
Steamship Authority Special Travel Advisory

Thursday, August 25, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact information:
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Dear Mary Malavase,

Steamship Authority expects ferry service interruptions on Sunday and possibly into Monday due to the anticipated effects of Hurricane Irene.

The Steamship Authority is anticipating that its ferry service for the Islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket will be temporarily suspended during the day on Sunday, August 28th, due to expected weather and sea conditions associated with the effects of Hurricane Irene. Once service has been suspended, the Authority does not expect to resume service until sometime on Monday, August 29th.

The Steamship Authority is planning to eventually send three ferries to its vessel maintenance facility in Fairhaven prior to the closing of the New Bedford Harbor hurricane barrier by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The other vessels in its fleet will tie up at its more sheltered ferry terminals in Vineyard Haven, Hyannis and Nantucket.

In the meantime, the Steamship Authority is running extra trips between Woods Hole and Martha's Vineyard as well as between Hyannis and Nantucket in anticipation that ferry service will most likely be suspended during the later part of the upcoming weekend and possibly into Monday morning.

There is still a lot of uncertainty as to the projected track, timing and intensity of Hurricane Irene. The Steamship Authority is continuing to monitor the progress of the pending storm and will issue further travel advisories and updates over the next several days as revised forecasts are released by the National Weather Service.