



# Notice to Navigation Interests

US Army Corps  
Of Engineers  
Buffalo District  
1776 Niagara Street  
Buffalo, New York 14207-3199

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Notice No. M16-01      Date 9 December 2015  
Black Rock Channel & Tonawanda Harbor, NY  
Waterway

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Black Rock Lock Operations - The Black Rock Lock hours and dates for the 2016 navigation season are as follows:

1 January - 16 April	8:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday - Friday
3 May - 6 May	Closed for Maintenance
17 April - 14 May	8:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday - Sunday
15 May - 17 September (Extended Season)	8:00 am - 10:00 pm Weekdays 11:00 am - 10:00 pm Weekends
18 September - 29 October	8:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday - Sunday
30 October - 31 December	8:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday - Friday

**For any lock transit requests during the period 3 May thru 6 May 2016 please call 716-879-4403 to check on current maintenance and lock reopening status.**

The lock will be closed on the following 2016 Federal Holidays:

**01 January / 18 January / 15 February / 11 November / 24 November / 26 December**

Commercial traffic will be accommodated on a 24-hour basis with prior notification.

Questions on lock operations may be directed to the Black Rock Lock during scheduled operating hours by calling (716) 879-4403 or to the New York/Pennsylvania Operations and Maintenance Office between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at (716) 879-4293, Fax (716) 879-4356. The Lock may also be contacted on marine radio channel 16 (working Channel 12).

**Tug and Barge Operators are reminded that Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) are required for all Barge personnel during the approach and while transiting the Lock and are recommended for all vessel crew members and passengers.**

The Black Rock Lock Channel extends from Buffalo Harbor to the Black Rock Lock. It is three and one-half miles in length. The Federal navigation channel has a minimum width of 200 feet. Pleasure crafts are required to yield the right-of-way to commercial vessels due to the confined waters of the channel.

The Black Rock Lock and the Black Rock Channel provide safe passage for vessels to travel between Buffalo Harbor and Tonawanda Harbor around the reefs, rapids and fast currents that exist in the upstream portion of the Niagara River.

In combination with the New York State Erie Canal, Black Rock Lock and Black Rock Channel provide an inland water route between Lake Erie and the Atlantic Ocean. Branch canals in the New York State canal system provide vessels access to Lake Erie and Lake Champlain.

Charts: 14832 - Upper Niagara River, New York  
14833 - Buffalo Harbor, New York

Edward F. Gawarecki  
Chief, NY/PA O&M Office