

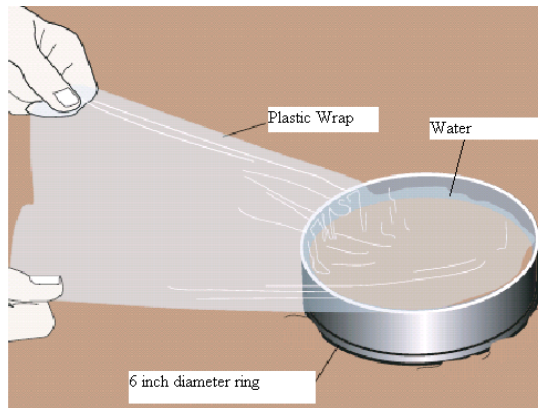
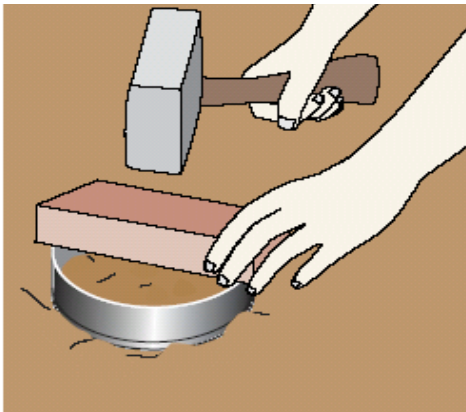
## Infiltration Test

### Materials:

- 6" diameter ring
- Hand sledge
- Wood block
- Plastic wrap
- 500 mL plastic bottle or graduated cylinder
- Stopwatch or timer
- Pen
- Paper

An infiltration test is used to determine how quickly water can soak in and flow through the soil. This test must be conducted before installing a rain garden or dry well. If the test is not conducted there is no way to tell if the newly installed dry well or rain garden will function properly.

1. Drive a ring 3" into the soil, where vegetation has been cleared.
2. Firm the soil around the outside edges of the ring to prevent seepage.
3. Line the soil surface inside the ring with plastic wrap.
4. Fill a bottle with 444 mL of water. Pour water over plastic wrap, remove plastic wrap, and record the time when the water has soaked into the soil and the soil surface is glistening.
5. Repeat the test 2-3 more times over the same test area. Do not move the ring. The tests should be run consecutively and last under one hour. If the test lasts more than one hour then a dry well or rain garden will not function properly.



### Where To Get Help for dry wells & infiltration tests

- Step-by-Step Directions for both Dry Wells and Infiltration Testing; <http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/Permits/WaterManagementPermits/Pages/waterpermits.aspx>
- Infiltration Test; [https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2\\_052494.pdf](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2_052494.pdf)