

Soo Locks – Celebrates! Commemorating a national treasure

DETROIT – This summer at the Soo Locks in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan is shaping up to be like no other in the history of the locks. During the June 25 – 30, 2003 week several activities are planned for the young and old alike.

The US Army Corps of Engineers, its co-sponsors, and partners are creating ceremonies to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the MacArthur Lock and to dedicate its newest survey vessel the "BUFE." During that week a newly renovated visitors center will reopen unveiling plans for additional, major renovations for the future. To punctuate the week's events the Corps is hosting "Engineers Day" opening the locks for public tours. This event kicks off the famous "Soo Locks Festival" for which many families travel to participate as their only vacation of the year.

Also, during this week many Great Lakes stakeholders will participate in the first Great Lakes Sustainability conference to help shape discussions on the preservation of this mighty fresh water treasure.

Highlighted events throughout the week include: a local band, antique cars, boat tours, a open house at the Soo electrical plant, and Army entertainment – specifically to include a rock climbing wall. The public is invited to most events, but check our web site for availability and updates.

US Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District web site: www.lre.usace.army.mil

Sponsors:

US Army Corps of Engineers

US Coast Guard

Sault Ste. Marie Visitors Bureau: [web site](#)

Soo Locks Festival: [web site](#)

Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority

Great Lakes Sustainability Group: [web site](#)

Events Schedule

International Joint Commission Meeting

Who: **Superior Board**
When: **Tuesday, June 24, 7:00 p.m.**
Where: **Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada**
Open: **Media -- no**
Public -- yes

CONFERENCE Small Group meeting

Who: **Invited guests -- Conference (VIPs)**
When: **Tuesday, June 24, 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.**
Where: **Soo Locks, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

Open: **Media -- no**
Public -- no

Great Lakes Sustainability Conference

Who: **Conference attendees**
When: **Wednesday - Thursday, June 25 - 26, 7:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**
Where: **Lake Superior State University, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

Open: **Media: Open to some sessions [See Conference information](#)**
Public: attendees only

Concert in the Park

What: **Local Band**
When: **Wednesday, June 25, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**
Where: **Soo Locks park, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**
Open: **Media -- yes**
Public -- yes

Visitor Center Open House

What: **Unveiling innovative plans for Visitors Center**
When: **Friday, June 27, 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.**
Where: **Soo Locks Visitors Center, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**
Open: **Media -- Yes**
Public -- Yes

US Coast Guard Station Open House [more info](#)

What: **Tours at the Coast Guard building**
When: **Friday, June 27, 10:00 a.m. - 4 p.m.**
Saturday, June 28, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Where: **US Coast Guard, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**
Open: **Media -- Yes**
Public -- Yes

Soo Edison Open House

What: **Tour Soo Edison building**
When: **TBA**
Where: **Soo Edison, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**
Open: **Media -- Yes**
Public -- Yes

Engineers Day celebration

What: **Locks open for public general public tours.**
Includes various activities throughout the day.
When: **Friday, June 27, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**
Where: **Soo Locks, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**
Open: **Media -- yes**
Public -- yes

MacArthur Lock Celebration

What: **60th Anniversary of the MacArthur Lock**

When: **Friday, June 27, 11:00 a.m.**

Where: **Soo Locks, MacArthur Lock, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

Open: **Media -- yes**
Public -- yes

Kewadin/Soo Locks Festival Golf Challenge

What: **Golf Tournament**

When: **Friday, June 27, Tee Times start at 8:00 a.m.**

Sault Ste. Marie Country Club

Where: **1520 Riverside Dr.**
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

Open: **Media -- yes**
Public -- yes

Bufe Dedication ceremony

What: **New survey vessel dedication -- will work out of the Corps Soo Area Office**

When: **Friday, June 27, 1:00 p.m.**

Where: **Soo Locks, MacArthur Lock, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

Open: **Media -- yes**
Public -- yes

Rock Climbing, Army Specialized HMMWV

What: **Army Recruiter activities**

When: **Friday, June 27, throughout the day**

Where: **Soo Locks park, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

Open: **Media -- yes**
Public -- yes

Storyteller Larry Massey

What: **Story telling, about the first settlers to the area**

When: **Friday, June 27, 2 p.m. & 3 p.m.**

Where: **Soo Locks Park
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

Open: **Media -- yes
Public -- yes**

Native American performance

What: **Tradition ceremony and activities**

When: **Friday, June 27, TBA**

Where: **Soo Locks park, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

Open: **Media -- yes
Public -- yes**

USA Express Band production

What: **Musical Variety show**

When: **Friday, June 27, 5:00 p.m. - 7 p.m.**

Where: **Festival grounds
Aune Osborne Park
1225 Riverside Dr.
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

Open: **Media -- yes
Public -- yes**

Soo Locks Festival [web site](#)

What: **Events include carnival rides, live entertainment, food, clowns and more**

When: **June 27 - 30, all day**

Where: **Aune Osborne Park
1225 Riverside Dr
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

Open: **Media -- yes
Public -- yes**

