

N4JRI's Radio Pages

Essential Marine Channels for your Scanner

Channel	Ship	Shore	Usage
16	156.800	156.800	Calling and Distress
13	156.650	156.650	Intership Safety (calling on waterways)
6	156.300	156.300	Bridge-to-Bridge (safety)
9	156.450	156.450	Alternate calling channel
8	156.400	-----	Ship/ship (commercial)
72	156.625	-----	Ship/ship (non-commercial)
77	156.875	-----	Ship/ship (docking operations)
68	156.425	156.425	many Marinas & pleasure boat chit-chat
22A	157.100	157.100	Coast Guard Liason
81A	157.075	157.075	Marine Safety Offices (?)
83A	157.175	157.175	Coast Guard Auxiliary
17	156.850	156.850	Gov't Agencies (state marine police, etc.)
15	-----	156.750	Gov't broadcasts to vessels

I keep these channels programmed in all the time. 156.800 frequently pops up to relay distress calls, or to announce broadcasts about to begin on 157.100. Traffic on the James River is active

on 156.65, and I've even heard country music star Jimmy Dean talking with inbound ship pilots as they pass his Varina estate. 156.625 has a bootleg user right next to the water, and the Coast Guard Auxiliary occasionally operates a groupwide net on 157.175.

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