

MILEPOSTS

A Newsletter for MTA Metro-North Railroad Customers



October 2019

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New Schedules, Effective September 29

Bring Improvements in Frequency of Service and Travel Options

On the Hudson Line, **Special Fall Foliage trains** return to the Hudson Valley on three Saturdays, **October 19, October 26,** and **November 2.**

On weekdays, two southbound trains have 1 minute removed from their schedules, while there are minor adjustments to 14 weekday and 26 weekend southbound trains to accommodate track improvements.

On the Harlem Line

With the completion of Metro-North's SMARTRACK project between Mott Haven and Woodlawn, **30 weekday trains on the Harlem Line will have improvements** in their schedules of between 1 and 11 minutes, while full weekend service is restored to North White Plains.

On weekdays,

there are additional stops for Melrose and Tremont stations.

- The **8:01 AM local train from Mt. Vernon West** to Grand Central Terminal is restored to the timetable.
- The **2:56 PM from Grand Central Terminal**, adds stops at Williams Bridge, Woodlawn and Wakefield.

On weekends,

- **Bronx stops have been added** to 17 northbound and 16 southbound trains. Three southbound and 17 northbound trains have schedule improvements of 2 – 7 minutes, and 15 northbound trains continue on from Crestwood to North White Plains.

On the New Haven Line,

As a result of completed trackwork, **102 trains have schedule improvements** of 1 – 2 minutes. In addition, there are the following weekday schedule changes.

On weekdays,

- There is a **new train departing Bridgeport at 6:57 AM** making stops at Stratford, Milford and West Haven, and arriving in **New Haven at 7:25 AM.**
- Two evening express trains **departing New Haven at 5:40 PM** and **6:39 PM** now stop at Greenwich at 7 PM and 8 PM then continue to Grand Central Terminal.
- Other minor adjustments are made to provide reliable schedules and are designed to accommodate infrastructure projects.
- Two Shore Line East trains to Stamford, (one **departing New London at 5:43 AM** and **Old Saybrook at 6:47 AM**) depart New Haven **2 – 5 minutes earlier** and have 2 – 5 minutes added to their schedules to allow for the slower operation of their manually operated doors at intermediate stations.

[See full details online.](#)

Know Before You Go!

For quick access to schedule information, you can access: Metro-North's train schedules available online at www.NEW.mta.info or go to our main page, www.mta.info/mnr.

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Don't Miss Nature's Show!

Back this year on the Hudson Line, special Fall Foliage trains return to the Hudson Valley on three Saturdays, **October 19, October 26,** and **November 2.**

Pick up a schedule at Grand Central Terminal, or consult www.NEW.mta.info or go to our main page, www.mta.info/mnr.



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White Plains

Station Improvements

October 14 – December 6, 2019



The elevator at **White Plains Station** will be **out of service** for upgrades.

ADA-Accessible Shuttle available during White Plains Elevator Renovation

The elevator at White Plains Station will be out of service from October 14 – December 6, 2019, while it undergoes renovation.

During that time, **ADA-accessible transportation will be provided to North White Plains**, the closest elevator-accessible station.

Find out more about shuttle service, as well as details about Westchester County Bee-Line

ParaTransit and Access-a-Ride access to/from the North White Plains Station.

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Connect with Us

Have a question, comment or concern?

Talk with Metro-North Customer Service Reps and Management

Connect with Us!

Metro-North's Series Of Informal
Customer Forums

Talk with
**Metro-North
Customer Service Representatives
& Management**

Mount Kisco Station
Wednesday, October 16
7 AM – 8:30 AM

Sidewalk near Overpass Staircase

Ask questions! • Give us your input!
Share your comments, concerns and suggestions!



Connect with Us at Mount Kisco Station, Wednesday, October 16, 7 – 8:30 AM, near the Overpass Staircase.

To see if there's an upcoming event near you, please visit the [Connect with Us events page](#).

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It's Metro-North's Rail Safety Poster Contest!

Sharpen those colored pencils and prep those paints...

it's time to show Metro-North what you got!

If you're a student (Pre-K – 12) and your school is located within our territory, we want to see your safety-inspired posters. Show us what you think is most important when it comes to safety on our railroad.



Slip Slide, How It Affects Your Commute, And What We Are Doing to Combat It

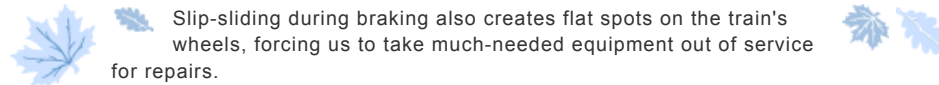
It's that time of year again, when leaves fall, rain falls, and slip-slide conditions are created and impacts all railroads in the northeast.



In autumns past, you may have heard our train crews mention "slip-slide" to explain minor service delays.


These conditions are created by a slimy substance left by crushed leaves on our rails — which becomes more slippery after it rains.

When a train attempts to speed up or slow down, this gelatinous "slime" can cause the wheels to slip or slide along the rails. In severe cases the train will automatically make an emergency stop, because the on-board computer system perceives "slip-sliding" as the train not slowing down when it should.



