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## Barge Strikes Tourist Boat in Philadelphia

MICHAEL LUO and LIZ ROBBINS

Published: Thursday, July 8, 2010 at 6:30 a.m.

PHILADELPHIA — A placid Wednesday afternoon on the Delaware River here suddenly turned into mayhem when a barge plowed into an amphibious vessel packed with tourists that had stalled in the water.



Joseph Kaczmarek/Associated Press

A person was escorted to an ambulance after a barge hit a tourist boat on the Delaware River in Philadelphia on Wednesday.

The crash sent 37 people aboard the "duck boat" into the water just off Penn's Landing, a popular waterfront district, where people scrambled to help panicked passengers bobbing in the river.

Two people, a 16-year-old girl and a 20-year-old man, were missing Wednesday evening, officials said, but search and rescue efforts were still under way.

Before the crash, a fire broke out on the tourist boat, causing it to shut down, said Charles H. Ramsey, the Philadelphia police commissioner. "The boat was sitting in the water waiting for help," he said.

That was when the city-owned barge, hauling sludge and pulled by a tugboat, ran into the tourist boat, which sank immediately, the authorities and witnesses said.

A four-person team from the National Transportation Safety Board in Washington arrived here late in the day to take over investigation of the accident, with more investigators set to arrive in the morning.

"This is a very serious situation," Mayor Michael A. Nutter of Philadelphia said. "We're going to do everything we can to obviously get to the bottom of it."

One significant question is whether the crew of the disabled duck boat made a distress call to alert other boats in the area.

Capt. Todd Gatlin, a Coast Guard official, said that the agency monitored broadcasts on an emergency channel normally used for this purpose and that it had picked up only a transmission from the boat in which it was hailing another vessel, not making a call for help.

Another issue is how visible the duck boat was on the water to vessels bearing down on it. Captain Gatlin said there had clearly been certain areas that were below the sightline of the tugboat operator.

The tugboat, owned by K-Sea Transportation and under contract to the city, had five crew members on board, a company spokesman said, but they were not injured. The barge was unmanned and did not have a motor, officials said.

Meg Scharpf, 40, of Phoenix, who was visiting the city with her husband and two sons, said she had watched the crash from the waterfront.

At first, she said, she saw that the tugboat and barge were "a little too close for comfort" to the stalled duck boat. Then, discomfort suddenly turned to distress.

"The barge hit the broadside of the duck boat, and then they were gone," Ms. Scharpf



said. "I heard nothing, I didn't hear a scream."

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And then, after 10 agonizing seconds, Ms. Scharpf said, she was reassured when she saw people "pop up in their life jackets" some 200 yards from shore. They were calmly floating in the river.

Within minutes, several boats from the Coast Guard and from the Philadelphia Police and Fire Departments raced to rescue the passengers, plucking out all but two within an hour, said Petty Officer Mike Lutz, a spokesman for the Coast Guard in Atlantic City.

Police divers located the boat using sonar several hours after it sank in murky water 40 to 50 feet deep. They attached a white buoy to mark the spot. They were not, however, able to get inside the boat.

"You cannot see three inches in front of you," Commissioner Ramsey said about the conditions below the surface.

The buoy was visible from shore, with the Benjamin Franklin Bridge in the background.

News video from CBS 3-TV in Philadelphia showed people being scooped out of the water and helped onto police boats. Some of them were holding on to pilings in the water as they awaited rescue.

Throughout the afternoon, passengers draped in Red Cross towels emerged from the nearby Independence Seaport Museum, where they had been brought for triage, and climbed into waiting vehicles.

Ms. Scharpf said she had talked to the husband of one of the passengers when they were both providing accounts to the authorities inside the museum. The man said he had been talking to his wife by cellphone when she was still on the duck boat.

"She told him they were waiting for another tugboat, saying that the engine's on fire," Ms. Scharpf said. "She was laughing about it. Then all of a sudden, he heard her screaming and the phone went dead."

