

LINN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH
3242'8j "Utggv'UG
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401-3700
PERCOLATION TEST DATA FORM

Name of Owner _____ Day Phone _____

Site Address _____

Mailing Address _____

Percolation Test Contractor _____

Legal Description of Site Location:

Section _____ Township _____ Range _____ Lot # _____

Addition _____ Township Name _____

Read all instructions before beginning the test

Percolation Test Instructions

Percolation tests are required before any lateral field is installed. The permit applicant or an approved contractor of the applicant's choice may perform tests. The following procedure must be performed.

1. A six-foot hole must be dug first. If water or rock is encountered at less than six feet, the perc holes must be shallower to maintain the three foot separation. Ex: If water is at five foot depth, the perc holes cannot be deeper than two feet. Note on the percolation test form if bedrock or water is encountered and at what depth.
2. A minimum of three test holes are required, no less than 10 ft. apart spaced down gradient from each other in the proposed lateral field area.
3. Percolation test holes shall be 4 to 12 inches in diameter and the same depth as the proposed absorption trenches (maximum depth = 36 inches).
4. Rough all sides and bottoms of the test holes to create a natural surface. Remove all loose material from each hole.
5. Presoak holes: Fill each hole with at least 12 inches of water being careful not to disturb the roughed sides of the hole. Maintain the depth for a minimum of 4 hours preferably overnight if clay soil is present. It is extremely important to presoak each hole as recommended in order to obtain accurate results. In sandy soils with little or no clay, soaking is not necessary. If the water seeps completely away in less than 10 minutes after filling the hole twice with 12 inches of water, the percolation test can be performed immediately.
6. With the exclusion of sandy soils, percolation testing should be done at least 15 hours, but no more than 24 hours after the presoaking period began. First, remove any soil that sloughed into the hole during presoaking. Next, add 2 inches of clean gravel to each hole. Add water so it is 6 inches above the gravel (8 inches from the bottom of the hole). Do not allow the water level to be any higher than 6 inches above the gravel at any time during the test.
7. Immediately measure and record the starting water level from the top of each hole. Each measurement should be made from a fixed point (e.g. surface level) at 30-minute intervals.
8. Continue the test until the rate stabilizes and 2 successive water level drops do not vary by more than $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch. At least three measurements must be made.
9. After each measurement, the water level should be readjusted to the initial 6-inch level.
10. In sandy soils in which the first 6 inches of water added after the presoaking period seeps away in less than 30 minutes, measurements should be made every 10 minutes for 1 hour.
11. A 6-foot test hole must also be dug. One of the holes used for the percolation test may be used following the completion of the percolation test. Note on the percolation test form if bedrock or water was encountered and at what depth.
12. Record all results in the table on the reverse of this sheet. These results must be submitted to this office along with the *Application for Permit to Install a Private Sewage Disposal System*.

Perc test holes and six-foot hole should be left open and flagged for inspection by health department personnel after the completion of the test.

Test Hole #1 Depth=____ Time=____	Time Interval 30 min. or 10 min.	Measurement in inches Start - End =	Drop in water level, inches	Percolation rate, min/inch (office use only)
Test Hole #2 Depth=____ Time=____	Time Interval 30 min. or 10 min	Measurement in inches Start - End =	Drop in water level, inches	Percolation rate, min/inch (office use only)
Test Hole #3 Depth=____ Time=____	Time Interval 30 min. or 10 min	Measurement in inches Start - End =	Drop in water level, inches	Percolation rate, min/inch (office use only)

You must dig a six-foot test hole. At what depth was rock or water encountered? _____

How long were test holes pre-soaked? _____

Perc test holes and six-foot hole should be left open and flagged for inspection by health department personnel after completion of the test.

Comments: _____

I certify the above information to be true and correct.

Signature of Owner or Agent

Date of Test