How to sample your soil for fertilizer and other nutrient recommendation:

1. Take a broad sampling of the area soil. For example, if you are sampling your lawn, take about 15 small samples. Your entire lawn may have varying qualities of soil, by taking 15 samples it broadens the range. If your lawn has two very distinct soil types, we recommend two separate tests.

2. While sampling, make sure you dig roughly 4” to 6” deep for better results.

3. Put soil samples into a bucket and stir. The MSU Extension office needs two cups of soil per test.

4. Tests are $14.00. Your soil is sent to the MSU Soil and Plant Nutrient Lab on campus where it is analyzed for various nutrient components. We receive results back into the MSU Extension office in approximately 2 weeks, then our Director/Agriculture Educator will gives recommendations for additives based on the findings. We will then send it to you in the mail.

If you have any questions, please call the MSU Extension office at (231) 627-8815.