

PA Fish and Boat Commission PFBC-277 (4/4/2011)		<b>APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO INSTALL FLOATING STRUCTURES AND PRIVATE AIDS TO NAVIGATION</b>		Date Submitted
<b>INSTRUCTIONS</b>		Read regulations on reverse side before completing this form. Complete all blocks. Indicate N/A when items do not apply. <b>Enclosed check or money order for \$10.00 with this application, payable to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission</b>		
<b>REASON FOR APPLICATION</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> New Application <i>(See Block #14)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal _____ <i>(Permit #)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Change _____ <i>(Permit #)</i>
1. Name and Address of Applicant  Telephone No. (     ) _____ - _____  Signature:		6. Body of Water:  7. Specific Area Structure or Aid Installed:  8. Reason for Structure or Aid:		9. What Provisions are made for safety of persons using structure?  10. No Persons Using Structure
2. Name and Address of Applicant's Organization: <i>(If none, leave blank)</i>  Telephone: ( _____ ) - _____ - _____		11. Are You aware of any objections from area land owners, local government officials, or other persons to the placing of this floating structure/aid? If yes, please list. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		12. Have there been any changes to your original permit? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
3. Type of Structure or Aid Requested: <i>(Buoy – Number &amp; Type, Slalom Course, Float, etc.)</i>		13. If "yes" to item #12, indicate item number changed and comply with Item #14. Item(s) changed:		
4. Installation Date:		14. With original application, amended renewal or change, <b>ATTACH</b> an accurate section of chart, map, or draw a detailed sketch of the waterway upon which proposed structure or aid is to be placed. Indicate position of structure or aid, distance from shore, other floating objects in vicinity, existing docks, roads, address, and adjacent property owner, as well as any other pertinent information.		
5. Removal Date:				
6. County Structure or Aid Installed:				
<b>DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE – PA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION USE ONLY</b>				
Waterways Conservation Officer:		WCO No.	Comments or Additional Conditions:	
Date:		<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Disapproved		
Agency, Municipality, Organization, Association:		Comments or Additional Conditions:		
Date:				
Regional Manager:		Comments or Additional Conditions:		
Date:				
Type of Structure/Aid Approved:				
Effective this date, you are authorized a permit for the above structure or aid indicated in accordance with the application, any attachments hereto, and the regulations on the reverse side.  Permit is valid until _____ unless terminated by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.				
Permit Number Issued: (See § 113.10(e) reverse)		Date:	Signature	

**(Reminder – Remit \$10.00 Fee With This Application)**

# REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO PRIVATE AIDS TO NAVIGATION AND FLOATING STRUCTURES

## (Chapter 113 Pennsylvania Fishing and Boating Regulations)

### **Section 113.1. General.**

- (a) The Coast Guard administers the U.S. Aids to Navigation System (33 CFR Part 62.) The System consists of federal aids to navigation operated by the Coast Guard, aids to navigation operated by other armed services, and private aids to navigation operated by other persons. This system is adopted by the Commission for use in Pennsylvania and is administered on waters not marked by the Coast Guard.
- (b) An aid to navigation is a device external to a vessel intended to assist a boater in determining position or safe course or warn of dangers or obstruction to navigation.

### **Section 113.2. Prohibited Acts.**

- (a) Aids, other than those placed by the United States government, may not be placed on or along waters of this Commonwealth unless authorized by the Commission under Section 113.4. Permits.
- (b) A person may not moor or fasten watercraft to an authorized and lawfully placed state or federal buoys, beacon or bridge. This section does not prohibit mooring of boats to authorized mooring buoys.
- (c) It is unlawful for an unauthorized person to move, remove, tamper or injure a State or Federal aid or marker.
- (d) No person shall place an aid to navigation that is incompatible with the United States Aids to Navigation System.