The barge was about 800 feet long, Petty Officer Lutz said, and it was being pulled by an 85-foot tug called the Caribbean Sea.

Darrell Wilson, a spokesman for K-Sea, said the company would "fully cooperate and participate in that investigation." He said he did not know how fast the tug had been traveling, but said, "You're not going to be moving very fast with a barge and a tug alongside you."

After the accident, the port captain closed a stretch of the waterway between the Walt Whitman and Benjamin Franklin Bridges, the Coast Guard said. Ten passengers on the duck boat were transported to Hahnemann University Hospital, but two refused treatment. The others were treated for minor injuries and released by 8 p.m., said a hospital spokeswoman, Coleen Cannon.

Philadelphia Duck Tours is operated by Ride the Ducks, a company that operates similar tourist trips on amphibious vehicles at five other locations around the country, including San Francisco, Branson, Mo., and Seattle, according to the company's Web site.

"Ride the Ducks extends our heartfelt feelings to the families of the guests who were on the vehicle today," Sharla Feldsher, a spokeswoman, said Wednesday evening in a brief statement. "We will continue to work with the authorities in the recovery efforts."

The company said its six-wheeled vehicle, capable of traveling on land and water, was based on the "classic World War II 'DUKW' amphibious design."

The company said it had more than 90 vehicles and that it carried more than 1.2 million passengers a year. As these vessels have gained popularity over the last 15 years in the tourism industry, they have been involved several accidents.

In May 1999, a duck boat sank on Lake Hamilton in Hot Springs, Ark., killing 13 of the 21 people on board.

Survivors said that water leaked into the passenger area. The vessel, the Miss Majestic, was built in 1944 for the Army, and was a combination of a truck and a boat. It had waterproof air compartments, but the National Transportation Safety Board found that it did not have enough buoyancy to stay afloat once the passenger area filled with water.

In 2000, another duck boat sank in Lake Michigan, but all 19 people aboard escaped. It went down within sight of a Coast Guard station.

# The Washington Post

## Barge hits tourist duck boat in Philly; 2 missing

By MARYCLAIRE DALE  
The Associated Press  
Wednesday, July 7, 2010; 11:33 PM

PHILADELPHIA -- An amphibious sightseeing boat that stalled in the Delaware River was knocked over by an oncoming barge Wednesday, spilling 37 people overboard and leaving two passengers unaccounted for after a frantic rescue effort.

Ten people were sent to one hospital after the capsizing of the six-wheeled "duck boat," which offers tours of Philadelphia by water and land. Only minor injuries were reported. Witnesses said many passengers were wearing life vests as rescuers plucked them from the water.

Searchers spent hours looking for a 16-year-old girl and a 20-year-old man believed to have been aboard the vessel, police Lt. Frank Vanore said.

"It's remarkable that we're only looking for two people," Deputy Police Commissioner Richard Ross said.

The search was scaled back to two boats at nightfall.

The duck boat had driven into the water just after 2:30 p.m. and suffered a mechanical problem and a small fire, officials said. It was struck about 10 minutes later by a barge used to transport sludge, then sank.

Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey said divers found the duck boat in water about 50 feet deep. Vanore said crews would not attempt to recover it until Thursday at the earliest.

There were 35 passengers and two crew members aboard the boat, said Coast Guard Senior Chief Bud Holden. Coast Guard boats assisted by police and fire crews worked to rescue people from the water, he said. A spokeswoman for the duck boat company said 39 people were aboard, and the reason for the discrepancy wasn't clear.

"A barge went into us," one of the duck boat's passengers, Sandy Cohen, told WPVI-TV. "We had engine trouble, so we were just waiting for somebody else to come and tow us."

Bystanders along the waterfront screamed as

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# The Washington Post

## Barge hits tourist duck boat in Philly; 2 missing

the barge hit the boat, said a security guard who was patrolling the waterfront.

