

Dear city council:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to write in about the boat ramp. I think we spend so much time talking about the negative things about the boat ramp I want to share some positive outcomes from the boat ramp.

My husband and our three kids moved to Rivergrove 4 years ago because we liked the small town and bought a house within walking distance to the river. We love being outdoors and want to raise our kids with that love. In the last 4 years my oldest has learned to paddle his own kayak. My kids have seen wild animals, ducks and fish. They love kayaking and being on the water.

However the boat ramp has become such a difficult place to visit. My kids dont like being yelled at by strangers when we visit. I dont like being yelled at when we visit. We live in a small town we should be able to have conversations with eachother. I understand houses are close to the boat ramp and for that fact I try to keep my kids quiet. But when my four year old yells duck its just pure excitement.

The toxic environment at the boat ramp is so hard. I dont feel like I can ask any of my neighbors for help when I am down there. I'm tired of fighting for it to stay open during the day so we can use it in the evenings when we get off work. Im tired of it always being challenged. And more importantly I am tired of how often me or my kids is harassed when we visit the boat ramp.

I am asking please can we find a way to meet peace at the boat ramp. Please can we keep it open in the evenings so those who work can go after work. And please can we try to be nicer to those who visit our town- we are getting a negative feeling and I dont think that is what we want in Rivergrove.

Thank you,

Liz Russell  
19487 Dogwood Ct.  
Rivergrove, OR 97035