

CODE GUIDE

OFFICE OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

TOPIC: Stormwater Drainage - UPC/11/#1 & CABO/P14/#1

CODE: Plumbing Specialty Code: 1996 Edition
One & Two Family Dwelling Specialty Code
1993 Edition

APPROVED: July 1, 1996 _____

REFERENCE: Section 1101, Plumbing Specialty Code
Plumbing Section 1401, One & Two Family Dwelling
Specialty Code

SUBJECT: Alternative methods for stormwater drainage.

QUESTION: Do stormwater drainage systems on one and two family dwellings have to include gutters and downspouts or are alternative designs acceptable?

RESPONSE: The Plumbing Specialty Code requires water draining from roofs to be collected and discharged to an approved disposal system. Typical drainage systems on one and two family dwellings are designed to collect water in gutters which then drain to downspouts. In another design a louvered device replaces gutters by dispersing the roof drainage at the eaves. The Rainmaker™ is an example of such a system.

Drainage systems without gutters and downspouts which provide a louvered or other device to disperse roof drainage at the eaves are acceptable if the system is combined with a ground collection system designed by a licensed and certified engineer.