"I whirled around as the barge began to run over the duck boat," said Larry Waxmunski, a guard for the Delaware River Waterfront Corp. "After the barge hit it - it almost looked like slow motion - the duck boat began to turn over."

"Fortunately, you began to see the life vests popping up almost immediately," Waxmunski said. He then saw police boats beginning to pluck the tourists out of the water.

Television footage showed at least five people being pulled from the water wearing life vests in an area of the river near the Old City neighborhood, popular with tourists. Helicopter footage showed people in life vests being helped from boats on to a dock and at least one person on a gurney.

Terri Ronna, 45, of Oakland, N.J., said she was on a ferry going from Camden, N.J., across the river to Philadelphia when the captain announced that there was someone overboard from another ship and that they were going to rescue him.

"We were not even halfway over when they said there was somebody overboard and we were going to get them," Ronna said. "There were people all over; we could see all these orange life vests."

At a waterfront news conference, Mayor

Michael Nutter said authorities were trying to figure out exactly what happened.

"This is a very serious situation, and we are going to do everything we can to get to the bottom of it," he said.

Hahnemann University Hospital spokeswoman Coleen Cannon said 10 people were taken there, but two refused treatment. The other eight, including two teens, two adults and three adults, were released Wednesday night.

The American Red Cross said members of a Hungarian church group were among the passengers aboard the capsized boat, but their names were not released.

One crew member from the duck boat was rescued by the ferry that the Delaware River Port Authority was operating on its scheduled route between Philadelphia and Camden, authority spokesman Ed Kasuba

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## The Washington Post

### Barge hits tourist duck boat in Philly; 2 missing

said.

Officials said the barge was owned by the city and being directed by a tugboat owned by K-Sea Transportation Partners of East Brunswick, N.J.

The city Water Department uses the barge to transport sludge from a sewage plant in northeast Philadelphia to a recycling plant down river, said Maura Kennedy, a Nutter spokeswoman. The city has a contract with K-Sea, which operates the tugboat that pulled the unmanned and unpowered barge.

The duck boat was operated by Ride the Ducks, which also operates tours in San Francisco, Seattle, Stone Mountain, Ga., Newport, R.I., and Branson, Mo.

Ride the Ducks has been in Philadelphia since 2003. Passengers board the duck boats at the Independence Mall and are driven on a tour of Old City. Afterward they ride into the Delaware River from a ramp south of the Ben Franklin Bridge.

The sites seen along the 70-minute voyage include Penn's Landing, Adventure Aquarium across the river in Camden, the Liberty Bell and Ben Franklin's gravesite. About 25 minutes of the journey are spent on the river and, according to its website, the top speed is around 7 mph.

Sharla Feldscher, a local spokeswoman for Ride the Ducks, declined to provide any

details about the crash. She said safety is the company's top priority.

In a statement on the company's website, Ride the Ducks said: "Our thoughts and prayers are with our Philadelphia guests, crew members and their families. We are attending to their needs first. In the interim, we have suspended our operations in Philadelphia."

Holden, of the Coast Guard, said the duck boats are inspected annually, but he did not know when the boat involved in Wednesday's crash was last inspected.

Another Coast Guard spokesman, Thomas Peck, said neither craft was in a wrong lane.

A duck boat sank at Hot Springs, Ark., on May 1, 1999, killing 13 of the 21 people aboard after its bilge pump failed. The National Transportation Safety Board blamed inadequate maintenance and recommended

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# The Washington Post

## Barge hits tourist duck boat in Philly; 2 missing

that duck boats have backup flotation devices.

In June 2002, four people were killed when an amphibious tour boat, the Lady Duck, sank in the Ottawa River near Canada's Parliament.

Some of the vehicles are amphibious military personnel carriers dating back to World War II that have been restored and reconditioned for peacetime use. Known by their original military acronym as DUKWs, they were first introduced in the tourism market in 1946 in the Wisconsin Dells, where about 120 of the vessels now operate.

