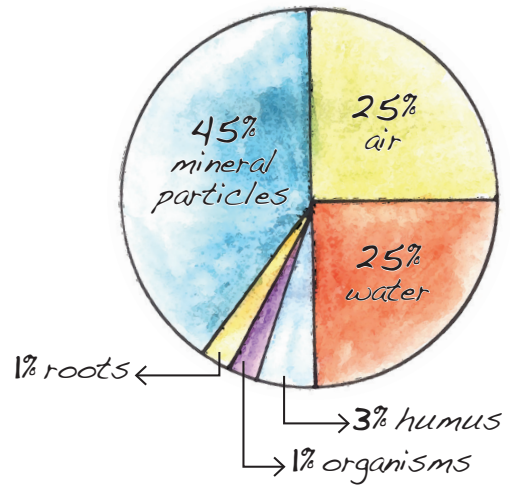


THIS GARDEN IS GROWING IN HEALTHY SOIL



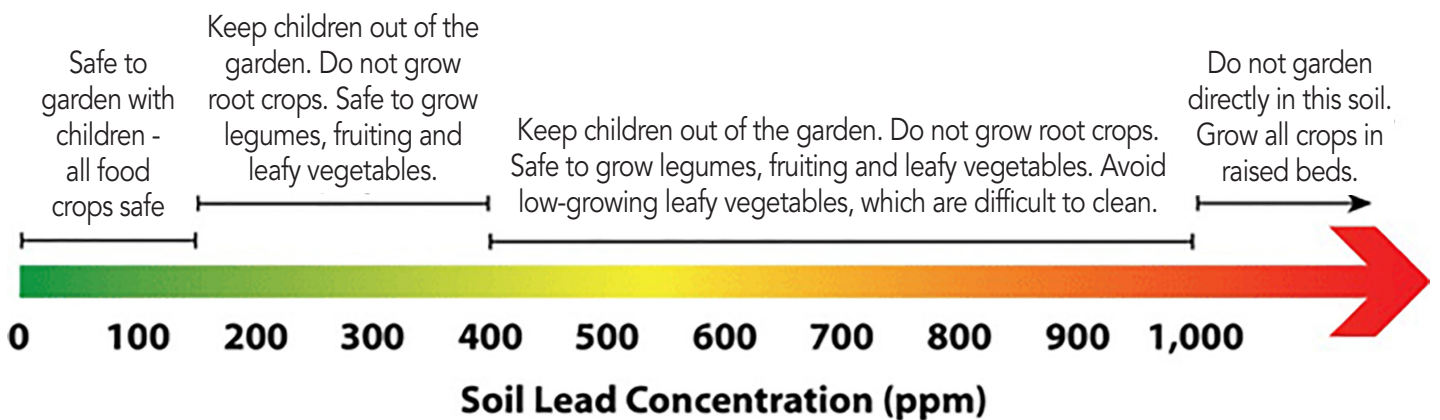
Healthy soil is the foundation of all good gardens and our actions impact this important resource. But, urban soils may be in poor health or be contaminated by prior uses. **We encourage you to use these gardening practices:**

1. BUILD RAISED BEDS FROM UNTREATED WOOD
2. COVER SOIL WITH CARDBOARD OR LANDSCAPE FABRIC
3. TOP WITH MULCH SUCH AS WOOD CHIPS OR COMPOST.
4. KEEP SOIL WELL COVERED WITH ORGANIC MATTER—SUCH AS SHREDDED LEAVES, COMPOST, SALT HAY OR STRAW
5. MAINTAIN SOIL PH OF 6.5-7 WHICH KEEPS LEAD “BOUND UP” IN THE SOIL
6. DON’T USE HARMFUL PESTICIDES AND HERBICIDES
7. WEAR GLOVES AND WASH HANDS AND TOOLS
8. ALWAYS WASH PRODUCE USING RUNNING WATER BEFORE PREPARING OR EATING

Recommended soil lead level limits for growing food in most gardens

from Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station has done considerable work on urban and contaminated soils. The chart below presents a protective generalized approach on gardening in soils containing different concentrations of lead. The chart is not an “all cases” guidance as research has shown that several variables, including soil and plant type, can influence plant uptake.



HAVE QUESTIONS? EMAIL US:
PHILADELPHIAEXT@PSU.EDU
 WITH “SOIL” IN THE SUBJECT LINE