

Bay Park Civic & Property Owner's Association, Inc.

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BPCA Boating and Canal guide

v3.4.22

This guide is intended to list helpful advice for seasoned and new boaters including an overview on regulations that will impact your boating.

- Please refer to the BPCA boater's agreement for rules and regulations. -

About us:

BPCA is a volunteer organization and keeping your part in following the guidelines helps us keep the low cost of our slip rentals and help ensure everyone has a safe and happy boating season.

The Bay Park slips are different from most other dockage, we *do not* use floating docks, where a boat is tied to a dock and the whole dock and boat would move with the tide.

This is not the case at BPCA canal slips! we use a davit system.

We felt it was important to provide in detail how our davit system works.

As well as good practical boating advice.

As always reach out to the BPCA dockmasters and they will be happy to help.

Note: The BPCA has the right to have equipment removed if the dockmaster committee finds any to be non-compliant or dangerous.

Securing your boat to a slip:

Dock Line, Weights & Davit info

Davits are the metal poles that extend out into the canal to hold the ropes and weights.

The Davits, in combination with your line and weight, allow the boat to rise and lower with the tides.

- Typical davit line is $\frac{3}{8}$ dock line 20 to 25 feet, it varies from slip and boat size
- Pulleys are available from BPCA if they need replacement.
- At high tide lines should be taught. This prevents the boat from moving and keeps it safe in windy weather.
- At low tide it's ok if the weights are pulled out of the water while your boat lowers with the tide.
- Weights should be of the PVC filled with cement type, no heavier than 25 lbs

Davit connection:

Front / Bow : attach the left davit to the cleat on the bow of the boat

Rear / stern : attach the right davit with 2 points as there typically isn't a rear center cleat. Attaching to only one side will cause the boat to pull too close or far away from the dock.

See Photo how to create 2 points to your dock line

Caution: Do Not tie your boat to the bulkhead directly

Avoid Costly Failures

examples of issues that can cause damage to your and others boats

- 1) Boats not tied correctly; davit rope tied to side cleat.

Issue:

This causes the boat to sit closer to the dock and may catch under a ladder or part of bulkhead when tide rises.

High winds will cause the boat to swing and possibly break free

- 2) Too much slack- at high tide, your boat should not have much slack in the lines.

Issue:

-boat may swing in high winds and possibly break free

-boat will move forward and or reverse and hit neighboring boat

- 3) Drive SLOWLY

This can't be said enough leaving a slip or parking a boat requires slow speed to allow time to correct.

- 4) Inspect your boat after a storm, anything can happen, bilge pump failure etc.

Do Not tie your boat to the bulkhead directly, as your boat will not be able to move up and down with the tide,* causing either damage to the dock or your boat, and possibly sinking.

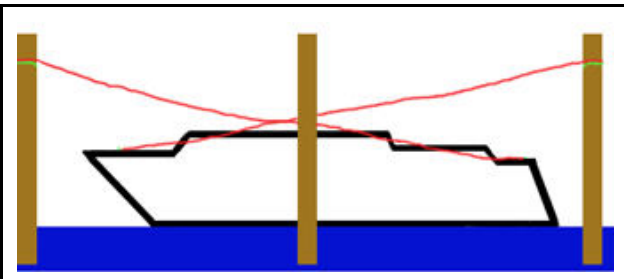
* The only exception to directly tied lines are "spring lines".



Spring Lines: are designed to prevent the boat from swaying and hitting the dock, other boats or coming loose.

When properly placed they allow for tide movement while keeping your boat stable from high winds.

Spring lines are the only lines ok to attach to the Dock, a typical setup is crisscrossing opposite connections, they need to be long allowing the lines to move at an angle during tides.



Tip: from Youtube: search for: **HOW TO TIE A BOAT UP AT THE DOCK**

Link available on BPCA website

Good overall info, this is not the same setup we have at BayPark but good advice to tie to a fixed dock. They explain spring lines at about 6:30.

Head of Canal slips: #79 to 82

These are setup differently as the boats do not use the davit system and boats dock with rear/stern facing the dock.

They Still require rope and weights, and run through a spindle at arm in water post rather than davit.

Safety, Weather Tides, etc

Recommended app: A great app to have is the Boat.US app, it's free, does not require membership to use, has real time Weather, Tide and storm info. Works on Android and iPhones.

On your cell phone find the Boat.us app on the app store
or visit www.boatus.com for more info.

Coast Guard & NY State Boating regulations.

Make certain your boat is in compliance with the required equipment.

U.S. Coast Guard Required Equipment for Recreational Vessels:

<https://www.westmarine.com/WestAdvisor/DIY-Safety-Equipment>

NY State Boater Safety Course:

New York has a **mandatory** education law for all boaters born on or after 5/1/1996 and all PWC operators of any age.

Under a new law known as Brianna's Law, all motor boat operators born on or after Jan. 1, 1993 will need a boating safety certificate beginning in 2020.

- Those born on or after Jan. 1, 1988 will need a boating safety certificate beginning in 2022.
- Those born on or after Jan. 1, 1983 will need a boating safety certificate beginning in 2023.
- Those born on or after Jan. 1, 1978 will need a boating safety certificate beginning in 2024.

All motorboat operators regardless of age will need a boating safety certificate beginning in 2025.

You can take the Safety Course online for free from boat.us:
<https://www.boatus.org/newyork/>

Season and Schedules

Registration

Each year we will email all previous boaters on the registration schedule, as well as signage at the head of the canal.

Registration is typically in March and completed in person at the Bay Park Civic Center.

Registration requirements:

- Photograph clearly showing the boat's registration number
- Copy of a valid New York State registration
- A legibly signed copy of these rules "BPCA 2022 Boat Agreement Form"
- Copy of boat insurance (liability if you damage another boat)

Spring

- Before you bring in your boat assess the slip for any issues.
- Check that the ropes and weights are in good condition.
- Check your ladder at low tide to assess that all steps are in good condition.
- Water turned on at the slips soon after last frost.

Winter

Reminder emails will go out towards the end of the season.

Water will be shut off early November.

All boats must be removed from the canal at the end of season date.

The date is on the BPCA boater's agreement, usually the second Sunday in December.

- A friendly reminder to have your boats removed and your slip area cleared by Dec 11, 2022.
- All boats must be removed from the canal before the Dec date.
- All lines & weights must be lifted out of the water and removed or neatly tied around the davits.
- Any Weights still in the water after the last boat day will be removed and forfeited, when the canal freezes, they can damage the davit systems. (damage costs will be taken from your deposit)
- remove all hoses etc. from your bulkhead / slip area.

Failure to comply will result in fines per the BPCA regulations.