

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Town of Theresa

Appendix C Seasonal High Groundwater Determination

The seasonal high groundwater table shall be determined by observing its elevation and evidence of soil mottling in a deep hole test pit dug to a depth of at least five feet deeper than the anticipated depth of the invert of the subsurface absorption system and/or by methods employed by a qualified soil engineer. The soil mottles are spots or blotches of different color or shades of color, interspersed with the dominant background soil color. Oxidation (bright colors) and reduction (dull colors) are caused by alternating aerobic and anaerobic conditions attributable to a seasonal fluctuating groundwater table, or intermittent presence of a perched water table. Soil mottles indicate a zone in which the soil is saturated for at least a two-week period during the average water year. Water which seeps into test pit only indicates the current status of the water table and is not a reliable method of predicting the seasonal high groundwater table, particularly if the test pits are dug outside of the normally high groundwater period of March 15 to June 30.

The applicant may be required to retain the services of a qualified soil engineer to determine the seasonal high groundwater table.