U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. COAST GUARD
Marine Safety Unit Port Arthur, Texas

Marine Safety Information Bulletin
08-14
April 18, 2014

Scheduled Channel Closure
Neches River, Port Neches, TX

RIVERFEST, an annual event sponsored by the Port Neches Chamber of Commerce, is scheduled to be held on *Friday, May 2nd through Sunday, May 4th, 2014.* Some RIVERFEST events will take place on the Neches River in the vicinity of Port Neches Park, including boat races and a fireworks display.

As a result, the Coast Guard will enforce Special Local Regulations adjacent to Port Neches Park in Port Neches, Texas, during the event. Specifically, vessels MAY NOT enter or remain in the portion of the Neches River, bound on the west by 30°00'00" N (near the Harrison Refinery Dock) and on the east by 93°56'00" W (near FINA upper anchorage), during the boat races. Additionally, the Coast Guard will enforce a 500-yard safety zone around the fireworks launch site during the scheduled fireworks display on Saturday, May 3rd, 2014.

The Coast Guard and other law enforcement agencies will enforce these regulations during the following times:

May 2, 2014:	**2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.**
May 3, 2014:	**8:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.**
	8:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. (Fireworks Display)
May 4, 2014:	**8:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.**

Breaks during the racing events have been scheduled to allow shallow draft traffic to pass. Vessels desiring to transit through this area may contact Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) Port Arthur on channel 65A or 13 VHF-FM or the on-scene Coast Guard vessel on channel 13 or 16 VHF-FM.

This notice will be posted on the Coast Guard's HOMEPORT website at http://homeport.uscg.mil and the VTS website at www.uscg.mil/d8/vtsportarthur. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call VTS Port Arthur at (409) 719-5070.

G. J. PAITL
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port