GENERAL GUIDANCE

To apply for a permit complete the online Permit Application Form – link to application form and submit it along with the appropriate card payment and documentation.
If you have any queries please contact below:

Assistant Inspector of Navigation  
Waterways Ireland  
Harbour Street  
Tullamore  
Co Offaly

Opening Hours:  Monday – Thursday 8.30 am – 5.00 pm  
Friday 8.30 am – 4 pm  
Closed for Lunch:  1.00 pm – 2.00 pm

Telephone: +353 (0) 57 935 2300

Applications will NOT be processed without payment of all relevant charges or without the required uploaded documents.

Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted.

SECTION 1 – OWNERSHIP DETAILS

One individual name will be accepted as the registered owner for any single boat and this owner will be fully responsible for compliance with permit terms and conditions. Only one address may be registered, Waterways Ireland will use this address for all correspondence.

If your boat is owned by a Consortium please provide one name for contact purposes at Section 1. The person whose name is provided at Section 1 shall be deemed to sign the application form on behalf of all the consortium members.

Please ensure the email address provided is accurate, as Waterways Ireland will use this to complete and confirm your application and may be used to forward Marine Notices and navigation information.

If you intend to use your boat for commercial purposes you will need to apply for a Commercial Operating Licence.
SECTION 2 – DETAILS OF BOAT

Please complete the requested details of your boat.

Boat Insurance

Boat owners are responsible for any damage or injury they or their boat causes.

Waterways Ireland requires all applicants to hold 3rd party liability insurance for their boat. It is your responsibility to ensure the insurance is appropriate for the intended use of the boat.

When completing Section 2 of the application form you must provide the name of the insurance provider, the policy number, the expiry date and provide a copy of the Certificate of Insurance.

The boat name or model on the Certificate of Insurance must be the same as that declared in Section 2 on the application form.

Unpowered Boats

Waterways Ireland strongly recommends you have insurance in place for unpowered boats ie a boat without any form of power propulsion; however if you have such a vessel please contact the Waterways Ireland Assistant Inspector of Navigation at the office above.

Environmental

Disposal of Rubbish

Boat owners on the canals will be required to dispose of domestic rubbish at their own expense. On the application form you need to indicate how you intend to manage this. For example, evidence of a paid collection service or by confirming that you will take your rubbish home and dispose of it through your domestic collection service.

In a limited number of locations Waterways Ireland may offer this service for a charge.

Waste Holding Tanks

You are asked to tell us if your boat has an operational waste holding tank. This is not a mandatory requirement, but information is being collected for management purposes.
SECTION 3 – CHOOSING THE PERMIT(S) YOU REQUIRE

Combined Mooring & Passage Permit (CMP)

Any boat owner wishing to use the canals needs to purchase an annual Combined Mooring & Passage Permit (CMP). This allows you to use your boat on the canals and moor for up to 5 days in any one location.

All CMPs commence on the 1st November and cost €126 per year.

If you make short or infrequent visits to the canals and do not stay for more than 5 days in a single location or remove your boat from the navigation after each use an annual CMP permit is all you will require.

If you continuously cruise ie move your boat every 5 days you will not require an Extended Mooring Permit and should complete the continuously cruising declaration at Section 3 on the application form.

Canoes, kayaks and small unpowered craft which are removed from the navigation after each use are not required to hold a CMP.

Extended Mooring Permit (EMP)

If you wish to moor your boat for a period of longer than 5 days in one location you need to apply for an Extended Mooring Permit (EMP).

An EMP provides a Waterways Ireland designated mooring location where the boat may be left for up to 12 months when it is not being used for cruising.

All EMPs commence on the 1st November at a total cost of €278 per year (this price includes that of a CMP).

Please take time to familiarise yourself with the requirements of an extended mooring permit before you make an application.

You should indicate the preferred area you wish to have an Extended Mooring Permit for and also indicate if you have any special mobility requirements. A member of Waterways Ireland staff may visit you to discuss any special requirements you indicate.

Visitor Permit

If you wish to use the canals for a period of < 30 days, you may apply for a Visitors Permit – valid for one month from the date of issue; please contact the Assistant Inspector of Navigation on +353 87 286 5726.
SECTION 4 - DECLARATIONS

If your boat is owned by a **Consortium** the named owner at Section 1 shall be deemed to sign the application form on behalf of all the consortium members.

PAYMENT

Waterways Ireland no longer accepts payment by cash, cheque, bankers draft or postal order. Payment must be made online by card after completing the online application process.

PERMIT DOCUMENTS

Permits can be printed by yourself after completing the online process or you can request that it is posted out to the application address. All Permits must be displayed clearly on your vessel in accordance with Bye-law 40.

BOAT CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT

The canals are managed under the Canal Act 1986 (Bye-laws) 1988 and boats must comply with Bye-laws 7-13 (inclusive) regarding construction and equipment on boats. The boat owner is fully responsible for ensuring the boat is in compliance with the bye-laws.