

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security
**United States
Coast Guard**



Press Release

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COAST GUARD TO PROTECT WATERFRONT DURING FAIR ST. LOUIS

ST. LOUIS – The U.S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port (COTP), St. Louis, in support of the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service, will implement waterfront security measures during the upcoming Fair St. Louis 4th of July celebration. As part of the overall security measures being taken for Fair St. Louis, the Coast Guard will enforce both security and safety zones (see graphic) on the Mississippi River between the Poplar Street Bridge at mile marker 179.2 and the Eads Bridge at mile marker 180.0.

Zone A will be designated a safety zone and stretches from the Illinois side of the river to within 350 feet of the Missouri side of the river and prohibits all commercial and recreational vessel traffic between the Eads and Poplar Street Bridges during the air shows and fireworks displays. Zone A is scheduled to be in effect during the following days and times to coincide with scheduled air shows and fireworks displays:

July 2, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., 9:15 to 10:15 p.m.

July 3 from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., 9:15 to 10:15 p.m.

July 4, from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., 9:15 to 10:15 p.m.

Zone B is a security zone and will be in effect from 12:30 p.m. through 10:30 p.m. on July 2, 2004, from 10:00 a.m. through 10:30 p.m. on July 3, 2004, and from 10:00 a.m. through 10:30 p.m. on July 4, 2004. This security zone prohibits any vessel, at any time, from traveling or mooring within 350 feet of the Missouri river bank between the Poplar Street and Eads Bridges. Security zone B will be marked with buoys to help identify the zone to boaters.

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The exclusion of vessels from Zone B provides a buffer zone between vessel traffic and the fair and is consistent with the crowd control measures in place on the landside of the fair. The intermittent exclusion of vessels from Zone A provides for the safety and security of aircraft as well as commercial and recreational vessel traffic during the special events.

Boaters should tune their VHF-radios to channels 16 or 22A to hear the Broadcast Notices to Mariners that will announce the river closures. Coast Guardsmen from Marine Safety Office St. Louis will patrol the river during the fair and will strictly enforce the security zones. Coast Guard Auxiliary and U.S. Navy Reserve vessels will also be in the area to assist and guide boaters. Violating either of the security zones will subject a person to arrest on federal criminal charges, a civil penalty of up to \$27,500 or both.

