



## Safety and Construction Standards for New and Existing Residential Docks

*Located on Grand River Dam Authority Lakes  
GRDA Board of Directors Approved: February 14, 2024*

### PURPOSE AND PREFACE

These standards of the Grand River Dam Authority (GRDA) apply to all residential docks on lakes, rivers and tributaries under the control of the GRDA. These standards are adopted pursuant to the authority of the GRDA as provided by law and are intended to provide minimum requirements to protect public safety, access and water quality.

### DEFINITIONS

**Abandoned Dock:** A dock that (1) is adrift; or (2) owner cannot be located within a reasonable amount of time.

**Approved Flotation:** All flotation materials, which are commercially manufactured for marine use shall be fabricated so as not to become waterlogged, crack, peel, fragment or be subject to loss of beads, or in the case of snap together, sectional rotomolded polyethylene docks (i.e. included but not limited to E-Z Dock, or Connect-a-Dock). Styrofoam flotation must be fully encased of solid polyethylene or similar materials. All flotation materials must float the dock's frame above the surface of the water.

**Dilapidated Dock:** A dock that (1) has any structural members, roofing, decking, flotation or walkways that are not securely attached and could pose an immediate safety or navigation hazard, (2) is submerged, (3) is not floating upright, (4) has deck or floors that are broken, missing and/or below water level, (5) is in a state of disrepair, (6) has vegetation, or (7) is otherwise not in full compliance with these minimum standards.

**Dock:** A non-commercial floating structure on GRDA waters which is attached to the shoreline. A dock includes, but is not limited to, an enclosed floating structure, a floating platform, a wharf, and/or a boat house. A dock may or may not include watercraft slips.

**Encapsulated Flotation:** Expanded polystyrene full encased high density, high molecular weight polyethylene with a minimum thickness of .150" on the bottom and .125" on the top.

**Existing Residential Dock:** A non-commercial residential dock that is already properly permitted on or before the effective date of these standards constructed and located on the water surface of GRDA lakes and waterways.

**GRDA Lakes:** Grand Lake, Lake Hudson, WR Holway, and all rivers, creeks, or other tributaries in the Grand River system or under the statutory purview of the Grand River Dam Authority.

**Modification:** Any change, addition or alteration of a residential dock; or any change, addition or alteration in the location, configuration, or structure of a residential dock. A modification does not include routine maintenance and repairs, or repairs required by GRDA to bring a residential dock that is dilapidated or abandoned into compliance with these standards.

**Residential Dock:** A noncommercial dock accommodating 10 or less watercraft associated with a single-family residence for which no compensation is/will be received by the owner of the dock for its use. This definition also includes swim platforms.

## **STANDARDS**

- No dock shall be installed until such time as the Applicant receives a letter from GRDA approving such installation. Upon installation, it is the Applicant's responsibility to notify GRDA of the completed installation.
- There shall be a permit issued by the GRDA Ecosystems Management for each residential dock located on the waterways controlled by GRDA. A permit may be obtained only after the submission of an application and all required documentation is done by the Applicant.
- If dock and/or land are owned by a company; then, a shareholder, officer or member of the company must be a co-applicant.
- No dock shall extend more than one third (1/3) of the cove measured perpendicular from where the walkway intersects the 745' Pensacola Datum (PD) elevation to the nearest shoreline's 745' PD elevation for Grand Lake. For Lake Hudson, the measurement shall be perpendicular from where the walkway intersects the 622' mean sea level (msl) elevation to the nearest shoreline's 622' msl elevation in figuring the one third (1/3) of the cove. Additionally, no dock shall extend further than necessary to obtain appropriate water depth as determined by GRDA.
- A dock:
  - shall maintain a minimum of 5 feet between the edge of the dock and the Applicant's property line.
  - shall only be anchored to GRDA property with a sleeve near ground level anchor or saddled anchor.
  - shall not be anchored to trees on GRDA property, and
  - shall not be connected to another dock with a walkway that restricts the shoreline.
- If a dock is located parallel with the shoreline, the open end, from the edge of the dock to the property line, must be one and one half (1½) times the length of the slip. For example, a thirty (30) foot slip would require forty five (45) feet from the edge of the dock to the adjacent property line.
- All docks must be lit from sunset to sunrise and during periods of low light conditions. Lights are required to be white or amber and must be installed on the outermost corners at the furthest extension of the dock from the shoreline. Solar or electrical lights are acceptable.
- All docks shall have an electrical disconnect clearly identified and located above the high water mark. Any residential dock that has electrical service shall strictly adhere to the regulations set forth in the National Electric Code. No submersible pump shall be allowed in the water. All docks constructed or modified, relocated or transferred shall be required to provide to GRDA, a certificate signed by an Oklahoma licensed electrical contractor, evidencing compliance with all laws, regulations and codes regarding electrical systems and wiring. If transferring a dock, the Electrical Certification Form must be submitted.
- A dock will not have any permanent electrical supply installed without first obtaining written approval from GRDA. No temporary electrical supply shall be used.
- Permit holder agrees to promptly pay the annual permit fee as set forth in the Schedule of Fees in the Rules & Regulations Governing the Use of Shorelands and Waters of the Grand River Dam Authority. A colored dock permit sticker will be returned to permit holder. This sticker must be prominently displayed on dock and visible from the water.
- The GRDA Ecosystems Management reserves the right to authorize representatives to enter the property of the permit holder as necessary to make inspections and/or other activities under the permit.
- No attempt shall be made by any permit holder to forbid the use of all public access land and/or water, at/or adjacent to a permitted facility.
- The permit holder agrees not to lease, rent, sublet or provide to others, by any means of engaging in a commercial activity, the permitted facility. This will not preclude the permit holder from selling total ownership of the dock.
- The permit holder agrees to operate and maintain any permitted facility in a manner so as to provide safety, minimize an adverse impact on fish and wildlife habitat, natural environment or cultural resources values and in a manner so as to minimize the degradation of water quality.
- Ownership, construction, operation, use and maintenance of a permitted facility and/or activity are subject to all federal, state and local laws, as well as all rules and regulations now in effect; or those promulgated in the future by the Board of Directors of the Grand River Dam Authority. Failure to abide by these laws, rules or regulations may be cause for revocation of the permit.

