

Dock Inspection Checklist

For routine inspection and preventative maintenance of public access docks

Location:	
Inspector Name:	
Date:	
Water Level Condition (Low/Normal/High):	

Spring / Pre-Season Inspection

Inspection Item	Pass / Fail	Notes	Action Required
Gangway hinge pins and connections secure	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Handrails tight and plumb	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Decking condition and slip resistance	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Float alignment and consistent freeboard	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Shore connection movement or erosion	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Anchor or stiff-arm connections secure	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Rub Rail properly secured to dock	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Electrical hazards or exposed wiring	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		

Mid-Season Inspection

Inspection Item	Pass / Fail	Notes	Action Required
Loose or missing fasteners	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Trip hazards forming (raised boards or edges)	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
ADA clear widths maintained	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		



Wear patterns at fishing or loading areas	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Debris accumulation under dock	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Cleats, bumpers, and accessories secure	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		

Fall / Pre-Winter Inspection

Inspection Item	Pass / Fail	Notes	Action Required
Remove or secure removable accessories	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Hardware corrosion check	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Floats inspected for visible damage	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Determine overwinter strategy (remove or secure)	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Ice damage risk evaluation	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		
Gangway removal or securing (if required)	☐ Pass ☐ Fail		

Dock Maintenance Red Flags

- ☐ Dock sits uneven in the water
- ☐ Gangway does not align at normal water level
- ☐ Handrails move when pushed
- ☐ Creaking or excessive movement when walked on
- ☐ Deck boards flex noticeably underfoot
- ☐ Visible rust streaking at structural connections
- ☐ Dock moves sideways when stepped on

If any red flags are observed, schedule maintenance or further evaluation promptly.