Garden Soil Sampling Instructions
(Modified from procedure suggested by UConn Soil Lab)

Follow the instructions below to obtain a representative sample of your soil. Submit about one quart zip-lock bag (7×7\(\frac{3}{4}\) in), or ~0.5 (one half) lb of soil through mail. Personal delivery is also accepted during business hours. Turn-around time is usually 2-3 weeks after receiving samples. Results will be sent only by email unless specified.

Sampling Procedure:

- Use a spade or trowel to take small samples of soil from 10 or more random, evenly distributed spots in your area of interest, and put all soil in a clean container. For very small areas, a minimum of three spots is recommended. Sampling depth should be from the top to 3-4 inches deep for a grass lawn, and from the top to 6-8 inches deep for other plants. If you are concerned about growing vegetables in general, please take from the top to 6-8 inches deep.

- Thoroughly mix up the soil in the container. Remove pebbles, leaves and plant roots as possible. Transfer at least one cup of the soil mixture (~0.5 lb) to the plastic bag and seal. Don't fill the bag because it will be flattened if mailed in an envelope.

- Place the plastic bag in a mailing envelope or a small box. (If samples are wet, dry them at room temperature before putting them in the plastic bag. Do not dry samples on a stove or radiator as heat can change the readings.)

IMPORTANT:
Send samples, the completed sample submission forms (one for each sample), and check or money order, made out to “BC Member Organization” to:

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