

MILEPOSTS

A Newsletter for MTA Metro-North Railroad Customers March 2019

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New Timetables Effective Sunday, April 14, Will Accommodate Infrastructure Improvements, Enhance Reliability

Our new timetables effective **April 14** on the **Hudson**, **Harlem** and **New Haven** lines are designed to reflect more accurately how the railroad's progressive infrastructure improvement plan affects train running times, resulting in more reliable, dependable and safe service for our customers.



Most of our trains will have an adjusted schedule, anywhere from one minute to, in some cases, sixteen minutes on the Connecticut branch lines. In designing this schedule, we took into account a busy infrastructure improvement schedule that includes upgrades to our infrastructure, continued Positive Train Control installation along our tracks and on our fleet, and the actual running times of trains.

To learn how your train service is affected, new timetables will be available in Grand Central Terminal and at outlying stations or check our [schedules page](#) or **Metro-North Train Time**® to access the information directly on your phone.

Or, call Metro-North's Customer Service Center at **511**, the New York State Travel Information Line, and say, "Metro-North Railroad." From Connecticut, dial **877-690-5114**. Those who are deaf or hard of hearing can use their preferred service provider for the free **711**-relay to reach Metro-North at 511.

On the Hudson Line

There will be minor schedule changes to morning and evening peak service, and off-peak service, with more significant schedule changes to the Upper Hudson Line's weekend schedule to accommodate switch work near Poughkeepsie.

- | Peak Service | Off-Peak Service: | Weekend Service: |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning Peak trains will depart their initial station up to 2 minutes earlier and have their schedules lengthened by 1 – 3 minutes. • Evening Peak, trains have minor adjustments of up to 2 minutes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Off-peak and Evening trains will depart their initial station up to 5 minutes earlier, and have their schedules lengthened by 1 – 6 minutes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekend inbound trains will depart their initial station up to 5 minutes earlier and have their schedules lengthened by up to 5 minutes; outbound trains have their schedules lengthened by 1 – 5 minutes. • Weekend Upper Hudson service at Poughkeepsie and New Hamburg is reduced to accommodate track outages to support the replacement of a major switching center near Poughkeepsie. Every other Poughkeepsie train will terminate and originate at Beacon, and service between Poughkeepsie and New Hamburg will run every two hours. Hourly service will continue at Beacon, Breakneck Ridge, Cold Spring, Garrison, Manitou, Peekskill and Cortlandt. • Three extra Saturday and two extra Sunday express trains in each direction between |

Poughkeepsie and Grand Central Terminal are temporarily discontinued.

- **Hourly service** to Poughkeepsie / New Hamburg and the extra express trains will resume operation with the June 30, 2019, schedule, after the switch replacement work is completed.

Harlem • New Haven

On the Harlem Line

There are minimal changes to the morning and evening peak service, with minor adjustments to off-peak and weekend trains to accommodate infrastructure projects along the line.

Morning & Evening Peak Service

- Morning peak trains will depart their initial station **1 – 4 minutes earlier** and have their schedules lengthened by up to 2 minutes.
- Evening peak trains are unchanged.

Off-Peak & Weekend Service:

- Off-peak, Evening and Weekend trains will depart their initial station **1 – 4 minutes earlier** and have their schedules lengthened by 1 – 5 minutes.

Hudson • New Haven

On the New Haven Line

The New Haven Line will experience the most extensive infrastructure work, with morning and evening peak trains schedules lengthened by 1 – 6 minutes. Off-peak and weekend trains will have schedules lengthened by 1 – 11 minutes. Depending on their mainline connection, New Canaan, Waterbury, and Danbury branch trains will have their schedules changed by 1 – 16 minutes.

More service is being added for **customers**, with additional weekday, Saturday and Sunday New Haven Line trains accessible for travel that had previously been restricted between Fordham and Manhattan. During off-peak times, service between Fordham and Manhattan will operate roughly four times an hour instead of twice an hour.

