

Has this vessel ever been permitted,
including by previous owners?

Circle: Yes or No

If yes, most Recent Permit # _____
and Year _____

2026

APPLICATION FOR WATERCRAFT PERMIT LIBERTY AND PRETTYBOY RESERVOIRS

Office Use Only

Permit Number _____

Date Issued _____

Check _____

Bank _____

PRIMARY OWNER/OPERATOR (must be at least 18 years old):

NAME _____

_____ Last _____ First _____ Middle _____ Date of Birth _____ Phone _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

REQUIREMENTS:

Boats: Minimums - length 12' (20' maximum), width 48", depth 18"

Canoes: Minimums - length 12' (20' maximum), width 35"

Kayaks or Shells: Minimum - length 12' (20' maximum)

Inflatable or collapsible craft, sailboats, pontoon boats, propane or gasoline-powered motors, electric motors greater than 18 kWh, paddle boards and pedal/paddle boats are prohibited.

******* New *******

18kWh maximum output on electric motors

**Motors on kayaks designed to be used with motors
are now permitted**

**Send Inquiries to reservoirs@baltimorecity.gov
See complete regulations and application tips at
publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/reservoirs**

WATERCRAFT INFORMATION:

Rowboat/Bassboat _____ Canoe _____ Kayak _____ Rowing Shell _____ Make _____ Model _____

Length _____ Width _____ Depth _____ Aluminum _____ Fiberglass _____ Wood _____ Plastic _____ Color _____

Serial No./Hull I.D. # (usually 12 digits) _____ Vessel # (only motorized craft) _____

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CITY OF BALTIMORE:

In granting the privilege of access to, or use of, the reservoirs or any other property of the City of Baltimore for any purpose whatever, the City does not warrant that its property is suitable for the purpose for which the privilege or permit is granted, or that it is safe for any specified purpose, whether or not a permit is issued pursuant to these regulations, and whether or not a permit fee has been received, notwithstanding the fact that a particular portion of the City property may be specified in the permit. The City will not be responsible for any damage, injury or death resulting from an accident on any of its properties, or from drowning in the waters of any of its reservoirs, notwithstanding the fact that the negligence of an employee of the City of Baltimore may contribute to such accident or drowning. By accepting the permit, or by using the privilege granted, the permittee thereby agrees to the use the property in the condition in which he or she finds it, and agrees to assume all responsibility for his own safety and the safety of any minors accompany him or her, and he or she thereby releases the City from all claims and causes of action whatsoever arising out of the issuance of the permit, or arising out of access to and use of the City's property, whether or not such claim and cause of action whatsoever arising out of the issuance of the permit, or arising out of access to and use of the City's property, whether or not such claim or cause of action arises by virtue of the negligence of any of the City of Baltimore's agents or employees.

The permit fee mentioned in these regulations is not a charge for the use of property of the City but is applied as partial reimbursements to the City for expenses incurred in issuing permits and in regulating the use of its property for the benefit of the permittees and for the protection of the City's water supply.

As a condition of acceptance of this permit I hereby agree and affirm that the watercraft for which this permit is issued will be used on no other bodies of water except Liberty, Prettyboy, and/or Loch Raven Reservoirs. However, this permit is valid ONLY on Liberty and Prettyboy Reservoirs. (A separate permit, issued by Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks, is required to use a boat on Loch Raven.) I have read and understand all the above as well as the separate "Important Information" sheet. All statements made on this application are true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that failure to comply with regulations will result in my permit being revoked. I further understand that the City will not be responsible for damage to, or loss of, any privately owned boat or for personal injury or loss of life sustained while on the reservoirs or City property.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____

BOAT PERMIT SALES ARE BY MAIL ONLY. THERE ARE NO WALK-IN SALES.

