

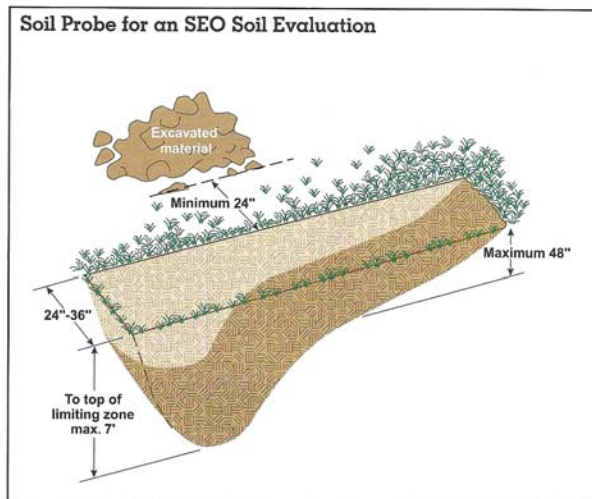
BEDFORD COUNTY TOWNSHIP
& BOROUGH SANITARY CORPORATION
145 CLARK BUILDING ROAD, SUITE #4
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR SEPTIC TESTING

STEP I Contact our office, Bedford Sanitary Corporation.

STEP II We will need a copy of the deed and a Site Suitability Form signed by the owner giving you and the corporation written permission to test the property. The deed will help us establish if this property will be a subdivision or if it has been or does not need to be subdivided, and the appropriate fee schedule will be explained and paid by developer/applicant. Our staff will research the property location reviewing soils mapping, tax maps and any surveys or deeds associated with the property. Payment must be made prior to any trips to the site and by completing our Site Suitability Form you agree to pay all costs to the corporation as it has been explained.

STEP III Make an appointment for the site suitability inspection and soil probe evaluations, BEFORE any work has begun on the property, when scheduling soil probe evaluations coordinate the appointment with our office and your contractor. **YOU OR YOUR CONTRACTOR ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO CONTACT PA ONE CALL SYSTEM, INC. 1-800-242-1776 OR 811, AT LEAST 3 WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO CONDUCTING SOIL PROBES. A VERIFICATION NUMBER WILL BE ISSUED WE REQUIRE THIS NUMBER PRIOR TO PARTICIPATING IN SOIL TESTS.** It is recommended not to do any excavation without a site evaluation performed first by the Sewage Enforcement Officer(s), SEO. The probes should be dug to a depth of up to 7 feet, a minimum of 2 feet wide, and 4 feet long. The purpose of the soil probe is to determine the limiting zone of the soils. A limiting zone is any horizon or condition in the soil profile that include the seasonal high water table (mottles), rock with open joints (course fragments) or bedrock. A minimum of 48" of suitable soil or a combination of sand/soil material is required for all absorption systems. If it is determined there is enough soil to properly renovate the sewage as it passes through it a percolation test will be conducted.



ENTRY INTO PROBE SECTION DEEPER THAN 4 FEET VIOLATES
L & I REGULATIONS UNLESS SHORING IS PROVIDED

Excavated material must be at least 24" from probes and down slope where applicable (L&I Regulations). Contractors should not arbitrarily require 7' probes if limitations are observed during excavation, at a lesser depth. Slope shallow end excavation for easy entry. Do not allow machinery to operate near the excavation while it is occupied.

STEP IV A. **NUMBER AND LOCATION OF PERCOLATION TEST HOLES:** The SEO will layout the location of the perc test holes, 6 holes per site are dug for a private home, and the holes should be 6-10 inches in diameter, the depth of the perc holes is determined by the soil evaluation and the limiting zone. Test holes depth will be written on the perc hole flags of the individual holes.

