

# City of Madison Watercraft Storage Program

---

## Purpose

The City of Madison Parks Division offers watercraft storage spaces at eleven different waterfront parks. Personal storage of watercraft is regulated by Madison General Ordinance 8.185. Ordinance 8.185 only permits storage of watercraft under permission from Parks Staff and under a permitting system authorized by the Board of Park Commissioners. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the permitting system.

## Definitions

“*Parks Staff*” refers to those individuals currently in paid employment within the City of Madison Parks Division.

“*Park Ranger*” is used to describe staff members occupying positions the following positions in the City’s classification system: “Recreation Service Assistant” or “Conservation Ranger.” Park Rangers are designated under MGO 1.08 to have enforcement authority within the parks system.

“*Watercraft*” shall for the purpose of this policy be defined as a non-motorized vessel designed for transportation on water which does not exceed 80lbs, 18ft in length, 42 inches in width, or 24 inches in height.

## Responsibilities

The Watercraft storage program will be administered by the Parks Weekend Supervisor. Permits will be issued by the Parks Administrative Office. Parks Administrative staff will be responsible for all mailing of renewals, database entry, processing of users agreements and payments. The assigned Administrative clerk will be sending out an updated watercraft storage database on a monthly basis or on a daily basis when the data has changed.

Park Rangers will be responsible for on-site monitoring and general maintenance of the racks. In the event that a watercraft has a valid permit but is in violation of the established rules, a Park Ranger will attempt to contact the owner of watercraft to give a 48 hour notice verbally of the need to comply with the rules. Park Ranger will photograph the violation and affix a written 48 hour removal notice to the watercraft. This notice requirement is not required in the event that any watercraft is placed in a storage space that is assigned to another permit holder.

When a watercraft does not have a visible permit or meet the physical description of a watercraft on the inventory sheet the watercraft is in violation of Madison General Ordinance 8.185 and the Park Ranger will photograph the violation, cut the lock and remove the watercraft immediately for storage at a designated city facility. After 60 days the watercraft will become city property and may be referred to purchasing for public sale.

## Permit period

The annual watercraft storage permit is valid from April 15<sup>th</sup> through the following April 14<sup>th</sup>. If a permit is not renewed, then the premises shall be vacated by the last day of the annual permit year. Current permit holders will have priority for renewal. Any permit not renewed by April 1<sup>st</sup> will be administered as a new permit application and will not be given location preference for the subsequent permit period.

## Sites

Storage will only be permitted on racks designated by Parks Staff. Racks will be located or relocated according to amount of use annually during an assessment by Parks Staff. Currently City administered storage racks are located at:

- BB Clarke Park- 835 Spaight St
- Brittingham Park- 829 West Washington
- Cherokee Park- 1000 Burning Wood Way
- Esther Park- 2802 Waunona Way
- James Madison Park- 614 E Gorham
- Marshall Park- 2101 Allen Blvd
- Merrill Springs Park- 5102 Spring Ct
- Olbrich Park- 3527 Atwood
- Paunack Park- 6399 Bridge Rd
- Spring Harbor Park- 5218 Lake Mendota Dr
- Tenney Park- 1414 E Johnson St

## Rules

1. Watercraft must not exceed 80 pounds, 18ft in length, 42 inches in width or 24 inches in height.
2. Items stored in the storage area are limited to watercraft only. No unauthorized personal property is to be stored on the premises.
3. Premises are to be left in original condition upon termination of permit period.
4. Permit must be visible at all times.
5. Watercraft must be fully contained within the designated space.
6. Only one watercraft is allowed in each space.
7. Parks Staff reserves the right to cut any lock and remove any watercraft under any condition it deems necessary for the function of the watercraft storage program.
8. Watercraft must be secured to the storage rack. Owner accepts all liability for theft or damage to their property.

## Fee

Fees for use of watercraft storage rack will be set by the Board of Parks Commissioners. The fee amount will be set at a reasonable amount which offsets the cost of maintenance and operations for the watercraft storage program. Additional fees for removal costs may be assessed if a violation of the aforementioned rules results in removal of the watercraft by Parks Staff.