- The permit holder agrees to save and hold harmless the Grand River Dam Authority, its officers and/or directors from any and all causes of action, suits at law or equity, claims or demands, or from any liability of any nature for, or on account of, any damages to persons or property, including a permitted facility, growing out of the ownership construction, operation or maintenance by the permit holder of the permitted facility and/or activities.
- If the permit holder fails to comply with applicable laws, rules or regulations or ceases to use, operate or maintain a permitted facility, the GRDA may revoke the permit and cause the facility to be removed by contract or otherwise and the permit holder agrees to pay all costs incurred thereof.
- Nothing in these standards shall prevent the GRDA from seeking injunctive relief or any other remedy in law or equity at any time against any person allegedly violating these standards.
- Whenever regulations or restrictions imposed by these standards are either more or less restrictive than regulations or restrictions imposed by any governmental authority or other entity that might have authority to regulate residential docks, the regulations, rules or restrictions that are more restrictive or impose higher standards shall govern.
- GRDA written statements, agreements, or approvals signed by authorized personnel shall be considered the official statement, agreement, or acknowledgement of GRDA.
- Any vessel moored at a private dock for more than 72 hours must be kept in a slip.
- GRDA has the right to request additional information, such as engineered drawings, before processing applications.

## **WAIVERS**

An Application for Private Dock Requiring Directional Bearing shall be completed if a waiver is required.

**Grand River Dam Authority**

Ecosystems Management, 918-782-1743 or 918-256-0852, P.O. Box 70, Langley, OK 74350. Email: lakepermits@grda.com

**Application for Private Dock Permit**Standards are attached or can be found online at [www.grda.com](http://www.grda.com) or by calling 918-782-1743 or 918-256-0852.**FOR GRDA USE ONLY:** Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) Classification: \_\_\_\_\_

Reservoir \_\_\_\_\_

GRDA Map &amp; Tract Number \_\_\_\_\_

X UTM Coordinate \_\_\_\_\_

Y \_\_\_\_\_

Permit Number \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(S) OF SPOUSE OR CO-OWNER: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

LAKE ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

GATE CODE: (IF APPLICABLE) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

CORPORATE APPLICANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS OF COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

LAKE ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY CONTACT PERSON (IF DIFFERENT THAN CO-APPLICANT): \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER FOR COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF CO-APPLICANT (MUST BE OWNER/OFFICER/SHAREHOLDER): \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF CO-APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS OF CO-APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS OF CO-APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION IS MADE FOR THE FOLLOWING:**Construction of a new dock. **No non-encapsulated white styrofoam may be used.**

Dock builder's name, address and phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Replacement, modification or an addition to a dock, for which permit number \_\_\_\_\_ has previously been issued by GRDA. Dock builder's name, address and phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Relocation of a dock from \_\_\_\_\_ (location) to \_\_\_\_\_ (location) for which permit number \_\_\_\_\_ has previously been issued by GRDA.

Transfer of dock permit number \_\_\_\_\_ from (NAME): \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Lake \_\_\_\_\_ Arm/Cove/Area \_\_\_\_\_

LEGAL DESCRIPTION of PROPERTY: County \_\_\_\_\_ Sec \_\_\_\_\_ T \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_\_

SUBDIVISION: Blk \_\_\_\_\_ Lot \_\_\_\_\_

1) Previous owner had a raw water permit? YES Permit #: NO 3) Is dock enclosed? YES NO

2) Previous owner had a license to encroach? YES Permit #: NO 4) Is dock wired for electric? YES NO

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

In consideration of the Grand River Dam Authority granting a Private Dock Permit to the Applicant hereby consents and agrees to the following:

Applicant agrees to abide by the Rules and Regulations Governing the Use of Shorelands and Waters of GRDA, which are incorporated and made a part of this agreement. Applicant acknowledges failure to do so is cause for the revocation of other permits issued to Applicant and that a Permit issued upon this application may be revoked at any time by GRDA.

