



*For more information, contact  
Andrew Gates at 314-453-1808 or 314-223-8003.*

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## **MRB team to start taking reservations for 2012 public tours**

ST. LOUIS – In 2011, nearly 400 people got the opportunity to watch construction on the new Mississippi River bridge as the construction crews built the river towers from underwater to nearly 100 feet above the river as part of the project’s public tours.

Next year, the same number will be able to watch crews complete the towers and start building the driving surface and attaching cables as part of the monthly tours.

The MRB team is starting to take reservations today for the monthly public tours, which will start back up on February 24.

Up to 25 people are able to participate in the two tours each month. The hour and a half long tours take place on the final Friday of each month at 12:30 and 2 p.m.

Reservations for the tours are required and may be obtained by calling (314) 453-1808 or e-mailing [info@newriverbridge.org](mailto:info@newriverbridge.org). Tours may be canceled due to the river levels or to construction activities.

Tour attendees will need to dress appropriately, to include long pants and closed-toed shoes, and will be expected to walk about a mile as part of the tour. Attendees must be at least 12 years old, and will have to sign a waiver (a parent or guardian must sign the waiver for attendees under 18 years old). The MRB team will provide other safety gear needed to participate in the tour.

“We are excited to continue to offer these public tours of the project. Our towers are nearly 100 feet tall, and this year, people will really start to see the bridge come together.” said Greg Horn, P.E., project director for the New Mississippi River Bridge.

For people whose schedules may not allow them to participate in one of the public walking tours, the MRB team has launched a virtual tour of the project. Visitors to the virtual tour can take a look at information about the construction process, see photos and videos of completed work and see what's next in the main span construction. To visit the virtual tour, surf to:

<http://www.newriverbridge.org/VirtualTourHomePage.htm>.

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