



NYC Buildings Department  
280 Broadway, New York, NY 10007

Robert D. LiMandri, Commissioner



## BUILDINGS BULLETIN 2009-013

### Technical

**Supersedes:** None

**Issuer:** James P. Colgate, RA, Esq.  
Assistant Commissioner for Technical Affairs and Code Development

**Issuance Date:** July 29, 2009

**Purpose:** This document clarifies that Reference Standard 16 pertaining to the installation of drywells for the onsite disposal of storm water shall remain in effect following the effective date of the 2008 New York City Construction Codes.

<b>Related Code/Zoning Section(s):</b>	RS16 P110.2	RS16 P113.6	AC 28-103.20	PC 104.2
	RS16 P110.13	RS16 P113.9	BC 1704.20.1	PC 1111.1

**Subject(s):** drywell; storm water, disposal

AC 28-103.20 provides that:

“Rules promulgated by the department in accordance with the law in effect prior to the effective date of this code shall remain in effect for the matters covered to the extent that such rules are not inconsistent with this code unless and until such rules are amended or repealed by the department.”

Therefore the matters related to drywells covered in Reference Standard (RS) 16 of the 1968 Building Code shall remain in effect and shall be applicable to the installation of drywells for the onsite disposal of storm water, whether filed under the 1968 Building Code or the 2008 New York City Construction Codes:

Drywell subject	Reference Standard 16
Connection to public storm sewer	RS-16 P110.2 (b),(c),(h),(j),(k),(l)&(m)
Drywell is required for storm water disposal	RS-16 P110.13
Onsite disposal of storm water	RS-16 P110.13
Location of drywell	RS-16 P110.13 (c)(4), RS-16 P113.6
Soil percolation test, subsurface investigation <sup>1</sup>	RS-16 P110.13 (c)(5), RS-16 P113.9
Sizing a drywell	RS-16 P110.13 (c)(1),(2)&(6)
Drywell detail when installed above impermeable soil	RS-16 P110.13 (c)(8), Figure 16-9B
Drywell detail when installed above permeable soil	RS-16 P110.13 (c)(9), Figure 16-9B

1. Such tests are subject to inspections pursuant to BC 1704.20.1.

With regard to subsoil drains, and maintenance and repair of drywell, these subjects are addressed by the 2008 New York City Construction Codes (sections PC 1111.2 and 104.2, respectively)