

MILEPOSTS

A Newsletter for MTA Metro-North Railroad Customers



September 2015

■ **New Schedules** ■ **Rebuilding Our Right-of-Way** ■
Train To The Game™ ■ **Safety Rule** ■ **Courtesy Corner** ■ **Getaway!**

Our New Schedules Effective the weekend of October 3 and 4...



...continue to provide you with a safe and reliable service while accommodating our program of aggressive improvements along our right-of-way.

- Weekday schedules will feature minimal service changes on all lines.
- On the Hudson Line a Special Construction Schedule will be in effect from October 3 – November 15. (See details below.)

Our intent is to provide you with a schedule you can count on as we rebuild track and infrastructure at critical locations.

Most of this work will be done during off-peak hours and on weekends in order to minimize any impact on your commute. *(See the next story for a wrap-up of all the work we have*

done to date, and what we are planning to do.)

Here are some key changes to look for:

On the Hudson Line

We are doing major switch replacement at a key location in the Bronx near Yankee Stadium which will require a **Special Weekend Construction Schedule to be in effect from Saturday, October 3 – Sunday, November 15.**

This will require a single-track operation in a six-mile section from Harlem-125th Street through Marble Hill. And that means we will not be able to operate our usual weekend service through the work zone.

Customers traveling from points north of Croton-Harmon will need to make an across-platform change of trains at Croton-Harmon. In addition, the semi-express trains that operate between Croton-Harmon and Grand Central Terminal (in both directions) will only operate between Croton-Harmon and Marble Hill; customers riding one of these trains will change trains at Marble Hill to continue their trip. Local trains between Croton-Harmon and Grand Central in both directions will operate normally.

In addition three southbound trains from Poughkeepsie (the 9:40 AM train on Saturdays, and the 10:40 AM and 3:40 PM trains Saturdays and Sundays) and three northbound trains to Poughkeepsie (the 4:14 PM train on Saturdays, and the 5:14 PM and 6:14 PM trains) will not operate for the duration of the work.

This special weekend construction schedule will be included in the new October 3 Hudson Linetimetable. Be sure to check the weekend schedule for details, or [visit our schedules page](#).

On weekdays, the 9:15 AM train from Poughkeepsie will return to its 9 AM departure time, reflecting the completion of summer track work in the area.

Also, be sure to check the timetable for possible minor adjustments to your commute. *(A new Hudson Line timetable will be issued on November 16, when the weekend construction is complete.)*

On the Harlem Line

On weekends, stops have been adjusted on the 3:40 PM, 4:40 PM and 5:40 PM trains from Southeast to reflect ridership demand, make them consistent with other trains in similar time periods, and to provide more reliable service during necessary track maintenance work.

Again, be sure to check the October 4 timetable for possible minor adjustments to your commute.

On the New Haven Line

Devon Transfer will remain in service on the Waterbury Branch through November 15. (A new timetable will be issued on November 16 when the Devon Transfer is closed.)

Inbound on weekdays, Greenwich will be added as a stop to the 7:56 AM train from New Canaan (previously the 7:58 AM train), to permit convenient connections to Greenwich for customers arriving in Stamford on the 5:50 AM Shore Line East train from New London. This change will not affect the train's 9:06 AM arrival time in Grand Central.

New timetables will be available in Grand Central, at outlying ticket offices, or at [our schedules page](#).

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What Is & What Will Be: Rebuilding Our Right-of-Way Continues



Metro-North crews have kept busy this summer with aggressive track improvements, helping ensure the safety and reliability of our service.

And when the leaves call it quits in the fall, we'll be stepping up our efforts, with additional crews working during off-peak hours, weekends, and some evenings. All this work is scheduled for off-peak and weekend hours, so there is minimal impact to your commute. We appreciate your patience as we continue to build a safer and more reliable railroad.

[Find out what was \(and what will be\) accomplished.](#)

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Horsehide or Pigskin?



Baseball season isn't over yet, and football season is already upon us!

But it doesn't matter what type of "ball" you prefer, because you can take a **Metro-North "Train to the Game."** (*Animal lovers don't worry. Most balls are made from synthetic materials today!*)

For football fans, September 13 sees the return of direct New Haven Line "through" service to the Meadowlands for Sunday 1 PM Jets and Giants home games **from an expanded list of stations:** New Haven, West Haven, Bridgeport, **Fairfield Metro (a new stop for 2015)**, Fairfield, South Norwalk, **Darien (a new stop for 2015)**, Stamford, Greenwich, Rye and Larchmont.

Service takes you to Secaucus Junction, where it's an easy transfer to the Meadowlands Rail Line for an express ride to the stadium.

Hudson, Harlem, and New Haven Line customers from other stations can also take Metro-North to Grand Central Terminal, ride the subway to Penn Station-NY, then transfer to a NJ TRANSIT train to the Meadowlands (again connecting at Secaucus Junction).

Monthly ticket holders only need purchase a round-trip ticket to the Meadowlands Sports Complex Station at Secaucus Junction.

[See full details on service.](#)



And of course, our convenient **Yankee Stadium game-day service** continues until the final home game of the regular season. And if the Bronx Bombers make it, to the playoffs (*as if there is any doubt*), we will get you there too!

[See full details on service.](#)

Remember: Free weekend parking is available at many Metro-North stations. [See our Stations page for details.](#)

Safety Rule of the Issue

The next presidential election isn't until November 8, 2016 and we're already hearing about the candidates' (or their lack of) political platforms.

Well, we'd like to jump on the bandwagon and tell you about our "five-point plan" regarding our station platforms.

Always:

- Stay away from the edge of the platform.
- Do not lean over the platform edge to see if a train is coming, because trains can approach from either direction.
- Wait for the train to stop before stepping forward.
- Walk – don't run on platforms.
- See someone at risk, or someone suspicious, at the station or on the platform? Alert a police officer, or train or station personnel.

We bring you these reminders because we hope you can support them, and because your safety is always our first priority!

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Courtesy Corner



Whether made of fine Corinthian leather*, suede or pleather (that's vegan leather), bags and suitcases can be things of beauty, often carrying great status for their owners.

And many feel they should be given a special display space so others can admire them!

But your bag didn't pay a fare, and it is not entitled to a seat on our trains, even if it is made of politically correct pleather!

Instead, place your bag or briefcase on your lap, or, better still, in the overhead racks. This way they can still be admired and a fellow traveler can sit.

It's the courteous thing to do.

**Editor's note: "Corinthian" leather was actually made just outside of Newark, New Jersey and not Cornith, Greece.*

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Go For the "Shear" Fun of It!



Take Metro-North's Getaway package to the **New York State Sheep and Wool Family Festival, (Saturday, October 17 & Sunday, October 18)** at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds.

Talk about your "sheep" thrills! The Northeast's thriving sheep industry (*yes, there is one*) is showcased and celebrated each year in this famous festival that draws 30,000 visitors from across the country to the lovely village of Rhinebeck. And there's more here than sheep, llamas, alpacas, and their luscious fibers. See amazing sheepherding demonstrations and

sheepdog trials, a petting zoo, hay maze, and other children's activities, plus the ever-popular Punkin' Chuckin' competition on Sunday.

[See a complete listing of all our discount Getaways.](#)

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