

SERVICE UPDATE

Installation of Drywells for Storm Water Disposal: Advance Notice and Inspection No Longer Required

Effective immediately, the Department no longer requires advance notification of a drywell installation. Additionally, the required Department inspections and spot checks done during an installation are no longer required. All other installation requirements remain.

Drywells are required for the on-site disposal of storm water for any new building or other substantial horizontal enlargement that is to be constructed on a property where no public street storm sewer or combined sewer is located directly in front of the property. This is a critical part of any development in the prevention of flooding adjacent properties and surrounding areas.

The Department's Drywell Pilot Project was designed to monitor the design and installation of drywells throughout Queens. Although the Department monitored various projects at random through site analysis, design and construction, site Engineers and Contractors were not relieved of their professional responsibility. After analyzing the results of the initiative, the Department has discontinued the program.

For additional information, please contact the Department's Customer Service Unit by phone at (212)393-2550 or by email at DOBCustomerService@buildings.nyc.gov.

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