MAIL OR DROP OFF*

COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

City of Baltimore
Reservoir Natural Resources
5685 Oakland Road
Eldersburg, MD 21784-6828

CHECK OFF THAT YOU HAVE ENCLOSED THE FOLLOWING:

____ A **SIGNED** and **FULLY COMPLETED** application (NO Blank Sections)

____ A **\$60.00** check or money order made out to:

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, CITY OF BALTIMORE

____ Check signed _____ Correct year on check

____ A **self-addressed, business-size envelope** (4 1/8" by 9 1/2") **with 1st class stamp**
used to send your boater ID card and permit stickers to you

*Drop off available M-F from 7AM-3PM
in the locked box outside of the building.

There will be a delay in application processing if not filled out correctly AND completely.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The watercraft season extends from March 1 through December 31 (**WEATHER PERMITTING**) between sunrise and sunset.
- Watercraft may be placed on City property no earlier than March 1 and must be removed from City property by December 31.
- Docking space is on a first come, first served basis.
- Watercraft may be launched and removed from the reservoirs at the boat dock **ONLY**.
- Watercraft are not allowed between Liberty Road & Liberty Dam, and within 1500 feet of Prettyboy Dam.
- Permit stickers shall be affixed directly to the side of the watercraft in the area near the rear seat.
- Permits will not be issued for watercraft less than 12 feet or more than 20 feet long.
- Permits will not be issued for watercraft equipped with an internal combustion motor and/or fuel tank.
- Inflatable or collapsible craft, sailboats, pontoon boats, propane or gasoline-powered watercraft, electric motors with over 18 kWh output, paddle boards and pedal/paddle boats may not be used.
- Kayaks are permitted on both Liberty and Prettyboy Reservoirs. The use of sails on kayaks is prohibited.
- Rowing shells are permitted on both Liberty and Prettyboy Reservoirs. Fishing from or the use of motors or sails on shells is prohibited.
- Watercraft which do not meet City specifications; watercraft not having current stickers properly displayed; watercraft not properly secured; and watercraft otherwise used in violation of City Watershed Regulations will be impounded and the owner will be subject to fines and storage fees.
- All watercraft must be equipped with oars and oarlocks or paddles.
- Propulsion shall be by rowing, pedaling or battery-powered electric outboard motors. Sails, gasoline-powered or propane-powered motors may not be used.
- Each watercraft must be equipped with at least one serviceable United States Coast Guard approved, wearable, personal flotation device (life vest) for each occupant.
- No person under 18 years of age will be permitted on the lakes in a watercraft unless accompanied by a person 18 years of age or over within the same vessel.
- All activities, other than motor vehicle traffic on public roads or hunting with permit (one half-hour before sunrise and one half-hour after sunset during MD DNR specified seasons) are prohibited from sunset to sunrise.
- The use or possession of alcohol is not allowed.
- No swimming, wading, camping, firearms, or hunting allowed from watercraft.
- Pollution of the waters of the reservoirs or their tributaries is prohibited.
- Fluctuating water levels due to prolonged dry spells or demands of the distribution system may make it difficult to launch and recover watercraft or may render the launching ramps useless. The City does not guarantee that the present paved ramps will be extended.
- The City reserves the right to reinstate the moratorium on the use of private watercraft on any or all of its reservoirs at any time.
- Use of live aquatic bait is prohibited unless purchased at a Maryland State-certified zebra mussel-free bait dealer.

WATERCRAFT INFORMATION TIPS

Serial numbers:

- Usually 12 digits long, starting with 3 letters
- All canoes and kayaks have a serial number, if you can't locate it, contact the manufacturer for help
- Newer kayaks have serial numbers stamped into the plastic, towards the back end and near the top
 - If numbers are hard to see, try a pencil and paper or rubbing dirt in the digits to make them stand out more clearly

Vessel numbers:

- Issued by the Department of Natural Resources for all motorized watercraft
- Formatted with state abbreviation usually followed by four numbers and two letters
Ex. MD 0123 AB or PA 1234 YZ

For general boating and boat permit information call: (410) 795-6150
Baltimore Environmental Police non-emergency number: (410) 517-3600