



WASHINGTON COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS & INSPECTIONS

80 West Baltimore Street
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740-6003
Telephone: 240-313-2460
Fax: 240-313-2461
TTY/Hearing Impaired: 240-313-2430

Building
Electrical
Plumbing
Mechanical

MEMO

Date: May 27, 2010

From: Dan DiVito

Subject: Retaining Walls

A permit is not required for retaining walls that retain less than 36-inches of unbalanced backfill unless supporting a surcharge *.

Retaining walls that retain greater than 36" of unbalanced backfill must be permitted and are required to be designed (engineered drawings) to insure stability against overturning, sliding, excessive foundation pressure, and water uplift.

* A typical example of a surcharge would be a parking area.