HOW TO DO A PERC TEST

6.3. Site Evaluation.

6.3.a. The evaluation of a site for the installation of a soil absorption system, including absorption fields, serial systems, absorption beds, and others, shall include but not be limited to, percolation test results and evaluation of soils in a six (6) foot excavation. Percolation tests shall be performed according to the following:

6.3.a.1. A minimum of four (4) test holes shall be placed at equal distances over the entire absorption field site. If the results of the tests are reasonably close, it shall be considered an average test result. If the tests results show extreme variations, it may be considered necessary to relocate the field in a more suitable area;

6.3.a.2. Holes shall be bored to the depth of the proposed soil absorption field from six (6) to eight (8) inches in diameter at the site where the installation of the soil-absorption field is to take place; 6.3.a.3. The bottom and sides of the hole shall be scratched with a sharp pointed instrument or wire brush to remove any smeared soil surfaces that interfere with the absorption of water into the soil;

6.3.a.4. The loose dirt shall be removed from the bottom of the test holes and two (2) inches of gravel shall be placed into the holes to prevent sealing;

6.3.a.5. A nail or a marked measuring device shall be placed in the wall of each hole exactly six (6) inches above the level of the gravel;

6.3.a.6. The test hole shall be completely filled with water to ground level and maintained to a depth of at least twelve (12) inches for a minimum period of four (4) hours before beginning the percolation rate measurement.

6.3.b. Percolation Rate Measurement. After completing the requirements in Paragraph 6.3.a.1. - 6.3.a.6., the water depth shall be adjusted in the holes to the six (6) inch level. Determine how many minutes it takes for all of the water to absorb into the soil. The resulting time in minutes, divided by six (6), shall be the rate of fall or absorption per inch.

6.3.b.1. The average rate of fall for all test holes shall be determined by adding the rate of fall for each test hole together and dividing by the number of test holes. This figure is the average rate of fall per inch. See Table 64-47-L at the end of this rule.