

CGC Juniper: ATON Excellence

Since its commissioning 11 years ago, the CGC Juniper has developed a truly multi-mission readiness across a wide spectrum of Coast Guard missions. From Aids-to-navigation and law enforcement to ice-breaking and search and rescue, the seven officer and 37 enlisted crew of the Newport, R.I.-based buoy tender execute their missions with efficiency and precision.

The 225-foot Juniper is responsible for more than 200 buoys from Sandy Hook, N.J., to Cape Cod, Mass., and many of the ATON trips take the Juniper to waterways such as the New York City approaches, Long Island Sound, Vineyard Sound, Buzzard's Bay and Nantucket. Every quarter, the Juniper's fully-capable boarding teams conduct law enforcement boardings during living marine resources patrols, which enforce fishing regulations in the economically and ecologically sensitive southern New England fishing grounds.

Successful operations are due in part to the ship's advanced navigation, maneuvering and

sensory equipment. The machinery plan control and monitoring system collects data from hundreds of sensors throughout the ship to create an accurate overview of the status of all the ship's systems. The Juniper's bow and stern thrusters, engines and DGPS receivers are linked together through the dynamic positioning system, allowing the ship to automatically hold a particular heading, course, or even position, minimizing the risk posed to deck forces while they bring 18,000-pound buoys onto the deck.

When not on duty, crewmembers enjoy Juniper's homeport or one of a number of liberty ports including Boston, Manhattan, Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard or Washington, D.C. Newport itself is one of the liveliest and most beautiful communities in Rhode Island. Sailing and other watersports are popular in the summer, and Newport is close to many of the skiing and snowboarding resorts in New England.

For more, visit the Juniper's Web site at <http://www.uscg.mil/d1/units/cgcjuniper/index.html>.

Housing: Average rent in Newport for a two bedroom apartment is \$1,000. The communities of Middletown and Portsmouth offer more affordable alternatives, and government housing is available.

Weather: Summers see temperatures in the mid 70s, while Winter temperatures dip into the 30s.

Facilities: The Naval Education and Training Center Newport provides a host of services to Juniper crewmembers. The base has an exchange, commissary and a very active Morale Welfare and Recreation office.

Education: Nearby colleges include the University of Rhode Island, Roger Williams University, Salve Regina and Community College of Rhode Island.

▼ **REFLECTIVE PRESENCE** The CGC Juniper transits the Potomac River near Alexandria, Va., at sunrise Feb. 21. The 225-foot buoy tender is homeported in Newport, R.I.

