

NEWS RELEASE

## Chicagoland In-Water Boat Show

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### **IN-WATER BOAT SHOW OPENS THURSDAY IN MICHIGAN CITY**

More than 10,000 boating enthusiasts are expected to pass through the gates when the new Progressive Chicagoland In-Water Boat Show docks on the Michigan City lakefront Thursday to Sunday.

This year's event has been redesigned from its basic footprint to its emphasis on creating a boating rendezvous atmosphere. "Boating is fun," says show manager Bryan Ralston, "and we want every visitor to have fun at our boat show. We're focused on the experience for the whole family."

To make it fun, Ralston has included the first-ever Kidz Zone that will star "Twiggy the Water Skiing Squirrel." The world's most famous rodent, Twiggy will be surrounded in the Kidz Zone by hands-on activities including face painting, bounce houses and more.

Meanwhile, "Oh Condoleezza" and "Going Home to Graceland" will be among the songs to ring out when popular singer-songwriter Jeff Tucker takes the main stage daily. Elsewhere, visitors will celebrate on the floating Party Barge; attend fishing clinics and casting challenges; and enjoy new food choices including the popular Blue Chip Casino Food Trailer (on Sat and Sun).

But the stars of the show will be all the boats. Because this event is the only in-water boat show held annually on Lake Michigan, the top dealers from Illinois, Michigan and Indiana will all be dockside. The boating rendezvous atmosphere will complement the fleet of about 200 new and select pre-owned boats, including inflatables, pontoons, ski boats, fishing machines and cruisers up to 60-foot-plus motor yachts.

Many new 2017 models from major boat builders will be getting their first public showing. One of the unique appeals of this event's in-water format is that it allows the display of big boats dockside that can't be exhibited at indoor winter boat shows. And, unlike indoor shows, this show boasts a selection of pre-owned boats, too.

Overall, the weekend will showcase boats including inflatables, pontoons, ski boats, fishing machines and cruisers up to 60-foot-plus motor yachts. Accessories are housed in tents at dockside.

The show site is Michigan City's Washington Park. Show hours will be: Thursday and Friday (Aug. 11-12) 12 Noon to 8:00PM; Saturday (Aug. 13) 11:00AM to 8:00PM; Sunday (Aug. 14) 11:00AM to 6:00PM. Admission: \$12 Adults; Seniors 60+ \$8.00; Children 12 and under free; Discount \$2 off Adult with online purchase.

For the latest information, go to: [www.michigancityboatshow.com](http://www.michigancityboatshow.com)