

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Attention Home Gardeners: Soil Sampling Opportunity with Darke SWCD**

Have you ever wanted to pull soil samples from your lawn or garden but not been sure what to do with them? Are you interested in learning how to responsibly improve your lawn's look or your garden's production? If you answered "yes" to either of these questions, then this two-part workshop series is for you. Thanks to a Top of Ohio RC&D grant, Darke SWCD is offering a reduced-rate soil sample analysis for \$5.00 (limit one per household). This workshop series will help you learn how to collect a soil sample, read your soil sample result and use your result in a responsible and economical manner when fertilizing your lawn or garden. You will also learn about planning and sprouting your garden, organic fertilizers and seed saving techniques. The workshop's goal is to help you create a lawn or garden plan that focuses on the 4R's of nutrient stewardship (Right Place, Right Source, Right Time and Right Amount)!

Here are the important dates for this workshop series:

Workshop #1 will be held at the Darke County Parks in the Assembly Room (4267 State Route 502, Greenville) on Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. The workshop will begin at 6:00 PM and end by 8:00 PM. Topics for the evening will be Soil Sampling, Introduction to Nutrients and Planning & Sprouting your Garden. After this workshop, all participants will be charged with pulling a soil sample from either their lawn or garden and turning it in for analysis to the Darke SWCD office by 4:00 PM on Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Workshop #2 will be held on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Darke County Parks Assembly Room beginning at 6:00 PM. This workshop will walk participants through their soil sample report and help them understand pH and nutrient levels in their soil. Other topics covered in the workshop will be fertilizer recommendations, seed saving techniques and using organic fertilizers.

There is a limit of one (1) reduced-rate sample per household. Participants will be able to turn in more than one soil sample at cost, contact the Darke SWCD office for pricing. All sales are final; if you miss the April 20, 2015 deadline to turn in your soil sample, no refunds will be issued. Space is limited for the \$5.00 reduced-rate soil sample cost. This workshop series is a collaborative effort of Darke SWCD and the City of Greenville. Call Darke SWCD at 937-548-1752 or visit our website, [www.darkeswcd.com](http://www.darkeswcd.com), to register today! Space is limited, so register early.