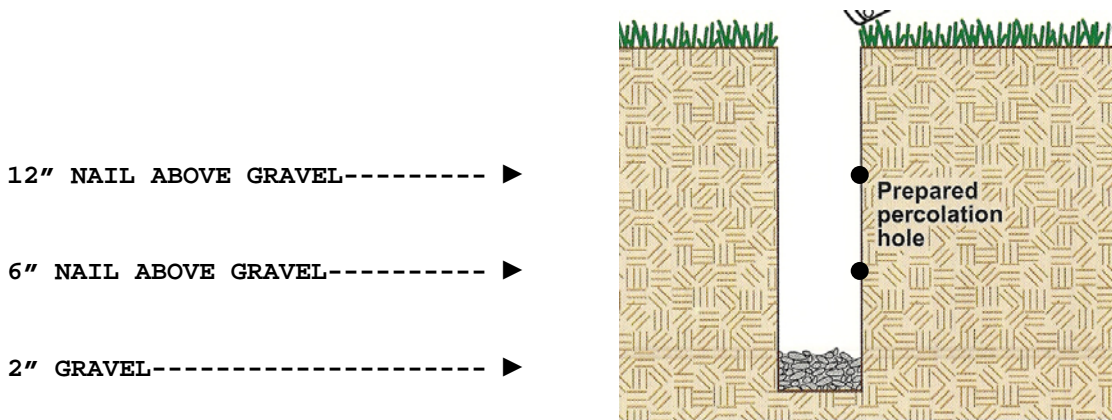
B. **PREPARATION OF THE PERCOLATION TEST HOLES,** Chp. 73.15(4)- The bottom and sides of the hole shall be scarified with a knife blade or a sharp-pointed instrument to completely remove any smeared soil surfaces and provide a natural soil interface into which water may percolate. Loose material shall be removed from the hole. Two inches of coarse sand or fine gravel shall be placed in the bottom of the hole to protect the soil from scouring and clogging of the pores. Prior to the initial and final presoaks measure from the top of gravel 6" and 12" and tack a nail into the side wall of each perc hole at each point as a marker for the initial and final presoaks.

C. **PROCEDURE FOR PRESOAKING:** Holes shall be presoaked according to the following procedure, to approximate normal wet weather or in-use conditions of the soil:

(1) **Initial Presoak** 8-24 hours prior to test fill each perc hole to the 12" mark over the gravel with clean water and allow to stand for 8-24 hours undisturbed.

2) **FINAL PRESOAK-ONE HOUR PRIOR** to the scheduled percolation test, fill each perc hole to the 6" mark over the gravel with clean water and allow to stand for 30 minutes. Starting at the same perc hole re-adjust the water level to the 6" nail marker at this point you are free to leave, the SEO will conduct the perc test. **THE APPLICANT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PRESOAKING THE PERC HOLES PRIOR TO SCHEDULE TEST TIME. THERE WILL BE A FEE IS CHARGED FOR ALL PERCOLATION TESTS WHICH HAVE TO BE RESCHEDULED DUE TO IMPROPER PREPARATION OF TEST HOLES!**

D. **HAVE WATER AVAILABLE:** Between 50 & 150 gallons of clean water to fill all holes several times should be available at the site, and a container, such as a bucket should be supplied.

