



Baltimore County
Department of Permits, Approvals & Inspections

**SHEDS AND ACCESSORY STORAGE STRUCTURES:
FOUNDATION REQUIREMENTS**

Accessory storage buildings of *light frame construction up to 400 sf in area:**

No permanent foundation is required, but the building must be anchored. Eave height must not exceed 10 feet.

**Accessory storage buildings greater than 400 sf in area that
are not of *light frame construction**:**

A permanent foundation supported at least 30" below finished grade is required.

**light frame construction*: structural elements are primarily formed from a system of repetitive wood or cold-formed steel framing members.

NOTE: Permits are required for all accessory structures over 120 square feet

Explanatory Notice to Applicants: When soil freezes, entrapped moisture expands, lifting anything built on top of it. This movement, known as frost heave, can severely damage a building whose foundation is not deep enough. Damage from frost heave is directly proportional to the size and complexity of the structure. The smaller the shed, the more likely it will rise and fall as a unit without differential movement. The addition of windows and doors decreases the likelihood of unity of movement, causing portions of the structure to move out of balance with other portions and thus decrease building function.

For further information, contact Building Inspection at 410-887-3953.

Applicant _____ Date _____