



Marine Safety Unit Pittsburgh Waterways Information March 2018



Allegheny River

Seventh Street Bridge (0.7): Due to a containment system, vertical clearance reduced to 38.38 feet above normal pool for the mid180 feet of the main navigational span.

Ohio River

Proposed New Bridge (75.5): Pre-application stage. The new bridge will provide a minimum of 800 feet of horizontal clearance. Environmental review underway.

Bellaire Bridge (94.3): Demolition date to be determined.

Vanport Bridge (28.0): Due to a containment system, vertical clearance is reduced to 64 feet.

Monongahela River

Liberty Bridge (1.1): Vertical clearance in the navigation span reduced by 4 feet due to containment system. Containment follows contour of bridge providing 70 feet of vertical clearance above NP at center and 40 of vertical clearance above NP at pier faces. At various times and locations, channel's horizontal clearance may be temporarily reduced by up to 100 feet due to the presence of a floating work plant. Expected completed time frame May 2018.

Birmingham Bridge (2.3): Due to construction, an access platform has temporarily reduced bridge's vertical clearance by 4 ft.

Charleroi-Monessen Bridge (41.0): Due to shoaling, L/D red pier light moved 140 feet channel ward to mark edge. Center green range lights have been moved 70 feet channel ward to mark center of navigation channel.

Upcoming Marine Events

Date	Event	Waterway	Closure	Time
7 April	Pittsburgh Pirates Fireworks	Allegheny River mile 0.2-0.8	Full	8 p.m. – 11:59 p.m.
19 April	CentiMark Corp. Fireworks	Ohio/Monongahela/Allegheny Rivers mile 0.0-0.25	Full	8:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.
28 April	Pittsburgh Pirates Fireworks	Allegheny River mile 0.2-0.8	Full	8 p.m. – 11:59 p.m.

**There may be homerun/victory fireworks shot from River Rescue during all Pirates home games.*



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Areas of Interest

1. Marine Safety Alert 2-18 Operational risk management, planning is essential to safe towing and salvage operations:

The Office of Inspections and Compliance issued Marine Safety Alert 2-18, “*Operational Risk Management and Planning is Essential to Safe Towing and Salvage Operations*,” to remind commercial towing and salvage operators to assess operational risks at all times and continually reassess risks based on weather, equipment, experience, and evolving conditions on-scene. <http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/02/20/2-20-2018-marine-safety-alert-2-18-operational-risk-management-planning-is-essential-to-safe-towing-and-salvage-operations/>

2. Amendment to Subchapter M policy letter on use of existing SMS to obtain initial COI

The amendment allows for an equivalency to vessels using an existing safety management system to provide three years of objective evidence in lieu of having a TSMS Certificate for six months prior to issuance of a vessel’s initial COI. <http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/03/08/3-8-2018-amendment-to-subchapter-m-policy-letter-on-use-of-existing-sms-to-obtain-initial-coi/>

3. Coast Guard-American Waterways Operators Steering Committee meeting

The Coast Guard-American Waterways Operators Safety Partnership held its National Quality Steering Committee meeting Feb. 21, 2018, with an agenda focusing on the concerns of the partnership and industry. Industry representatives discussed a variety of issues facing the towing industry and the meeting also included a series of updates from workgroups and quality actions teams on the progress of new initiatives and policy/regulatory implementations. <http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/03/08/3-08-2018-coast-guard-american-waterways-operators-steering-committee-meeting/>