

RECREATIONAL BOATING FACILITIES

Authorization: s. 30.92, Wis. Stats.

Budget: 2009-2010 Fiscal Year = \$2,900,000
2010-2011 Fiscal Year = \$2,500,000

Objective: Provide funds to local units of government and qualified lake associations for the construction of capital improvements to provide safe recreational boating facilities. Program also provides financial assistance for: feasibility studies related to the development of safe recreational boating facilities, purchase of aquatic weed harvesting equipment, purchase of navigation aids, dredging of channels of waterways, and chemical treatment of Eurasian water milfoil.

Eligibility: Counties, cities, villages, towns, sanitary districts, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts, and qualified lake associations.

Level of Assistance: Cost sharing of up to 50% is provided for feasibility studies, construction costs, and certain types of acquisition costs. An additional 10% may be available if a municipality conducts a boating safety enforcement and education program approved by the DNR. Projects of statewide or regional significance may be eligible for an additional 30% cost-sharing assistance.

Priorities: The following factors are considered in establishing priorities for projects: distance of proposed project from other recreational boating facilities, demand for safe boating facilities, existing facilities, projects underway, commitment of funds, and location of proposed project within the regional identified in s. 25.29(7), Wis. Stats. A five-member Waterways Commission, appointed by the Governor, reviews projects and recommends projects for funding.

Eligible Types of Projects:

- Facilities (such as ramps and service docks) required to gain access to the water.
- Structures (such as bulkheads and breakwaters) necessary to provide safe water conditions for boaters.
- Activities (such as dredging) to provide safe water depths for recreational boating. Dredging is an eligible project only when it is associated with project development at the project site. Maintenance dredging is not eligible.
- Support facilities limited to parking lots, sanitary facilities, and security lighting.
- Acquisition of equipment to cut and remove aquatic plants (inland waters).
- Dredging of channels in waterways for recreational boating purposes not more than once in 10 years (inland waters).
- Acquisition of aids to navigation and regulatory markers.

Applications: Application forms for recreational boating facilities are available through the regional offices.

History: Since its reauthorization in 1985, the recreational boating facilities program has provided over \$28 million to inland and Great Lakes sponsors for the construction or feasibility analysis of accesses or harbors of refuge.

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Appropriate [DNR regional Community Service Specialist](#)

Website: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/Grants/recboat.html>