As of 2000, there were more than 250 refurbished amphibious vehicles in service nationwide, according to the NTSB. The federal agency is investigating the crash.


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Associated Press writers JoAnn Loviglio, Kathy Matheson, Patrick Walters and Ron Todt contributed to this report.

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## Search for boaters turns up empty

Published 07/07/10

A 45-minute search for two boaters and their overturned vessel under the Bay Bridge turned up empty for rescue crews yesterday evening, county Fire Department officials said.



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At about 7:40 p.m. someone reported seeing a small boat with a red hull overturned near the middle of the bridge and two people in the water nearby, said Lt. Cliff Kooser, a county Fire Department spokesman.

County firefighters sent two fireboats to search for the boaters, with Queen Anne's County firefighters and the Coast Guard assisting. A state police helicopter also joined the search efforts.

No one was found in the water and the boat could not be located. Kooser said the boat may have sunk by the time rescue crews arrived, and the boaters could have gotten onto another vessel and taken to safety.

The search was suspended after 45 minutes and handed over to the Department of Natural Resources Police last night.

Kooser said the NRP and the Coast Guard would likely hit the water again today to look for further clues.

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Posted on Thu, Jul. 8, 2010

## Search suspended for two missing in tour-boat crash

By Troy Graham, Susan Snyder, and David O'Reilly

Inquirer Staff Writers

Sitting with his 9-year-old daughter and dozens of other tourists in a disabled duck-tour vehicle, bobbing helplessly in the Delaware River, Kevin Grace watched as the hulking barge loomed close, on a collision course.

"We had 45 seconds to try to get the life jackets on our kids," he said Wednesday evening. Grace, a tourist from St. Louis, grabbed his daughter, but the next thing he knew, "it hit."

The crash capsized and sank the duck, a popular and ubiquitous Philadelphia tourist attraction, dumping 35 passengers and two crew members into the river near Penn's Landing.

After a frantic rescue effort, 35 people were plucked from the water, but two passengers remained missing late Wednesday - a 16-year-old girl and a 20-year-old man, both tourists from Hungary.

"We are actively searching for the two unaccounted-for individuals," Mayor Nutter said from the riverfront. "We are putting all of our effort and forces into that on the water, in the air."

The search was called off late Wednesday night and will resume Thursday morning. A Coast Guard ship was stationed near the site of the wreck.

The sunken vehicle was found at a depth of 40 feet using sonar, and police divers entered the murky water about 5:30 p.m., three hours after the accident. The divers could not tell if the missing passengers were still inside.

"You can't see three inches in front of you," said Philadelphia Police Commissioner Charles H. Ramsey.

The amphibious tourist vehicle - operated by Ride the Ducks - launched just south of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge before mechanical difficulties and a fire forced it to shut down, said Lt. Frank Vanore, a police spokesman.

"The boat was sitting on the water waiting for help," he said.

A city-owned barge, being pushed upriver by a private tug company, hit it.

The National Transportation Safety Board and the Coast Guard were investigating, authorities said.

The barge, the Resource, hauls sludge from the city's Northeast Wastewater Treatment Plant to the recently privatized sludge plant in Southwest Philadelphia run by Philadelphia Biosolids Services.

The barge, which is unmanned and unmotored, was empty. The city has a contract with K-Sea Transportation Partner L.L.C., which operates the tugboat that was pushing the barge.

A spokesman for the company, headquartered in East Brunswick, N.J., said that the tug - the Caribbean Sea - had a full crew of five and that the captain and first mate had proper Coast Guard licenses. The captain called the company to report the accident, said the spokesman, Darrel Wilson. He said he knew few details.

"At this point we're not even concerned about who is at fault," Wilson said. "We're just anxiously waiting to hear that everyone is fully accounted for."

Capt. Stuart Griffin, a pilot and officer of the Pilots' Association for the Bay and River Delaware, said the tug was secured to the barge "at the hip," on the rear, left side.

