

Soil Lead Participation Agreement

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Our team is undergoing a scientific study of how a specific type of fertilizer impacts lead in soil. Over the past two years, we have tested more than 200 sites in Detroit, Hamtramck, and Highland Park. We are now seeking 30 additional sites to test a larger scale application.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT:

Participants in the study will be visited by our team 3 times over the course of the study. In each case, you do not need to be home as long as our team has full access to front and back yard. We ask that all pets are secured inside. You will receive a phone call notifying you of our visit no less than 24 hours in advance.

1. Our **first visit** will be late late summer 2020. We will remove 3 soil samples (4 holes each) from your property. This initial visit will take a little more than an hour. You will see visible holes in your soil – these will typically fill themselves in after a few rains. This initial sampling will check overall lead levels in the soil as well as nutrient contents. If the lead level in your soil is too high, we retain the right to remove your property from the study. If we find evidence of very high levels of lead on your property, you will be notified immediately so that you can take steps to protect you and your family.
2. Our **second visit** will occur in fall of 2020. During this visit our team will aerate (poke holes in) the grass areas of your yard, and apply a liquified form of an organic fertilizer. This visit will take approximately 3-4 hours. The aeration process does temporarily diminish how your yard looks. However, our procedure is a standard golf course-level treatment that will leave your yard and plants healthier, greener, and more resilient. The visible impacts of our procedure are expected to disappear after a few rains.
3. Our **third and final visit** will occur in the summer of 2021. During this final visit, we will remove 3 more soil samples (4 holes each) for final testing of lead and nutrients. This final visit will take approximately 1 hour. You will see visible holes in your soil and these will typically fill themselves in after a few rains.

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU:



As a participant in this study, we acknowledge that there will be some inconveniences to you as a participant. However, we promise to:

1. Always be clear and prompt with communication
2. Be respectful and tidy during all site visits
3. Provide a boost to the overall health of your lawn and soil at no cost to you
4. Provide free test results on lead content and nutrient levels in your soil (typically these tests cost between \$25 and \$75 each.)
5. Offer a free optional training on lead safe gardening practices
6. Enter you into a drawing to receive a \$50 gift card upon completion of the project
7. Provide complete confidentiality of your results. Your results will be used strictly for scientific purposes and will never be shared outside of the study team

YOUR COMMITMENT:

We believe that the solutions that are being tested on your soil are one piece of a large puzzle to protect young children from lead poisoning and neurological damage from lead exposure. We fully acknowledge that by participating in this project, you will experience some inconveniences, but know that you are also part of solving a major health crisis among Detroit's youngest residents.

Your participation in this project is strictly voluntary. However, if you do commit by signing this agreement we ask that during the 12 months of the study you:

1. Do not add fertilizer, pesticides, or herbicides of any kind to your yard
2. Do not add compost to your soil
3. Do not dig or till in your yard
4. Do not add new plants to your yard
5. Provide safe, pet-free access to your property during all site visits
6. Respond to all communication in a timely manner

Mowing and watering your lawn will not impact our study and can proceed as normal.

CLOSING THOUGHTS:



Thank you for helping make a healthier, safer Detroit. We are honored by your commitment and your partnership.

For project updates and information on lead safe practices, please visit the project website at:

<https://www.ecoworksdetroit.org/soilleadproject>

You are welcome to contact the principal investigator with questions or concerns at any time at the contact information below:

Allison Harris, PhD
Principal Investigator
EcoWorks
c. 313-242-7045
soilleadtest@gmail.com

Participant name	Participant signature	Site address	Date
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