



# Town of Stow Conservation Department

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## Stow Conservation Commission Dock Licensing Guidance

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection requires that all docks and other structures in Commonwealth waters (including Lake Boon) have a Chapter 91 License. In addition, all such structures also need approval from the Conservation Commission under the Wetlands Protection Act and Town of Stow Wetlands Bylaw. Many residential docks can be approved under a simplified license process. Additional information about this permit requirement can be found at:  
<https://www.stow-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif1286/f/uploads/depsmalldocksandpiers.pdf>

Accordingly:

-No new permanent or seasonal dock, pier, float or decking may be placed in or on Lake Boon without prior permit approval by the Stow Conservation Commission and DEP.

-No existing unlicensed permanent or seasonal dock, pier, float or decking may be *reconstructed, enlarged, or relocated* without prior approval of the Stow Conservation Commission and DEP.

-Conservation Commission approvals for water dependent uses (retaining walls, stairs, etc.) on lots that contain existing unlicensed docks, piers, floats or decking will include a permit condition that a Chapter 91 License be submitted to DEP prior to issuance of a Certificate of Compliance in accordance with Standard Condition #3 in the permit.

**Owners of all unlicensed docks, piers and floats are advised to seek approval for these structures.**

Adopted by vote of the Stow Conservation Commission 9/20/22, revised 5/2/23