


CITY OF CHARLESTON  
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

BOATER USE OF LEVEE AND  
DESIGNATED CITY ELECTRICAL HOOK-UPS  
AT HADDAD RIVERFRONT PARK

2026 RULES AND REGULATIONS

**§ 1. General.**

- 1.1 Scope. – These rules and regulations set forth the manner and conditions for mooring and use of the docks by boaters; the permitting and licensing of boaters to safely utilize designated electric power sources while docking at Haddad Riverfront Park; and are intended, where applicable, to satisfy the need for written authorizations as provided by City Code.
- 1.2 Authority. – City Code §§ 82-161, et. seq.; 78-9; 82-122; 78-211
- 1.3 Updated May 13, 2026, effective immediately.
- 1.4 Attestation:   
Benjamin Mishoe, City Manager

**§ 2. Definitions.**

- 2.1 “2026 Event Season” means all special events happening at Haddad Riverfront Park during calendar year 2026, including but not necessarily limited to the following:
- USA Cycling Pro Road Nationals - beginning Monday, June 15 at 6:00 a.m., and ending on Monday, June 22 at noon. **Overnight mooring prior to or after these dates and times is prohibited. Overnight mooring is limited and will be permitted on a first come basis. These dates and times will be strictly enforced.**
  - All Live on the Levee Events:
    - May 22, 29
    - June 5, 12, 19, 26
    - July 10, 17, 24, 31
  - MultiFest – Beginning Thursday, August 6
  - Labor Day Weekend – Beginning Friday, September 4

- Charleston Sternwheel Regatta – beginning with Live on the Levee Event on Friday, June 26, and ending on Monday, July 6 at noon. **Overnight mooring prior to or after these dates and times is prohibited. Overnight mooring is limited and will be permitted on a first come basis. These dates and times will be strictly enforced.**
  - All boats moored overnight **must be attended at all times after Park Hours**. Any boat left unattended overnight will be subject to towing at the owner’s expense. See item 3.4 below.
  - On Sunday, July 5, no boats are permitted to be moored at the floating dock from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. due to the sternwheel boat races during The Charleston Sternwheel Regatta. Any boat that is still at the floating dock after 12:00 p.m. will be asked to move immediately or will be towed at the owner’s expense.

Other events may be added at the discretion of the City Manager.

- 2.2 “Single Event” means only one of the events identified as part of the 2026 Event Season or another discrete event of limited duration designated by the City Manager as such.
- 2.3 “Pre-Event” means any time after Park Hours on the date immediately preceding an event listed as part of the 2026 Event Season. Pre-Event mooring shall be permitted only at the Concrete Landing. As a general rule, electric hook-up will not be available for Pre-Event moorings.
- 2.4 “Concrete Landing” means that mooring area immediately east and upstream of the Schoenbaum Stage.
- 2.5 “Floating Dock” means that mooring area immediately west and downstream of the Schoenbaum Stage.
- 2.6 “Levee” means the area of Haddad River Front Park bordering the Kanawha River which collectively includes the Concrete Landing, the Schoenbaum Stage, the Floating Dock, and the appurtenances thereto.
- 2.7 “Park Hours” means the hours between 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and the hours between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. from Labor Day to Memorial Day.

**§ 3. General Conditions; Hours; Use of Levee**

- 3.1 Unless otherwise posted, mooring at the Levee shall be on a first come first served basis.
- 3.2 No license or other permission shall be necessary to moor at the Levee during Park Hours.

- 3.3 Permission to moor after Park Hours shall be by license according to class.
- 3.4 Vehicular access within the Park is restricted; Mooring licenses do not confer authorization for vehicular access down to the Levee through or within the Park.
- 3.5 Mooring on the north, shore side, of the Floating Dock is limited to ten (10) minutes for active loading and unloading only.
- 3.6 Open Container waivers for alcoholic beverages issued by the Chief of Police pursuant to City Code Sec. 78-211 for any event identified as part of the 2026 Event Season shall be in effect Pre-Event and post-event for persons associated with watercraft licensed and hooked-up to electricity
- 3.7 through the end of the weekend as provided herein; Provided, that the open containers shall be confined to the Concrete Landing or the Floating Dock and shall not be carried beyond those areas into any other part of the Park; and Provided that the containers are not made of glass or any other breakable material; and Provided further, that the authorization for open containers may be revoked and voided at any time by the Charleston Police Shift Commander or pursuant to the provisions of section 4.8 of these Rules and Regulations.
- 3.8 Licensees shall police the Levee of trash and debris during pre and post event periods; shall dispose of trash and debris in containers provided by the City or shall carry the same away on their watercraft; and shall not leave bags of trash on Levee, (i.e., the Concrete Landing or the Floating Dock) or elsewhere in the Park outside of a receptacle provided by the City.
- 3.9 Electricity will ordinarily be made available to licensees at noon on the event day. Pre-Event use of generators or other motors shall be subject to the City Noise Ordinance (City Code Sec. 78-212, et. seq.), and shall only be operated in a manner that does not otherwise create a public nuisance.

