

Fairfax Water

Locating a Pier or Float on the Occoquan Reservoir

Fairfax Water has two methods for locating a pier or float. Method A applies when the water surface is within 3 feet of full pool elevation or higher and Method B is used when the water surface is three feet below full pool.

Full Pool is the surface water level when the reservoir is at the maximum level of the spillway on the Occoquan dam, water above this level will flow over the spillway, below full pool level will be below the spillway. Full pool elevation will vary along the easement depending on geographic features impacting the reservoir.

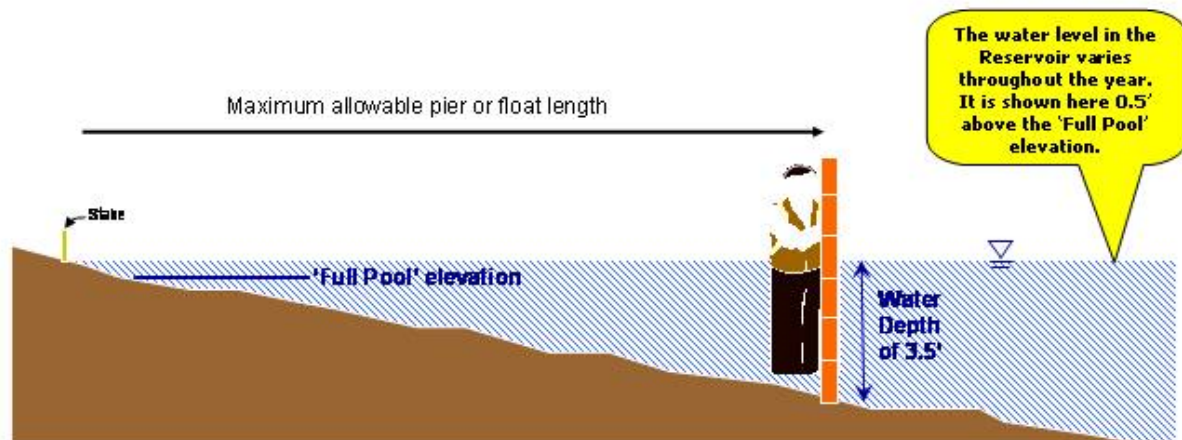
Note that with Method B the pier will be located on dry land.

Locating a Pier or Float

Method A: Determination of allowable length for a pier or float using the current water surface level (applicable when the water surface elevation is within 3 feet of full pool elevation or higher)

Step-by-Step Procedure:

1. Call Fairfax Water at (703) 289-6060 on the day that you will be locating a new pier or float to obtain the allowable depth (option #2 on the recorded message).
2. Mark or stake the edge of the water surface on this day to provide a fixed landmark. In the case shown, the homeowner has placed a stake at the edge of the water surface and noted that the allowable depth for this location is 3.5'.
3. Walk toward the water perpendicular to the landmark with a measuring rod or stick that measures at least the height of the allowable depth.
4. Locate a distance where the measured elevation difference corresponds to the allowable depth provided by Fairfax Water.

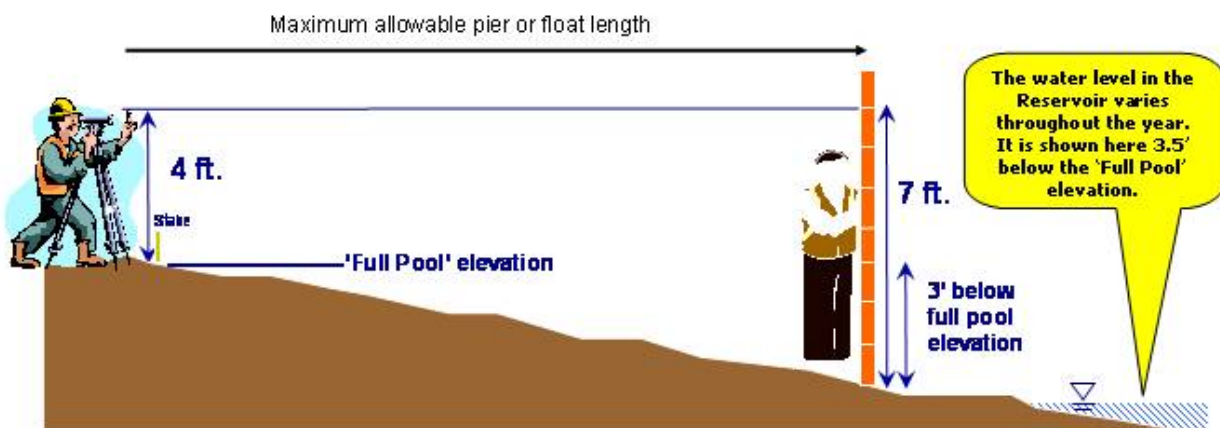


Locating a Pier or Float

Method B: Determination of allowable length for a pier or float using the full pool elevation (applicable when the water surface elevation is below 3 feet of full pool elevation)

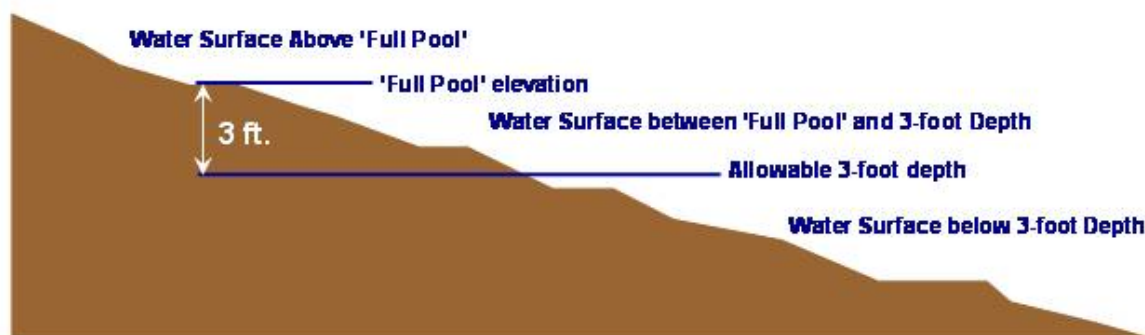
Step-by-Step Procedure:

1. Call Fairfax Water at (703) 289-6060 on the day that you will be locating a new pier or float to determine whether you may use Method A. If so, use Method A. Otherwise, please continue with instructions 2-4.
2. Locate the approximate full pool elevation on your property. Mark or stake the approximate full pool elevation to provide a fixed landmark. To obtain guidance in locating the full pool elevation, call Fairfax Water at (703) 289-6060 and leave a message with your property address and contact information.
3. With one person remaining at the stake, have a second person walk toward the water perpendicular to the landmark with a measuring rod or stick that can measure in half-foot increments.
4. Using a level, locate a distance where the measured elevation difference is 3' feet. For instance if the level is located at an eye level of 4 feet above the ground, the level height of the rod should read 7 feet.



Helpful Hints

- If the water surface is above 'full pool' (and the approximate full pool line is submerged), the allowable depth corresponds to the water depth at the full pool line plus 3 feet. For instance, if the approximate full pool line is submerged by 0.5', the allowable depth is 3.5' from the elevation of 'dry land'.
- If the water surface is between 'full pool' and 3-foot depth, the water depth at the allowable pier and float distance will be less than 3 feet.
- If the water surface is lower than the 3' foot depth, the allowable pier and float distance will be on 'dry land' and will not be submerged. A level will be required to determine the allowable extent of the pier with respect to the water surface.



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