



U.S COAST GUARD STATION STURGEON BAY

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Congratulations on your assignment to U.S. Coast Guard Station Sturgeon Bay. This unit is located in the heart of Door County, Wisconsin. Sturgeon Bay is the gateway to the Door County Peninsula; an extremely popular tourist destination. Door County is surrounded by the Bay of Green Bay to the north and Lake Michigan to the south. With 300 miles of shoreline, dozens of islands, small harbor towns, and a swelling summer population this assignment will prove to be very challenging and equally rewarding.

Station Sturgeon Bay is comprised of two units. The parent unit (Sturgeon Bay) and Station Small Washington Island, which is 50 miles to the north on Washington Island, only accessible by ferry or boat. Station Small Washington Island is a summertime operation only; opening May through September. Approximately 30 active duty members and reservists answer the call providing Search and Rescue assistance, Boating Safety Law Enforcement, Ice Rescue operations, and protection of infrastructure critical to the maritime environment of the United States.

To accomplish the multiple missions, Station Sturgeon Bay maintains several state of the art resources including the 45 Ft Response Boat Medium, 25 Ft Response Boat Small, and the 22 Ft Airboat. Sturgeon Bay responds to over 100 calls for assistance each year ranging from disabled boats that have run out of gas to the wintertime rescue of stranded ice-fisherman on massive ice floes. The area of responsibility covered includes the entire 118 mile long Bay of Green Bay and 20 miles offshore on the Lake Michigan Side.

Once reporting aboard the unit you will immediately begin the check-in and indoctrination process lasting about 1 week. Your sponsor and immediate supervisor will guide you through the check-in process. You will meet the Command Cadre, your department head, be issued rescue and survival gear clothing and all applicable training materials. You can expect to complete all required administration paperwork including Health and Dental insurance election, Travel claim, Housing and Pay issues, and most importantly ensuring your dependents are established and taken care of.



After completion of the check-in process you will immediately begin learning the station routine and standing the communication watch. During this time you can expect to work an aggressive schedule staying onboard the unit for 24-48 hours at a time and day working 0800-1600 on other days. This ensures your rapid attainment of communication watch-stander duties. Once certified as communication watch-stander you will be placed into a permanent duty section with a 48 hour on 48 hour off routine (Port and Starboard rotation). Every other weekend you will either be off for 72 hours or on. Basically, duty standers only work an average of 14 days per month.



The primary duties of E2/E3 members are extensive. You will certify as communication watch-stander and be the 1st contact a mariner has with the Coast Guard when calling for help. You will also certify as a Boat Crewmember on the 25 RBS and 45RBM. As a Boat Crewmember you are part of a crew of three, patrolling the waters and responding to calls for assistance. Additionally, you will train to become a Boarding Team Member, entrusted to assist the Boarding Officer in enforcing the Federal laws of the United States while conducting boating safety inspections, removing intoxicated operators from the water, and educating the boating public.

Below you will find numerous discussion points about the area. Please do not hesitate to contact your sponsor either by phone or email. The contact information will be contained in your welcome aboard message. Good Luck with the remaining days of basic training and we look forward to you joining the team at Station Sturgeon Bay.

REPORTING ABOARD

Call the unit ahead of time and provide the date/time you are reporting aboard. The Officer of the Day will assist you with initial preparations including settling into your room, unit tour, and meal options. If reporting after hours (after 1600) ensure the Officer of the Day is aware of your arrival time. Provide the following reporting information:

- Are you flying or driving a vehicle
- Are you reporting with personal firearms
- Cell phone number
- Leave/home address
- Anything additional concerns

Report aboard in the Tropical Blue Uniform.

A galley is onboard the unit with two Food Service Specialists (FS) attached. The FS provides breakfast and lunch only. An open galley is available for dinner which include easy ready to make meals for the on duty crew's consumption. You will receive a Basic Allowance for Subsistence allotment each month. This provides you with funds to help pay for eating at the Coast Guard Dining Facility. Each time you eat a meal, you must sign up. The total meals eaten are tallied each month resulting in a chow bill. The chow bill is your responsibility to pay and requires a check or money order given to the FS no later than the 5th of each month.

