

**CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE GUIDE  
BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS**

**DECKS**

- Please read all of the following information.
- The following is a checklist. You must have a "checkmark" in all the sections listed below prior to submitting your application.

\_\_\_\_\_ "Affidavit of Exemption" (See attached form) If you are hiring a contractor to construct your deck, and they have workers' compensation, have the contractor or their insurance carrier provide us with a "Certificate of Insurance" showing proof of such. If the homeowner or a contractor without workers' compensation is constructing the deck, the attached form must be completed and notarized.

\_\_\_\_\_ A site plan showing the proposed deck, the width and length of the deck, the distances in feet, to the front, sides, rear property lines, and the height of floor surface above grade at highest point.

\_\_\_\_\_ Three (3) sets of construction drawings that show in detail code compliance for all of the work proposed, to include but not limited to the following information;

- \_\_\_\_\_ Floor joist size, species and grade of wood.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Floor joist spacing (16" or center, 24" on center etc:).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Span of floor joist (clear distance between supports).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Attachment to existing structure (bolts or lags, with sizes and spacing).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Depth of post footing below finished grade. (shall be below frost line).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Guardrail height from floor of deck, (36" minimum)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Guardrail on stairs (34" minimum measured vertically from nose of tread).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Spacing of balusters. (maximum 4").
- \_\_\_\_\_ Stairs – Riser height and tread depth. (Rise 8 1/4" maximum depth 9" minimum).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Stairs – Handrail height (from nose of tread, minimum 34", maximum 38").
- \_\_\_\_\_ Handrail grip size – if circular must have a cross section of 1 1/4" minimum to 2" maximum.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Width of stairs (36" minimum)

\_\_\_\_\_ Completed building permit application.

MDIA will review plans submitted to determine code compliance. If the minimum submittal requirements are not met, we will ask the applicant to supply additional information. If the minimum requirements are met, the plans will be marked "approved". A building permit will be issued and the applicant will be notified of the inspection fees and when they can pick-up the permit at the Municipal Building. All fees shall be paid prior to the issuance of the permit. Then use the inspection procedures provided to have all of the required inspections performed.



**THIS FORM REQUIRES A NOTARY SEAL**

**AFFIDAVIT OF EXEMPTION**

The undersigned affirm that he/she is not required to provide workers compensation insurance under the provisions of Pennsylvania's Workers' Compensation Law for one of the following reasons, as indicated:

\_\_\_\_\_ Property owner performing own work. If property owner does hire contractor to perform any work pursuant to building permit, contractor must provide proof of workers' compensation insurance to the municipality. Homeowner assumes liability for contractor compliance with this requirement.

\_\_\_\_\_ contractor has no employees. Contractor prohibited by law from employing any individual to perform work pursuant to this building permit unless contractor provides proof of insurance to the municipality.

\_\_\_\_\_ Religious exemption under the Workers' Compensation Law. All employees of contractor are exempt from workers' compensation insurance (attach copies of religious exemption letter for all employees).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

County of \_\_\_\_\_

Municipality of \_\_\_\_\_

Subscribed, sworn to and  
acknowledged before me by the above  
\_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ Day  
of \_\_\_\_\_  
20 \_\_\_\_\_.

**SEAL**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public