Basic Soil Health Assessment Checklist

Use this checklist to evaluate soil conditions in your landscape:

Soil Texture & Structure

✅ Drains well but retains moisture
✅ Loamy texture (not too sandy or too clayey)
✅ Easily broken apart when dry

Biological Indicators

✅ Presence of fungi (visible mycelium)
✅ Root growth extends easily through soil
✅ Absence of foul odors (indicates proper microbial balance)

Basic pH Test

✅ Optimal pH range: 6.0–7.5 for most landscape plants
✅ Adjust soil amendments accordingly if pH is too high or low

Simple Practices to Improve Soil Health

- **Add Organic Matter**: Apply compost, mulch, or cover crops.
- **Minimize Soil Disturbance**: Reduce tilling and mechanical compaction.
- **Increase Biodiversity**: Use a variety of plants to support soil microbes.
- **Manage Water Wisely**: Use rain gardens, swales, and proper irrigation techniques.
- **Use Natural Amendments**: Apply biofertilizers and biostimulants to enhance microbial activity.