

U.S. Department
of Transportation

United States
Coast Guard



COAST GUARD NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAVING LIVES IS THE GOAL! BOATING SAFETY COALITION TO HOLD PUBLIC AWARENESS AND SAFE BOAT DEMONSTRATION ON OHIO RIVER

On June 2, 2001, at 10:00 a.m., the Coast Guard and nine public safety organizations will join forces to host a water safety awareness and boating demonstration on the Ohio River. The event will kick off with a joint press conference at the boat dock of Mike Fink's Restaurant in Covington, KY. In conjunction with the National Safe Boating Week campaign, the coalition will display over a dozen public safety and law enforcement vessels, answer questions from the public on federal and state boating requirements, and provide in-water examples of a "safe" and "unsafe" boat. The Coast Guard Auxiliary will also be on hand to offer free recreational boat safety checks.

This summer, over 72 million Americans will participate in recreational boating activities, taking to the water in 16 million registered and unregistered boats. Historically, between 700 and 800 boaters, including about 40 children, die in boating accidents each year. The goal of the coalition is to educate the boating public on ways to prevent such tragedies.

Joining the Coast Guard Marine Safety Detachment Cincinnati will be the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Water Rescue Units from Dearborn, Boone, and Campbell County, the Cincinnati Power Squadron, Hamilton County Sheriff's Department, and the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Boat rides will be available to members of the Media. For more information, please contact Petty Officer Scott Thacker at (513) 921-9033.

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On an average day, the Eighth Coast Guard District saves 14 lives, \$7 million in property, and interdicts over 400 pounds of illegal drugs. The U.S. Coast Guard has served America's national security interests since 1790.