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BIGGEST IN-WATER SHOW ON GREAT LAKES RETURNS TO CEDAR POINT

SANDUSKY, Ohio – Judging by watercraft registration figures, the Ohio counties of Erie, Ottawa and Huron along the southern shore of Lake Erie contain some of the most densely-populated boating communities in the country.

It is only fitting that the area will host the largest in-water boat show on the Great Lakes for the 37th consecutive year when the North American In-Water Boat Show presented by Toyota Trucks drops anchor at Cedar Point Amusement Park Sept. 16-20.

Now an end-of-the-summer boating tradition, the event got its start in 1973 after organizers were inspired by an in-water show in Annapolis, Md.

That first year, nearly 5,000 visitors streamed in from across the region.

Originally configured to display only 91 boats and 16 accessory booths, its lines of docks are now interconnected throughout, so visitors can walk out onto the water, get a drink at the Party Barge, look at all the boats and use the floating restrooms before returning to land.

“The location is a great asset, and we’ve grown with Cedar Point,” said Show Manager Ken Alvey. “A lot of people come for the weekend and visit both the show and the amusement park. There’s more than enough to do when you include all the wineries, water parks, golf courses and nearby islands.”

Visitors will have the opportunity to test drive certain models on the Demo Dock and shop for bargains in the Boats Under \$15,000 and Boats \$15,000-25,000 pavilions.

On the water, it will definitely be a buyer’s show, as boats are more affordable now than in recent history.

WKFM will host a Buffalo Wild Wings wing eating contest on Saturday, and the Erie County Humane Society will be holding an Adapt-a-Pet drive during the week (Wednesday through Friday).

Guests 12 and younger will receive free admission.

Show hours are noon to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday; and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

For more information, visit www.cedarpointboatshow.com.