

# WHITE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY GARDEN SOIL TEST

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



## YOUR RESULTS:

N -- Nitrogen

P – Phosphorus

K – Potassium/Potash

pH

## TO RAISE OR LOWER pH OF YOUR SOIL

Raising and lowering pH is not an exact science & most plants have a reasonably wide tolerance, certainly to within 1 pH point. Consult pH Preference List and you will see that the majority can manage well on a pH around 6.5 but some need an alkaline soil and some a particularly acid soil. Altering pH takes time so do not expect rapid changes; rather, work steadily towards giving a plant its ideal conditions.

## ADJUSTING pH

pH can be adjusted to provide more suitable growing conditions for the different plants you wish to grow. Or, you can leave the pH of the soil as it is and select plants that like the level revealed by your test. Once you have your pH reading, check the pH Preference List for the pH levels of over 450 popular plants, trees, shrubs, vegetables and fruits. If your pH reading differs significantly from the list's recommended levels, follow instructions for adjusting soil pH.

You can correct pH at any time of the year but it is best to start in the Fall and check progress in the Spring. After working to adjust your soil, retest for pH level in 40-60 days. If results are still significantly off, retreat your soil, not exceeding recommended application levels. Allow one month to pass between adding lime and adding fertilizers.

## SOIL TYPES:

Sandy Soils: A light, coarse soil comprised of crumbling and alluvial debris.

Loam Soils: A medium friable soil, consisting of a blend of coarse (sand) alluvium and fine (clay) particles mixed within fairly broad limits with a little lime and humus.

Clay Soils: A heavy, clinging, impermeable soil, comprised of very fine particles with little lime and humus and tending to be waterlogged in winter and very dry in summer.

## ADJUSTING SOIL pH - HOW MUCH TO APPLY

Material	pH Change	Sandy	Loamy	Clay
Dolomitic or calcic limestone	+0.5 unit (0.5 pH)	2.5	5.0	5.5
	+1.0 unit (1.0 pH)	5.0	8.5	11.0
Hydrated Lime	+0.5 unit (0.5 pH)	1.5 - 2.0	3 - 4	4.0 - 4.5
	+1.0 unit (1.0 pH)	3.5 - 4.0	6.0 - 6.5	8.0 - 8.5
Iron Sulfate	-0.5 unit (0.5 pH)	0.75	1.5	2.0
	-1.0 unit (1.0 pH)	1.5	3.0	4.0
Aluminum Sulfate	-0.5 unit (0.5 pH)	0.5 - 0.75	1 - 1.25	1.5
	-1.0 unit (1.0 pH)	1 - 1.25	2.25	3.0

Amounts listed are pounds per 100 square feet. Do not add more than 5lbs. of lime or sulfur in one application.

## FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS

### FEEDING PRIOR TO PLANTING

Adequate reserves of plant food should be available in the soil before planting vegetables, preparing a seed or flower bed, sodding or seeding a lawn, or planting shrubs and trees. To make up any deficiencies, apply fertilizers from the following chart according to your soil test result.

TEST RESULTS	(0) Depleted	(1) Deficient	(2) Adequate	(3 & 4) Surplus / Sufficient
<b>Nitrogen Fertilizers (%N)</b>				
Dried Blood (11%)	36	19	6	N/A
Nitrate of Soda (16%)	27	14	3	N/A
<b>Phosphate Fertilizers (%P)</b>				
Bone Meal (19%)	27	14	6	N/A
Triple Superphosphate (46%)	10.25	5.25-5.5	2.25	N/A
<b>Potash Fertilizers (%K)</b>				
Muriate of Potash (60%)	8.75 - 9	4.75-5	2.25-2.5	N/A

Amounts listed are ounces per 100 square feet. (Ounces referred to are by weight)

### FEEDING ESTABLISHED PLANTS AND BEDS

Based on your test results, apply the appropriate fertilizer(s) in the amounts recommended in the following chart.

### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR N, P AND K RESULTS

	Very Low			Low			Medium			High
	N	P	K	N	P	K	N	P	K	
Lawn	22.0 - 22.5	0.75 - 1.0	4.75 - 5.0	14.0 - 14.5	1.0 - 1.5	2.25 - 2.5	3.75 - 4.0	0	0	N/A
Fruit	14.0 - 14.5	6.5	13.5 - 14.0	7.75 - 8.0	4.0 - 4.25	8.75 - 9.0	3.75 - 4.0	2.25	4.75 - 5.0	N/A
Flower	14.0 - 14.25	6.5	13.5 - 14.0	7.75 - 8.0	4.0 - 4.25	8.75 - 9.0	3.75 - 4.0	2.25	4.75 - 5.0	N/A
Shrubs (flowering)	14.0 - 14.25	8.25 - 8.5	13.5 - 14.0	7.75 - 8.0	4.0 - 4.25	8.75 - 9.0	3.75 - 4.0	1.0 - 1.25	4.75 - 5.0	N/A
Shrubs (foliage)	22.0 - 22.5	10.5 - 10.75	8.75 - 9.0	14.0 - 14.5	5.25 - 5.5	4.75 - 5.0	3.75 - 4.0	2.25	2.25 - 2.5	N/A
Veggies (root)	14.0 - 14.25	12.0 - 12.25	8.75 - 9.0	14.0 - 14.5	5.25 - 5.5	4.75 - 5.0	3.75 - 4.0	3.0	2.25 - 2.5	N/A
Veggies (leafy)	28.25 - 29.0	10.25	8.75 - 9.0	14.0 - 14.5	5.25 - 5.5	4.75 - 5.0	7.75 - 8.0	2.25	2.25 - 2.5	N/A
Tree	14.0 - 14.5	10.25	8.75 - 9.0	7.75 - 8.0	5.25 - 5.5	4.75 - 5.0	3.75 - 4.0	2.25	2.25 - 2.5	N/A
General Feed	22.0 - 22.5	8.25 - 8.5	8.75 - 9.0	10.5 - 11.0	4.0 - 4.25	4.75 - 5.0	3.75 - 4.0	1.0 - 1.25	2.25 - 2.5	N/A

The recommendations are based on the following fertilizers sources: Nitrate of Soda (16% N), Triple Superphosphate (46% P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) and Muriate of Potash (60% K<sub>2</sub>O). The amounts listed are in oz. /100 sq. ft. (Ounces referred to are by weight, not volume.) If you wish to use other fertilizer, simply check the package for the percentage of nutrients for N,P,&K and adjust the application level accordingly.