



# PRESS RELEASE

Contact: A. J. Sullivan, Jr.  
Public Affairs Officer  
(563)423-6004  
[Sullivan@acegroup.cc](mailto:Sullivan@acegroup.cc)

## US Coast Guard Auxiliary Issues Warning to Recreational Boaters

**Prairie du Chien** – The U S Coast Guard Auxiliary Prairie du Chien Flotilla has issued a warning to area recreational boaters regarding a dangerous underwater hazard located on the Mississippi River near the confluence of the Main and East Channels just south of McGregor.

On the evening of August 11<sup>th</sup> the Bill Adamany family was operating their 25 foot pontoon boat in the vicinity of river mile 633. The vessel was headed North and bearing to the right to enter the East channel when she struck an underwater object tearing the transom from the vessel and disabling it. Another boat heard the noise and rescued the now drifting Adamany vessel towing her to the Winneshiek Marina. While damage to the stricken vessel was extensive there were no injuries. The location was described as being on the Wisconsin side of the channel near a rip-rap (rock) bank and East of the center of the channel near Bergman Island.

A local marine mechanic reports that he has seen 3-4 vessels heavily damaged in this same area over the past two years. Each had wood imbedded in the vessel's outdrives.

All vessels should use caution when operating in this area until the object can be located and removed or properly marked.

Flotilla Commander Steve Gress stresses that sudden incidents like this highlight the need **to always wear your life jacket** and maintain a proper watch as floating debris is always a hazard on the Mississippi particularly during periods of high water.

---

*The Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed civilian component of the U. S. Coast Guard and supports the Coast Guard in nearly all mission areas. The Auxiliary was created by Congress in 1939. For more information please visit [www.cgaux.org](http://www.cgaux.org)*