



Marine Safety Unit Pittsburgh Waterways Information September 2019



Allegheny River

Ninth Street Bridge (0.8): Due to planned work, the vertical clearance may be reduced more than one foot below low steel. Mariners are urged to transit with caution.

16th Street Bridge (1.4): Due to planned work, the vertical clearance may be reduced more than one foot below low steel. Mariners are urged to transit with caution.

Ohio River

Wellsburg Bridge (75.5): Trestle and cofferdam installation underway. The new bridge will provide a minimum of 800 feet of horizontal clearance. Environmental review underway.

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

Tygart River

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

Upcoming Marine Events

Date	Event	Waterway	Closure	Time
9/14/2019	Heritage Port Sternwheel Festival	Ohio River 90.2-90.7	Full	2200-2315

**There may be homerun/victory fireworks shot from River Rescue during all Pirates home games.*

Marine Event Applications in review

- 05-06 October - Head of the Ohio, Allegheny River 0.0-3.0
- 19-29 October – Monster Pumpkin Festival

Areas of Interest

- 1. Final update from National Maritime Center on Fiscal year 2019 partial government shutdown:**
The [National Maritime Center](#) posted a [bulletin](#) to announce that merchant mariner credentials (MMC) and medical certificates (national endorsements only) that expired in December 2018, January 2019, February 2019, March 2019, April 2019, May 2019, June 2019, or July 2019 will remain valid only until August 31, 2019, as announced in an earlier [bulletin dated July 1, 2019](#). No further credential extensions are authorized. The backlog of credential applications and increased net processing time caused by the lapse in appropriations and partial government shutdown has improved. Within the next two weeks, the NMC will resume processing all MMC applications within the stated goal of 30 net days. Applications for medical certificates are currently processed well under the stated goal of 20 net days. The NMC recommends mariners submit their application packages at least two months prior to the expiration date of their current credentials. If you need immediate assistance or require expedited processing, contact



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our Customer Service Center via the NMC online chat system, by e-mailing IASKNMC@uscg.mil, or by calling 1-888-IASKNMC (427-5662).

<https://mariners.coastguard.blog/2019/08/27/final-update-from-national-maritime-center-on-fiscal-year-2019-partial-government-shutdown/>

2. Inland Towing Operators Working Together (ITOW) approved as third party organization under Subchapter M:

The Towing Vessel National Center of Expertise (TVNCOE) posted on its website Aug. 5, 2019, that the Coast Guard has approved Inland Towing Operators Working Together (ITOW) as a third-party organization (TPO) to carry out certain functions in accordance with Subchapter M. A complete list of all ten Coast Guard approved TPOs can be found on the TPO webpage.

<https://mariners.coastguard.blog/2019/08/08/inland-towing-operators-working-together-itow-approved-as-third-party-organization-under-subchapter-m/>

3. Marine casualty reporting forms updated:

The CG-2692 series of forms for reporting marine casualties has been re-approved by the Office of Management and Budget and updated with the new expiration date of July 31, 2022. Owners, agents, masters, operators, or persons in charge of a vessel should begin using the updated versions of the CG-2692 series immediately.

<https://mariners.coastguard.blog/2019/08/05/marine-casualty-reporting-forms-updated/>