Slip-sliding during braking also creates flat spots on the train's wheels, forcing us to take much-needed equipment out of service for repairs.

Over the past several years, we have taken a very proactive approach to combating this problem.

 Changes include:

- Instructing our engineers to report slippery conditions immediately to our Operations Control Center.
- Providing additional training in how to operate through these "slippery" areas.
- Enhancing our computerized train-tracking system to allow for automatic reporting of slip-slide incidents and conditions, enabling us to take corrective action more quickly.
- Installing a Wheel Impact Load Detector (WILD) across all four tracks in the Park Avenue Tunnel which monitors for wheel flats—this allows us to identify and prioritize wheels for repair.
- Installing a tandem Wheel Truing Lathe in Harmon Shop. The Connecticut Department of Transportation has built a second identical facility in New Haven to support our M8 Fleet.

This fall, many of you may notice that under extreme slip-slide conditions, we will reduce speeds through problem areas.

While this may result in a slight delay to your service, it ensures safe operation of our trains and also prevents a greater delay because of wheel damage.



We have also stepped up our efforts to keep our right of way as "leaf free" as possible. (This is no small feat given the number of trees that line our tracks.) We use two large high-pressure rail washers and several smaller rail scrubbers to remove crushed leaf residue from the tracks. And on-board "sanders" on our diesel trains automatically drop sand on our tracks to help improve traction and reduce wheel slippage when it begins to occur.

We please ask that you keep in mind that while we can reduce the incidents of slippery rail, we cannot eliminate them. We will continue our efforts to try to minimize any delays and inconvenience slippery rail may create for you this autumn. And, as always, we appreciate your patience.



Metro-North Rail Rewards are Here!

Introducing Rail Rewards! Now, Metro-North monthly ticket holders can show their train ticket to get exclusive offers at Grand Central shops and restaurants.

Check out [Grand Central Terminal's official website](#) for details. Vendor offers vary.



Your ticket to ride is your ticket to **SHOP & DINE**

Introducing Rail Rewards,
now Metro-North customers can show
their train ticket to get exclusive offers at
Grand Central shops and restaurants.

grandcentralterminal.com/railrewards

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Safety Rules of the Issue

Don't "Fall" this "Fall!"

A safety reminder from Metro-North: It's *Fall*



so please remember to...

- Walk, don't run, for your train.
- Stand back from the platform edge.
- Watch the gap.
- Avoid moving from car to car, especially on a moving train.
- Keep off the tracks at all times.
- Stop using smartphones/tablets when walking on platforms, stairs & near crossings.

Your safety is always our first priority.



We bring you these rules because your safety is always our first priority all year long!

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Carve Out Some Time for Fun!



Boo at the Zoo Through November 3

Most people know that this world-famous wildlife park boasts thousands of animals across hundreds of sprawling acres.

But did you know about the Bronx Zoo's Halloween tradition - BOO AT THE ZOO? This year, they've added more spooky fun that's ideal for all ages. Come in your best Halloween attire and enjoy! Schedules and events are subject to change. For complete information about events, call 718-367-1010 or visit

www.bronxzoo.com.

[See details on this discount package.](#)

Package price from GCT/Harlem-125th Street: adults, \$30.25; seniors, persons with disabilities and individuals receiving Medicare, \$26.50; children 12, \$24.25; children 5-11, \$14; children 3-4, \$12; children under 3, free. [See details on Metro-North Package Pricing from other stations. \[PDF\]](#)

Getting there is simple:

Take the [Harlem Line](#) to Fordham Station.

Danbury Railway Museum Pumpkin Patch 2019

Through December 1
Saturdays, 10 AM - 4 PM
Sundays, Noon - 4 PM

The Danbury Railway Museum is located in the historic 1903 train station and railroad yard in downtown Danbury, Connecticut. Get onboard the "Rail Yard Local" and be transported back in time to the golden age of railroading. You'll see the Museum's collection of historic rolling stock, including many rare diesel engines and the only operating turntable in Connecticut.

And you can also enjoy the Pumpkin Patch Celebration on Saturdays and Sundays, October 12 - 27. Free pumpkins, cider and cookies for the kiddies, explore vintage trains, model train displays and much, much more.

See details on this discount package.

Package price from GCT/Harlem-125th Street: adults, \$28.25; seniors, persons with disabilities and individuals receiving Medicare, \$23.50; children 5-11, \$8; children 3-4, \$6; children under 3, free. **See details on Metro-North Package Pricing from other stations. [PDF]**

Getting there is simple:

Take the **New Haven Line**, transfer at South Norwalk Station, take a Danbury Branch train to **Danbury 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



Coffee to Go? Please take it With You!

Cappuccino, latte, macchiato, iced black, and cold drip!
So much to choose from!

But after you've finished, please don't leave your coffee cup on the floor, or under the seat!

Otherwise the next customer at that seat might get cappuccino-foot, latte-pant, macchiato-stockings, iced-black toe, or cold drip suitcase!

And we wouldn't want that, would we?

Please, take your coffee with you when you go — from the store, and from the train!

It's the courteous thing to do!

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