

MANITOBA CONSERVATION

SWIM PLATFORM INFORMATION SHEET

Pursuant to PARKS BRANCH DIRECTIVE, Index No. 5.8, in order for approval to be granted for the placement and use of a swim platform, the applicant must meet the following criteria.

CRITERIA

1. They own a lot, or occupy a crown land lot, that is classified as lakefront.
2. No swimming platforms will be permitted in front of public beaches, public lanes, or other areas generally available to the public.
3. Swimming platforms may not be located in front of a lot that is adjacent to a designated public beach, or other public facility from which swimmers might, in the opinion of an officer, be attracted.
4. The floating platform must be anchored within the projected lines of the side buffers on the applicant's lot.
5. The platform must adhere to conditions specified by the Canadian Coast Guard:
 - a) No part of the platform may be located more than 50 feet (15 m) from the normal high water mark on shore;
 - b) The platform must have at least one vertical structure mounted on it that projects a minimum of 3 feet (91 cm) above the water level;
 - c) All sides of the platform and all vertical structures on it must be painted white or yellow, and reflectors must be attached to all sides;
 - d) Platforms must be placed well away from navigation channels. Lights or flags, or daily removal may be necessary where warranted by the amount of boat traffic.
6. Platforms must be securely anchored so they will not drift away from the anchored site, and must be removed before freeze-up.
7. The maximum allowed size of a swimming platform is 100 ft² (9.3 m²).
8. The applicant is required to purchase and maintain a minimum of two million dollars per occurrence in liability insurance covering the swimming platform and indemnify and hold harmless the Province of Manitoba and Manitoba Conservation from any claims that may result from issuance of this permit.

If you feel that you meet these criteria than the following will be the procedure adhered to in order for the necessary approvals and permits to be issued.

PROCEDURE

1. Complete an application for a Crown Land Permit, and a site plan describing the location and size of the swimming platform. The location and distance from the shoreline are to be shown in relation to the projected lot lines of the applicant's lot. Distances from any other relevant lake features such as nearby islands or spits of land are also to be shown.
2. Submit a sketch or drawing indicating the size of the swimming platform, details about construction of the platform and how it will be anchored.
3. Provide a Certificate of Insurance indicating that the applicant has a minimum of \$2.0 million per occurrence liability insurance covering the swimming platform. (Hint: the applicant should discuss this requirement with the insurance broker handling his or her cottage insurance.)
4. A Manitoba Conservation District NRO will conduct an on-site review and recommend or deny the application.
5. If it is recommended that the application be approved, Manitoba Conservation will forward the application to the Canadian Coast Guard, Fisheries & Oceans Canada, Central & Arctic Regional office, Sarnia, Ontario for their review.
6. If approved by the Canadian Coast Guard, a Crown Land Permit will be issued for a floating swimming platform. The permittee will then pay an annual fee as provided for in the regulations passed under *The Provincial Parks Act*. The permittee shall also provide evidence of liability insurance annually to Manitoba Conservation through an updated Certificate of Insurance.

No installation of a swimming platform may occur until approval has been granted by the Canadian Coast Guard and a Crown Land Permit has been issued.

IF YOU WISH TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR A SWIM PLATFORM PLEASE COMPLETE THE ATTACHED APPLICATION FORM.

APPLICATION FOR A SWIM PLATFORM - CROWN LAND PERMIT

Please complete this application following the same format as listed in the **PROCEDURE** section of the information sheet. Include all the requested information so that the application may be processed without undue delay.

LOTHOLDER(S) NAME(S): _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____ TELEPHONE NO: (RES.) _____ (BUS.) _____

LOT: _____ BLOCK: _____ PLAN: _____ SUBDIVISION / LAKE: _____

NEW APPLICATION _____ EXISTING SWIM PLATFORM _____

1. Describe the location and size of the swim platform. Include the details outlined in Section #1 of PROCEDURE. Attach additional paper if required.

2. Sketch of the swim platform. Include details of its construction, how it will be anchored and what will provide the flotation (i.e. drums, expanded foam etc.). (Attach additional paper if required.)

3. Include the Certificate of Insurance as described in PROCEDURE #3.

4. Contact the District Conservation Office so that an on site review may be arranged. Please allow at least one week for this stage.