Griffin said that he had no knowledge of this accident, but that if the tourists had been to the right of the barge, "the barge could have obstructed the line of sight. . . . I'm guessing he didn't see them."

Late Wednesday, Coast Guard Capt. Todd Gatlin said his investigators had no sense that the tug boat captain saw the duck boat.

The Coast Guard monitors and records Channel 13 as well as Channel 16, the emergency and hailing radio channel. Gatlin said investigators reviewed the 45 minutes before the accident and shortly thereafter. From the Channel 16 recording, Gatlin said, there was only the sounds of the "scramble" in the final moments before impact, but "the final recording was not a call for help."

The Coast Guard also had a report from the captain of another vessel, who heard some radio discussion that might have been between the duck boat hailing another ship. Gatlin said the duck boat captain had turned the radio on and off while dealing with the engine problems and smoke.

Passengers board the ducks at Independence Mall. They tour Old City before entering the river at a ramp. The accident happened near the ramp, in view of many witnesses along the riverfront.

As the two vessels drew close, Jason Tilghman said, he heard a duck crew member scream to the passengers, "Jump!" Just before the duck was hit, the crew member leaped into the water, followed by four passengers, Tilghman said.

"Everyone panicked, rushing to the front of the boat," said Grace, 50, who was on the tour with his daughter, a 31-year-old friend, and the friend's 11-year-old child.

Frederick Landwher, who watched the accident from Adventure Aquarium in Camden, said the duck vehicle had rolled over and its roof collapsed before it disappeared under the barge.

"You see all the life jackets pop up, and then you see all the people pop up," he said.

A hodgepodge of boats scrambled to rescue the survivors, including a team of Navy SEALs who were in town with their boats for a ceremony. Philadelphia police officers dived into the water. Regular citizens grabbed fire hoses and ropes to toss as lifelines for the passengers.

Grace said that he had tried everything he could to hold on to his daughter, but that she had slipped from his grasp when the duck rolled over.

"In the frenzy," he said, "I managed to grab a cooler." Struggling against the current, he tried to use the cooler to keep his daughter from being swept away.

Talmadge Robinson, a nurse's assistant who had gone to Penn's Landing after work, said he helped pull three children in life jackets out of the water.

"I looked out and all of these kids were in the river," he said. "They were pretty scared. All they could say was, 'Thank you.' "

He said the children had slowly drifted within reach after about 10 minutes, but he saw police rescue other children who were not wearing life vests.

"I think we had one life jacket between us," Grace said.

A Pennsylvania rule that requires children 12 and younger to wear life jackets applies only to recreational vessels, said Chris Edmonston, director of boating safety at the Boat US Foundation.

He said commercial vessels must have enough life vests for everyone on board, but passengers are not required to wear them. He said he assumed the duck captain would have asked the passengers to don their jackets once the vessel lost power.

"That's what I would have done, but he is not legally required to have them do it," Edmonston said.

A large group of the tourists were from Hungary, including three children who were taken to Hahnemann University Hospital, a medic said. Ten people in all were taken there for treatment of mostly minor injuries, the Coast Guard said.

Along Penn's Landing Wednesday night, dozens of people sat on benches and watched as rescue and recovery crews searched the murky water for the sunken tour vehicle and the two missing people. Temple University student Joe Arinello arrived from his home in University City.

"I've never seen anything like this," he said. "I wanted to see how they did it."

Ride the Ducks, which began operating in Philadelphia in 2003, runs 15 vehicles in the city. The company was founded in 1977, and has about 90 vessels in several cities, including Atlanta, Baltimore, Memphis, and Branson, Mo.

Ride the Ducks is owned by Herschend Family Entertainment, which is based near Atlanta and operates Camden's Adventure Aquarium and the Dollywood theme park.

The ducks can carry 37 passengers and two crew members, said Sharla Feldscher, a local spokeswoman for Ride the Ducks.

"We're doing everything we can for the passengers and our guests," she said.

Ride the Ducks has canceled all tours for Thursday.

