“River Quest” sets sail on Monday
St. Louis River Quest to host nearly 1,050 students on educational harbor cruises May 9-12

Duluth, Minn. USA – Boatloads of area sixth-grade students carrying River Quest “passports” to document their adventures, will explore the Duluth-Superior harbor May 9-12 aboard the Vista Star to learn all they can about the St. Louis River watershed.

The 19th annual St. Louis River Quest is again drawing nearly 1,050 sixth graders to the waterfront – bringing to over 15,000 the total number of area students who have benefited from the program since its inception in 1993.

River Quest provides hands-on learning activities for students to raise awareness of the St. Louis River ecosystem and interrelated commercial, industrial and recreational activities. During two-and-a-half hour boat trips, students visit a dozen learning stations staffed by volunteers who cover topics ranging from pollution prevention and stopping aquatic invaders to boating safety and commercial shipping. This year’s learning station sponsors and topics include:

- City of Duluth
- Duluth Sail & Power Squadron
- Twin Ports Rip Currents
- Duluth Public Schools
- Duluth Seaway Port Authority
- Great Lakes Aquarium & Minnesota DNR MinnAqua Program
- Minnesota Sea Grant Program
- NewPage
- Sappi Fine Paper
- Superior National Forest & U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Coast Guard & Auxiliary
- U.S. Coast Guard
- Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

Storm versus Sanitary Sewers
It floats, you don’t. Wear your life jacket.
Break the Grip of the Rip
Observation station
Great Lakes Cargo Capita: Port of Duluth-Superior
Fish Families
Get Habitattitude!
Sustainable Forestry
Efficient Industrial Water Use – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!
Stream Table
Cold Hand Luke – Hypothermia & Water Safety
Containing Oil Spills
Man Overboard Demonstration
The “Real Workers” at WLSSD
Students are encouraged to submit essays about their experiences as part of the event’s “Captain Ray Skelton River Quest Essay Contest,” named in honor of one of the program’s founders. The winner’s name will be added to a traveling school plaque to recognize both the student’s writing abilities and the school’s participation in River Quest. The 2010 winner was Eleanor “Ellie” French from Woodland Middle School.


Educators are encouraged to check out materials posted at [www.seagrant.umn.edu/riverquest](http://www.seagrant.umn.edu/riverquest).

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**NOTES to Media:** _FIRST cruise for River Quest gets underway Monday, May 9: 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m._

_Then we run two (2) cruises daily on Tues., Wed. & Thurs. accordingly: 8:30 - 11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m - 2 p.m._

_Reporters are invited to ride along for any morning or afternoon session. However, if you cannot stay onboard for the full trip, please note that we will remain “dockside” for the first ten-minute ‘station’ each day after which you will be allowed to disembark._

_For interviews, plan to arrive at least 20 minutes prior to departure times noted above._