



# NEWS RELEASE

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
Buffalo District**

**BUILDING STRONG®**

For Immediate Release:  
September 20, 2011

Contact: Bruce Sanders, Public Affairs  
716.879.4410 or 716.481.5439 (cell)  
bruce.i.sanders@usace.army.mil

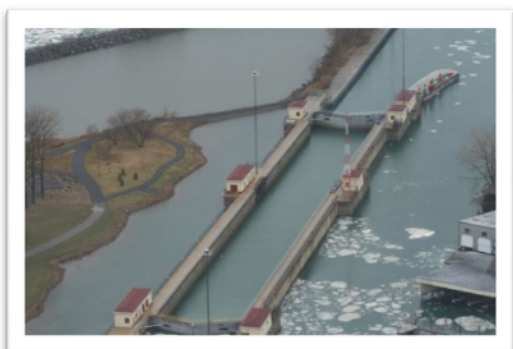
## **CORPS ANNOUNCES BLACK ROCK LOCK NAVIGATION SCHEDULE FOR REMAINDER OF 2011**

**BUFFALO, NY** -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District, announces the following operating schedule for Black Rock Lock: Operations for the remainder of 2011 navigation season:

**25 September – 8 October 2011**  
**9 October 2011**  
**10 October - 31 December 2011**

**8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., 7 days a week**  
**Closed: on call for commercial traffic w/prior notice**  
**8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday**

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 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 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 not only required for all barge personnel during the approach and while transiting the lock, but are recommended for all vessel crew members and passengers.

The Black Rock 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 craft 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 Erie Canal, the Black Rock Lock and Black Rock Channel provides 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