

*Town of*

**C H A R L E M O N T**  
**M A S S A C H U S E T T S**



INCORPORATED 1765

01339

**CHARLEMONT BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**SEPTIC INSTALLERS TEST**

THIS TEST WAS TAKEN BY:

\_\_\_\_\_

ON: \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_

FINAL SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ PASSES

\_\_\_ FAILS

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

BOARD OF HEALTH AGENT

**PART A:** Circle correct answer(s) to each question. There may be more than 1 (one) answer per question.

1. Building sewers must be:
  - a. at least 4 inches in diameter
  - b. constructed of schedule 40 PVC or equivalent
  - c. pitched at a slope of at least 1%
  - d. laid level for the first two feet
  
2. Minimum septic tank size for a three bedroom home without a garbage grinder is:
  - a. 1000 gallon
  - b. 1500 gallon
  - c. 2000 gallon
  - d. two-compartment 1500 gallon tank
  
3. The tree with the benchmark for the septic system was cut down when the lot was cleared, the septic installer should:
  - a. notify the designer and the Board of Health and request another benchmark.
  - b. continue with the installation using estimations.
  - c. wait until the plumbing is completed and use the building sewer elevation as a guide.
  - d. none of the above.

A soil absorption system must be vented when:

- e. the trenches or leach field lines are greater than 50 feet long.
  - f. a pump or dosing chamber is used.
  - g. the soil absorption area is under a driveway.
  - h. none of the above.
  
4. The septic design and approved permit calls for a leach system constructed in fill. The fill used must be:
  - a. any type of bank run sand and gravel.
  - b. sand with perc rate of 5 minutes per inch or less.
  - c. fill which has been certified as passing sieve analysis test describe in Title V.
  - d. All of the above.

**PART B: Circle TRUE or FALSE for each question.**

5. A septic tank must be at least 100 feet from a well.

TRUE or FALSE

6. For new construction, a leach system must be at least 50 feet from a neighbor's well.

TRUE or FALSE

7. In the Town of Charlemont, leach systems must be located outside of the 100 foot buffer zone of a wetland unless a variance is granted by the Board of Health.

TRUE or FALSE

8. Septic tank inlet and outlet tees must be constructed of Schedule 40 PVC or cast in place concrete.

TRUE or FALSE

9. Aggregate stone used must be double washed and free from dirt, dust, or fines.

TRUE or FALSE

10. An existing septic system can be repaired without a permit.

TRUE or FALSE

11. A licensed septic installer can make changes to the septic design during construction without consulting the designing engineer, sanitarian, or Board of Health.

TRUE or FALSE

12. A variance is needed to locate a septic system closer than 10 feet to a property line.

TRUE or FALSE

13. The inside dimensions of a d-box must be at least 12 inches.

TRUE or FALSE

14. Topsoil and subsoil do not need to be removed when constructing a leach system in fill.

TRUE or FALSE

**PART C: Fill in the Blank for each question.**

The minimum separation between the bottom of the leach system and ledge is \_\_\_\_\_ feet.

The minimum separation between the bottom of the leach system and high groundwater is \_\_\_\_\_ feet if the perc rate is greater than 2 minutes per inch.

The minimum separation between the bottom of the leach system and high groundwater is \_\_\_\_\_ feet if the perc rate is 2 minutes per inch or less.

Mottles, oxides, or a rust line in the soil profile of a deep hole in most cases indicate \_\_\_\_\_.

For new construction, a perc test fails at greater than \_\_\_\_\_ minutes per inch.

**EXTRA CREDIT – up to five points.**

The size septic tank and how large a leach area needed for each home depends on a number of factors. List up to five factors for a point each.

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