If GRDA does, in fact, revoke said permit, Applicant shall be wholly responsible for all costs, including, but not limited to, court costs and attorney fees, incurred by the Authority for removal of the dock from GRDA's waters or property.

Applicant grants permission to GRDA, through its authorized employees, to enter upon Applicant's land and physically inspect Applicant's dock when necessary and reasonable.

Applicant agrees to promptly pay the annual fee imposed by GRDA for the privilege of placing and maintaining a dock.

Applicant agrees to PROMINENTLY DISPLAY private dock permit number on the dock.

**Applicant consents to personal jurisdiction in the county in Oklahoma where the dock is located.**

Preparer: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant agrees to update GRDA with all address changes and acknowledges that GRDA will serve all notices and invoices related to the permit to the last address on file with GRDA.

Applicant, his agent, representatives or assigns, agree that said dock shall be operated at his own risk, and GRDA is hereby released from any and all claims for injuries or damages incurred while on GRDA's premises. Applicant, his heirs/representative or assigns agree that they will indemnify and save harmless GRDA against any and all claims for damages to property, or injuries received by anyone, as a direct or indirect result from the operation of said dock upon GRDA's waters, arising either from alleged or in fact negligence of applicant, his agents, representatives, servants or guests; and Applicant further agrees to defend any and all suits filed or prosecuted against GRDA, and to pay any and all judgments, together with court costs, attorney fees and all other expenses of defending such suits.

I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT IN THE EVENT THE PERMIT IS CANCELLED, MY PERSONAL PROPERTY ON OR IN THE DOCK WILL BE REMOVED AND DISPOSED OF BY GRDA AT MY EXPENSE AT THE TIME THE DOCK IS REMOVED IF I HAVE FAILED TO REMOVE THE PERSONAL PROPERTY PRIOR TO DOCK REMOVAL. IN SUCH EVENT I HEREBY RELEASE GRDA FROM ANY LIABILITY RELATED TO REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF THE PERSONAL PROPERTY.

The undersigned hereby certifies that he: (i) has read the Regulations, (ii) agrees to be bound by the terms expressed above, and (iii) all information contained herein is true and accurate. 21 O.S. Section 463.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand River Dam Authority**

Ecosystems Management, 918-782-1743 or 918-256-0852, P.O. Box 70, Langley, OK 74350. Email: lakepermits@grda.com



## Private Dock Application Checklist

**Name of Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check all that apply:**

New construction;    Replacement;    Modification    Addition;    Transfer of Ownership;    Relocation

**Dock Permit Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

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All applications submitted must include all of the following or they will be returned to the applicant to be resubmitted with the necessary paperwork. It is the responsibility of the applicant to furnish this paperwork. No dock application can be processed without the following information:

Need    On File or N/A

Scaled drawings of dock on graph paper labeling all dimensions including, walkway, slips and outer dimensions.

Written driving directions by land and water.

Deed showing the applicant is the adjacent landowner to GRDA.

If land owned by an LLC or company, a copy of the operating agreement showing members and managers or Copy of Certificate of Incorporation and documentation showing the applicant has authority to act for the company.

Survey must be provided to verify: 1) the applicant's property line and 2) GRDA's taking line.

Survey must be an original stamped and signed, by an Oklahoma licensed land surveyor. A survey may be required to show the proposed dock in relation to the 1/3 contour. The contour shall be depicted on the survey by measuring the perpendicular distance where the walkway intersects the 745' Pensacola Datum (PD) elevation to the nearest shoreline's 745' PD elevation for Grand Lake and then dividing that distance by 1/3. For Lake Hudson, the measurement shall be perpendicular from where the walkway intersects the 622' mean sea level to the nearest shoreline's 622' MSL (Hudson) and then dividing that distance by 1/3. The property corners must also be clearly marked on the ground by the surveyor.

If a dock is wired for electricity, the Electrical Certification Form must be provided and signed by an Oklahoma Licensed Electrical Contractor before a final permit will be approved.

Dock Permit fees paid current.

Domestic Raw Water permit exists or is being requested by this applicant; If yes, please see Domestic Raw Water application.

Engineered drawings, if applicable.

**Grand River Dam Authority**

Ecosystems Management, 918-782-1473 or 918-256-0852, P.O. Box 70, Langley, OK 74350. Email: lakepermits@grda.com



## Electrical Certification Form

CURRENT OWNER: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

DOCK LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_ DOCK PERMIT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

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Any residential dock that has electrical service shall strictly adhere to the regulations set forth in the National Electrical Code for structures. At the time of application a certificate of electrical inspection from a Oklahoma licensed electrical contractor shall be attached before the permit will be issued.

YES      NO      1. Does dock electrical service meet current National Electric Codes?

YES      NO      2. Does dock have electrical service disconnect?

YES      NO      3. Is there a water pump?

YES      NO      4. Does electrical service for the pump meet current National Electric Code?

a. Company Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_

b. Contractor Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Inspection \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

c. Contractor **OKLAHOMA** License Number \_\_\_\_\_ License Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_