

Request for Expedited Pier License (“XPR”)

**FOR FIXED PIER AND ASSOCIATED PIER STRUCTURE PROJECTS ONLY**

- 1) Please complete and sign the [Joint Federal/State Application for the Alteration of Any Tidal Wetland in Maryland](#)
- 2) Submit application fee as required in the [Wetlands and Waterways Program Application Fee Schedule and Guidelines](#)
- 3) Complete and attach the [Contiguous Property Owner and Appropriate Local Official Notification Certification Form](#)
- 4) Complete and attach plans in accordance with the [Sample Activity Guidelines and Drawings for Piers](#)
- 5) Please complete and sign this Request Form and submit it with your [Joint Federal/State Application for the Alteration of Any Tidal Wetland in Maryland](#)

This expedited license is only for fixed private piers and associated structures such as platforms, boat hoists or lifts, mooring piles, and osprey poles which meet the criteria below may qualify for an expedited license issued from MDE if local authorization has been granted, if applicable. If the project meets the criteria, and if application screening indicates no potential effects to sensitive species or cultural resources, you will receive an expedited license. You can not start work until receiving the license.

Property owners must comply with all Federal, State, and local requirements and regulations, including the State of Maryland’s Chesapeake Bay Critical Area criteria where applicable, pertaining to construction and installation of structure(s). Any structure(s) installed shall be constructed in such a manner to comply with local (County or City) setback requirements, so as not to obstruct ingress and egress from adjacent properties.

If the authorized work is not performed by the property owner, all regulated work shall be conducted by a marine contractor licensed by the Marine Contractors Licensing Board (MCLB) in accordance with Title 17 of the Environment Article of Annotated Code of Maryland. A list of licensed marine contractors may be obtained by contacting the MCLB at 410-537-3249, by e-mail at [MDE.MCLB@maryland.gov](mailto:MDE.MCLB@maryland.gov) or by accessing the Maryland Department of the Environment, Environmental Boards webpage.

Please note that if your project does not meet the criteria of an Expedited Pier License, the application will be assigned to a reviewer and processed according to applicable review timeframes.

Requirements for an Expedited Pier License (XPR):  
(Please check all that apply)

- Only one fixed (not floating) pier per property;
- Project does not include more than six mooring piles or create more than 4 slips (with or without hoists or lifts for vessels of any type), and up to 2 additional personal watercraft slips (with or without lifts), exclusively for personal watercraft;
- Width of the main section of the pier is not greater than 6 feet;
- The total area of the fixed or floating auxiliary platform must not exceed 200 square feet;
- Platforms may not be located over vegetated wetlands;
- Platforms are not constructed within the landward 50% of the main pier section;
- Project does not include more than two osprey poles per property;
- A maximum of two, 3-foot wide finger piers;
- Project meets the minimum extended property line setback requirements established by the local jurisdiction in which the activity is proposed;
- In localities where there are no setback requirements, all structures are constructed a minimum of 10 feet from extended property lines so as not to obstruct ingress and egress from adjacent properties;
- Piers and walkways over vegetated tidal wetlands are constructed a minimum of 3 feet above the wetlands;
- Boat lifts are located in a minimum 2 feet water depth at mean low water;
- Pier does not extend within 100 feet of a ski course approved by DNR;
- Pier does not extend more than 100 feet channelward of the mean high water line or a distance of 25 percent of the width of the waterway, whichever is less;
- Project does not obstruct the flow of the tide; and
- A signed copy of this request with a completed [Joint Federal/State Application](#) including plans is sent to the Regulatory Services Section.
- The required [application fee](#) has been submitted.
- Complete [plans](#) are attached.