



Purpose

The purpose is to provide guidelines for the installation, maintenance, and removal of boat docks and lifts within Brightsand Lake Regional Park to ensure environmental protection, safety, and equitable access to the shoreline.

Application Requirements

Application Form

All individuals must submit a completed Board Dock/Lift Installation Request Form prior to any installation. The form must include:

- Name, address, lot/block number or seasonal site number.
- Requested dock/lift location, including proximity to neighboring docks/lift/public beaches.
- Construction materials.
- Photos of the proposed dock/lift.
- Proposed installation and removal dates.
- Winter storage plan.
- Site sketch.
- Signed waiver of liability.

Approval

- Approval is contingent upon review by the Authority. No installation may occur until written approval is granted.

General Guidelines

Location and Spacing

- A minimum of forty (40) feet must be maintained between adjacent docks/lifts.
- Location must not obstruct public access or navigable waters.

Environmental Protection

- Only floating docks/lifts or docks/lifts supported by posts are permitted.
- Crib docks/lifts or permanent foundations that rest on the lakebed are prohibited due to their negative impact on aquatic ecosystems.
- No mechanical equipment is allowed to enter the water or shoreline during installation.
- Dredging or removal of aquatic vegetation is not permitted unless approved by the Ministry of Environment (MOE) through an Aquatic Habitat Protection Permit.

Materials

Permitted dock/lift materials include:

- Aluminum, steel, plastic.
- Untreated wood.

Prohibited materials:

- Creosote-treated wood.
- Pentachlorophenol-treated wood.

Shoreline Protection

- Retaining natural shoreline vegetation is mandatory. Clearing shrubs or trees is prohibited without prior approval.
- Natural vegetation helps protect against erosion and provides essential habitat for fish and wildlife.

Winter Storage

- Dock/lift owners must specify a winter storage plan within their application.
- Docks/lifts must be stored in a location that does not interfere with park access, trails, or neighboring properties.
- The owner assumes full responsibility and liability for the dock/lift during both water use and winter storage.



Boat Dock and Lift Policy
Brightsand Lake Regional Park Authority

Policy #
Approval Date

2025-002
May 23, 2025

Monitoring and Compliance

- Park Authority and/or staff may inspect installations for compliance with approved plans and environmental guidelines.
- Annual "before" photos of the shoreline are kept on file to verify compliance after installation.
- Non-compliant docks/lifts may be subject to removal at the owner's expense.

Liability and Responsibility

- The dock/lift owner agrees to hold Brightsand Lake Regional Park harmless from any liability related to the dock/lift's installation, presence, or storage.
- All damages or incidents arising from non-compliant structures are the sole responsibility of the applicant.

Amendments and Enforcement

- This policy may be updated as required to reflect changes in environmental regulation or park use.
- Non-compliance with this policy may result in fines, removal of unauthorized structures, and revocation of dock/lift privileges.