



635 SW Western Blvd. Corvallis, OR 97333

Tel: (541) 257-2612 Fax: (541) 752-5142 Email: [info@earthfort.com](mailto:info@earthfort.com) Website: [www.earthfort.com](http://www.earthfort.com)

## Instructions for Collecting Compost or Solid Soil Amendment Samples

General tips to achieve accurate results:

- Wash hands thoroughly or put on latex gloves before handling material to be sampled. This step is particularly important if testing for E. coli in your amendment.
- Take sample only when it's possible to package and ship immediately.
- Keep samples cool but do not freeze. Freezing and thawing kills many beneficial microbes.
- Follow recommended sample delivery time frames (3-4 days for composts).
- An optimal sample will come from the middle of your compost pile.
- A helpful tool for taking compost samples are quart-size plastic bags with a zipper-type closing.

1. Go in 6-12 inches into your compost pile, halfway between top and the ground and take one handful.

2. Repeat step 1 (3-5) times taking each handful from a different location in the pile.

3. Mix the material together in a clean bucket.

4. Place Put 10 oz. or 250 g (approximately 2 cups) of mixture in a plastic, zipper close bag. Leave some air space in the bag upon sealing. Save on shipping costs and only send the amount of material per sample listed here!

5. Send your sample(s) using a carrier that can deliver your sample(s) to our lab within 3-4 days. Ship to:  
**Earthfort 635 SW Western Blvd Corvallis OR 97333.**

This test takes approximately 15 working days to complete and we do give recommendations as to what your amendment needs to be at optimum health. **Make sure you fill out and send a Testing Order Form with your sample. The Testing Order Form is available as a PDF at [www.earthfort.com](http://www.earthfort.com)** (click on Lab Services). On this form please include the email address where you would like the report sent.

Once you receive your report via email you can call and schedule a phone appointment to discuss the results and interpret the report, (additional consulting fees may apply.) We also offer a free, one hour webinar called, "Understanding Your Soil Biology Report" which you can find at our website under Education.

We look forward to doing business with you!