



Marine Safety Unit Pittsburgh Waterways Information September 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 mid 180 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
21-Sep	Pittsburgh Pirates Fireworks	All 0.0-0.25/Ohio 0.0-0.1/Mon 0.0-0.1	Full	1930-2330
30-Sep	Pittsburgh Steelers Fireworks	Allegheny River mile 0.2-0.9	Full	2000-2359

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

Marine Event Applications in review

- Head of the Ohio: 6 & 7 Oct, Allegheny 0-4.5
- Pittsburgh Monster Pumpkin festival: 20 Oct, Allegheny 0.3
- Full River safety zone: 22 Sep 18 (backup date 23 Sep 18), Ohio River mile 111
- Duquesne Light safety zone; 31 October 18- 31 December 18, Ohio River mile 28.0-29.2; safety vessel will be on scene for passing arrangements



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Areas of Interest

1. Marine Safety Alert- Potential interference of VHF-FM radio and AIS reception:

The U.S. Coast Guard has received reports from crews, ship owners, inspectors and other mariners regarding poor reception on VHF frequencies used for radiotelephone, digital selective calling (DSC) and automatic identification systems (AIS) when in the vicinity of light emitting diode (LED) lighting on-board ships.

<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/08/16/8-16-2018-marine-safety-alert-potential-interference-of-vhf-fm-radio-and-ais-reception/>

2. Marine Safety Alert 14-18 Gangways and Ladders:

The Inspections and Compliance Directorate issued Marine Safety Alert 14-18, “*Don’t Forget About Gangways and Ladders,*” following the death of a vessel pilot who died while boarding a vessel when its gangway separated from the vessel, causing two persons to fall into the water. Although the investigation is still underway and additional facts are being gathered, this casualty serves as another reminder that shipboard equipment that seems benign can quickly become a hazard to persons boarding and departing a vessel.

<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/08/22/8-22-2018-marine-safety-alert-14-18-gangways-and-ladders/>

3. Updated Subchapter M FAQ’s now available:

The Towing Vessel National Center of Expertise recently published the latest additions and updates to the Frequently Asked Questions regarding Subchapter M, inspected towing vessels. As a convenience for our readers, in this post Maritime Commons is providing a compilation of those changes. To access the full library of FAQs regarding Subchapter M, visit TVNCOE’s website.

<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/09/05/9-5-2018-updated-subchapter-m-faqs-now-available/>

4. Towing industry safety statistics for 2017:

The Coast Guard, in partnership with the American Waterways Operators (AWO), released the National Quality Steering Committee’s annual safety report. The report contains freight carrying towing industry data and measures for calendar years 1994 to 2017.

<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/09/04/9-4-2018-towing-industry-safety-statistics-for-2017/>