



Onsite Wastewater Percolation Test

Supplemental Data to Soil Profile / Site Evaluation

Requirements & Information

A percolation test may be performed to provide additional or supplemental information required to determine the potential absorption rate of soil in the area of the proposed system location. Percolation testing does not replace the requirement for a Site Evaluation / Soil Profile.

Prior to conducting percolation tests, test plans shall be submitted to Yolo County Division of Environmental Health (DEH) for review and approval. DEH will review and approve the number of percolation holes, their depths, and locations; and may elect to witness the installation of the percolation holes, verify presoaking, and be present during all or part of the testing. DEH shall be notified 48 hours in advance of performing percolation tests. If the percolation test will be performed after normal business hours of DEH, then notice must be given and the time of the evaluation arranged through mutual consent with DEH at least 48 hours prior to the evaluation.

Site Information

Address:	City:	Zip Code:
APN:	Owner(s) Last Name:	
Project Contact:	Phone Number:	

Percolation Test Specifications (Provide a site map showing the proposed test holes locations. See other side.)

Number of test hole(s):	Depth of proposed dispersal trench(s):	The location of the percolation test holes should be evenly distributed horizontally and vertically in the proposed dispersal field and replacement area. The minimum number of test holes to be dug is four (4), unless indicated by DEH.
Diameter of test hole(s):	Depth(s) of test hole(s):	
Proposed Date of Test:	Proposed Start Time of Test:	

Project Summary

Please provide a brief summary of the reason this work being performed: _____

Certification

I certify that the information on this form is correct and complete, and that the tests will be performed in accordance with the provisions of DEH regulations. The Percolation Rate will be supplied on a worksheet showing all measurements and calculations, and will be submitted with the Site Evaluation Report.

Signature Printed Name Date

Office Use Only:

Approved By: _____ Date: _____

FA _____ SR _____

Site Map Showing Proposed Test Hole Locations:

Brief Review of DEH Percolation Testing Procedural Requirements: *see page 22-23 of the Septic Manual*

1. Dig test holes: Dig or bore the test holes six (6) inches in diameter. The sides are to be kept as straight as possible. The depth of each hole shall be deeper than the proposed depth of the dispersal trench, within the least permeable strata of useable soil beneath the Dispersal Field, and maintain a 5 foot separation from groundwater.
2. Prepare the test holes: Carefully scarify the bottom and sides of the hole. The native Soil Structure shall be visible on the bottom 10-12 inches of the side wall. Add two (2) inches of pea-size gravel to the bottom of the hole. In order to prevent silting of the bottom of the hole and sidewall cave-in, a 1-inch sidewall gravel pack shall be used. The gravel pack shall be perforated plastic pipe in 12 inch (or longer) sections.
3. Presoak the test holes: Presoak the hole with clean water to a minimum depth of 12 inches above the base of the hole. The presoak shall be maintained for a minimum of four (4) hours, refilling as necessary. Areas of high clay content may require presoak twelve (12) hours or longer.
4. Conduct Percolation Test: Add clean water to bring depth of water in the test hole to approximately six (6) inches above the bottom of the hole. Maintain approximately six (6) inches of water in the hole throughout the test.
5. Determine Stabilized Percolation Rate: Measure the drop in water level over thirty (30) minute intervals until the rate of drop stabilizes from a fixed reference point. A stabilized rate is when three (3) successive readings do not vary by more than 10%.
6. Calculate Percolate Rate: Individual test hole Percolation Rate shall be determined by averaging three successive readings vary by no more than 10%. The mean percolation rate shall be determined by averaging the results of the standard percolation value using the calculation available in the Septic Manual for all percolation test holes.
7. Report Percolate Rate: Worksheet showing all measurements and calculations shall be submitted with the Site Evaluation Report.

Alternate methods of measuring the Percolation Rate may be approved by DEH if the proposed procedures can be shown to produce a stabilized rate as defined above.