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What's New?

New Earthwork Regulations - Rule 52



Recently enacted [Rule 1 RCNY §52-01](#) (38 kb-pdf) now requires permit holders to notify the Department of Buildings at least 24 but no more than 48 hours prior to the start of earthwork / excavation. This notification is now required to ensure that work is being performed according to safety standards and

to help promote safety on construction sites. View the [fact sheet](#) (33 kb-pdf) for more information on the new notification requirement.

New Reference Standard for Cranes and Derricks

The Department of Buildings is dedicated to ensuring the safe and lawful use of [cranes and derricks](#) throughout the five boroughs. On October 1, 2006, [Reference Standard 19-2](#) (329 kb-pdf) goes into effect. The new standard aims to further the safety of persons and property affected by the operation of power operated cranes and derricks. The amendment will update the requirements for rope inspection and replacement, safety devices and minimum operation standards to meet current national standards. The new regulations also include guidelines for the required notification and use of personnel hoisting equipment.

Reminder to all Contractors and Engineers on the Importance of Underpinning

Improper underpinning, especially in dealing with lighter structures, can lead to fatal accidents. It is vitally important to be aware that smaller structures, such as detached garages, have a higher chance of overturning underpinning. Because we're dedicated to your safety, we want to remind all engineers and contractors of the importance of proper underpinning. It must be designed to resist the lateral pressure exerted by soil and shored when necessary.

To learn more about proper and safe underpinning practices, see the [Presentation on Excavation and Trench Safety](#) (3,575 kb-pdf), the [Excavation and Trench Safety Guidelines](#)

(187 kb-pdf), and the [SEAoNY](#) presentation, [An Underpinning Symposium](#) (3,429 kb-pdf). For more safety tips, see the [Construction Safety](#) section of our website.

Buildings Around Town

Buildings Hosted Facade Alternative Filing Program Workshop

On September 21st and September 25th, the Department of Buildings hosted educational workshops on the new [Local Law 11/1998 Alternative Filing Program](#). If you were unable to attend the classes, you can view the informative [Presentation](#) (626 kb-pdf), the [Process Flow](#) (27 kb-pdf), and the [Fact Sheet](#) (48 kb-pdf). For more Local Law 11/98 Cycle 6 filing information, view the [Local Law 11/98 Guide](#) section of our website under [Guides & Publications](#). You can also view [photos](#) from the event.

Training & Workshops



Cranes & Derricks Open House - October 13th

The Cranes & Derricks Unit is hosting an informational session on its current operations, the current and proposed construction codes, and the Unit's plans for the future. Our experts will also be on hand to answer your individual questions during this free session. Please make your reservation by October 6th, and view the [flyer](#) (82 kb-pdf) for more event details.

Did You Know?

Did you know that we reduced the number of steps to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy (CO) ? We have made it easier and faster to do business with us by creating our Certificate of Occupancy Document Database (Codd) that allows our staff to immediately produce a CO once all required items are satisfied. The CO is then immediately entered into [BIS](#) and available online.

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