

NORTH AMERICAN PROFICIENCY TESTING PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (NAPT-PAP) ETHICS DECLARATION

ARTICLE I. PREAMBLE

1. The privilege of professional practice imposes obligations of responsibility as well as professional knowledge. The NAPT-PAP provides results of sample testing from participating laboratories in partial proof of their ability to analyze soils within a designated level of confidence.
2. The NAPT-PAP will make available pass/fail results from each participating laboratory to the participating cooperators. This information will also be posted on the NAPT web site.

ARTICLE II. RELATION OF PROFESSIONAL TO THE PUBLIC

1. An NAPT-PAP approved laboratory shall avoid and discourage sensational, exaggerated, or unwarranted statements that might induce participation in unsound or unproven testing procedures. For example, a laboratory shall not claim to be within the published level of variability for tests that the laboratory did not perform, or for tests that the laboratory contracts out to another vendor.
2. NAPT-PAP approved laboratories shall not issue a false statement or false information even if directed to do so by employer or client.
3. NAPT-PAP approved laboratories are encouraged to advertise their status as a PAP approved laboratory. Only pass/fail results will be reported by the NAPT. Laboratories will not calculate passing scores of any kind and use them in any way to advertise their status in the PAP program

ARTICLE III. RELATION OF PROFESSIONAL TO EMPLOYER AND CLIENT.

1. NAPT-PAP approved laboratories shall protect, to the fullest extent possible, the interest of the employer or client insofar as such interest is consistent with the law and professional obligations and ethics.
2. NAPT-PAP approved laboratories who finds that obligations to the employer or client conflict with their professional obligation or ethics should work to have such objectionable conditions corrected
3. NAPT-PAP approved laboratories shall not use, directly or indirectly, employer or client information in any way that would violate their confidentiality.

ARTICLE IV. RELATION OF PROFESSIONALS TO EACH OTHER

1. NAPT-PAP approved laboratories shall not falsely or maliciously attempt to injure the reputation of any other laboratory.
2. NAPT-PAP approved laboratories shall not use the advantage of public employment (e.g. university, government) to compete unfairly with other laboratories.
3. NAPT-PAP approved laboratories shall endeavor to cooperate with others in the profession and encourage the ethical dissemination of technical knowledge. To that end, all NAPT-PAP approved laboratories shall disclose the method of analysis (procedure and instrumentation), etc.

ARTICLE V. DUTY TO THE PROFESSION

1. All NAPT-PAP approved laboratories shall uphold this code of ethics by precept and example and encourage, by council and advice, other NAPT-PAP approved laboratories to do the same.
2. NAPT-PAP approved laboratories may not knowingly misrepresent their credentials or will face disciplinary action.

Laboratory Name

Lab Manager Signature

Date signed

A signed copy must be returned to the Soil Science Society of America offices electronically or via mail. Return to:

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E: napt@soils.org