Peak Service

- **Morning peak trains** will depart their initial station **1 – 10 minutes earlier** and have their schedules lengthened by 1 – 6 minutes. New Canaan, Danbury and Waterbury Branch trains will depart **1 – 4 minutes earlier** and have their schedules lengthened by 1 – 3 minutes.
- **Evening peak trains** will depart Grand Central Terminal at the same time but will have their schedules lengthened by 1 – 6 minutes.
- **New Canaan and Danbury Branch trains** will depart at the same time but will have their schedules lengthened by 1 – 3 minutes, while Waterbury Branch trains will be unchanged.

Off-Peak Service:

- **Inbound trains** will depart their initial station between **10 minutes earlier and 4 minutes later** and have their schedules lengthened by 1 – 11 minutes, depending on trip length and time of day; outbound trains will depart Grand Central Terminal at the same time and have their schedules lengthened by 1 – 11 minutes.
- **New Canaan, Danbury and Waterbury Branch local trains** will depart their initial station **3 – 16 minutes earlier** and 3 – 16 minutes later than previously, depending on the schedule of the mainline connection.

Weekend Service:

- **Inbound trains** will depart their initial station **up to 10 minutes earlier** and have their schedules lengthened by 2 – 10 minutes.
- **Eastbound trains** will depart Grand Central Terminal at the same time and have their schedules lengthened by 2 – 10 minutes.

Hudson • Harlem

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Metro-North Opens New Haven Line for Travel Between Fordham and Manhattan

Also, effective Sunday, **April 14**, Metro-North is opening New Haven Line trains for travel between Fordham and Manhattan.

The change means customers will be able to access an additional 96 weekday trains for travel between Fordham and Manhattan that previously had been off-limits, more than doubling existing service of 93 daily Harlem Line trains.

On Saturdays,

67 New Haven Line trains will now be available for such travel, bolstering the existing 83 Harlem Line trains.

On Sundays,

the railroad is adding access to 65 New Haven Line trains to the existing 63 Harlem Line trains.

During off-peak times,



when waits can be longest, the changes mean service between Fordham and Manhattan will operate roughly four times an hour instead of twice an hour.

Previously, New Haven Line trains stopped at Fordham only to enable travel between Fordham and points north, in Westchester County and Connecticut. Customers at Fordham seeking to travel south to Grand Central or Harlem-125th Street, as well as customers at those two stations seeking to travel to Fordham, were directed to Harlem Line trains.

Southbound New Haven Line trains

stopped at Fordham to discharge passengers only, and northbound New Haven Line trains stopped at Fordham only to receive passengers.

The move comes after Metro-North completed a \$15.1 million renewal of the Fordham station.



"The rule about boarding at Fordham had a long history, but that's no reason for us to continue to uphold it," said **Metro-North Railroad President Catherine Rinaldi**, who authorized the rules change after discussing the matter with Connecticut Transportation Commissioner Joseph Giulietti.

Commissioner Giulietti said: *"I applaud Metro-North for managing to change this archaic rule in the spirit of better serving our customers. This will make a critical difference for commuters on the Harlem and New Haven Lines."*

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Metro-North's Saint Patrick's Day Parade Schedule



You won't need the luck of the Irish to travel to the St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 16 — there will be plenty of trains to choose from since we will be adding additional inbound and outbound trains to our regular [Hudson](#), [Harlem](#) and [New Haven](#) Line Saturday schedules.

Please note: ALCOHOL WILL NOT BE ALLOWED on trains, platforms, and at stations to maintain orderly travel for customers. Any alcoholic beverages found by the MTA Police will be confiscated.



Hudson Line: Inbound

Three additional inbound trains, **departing Poughkeepsie** **arriving at GCT**

7:37 AM	9:20 AM
8:37 AM	10:20 AM
9:15 AM	11:00 AM

Outbound

Two additional outbound trains will operate in the late afternoon to Poughkeepsie.



Due to high parade ridership, **tickets will be collected prior to boarding** between 7 AM – 11 AM at Poughkeepsie, New Hamburg and Beacon Stations. Customers at these stations **MUST** already have, or buy their tickets at ticket machines or ticket offices **BEFORE** boarding trains. **Customers will not be allowed on platforms without a ticket.**

Harlem Line: Inbound

Two additional inbound trains **DEPARTING** **ARRIVING**

Southeast

8:45 AM

GCT

10:20 AM

Outbound

Additional outbound trains will run as needed to North White Plains and Southeast.