#### **4. License; Application; Fees**

- 4.1 There are hereby established the following classes of license:
  - 4.1.1 Class A License:
    - 4.1.1.1 Shall be issued only to watercraft of forty feet (40') or more in length.
    - 4.1.1.2 Shall be valid throughout the entire 2026 Event Season.

4.1.1.3 Class A licensed watercraft are permitted to moor Pre-Event at the Concrete Landing only, and may remain moored there outside of Park Hours through the Event until the following Monday; or if that Monday is a City recognized holiday, then the following Tuesday. As a general rule, electric hook-up will not be made available until noon of the event day.

4.1.1.4 Class A licensed watercraft are permitted to moor at the Floating Dock outside of Park Hours after an event, whereupon it may remain until the following Monday; or if that Monday is a City recognized holiday, then the following Tuesday.

4.1.1.5 Class A licensed watercraft shall be permitted to hook-up to electricity when made available by the City.

4.1.1.6 Class A licensed watercraft moored at the Levee shall permit other watercraft to moor alongside and shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate the same; Provided, that any watercraft so moored Pre-Event must also have a Class A License.

4.1.2 Class B License:

4.1.2.1 May be issued to watercraft less than 40' (feet) in length.

4.1.2.2 Shall be valid throughout the entire 2026 Event Season.

4.1.2.3 Class B licensed watercraft permitted to moor at the Floating Dock outside of Park Hours after an event through the following Monday; or if that Monday is a City recognized holiday, then the following Tuesday.

4.1.2.4 Class B licensed watercraft shall be permitted to hook-up to electricity when made available by the City.

4.1.2.5 Class B license **does not** authorize or permit Pre-Event mooring.

4.1.3 Class C License:

4.1.3.1 May be issued to watercraft of any size.

4.1.3.2 Shall be valid for a Single Event only.

4.1.3.3 Class C licensed watercraft permitted to moor at the Floating Dock outside of Park Hours after an event through the following Monday; or if that Monday is a City recognized holiday, then the following Tuesday.

4.1.3.4 Class C licensed watercraft shall be permitted to hook-up to electricity when made available by the City.

4.1.4 Class D License:

4.1.4.1 May be issued to watercraft of any size.

4.1.4.2 Shall be issued as a special permit on a case-by-case basis pursuant to conditions established in writing at the time of permitting.

4.2 A person seeking a license to moor at the Levee may make application in the City Manager's office during the hours of 9:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

4.3 In addition to the application, the applicant shall provide copies of a photo identification and a current certificate of liability insurance showing coverage of not less than \$100,000.00 per occurrence.

4.4 No license shall be issued unless applicant also enters into an indemnity, defense, and save harmless agreement with the City.

4.5

4.6 Fees shall be as follows:

4.6.1 Class A or B: \$100.00

4.6.2 Class C: \$25.00

4.6.3 Class D: up to \$100.00

4.7 No license shall be issued unless and until the power system and breaker box on the watercraft and the cord have been inspected and approved by the City Construction Project Manager or his designee.

4.8 The license shall be limited in duration and not extend beyond the dates identified thereon.

- 4.9 The license shall extend a privilege and not a right. This privilege may be denied, suspended, or revoked at any time, for any reason, or no reason, by the City Manager or his designee, without a corresponding refund of fees.
- 4.10 The certificate of limited license shall be kept on the watercraft at all times and the license sticker shall be exhibited in a conspicuous place on or near the front window or windshield of the watercraft in a manner clearly visible from the dock or land.
- 4.11 The limited license does not entitle licensee to preferential docking or berthing rights, although the City may, in its discretion, reserve space along the levee for licensees on a case-by-case basis.

**§ 5. Connection to City provide power source; conditions.**

- 5.1 Access to power shall be by receptacles located on a Dog Box or dock mounted pedestal approved or provided by the City.
- 5.2 Approved cords shall be tagged at the male end with a label supplied by the City. Cords or connections with multiple extensions are prohibited.
- 5.3 Access to receptacles shall be limited to licensees only. To gain access to an electric receptacle, the licensee must hold a valid Class A, B, C, or D License. Electricity will ordinarily be made available to licensees at noon on the event day.
- 5.4 A licensee shall not, under any circumstances, permit any other individual, boater, or other watercraft to hook into or use licensee's Approved Cord, including the making of any "daisy-chain" from licensee's watercraft to another.
- 5.5 New state regulations require installation of breakers at the receptacle boxes that are more sensitive and therefore susceptible to tripping. Licensees are encouraged to have their watercraft and electric hook-up tested for faulting conditions prior to the 2026 Event Season. Any tripping or power interruption should be reported to the City Construction Project Manager. Any interruption by breaker trip attributable to the engineering, wiring, or other conditions of a particular watercraft shall be cause for immediate revocation of a license and forfeiture of the connecting cord and no new license shall be issued to said watercraft without a satisfactory demonstration that the defect or tripping condition has been remedied.