Harboring Boats
The City and County of Denver takes no responsibility for boats moored within any harbor.

Boats may be harbored during the boating season only. See boating office for harboring information and mooring slip permits.

Swimming

Boating

Boating Handbook

Sloan’s Lake Boating Office
4700 West Byron Place
Denver, CO 80212

Office Hours
(boating season only)
Friday: 3:00pm to 7:00pm
Saturday: 8:00am to 12:00pm
720.865.0869
www.denvergov.org/Boating

EMERGENCIES: 911
Denver Park Rangers
720.913.1311

Denver Police (non-emergency)
720.913.2000

Colorado Parks & Wildlife Boating Safety Unit
303.291.7575

BOATING HOURS
Motorized boats:
Daily; 9:00am - 20 minutes before sunset

Non-motorized boats:
Daily; sunrise - sunset

Sloan’s Lake is closed to all public boating for permitted events. Visit denvergov.org/Boating for schedule.

BOATING IS AT YOUR OWN RISK
Channels connecting Sloan’s and Cooper Lakes, the harbor and loading dock are potentially hazardous areas.

All motorized vessels in water ski areas shall travel in a counter-clockwise direction.

Non-motorized includes:
hand-launched fishing, human-powered sail and electric-powered boats
**WATER SPORTS**

- Any person being towed must wear a USCG approved personal flotation device at all times.
- Boats participating in tow sports must have a minimum of two people in the boat: a driver and a spotter.
- The spotter must clearly display an orange flag at least 12 inches square when skier/boarder is down in the water.
- Towed individuals must remain 100 feet from shore and other boats.
- Cooper Lake operates on a one boat rotation Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00 pm until closing.
- Tow sports are allowed at Sloan’s Lake ONLY.

**BOATING PERMITS**

Denver Parks & Recreation offers boating opportunities on five Denver lakes annually from April 1 - November 1:
- Sloan’s Lake (motor & non-motorized)
- Rocky Mountain Lake (non-motorized)
- Berkeley Lake (non-motorized)
- Smith Lake (non-motorized)
- Ferril Lake (non-motorized)

The boating season is subject to adequate conditions including water quality and lake depths.

A Denver Boating Permit is required to launch any vessel. The permit decal must be affixed to the starboard side in a visible place. Permit holders are accountable for the actions of all boat drivers and passengers.

By purchasing a permit you agree to comply with all rules and regulations within this handbook, the Colorado Boating Statutes and Regulations, and all rules and regulations under the Denver Municipal Code Chapter 39.

Denver Parks & Recreation may revoke a permit without refund for violation of any rule, regulation, statute or city ordinance. No refunds will be issued once a permit is purchased and permits are non-transferable.

**Permit Purchasing Details & Fees:**

www.denvergov.org/Boating

Non-motorized includes: hand-launched fishing, human-powered sail and electric-powered boats.

**REQUIRED ITEMS**

Before a Boating Permit is issued, an inspection of your boat by a Denver Park Ranger is required to check for these items required by the United States Coast Guard (USCG):

**Motorized & Sailing Boats**
- Serviceable and correctly sized personal flotation device for every person on board.
- Padding device and at least one buoyant cushion or life ring.
- Whistle or other sound-producing device.
- A charged fire extinguisher of appropriate size and type (see Colo. State Boating Regulation #211).
- Copy of valid driver’s license or photo ID.
- Copy of State Boat Registration.
- Liability insurance in minimum amount of $300,000 (motorized boating only).

**Human-Powered**
- A whistle or other sound-producing device.
- One USCG Personal Flotation device per person.

**ANS & Safety Inspections**

All vessels are subject to a required safety and Aquatic Nuisance Species inspection prior to entering Denver lakes. CLEAN—DRAIN—DRY

**SLOAN’S LAKE**

- Sloan’s Lake is Denver’s largest and most active lake. Two connected lakes, Sloan’s and Cooper, encompass 177 acres.
- Average depth is eight (8) feet.
- Only lake within city limits that allows fuel-powered motorized boating.
- All boats operating above wakeless speed must remain 100 feet from shore.
- All motorized boats must travel in a counter-clockwise direction.
- Motorized boats must yield right-of-way to non-motorized vessels.
- Boats participating in tow sports have right-of-way over other motor boats.
- No jet-skis or motorized personal water crafts.
- No fishing off of boats is allowed.
- Speed limit: 40 MPH with muffling and sound level restrictions.

**WATER SPORTS**

- Any person being towed must wear a USCG approved personal flotation device at all times.
- Boats participating in tow sports must have a minimum of two people in the boat: a driver and a spotter.
- The spotter must clearly display an orange flag at least 12 inches square when skier/boarder is down in the water.
- Towed individuals must remain 100 feet from shore and other boats.
- Cooper Lake operates on a one boat rotation Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00 pm until closing.
- Tow sports are allowed at Sloan’s Lake ONLY.