



TO: Development Services Customers

SUBJECT: **INFORMATION BULLETIN 179**
 Residential Water Service Sizing Guide

DATE: January 11, 2012/*Revised August 1, 2014*

CREATED BY: Field Services Division

Purpose:

As a customer service initiative, the Development Services Department (DSD) created this **revised** bulletin to update Information Bulletin (IB) 179 on the residential water service sizing guide. This bulletin has been updated to incorporate the department’s new format for Information Bulletins.

Scope:

This IB is based on the *International Plumbing Code* (IPC), Appendix E (sizing of water piping system) and is intended to assist contractors in sizing the water service for residential houses.

- For houses up to 1 ½ bath, a ¾-inch water service is acceptable.
- For houses 2 bath and up to and including 4 ½ bathrooms, a 1-inch water service shall be required.
- All building water systems shall be sized according to *Appendix E*.

APPROACH: Take the value of 14.4 wsfu (for the first 4 bathrooms) and add the other items (kitchen sinks, washer, dishwasher, hose bibs, sinks and any other fixture out side of the bathroom groups). Use *Table E 103.32*) and *E 201.1* to obtain this wsfu value. The kitchen sink and dishwasher, each have a wsfu of 1.4. Then add up the wsfu of the additional bathrooms (over the first 4).

Typical Example:

4 ½ baths; k.s.w. / dw; washer w/laundry sink tub; bar sink; 4 hb’s.	
First 4 baths =	14.4
(Plus additional shower in master bath) =	1.4
Kitchen group =	2.8
Laundry group =	2.8
Bar Sink =	0.7
Additional ½ bath =	2.9
3 Hb’s =	<u>6.0</u>

ADDITIONAL SIZING GUIDEANCE:

- For houses on larger or oversized lots with greater setbacks, get the length from the meter to the most distant fixture in the house and use that column.
- The initial line size shall be carried to the manifold where the sizing chart (table *E 201.1*) allows the piping to be reduced.

Reference: *Appendix E* and Tables *E 103.3 (2)* and *E 201.1*.

Should you have any questions regarding this Information Bulletin, please contact the Plumbing Inspections Supervisor at (210) 207-8279.

Summary:

This Information Bulletin is for informational purposes only.

Prepared by: David Rohde, Plumbing Inspections Supervisor

Reviewed by: Michael Constantino, Development Services Manager

Authorized by: Michael Shannon, PE, CBO, Assistant Director