

Downtown Boathouse

www.downtownboathouse.org

Free Kayaking

The Downtown Boathouse runs a walk-up kayaking program on weekends, holidays, and weekday evenings from mid-May through mid-October. There is no charge for use. Membership dues, contributions, and boat storage fees pay for the operation.

Free Kayaking Locations

- **Pier 96, Clinton Cove Park (56th St.)**

Our headquarters boathouse is at Pier 96 on the Westside Highway and 56th St.

Weekends & Holidays **May 14 - Oct 16** **9AM - 6PM**

Weekdays Evenings **Jun 28 - Aug 26** **5PM - 7PM**

- **Pier 40, South-side (Houston St.)**

Our temporary downtown boathouse is on the south side of Pier 40 – approximately two thirds of the way out on the promenade.

Weekends & Holidays **May 14 - Oct 16** **9AM - 6PM**

Thursday Evenings **Jun 02 - Sep 23** **5PM - 7PM**

- **72nd St. (Riverside Park)**

Our smallest boathouse is in Riverside Park at 72nd St. on the promenade, just south of where the bike path turns inland.

Weekends & Holidays **May 14 - Oct 16** **10AM - 5PM**

Free Kayaking Rules

- **Before You Go Out**

- Sign a waiver (good for the year)
- You must know how to swim
- Put on a life jacket

- **On the Water**

- Stay within the bay (between piers)
- Keep away from piers and wall
- Come back in 20 minutes
- Come back in if called
- No swimming

- **Under Eighteen**

- One child per boat
- Guardian must be present

The Downtown Boathouse runs free public classes at Pier 96 on Wednesday evenings during the season. Visit our website for the class schedule.

Free Harbor Trips

On most weekend mornings from mid-June thru mid-September we run a free three-hour trip out on the open river for more experienced kayakers. The trips leave from Pier 96, and go either north or south, depending on the tides. Check our website for rules, dates, and for destinations. Adults only please.

Boathouse Status

A boathouse is sometimes closed. Check our website (there is one page per boathouse) to see the Twitter feed that gives the current status. Or sign up to follow us on Twitter.

Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers! Volunteers provide all of the staff to run the Boathouse. If you have some time and want to help, please do so. No experience is necessary, but you must know how to swim. Just show up and say you have come to help. Sorry, adults only.

Donations Welcome

We need money to run our free kayaking. Donations of money or appropriate in-kind contributions (e.g. suitable kayaks) are always welcome and are tax-deductible.

Kayakers per Year

Below is the number of waivers signed per year by users of our public programs. The total is 222,362:

1995	100	1996	1,200	1997	2,800
1998	5,400	1999	6,700	2000	7,600
2001	10,200	2002	12,030	2003	13,480
2004	17,900	2005	22,900	2006	15,900
2007	22,100	2008	24,779	2009	28,086
2011	31,008				

Many persons go kayaking with us multiple times in a season, but they only sign one waiver. Due to these repeat visits, the total number of persons launched is more than half a million.

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