPA's National Lead Laboratory Accreditation Program.

- It takes about 2-3 months to get test results back.



4 Review Test Results and Next Steps

- You will receive results by mail at the address you provided on the access agreement.
- If your test results require show high lead levels, EPA will contact you to talk about next steps.



What is an Access Agreement?

An access agreement allows EPA to perform certain environmental response activities, like sampling, on private properties. Property owners sign these agreements to allow EPA and its contractors to sample the soil in their yard. EPA agrees to share the results with the owner. EPA cannot sample your yard without your permission and sampling is done at NO COST to you. For more information, visit the QR code or contact EPA staff.

Contact

Name

Title

Email

Phone Number



YARD CLEANUP

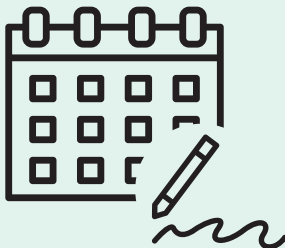


WHAT TO EXPECT IF EPA REMEDIATES YOUR YARD

The steps below highlight what you can expect during the cleanup process. Cleanup is free to eligible property owners, and EPA staff will be available to answer your questions.

1 Sign Agreement and Scheduling

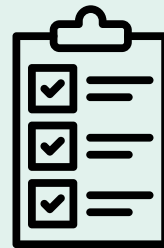
- Before any work is done, you will be asked to review and sign the agreement that gives EPA permission to clean up contaminated soil on your property.
- After you sign the agreement, EPA staff will meet with you to review the cleanup plan and answer your questions.



2 Sign Checklist

Once you and EPA agree to the cleanup plan, you will sign a checklist to give final approval to start the work.

- EPA will work with you to identify utilities and septic systems on the property, and determine the best way to move equipment in and out during the cleanup.



3 Remove Soil

You can expect EPA to remove about 12 inches to 2 feet of contaminated soil, depending on the contamination.

- EPA will only remove soil that tested above our cleanup levels for lead.



If lead levels are elevated at the base of the excavation, a highly visible warning barrier will be placed at depth in case the soil is disturbed again in the future.

4 Dispose of Soil

Contaminated soil will be removed from the property and taken to an approved landfill for disposal.



5 Replace Soil

EPA will replace all excavated areas with clean soil, and use sod or grass seed to restore the yard to its previous condition.

- The length of time this will take depends on the size and landscape of the yard.
- If any property is damaged during the cleanup, EPA's contractor must repair or replace it.



6 Sign Final Checklist

EPA will meet with you to make sure the cleanup and restoration work meets all requirements.

- You will review the work and sign off to confirm satisfaction.
- EPA will then give you a letter of cleanup completion.



For more information or to request sampling at your property, please contact:

Name
Title
Email
Phone Number

Name
Title
Email
Phone Number

Learn more at www.epa.gov/lead/lead-soil