

# LOCK TALK

## News and updates from the Fox River Locks

### Win free lockage

Visit [www.foxlocks.org](http://www.foxlocks.org) and register for our online newsletter. You'll qualify for a monthly drawing of free lock passage!

### Lock schedule posted

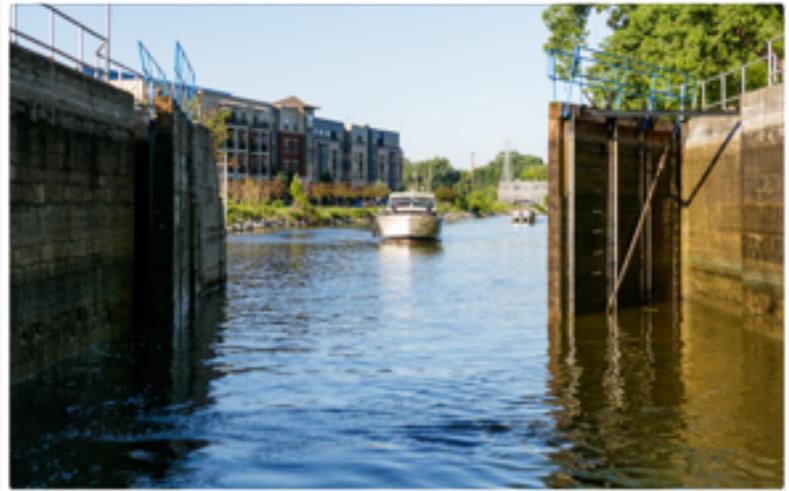
Operating hours for some of our locks have changed, so please visit our website for an updated listing of operating times for the locks.

### Lock tenders on duty

The lock system is staffed by 20 locktenders who are on duty until October 1. These professionals return year after year lured by the history of the lock system and the desire to give you great customer service! Ask them about the history and operation of these historic resources when you visit.

### Fun fact

The 39-mile length of the Fox River drops in elevation 168 feet—a vertical drop equal in height to the total drop of Niagara Falls!



## Open for Business

For the first time in 30 years, boaters will be able to navigate the 13-mile stretch of the river from Menasha and Little Lake Butte des Morts, through Little Lake Butte Des Morts, the four Appleton locks, Cedars Lock and the Little Chute Locks to Kaukauna Lock #1.

"We are excited that the Little Chute lock will be open and operational for the full season," said Bob Stark, CEO of the Fox River Navigational System Authority (FRNSA). "The locks in Little Chute, Appleton, and Menasha are also linked with parks and walking trails so pedestrians who have never seen a lock in operation can enjoy the experience."

Fees for using the lock system are reasonable and available for both motorized and non-motorized boats. A daily permit to use all locks starts at \$10 for motorized boats, \$5 for non-motorized. Weekend and season passes are also available.

### *For more information*

Please visit our website at [www.foxlocks.org](http://www.foxlocks.org) for a complete listing of lock schedules, fees, procedures for going through the lock and bridge schedules. For questions, call our offices at 920-759-9833.



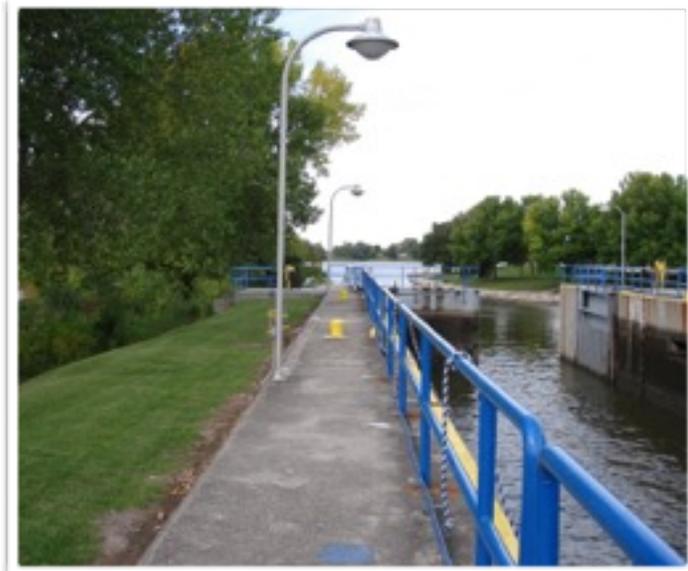
## Living history: the Fox River Locks

The 17 locks on the Fox River are living history in action. One of the only fully restored, hand-operated lock systems in the country, all of the locks are on the National Register of Historic Places.

Just as they worked in the 1800s, the locks are operated by hand. The system allows navigation of the Fox River as it drops in elevation to the Bay of Green Bay.

The ten year restoration project was completed in 2015 (on time and under budget!). Efforts to clean up the Fox River are nearing completion and already we see wildlife returning to the waters of the Fox. Eagles are regularly spotted fishing the waters along with pelicans and other water birds. Trophy fishing in the northern section of the river is returning and the waters are home to kayak and canoe clubs.

Learn more about how the locks contributed to the history and economy of Wisconsin by visiting our website and plan your next visit on the Fox!



## Update on the Menasha Lock

Due to the discovery of the invasive fish, the round goby, the Menasha lock will remain closed for the 2017 season. The lock was closed in late September of 2015 to comply with NR40 which makes it illegal to possess, transport, transfer, or introduce any invasive species in the state.

We would like to see a workable, realistic plan to restore access to the lock system and the busiest lock in the system, the Menasha Lock. Our goal is to find a solution that protects the waterways from this aquatic invasive species and any future invasive species.

Right now we are working with the Wisconsin DNR and discussing three possible options to open access to the Menasha lock, many of which are still in developmental stages. Proposals include:

- Keeping the lock closed and designing and installing a boat lift at the lock.
- Installing a low-voltage electric barrier within the structure of the lock in order to repel the invasive fish and prevent them from swimming upstream.
- Infuse carbon dioxide into the water to create an oxygen depleted zone which would repel the round goby and prevent them from moving upstream.

Any solution will require study and review by multiple organizations. If you, as a citizen, have any concerns about the situation with the Menasha Lock, please contact your local, state and federal elected representatives.