

THE SAVE THE DELTA QUEEN CAMPAIGN

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DELTA QUEEN SAFETY FACT SHEET

Technology and staff training provide effective systems for prevention, detection, suppression, and evacuation.

- GREAT SAFETY RECORD – The Delta Queen has safely operated for more than 80 years without a single loss of life or a serious fire incident.
- PASSENGER NOTIFICATION – Current legislation requires that all prospective passengers are informed about the presence of wood in the Delta Queen's superstructure.
- INCREASING REGULATIONS AND TRAINING – As regulatory requirements continue to steadily increase, the entire crew undergoes extensive fire prevention, fire safety, and fire fighting training conducted by Coast Guard-approved instructors from the Washington State Fire Academy.

PREVENTION

- COAST GUARD INSPECTIONS – The United States Coast Guard (in charge of marine safety) inspects the Delta Queen quarterly, with unannounced visits at the Coast Guard's discretion – resulting in inspections at least six times a year and has issued the vessel a Certificate of Inspection.
- REDUCED RISK – The amount of combustible material ("fire load") has been reduced, including overhead beams and the vessel's roof which have been replaced with fire-retardant or fire-resistant materials. Portions of the vessel have been painted with intumescent (fire retardant) paint.
- EMERGENCY DRILLS – All crew and passengers perform fire and abandon-ship drills at least weekly in accordance with federal regulations.

DETECTION

- DETECTION SYSTEMS – Two separate, modern, high-tech fire detection systems have been installed that sense the presence of heat or smoke so that a response may be initiated immediately. The Delta Queen is outfitted with the latest fire detection and suppression systems, mandated by the Coast Guard after 2000, and installed in accordance with their specifications. Fire, smoke, and heat detectors are located in every room on the vessel. The system is monitored 24 hours a day from the pilot house and engine room.
- WATCHMEN using a key-station system patrol the Delta Queen from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m., making a complete circuit of the vessel every 20 minutes.

SUPPRESSION

- SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS – The vessel is equipped with two different types of fixed fire suppression systems to remotely extinguish a fire in either engineering or public spaces. The sprinkler system can extinguish a fire automatically without any manual human interface required and is in every interior space. There are fixed CO₂ fire suppression systems for the liquor locker, generator rooms, boiler room, and bowthruster room. The vessel has emergency ventilation shut-offs with extinguishers, fire hoses and nozzles at close intervals throughout the vessel.
- FIRE CREWS – All licensed deck and engineering officers have completed advanced fire fighting training at USCG-approved training facilities and receive periodic refresher training. They are at the ready 24 hours a day.

EVACUATION

- COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS – The general alarm and public address system, manufactured by Hose-McCann, is the same one that is being installed on the US Navy's newest ships. It far exceeds requirements for the Delta Queen, but its installation was part of the company's plan to bring her into the next century.
- EASY EVACUATION –
 - SAFE DESIGN – The Delta Queen has an inherently safe design with almost every room opening directly onto an outside deck. The few interior rooms have exterior windows, are no farther than 30 feet from an exit, and each opens into a broad salon, not a hallway. All exit stairways are outside.
 - EVACUATION EQUIPMENT – Evacuation slides and inflatable emergency boats are available on both sides of the vessel. A special high-speed rescue boat is also available.
 - CLOSE PROXIMITY TO LAND – The Delta Queen cruises only America's rivers and is never beyond sight of land and can quickly and easily be pulled to shore. Like all riverboats, she was designed with the capability to land almost anyplace along the river. In the case of a medical emergency, the crew can quickly get the passenger to safety wherever an ambulance can access the river.

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