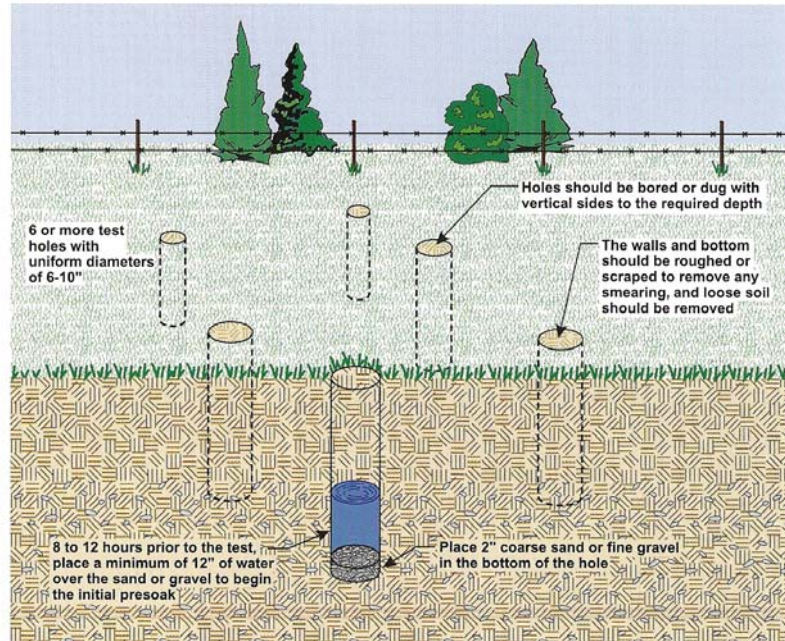


PLEASE NOTE, THE PERC TESTING POLICY OF THE CORPORATION: PERC TEST SHALL NOT BE CONDUCTED WHEN SOIL CONDITIONS ARE FROZEN OR WHEN GROUND TEMPERATURES ARE BELOW 40° AT THE DEPTH OF 6" ABOVE GRAVEL IN THE PERC HOLES.

