

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 3, 2010

ATK-10-064
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AMTRAK IMPROVES SERVICE TO NEW BUFFALO, MICH.

More trains, new schedule support day-trips to famed beach starting May 10

CHICAGO and LANSING – Starting May 10, passengers aboard the Amtrak *Wolverine Service* (Pontiac-Detroit-Chicago) and *Blue Water* (Port Huron-East Lansing-Chicago) trains can now travel directly to New Buffalo, Mich., and have the option of spending a day at the beach, returning home that night, or making a vacation of it, all from the new downtown station near the lakefront.

The new schedule (attached) allows day-trips to “Harbor Country,” the westernmost gateway to the shores of Michigan and a favored getaway location for Chicagoans, Detroiters and many others. Beginning May 10 – coinciding with the new Amtrak spring/ summer timetable – six daily trains will begin stopping at New Buffalo, near the Michigan-Indiana border, rather than the current four daily stops.

The New Buffalo station, which opened last fall at 225 North Whitaker Street, is within sight of the public beach to the west and the restaurants and shops to the east in the resort community. A local casino provides a shuttle to meet each of the six trains.

Fares from Chicago range from \$9 to \$22, fares from Detroit range from \$28 to \$66 and fares from East Lansing range from \$16 to \$40, each way per adult. Children 2-15 years old are half-fare when accompanied by an adult and additional information about fares and other discounts is available under the “Deals” tab on Amtrak.com.

Amtrak *Blue Water* service is operated under a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation.

About New Buffalo (from the Amtrak *Blue Water* Route Guide)

New Buffalo is situated along the Lake Michigan “gold coast” shoreline and has become a popular resort town due to its refuge harbor, around-the-clock public boat launch, shops, antiques, casinos, restaurants, recreational opportunities, and its proximity to Chicago. Catering to tourists, the city

- more -

NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

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sponsors several festivals throughout the year, many incorporating the town's marine economy. It has some of the best game fishing on the Great Lakes, with boat fishing arranged by charter. It also offers City Beach and Lakefront Park, the Sima nature preserve, the Turtle Pond Nature Trail, and the New Buffalo Railroad Museum.

About Amtrak

As the nation's intercity passenger rail operator, Amtrak connects America in safer, greener and healthier ways. Last fiscal year (FY 2009), the railroad carried 27.2 million passengers, making it the second-best year in the company's history. With 21,000 route miles in 46 states, the District of Columbia and three Canadian provinces, Amtrak operates more than 300 trains each day—at speeds up to 150 mph (241 kph)—to more than 500 destinations. Amtrak also is the partner of choice for state-supported corridor services in 15 states and for several commuter rail agencies. Visit Amtrak.com or call 800-USA-RAIL for schedules, fares and more information.

About Michigan Department of Transportation

The mission of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is to work with its partners at airports, bus systems, marine and rail to find innovative solutions for Michigan's transportation systems. For more information, visit www.michigan.gov/mdot.

(schedule attached)

WOLVERINE AND BLUE WATER SERVICE

Chicago • Kalamazoo • Battle Creek • Port Huron • Detroit • Pontiac

Wol- verine	Wol- verine	Blue Water	Wol- verine	◀ Train Name ▶				Wol- verine	Blue Water	Wol- verine	Wol- verine	
350	352	364	354	◀ Train Number ▶				351	365	353	355	
Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	◀ Normal Days of Operation ▶				Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	
				◀ On Board Service ▶								
Read Down				Mile	▼		Symbol	▲	Read Up			
7 30A	12 16P	4 10P	6 00P	0	Dp	Chicago, IL—Union Station (CT)	● & QT	Ar	11 24A	11 59A	4 16P	11 03P
L 7 55A	L 12 41P			16		Hammond-Whiting, IN	○ &	▲			L 3 23P	L 10 23P
	L 1 22P		L 7 03P	52		Michigan City, IN (CT)	○	▲				9 38P
9 49A		6 23P	8 16P	62		New Buffalo, MI (ET)		▲		11 34A	3 43P	10 25P
10 14A	2 57P	6 51P	8 43P	89		Niles, MI (South Bend)	● &	▲		11 09A	3 19P	10 00P
10 25A		7 03P		102		Dowagiac, MI	○ &	▲		10 54A		9 47P
11 00A	3 43P	7 42P	9 32P	138		Kalamazoo, MI Traverse City, St. Ignace—see back	● & QT	▲	9 50A	10 23A	2 36P	9 18P
11 30A	4 13P		10 02P	160	Ar	Battle Creek, MI	● & QT	Dp	9 19A	9 54A	2 06P	8 48P
12 00N		8 17P	11 15P	208	Ar	East Lansing, MI	● & QT	Ar		8 28A	12 15P	5 10P
1 20P		9 29P	12 30A	256		Durand, MI	○	▲		7 47A		
		10 15P		238		Flint, MI	● &	▲		7 11A	11 05A	3 25P
2 55P		10 40P	1 30A	274		Lapeer, MI	○ &	▲		6 45A		
		11 09P		319	Ar	Port Huron, MI	● & QT	Dp		6 00A		
	★ 4 41P			184	Dp	Albion, MI	○	Ar			★ 1 33P	
12 20P	5 05P		10 52P	205		Jackson, MI	● & QT	▲	8 24A		1 10P	7 53P
1 04P	5 45P		11 32P	243		Ann Arbor, MI	● &	▲	7 48A		12 29P	7 17P
						Greenfield Village, MI		▲				
L 1 35P	L 6 19P		L 11 59P	273		Dearborn, MI	● & QT	▲	7 11A		11 50A	6 40P
L 2 08P	L 6 46P		L 12 30A	281	Ar	Detroit, MI	● & QT	Dp	6 48A		11 23A	6 18P
				292	Ar	Royal Oak, MI	○ QT	▲	6 45A		11 20A	6 15P
L 2 32P	L 7 10P		L 12 54A	296		Birmingham, MI	○	▲	6 25A		11 02A	5 55P
L 2 40P	L 7 17P		L 1 01A	304	Ar	Pontiac, MI (ET)	○ &	Dp	6 18A		10 54A	5 48P
3 07P	7 45P		1 31A						6 05A		10 40A	5 35P

Service on Wolverine® and Blue Water Service™

- Coaches: Reservations required.
- Business class service.
- Lounge: Sandwiches, snacks and beverages.
- Passengers not carried locally between Dearborn and Detroit except when transferring to/from VIA Rail Canada trains at Windsor. Passengers make own arrangements for transfer.
- Indian Trails Thruway Connection available between Battle Creek, East Lansing and Flint.
- Stop is available for group travel only; reservations required.

Smoking is prohibited.

The Blue Water is financed primarily through funds made available by the Michigan State Department of Transportation.

Shading Key	
Reserved Corridor service	Thruway and connecting services

Schedules subject to change without notice. Amtrak is a registered service mark of the National Railroad Passenger Corp. National Railroad Passenger Corporation Washington Union Station, 60 Massachusetts Ave. N.E., Washington, DC 20002.