

RULES AND REGULATIONS
2026 Milk Carton Boat Race
Boat Building and Day of Event

Boat Building Rules:

- Boats in racing categories shall be no longer than 10 feet. Any boat longer than 10 feet can ONLY participate in the People's Choice Parade.
- Structure can be made of wood, PVC pipe or aluminum only.
- Flotation must be from empty milk and non-dairy milk cartons and jugs - no water jugs, styrofoam or fiberglass.
- Use screws, bolts, clear or duct tape, builders glue and shrink wrap. (no nails)
- Don't hide cartons or jugs completely within the frame.
- Boats and participants shall be family appropriate in presentation, design and apparel. Cartons may be flattened to create decorations.
- Use only a single-blade paddle or kayak paddle for each racer. No fixed oars (like a rowboat). No engines or motors of any kind are allowed. Propulsion power of any other kind of stored energy is also prohibited. All race boats can only be powered by means of paddles (human power only).
- See HOW TO BUILD A MILK CARTON BOAT for more information.

Day of Event:

- Participants are responsible for the transport of their boats to and from Westmoreland Park on race day.
- No cars are allowed on the grass. Boats can be unloaded at the south parking lot, where a volunteer will assist you to Registration and Inspection.
- At Inspection, each boat and participant will be inspected for compliance with the Rules.
- Bring your own paddles, supplies and tools.
- Each racer must have his or her own US Coast Guard approved life preserver. Sharing of vests among same heats will not be allowed.
- Boats must pass Inspection before doing a trial-run.
- Individual boats can only race once *per racing category*, but can enter in up-to four different categories.
- An adult must stay with each boat after inspection - do not leave a boat unattended. Ask a volunteer for assistance.
- Racers will begin the race in their boats at the starting line. All boats should attempt to stay in their assigned lanes.
- Any boat, deemed unseaworthy or unsafe, will not be allowed in subsequent races. Decisions of the race officials are final.
- The MCBR reserves the right to cancel any race due to lack of participants - those cancelled race participants will be placed in the next-best race category.