

Mooring Requirements in City Waters

For the purpose of clarifying that moorings may not be installed within 75 feet of another mooring or a structure rather than applying the 75 foot measurement from the moored vessel and clarifying that all transient mooring balls are owned by the City and are not private; allowing the Harbormaster to adopt rules and regulations consistent with Title 15 of the Code of the City of Annapolis as to the types and lengths of vessels that may use any mooring in City waters; updating the definition of "mooring(s)"; and generally related to mooring requirements in City waters.

City Council of the
City of Annapolis

Ordinance 2-26

Introduced by: Mayor Littmann (by request of the Harbormaster)
Co-sponsored by:

16 **Referred to:** Environmental Matters Committee, Port Wardens

17 AN ORDINANCE concerning

Mooring Requirements in City Waters

19 **FOR** the purpose of clarifying that moorings may not be installed within 75 feet of another
20 mooring or a structure rather than applying the 75 foot measurement from the moored
21 vessel and clarifying that all transient mooring balls are owned by the City and are not
22 private; allowing the Harbormaster to adopt rules and regulations consistent with Title 15
23 of the Code of the City of Annapolis as to the types and lengths of vessels that may use
24 any mooring in City waters; updating the definition of "mooring(s)"; and generally
25 related to mooring requirements in City waters.

26 **BY** repealing and reenacting with amendments the following portions of the Code of the City
27 of Annapolis, 2026 Edition: **15.02.030, 15.10.110**

28 **SECTION I: BE IT ESTABLISHED AND ORDAINED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY**
29 **COUNCIL** that the Code of the City of Annapolis shall be amended to read as follows:

City Code Title 15 - HARBORS AND WATERFRONT AREAS
Division I - Generally
Chapter 15.02 General Provisions

1 **Section 15.02.030 Definitions.**

2 For purposes of this title, the following words and phrases have the meanings indicated:

3 U. "Mooring" includes, but is not limited to:

- 4 1. A place where vessels are secured, other than a pier;
- 5 2. A chain, line or other device by which a vessel is secured in place and which is
6 not carried aboard the vessel as regular equipment when underway; or
- 7 3. The process of securing a vessel by means of chains, lines or other devices
8 described in subsection (2) above.

9 **Mooring(s).**

10 1. "Mooring" means, but is not limited to:

- 11 a. A place where vessels are secured, other than a pier; or
- 12 b. A chain, line or other device by which a vessel is secured in place and
13 which is not carried aboard the vessel as regular equipment when
14 underway; or
- 15 c. The process of securing a vessel by means of chains, lines or other devices
16 described in subsection (b) above.

17 2. "Annual Mooring" means a type of public mooring where a permanently installed
18 mooring buoy serves as a secure anchoring point for a vessel under a fixed annual
19 lease arrangement between an individual (the lessee) and the City of Annapolis
20 (the owner).

21 3. "Transient Mooring" means a type of public mooring where a permanently
22 installed mooring buoy serves as a secure anchoring point for a vessel for a
23 temporary stay lasting from one hour to one week, which may be renewed.

27 **City Code Title 15 - HARBORS AND WATERFRONT AREAS**

28 **Division II - City Waters**

29 **Chapter 15.10 Operation, Anchoring, and Mooring of Vessels in City Waters**

30 **Section 15.10.110 Moorings.**

- 31 A. Private moorings shall only be utilized by vessels for which valid private mooring permits
32 have been obtained as provided by the City Code.
- 33 B. A vessel may not be moored in City waters within seventy-five feet of any structure, shore
34 or private mooring or in a position which obstructs navigation.
- 35 C. Only one vessel may be moored on a mooring, except that a dingy less than thirteen feet in
36 length may be attached to a larger vessel on a mooring.

Explanation Note:

Strikethrough indicates matter stricken from existing law.

Underlining & black means copyediting or reformatting of existing Code section

Underlining & red means new matter added to the code.

1 D. ~~A vessel may not moor at a public mooring in City waters for more than ten days in any~~
2 ~~period of thirty consecutive days, unless the owner or operator of the vessel has:~~

3 1. ~~Registered the vessel and all persons aboard the vessel with the Harbormaster upon a~~
4 ~~form provided by the Harbormaster;~~

5 2. ~~Paid any fees which may be required under Section 15.10.020; and~~

6 3. ~~Affixed aboard the vessel in plain view any placard or sticker furnished by the~~
7 ~~Harbormaster.~~

8 **A. Annual Moorings.**

9 1. Annual moorings shall be utilized only by vessels for which valid annual mooring
10 permits have been obtained as provided by the City Code.

11 2. An annual mooring may not be installed in City waters within 75 feet of any
12 structure, shore, or in a position that obstructs navigation as determined by the
13 Harbormaster.

14 3. Only one vessel may be moored on an annual mooring, except that a dinghy less
15 than 13 feet in length may be attached to a larger vessel on an annual mooring.

16 4. The Harbormaster shall adopt rules and regulations to govern and control the use
17 and storage of all vessels on annual moorings within City waters.

18 **B. Transient Moorings.**

19 1. A vessel may not moor at a transient mooring in City waters for more than ten
20 days in any period of 30 consecutive days, unless the owner or operator of the
21 vessel has:

22 a. Registered the vessel and all persons aboard the vessel with the
23 Harbormaster upon a form provided by the Harbormaster;

24 b. Paid any fees which may be required under § 15.10.020.

25 2. Only one vessel may be moored on a transient mooring, except that a dinghy less
26 than 13 feet in length may be attached to a larger vessel on a transient mooring.

27 3. A transient mooring may not be installed in City waters within 75 feet of any
28 structure, shore, or in a position that obstructs navigation as determined by the
29 Harbormaster.

30 4. The Harbormaster shall adopt rules and regulations to govern and control the use
31 and storage of all vessels on transient moorings within City waters.

32 **C. Private Moorings.**

33 Private moorings are not permitted in City waters.

34 Explanation Note:

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1 **SECTION II: AND BE IT FINALLY ESTABLISHED AND ORDAINED BY THE**
2 **ANNAPOLEIS CITY COUNCIL** that this ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

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