



Engineering Services Policy & Procedure

Subject:	Geotechnical Testing for Single Family Infill Lots		
Index:	ENGINEERING DIVISION	SERVICES	Page 1 of 2 pages Number: ENG 17-04
Approved by:	<i>Hans P Hunger, HPJ/m</i>		Supersedes: N/A
HANS HUNGER, PE CITY ENGINEER			Effective Date: 06/20/2018

1. PURPOSE:

To provide a geotechnical testing policy for single family "infill" lots that encapsulates the unique variations of Puyallup soils and is an appropriate nexus for the burden of infiltration tests to homeowners. For the purposes of this policy, "infill" lots are single family properties that are not associated with a common plan of development comprised of multiple single-family properties.

2. ORGANIZATIONS AFFECTED:

Engineering Services Department

3. REFERENCES:

- 3.1. 2012 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington, as amended in December 2014.
- 3.2. Pierce County Stormwater & Site Development Manual, effective Dec. 5, 2015.

4. POLICY:

4.1. The City of Puyallup hereby adopts the Pierce County procedure as described in the Stormwater and Site Development Manual (rev. December 2015) for falling head percolation test. This test may be used to determine the infiltration rate of the soils for single family infill lots, and may be performed at any time during the year. This test shall not be used to prove infeasibility of infiltration due to low percolation rates.

4.2. The City of Puyallup requires seasonal high groundwater monitoring to be performed between December 21st and March 21st as described in the Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington, if infiltration practices are feasible. At the discretion of the City Review Engineer, the building permit may be approved in lieu of this monitoring under the procedures described in section 4.2.1 or 4.2.2 below.

4.2.1. The applicant must have an approved preliminary stormwater management plan that contains the infiltration testing described in Section 4.1 above. In addition, as part of the preliminary stormwater plan the applicant shall submit a feasible alternative to the primary stormwater facility design, that addresses high ground water. This alternative shall meet the SWMMWW guidelines and function in the case that a high groundwater elevation makes the primary stormwater facility design infeasible.

The City Review Engineer shall be given a copy of the ground water monitoring test results and the final proposed stormwater facility design for review, prior to construction of the proposed final stormwater facility. The City Review Engineer will need to give their approval of the proposed final storm facility design and it shall be constructed prior to final building inspection and/or occupancy.

- 4.2.2. Following the order of implementation as the SMMWW lays out, the applicant may design a stormwater facility that can function per the requirements of the 2014 SMMWW in both the case that groundwater is at the required depth below the infiltration facility or nearer to the surface. (I.E. an infiltration trench that as a back up has been designed to disperse per the manual, with proper length of trench and length run out.)