Washington County
MARYLAND

DIVISION OF
PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS

OWNER-BUILDER DECLARATION

Building Permit No: _____
Project Address: _____

I, the applicant/owner, have agreed to act as the "Owner-Builder" under this building permit. By doing so, I am assuming all responsibilities typically required of a licensed contractor for the construction of my proposed project. By signing this document, I understand and verify the following:

- I understand a frequent practice of unlicensed persons is to have the property owner obtain an "Owner-Builder" building permit that erroneously implies that the property owner is providing his or her own labor and material personally. I, as an "Owner-Builder" may be held liable and subject to serious financial risk for any injuries sustained by an unlicensed person and his or her employees while working on my property. My homeowner's insurance may not provide coverage for those injuries. I am willfully acting as an "Owner-Builder" and am aware of the limits of my insurance coverage for injuries to workers on my property.
- I understand building permits are not required to be signed by the property owner unless they are responsible for the construction and are not hiring a licensed contractor to assume this responsibility.
- I understand as an "Owner-Builder" I am the responsible party of record on the permit. I understand that I may protect myself from potential financial risk by hiring a licensed contractor and having the permit filed in his or her name in instead of my own.
- Licensed contractors are regulated by laws designed to protect the public. I understand that contractors are required by law to be licensed and bonded in the State of Maryland and to list their license numbers on all permits and contracts. If I contract with someone who does not have a license, the contractors' State License Board may be unable to assist me with any financial loss I may sustain as a result of a complaint. My only remedy against unlicensed contractors may be a civil court.
- I understand as an "Owner-Builder" if I sell the property for which this permit is issued, I may be held liable for any financial or personal injuries sustained by any subsequent owner(s) that result from any latent construction defects in the workmanship or materials.
- I have not entered into a contract with any person or company to perform work covered by this permit, including a contract for somebody to manage, oversee, or supervise in any way. I will not enter into such contract without first notifying the building permit office of the name of the person or company so that the license status can be determine and, if registered, the builder's name and license number can be added to the building permit. I understand that the contractor cannot perform any work on the structure until this information has been added to the permit.
- All trade work (plumbing, electrical and mechanical) must be completed by a contractor licensed/registered in Washington County, Maryland. Exception: A homeowner can perform plumbing work on their own existing residence in which they will reside, on a one time basis only. They must obtain a score of 70% or greater on the homeowner's plumbing test to obtain a plumbing permit to work within the confines of his/her own existing dwelling, up to 3 feet (915 mm) from the foundation wall on the building drain.

Owner's Name(s): _____

Signature of property owner: _____ Date: _____