

**CITY & COUNTY OF DENVER  
COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT  
BUILDING PERMIT POLICY**

**Subject: SUBSOIL DRAINAGE SYSTEM**

**Approved: Michael Roach, P.E., Building Official**

**Number: IRC 405.1**

**Effective Date: October 6, 2008**

**Page: 1 of 1**

**Revised: October 17, 2011**

**Reference: IRC Section 405.1, IBC Section 1807.4**

**Scope:**

The Denver Building Department shall verify, when the soils report recommends foundation drains, that they are specified on the project drawings. After issuance of permits the installation of the foundation drains shall be verified during the field inspection process.

**Policy:**

The Building Department policy for the installation of subsurface foundation drains is as follows:

1. Foundation drains may "daylight" by gravity if the point of "daylighting" does not create a nuisance or hazard, such as draining over a sidewalk.
2. Foundation drains may terminate in a sump if the pump and piping to evacuate the sump are installed under the Plumbing Permit, by a licensed plumbing contractor and inspected by Development Services Plumbing Inspectors.
3. Foundation drain piping may be installed by the general contractor, the dampproofing contractor, or the plumbing contractor as part of the scope of work on the #1R permit for the foundation.
4. Inspection of the foundation drain system installation will be a part of the foundation wall dampproofing inspection. The inspection will be to determine:
  - a. that foundation drains are installed where they are specified; and
  - b. that the drains are installed with proper gravel bedding.

**END OF DOCUMENT**