



## **Risk Reduction COVID-19 Response Update**

### **Inspections Required for Fuel Gas Appliance Replacement**

As the number of active COVID-19 cases has leveled off in the area and Governor Kelly and local Health Departments have eased COVID1-9 restrictions the City of Manhattan has begun to take steps to restore normal operations of public services and eventually resume public access to City buildings and facilities.

Currently, Risk Reduction staff continue to telework with the minimal staff in the office to answer phones, process permits, and schedule inspections. The Manhattan Fire Department is in the process of implementing cleaning procedures and protection measures to allow for Risk Reduction staff to safely return to the office in the near future. The Risk Reduction Office will remain closed to the public until further notice, however, preparations are being made in anticipation of reopening the office to the public in July as long as the number of COVID-19 cases remains stable.

As a part of our efforts to increase social distancing and protect staff and the public, in early April Risk Reduction implemented temporary measures to allow for self-

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inspection of fuel fire appliances like water heaters and furnaces. Beginning Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, Risk Reduction will no longer accept self-inspections for the installation of fuel-fired appliances like water heaters and furnaces. Permits issued on or after June 8<sup>th</sup> will require an inspection by an inspector. After first obtaining the appropriate permit and then completing the installation, please contact the Risk Reduction office at 587-4506 to schedule an inspection.

Risk Reduction inspectors will continue to practice social distancing and good hygiene while providing services to the community. Although the protective procedures that we have implemented over the last couple of months have been inconvenient for some, these necessary measures have allowed Risk Reduction to continue providing essential services to the construction community. This continuity of services would not be possible without the understanding and cooperation from the construction community. We will continue to keep the local contractor community updated as we work to safely resume normal operations. If you have any questions regarding the inspection of fuel gas appliances or the status of services provided by Risk Reduction please do not hesitate to contact the office at 587-4506 or email [riskreduction@cityofmhk.com](mailto:riskreduction@cityofmhk.com)

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