In 1999 a failed drivetrain seal caused the drowning deaths of 13 tourists, including three children, when a World War II military surplus amphibious vehicle sank in Lake Hamilton, Ark.

According to the Ride the Ducks website, the vehicles used in Philadelphia are "based on the classic WWII DUKW amphibious design," but "today we build our vehicles from the ground up using the latest in marine design and safety."

The vehicles are "regularly inspected, tested and certified by the United States Coast Guard," according to the company website.

About three hours after being rescued, Grace seemed remarkably calm. Asked to assess the experience, he said without hesitation, "Life affirming."

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Contact staff writer Susan Snyder at 215-854-4693 or [ssnyder@phillynews.com](mailto:ssnyder@phillynews.com).

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## Fatal accident a reminder that safety comes first in boating

Published: Thursday, July 08, 2010, 8:07 AM



**Colin Stephenson/The Star-Ledger**

Last week's fatal boating accident near the Statue of Liberty is a tragic reminder to boaters to put safety first.

Jijo Punthuyamkunnath of Bergenfield was killed and two companions aboard a 17-footer injured when their boat was hit by a 30-footer, operated by Richard Aquilone of Jersey City.

Aquilone faces charges of vehicular homicide and operating a boat under the influence of alcohol.

In general, there are no speed limits on the water, and there are no lane markers as on the highway. It's up to each skipper to operate his or her vessel responsibly, obeying the law, using good judgment, and being courteous to other boaters.

Also, alcohol and water make a bad mix for boaters. Even a small amount impairs balance, reaction time and judgment. In New Jersey, the blood alcohol limit is .08 percent, the same for boating as for driving a car. Penalties for violation include suspension of boating privileges, and also driving privileges, plus a fine.

And remember, even if you do everything right, watch out for the other skipper.

### **Statue Race**

"Nothing beats sailing around the Statue of Liberty on the Fourth of July, and she did look beautiful," said Mark Modderman of Long Branch.

Besides the holiday, Modderman had another reason to celebrate as he and crew Sandra Tartaglino took home a trio of awards in the annual Statue of Liberty race run by the Sandy Hook Bay Catamaran Club.

The pair won for the fastest Portsmouth handicap corrected time; for winning the largest class, Hobie 16; and the Founders Trophy for SHBCC members.

Chris Titcomb of Framingham, Mass., sailing with Sam Adelman, posted the fastest time overall, three hours, 28 minutes and 15 seconds.

The some 45 crews enjoyed fair sailing winds of 10 to 15 knots for the 36-mile course from Atlantic Highlands to the statue and back.

### **Shore Dreams for Kids**

Shore Dreams for Kids holds its annual Barnegat Bay boat outing and carnival for children with special needs and illnesses Saturday, July 17.

The event, at Seaside Heights, is organized by members of the New Jersey Performance Powerboat Club.

The club is seeking volunteers for both on-water and land activities.

Email [njppc@aol.com](mailto:njppc@aol.com) or check [shoredreamsforkids.org](http://shoredreamsforkids.org)

### **Red Grant Regatta**

The Raritan Yacht Club in Perth Amboy hosts its 64th annual Red Grant Regatta for larger sailboats Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Some 70 boats from the Tri- State Area are scheduled to compete.

Red Grant was a club member and noted Comet sailor who perished in World War II, and the club has honored his memory since. The regatta is a fundraiser for the New Jersey Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. Check [ryc.org](http://ryc.org) for more information.

### **Lake pump-out**

A previous boating column dealt with boat sewage pump-out facilities at the Shore. Lake Hoptacong also has pump-out facilities.