### **Section 113.4 Permits.**

- (a) Persons, including clubs, individual, state agencies, municipalities and other groups, wishing to establish an aid shall apply for permission from the Commission on Form PFBC-277 at least 30 days prior to the intended date of installation. Application forms are available from and should be submitted to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Bureau of Law Enforcement, PO Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000.
- (a) The authorization of the placement of a private aid to navigation does not grant exclusive privileges nor does it eliminate the necessity to comply with other Federal or State permitting requirements.

### **Section 113.5. Responsibilities of Permittees.**

- (a) A permittee is solely responsible for placement and maintenance of private aids to navigation placed in waters of this Commonwealth under this Chapter. Private aids to navigation are the property of the permittee only and are not the property of the Commission or the Commonwealth. The permittee alone is responsible for claims related to the placement or maintenance of private aids to navigation. The permit will contain appropriate terms and conditions setting forth the responsibility of the permittee.

### **Section 113.6. Maintaining Aids to Navigation.**

- (a) Permittee shall maintain private aids to navigation throughout the period specified in the permit in accordance with permit requirements. If, during the period specified in the permit, the private aid is not in place, the permittee shall notify the Commission in writing within 5 days, stating the status of the aid.

### **Section 113.7. Transfer of Permit.**

- (a) Aids to navigation permits are not transferable. The party, or the successor in interest to the party, relinquishing responsibility for maintenance of the private aid to navigation shall advise the Commission in writing. The party accepting responsibility shall submit a new application.

### **Section 113.8 Accidents Involving Aids or Markers.**

- (a) Accidents involving aid or marker shall be reported to the Commission as soon as possible, but not more than 5 days after the accident.

### **Section 113.9 Marking of Wrecks & Sunken Vessels**

- (a) When a sunken or submerged object creates a hazard to navigation, the owner of the boat, barge, raft or other craft, or of a motor vehicle or other obstruction which is sunk in waters of this Commonwealth is required to notify the Commission within 24 hours and to mark the hazard with a buoy or daymark during the day and with a light at night as the Commission directs.
- (b) Buoys established by the Commission to mark wrecks may be lighted and placed on the channel side of the wreck and as near to the wreck as conditions will permit.
- (c) Required markings shall be established and maintained until the wreck is removed or otherwise directed by the Commission.

### **Section 113.10. Permits for Installation and Lighting of Floats, Ski Ramps and Other Floating Structures.**

- (a) A person may not place a float, ski ramp or other floating structure on or along the waters of this Commonwealth unless authorized by the Commission, or an authorized representative of the Federal Government.
- (b) Application shall be made on forms provided by the Commission at least 30 days prior to the intended date of installation of the structure.
- (c) A ski ramp, floating dock, swim dock or other floating structure shall be lighted between sunset and sunrise and at other times when restricted visibility warrants it. Each structure shall show at least one all around white flashing or oscillating light visible for a distance of at least 1 mile. "Visible" means visible on a dark night with clear atmosphere.
- (d) The permittee shall maintain the floating structure in accordance with permit requirements. The permittee shall notify the Commission in writing within 5 days if the floating structure is not in place or lighted during the period when the permit specifies that it shall be in place or lighted.
- (e) **A STRUCTURE PERMITTED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL DISPLAY THE PERMIT NUMBER IN CHARACTERS AT LEAST 3 INCHES IN HEIGHT IN A POSITION WHERE IT MAY BE OBSERVED EASILY BY AN OFFICER EMPOWERED TO ENFORCE THIS SECTION.**

### **Section 113.11. Unpermitted Buoys and Floating Structures.**

- (a) It is unlawful to place or maintain buoys and floating structures on the waters of this Commonwealth without proper permits. The owner of a buoy or structure is responsible for obtaining the necessary permits prior to placing or maintaining the buoys or structure on Commonwealth waters.
- (b) Unpermitted buoys and structures shall be removed by the owner upon order of the Commission. If they are not removed, the Commission will remove or order their removal. The owner will be held responsible for the costs of the removal, in addition to payment of fines resulting from violation of this section.