



The Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Seaway System
Le réseau Grands Lacs - Voie maritime du Saint Laurent

Re: SEAWAY RADIO MESSAGE NO. 8 OF 2026

The Montreal/Lake Ontario section and the Welland Canal are now open to navigation.

Details on the maximum permissible drafts for both the Montreal-Lake Ontario Section and the Welland Canal are available in Seaway Notice no.1 of 2026.

Transit restrictions are in place at opening. Further details are available in Seaway Notice #4 of 2026.

MONTREAL-LAKE ONTARIO SECTION

There is broken ice present in the South Shore Canal, above the upper Beauharnois lock and on Lake St. François.

There is ice in the Wiley-Dondero Canal, therefore one way navigation is still in effect.

Further details are available through the local Traffic Control Centres.

Navigation may be restricted until the commissioning of lighted aids has been completed. Mariners are warned to exercise extreme caution in the use of winter markers as the position of the markers may have been affected by ice. Further information concerning this is available from the appropriate traffic control centre.

It is extremely important, for vessels transiting through all ice covered areas and the ice booms in the Beauharnois Canal, to proceed at the slowest safe speed in order not to disturb the ice fields.

The Prescott-Ogdensburg ice boom A and the Galop ice boom G area have been completely removed from the navigation channel.

WELLAND CANAL

The Welland Canal and Lake Erie are open water.

The next radio message will be issued Wednesday, April 1st, 2026.

March 31, 2026