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## WSDOT Test Method T 123

### *Method of Test for Bark Mulch*

#### 1. SCOPE

- a. This method covers a procedure for determining the sieve analysis and material finer than ~~¼ in.~~ No. 4 sieve using a loose volume bucket.

#### 2. EQUIPMENT

- a. A mechanical sieve shaker.
- b. Sieves — Sieves conforming to the requirements of AASHTO M-92. Breaker sieves may be used.
- c. Volume Bucket — A container calibrated in 1 gal. increments from 1 to 5 gal. A 5-gal. bucket may be used when calibrated as follows:  
On a level surface calibrate the container by gradually filling it with water in 1 gal. increments. Mark the inner wall of the container after the addition of each gallon

#### 3. PROCEDURE

- a. Air dry (140°F max.) the sample for 15 hours, ± 4 hours.
- b. Reduce the sample to testing size per the FOP for AASHTO T 248.
- c. Place the sample in the volume bucket and record the volume as the total volume.
- d. Shake the sample over the ~~1½~~ 2 in. and No. 4 sieves. Using breaker sieves inserted between the two specified sieves so the No. 4 sieve will not be **overloaded**. Use caution to avoid over sieving as the wood material breaks down.
- e. The material retained on the ~~1½~~ 2 in. sieve is measured in the volume bucket and recorded.
- f. The material on the breaker sieves is added to the material retained on the No. 4 sieve and the volume measured in the volume bucket and recorded.
- g. The percent passing is calculated as follows:

$$100 - \frac{(\text{Volume on sieve} \times 100)}{\text{Total Volume}} = \% \text{ passing}$$



## Performance Exam Checklist

### Method of Test for Bark Mulch WSDOT T 123

Participant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Exam Date \_\_\_\_\_

Procedure Element	Yes	No
1. The tester has a copy of the current procedure on hand?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. All equipment is functioning according to the test procedure, and if required, has the current calibration/verification tags present?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Bark mulch sample dried for $15 \pm 4$ hrs @ 140°F?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Five (5) gallon bucket calibrated in 1 gal. increments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Sample quartered or split and placed in calibrated bucket?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Volume of sample in bucket recorded as total volume?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Sample screened in the shaker through 1½ in. screen, breaker screens and No. 4 screen?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Do not over shake to prevent degrading of sample?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Remove 1½ in. screen and damp material in calibrated bucket and record volume as volume on 1½ in. screen?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Place all breaker screen material down to No. 4 screen in bucket and record volume as volume on No. 4 screen?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. All calculations performed correctly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Report results?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

First attempt: Pass  Fail

Second attempt: Pass  Fail

Signature of Examiner \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