HOUSING

Housing options differ depending on your dependent status. Single member will live onboard the unit. Station Sturgeon Bay has a 3 bedroom Unaccompanied Personnel Housing (UPH) unit on the Station Grounds. Each bedroom has a closet, rack, dresser and nightstand. Additional storage is located in the basement. The unit also has laundry service , full kitchen, and a common area with cable TV. Local calling only is available using the Station phone lines, the use of calling cards are required for long distance. Internet is not available and cell phone signals are weak due to the location of the unit.

Married members/ Members with dependents should contact the local housing manager. The contact information is in the welcome aboard message. Sturgeon Bay has numerous Coast Guard owned 3 and 4 bedroom houses. Members can either request placement into a Coast Guard house or seek a waiver from the housing manager to rent/buy a house. Members electing to rent/buy will receive the basic allowance for housing (BAH) allotment for Sturgeon Bay. The current rate can be located at [www. Defensetravel.dod.mil.gov](http://www.Defensetravel.dod.mil.gov). Typical rental rates range from \$600.00 to 1200.00 per month which include apartments and single family homes. Some offer utilities included while others do not.

The majority of members choose to live in Sturgeon Bay. When deciding on a location consider winter time driving, spousal employment, and public schooling desires.

HEALTH CARE

Sturgeon Bay is under the Tricare Prime Remote option, which means we are more the 50 miles from the nearest military treatment facility. This allows you to choose a civilian doctor of your choosing that accepts the Tricare insurance. This doctor will be your primary care manager for yourself and family. Family practice, pediatrician, and nurse practitioners are available in Sturgeon Bay. Currently the Aurora Health Care and Bay view Medical are the popular choices.

Dependents are able to choose any dentist that accepts the Tricare/Met life insurance. Military members will always utilize the Active Duty Dental Program (ADDP) which requires requesting an appointment through ADDP website, selecting a civilian dentist in the area, and receiving an authorization (appointment control number, ACN) prior to the appointment.

Several Optometrists are in the area to choose from. Tricare allows a once per year eye examination. For additional information on health care options and the Tricare insurance options refer to the website at www.Tricare.mil.

SHOPPING

Sturgeon Bay offers limited shopping to meet your basic needs. Currently a Super Wal-Mart, Target, and two large grocery stores are the main shopping centers. Several auto parts, hardware, and sporting goods stores are also available. Specialty shops targeting the summer tourists are abundant throughout the entire county and offer unique and local items.

The City of Green Bay is 45 miles to the south along highway 57. Here you will find a large mall, and major chain stores including Home Depot, Target, Wal-Mart, Sams Club, Best Buy, Menards, etc. Past Green Bay is the city of Appleton, which hosts a huge indoor mall, strip malls, and major discount stores.

WHAT TO DO

The Door County Peninsula offers a wide range of recreation opportunities year round. Visit the Door County Visitor Bureau at WWW.DoorCounty.Com for detailed information and a calendar of events. Popular things to do include visiting the state parks, fishing, camping, and exploring the numerous little harbor towns scattered along the shoreline of Door County.

During the winter months, outdoor activities abound. Cross country skiing, snow shoeing, ice fishing, and snowmobiling are popular. Sturgeon Bay also has a new YMCA facility offering indoor activities and 2 swimming pools.

CHURCHES

Numerous Churches of all dominations are in Sturgeon Bay and in Green Bay to the south. Several local Churches have active websites and can be researched online.

EDUCATION

Sturgeon Bay has four separate school buildings for their public school system dividing up the Pre-K programs through 12th grade. Surround school district websites and open enrollment information is below:

www.sturbay.k12.wi.us Sturgeon Bay Public School System

www.sevastopol.k12.wi.us Sevastopol Public School System

www.southerndoorcounty.new.rschoolday.com Southern Door Public School System

http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms_psctoc Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction / Open Enrollment Information

Sturgeon Bay also has a Northeast Wisconsin Technical College Campus offering numerous programs. The University of Wisconsin Green Bay campus is 40 miles to the south.

WEATHER

Anticipate 80-90 degree days all summer long. During the middle of winter Jan-Feb temps can dip into the negative 10-20 range. You will experience all four seasons. Beginning in March-April temps begin to increase and snow melts off. Summer will peak in July followed by a gradual cooling in mid-September. Temps can remain in the 30-40's until December when winter finally takes hold. Sturgeon Bay has an average of 187 sunny days a year and an average of 46 inches of snow in the wintertime.