

On the KK river
at I-94 and Becher St.

N43 00.413
W87 54.848



P.O. Box 07525
Milwaukee, WI 53207
(414) 429-7000
info@piermilwaukee.com

The Pierhead Newsline April 2009

KK River Remediation:

Well, after working on this project since November 2002, I am pretty confident following a meeting April 6, with the dredge contractor that 24 hour/7 day dredge operations will begin May 14, 2009 in the project area defined as Becher Street, downstream to KK Avenue.

Initially the contractor will create a 10 feet deep x 90 feet wide channel from KK Avenue to Becher Street. They will then go to 20 feet deep x 80 feet wide, sloping to 10 feet deep at the dock walls from Becher to KK Ave. completing the sediment removal element of the remediation project through November 2009.

The contractor intends to be dredging between KK Ave and 1st St from May 14, thru May 20. This is the river's narrowest portion within the project area. The contractor will then move upstream of 1st Street to Becher St. from May 21 thru June 4, for the initial 10 feet x 90 feet channel. From June 4, the dredge operation will be located at and around Pier Milwaukee beginning the deep water sediment removal.

What does this all mean for you? Initial discussions with the contractor provide for a four hour window each day to allow safe passage of yacht traffic past the dredge operation, including Saturday's. At this point the four hour window has NOT been firmly established. Coordination with the CP Rail bridge for sailboat traffic is an element in determining the passage window.

In years past, Pier Milwaukee customers rarely requested more than two launches per weekday. Saturdays we have launched up to five or six. While I expect the dredge passage window to rarely impact weekday schedules, I suspect Saturday's will be a problem. As you are all aware we have very limited docking due to depth. Pre-planning and flexibility will be the key to a safe, and trouble free launch this season. Troubleshoot any mechanical issues that may crop up before the boat is lowered into water. We will not have much flexibility to hold up the next launch if your batteries fail. Sailboats, particularly those planning on mast steppings will need to be the most patient/flexible if requesting a Saturday launch. If you choose to schedule in early June, we may not be able to launch you on the day you want if the dredge is working in or around the lift well. If your plans are completely inflexible, you may want to consider scheduling your launch prior to May 14, 2009...provided you are not buried behind several other boats.

With a bit of pre planning, awareness, and coordination I believe the launch season will be smooth. The upside is a riverway that will no longer be a hope and a prayer to navigate.

Other Notables for Launch:

Remember, the boat yard needs at least two days notice to schedule your launch. We also need your four 25 ft long minimum dock lines. This is your VERY important responsibility to help us safely launch your boat. We cannot emphasize this enough. In fact it is a contractual obligation...see your agreement. You are responsible for proper offsite disposal of any tarp, boat cover, or shrink wrap. You are responsible for proper offsite disposal of any fuels, oils, and filters.

Last but certainly not least. Please be conscious of you and your guests entering/exiting the boat yard during launch season. Driving anywhere near the lift staging area is a hazard to you, workers, equipment and boats. Park and leave vehicles on the street. It is legal parking, and does not complicate the operation of equipment in the boat yard. If you are launching, please have you and your crew park vehicles on the street. True story: crew of boat heading down the river parked and locked vehicle in front of next boat scheduled for launch. Don't let that happen to you. The solution is simple, park on the street.

One last reminder; if you intend to stay with Pier Milwaukee for the 2009/10 winter storage season please bring a \$200 deposit and initiate an agreement before September 1, 2009. On September 1, we will bring in new customers to fill empty spaces and bring the yard to capacity.