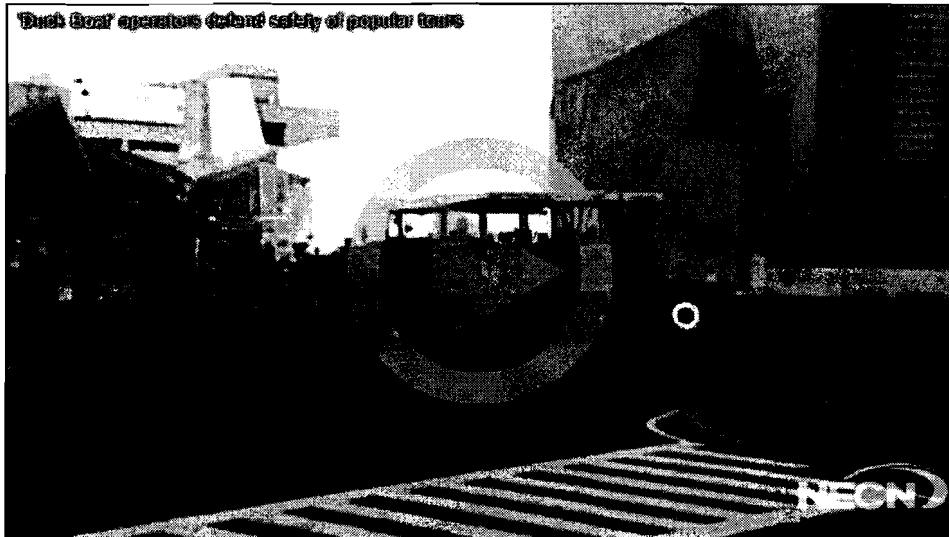
Listed on the Lake Hopatcong Commission website ([lakehopatcong.org](http://lakehopatcong.org)) are Barnes Brothers Marine, near Mount Arlington Beach; Johnny's Marine, in Hopatcong; Flash Watersports and Marina in Jefferson, and Royal Wave Marina in Jefferson. Check with the marinas for hours and rates.

*Please email items of interest to this column to [czusman@starledger.com](mailto:czusman@starledger.com).*

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### 'Duck Boat' operators defend safety of popular tours

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(NECN: Josh Brogadir, Boston, Mass.) - Crews continue to search the Delaware River for two people missing after a "duck boat" was struck by a barge.

That tourists boat had broken down and lost power in the river after an apparent fire onboard. That's when it was struck by a barge and sank immediately.

The Coast Guard says 37 people were on board -- 35 rescued from the water by Coast Guard boats, but two people -- a 16-year-old girl and a 20-year-old man are still unaccounted for.

What's making this story resonate is the fact that these "duck boats" are so prevalent in cities across the country.

Boston made them famous.

Tourists relaxing harborside - it's summer in Boston.

And among the tour companies taking people out to see sights along the roads are the ones that also go in the water.

A barge crashed into a duck boat, disabled due to a mechanical problem in Philadelphia, an amphibious vessel much like these popular land and sea worthy vehicles in Boston.

Unlike Philadelphia where the duck boats compete with barge traffic in the Delaware River, these smaller size duck boats only go into the Charles River.

"We're certificated by the Coast Guard to be on the Charles River which is considered a protected waterway, as you know it's very quiet over there. The shores are very close on both sides. We are not able to go into the harbor," said Boston Duck Tours General Manager Cindy Brown, who defended the safety record of the company which has operated in the city for 16 years.

"They're all licensed captains and we do have life preservers on board for all of our passengers so if there ever were to be an accident, we know as far as our training and our conductors how to handle the emergency," she said.

Another duck boat does go into Boston Harbor; however, Super Duck Tours has larger, hydra terra style boats, designed specifically for the rougher ocean water, according to the company's manager, Dennis Kraez.

And in spite of the crash in Philly, people trust the safety record of these tours in Boston.

"We went on the water and we went on land and we felt totally safe. It was a blast," said David Wesson, of Arlington, MA.

Andy Nook of Medford, MA said, "We have family in town. We've had it on the list for about three months now and we're excited to go."

We asked him if he had any reservations about going.

"No, not at all. We haven't heard anything bad about them. We're excited to go still," he added.

**Tags:** Philadelphia, Josh Brogadir, Delaware River, duck boat

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