

Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game  
Office of Fishing and Boating Access  
1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, Ma 01581  
Phone: 508-389-7814

## INFORMATION

### NEW FOR WINTER APPLICATIONS

Our mailing address has changed. Applications by mail need to be sent to the above address.

### FACILITY PARKING LIMITATIONS

Please review the OFBA Facility Parking section on our website.

### SENDING IN YOUR CREEL SHEETS IS EASIER THAN EVER!

Creel sheets can now be filled out and submitted electronically online at <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/bass-creel-survey>

For more information contact Jason Stolarski 508-389-6334 or email [jason.stolarski@mass.gov](mailto:jason.stolarski@mass.gov)

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## SPECIAL USE PERMIT CONDITIONS WINTER EVENTS

1. O.F.B.A. will obtain approval of the managing authority prior to issuance of the permit. Applications must be submitted to the F.B.A. at least 30 days prior to the event.
2. All parking is on a first-come basis. This permit does not guarantee the availability of parking for this event. Each car above the maximum allowed under the permit shall be considered a separate violation of law. Issuance of a Special Use Permit is for the parking of a specified number of vehicles at the facility only and shall not be considered an authorization for the event. Weigh-ins, ceremonies, and organized activities shall not take place at the public access facility. Additional parking for winter events greater than the number of parking spaces authorized shall be the sole responsibility of the Applicant. All vehicles in the event parked at the facility must have a Permit Pass displayed in the windshield. The event organizer shall also display the Special Use Permit in the windshield.
3. Issuance of this permit does not certify that at the time of the tournament that the ice conditions and thickness are safe to conduct such tournament. It is the responsibility of the event coordinator to determine if ice conditions meet safety requirements to hold the fishing tournament.
4. Any user fees in effect at the facility under consideration for special use shall be paid by the Applicant if required by the Managing Authority.
5. Maximum of two weekend permits per year will be issued to any club for the use of any one facility. Two day events Saturday/Sunday shall be considered two permits.
6. Only official applications for the year in which the special use occurs will be accepted. Applications will be accepted and processed in October for the following year.
7. All participants in the event must be notified in an appropriate manner so that the Commonwealth shall not be held liable for personal injuries or damages to property and a copy of said notification is to be provided to the Office of Fishing and Boating Access.
8. The Applicant shall leave an adequate number of parking spaces (as determined by the Office of Fishing and Boating Access) available to the general public.
9. Upon completion of said event the facility must be left in a clean and litter-free state. Any and all damage to said facility or grounds shall be repaired to the satisfaction of the Office of Fishing and Boating Access.
10. The Applicant shall keep a written record of all participants in the event. Said record shall be produced when asked for by any employee of the Commonwealth having police powers, a representative of the Managing Authority, or Office of Fishing and Boating Access.
11. **The applicant may be required to hire an Environmental Police Officer (E.P.O.) for the duration of this event. If an E.P.O. is required under this permit it is the responsibility of the applicant to make those arrangements at least fourteen (14) days but not sooner than thirty (30) days prior to the event. Please contact the Environmental Police communications center at (800) 632- 8075 to make said arrangement.**
12. **If an event is reduced in size as to no longer require an E.P.O., the Applicant must notify the F.B.A. and the Environmental Police at least fourteen (14) days prior to the event.**
13. **The Applicant or an appointed representative shall display the permit in his/her vehicle windshield in a visible manner.**
14. **Any violation of these conditions or city and town regulations may result in denial of future permits** *Cities and towns may have promulgated additional rules and regulations regarding activities on the body of water in their community. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to contact the Managing Authority to obtain copies of such rules and regulations prior to the event.*

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## **SPECIAL PERMIT CONDITIONS FOR ATV AND SNOWMOBILE USE AT FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS FACILITIES**

FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS (“FBA”) REGULATIONS AT 320 CMR 2.04(3) PROHIBIT THE OPERATION OF ALL TERRAIN VEHICLES (“ATVS”) AND SNOWMOBILES AT ALL FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS FACILITIES STATEWIDE, EXCEPT AS REQUIRED FOR THE INTENDED USE OF THE FACILITIES. UNDER 320 CMR 2.03(1) THE OFBA MAY ISSUE PERMITS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS THAT ALLOW ACTIVITIES THAT WOULD BE OTHERWISE PROHIBITED AT FBA FACILITIES UNDER 320 CMR 2.04, SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE FBA.

Pursuant to the above referenced regulations, FBA hereby authorizes the use of ATVs and snowmobiles, at the facility in connection with your organized event, subject to your strict compliance with the all of the following conditions:

- 1. You are allowed the use of one (1) ATV or Snowmobile for the purpose of coordination of activities at the event. It may be used only for the aforementioned purpose. The use of more than one (1) ATV or Snowmobile in or from the facility will require an Environmental Police Officer as per item #2 below.**
- 2. You are required to hire an Environmental Police Officer (“EPO”), except as noted in item #1, to supervise for the duration of the event, including monitoring the use of the ATVs and snowmobiles in accordance with this permit. You shall provide the EPO a copy of this permit for the above purpose.**
- 3. The ATVs and snowmobiles shall be used solely in conjunction with the organized event. Except as provided in condition 4, the use of ATVs and snowmobiles anywhere other than on the ice is strictly prohibited.**
- 4. The FBA facility shall be used solely for loading and unloading of the ATVs and snowmobiles as a means of access to the ice. The operation or parking of ATVs and snowmobiles on the property around the facility is strictly prohibited.**

As provided in 320 CMR 2.05, violation of any of the above conditions may result in the FBA’s revocation of your permit, the assessment of a fine, a prohibition on the future application for or issuance of a permit, and/or the towing or removal at the owner’s cost of any vehicle parked in violation of the regulations and applicable management measures.