

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

ARTICLE I. PREAMBLE

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

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 subcontracts to another vendor.
2. NAPT-PAP-approved laboratories shall not issue false statements 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 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 that find 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 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 shall not knowingly misrepresent their credentials, or will face disciplinary action.

Laboratory Name

Laboratory 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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