

Butler County Sewage Association (BCSA)

101 Mahood Road, Suite 4, Butler, PA 16001 724/841-0141 Fax 724/841-0043 Email BCSewage@zoominternet.net

PROCEDURE FOR SEWAGE APPLICATION AND TESTING

NOTE: A sewage disposal permit is required for any repair, alteration or installation of a sewage disposal system.

1. Application must be made by the owner or a person who is an authorized agent on the forms provided by this association. **APPLICANT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCURACY OF PROPERTY LOT LINES AND LOCATION OF TESTING SITES. IF NECESSARY, PROPERTY BOUNDARIES SHOULD BE SURVEYED PRIOR TO TESTING.**

Required information for application:

_____ Full name and address of property owner _____ Phone number

_____ Site address (where testing will be done) _____ Subdivision Name and Lot number

_____ Name of Township where property is located

Application can be made during regular office hours. **Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Thursday 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and the first and third Saturday of each month 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

2. **IMMEDIATELY** Call **PENNSYLVANIA ONE CALL** at **811** to have the utilities marked. **THIS TAKES 3 WORKING DAYS.** Record the confirmation number they give you here: _____ . No testing will be done without this number.

3. Contact an excavator. Be sure to have his full name and phone number. The Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO) will need this information.

Excavator Name: _____

Phone number: _____

4. Within seven (7) days of completing your application, the Sewage Enforcement Officer will call to confirm receipt of your application. He will ask for your One Call Number and your excavator information.

5. The SEO will contact you to schedule an appointment for the soils (pit) test.

6. The SEO will examine the soil in the pit and record the information. This test determines the suitability of having a sewage disposal system, and what type of system will be required. The pit is to be backfilled immediately following the investigation. The slope of the site and various isolation distances are also checked at this time as part of the Site Investigation.

7. A **Percolation Test** will be scheduled *if the ground has been found to be generally suitable*. **Instructions for the percolation test follow.** The SEO will review the following instructions with you before leaving the site.

PERCOLATION TEST PROCEDURES

YOU WILL NEED:

6- 8 POST HOLES

A SMALL BUCKET OF CLEAN GRAVEL, STONE or COARSE SAND

2 - 55 GALLON BARRELS OF WATER - left within 20 feet of the perc holes

PERCOLATION TEST HOLE PREPARATION (*Applicant's Responsibility*)

Six holes are dug in the area of the proposed absorption field at least 10 to 15 feet apart and to one side of the test pit. (Refer to attached drawing) Each hole should be 6 to 10 inches diameter.

The depth of the percolation holes will be determined by the SEO.

HOLE DEPTH: _____ inches

All test holes should be uniform in size and be prepared by thoroughly chipping away at the sides of the test hole to eliminate any smears and to expose the natural porous surface of the soil. Any loose dirt should be removed from the holes. Holes must be covered over to prevent small animals from entering the holes or rain from washing out the sidewalls.

IF instructed by the SEO, the INITIAL PRESOAK should be done as follows:

- prepare holes as instructed by SEO
- place 12" of water in each hole
- allow holes to stand undisturbed for 8 to 24 hours

When holes have been prepared and water and gravel is at the site, contact BCSA to advise that the test site is ready for testing. 724/841-0141.

YOU DON'T NEED TO BE PRESENT FOR THE PERC TESTING

After the percolation test is completed, you will receive the test results and minimum requirements for the system by mail, unless a subdivision must be approved first.

THE PROPOSED ABSORPTION AREA SHOULD BE ROPED OFF OR OTHERWISE PROTECTED.

If subdivision approval is needed, your surveyor/engineer must submit planning modules and related documents to **BCSA for review and attachment of the test results. **BCSA** will then forward the documents to the Township for review and submission to DEP.

8. After successful completion of the **Percolation Test**, the system must be designed.

Submit two (2) copies of the design and plot plan to **BCSA** for review and approval by the SEO.

9. If the system design and plot plan are found to be in compliance with the PA Sewage Facilities Act, the Permit will be issued. **Permits expire three (3) years after the date they are issued.**

NOTE: No excavation or construction of the sewage system may begin until the Sewage Permit has been ISSUED.

10. The applicant or contractor must contact **BCSA (724/841-0141) 24 hours prior to BEGINNING CONSTRUCTION** of the system, **TO SCHEDULE A PRECONSTRUCTION INSPECTION. INTERIM AND FINAL INSPECTIONS** are also required.