

US Army Corps of Engineers

Pittsburgh District

Notice to Navigation Interests

In reply refer to Notice No. below US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District 1000 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186 (412) 395-7650 http://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/op/nav notice.htm

Notice No. 11-04

Date: March 7, 2011

## Schedule of Operations for 2011 Allegheny River Locks

1. <u>TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN</u>: Notice is given for the seasonal schedule of lock operations for the Allegheny River, as follows.

2. Allegheny River Lock 2, C.W. Bill Young Lock (formerly Lock 3), and Lock 4 will continue to operate 24 hours daily.

3. Allegheny River Lock 5 will operate on the following schedule:

Date	Days	Hours
March 13, 2011	Daily	7:00 A.M. to 10:30 P.M.
through		
September 30, 2011		

4. Allegheny River Lock 6, Lock 7, and Lock 8 will operate on the following schedule:

Date	Days	Hours
May 01, 2011	Fridays, Saturdays,	
through	Sundays, & Holidays	12:30 P.M. to 8:10 P.M.
September 30, 2011	L Mondays	8:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon
	Tuesday Thru Thursday	CLOSED

5. Allegheny River Lock 9 will operate May 01, 2011 through **September 30, 2011** on Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays from 12:30 P.M. to 8:10 P.M.

(Note: Under unusual circumstances, clearance lockages will be authorized for groups of recreational boaters or individual boaters, if an emergency situation warrants.)

SPECIAL NOTICE: The President's Fiscal Year 12 budget focuses on directing funds to programs that provide the highest return on investment. To accomplish this, federal agencies were required to identify low-priority programs for elimination or reduction by 50 percent. For its navigation program, the Corps of Engineers identified low commercial use projects. Nationally, the CELRP-OP Navigation Notice No. 11-04

President's FY12 budget provides \$76 million for the Corps' low use navigation projects compared to FY11's \$140 million. Locally, the Pittsburgh District's Allegheny River system received \$4 million inthe FY12 budget compared to more than \$8 million in FY11. This funding is \$1.9 million less than what we need to maintain the current level of service; it requires the elimination of significant lock maintenance of the system. This reduction in funding will greatly impact the service we can provide to Allegheny River users, especially recreational boaters. Though commercial vessels will have access to all locks, recreational boaters may see elimination or significant reduction in services at Allegheny River locks in FY12 which starts 1 October 2011.

6. Except for the times noted in paragraph 7 below, commercial operators desiring appointment lockages during non-operating hours at Locks 5 through 9 must make arrangements **at least 24 hours in advance** by calling the Locks and Dams Branch Office or Lock 6

between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, at one of the following telephone numbers:

a. Locks and Dams Branch Office, (412) 395-7650b. Lock 6, Allegheny River, (724) 295-3775

## 7. No appointment lockages will be made between 11:00 P.M. and 06:30 P.M. at Locks 5 through 9. No appointments will be accepted for lockages that would occur during this 7-1/2 hour period.

8. Waterway users are cautioned that warning signs and pillar buoys will not be set until approximately mid-May. Since the navigation aids may, at times, move off station during the year because of river conditions, boaters must approach all locks with extreme care, especially when proceeding downstream. Everyone is urged to consult their navigation charts to be absolutely sure of the landmarks when approaching a lock and dam.

9. All waters immediately above and below each dam are designated as restricted areas year round. Boaters, fishermen, divers, and others are cautioned not to enter the restricted areas, as designated by the signs and "KEEP OUT" buoys, as these areas are **extremely hazardous**. Upstream of the dam, currents may draw boats into the dam. Downstream of the dam, backwash and turbulence from the dam may draw a boat into the dam, causing it to capsize. 10. Beginning January 2009 the Pittsburgh District's Notices to Navigation Interests will only be available by downloading from the Pittsburgh District webpage at www.lrp.usace.army.mil/or/or-f/navrpt.htm.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

//Signed//
Richard C. Lockwood
Chief, Operations Division