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## Water Rescue Crews Gear Up For Riverfest

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(Jon Atkinson, 9News)

**Reported by:** [Richard Chiles](#)

**Photographer:** Jon Atkinson

**Web produced by:** [Megan Wasmund](#)

The Tri-State's annual celebration of summer is underway with thousands camped out on both shores of the river to take in all of the sights of the river.

Crews from Boone County Water Rescue have been loading up boats and hitting the water all day Sunday.

While most boaters will be watching the sights and sounds of the Riverfest, these crews will be keeping an eye on safety.

Captain Dale Appel says, "Everybody needs to relax and be careful. Make sure everybody is operational and everybody is going to have a safe day."

While police and law enforcement will be patrolling both shores and working through the crowds watching from the river banks, water rescue teams will be cutting through the wake and chop of the river.

"There's going to be a lot of law enforcement and agencies out here to help maintain law on the river," says Captain Appel.

Maintaining law and order, means calling on citizen cooperation.

One boater, Bill Ehrman says, "Make sure that nobody has too much to drink on the boat. If they do, I give them a life vest, and make sure the boat's anchored tight so that everyone can have a good time."

While it looks like all fun there is a great caution that comes in to play with the heavy traffic expected in the water this weekend.

Dale Appel says "A lot of people like to get out of here quickly. It's our suggestion you take your time, go slowly."

The Riverfest fireworks begin at 9:00 p.m. Sunday night.

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