



## Marine Safety Office St. Louis PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Coast Guard to Protect Waterfront During Grand Excursion

Davenport – The U.S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port (COTP), St. Louis, in support of the Illinois Department of Conservation and Rock Island Police Department, will implement waterfront safety measures during the upcoming Grand Excursion Quad Cities celebration. As part of the overall safety measures being taken for Grand Excursion, the Coast Guard will enforce safety zones on the Mississippi River in Downtown Davenport at the following locations, dates, and times:

- Mile Marker 482.5 on June 25, 2004 from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. This safety zone will extend 350 feet out from the fireworks barge.
- Upstream tip of Arsenal Island in the Moline River at mile marker 485.8 from 9:00 p.m. through 11:00 p.m. on June 25, 2004 and again on June 26, 2004. This safety zone will extend 420 feet out from the fireworks barge.
- Between Davenport Railroad Bridge and Lock and Dam 15 (mile markers 481.3 to 483.0) from 3:30 p.m. through 5:30 p.m. on June 26, 2004. This safety zone will encompass all waters from bank to bank and is scheduled to coincide with the Grand Excursion Opening Ceremony boat parade.

These safety zones were established to help ensure the safe navigation of both commercial and recreational vessel traffic within the immediate area of the fireworks displays during the Grand Excursion Events. Boaters should tune their VHF-radios to channel 16 to hear the Broadcast Notices to Mariners that will announce the river closures. Coast Guard Marine Safety Detachment Quad Cities and local Auxiliary will patrol the river during the fair to ensure that the safety zone boundaries are strictly enforced. Violation of the safety zones will subject a person to a civil penalty of up to \$27,500.



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