How To: Collect Soil Samples for Lead Testing

WHAT you will need to sample

- A clean plastic spoon
- A permanent marker
- A clean plastic bag with Ziploc closure

WHAT you need to do

- **Choose a sampling location** with bare soil--for example a play area for children or pets, the strip along the wall of a painted house, a vegetable garden, or a flower bed**.**
- With the permanent marker, write your name, the date, and location on each plastic bag. For the location, **GPS coordinates are preferred, nearest street address second option. See instructions on back on how to take coordinates on your phone.**

- Choose a sampling location and imagine there is a large "X" on the bare ground, with each line of the X about **2** feet long. (If you prefer, you can lay down an X with two pieces of string.)

- Using the plastic spoon, scoop up a small sample from the top half-inch of soil at the <u>center</u> of the X and put it in the plastic bag.

- In the same way, collect a soil sample at each <u>corner</u> of the X. When finished you will have 5 samples in the bag.

- Repeat this procedure at every location you have chosen.

- When you are finished, contact CEC Coordinator **Adrian Wood**, who will tell you how to deliver the samples for testing. [**e-mail: adrian.wood@pennmedicine.upenn.edu; Phone: 215-898-6221**]

Visit our website https://ceet.upenn.edu/leadsoilmap/ for more information on our soil sampling project.
For video instructions on how to collect soil samples, watch our YouTube video at: https://youtu.be/p2u3gtolQRY

How To: Get GPS Coordinates from your Smartphone

Android

- On your **Android** phone or tablet, open the Google Maps app.
- Touch and hold the area of the map that corresponds to your sample location. You'll see a red pin appear.
- You'll see the coordinates in the search box at the top.
- Write the entire number on the sample bag.

iPhone

- On your **iPhone**, open the Maps app.
- Touch and hold the area of the map that corresponds to your sample location. You'll see a red pin appear.
- An info window will pop up at the bottom of your screen. Scroll down to view coordinates.
- Write the entire number on the sample bag.