



City of New York / Parks & Recreation
Kayak & Canoe Application
Recommendations and Rules
2005 Season

INTRODUCTION

The success of the City's kayak and canoe launches will depend upon our safety record. To assure compliance with the safety requirements, the City will require a permit for the use of all City kayak and canoe launch facilities. Permits may be obtained by mail or in person for a fee of \$15.00 at the following permit offices:

- Bronx:** Ranaqua, 1 Bronx River Parkway, Bronx Park East and Birchall Ave
Bronx, NY 10462 Tel: (718) 430-1840
- Brooklyn:** Litchfield Villa, 95 Prospect Park West and 5th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11215 Tel: (718) 965-8993
- Manhattan:** The Arsenal, 830 Fifth Avenue and Central Park
New York, NY 10021 Tel: (212) 360-8133
- Queens:** Lost Battalion Hall, 93-29 Queens Boulevard
Rego Park, NY 11374 Tel: (718) 263-4120
- Staten Island:** Stonehenge, 1150 Clove Road
Staten Island, N Y 10301 Tel: (718) 390-8023

It is important that you read the following conditions and rules very carefully. Issuance of the permit is based on your affirmation that you have read the conditions and rules and that you understand and agree to abide by them. You alone are responsible for your own safety and that of your passengers.

Failure to abide by these conditions and rules shall lead to revocation of the permit.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) You must be familiar with and obey all federal, state and local boating rules and regulations. These include but are not limited to:
 - a) All vessels are subject to safety inspection at any time by any federal, state, or local authorities.
 - b) All persons on board must wear Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) at all times.**
 - c) Both a sound-producing device such as a small air horn or loud whistle-and a distress flag or flare or flashlight should be carried in case of an emergency.
 - d) All vessels must obey the Rules of the road. These include, but are not limited to:
 - I. When two vessels are on a collision course in a crossing situation, the vessel on the right has the right of way.
 - II. Vessels without mechanized power have the right of way; but smaller vessels must yield to larger vessels that do not have the same maneuverability. These include sludge carrying ships, oil tankers and barges and any large commercial vessel. It is also wise to yield to fast-moving motor boats. A vessel being overtaken should maintain its speed and direction.
 - III. A vessel overtaking another should stay clear of the craft being overtaken.
 - IV. In any case, take whatever action is necessary to avoid the collision.
 - e) Federal and state regulations prohibit mooring, that is, tying up to navigation aids such as channel markers and buoys except under emergency conditions.
 - f) Negligent or grossly negligent operation of a recreational craft that endangers lives or property is not permitted. Examples include:
 - I. Operating a vessel in a swimming area.
 - II. Operating a vessel while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
 - III. Permitting passengers to ride on the bow, seatbacks or gunwales.

- 2) Because this is a water use program, landing on any lands or shoreline or islands (other than a launch site) is not allowed, except in an emergency.
- 3) Use up-to-date navigational charts of the water, **tidal current charts**, tide tables, and consult the Local National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather station. In addition, check your local newspapers for weather and general tide information.
- 4) It is much safer to travel with companions.
- 5) Always carry an additional means of propulsion, whether it is a paddle or oar.
- 6) Never carry more persons than recommended by the manufacturer for the capacity of your vessel.
- 7) When either air or water temperatures are cold, it is advisable to wear an exposure (dry) suit.
- 8) Because the shoreline can accumulate broken glass, rusted metal and other hazardous objects, passengers and operators alike should all wear foot covering when getting in and out of boats.
- 9) Be aware that derelict cars, old boats and rotting pilings may be submerged in many of the shoreline areas. In addition, be on the alert for people fishing from bridges, unexpected approaching speedboats, and construction or repair activities.
- 10) Operators should be trained in first aid and know how to deal with hypothermia.
- 11) You should leave a Trip Plan with your family or friends. Trip Plans describe the trip you are planning to take in your small boat and who is with you.

The rules of the road are contained in Navigation Rules International & Inland. Copies of the rules may be obtained from the U.S. Government Bookstore. *Federal Requirements for Recreational Boats*, published by the U.S. Coast Guard is available free of charge by writing to Commander, First Coast Guard District, Coast Guard Building, 408 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, MA 02210-2209. The Boating Safety Hotline is (800) 368-5647.

