

Thomas H. Erb & Sons, Inc.

Pennsylvania Home Improvement Contractor Registration Number: PA012665.

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Thank you for allowing Thomas H. Erb & sons, Inc. the opportunity to be of service to you. The following is a summary of the process which is involved to construct either a new sewage system or the replacement of an existing system.

1. The first step is to contact the local Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO). As a service to you we can contact him/her for you or we can supply you with his/her name and phone number. The SEO will inform you how to proceed. Two types of soil tests will be required. The first test is known as a Soil Probe, Deep Probe or Deep Test. The second test is the Percolation Test, commonly referred to as a Perc Test.
2. The Deep Probe test has to be performed to determine how deep and/or what kind of system will be allowed. The Deep Probe test reveals the potential for ground water pollution or drainage limitations. The Deep Probe hole or test pit is excavated with a backhoe. Each excavated hole will disturb an area 4' to 8' wide by 10' to 12' long. The pit will be dug, the soil tested and the hole will be backfilled all on the same day. The soil is put back in place without tamping, leaving a mound of earth 1' to 2' high. This soil will settle over a period of time.
3. The Perc Test will be conducted next. This test usually does not take place on the same day as the Probe Test. The Perc Test determines how well the soil absorbs water. Generally, a set of six holes are dug with a post hole digger 20" to 36". The SEO will determine how deep these holes are to be.
4. Once these tests are complete, the SEO will supply you with the soil test results. At this point the system must be designed. You will have to hire a system designer to design the system. The design is then submitted to the SEO for approval.
5. Costs: The whole soil test process can cost anywhere from \$2,400 to \$3,000 depending on the township or local agency fee. The fee will vary due to many variables. The costs can vary depending on the amount of Probe holes excavated and the amount of Percolation Holes required. Soil Tests at one location on your lot may fail, requiring additional testing at other locations on the lot. The cost of system designs can also vary. Some systems are relatively easy to design while others can be very complex.
6. After the local SEO approves the proposed system design and issues a permit, a contractor can then submit a firm estimate to you for the construction of the proposed new system. Your permit is good for three years from date it is issued.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call.

The official registration number of Thomas H. Erb & Sons, Inc. can be obtained from the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General - Consumer Protection by calling toll-free 1-800-441-2555. Registration does not imply endorsement.

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