



# DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## WATER PATROL UNIT

### **TEMPORARY STRUCTURE GUIDE**

If you intend on placing any structure in the public waters within Douglas County for a period of time greater than one day (sunrise to sunset), you are required, by [Minnesota Statute 86B.111 Sub. 1](#), and, [DNR Boat and Water Safety Rules, Chapter 6110.1800 Subpart 1](#), to first obtain a permit from the Sheriff.

In order to expedite the issuance of your temporary water structure permit, familiarize yourself with the following procedures and applicable regulations to the structure you are intending on placing in the public waters. Accurately and completely fill out the application form and include a diagram of the location of your temporary structure including the shoreline, your residence, neighboring residence(s), property line(s), and applicable measurements/distances. Forms and additional information is available at: [www.co.douglas.mn.us/Sheriff\\_Staff\\_Services\\_Special-Teams.htm#Water\\_Patrol](http://www.co.douglas.mn.us/Sheriff_Staff_Services_Special-Teams.htm#Water_Patrol)

After completing the application form and map, return it, and any other required information, to the Sheriff's Office via in-person, mail, fax, or e-mail. Upon review, you will be notified by mail or e-mail of your permit denial or approval and your assigned permit number. You must then place this number on your structure prior to the structure being placed in the water.

Water Patrol Deputies will monitor and inspect your structure to ensure compliance with these and other safety rules and regulations. If your structure fails to pass inspection, you will be notified in-person or by registered mail. The issue(s) must be corrected within seven days of notification, after which another inspection will be conducted. If your structure again fails to pass inspection, your structure will be removed from the public waters.

When determining placement of your temporary water structure, please take into consideration the following conditions/regulations:

- The structure anchoring system will not be located in an area that would be a hazard to the safe navigation of the boating public
- The structure and anchoring system will not be placed in a location that would interfere with your neighbor(s) access to public waters
- Your structure and anchoring system will not be found to be detrimental to fish or wildlife habitat or located in a fish spawning area
- Your structure must also have sufficient reflective material and be placed in a location that does not obstruct the materials' reflective light from all directions
- If your structure is a mooring buoy, floating raft (including swim/dive rafts and water trampolines) or swim areas; the structure MUST NOT be placed greater than 100 feet from the shoreline

**PLEASE NOTE:** Douglas County Sheriff's Office does not authorize the placement or use of permanent water ski / wake board / jet ski courses on any waterways within Douglas County. Substantiated complaints regarding temporary water structures may open a review of your permit. This review process may result in amendments or special requirements to maintain your temporary structure permit. The Sheriff, by authority of Rule 6110.1800 Subpart 2, maintains the right to deny or cancel any permit for potential conflicts with location, safety, or navigational hazard.

*Minnesota Administrative Rule 6110.1800, Subpart 2: "The sheriff of any county may issue a permit for the placement of any such structure or buoy whenever, in the sheriff's opinion, the structure or buoy will not constitute an undue hazard to or illegal obstruction of navigation."*

To appeal any special requirements, amendment, denial or cancellation, you must request a meeting with the Sheriff, Water Patrol Supervisor and any other person(s) deemed necessary, by calling 320-762-8151.

Email: [waterpatrol@mail.co.douglas.mn.us](mailto:waterpatrol@mail.co.douglas.mn.us)

[www.co.douglas.mn.us/sheriff](http://www.co.douglas.mn.us/sheriff)

# DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE WATER PATROL

## **TEMPORARY STRUCTURE PERMIT REGULATIONS**

*FOR*

### **SWIM / DIVE RAFT / WATER TRAMPOLINE APPLICANTS**

Once you receive your permit authorizing the placement of your swim raft / dive raft / water trampoline / or other floating water recreation structure; the permit will be valid for **three** calendar years. During that three-year period, you are required to renew the permit if one or more of the following occurs:

- When your address or location of the temporary structure changes; or
- When your permission from the property / landowner is revoked
- When your structure is found to be non-compliant with the policies and/or regulations set forth

You will be notified by mail or email on/near your three-year renewal date that your permit is expiring. A new permit application and diagram will need to be filed.

The Sheriff's Office Water Patrol takes great care to ensure the safe navigation of all persons using the public waters of Douglas County, to accomplish this, Deputies will inspect and monitor your temporary structure to ensure that it is in compliance with the following regulations and guidelines:

- The permit number is displayed in 2" numerals on one side of the raft
- The structure must have enough reflectorized material so as to indicate its size and shape from all angles
- The structure MUST be within 100 feet from shore
- The temporary structure cannot be a navigational hazard to the general boating public
- The structure is not deemed a hazard to persons using the structure
- The structure is placed and remains in the location described in the permit application
- The structure must be removed by November 1<sup>st</sup>, so as not to create a hazard for developing ice and winter conditions

Please understand that ANY structure placed in the public waters within Douglas County remain your responsibility to maintain. This however, does not prevent someone from using your structure. By issuing you a *temporary structure permit*, Douglas County, by Rule of Law, is not liable for any injuries or property damage by persons using, crashing into, or damage caused by, your temporary water structure.

# DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE WATER PATROL

## **TEMPORARY STRUCTURE PERMIT REGULATIONS** FOR

### **PRIVATE SWIMMING AREAS**

Once you receive your permit authorizing the placement of your swimming area buoys; the permit will be valid for **three** calendar years. During that three-year period, you are required to renew the permit if one or more of the following occurs:

- When your address or location of the temporary structure changes; or
- When your permission from the property / landowner is revoked
- When your structure is found to be non-compliant with the policies and/or regulations set forth

You will be notified by mail or email on/near your three-year renewal date that your permit is expiring. A new permit application and diagram will need to be filed.

The Sheriff's Office Water Patrol takes great care to ensure the safe navigation of all persons using the public waters of Douglas County, to accomplish this, Deputies will inspect and monitor your swim area to ensure that it is in compliance with the following regulations and guidelines, [Rule 6110.1600](#):

- The permit holder may mark off up to 2,500 square feet for the swim area
- The swim area MUST be no more than 50 feet along the lake frontage
- The swim area must be marked with buoys that are white in color with orange in color diamonds with crosses on each side
- The buoys must also extend 6 inches out of the water and not taller than 14 inches. The buoys should also be spaced no more than 15 feet apart
- The swim area cannot be a navigational danger to the general boating public
- The structure must be removed by November 1<sup>st</sup>, so as not to create a hazard for developing ice and winter conditions

\* \* A white colored bleach bottle with the proper marking shown below, on each side, fulfills the above requirements \* \*

Please understand that ANY structure placed in the public waters within Douglas County remain your responsibility to maintain. This however, does not prevent someone from using your structure. By issuing you a *temporary structure permit*, Douglas County, by Rule of Law, is not liable for any injuries or property damage by persons using, crashing into, or damage caused by, your temporary water structure.

**SWIM AREA**

**SYMBOL**



# DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE WATER PATROL

## **TEMPORARY STRUCTURE PERMIT REGULATIONS** *FOR*

### **MOORING BUOY APPLICANTS**

Once you receive your permit authorizing the placement of your mooring buoy; the permit will be valid for **three** calendar years. During that three-year period, you are required to renew the permit if one or more of the following occurs:

- When your address or location of the temporary structure changes; or
- When your permission from the property / landowner is revoked
- When your structure is found to be non-compliant with the policies and/or regulations set forth

You will be notified by mail or email on/near your three-year renewal date that your permit is expiring. A new permit application and diagram will need to be filed.

The Sheriff's Office Water Patrol takes great care to ensure the safe navigation of all persons using the public waters of Douglas County, to accomplish this, Deputies will inspect and monitor your temporary structures to ensure that it is in compliance with the following regulations and guidelines, [Rule 6110.1500, Subp. 4](#):

- The permit number is displayed in 2" numerals on the upper half of the buoy
- The buoy must be white in color encircled with a 3" wide blue colored band
- The buoy must extend at least 8" above the water and be no greater than 24" in length/diameter
- The buoy **MUST** be within 100 feet from shore including the swing of the moored boat
- The buoy cannot be a navigational hazard to the general boating public
- The water depth at the location of the mooring site should not exceed one and one-half feet more than the draft of your watercraft
- Any object used to anchor your mooring buoy **MUST** be clean and non-polluting. All anchoring must be retrievable from the public water.
- The structure must be removed by November 15<sup>th</sup>, so as not to create a hazard for developing ice and winter conditions

Please understand that ANY structure placed in the public waters within Douglas County remain your responsibility to maintain. This however, does not prevent someone from using your structure. By issuing you a *temporary structure permit*, Douglas County, by Rule of Law, is not liable for any injuries or property damage by persons using, crashing into, or damage caused by, your temporary water structure.

# **DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE WATER PATROL**

## **TEMPORARY STRUCTURE PERMIT REGULATIONS**

*FOR*

## **ICE / HOCKEY RINKS WITH SIDE BOARDS APPLICANTS**

Once you receive your permit authorizing the placement of your boarded rink; the permit will be valid for the winter season the permit was issued. During that period, you are required to renew the permit if one or more of the following occurs:

- When your address or location of the temporary structure changes; or
- When your permission from the property / landowner is revoked
- When your structure is found to be non-compliant with the policies and/or regulations set forth

The Sheriff's Office Water Patrol takes great care to ensure the safe navigation of all persons using the public waters of Douglas County, to accomplish this, Deputies will inspect and monitor your temporary structure to ensure that it is in compliance with the following regulations and guidelines:

- The permit number is displayed in 2" numerals on the outside of one of the end boards
- The boarded rink must have enough reflectorized material so as to indicate its size and shape from all angles—the reflectorized material must be spaced no less than eight feet apart
- The rink MUST be within 100 feet from shore
- The rink cannot be a hazard to the general public
- The structure must be removed by March 15<sup>th</sup>, so as not to create a hazard for developing thin ice and spring weather conditions

Please understand that ANY structure placed on the public waters within Douglas County remain your responsibility to maintain. This however, does not prevent someone from using your structure. By issuing you a *temporary structure permit*, Douglas County, by Rule of Law, is not liable for any injuries or property damage by persons using, crashing into, or damage caused by, your temporary water structure.

# DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE WATER PATROL

## TEMPORARY STRUCTURE PERMIT REGULATIONS

FOR

### WATER SKI / WAKE BOARD / JET SKI COURSE APPLICANTS

The Douglas County Sheriff's Office will not authorize the placement and use of permanent water ski / wake board / jet ski courses. No water ski / wakeboard / jet ski course will be allowed to be placed in the lakes or waterways of Douglas County for a period greater than one day (sunrise to sunset) without first obtaining a temporary structure permit. (Pursuant to Chapter 6110.1800, Subpart 1) The permitting process shall include the submission and review of a completed permit application, course location diagram, and an on-site review by the Water Patrol Supervisor.

Once you receive your permit authorizing the placement of your water ski / wake board / jet ski course; the permit will be valid for **one** boating season. (A boating season generally starts at ice out and ends at ice formation) During that one season period, you are required to renew the permit if one or more of the following occurs:

- When your address or location of the temporary structure changes
- When your structure is found to be non-compliant with the policies and/or regulations set forth

The Sheriff's Office Water Patrol takes great care to ensure the safe navigation of all persons using the public waters of Douglas County, to accomplish this, Deputies will inspect and monitor your temporary structure to ensure that it is, and remains in compliance with the following regulations and guidelines:

- Water ski / wake board / jet ski courses are allowed to be placed in public waters when the owner is actively using the course. Active use is defined as having skied the course within a two hour period of time
- The structure cannot be a navigational hazard to the general boating public
- The permit number is displayed in 2" numerals on one of each of the end buoys
- Any one part of the structure MUST NOT be within 150 feet from shore, another water structure, public landing, waterway channel area, restricted fishing area/zone, restricted boating area/zone, emergent vegetation, etc.
- Any one part of the structure MUST NOT be more than 200 feet from shore
- The overall course length may not exceed 900 feet in length
- The course surface markers/floats must be in a color that is highly visible and clearly indicates the course size and shape from all angles
- **TEMPORARY SUBMERSIBLE COURSES**
  - o If the course is **submersible**, the structure/framework of the course MUST be completely submerged to the floor of the lake, daily, when the course is not being actively used
  - o A marker buoy will be allowed on one end of the course structure/framework. This buoy must meet 'Mooring Buoy' requirements
  - o The submersible course structure/framework must be completely submerged by one hour past sunset. No part of the structure/framework will be allowed to be suspended at any water depth
- **TEMPORARY NON-SUBMERSIBLE COURSES**
  - o If the course is **non-submersible**, the course is allowed to be placed on public waters for a period of time beginning at sunrise of day number one and ending one hour past sunset on day number two
  - o The non-submersible course is allowed to only remain in public waters overnight between day numbers one and two
- The entire structure/framework of all ski courses must be completely removed from the public waters by November 1<sup>st</sup>, so as not to create a hazard for developing winter ice conditions

Please understand that ANY structure placed in the public waters within Douglas County remain your responsibility to maintain. This however, does not prevent someone from using your structure or the public waters surrounding your structure. By issuing you a *temporary structure permit*, Douglas County, by Rule of Law, is not liable for any injuries or property damage by persons using, crashing into, or damage caused by, your temporary water structure.



# DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE WATER PATROL UNIT

**PERMIT NO.**  
\_\_\_\_\_

## TEMPORARY STRUCTURE PERMIT

The following information is necessary to ensure an accurate and complete review and issuance of your permit. Please fill out completely – including the diagram on the next page – and return it to the Sheriff's Office.

**Please TYPE or PRINT**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B.: \_\_\_\_\_  
                    First                    Middle                    Last

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
                    Street Address                    City                    State                    Zip

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
                    Home                    Work                    Cell

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

LAKESHORE OWNER (if not applicant): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
                    Street Address                    City                    State                    Zip

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
                    Home                    Work                    Cell

**SELECT ONE.** A separate application must be filed for each type of structure you are requesting.

Floating Raft	Swim Buoys	Slalom Course	Ice Rink	Mooring Buoy*
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\*Boat Registration No: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Length: \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCATION OF STRUCTURE** (lake, bay): \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby agree to comply with all Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Special Requirements as applicable to my temporary structure. I agree that the information contained on my *temporary structure permit application* is true and correct.

Applicants signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \* \* \*

Deputy Issuing Permit: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Requirements:** \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \* \* \*

- For Office Use Only -

Date	Badge	Structure inspected and approved	Date	Badge	Renewed Permit
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	Initial Permit Approved	_____	_____	Renewed Permit
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	Renewed Permit	_____	_____	Renewed Permit

## **TEMPORARY STRUCTURE PERMIT**

The following information is necessary to ensure proper and accurate issuance of your permit. Please complete a diagram/sketch of your structure, dock(s), residence, shoreline, property line(s), and adjacent neighboring residence(s), and any temporary water structures and docks on immediately adjacent neighboring properties. Please include applicable measurements/distances.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B.: \_\_\_\_\_  
          First                      Middle                      Last

**LOCATION OF STRUCTURE** (lake, bay): \_\_\_\_\_

**NORTH**