

THREE YEAR SHORELINE USE PERMIT FOR A STORAGE SHED, DOCK, BOATLIFT OR STAIRS

Town of Onalaska, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

Please identify the below structures with their dimensions (if applicable) that you are requesting as part of your Permit (check all that apply):

☐ *DOCK (See attached Definitions Page)

Dimensions: _____

☐ *BOATLIFT (See attached Definitions Page)

☐ *STAIRS (See attached Definitions Page)

☐ *STORAGE SHED (may not exceed 50 square feet in floor area and 6 feet in height - See attached Definitions Page).

Dimensions: _____

*A photograph of each permitted structure (dock, boatlift, stairs and/or storage shed/box) must be submitted each application cycle. If the structure is in the planning stages, a sketch with notated dimensions, land and water orientation, and any other relevant landmarks is acceptable.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE USE OF GOVERNMENT LAND LEASED TO THE TOWN OF ONALASKA – UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER NAVIGATION PROJECT – LOCK AND DAM NO. 7

1. The Permittee shall hold the Town of Onalaska, its officers, agents, and employees harmless from any and all claims of any nature whatsoever arising from or out of the performance of the acts authorized by the Town of Onalaska.
2. The exercise of the privileges hereby granted shall be without cost or expense to the Town of Onalaska, under the general supervision of, and subject to, the approval of the Town of Onalaska, to include such regulations as the Town of Onalaska may prescribe.
3. The government-owned shoreline is open to the general public. This Permit does not convey any property rights in real estate or material or any other exclusive privilege.
4. The Permittee shall not occupy, or use said premises as a dwelling for permanent or temporary living quarters or for commercial purposes.
5. Docks shall be securely anchored with moorings that do not obstruct the free use of the shoreline. Ropes and cables shall not be attached to live vegetation.
6. The Permittee agrees to operate and maintain the structure(s) in a manner that minimizes the adverse impacts on fish, wildlife habitat, natural environmental values, aesthetic appearance, or water quality. Structures shall be maintained in a structurally sound and safe manner. The discharge of sewage or other pollutants into the water is strictly prohibited.

7. Planting native trees, shrubs, and plants on government-owned lands are encouraged for bank stabilization. Plantings may not form a barrier to public access or interfere with the surveying of the government boundary line.
8. Trimming or cutting of trees, alive or dead, or other land-based vegetative modification on government property requires permission from the US Army Corps of Engineers. Trees that pose a hazard to private property will be given priority consideration. Permittee's requesting any form of tree or vegetative modification as described above are required to contact the Town of Onalaska, who will in turn, contact the Corps of Engineers Environmental Section Manager located in La Crosse WI, to obtain prior approval.
9. No private fencing or barrier is allowed on government-owned property.
10. The only items allowed on government-owned property as part of this Permit are as follows: **dock, boat lift, stairs, and a storage shed not to exceed 50 square feet in floor area and six (6) feet in height.** All other items must be stored on private property.
11. Commercial activities such as rental of boats, sale of bait or refreshments, charging a fee for dock usage, etc., must be approved and be covered by a written concession agreement from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Onalaska Town Board.
12. Moving, removing or defacing government boundary or refuge signs is illegal and subject to a citation under Title 36 CFR § 327.14 – Public Property.
13. Retaining walls and fill to level out yards or to increase the size of yards is not permitted. Construction of retaining walls for the purpose of erosion control on government-owned property requires permission from both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Onalaska Town Board.
14. Shoreline protection that falls below the ordinary high-water mark should be simple in nature, such as rip rap, and may not impart the appearance of private ownership. Most shoreline protection requires additional permits with approval from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the Onalaska Town Board.
15. Aquatic vegetation may only be removed in an area not to exceed 50 square yards immediately adjacent to the permitted structure. Vegetation must be mechanically cut and may not be chemically cleared. Vegetation removed may not be disposed of in the water or on the shoreline and must be taken to an upland site for disposal.
16. Pesticides, herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, and fungicides are prohibited on government-owned property.
17. Any electrical installations must be weatherproof, equipped with quick disconnect fittings above the flood pool and meet the National Electric Code (NEC) and state and local codes and regulations. A certified electrician shall furnish the Onalaska Town Board written assurance that the permitted facility meets all current codes.

18. All La Crosse County and Town of Onalaska ordinances apply.
19. This Permit is non-transferable.
20. The provisions of this Permit may be amended or changed by the Town of Onalaska giving the Permittee a ten (10) day notice in writing.
21. This Permit is revocable at will by the Town of Onalaska for noncompliance of the Terms and Conditions of this Permit. The Permittee may terminate this Permit at any time by giving the Town of Onalaska a ten (10) day notice in writing. No refund shall be issued by the Town on Onalaska.
22. Any personal property items outside of what is permitted (dock, boatlift, stairs, and storage shed) shall be removed upon demand of the Town of Onalaska. In the event of failure or refusal to remove any unapproved personal property within 30 days, the Town of Onalaska may remove items without liability, and the cost of such removal shall be borne by the Permittee. Furthermore, the government may also issue a citation under Title 36 CFR § 327.25 – Violations of Rules and Regulations.

** Existing structures that were properly permitted in the 2023-2025 permit cycle, not meeting the above and current criteria will be allowed to remain, with the exception of boat trailers currently used as a skid /winch/boat lift. These will not be allowed to remain. Any upgrade or structural changes to existing structures that were properly permitted in the 2023-2025 will constitute a *new* dock and will be required to meet the above criteria. **

**Existing electrical installations require a permit addendum and must be inspected and certified by a Wisconsin licensed electrician prior to shoreline structure permit issuance each permit cycle. All electrical installation certificates must be attached to permit application. **

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT

The Permittee hereby agrees to comply with the terms and conditions, which have been adopted and approved by the Town of Onalaska and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Date_____

Printed Name_____

Signed Name_____

Address of Property_____

Mailing Address if different from Property Address_____

Tax Parcel Number of Property_____

Phone Number_____ (home)_____ (cell)

Email_____

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE TOWN OF ONALASKA:

This Permit is accepted and executed this _____ day of _____, 2026.

This Permit will expire on_____.

Town of Onalaska, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

By: _____