RECOMMENDED - EQUIPMENT

All boats should carry the following:

- a) Bailer
- b) Lines for bow and stem and extra line
- c) Sound producing device air horn or whistle
- d) Distress Flag
- e) Flare or flashlight
- f) First aid kit
- g) Sunglasses, sun screen
- h) Drinking water
- i) Compass, charts, tide tables, current charts
- j) Duct tape for emergency repairs
- k) Waterproof containers for spare clothing, charts, etc.

City of New York / Parks & Recreation

Rules for Operating a Kayak / Canoe

The following is an excerpt, taken from the "Park Rules & Regulations" updated January 1, 2000, and shall apply to all City kayak or canoe launch permit sites and parking areas for boaters using the aforementioned sites, under the jurisdiction of New York City Department of Parks & Recreation.

§2-06 Kayaks and Canoes.

- (a) A permit allows a permittee and his or her guests to use the City's access facilities for a kayak or canoe. A permittee may have more than one boat listed on his or her permit, but each kayak or canoe on the water must carry a permittee.
- (b) The permittee is responsible for the safety of all those in his or her craft. Operation of the kayak or canoe under a permit is solely at the operator's own risk.
- (c) Permittees and guest should be strong, experienced swimmers. It is recommended that permittees be able to sustain themselves fully clothed for ten minutes in deep water; swim two body-lengths underwater at a depth of six feet; and tow a "victim" fifteen feet.
- (d) Permittees must be familiar with and obey all federal, state and local boating rules and regulations.
- (e) Permittees must be aware that environmental conditions such as rip tides and other strong currents can overwhelm even the most adept swimmers. They should know the water and weather conditions before going out.
- (f) Because the waters can be polluted, boaters should avoid water contact to the greatest degree possible. Swimming, water skiing, windsurfing, scuba diving or practicing immersion escape techniques in the water to which the launch site give access are prohibited.
- (g) No wildlife or natural land features may be disturbed.
- (h) Kayaks and/or canoes may be launched only at sites designated for this purpose. No person shall launch any boat or water vehicle that requires the use of a boat trailer or other such trailer for its land transportation. A person shall not launch a motor powered vessel, or use either an inboard motor on any vessel once underway. No person shall launch rafts or other inflatables, sailboats, rowboats, "wind surfers" or sailboats of any kind.
- (i) All persons using a kayak or canoe must wear a Personal Flotation Device.**

- (j) No person launching a boat from a Kayak and/or canoe launch may begin a boating trip before sunrise. **Kayak trips shall be completed no later than one-half hour before sunset.** The launch permit sites will be open from May 21st to November 20th, weather permitting. The West 79th Street Boat Basins' kayak launching season is from May 1st to Oct 31st.
- (k) No person shall enter a launch site, or operate or ride as a passenger in a canoe or kayak, under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- (l) No person shall use any boat-launching site or any adjacent waters within 100 feet from the shore of a launch area, including offshore and inshore approaches, for any purpose other than launching boats or removing boats from the water, unless a written permit is obtained from the department.

City of New York / Parks & Recreation Suggested Trip Plan

Date: _____

Permit #: _____

Facility from which you are departing: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Automobile Make and Year: _____

Color: _____ License Plate #: _____

Description of Craft:

Type: _____

Color: _____ Registration #: _____

Length: _____ Width: _____

Number of Passengers: _____

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Address and Telephone</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

