

January 22, 2025

2025 ACBL Upper Mississippi River Navigation Opening Letter

Dear Valued Customers,

This is our reopening plan (release dates by origin, tentative departure plans) for the Upper Mississippi River region above St. Louis. As operating conditions dictate, these dates may change. But first, here are some key scheduled lock and bridge reopening dates: **We will send an update on 1/31/25 with any changes that might occur due to operating conditions and any changes to the dates.**

- Lock #25 (UM241), reopening 2/28/2025
- Locks #20, #18, #16 (UMR343 - 451), reopening 3/4/2025
- Locks #9, #7, #6, #3, #2 (UMR647 – 815), reopening 3/16/2025

ACBL will begin accepting barge releases to destinations above St. Louis, on the Upper Mississippi River, for the following release dates (initial departures to be planned on/near these dates):

When can I begin to ship/release barges to Upper Mississippi ports above St. Louis?

See these [2 schedules](#) - the first schedule is for barges destined Dubuque-South, [the second schedule is for barges destined to above Dubuque to St. Paul:](#)

Origin Port	For barges destined above St.L. to Dubuque (UMR 240-581) first release date from origin:	For barges destined above Dubuque to St. Paul (UMR 582-841) first release date from origin:
Mobile	1-Feb	11-Feb
Houston	1-Feb	11-Feb
Lake Charles	1-Feb	11-Feb
New Iberia	4-Feb	14-Feb
New Orleans	11-Feb	21-Feb
Memphis	18-Feb	28-Feb
Little Rock	11-Feb	21-Feb
Blytheville	19-Feb	29-Feb
Pittsburgh	12-Feb	22-Feb
Cincinnati	16-Feb	26-Feb
Jeffersonville/Lou.	18-Feb	28-Feb
Evansville	20-Feb	1-Mar
Chicago-Joliet	25-Mar	25-Mar
Morris, IL-South	20-Feb	1-Mar
Nashville	20-Feb	1-Mar
Decatur, AL	16-Feb	26-Feb
Chattanooga	12-Feb	22-Feb
Cairo	28-Feb	9-Mar
St. Louis	1-Mar	11-Mar

Is there a penalty if I choose to ship/release barges prior to the release dates in the above schedule?

Yes. Barges loaded prior to the above scheduled release dates will be subject to demurrage while barges await departure dates from origin, and/or interchange at Cairo and/or St. Louis (prior to release dates).

What can I expect for transit times on my initial shipments to the Upper Miss?

Transit times on the initial voyages may be longer than normal due to additional time for locks and bridges to resume operations. **ACBL will plan barges first in, first out, but understanding tow configurations will also play a part (i.e., Box, Rake)**

Please contact me if you need additional information, or if you have any questions regarding release dates for specific origins and destinations not listed above.

Thank You,