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EPA Proposal to Sell E15 Gasoline Year Round

Special points of interest:

- EPA proposal on E15 sales in summer
- Illinois Lock Repairs Announced
- Toms Reports from NBF and the Coast Guard meetings
- Check out Lakeshore State Park
- Coast Guard Safety Zones in 2019

The EPA has made a move to permit the sale of E15 (15% Ethanol) during the summer ozone season (June 1 to September 15). It is currently available only during the colder months, and has been banned during the summers due to its contribution to ground level ozone. BoatUS—the nations largest boating advocacy group, wants to halt any expansion of E15 availability, and is asking recreational boaters to speak up to help stop the summertime sale of E15.

Boaters reject ethanol in their gas because it damages engine and fuel systems. Because of the damage it causes, E15 has been prohibited by federal law for use in recreational boat engines and voids many marine engine warranties. BoatUS has long been concerned

over misfuelling with E15. Most recreational boaters fuel their vessels at gas stations where pump labeling requirements are quite minimal. One small orange E15 warning label is the only protection currently in place to protect marine and off-road engines. More consumer education is needed to raise awareness of the dangers of misfuelling which can result in expensive repairs to boat engines.

The push for summertime sales of E15 and adding more ethanol into the nations fuel supply is a result of the Renewable Fuel Standards act of 2005. Since that time American use of gasoline has not increased as forecasted. But more ethanol has been getting into each gallon of gas. (source : National Boating Federation)

The Bridge—2019
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Illinois Waterways Lock Restrictions Announced

Several locks along the Illinois River will be closed for repairs this summer which will affect the use of the river by recreational boaters. The two locks which will have the most major repairs are the Marseilles and Starved Rock Locks and new opening schedules for

them have just been released. Beginning in May, these two locks will provide one scheduled lockage daily at 5:30 am. At this time recreational craft may lock through and move along the river to find safe harbor during the daylight hours. In addition, recreational

vessels may be locked through along with commercial tows as long as it is safe to do so, and the Tow Pilot and recreational boater agree that it would be safe to proceed. Contact number are: Marseilles Lock 815-795-2593 and Starved Rock Lock 815-667-4114.

Tom Dogan's Reports from the NBF and Coast Guard

Tom reports from his meetings with the National Boating Safety Advisory Council that they are concerned with the rapid growth of the non-motorized, human propelled vessels. Over a half million of these craft are registered per year and millions more are not registered. NBSAC recommends that an excise tax be levied on the industry to build a trust fund dedicated to construction and renovation of recreational access facilities, law enforcement, and Coast Guard

boating safety programs to teach safety practices to these human-propelled vessel operators.

Another issue that NBSAC is working on involves reauthorization of the Sport Fishing Restoration and Boating Trust Fund which is dedicated for aquatic conservation and boating safety. The Trust is a user fee-public benefit system funded through motorboat fuel, import duties, and excise taxes on small engines, fishing equipment, and electric motors. This fund has

implemented programs which have saved tens of thousands of lives, and provided \$650 million annually for the USCG boating safety programs, coastal wetlands restoration, and fish habitat projects in 56 states and territories. Without the reauthorization by Congress, this Trust Fund will expire in 2020.

NBSAC wants this critical fund to be fully reauthorized by Congress before it expires in 2020.

Coast Guard Safety Zones

The Coast Guard has established two safety zones on Lake Michigan in Chicago to protect vessels and persons from lakebed rock removal operations involving blasting. Zone One will be enforced from May 1 through December 15th, 2019. It encompasses the area of Calumet Harbor Entrance from the South Side Light to the rest of the Calumet harbor entrance. Zone Two will be enforced during the same period, but only about thirty minutes per day, within a 2000 foot radius of 41deg 43.6665N, 087deg30.3805 W .

Summer Events Scheduled in Wisconsin

Two annual events are scheduled for the Wisconsin area this summer. First is the Rendezvous to be held at the Port Washington Yacht Club on June 14 and 15th. On Friday night we will have a dinner gathering at the New Port Shores restaurant, then over to the yacht club for an after party. Saturday activities include a luncheon at the Yacht Club, then the LMYA update

meeting, and an afternoon Poker Walk around Port Washington. Our evening activities include dinner at the Yacht Club, a silent auction, games, prizes, and local PWYC band, Five Foot Two.

On July 13th, South Shore Yacht Club in Milwaukee will once again host the annual Day At The Lake for SSYC and LMYA members. The open house features meals, games, prizes, an

art show and auction, and plenty of wonderful hospitality on the lake front. Look for our display table. This is a super fun event. LMYA members can get a night of free dockage at the yacht club, plus with their LMYA Cruising Card, they can save even more money to extend their stay an extra night. This Open House draws people from all around the lake, so come and enjoy the day.

LMYA Rendezvous and the SSYC Open House are already scheduled - mark your calendars

Why Not Visit Lakeshore State Park ?

With summer rapidly approaching, its time to make plans to visit the new Lakeshore State Park in the Milwaukee Harbor. The park is a boaters' campground with reservations for slips available through the DNR website. Besides the boat slips, there are many events planned for the summer at the park and no admission stickers are re-

quired. The park is located between the Summerfest grounds and Discovery World. You can also use the 1.7 mile hiking trail which connects to the Hank Arron and Oak Leaf trails in Milwaukee. Check out their website and the Friends of the State Park website. LMYA made a donation last year to help the Friends who are raising

money to build an education center which includes boaters showers and restrooms on the island. There are over 100 educational programs a year at the Park. Come and check it out this summer.



Lakeshore State Park