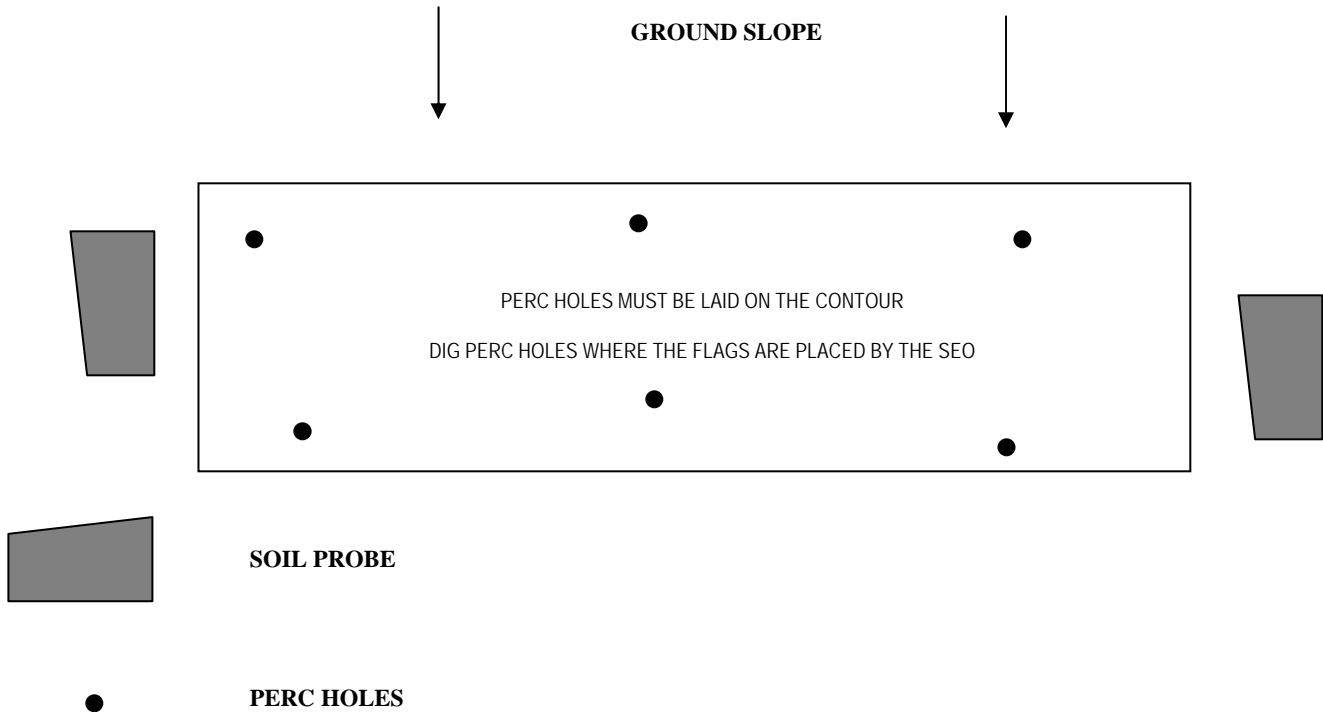
QUICK REVIEW OF PERC HOLE PREPARATION

PREPARATION OF PERCOLATION TEST HOLES

- 1) Must have six or more test holes with uniform diameters of 6-10 inches.
- 2) Holes should be bored or dug with vertical sides to the required depth.
- 3) The walls and bottom of the holes should be roughed or scraped to remove any smearing, and loose soil should be removed.
- 4) Place 2 inches of coarse sand or fine gravel in the bottom of the hole.
- 5) Place a minimum of 12 inches of water over the sand or gravel to begin the initial presoak 8 to 24 hours prior to the test.



OVERVIEW SOIL PROBES AND PERCOLATION TESTS LAYOUT



PLACE EXCAVATED MATERIAL 24" TO THE OUTSIDE OF THE PERC AREA OF THE SOIL PROBE!

NOTE: THE DEVELOPER/APPLICANT OR THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTACTING PA ONE CALL SYSTEM, INC., Dial 811 from a landline or 1-800-242-1776, AT LEAST 3 DAYS WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO CONDUCTING SOIL PROBES. A VERIFICATION NUMBER WILL BE ISSUED, AND THE SEO WILL REQUIRE THIS NUMBER BEFORE PARTICIPATING IN SOIL TESTING.

An important aspect to laying out an area for soils testing is the minimum horizontal isolation distances that must be maintained to meet the requirements set forth by the Department of Environmental Protection. When we meet with you for the site suitability evaluation we will discuss where you want your house, driveway, well and proposed property lines. We will also look at existing site limitations prior to doing any excavating and with the help from our prior research we will have some knowledge on where we should test. Please keep in mind that you might need to be flexible on your plans to meet all the distances. Please review the distances listed below:

§ 73.13. Minimum horizontal isolation distances

(a) Minimum horizontal isolation distances shown in subsections (b)—(e) shall be maintained between the sewage disposal system and the features itemized except as provided by § 72.33 (relating to well isolation distance exemption). If conditions warrant, greater isolation distances may be required.

(b) The minimum horizontal isolation distances between the features named and treatment tanks, dosing tanks, lift pump tanks, filter tanks and chlorine contact/storage tanks shall comply with the following:

- (1) Property line, easement or right-of-way—10 feet.
- (2) Occupied buildings, swimming pools and driveways—10 feet.
- (3) An individual water supply or water supply system suction line—50 feet.
- (4) Water supply line under pressure—10 feet.
- (5) Streams, lakes or other surface waters—25 feet.
- (6) A cistern used as a water supply—25 feet.

(c) The following minimum horizontal isolation distances shall be maintained between the features named and the perimeter of the aggregate in the absorption area:

- (1) Property line, easement or right-of-way—10 feet.
- (2) Occupied buildings, swimming pools and driveways—10 feet.
- (3) An individual water supply or water supply system suction line—100 feet.
- (4) Water supply line under pressure—10 feet.
- (5) Streams, water courses, lakes, ponds or other surface water—50 feet (for the purposes of this chapter wetlands are not surface waters).
- (6) Other active onlot systems—5 feet.
- (7) Surface drainageways—10 feet.
- (8) Mine subsidence areas, mine bore holes or sink holes—100 feet.
- (9) Rock outcrop or identified shallow pinnacle—10 feet.
- (10) Natural or manmade slope greater than 25%—10 feet.
- (11) A cistern used as a water supply—25 feet.
- (12) Detention basins, retention basins and stormwater seepage beds—10 feet.