1 Contact Miss Utility 48 hours in advance to mark underground utilities: missutility.net/maryland or 1-800-257-7777 or 811

2 The tools you will need are a digging bar, gloves and a post hole digger. The trash bag is for the soil you dig out of the hole.

3 Use the digging bar to break up the soil for removal with the post hole digger.

4 Using the post hole digger, remove the soil and place it on the trash bag.
Dig a hole that is 2 feet deep and 1 foot wide or to the depth of excavation.*

Fill the hole to the top with water. Record the time.

Cover the hole for safety purposes.

Check the hole periodically. When it is empty, record the time. Calculate how long it took to drain.

If the first fill takes less than 36 hours to drain, repeat steps 6-8 in the same hole. Record the time for the second fill. If first or second fill takes longer than 36 hours to drain, then the perc test has failed, and a project such as a conservation landscape should be considered instead. After testing is completed, fill the hole with soil.

* If the excavation will be 3 feet, then a 3-foot deep hole is required.