

# CHESPROCOTT HEALTH DISTRICT

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## **SOIL TESTING PROCEDURES**

### for New Construction

Soil testing is allowed on a year-round basis in the Chesprocott Health District. As has been our past policy, if there is a question as to the maximum ground water table, additional testing and /or stand pipe monitoring will be required during the wet season (February through May).

All soil tests shall be conducted or witnessed by a Chesprocott Sanitarian. In addition, a Soil Scientist employed by our office must be present and submit a written report during June through October testing. The additional cost for this service will be passed on to the client. All scheduling will be done through our office.

**A soil test consists of:** a minimum of one deep test pit and one percolation hole in each of the proposed primary and reserve septic system areas. The test pit is dug with a backhoe to a depth of seven feet or refusal. In some cases deeper pits will be required since the pit must be a minimum of 4 feet deeper than the bottom of the proposed leaching system. The perc hole is dug with a post hole digger. Each perc hole should be located approximately 5 to 10 feet away from the deep pit. The depth of the perc hole should reflect the depth of the proposed system. An average depth is 24". Shallower or deeper perc holes may be required depending on test pit results.

The perc holes must be filled with 12" of water at least two hours before the sanitarian arrives (as a presoak), but no longer that 30 hours. An additional five-gallon bucket of water must be available at each perc hole to conduct the perc test.

The deep test pits should be open when the sanitarian arrives. One end must be sloped for easy access into the deep test pit. For safety reasons, deep test pits should be filled in within 24 hours of inspection, preferably immediately.

You must call the office at 203-272-2761 to schedule soil test appointments. There is a fee to soil test. Please refer to the current Chesprocott fee schedule.

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