

MILEPOSTS

A Newsletter for MTA Metro-North Railroad Customers November 2015

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Only Turkeys Trot...



...but every Thanksgiving those in the know take Metro-North's special holiday service!

And they are thankful for avoiding traffic, tolls, and all the other headaches that come with driving on one of the busiest travel holidays of the year.

We'll be publishing a special Thanksgiving Holiday Timetable covering Thursday, November 26 through Sunday, November 29. So

be sure to pick one up in Grand Central or at our outlying stations. You can also find train times on our [schedules page](#) or on our new [TrainTime App!](#) (See more details.)

On Wednesday, November 25, take flight on one of our early getaway trains, which begin departing Grand Central at 12:58 PM. See a regular timetable for details. Because of reduced ridership, some evening trains may be cancelled or combined.

On Thanksgiving (Thursday, November 26), we have additional inbound trains for those of you heading to the Macy's Thanksgiving Holiday Parade.

Watching all those gas-filled floats may bring back memories of past Thanksgiving feasts. And we will have plenty of additional outbound service to get you home (or to whoever's house you are heading to for dinner).

On the Day After Thanksgiving (Friday, November 27), we will operate a Saturday schedule with additional trains inbound in the AM and outbound in the PM so you can take advantage of all those Black Friday sales. *(Though be forewarned: All the best bargains may already be gone thanks to all those consumers who went shopping on Thanksgiving!)*

Finally, **on Saturday, November 28 and Sunday, November 29** we will provide regular weekend schedules with additional Shoppers' Specials trains. [\(See our next story.\)](#)

Off-peak fares are in effect for the entire four-day holiday, and you can take advantage of free parking at many of our stations. (Check for signs at stations, or call 511 for details. Outside of New York, call 877-690-5114.)

If you are traveling to/from Manhattan with family and friends to see the holiday sights, why not purchase a ten-trip off-peak ticket and save 30-40% off of the one-way fare. The ticket can be used by more than one person, even when you are traveling together. Or use our Family Fare and pay \$1 per ticket for up to four children (ages 5 to 11) when they are traveling with a fare-paying adult. (The fifth child and all other children pay Child Fare).

[See our fare page for details.](#)

And now, here's our not-so-secret recipe for happy Thanksgiving travel: Buy your tickets in advance (like your turkey). Thanksgiving is the busiest travel day of the year, and if you're leaving New York after the parade, you must have your ticket before boarding your train at Grand Central or Harlem-125th Street Station.

All of us at Metro-North wish you and your families a happy and safe Thanksgiving!

We've Got Your Specials!

Our Shoppers' Specials Service returns for six weekends between November 21 and December 27, 2015!

This is either reason to cheer (*if you like to holiday shop without any hassle*) or hide your credit cards.

On **Saturdays, November 21 – December 26** look for:

- **Two** additional Upper Hudson Line trains.
- **Eight** additional outer New Haven Line trains.



On **Sundays, November 22 – December 27** look for:

- **Three** additional outer New Haven Line trains.

Shoppers' Specials are listed in the current timetable or you can find them on our [schedules page](#) or by using our [Train Time App!](#)

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Treat Yourself to an Early Holiday Gift! It's Free...

...and far more useful than a pair of reindeer socks!

Download our free Train Time APP today!

Packed with powerful new features, Train Time is still the only Metro-North app you'll ever need. The enhanced range of travel information, as well as easier search and navigation options, are designed to make customers' travels easy with a few swipes of their smartphones!

The app takes you from the clearly defined search categories on our cleanly designed navigation screen to the details that you need to know to travel a route for the first time or for the 500th time!

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What's Happening on the Lower Level of

Grand Central?



The 1,920-square-foot west seating area of the Lower Level Dining Concourse is temporarily closed to pave the way for construction work associated with MTA Capital Construction's East Side Access (ESA) Project, which will bring Long Island Rail Road trains into Grand Central Terminal.

The area will remain closed to allow for the future construction of stairways and escalators that will connect the Lower Level to the 10-block-long, 350,000-square-foot Long Island Rail Road concourse and eight-track train terminal being built underneath Grand Central Terminal.

All of the surrounding eateries will remain open for business throughout the construction. Three quarters of the 140 chairs and 44 tables that occupy the area to be closed will be redistributed throughout the Dining Concourse.

The work is being done through the MTA's East Side Access megaproject, the largest transportation construction project underway in the United States.

The construction of the structural framework and space for the future stairways and escalators in the Dining Concourse is projected to take approximately 12-18 months.

When construction of this first phase is completed, the framed out and supported openings in the floor will be capped over until the escalators and stairs are installed closer to revenue service.

Other East Side Access-related work is underway and will become visible to the public over the coming months and years as the project progresses.

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Safety Rule of the Issue

"Slip slide" isn't just a term that applies to our trains!

The autumn leaves along with the season's drop in temperature make things "slippery" all around. *(They call the season "fall" for a reason!)*

So please use caution when driving on leaf-covered roads to and from our stations and parking lots. Always use handrails on stairs, and never run *(no matter what the season)* on our train platforms.

We bring you these rules every month because your safety is always our first priority.

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Courtesy Corner

Ben Franklin wanted to make the turkey our national bird, probably after eating one or two! *(No wonder he was the most portly of our founding fathers.)*

He felt the bald eagle was "a bird of bad moral character" and that the turkey was much more "respectable."

So if there was ever a time you could act like a "turkey" and get away with it would be while riding on our trains during this holiday season.



No matter how busy things may get, rushing back and forth to relatives, weighed down by the many gifts you may be bearing, always remember to be understanding and courteous to your fellow travelers.

It's the courteous thing to do!

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All Aboard...

...for the **14th Annual Holiday Train Show at The New York Transit Museum in Grand Central November 14 – February 21.**

This popular model railroad exhibition features Metro-North, New York Central, and subway trains departing from a miniature Grand Central Terminal on a 34'-long, two-level "O" gauge layout.

Model Lionel trains from the Museum's collection and vintage Lionel advertisements also will be on display. The Museum's store and booth at the Holiday Fair also offer great gifts for your holiday shopping.

Transit gifts are also available online at



NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM STORE

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