



CITY OF  
**MARATHON**, FLORIDA  
Planning Department

9805 Overseas Hwy, Marathon, FL 33050  
Phone (305) 743-0033 www.ci.marathon.fl.us

*Requirements to Obtain a Dock, Boat Lift, Mooring Piles or  
Swim/Observation Platform Permit*

1. **Completed Building Permit Application.** Please make sure that you clearly indicate the type of construction, and real estate number of property, and the name and license number of the contractor (if applicable).
2. **Letter of Approval from the owner of the property** if the lessee desires to perform the work.
3. A **Recent Survey** of the property.
4. Three (3) copies of a **Site Plan** showing the water body, dimensions of the lot and canal (if applicable), all existing structures on the property, and the location of the proposed dock, boat lift, or mooring piles.
5. Three (3) copies of **Sealed Engineered Drawings**.
6. **Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Approval or Exemption Letter.**
7. **Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) Permit.**

**All docks, boat lifts, and mooring piles must comply with the following:**

1. The terminal end must have at least four (4) foot water depth at Mean Low Water (MLW).
2. If construction is proposed on a canal:
  - a. The dock together with a moored vessel can not exceed more than 25% of the width of the navigable canal.
3. If the construction is proposed on property with a mangrove fringe:
  - a. The dock must be designed using a "T" or "L" dock
  - b. The walkway connecting the dock to the shore shall not exceed four (4) feet.
4. For pier type dock along open water:
  - a. Such structures are oriented approximately perpendicular to the shoreline.
  - b. No structure shall be longer than the linear shoreline frontage of the parcel subject to a maximum of one hundred (100) feet.
  - c. Cannot terminate over sea grasses or hard bottom communities.
  - d. A benthic survey is required

**All Swim/Observation Platforms must comply with the following:**

1. All structures shall be approximately perpendicular to the shoreline.
2. Such structures shall not be used for docking purposes and will be designed to deter or restrict the structure for boating use.
3. Structures must terminate in water no deeper than six (6) inches at MLW or begin the terminal platform no further than ten (10) feet beyond water ward extent of mangroves.
4. Where a terminal platform is proposed, the platform cannot exceed 160 square feet.
5. Cannot terminate over sea grasses or hard bottom communities.
6. A benthic survey is required.

For further questions, please contact the City Biologist at 305-289-4121

***Permit Checklist***  
***Dock, Boat Lift, Mooring Piles or Swim/Observation Platform***

\_\_\_\_\_ **Completed Building Permit Application**

- Type of construction
- Estimated cost
- Name of the contractor (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Letter of Approval from the owner of the property** (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Survey** (no older than 6 months)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Site plan** (highlight the location of the proposed construction)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Sealed Engineered Drawings**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Approval or Exemption Letter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) Permit**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Benthic Survey** (if along open water)