



St. Mary's County Health Department

NEWS RELEASE

www.smchd.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUBMIT APPLICATIONS NOW FOR 2007 PERC TESTS

(LEONARDTOWN, MD) January 9, 2007 -- St. Mary's County Health Department is asking county residents, businesses and organizations interested in having properties tested for suitability for on-site sewage disposal systems to submit applications now for perc tests for the 2007 wet season. The health department will be scheduling perc tests on a first come first serve basis effective immediately.

A perc test is required for all new construction and new sewage disposal systems on properties outside public sewer system areas. Applications for perc testing four or more lots must include a Maryland registered surveyed concept plan. The health department checks water tables regularly once perc testing begins, but cannot control the duration of the wet season. The health department may not be able to schedule late applications due to unpredictable drops in water table levels that signal the end of the wet season.

The health department will make a reasonable attempt to reschedule perc test dates cancelled by applicants, however rescheduling cannot be guaranteed. Weather related cancellations by the health department will be rescheduled during the 2007 wet season.

(more)

Applications for perc tests are available at the St. Mary's County Department of Land Use & Growth Management located at the Governmental Center in Leonardtown. Call 301-475-4200 for information about submitting an application. For information about perc testing, call St. Mary's County Health Department Environmental Health Services division at 301-475-4321.

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