

# **Abbreviated Joint Permit Application For Noncommercial Riparian Shellfish Aquaculture Structures**

## **Preface**

The attached application is intended to be used by persons applying for permits to deploy up to 160 square feet of aquaculture structures in the tidal waters of Virginia, for the noncommercial culture of shellfish. The Virginia Marine Resources Commission's General Permit #3 defines riparian shellfish gardening as the grow-out of native shellfish species in protective structures such as floats, bags, cages, etc. adjacent to a private, noncommercial pier or otherwise within a waterfront property owner's riparian area, exclusively for private, noncommercial purposes. The General Permit also specifies that the structures shall not adversely impact navigation or existing stands of submerged aquatic vegetation. If you do not believe your project will meet these requirements for the General Permit you should complete the standard Joint Permit Application rather than the attached abbreviated form. You may obtain a standard Joint Permit Application by contacting the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) at (757) 247-2252 or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) at (757) 201-7652.

## **Application Process**

The applicant needs only to fill out one copy of the application, including the required drawings, and return it to VMRC for processing. **To expedite the review of your application, please ensure that your application is complete and that the required drawings are clear and contain the requested information.**

VMRC will forward copies of the application to the Health Department and your Local Wetlands Board for their review. The Health Department may contact you regarding shellfish handling and harvesting procedures if your project is being conducted in polluted waters.

If the project qualifies for VMRC's General Permit #3, the Corps of Engineers has determined that it will also qualify for either their Regional Permit Number 17 or Number 19. In most cases, you will not receive any correspondence from the Corps. Should you care to review the conditions contained in the Corps' Regional Permits, you may obtain copies by contacting the Corps at the number listed above.

## **Please return your completed application to:**

Virginia Marine Resources Commission  
Habitat Management Division  
Building 96  
380 Fenwick Road  
Fort Monroe, VA 23651

Application Form

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1. Applicant's name and complete mailing address: Phone number: ( ) Email address:

2. Physical address of the project site (if different from above): Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

OR

Local Tax Map No.:

3. Waterbody at the project site: a tributary to \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ County/City

4. Please provide accurate directions to the project site from the nearest intersection of two state roads:

5. Description of the aquaculture structures to be employed:

Floats: Size (LxWxH in inches) \_\_\_\_\_ Number to be used

Bottom Cages: Size (LxWxH in inches) \_\_\_\_\_ Number to be used

Other structures: Please provide a description including the size and number to be used.

6. (A) Will the structures be secured to an existing private pier? (B) If yes, will they extend beyond the end of the pier? (C) If yes, how far channelward of the pier will they extend and what is the distance to the recognized channel? \_\_\_\_\_ feet. What is the width of the waterway at the project site (mean low water to mean low water)? \_\_\_\_\_ feet.

7. If you answered NO to question 6 (A) above, will they be located in the waters immediately opposite your shoreline? \_\_\_\_\_ Describe how will the structures be secured.

Note: If new pilings are required to secure the structures, a standard permit may be required. Please call VMRC for details at (757) 247-2252.

**Application Form**

8. What is the Health Department’s current classification of the growing waters at the project site? **Open for direct harvesting, Seasonally closed, Permanently closed, or Uncertain.** (Circle one)

9. Please provide the following required drawings:

**1. Vicinity Map** - Use a map to depict the exact location of the project site. Please indicate the name of the map used. USGS quadrangle maps, street maps, or county maps are preferred.

**2. Plan View Drawing** - This drawing must depict the proposed structures as if viewed from above. The drawing must include, a north arrow, the waterway name, the location of mean high water and mean low water, the location of any submerged aquatic vegetation at the site, the width of the waterway, the direction of ebb and flood of the tide, your property lines and shoreline, the opposite shoreline if the waterway is less than 500 feet wide, the depth of water at the project site, and the location of the existing navigation channel. A recent plat of the property, if available, provides a good scaled template for the plan view drawing.

**3. Cross Sectional Drawing** - The cross sectional drawing must show the dimensions of the proposed structures as viewed from the side. It should include the depth of the water and any structures which will be used secure the floats or cages. **If the application is for floats which will be secured to your existing pier, a cross sectional drawing will not be required.**

***ALL APPLICANTS MUST SIGN***

I hereby apply for all necessary permits for the activities described herein. I agree to allow the duly authorized representatives of any regulatory or advisory agency to enter upon the premises of the project site at reasonable times to inspect and photograph site conditions.

I hereby certify that the information submitted in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
APPLICANT’S SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
APPLICANT’S NAME (PRINTED/TYPED)

DATE

***IF DIFFERENT FROM APPLICANT:***

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROPERTY OWNER’S SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROPERTY OWNER’S NAME  
(PRINTED/TYPED)

DATE\_\_\_\_\_