

Dragons will soon be filling the Mississippi River come this July.

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Terri Pedace, breast cancer survivor says the first time event will promote breast cancer awareness, provide a healthy activity for community members and will engage the community into a new type sport. There are two events you can sign up to race.....open racing and one just for breast cancer survivors and supporters.

## **Key Facts about Big Blue Dragon Boat Race**

Sponsored by Mayo Clinic Health System – Franciscan Healthcare

It's the region's first-ever dragon boat race

## Dragon Boat Races Coming To La Crosse

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Event Date:

Big Blue Dragon Boat Race

July 6, 2013

Riverside Park

Schedule of Events:

8 a.m. time trials

11 a.m. opening ceremony

2 p.m. breast cancer survivor ceremony

What is a dragon boat race?

- Originated in ancient China
- Equal parts sporting event and spectacle
- Racing boats are 40' to 50' long
- Teams of 18 paddlers, a drummer, flag catcher and steer person
- Races take place in heats on courses ranging from 250 to 1,000 meters

Symbolism of Chinese dragons is?

- Caring and gracious protectors

- Symbolize happiness, wisdom, power, good luck and activity
  
- Divine rulers of lakes, rivers and seas

Who can participate?

- Open to entire community
  
- Well suited for people of all ages and fitness levels.
  
- Two divisions: open racing and breast cancer survivors and supporters
  
- Corporate teams encouraged
  
- Registration deadline is Friday, June 7