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Press Release

November 22, 2010

Metro-North

IMMEDIATE

MTA Metro-North Railroad Offers Special Thanksgiving Weekend Schedule

The Thanksgiving holiday weekend is the busiest time of the year for MTA Metro-North Railroad and special preparations have been made to serve the extra and often first-time customers with schedule changes each day, Wednesday through Sunday.

To encourage ridership, off-peak fares in are in effect for four days, from Thursday through Sunday.

On **Thanksgiving Eve Wednesday, November 24**, Metro-North will operate 16 extra early getaway trains, beginning at 1 p.m., so customers can take flight to start holiday preparations.

Last year, from noon to 8 p.m. on the day before Thanksgiving, 92,000 people took Metro-North trains out of the city, a 25% increase over a normal weekday.

Because of the early getaway, fewer people are taking trains during the traditional evening peak, so some trains will be combined or eliminated. All extra and canceled trains are shown in the October 17 timetable.

Metro-North will operate a holiday schedule on **Thanksgiving Day Thursday, November 25**, with extra AM inbound service for those going to the Macy's Parade. See a Holiday Timetable for details.

There will also be lots of late morning/early afternoon outbound service, so after the parade people can get home in time for the holiday repast. And there will be plenty of trains coming back to New York City in the evening. On Thanksgiving Day, the exits at the north end of the platforms, called Grand Central North, will be closed all day, as they are on weekends.

And to expedite the exodus after the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade, tickets will be collected as people enter the platforms rather than on board trains leaving between 10:02AM and 2:07PM.

Parade-goers should purchase round-trip tickets in advance.

The day after Thanksgiving Friday, November 26 because so many people have the day off, Metro-North will operate on a Saturday schedule but with a lot of extra service during the AM and PM peak time periods to accommodate shoppers taking advantage of those early holiday sales. See a Holiday Timetable for details.

And that's not all. Metro-North's weekend Shoppers' Specials service will be in effect from November 20 through December 26 (except Christmas Day) with 10 additional inbound and 9 additional outbound trains on Saturdays and 11 extra inbound trains and 11 extra outbound trains on Sundays. See a regular timetable for details on additional New Haven and Harlem Line "specials."

Take advantage of free parking at many Metro-North stations. (Check for signs, or call 212-532-4900 for more information.)

Ticket tip: If you are traveling with the family, try a ten-trip off-peak ticket and save an additional 15%. It can be used by everyone in your party. Ten-trips are available at a convenient ticket vending machine.

Thanksgiving Holiday Timetables are now available at the Grand Central Information Booth, at outlying ticket offices, and at www.mta.info