



# Dock Program Updates

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## Changes/Updates during 2023

### **Dock Program Fees Increase:**

The City Council hired Ehlers LLC to provide strategic financial planning and City Fund expense projections to guide the City Council through decisions regarding increased expenditures and debt in City Utility Funds. The Dock Program and the Dock Fund was determined to have significantly more pressure in maintaining healthy Dock Fund balances in the future due to three major factors: 1. Tree removal costs, due to the emergence of the Emerald Ash Borer and two plus years of draught, 2. Projected Multiple Slip installation and removal cost increases and 3. Stairway repair and Rip rap projects. The Dock Program has historically been funded through license fees and has not been reliant on general tax payer funds. In response to these current and future expense projections the City Council approved fee increases for Dock and Slip Licenses and the Wait List application. The increases include a \$50 increase for Dock Licenses and an increase of \$20 for each additional watercraft (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>). There is a \$75 increase for Slip Licenses and an increase of \$10.00 for Wait List Applications. The Wait List Application fee has not been increased since it began in 2003.

### **2024 Dock Program Fees:**

- \$400 – Dock License
- \$170 – Additional watercraft
- \$575 – Slip License
- \$30 – Wait List Application

### **The Canoe/Kayak Rack Program**

There are canoe/kayak racks located at Avalon Park, Carlson Park, Centerview Park, and Twin Park in the Highlands. There were many openings at Twin Park in 2023. If you or a neighbor are interested in applying for a license, please contact Dock Administration.

**Reminder: All dock configuration** changes must be approved in advance by Dock Administration.

## Discussion Items for 2024

Brighton Commons Rip Rap Cost Share request of three abutting property owners’ – Discussion at January 18, 2024 DCC Meeting.

## Docks & Commons Commission (DCC) Members

(A = Abutter NA = Non-abutter)

Jesse Jensen	(A)	2026	jesseajensen@gmail.com
James Vettel	(A)	2025	jjajvettel1@gmail.com
Heidi Peterson	(NA)	2024	heidihograves@yahoo.com
Dave Olson	(NA)	2026	dave_ols@yahoo.com
Derrick Hentz	(NA)	2025	derrick.hentz@donaldson.com

## DCC Calendar 2024

Standard meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month typically in January, March, September and November at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Centennial Building located at 5341 Maywood Road.

Agendas are emailed to Dock Program Participants prior to the meeting if one is being held.

Current agenda packets are available on the [www.cityofmound.com](http://www.cityofmound.com) website.

### Key Dates

**February 29, 2024** – Dock, slip, canoe/kayak & waitlist applications due.

**April 15, 2024** – Deadline for Mound utility bills to be paid in full to maintain license.

**June 15, 2024** – Deadline for non-abutting docks to be installed & watercraft to be moored (including at slip sites)

**October 15, 2024** – Deadline for watercraft to be removed from multiple slip sites

### Wait List

- 248 residents on list
- Must be renewed every year to maintain position – Applications on the [cityofmound.com](http://cityofmound.com) website
- New applicants added at March DCC meeting

# DOCK PROGRAM NEWS

## Frequently asked questions

### **Q. Who is responsible for maintaining the commons area at my dock site?**

A. The City has attempted to keep the dock program affordable so the City requires dock holders to maintain the commons and abutting property owners the right-of way areas. This includes but it is not limited to mowing the grass and removing weeds, both on land and in the water. City funds are mainly used on larger projects such as rip rap and tree care.

### **Q. Who does repairs and up keep of docks?**

A. Dock maintenance is the responsibility of the dock holder and docks must be kept in good working condition. City Code states “all docks should be built of sound, aesthetically pleasing materials and be constructed of a standard” which promotes “the public’s health, safety and welfare as determined by the City. Docks and other appurtenances shall not be unsightly or create a public nuisance.”

### **Q. Where can I store my dock during the winter?**

A. City Code states that you are able to store your dock on the Commons as long as the dock materials, including one boat lift for non-abutters, are stored in an orderly manner within your Dock Use Area and doesn’t impact access to the Commons. Dock materials must be removed by June 15th if not reinstalled.

### **Q. How much space am I responsible for around my dock space?**

A. Dock Use Areas are generally spaced 30 feet apart and the dock complex should be centered on the dock use area. The depth of each Commons varies at each location.

### **Q. What dimensions can my dock be?**

A. Dock width cannot be less than 24” and not wider than 48”. The length depends on water depth, with a maximum of 24 feet except where necessary to reach a water depth of 48”, in which case the maximum length is 100 feet (using Lake Minnetonka elevation levels of 929.40 feet above sea level). The layout of your dock must be approved by the City and any changes requested are made in writing. See website for ADMIN Policy 008 Dock Structures & Dimensions.

### **Q. Who is responsible for dredging low water areas?**

A. The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) is the permitting authority for dredges on Lake Minnetonka. The city must sign off on the MCWD dredging application may likely support any *privately* funded dredge especially if the MCWD has permitted a dredge of the area in the past. The city policy ADM-011 Section 4.5 states, “the City of Mound will not initiate or fund lake-bottom dredge projects in shallow bays, marshes, inlets, coves, or harbors intended to increase navigational depth and access to shoreline.”

### **Q. Can I make any changes to the Commons area?**

A. If you are contemplating making any improvements on the commons or right-of way a Public Lands Permit is required. Storage of dock materials is permitted on the commons during winter months as long as the storage is done in a manner which is orderly and doesn’t damage the Commons in any way.

### **Q. What activities are allowed in the Commons area?**

A. In order to preserve the quiet enjoyment of residents living near the commons, the city asks that participants only use the commons to access their watercraft in order to take it out on the water and not for hanging out for an extended period of time. In no instance may a person commit or engage in any activity that constitutes a public nuisance—including excess noise, inappropriate behavior, indecent exposure, etc.

### **Q. Who is in charge of enforcement on the water?**

A. The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (lmcd.org) and MN Department of Natural Resources (mndnr.gov) set the rules pertaining to boating and lake activity, with the Hennepin County Sheriff’s Water Patrol enforcing those rules. The LMCD is located in the Mound Centennial Building and publishes an informational brochure on rules and resources each year.