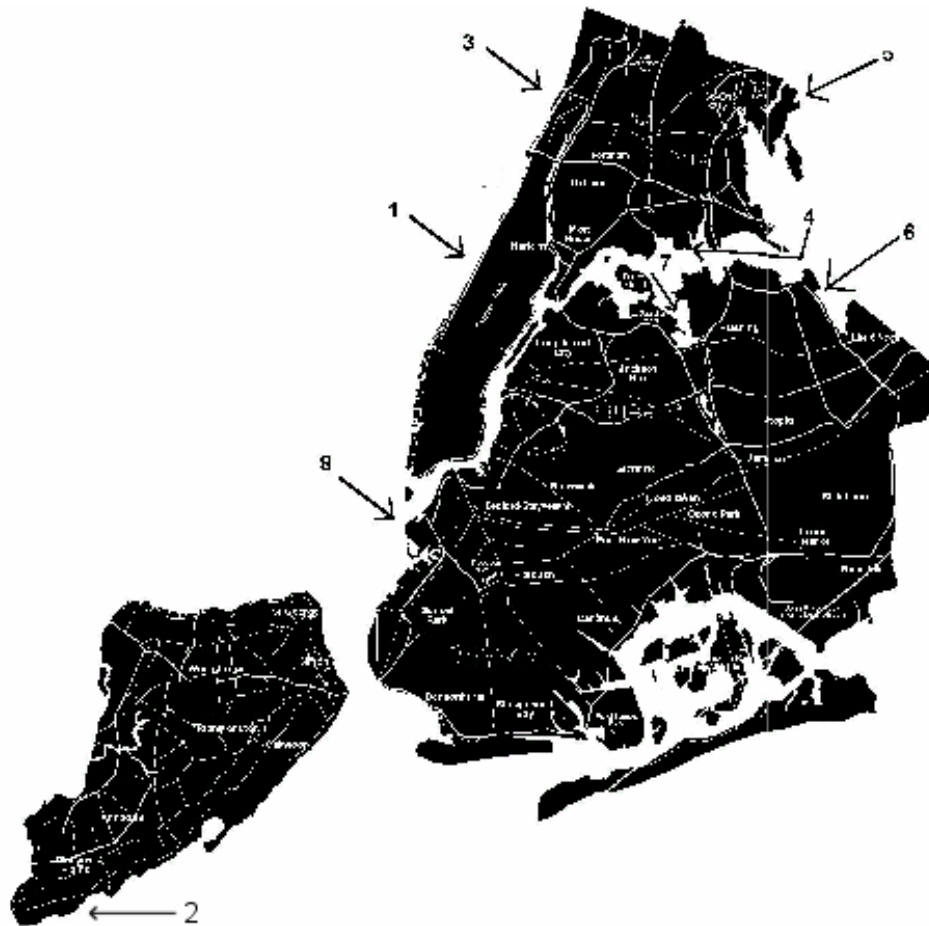
Trip Plans:

Departure Time: _____ Arrival Time: _____

General Route:

City of New York / Parks & Recreation Kayak & Canoe Launch Permit Sites

- 1 West 79th Street Boat Basin (212) 496-2105
79th St and Riverside Park / Hudson River
(street parking)
- 2 Lemon Creek
Bayview Ave / Prince's Bay
(parking)
- 3 Inwood Hill Park
Dyckman Street / Hudson River
(street parking)
- 4 Pugsley Creek Park
Sound View Ave / Classon Point / East River
(street parking)
- 5 Pelham Bay Park
Orchard Beach Lagoon / Long Island Sound
(parking)
- 6 Bayside Marina (718) 229-0097
Cross Island Parkway / Little Neck Bay
(limited parking)
- 7 World's Fair Marina (718) 478-0480
Grand Central Parkway / Flushing Bay
(parking)
- 8 Louis J. Valentino Park
Coffey St. / Buttermilk Channel / East River
(parking on Van Dyke Street)



The kayak and canoe season is open from May 21st to November 20th, 2005. Launch Permits may be obtained at each Borough Permit Office by mail or in person. For more information call (212) 360-8133.

City of New York / Parks & Recreation
Application for Individual Seasonal Permit
For Kayak / Canoe Launches

Date: _____

Permit #: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone (cell): _____ (home): _____

E-mail: _____

Persons to be notified in the event of an emergency:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone (cell): _____ (home): _____

Vessels for which permit is being sought:

For each vessel of each type (kayak and/or canoe) provide the following information:

(If you will be using club-owned vessels only, write "Kayak/Canoes owned by _____ Club")

<u>Type</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Width</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____