

ATTENTION: BOATERS NORTH OF THE MOVABLE RAIL BRIDGES IN SE CT

The schedule Amtrak was running prior to June 1st had numerous closure windows at the Old Lyme Drawbridge that were greater than 20 minutes (which violates federal regulation).

Then as of June 1st, the CT DOT added 14 additional Shore Line East trains on Saturdays and Sundays – the busiest time of the week on the water. This has resulted in more and longer bridge closures. Further expansion of weekday AND weekend Shore Line East trains is planned for September, 2013.

NOW is the time to make sure access to the waterways is not restricted any further. Boats are 100% dependent on water.

The marine trades industry is working on this, but real life accounts from the boaters transiting the bridges is what makes a difference. Attached you will find a "Bridge Information Form" to document your experiences at any of the movable bridges in SE CT. Issues may include wait time, ability to safely navigate, communications, legible tide boards, or operational countdown clocks, just as a few examples.

NOTICE: all VHF conversations with the bridges are recorded and maintained for 6 months. Please use proper radio protocols, and ask the bridge tender what time he/she has and what time he/she expects the bridge to open so that it may be recorded.