

Marine Safety Information Bulletin



Commander
U.S. Coast Guard
Sector Delaware Bay
1 Washington Ave
Philadelphia, PA 19147

MSIB Number: 06-26
Contact: Waterways Management Staff
Phone: (206) 815-6688, Option 3
E-Mail: DelawareBayWWM@uscg.mil
Date: January 31, 2026

Notice of Port Condition Whiskey (Modified)

The Captain of the Port (COTP), Sector Delaware Bay, has set a modified Port Condition WHISKEY due to the forecast of high winds in the Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware area beginning within the next 12 hours. A thorough explanation of port conditions can be found under the Port Hurricane Contingency Plan tab at URL: <https://www.atlanticarea.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/District-5/District-Units/Sector-Delaware-Bay/>.

The COTP has determined the region will likely experience gale force winds, increased seas, surf, coastal flooding, tidal surge and extremely low tides. Members of the port community should take adequate precautions and review the Severe Weather Contingency Plan. In preparation for high winds, the following provisions of Port Condition WHISKEY are implemented:

- Due to higher winds and freezing temperatures, vessels may experience freezing spray. Crews are reminded to maintain equipment that may be affected by freezing spray.
- Vessels must have effective mooring and anchorage arrangements for anticipated high wind; vessel agents are asked to notify vessel masters of this requirement.
- Facilities must minimize debris that could become missile hazards.
- Lightering, bunkering, and cargo operations must cease when sustained winds exceed 40 mph.
- Vessels and facilities shall conduct a self-assessment for high winds and report any potential hazards or concerns to the Sector Delaware Bay Command Center at (833) 453-1007.

In the event that the COTP imposes further restrictions, they will be broadcasted on VHF-FM Channel 16. Additionally, all notifications will be forwarded to the Maritime Exchange and will be available as requested. The U.S. Coast Guard will provide the earliest possible advance notification before changing the port condition.

Mariners can also report conditions to the Sector Delaware Bay Command Center on VHF Channel 16 or call (833) 453-1007.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this bulletin, please contact the Waterways Management staff at (267) 515-7294.

K. F. HIGGINS-BLOOM
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port, Sector Delaware Bay