



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket No. USCG-2026-1263]

Safety Zone; Brandon Road Lock and Dam to Lake Michigan including Des Plaines River, Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, Chicago River, and Calumet-Saganashkee Channel, Chicago, IL

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notification of enforcement of regulation.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard will enforce a moving safety zone on the South Branch of the Chicago River between the Lake Street Bridge at mile marker 325.5 and South Damen Avenue at mile marker 321 for the floating down of the bridge leaf for the Chicago Department of Transportation Bridge repair. During the enforcement period, entry into, transiting, mooring, laying-up, or anchoring within the safety zone is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Lake Michigan or a designated on-scene representative.

DATES: The regulations in 33 CFR 165.930(a)(2) and (3) will be enforced on October 14, 2026, 9:30 a.m. through 6:00 p.m., with alternate inclement weather dates and times of October 15, 2026, 9:30 a.m. through 6:00 p.m.; October 16, 2026, 9:30 a.m. through 6:00 p.m.; and October 17, 2026, 9:30 a.m. through 6:00 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this notice, call or e-mail Lieutenant Michael Vega, Marine Safety Unit Chicago, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 630-986-2155, email: D09-SMB-MSUChicago-WWM@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Coast Guard will enforce a portion of the safety zone regulations in 33 CFR 165.930(a)(2) and (3) on the South Branch of the

Chicago River between the Lake Street Bridge (Mile Marker 325.5) and South Damen Avenue (Mile Marker 321) for the floating down of the CDOT bridge leaf from 9:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on October 14th, 2026. This will be a moving safety zone creating a 500-foot buffer forward and aft of the vessel carrying the bridge leaf. This action is being taken to provide for the safety of life on the navigable waterway during the bridge leaf float down. Our regulation for marine events within the Great Lakes Coast Guard District, 33 CFR 165.930(c)(1), specifies that the Captain of the Port (COTP) may enforce this safety zone in whole, in segments, or by any combination of segments. The COTP Lake Michigan may suspend the enforcement of any segment of this safety zone for which notice of enforcement has been given. Pursuant to 33 CFR 165.930, during the enforcement period, entry into, transiting, or anchoring within safety zone is prohibited unless authorized by the COTP Lake Michigan or a designated on-scene representative. Vessels and persons granted permission to enter the safety zone must obey all lawful orders or directions of the COTP Lake Michigan designated representative. Upon being hailed by the Coast Guard by siren, radio, flashing light or other means, the operator of a vessel must proceed as directed.

In addition to this notification of enforcement in the *Federal Register*, the Coast Guard will provide the maritime community with notification of this enforcement period via Broadcast Notice to Mariners. The COTP Lake Michigan may be reached by contacting the Coast Guard Sector Lake Michigan Command Center at (833) 900-2247. An on-scene designated representative may be reached via VHF-FM Channel 16.

N. R. Downend,
Commander, U.S. Coast Guard,
Acting Captain of the Port, Lake Michigan.