



Soil Sampling and Analysis Offer **through Wolfe's Neck Center's Northeast Farmers Fund Program**

In addition to the \$50,000 you are eligible to receive for your project(s) focused on improving market access for regenerative products, Wolfe's Neck Center's (WNC) [Northeast Farmers Fund \(NEFF\)](#) is also offering soil sampling and analysis services. *For example, your farm project contract may include \$50,000 for your project(s) plus \$2,000 for soil sampling and analysis for a total of \$52,000.*

Why conduct soil sampling?

To Better Understand and Improve Your Farm's Soil Health:

WNC is offering soil sampling and analysis through the NEFF Program because healthy soil is essential to productive, sustainable, and economically viable farming operations. Soil sampling allows us to understand critical physical (e.g. bulk density, aggregate stability), chemical (e.g. pH, extractable nutrients), and biological (e.g. soil organic carbon, soil respiration) properties that holistically define soil health and can support us to develop management strategies to safeguard and improve soil health.

Whether this is the first time you are sampling, or this is part of a series of analyses there is value to conducting soil sampling and analysis:

- If this is the first time, this is a critical opportunity to obtain a comprehensive baseline understanding of the soil health of your specific farm.
- If this is not the first time, this is also a critical opportunity to obtain analysis at this moment in time to compare to previous soil sampling results and evaluate the impact of any management changes.

Baseline and follow-up samples allow you to track changes in soil health over time and understand how management decisions, including regenerative practices, may be affecting your soil. Your results can also help you make informed management decisions based on the specific needs and conditions of your soil.

To Build Knowledge that Benefits Farmers Across the Northeast:

Through NEFF, the soil sampling results from farms across the Northeast will be used to build a regional soil health dataset¹. Over time, this information can help farmers, researchers, agriculture organizations, supply chain actors, and other stakeholders:

1. Better understand landscape-level trends in soil health;
2. Improve associated outcome prediction quality;

¹ The collection, use, and sharing of collected data will be managed in line with an established Data Use Policy to ensure that all parties understand the associated level of Spatial Anonymization. More information on this will be included in later stages of this process.



3. Benchmark farm data to identify key management practices that are having the greatest positive impact on soil health; and,
4. Support stronger markets, research, and programs for farms using regenerative practices.

This will support data-driven decision-making across the region to improve farm viability and profitability as well as other positive co-benefits, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, enhancing biodiversity, and improving water quality. Ultimately, this work is intended to help build a more resilient food system across the Northeast.

What is offered?

WNC is offering two exciting soil sampling and analysis packages customized specifically to vegetable/specialty crop farmers and grazing operations.²

Vegetable/specialty crop farmers will have the opportunity to obtain the following data:	Grazing operations will have the opportunity to obtain the following data:
Fertility package (Buffer pH, Sum of Cations (CEC), Base Saturation %, Soluble Salts, Organic Matter, Nitrate-N, P, K, Ca, Mg, Na, S, Zn, Fe, Mn, Cu, Boron)	Fertility package (Buffer pH, Sum of Cations (CEC), Base Saturation %, Soluble Salts, Organic Matter, Nitrate-N, P, K, Ca, Mg, Na, S, Zn, Fe, Mn, Cu, Boron)
Soil Organic Carbon	Soil Organic Carbon
	Total Carbon
Texture	Texture
	Bulk Density
pH	pH
Wet Aggregate stability	Wet Aggregate Stability
Respiration	Respiration
Active carbon	Active carbon
Bioavailable nitrogen	Bioavailable nitrogen

What are the next steps?

² Please note that specific offerings may vary based on the source of funding received. Please confirm with your assigned Technical Service Provider (TAP) and/or WNC staff.



If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity and/or would like to add this to your project, please note this in your application.

If your application is accepted, your designated Technical Assistance Provider (TAP) will reach out to you to develop your specific soil sampling plan. Please note that some plans may require a TAP to visit your farm or operation and conduct the sampling in person.