



## Code Update Newsletter

The Public Works and Engineering Department  
Planning and Development Services Division

"Providing information pertaining to the Codes and how they affect you."

# NEW STORM DETENTION REQUIREMENTS FOR SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES Effective August 1, 2009

The Office of the City Engineer recently issued the [2009 Infrastructure Design Manual \(IDM\)](#). Among the updates, the single family residence exemption in Chapter 9 was modified to limit the impervious cover to 75% before requiring stormwater detention on single family residential lots of 15,000 square feet in area or less. Impervious cover/area includes all structures, driveways, patios, sidewalks, and decks.

The following form was created to assist the applicant during plan review to determine if a lot requires detention. It includes a brief list of Frequently Asked Questions.

### [Form 1207 - Calculation of Impervious Percentage](#)

If a project is required to provide detention, the plans will be routed to the Commercial Storm Plan Review Section for approval. If a Storm Letter is required, a Water Capacity Reservation Application (WCR) must be completed and submitted to the Taps & Meters Section at 2102 Austin St., Houston, TX 77002. ([Click here](#) to download the application.)

For more information regarding the plan review process, please contact Gary Gardner via email at [gary.gardner@cityofhouston.net](mailto:gary.gardner@cityofhouston.net).

For information regarding the Infrastructure Design Manual or storm letter, please contact Sam Habibi via email at [sam.habibi@cityofhouston.net](mailto:sam.habibi@cityofhouston.net).

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## CODE ENFORCEMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

### Plan Review Numbers:

Commercial- 713-535-7500  
One- Stop- 713-535-7550

### Inspection Numbers:

Building- 713-535-7800  
Mechanical- 713-535-7755  
Electrical- 713-535-7600  
Plumbing- 713-535-7700  
Occupancy/Life Safety- 713-535-7730  
Sign Administration- 713-218-5820

### Permit Office Numbers:

General- 713-535-7897  
Dacoma Office- 713-686-6224  
Kingwood Office- 281-361-9586  
Utility Releases- 713-535-7748

### Other Information:

Administration- 713-535-7510  
Customer Assistance &  
Code Development Office- 713-525-7039 or 7040  
Automated Inspection Request Line- 713-525-7000  
Other City Departments- Dial 311

### For Additional Permit Information:

You may obtain information about permits by visiting our website at: [www.houstonpermits.org](http://www.houstonpermits.org). You will then be linked to our database of sold permits. If you have questions about any of these permits, please contact our *Code Enforcement Group* at 713-535-7500.

### To Reach Other City of Houston Departments:

<http://www.houstontx.gov> or dial 311