

GREAT LAKES, CONNECTING CHANNELS AND ST. LAWRENCE RIVER

WATER LEVELS AND DEPTHS

Expected water levels on the Great Lakes, Connecting Channels and the St. Lawrence River are given in inches above (+,0) or below (-,0) Low-Water Datum (LWD,0). LWD is a plane of reference on a navigation chart, also known as Chart Datum. LWD elevations shown below are given in International Great Lakes Datum, 1985 (IGLD 1985,0).

	Forecast Point	Low Water Datum	Expected Levels (inches above or below Low Water Datum,0)				
			Current	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
			4-Sep	11-Sep	18-Sep	25-Sep	2-Oct
GREAT LAKES							
Lake Ontario		243.3	42	40	37	36	33
Lake Erie		569.2	35	33	33	31	30
Lake St. Clair		572.3	34	33	32	30	29
Lake Michigan-Huron		577.5	22	21	21	20	20
Lake Superior		601.1	11	11	11	11	11
ST. LAWRENCE RIVER							
Above Long Sault Dam	0	237.9	30	27	25	24	24
Above Iroquois Dam	1	240.3	44	42	30	27	26
Ogdensburg	2	242.4	41	38	31	27	25
Alexandria Bay	2.1	243.0	41	39	36	34	32
Head of river at Cape Vincent	3	243.3	42	40	37	36	33
DETROIT RIVER							
Lake Erie at Pelee Passage	4	569.2	35	33	33	31	30
Mouth of River at Gibraltar	5	569.5	39	38	37	36	34
Fort Wayne	5.1	571.1	38	37	36	34	33
Head of River above Belle Isle	6	572.0	35	34	33	31	30
ST. CLAIR RIVER							
Mouth of River at St. Clair Flats	7	572.3	34	33	32	30	29
Algonac	8	572.8	37	36	35	33	32
St. Clair	9	574.4	33	32	31	31	30
Blue Water Bridge	10	576.2	28	28	27	27	26
Head of River at Fort Gratiot	11	577.2	24	24	23	23	22
Lake Huron Approach Channel	12	577.5	22	21	21	20	20
ST. MARYS RIVER							
Mouth of River at Detour	13	577.5	22	21	21	20	20
West and Middle Neebish	14	577.8	19	18	18	18	17
Head of Little Rapids	15	578.4	17	17	17	16	16
U.S. Slip	16	578.7	16	16	15	15	15
Above Locks	17	600.4	14	14	14	14	13
Head of River at Point Iroquois	18	601.1	11	11	11	11	11

UNDERSTANDING THE FORECAST

Available water depth is determined for a location by adding (if+) or subtracting (if-) the amount from the above table to the appropriate channel depth shown in the profile Connecting Channel Depths Graphic or to water depths shown on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) navigational charts.

CAUTION

Depths so determined are representative of a still water surface elevation, disturbed by neither wind nor other causes. Depths, however, may be reduced or increased as much as several feet for short periods due to these disturbances, or when sections of channels develop shoals. Vessel masters should refer to "Local Notice to Mariners" for extent of shoaling and scattered bedrock projections in all channels. Ice conditions can have a dramatic impact on actual channel depth and can lead to large short-term water level fluctuations. Ice information can be found at the National Ice Center's website.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

[Detroit District Great Lakes Homepage](#)
[International Joint Commission](#)
[Great Lakes Information Network](#)
[NOAA Tides and Currents](#)
[U.S. Coast Guard - District 9](#)

WATER LEVEL INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY:

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