



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

180 Andrews Street  
P. O. Box 520  
Massena, N. Y. 13662-0520  
315-764-3200



Saint Lawrence  
Seaway  
Corporation  
Development

**MEDIA ADVISORY  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
May 23, 2016

Contact: Josef Walker  
315-764-3218

## **DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER VISITORS' CENTER TO OPEN FOR SEASON**

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation announced today the Dwight D. Eisenhower Visitors' Center, located at the U. S. Eisenhower Lock, will open on Friday, May 27, 2016 and remain open daily, including weekends, through Labor Day, September 5, 2016. The Visitors' Center hours of operation are from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and it is free to the public.

The Seaway Visitors' Center at the Eisenhower Lock provides tourists and ship watchers with an observation deck where they can view commercial vessels and cruise ships from around the world as they transit the lock. Guides are available to provide additional information to tourists. Hundreds of ships from all over the world make thousands of transits through the St. Lawrence Seaway annually. They carry a wide variety of cargoes including grains, iron ore, coal, steel, stone, steel slabs, and project cargoes.

The Massena Chamber of Commerce will operate a gift shop featuring items from local vendors and Seaway memorabilia, as well as provide tourist information to visiting guests. Starting May 27<sup>th</sup>, the gift shop will be open Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Saturday/Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Due to security measures, visitors will be asked to leave all packages, bags, backpacks etc. in their vehicles. For those necessary items that need to be carried into the viewing area, you may be asked to present them for inspection or have them checked by a metal detecting wand. This will be conducted at a manned checkpoint as you enter the Visitors' Center area from the parking lot. The Center maybe periodically closed to visitors at the discretion of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation. The top deck is open to the public.

The Center is located off Route 37 in Massena, N.Y. Turn right at the traffic light at the St. Lawrence Centre Mall main entrance if approaching westbound or left if heading eastbound. The Visitors' Center entrance is 1.5 miles on the right.

For up-to-date information on estimated vessel transit times, call (315) 769-2422 for a voice recording of that day's projected lockage schedule. Additional information is on the website at <http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/navigating/map/index.html>. This map updates every 15 minutes with details on those ships currently in transit within the Seaway System. To receive specific lock information, visit our Vessel Transit Information page (<http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/R2/jsp/R2.jsp?language=E&loc=VT00.jsp>) and pull down the Order of Turn information. This offers real-time information on those vessels preparing to enter any of the locks.

###