

INFILTRATION TEST

A falling-head infiltration test is completed prior to installing any infiltration practice. This assesses the existing soil's drainage capacity to determine if an infiltration practice is the best option for the site.

STEP ONE

A hole is dug out with a soil auger to the depth of the intended practice. Using any flat object as a guide, measure the depth of the hole and note this for future measuring. Ensure the measuring stick remains at this marked depth when taking all future measurements.

Example hole depth: 20 in.
Actual hole depth: _____ in.



STEP TWO

Fill the hole with water for an initial presoak to mimic the environmental conditions during rainfall. Allow the presoak to drain completely without taking any measurements. If it drains within one hour, repeat the process.

STEP THREE

Once the water has drained, fill the hole once more so the water level is one inch from the top of the hole. Take note of the starting water level.

Example starting water level: 19 in.
Actual starting water level: _____ in.



STEP FOUR

If the presoak drained within one hour, take water level measurements every 10 minutes or less. Otherwise, measure the water level once every hour for four hours or until the hole is dry. Be sure to keep the measuring stick at the same depth throughout the process to ensure accuracy.

Example:

Time (hrs)	Measurement (inches)	Drop (inches)
0	19.0	0
1	16.2	2.8
2	14.5	1.7
3	13.0	1.5
4	11.7	1.3
5	10.7	1.0

Actual:

Time (hrs)	Measurement (inches)	Drop (inches)
0		
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

If there are any concerns or questions surrounding the infiltration test, please do not hesitate to contact District staff for assistance.