



# Marine Safety Unit Pittsburgh Waterways Information June 2022



## Ohio River

**Ninth Street Bridge (90.8):** Rehabilitation and painting. Vertical clearance reduced by 4 inches until Oct. 2022.

**Bellaire Bridge (94.3):** Demolition date to be determined.

## Tygart River

**1-79 Twin Bridges Replacement (2.6):** Pre-application stage.

## Upcoming Events

Push Beaver County BOOM Fireworks: OHR, MM 25.2 – 25.6; June 25, 9:15pm to 10:15pm.

Monongahela Chamber of Commerce Fireworks: MON, MM 32-33; July 4, 6pm to 11pm

City of Steubenville Fourth Of July Fireworks: OHR, MM 67.5-68.5; July 4, 8:45pm tp 11pm

## Areas of Interest

- 1. Marine Safety Alert:** The Coast Guard Office of Investigations and Analysis has released Marine Safety Alert 06-22, to address the effects of water and other contaminants in fuel systems which can be detrimental to the operation of any vessel. A towing vessel operating in a pushing-ahead configuration experienced a loss of all propulsion while operating on the Mississippi River. The loss of propulsion occurred approximately three hours after getting underway and about 3.5 hours after receiving fuel from a shore-side facility. Fortunately, there was no significant damage to the vessel, nor injuries to crewmembers because of this casualty.

The Coast Guard **strongly recommends** that vessel Owners and Operators:

- Ensure that fuel supplies (bunkers) meet the engine manufacturer's specifications for important parameters such as viscosity and cetane number, as well as any regulatory requirements such as flash point and sulfur content.
- Include regular fuel oil sampling and testing from service tanks as part of a periodic maintenance system.
- Ensure that fuel filters are of the correct flow rate and filtration (micron) rating, and that an adequate supply of spare filters is kept onboard.



## Marine Safety Unit Pittsburgh Waterways Information June 2022



- Consider the use of duplex filter systems to enable switching from clogged to clean filters, as well as the use of filter differential pressure gauges to monitor the condition and cleanliness of the filter element.
- Consider the use of a water sensor in diesel tank or filter system to monitor water content in fuels. These sensors may be combined with displays and alarms to indicate excessive water and are generally more effective at detecting rising water content than periodic manual sampling.
- Ensure that a means is provided, usually by a valve and piping arrangement, to periodically sample the fuel being received during bunkering.
- Have a plan in place to recover from any engine shutdown that occurs because of water contamination in fuel. Fuel severely contaminated by water or other impurities has the potential to cause damage to the engine in a number of ways, including subsequent contamination of the lubricating oil system.

**Casualty investigators, marine surveyors and inspection personnel** are encouraged to maintain an acute awareness to these issues and initiate corrective actions as needed.