



City of Columbus
Mayor Michael B. Coleman

Department of Development

Boyce Safford, III - Director

Building Services Division

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Construction Industry Communication #27

From: Keith Wagenknecht, Chief Building Official

Re: Residential Water Heater Replacement Inspections

Background: In the past, upon installation of replacement residential water heaters, contractors would contact the Building Services Division (BSD) to schedule an inspection at the job site. Due to conflicting schedules with homeowners, plumbing inspectors were not able to gain access to the residence to inspect the work.

Requirements: Per Section 4113.61 of the Columbus Building Code, installation of a replacement water heater requires a plumbing permit and per section 4115.01 all work for which a permit is required shall be subject to an inspection.

Memorandum: In an effort to improve and streamline the water heater replacement program, the following procedure is effective immediately:

- The licensed/registered contractor that purchased the plumbing permit for water heater installation must contact the BSD plumbing inspection unit to verify that installation has been completed by one of the following methods:
- Installation verification may be called in on the plumbing inspection phone line at: **614-645-8355**.
- Installation verification may be faxed to BSD at: **614-645-8358**
- Installation verification may be e-mailed to: inspectionrequest@columbus.gov
- The following information must be received by BSD plumbing inspection unit:
 - Name of contractor
 - Jobsite address
 - Permit number
 - Type of inspection
 - Contact person (resident) and telephone number.
- BSD plumbing inspection unit will then contact the resident to make arrangements to inspect the hot water heater.
- BSD plumbing inspection unit will maintain a listing of all hot water installation permits for follow-up purposes.