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Saint Lawrence
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MEDIA ADVISORY

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DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER VISITORS' CENTER CLOSES FOR SEASON ON LABOR DAY

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation announced today that public access to its Visitors' Center at the U.S. Eisenhower Lock for the 2016 navigation season ends at 6:00 pm on Labor Day, September 5. From Monday, August 29 through September 5, the Center will be open from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and is free to the public.

The Center has served as a major tourist attraction for North Country residents and tourists visiting the region since 1961. This year, nearly 60,000 visitors from 44 states and 22 countries entered the Center or stopped by the overlook to view ships from dozens of nations traversing the binational U.S.-Canadian waterway.

A highlight of the summer was the magnificent sight of the "Draken Harald Haarfagre," the world's largest replica Viking ship, which transited the Eisenhower Lock on June 23. Nearly 100-feet long and with a crew of 33, this traditional ship set sail from the west coast of Norway in late April. A large crowd of onlookers gathered and cheered as the ship sailed through the lock.

The Eisenhower Visitors' Center is located off Route 37 in Massena, N.Y. and is accessible to the disabled. A north overlook parking lot is available year round for visitors to view ships after the Center is closed. The Visitors' Center will be closed for the winter and will reopen in May 2017.

There are several ways to get up-to-date information on estimated vessel transit times:

- Call **315-769-2422**, for a voice recording of that day's projected lockage schedule.
- Review the Great Lakes-Seaway binational website at <http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/navigating/map/index.html>, which updates every 15 minutes with details on ships currently in transit within the Seaway System.
- Review Lock-specific information at <http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/R2/jsp/R2.jsp?language=E&loc=VT00.jsp>, which offers real-time information on vessels preparing to enter any of the locks (by pulling down the Order of Turn Information).

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