soilSHOP Tutorial Series

Part 1 of 5: Background and Overview

soilSHOP
Screening, Health, Outreach and Partnership
Expectations

By the end of Part 1, you should be able to:

- Explain what a soilSHOP is and how it benefits the community.
- Identify the basic components and key roles of a soilSHOP.
- Recognize the stages of conducting a soilSHOP and what each entails.
- List the resources available for soilSHOPS.
soilSHOP 101

What is a soilSHOP?

- soilSHOP stands for **Soil** Screening, **Health**, Outreach, and **Partnerships**.

- It’s a community event designed to raise awareness about and protect people from the hazards of lead and other heavy metals, with a strong focus on health education.
Why conduct a soilSHOP event?

- Lead and other heavy metals are common soil contaminants in urban and former industrialized areas.
- Heavy metals, like lead, continue to be an environmental health risk in the U.S., particularly for young children. There is no known safe blood lead level.
- The growing trend of urban and community gardening poses new health education challenges.
soilSHOP 101

Why conduct a soilSHOP event?

— Benefits to the community:

• Provides health education opportunities to explain the hazards of lead exposure.

• Supports community-based gardening by sharing the best gardening practices.
soilSHOP 101

Why conduct a soilSHOP event?

— Benefits to your agency:

• Provides an opportunity to reach underserved communities, and support health activities at Brownfields sites and sites with heavy metals in the soil.

• Supports the Federal Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposures and Associated Health Impacts

• Provides an opportunity to engage proactively, directly, and positively with communities.
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Basic components of a soilSHOP event

**Outreach**
Actively engage with the community and provide them with the information they need to bring soil samples in for screening.

**Soil screening**
Ensure communities have access by conducting free soil screenings.

**Health education**
Provide recommendations to community members to help prevent exposure to lead and other heavy metals.

PARTNERSHIPS
soilSHOP 101

Key roles in soilSHOPs

- Planning & Preparation Team
- Log-in/Registration Staff
- Soil Screeners
- Health Educators
soilSHOP Stages

Introduction

There are three stages to conducting a soilSHOP in your community:

- Preparation and Planning Stage
- Implementation Stage (event day)
- Evaluation Stage

This chart represents the amount of time and effort for each of the stages listed.
soilSHOP Stages

**Preparation & Planning stage**

- Identify and engage your stakeholders, partners, and soilSHOP team
- Conduct trainings, set timelines, and hold regular meetings
- Identify the goals, populations of interest, and outcomes of your event
- Identify strategies for outreach, event activities, and materials needed
- Develop outreach and health education material
soilSHOP Stages

Implementation stage

- Prepare the site for your soilSHOP event
- Ensure each station is properly staffed and equipped
- Conduct free soil screenings for participants
- Educate participants about potential health problems caused by lead exposure
Implementation Stage

soilSHOP event

1. soilSHOP participants bring in soil samples for screening.

2. Soil samples are screened by XRF screeners.

3. Health educators meet with participants and review soil sample results and health information.
soilSHOP Stages

Evaluation stage

- Evaluate your event
  - This is an on-going process where you evaluate your planning, implementation, and outcomes
- Submit your story to the ATSDR soilSHOP website
- Plan your next event!
soilSHOP Event Photos

These photos are meant to show past event samples such as, tent setups, partners involved, and activities used.

Newburgh, NY
soilSHOP Event Photos

Portland, ME

Albany, NY
soilSHOP Resources

All tools are available on the soilSHOP website:

www.atsdr.cdc.gov/soilSHOP
soilSHOP Resources

Email Box:
soilSHOP@cdc.gov

Regional soilSHOP expertise

Locate your ATSDR regional office here: www.atsdr.cdc.gov/dro
Please continue to **Part 2** of the series for information on Planning and Preparation.