

FOOTING INSPECTIONS ARE MANDATORY

Ontario's Building Regulatory System is undergoing significant changes that are scheduled to take effect July 1, 2005. These changes are set out in amendments to the Building Code Act, 1992 that were proclaimed in July 2003. Amendments to the Building Code required to implement these legislative change were filed in July 2003. The amendments affect various Parts of the Code. Part 2 of the Building Code has been amended to specify the Prescribed Notices to be given to the chief building official. This bulletin specifically deals with the prescribed notice "readiness to construct footings", as per Clause 2.4.5.1.(2)(a) of the Building Code.

As of July 1, 2005 all projects must be inspected at the readiness to construct footing stage of construction. Particularly, the owner or builder must request a Footing inspection once the site has been excavated and the forms for the footings have been erected. This inspection would occur prior to pouring of the concrete for the footings.

Building Inspection

The Building Standards Department inspection at the footing stage of construction does not include any testing to determine the bearing capacity of soil for compliance with the building code. Inspectors will verify that the work performed complies with the Building Inspection Information Sheet for Footings - House.

Owner and Builder Responsibility

The builder, owners and the person to whom the permit has been issued to, shall assure themselves, that the soil bearing capacity is capable of supporting the loads imposed from the proposed building and that the Town of Markham may not be relied on to certify soil properties.

Required Reports to be Submitted

Reports do not substitute for inspections performed by the Building Standards Department building inspection staff.

A 'footing base evaluation report' developed by a geotechnical consulting engineer must be submitted to the area building inspector when footings or foundations are to be installed on;

- Engineered fill
- Grade beams (Part 4 design)
- Piles (Part 4 design)

For further information on the inspection of footings and foundations, please contact Piero Cannistra, Field Supervisor and Trainer at (905) 475-4718.

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