North
White Plains GCT
9:44 AM 10:37 AM

New Haven Line:

Two additional inbound trains

DEPARTING **ARRIVING**

New Haven GCT
8:40 AM 10:31 AM

Stamford GCT
9:50 AM 11:02 AM

Outbound

Additional outbound trains will run as needed to Mount Vernon East – Stamford, and Stamford – New Haven.



For full details of all stops on these additional trains, please visit our [schedule page](#), or download [Metro-North Train Time](#)®.

Remember, buying your ticket is easy when you use [MTA eTix](#)®, the tickets you can purchase directly on your smartphone.

And no matter how you purchase your ticket, you can always take advantage of the [Family Fare](#), where each child pays \$1 up to 4 children traveling with a fare-paying adult on weekend and non-peak trains. For the fifth child, the off-peak [child fare](#) applies on the weekends.



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BLOOD DRIVE

All Aboard to Save Lives

April
25
Thurs.
2019

8 AM - 8 PM
Grand Central Terminal
Vanderbilt Hall



To schedule an appointment to donate call 1-800-933-2566 or log onto [AllAboardToSaveLives](#).

The first 250 presenting donors will receive a pair of tickets to an upcoming *New York Yankees** Game.

Please bring I.D. with photo or signature. Eat well and drink fluids before you donate.



New York Blood Center
1-800-933-BLOOD (2566)
www.nybc.org

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Safety Rules of the Issue

Emergency Evacuation Instructions

Even if you think you are familiar with what to do in the event of an emergency on your train, we urge you to take a moment to review the emergency procedures.

Evacuation Instructions

				
Listen for directions from authorized personnel.	Remain inside train if possible. If not...	Go to next car through end doors. If unable...	Open side door and go out. If unable...	Go out emergency windows.

In the meantime, here are a few quick safety tips:

- Be sure to familiarize yourself with safety signage (above) in cars so you will know how to locate and operate emergency exits.
- Remember that your best protection is to remain calm, and think clearly.
- The safest place to be is on the train. However, if you are directed to evacuate to the track level, follow the train crew's directions carefully, watch your step and stay away from the third rail or any downed wires.

We bring you this information because your safety is always our first priority.

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Getaway – to a Delicious Meal in the Hudson Valley!

	<h3>march 11–24, 2019</h3> <p>RESERVE TODAY!</p>	<p>Hudson Valley Restaurant Week March 11 – March 24.</p> <p>Relax aboard a Metro-North train and dine at one of the 200 participating restaurants. Nearly half of which are located near Metro-North train stations on the Hudson,</p>
		

Harlem, New Haven and Port Jervis lines.

The Hudson Valley has grown into New York's premier culinary destination. **Hudson Valley Restaurant Week** offers three-course prix-fixe lunches at \$22.95 and dinners at \$32.95. Many chefs' menus include original dishes using the best fresh produce, cheeses and meats, all locally-grown in the Hudson Valley.

Getting there:

Please call the restaurant you've chosen to get directions from the closest train station.

We can make sure you have something to do every weekend!
See a [complete list of our Getaways](#).

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Courtesy Corner

It's All About THE PUPPIES!

In addition to Saint Patrick's Day on March 17, March is the month when we celebrate the Spring (vernal) Equinox (March 20); and Purim (March 21, at sundown).

But we would like to call your attention to one special day in particular, National Puppy Day on March 23.



Though there have not been any official congressional declarations or presidential proclamations for this special day, it is a time we recognize the unconditional love puppies give us and the joy they bring – and when the goal is to adopt a puppy who doesn't have a home.

And let's face it, no matter how old your dog is, they are still your "puppy!"

And, if you are taking your "puppy" home with you on Metro-North, please don't forget for their safety, to have them on a **leash** and **hold the little ones on your lap or in a special carrier tucked under the seat** for the trip home.

And don't forget to give your "puppy" a special bone, a kiss on the head, and a big hug on this day.

It's the courteous thing to do!

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