Coast Guard, DHS § 117.391

(2) From November 16 through March 14 at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., and 3 p.m.
(b) Requests for openings shall be given to the Washington State Department of Transportation.

(1) Monday through Thursday of every week, except holidays, the draw shall open if at least two hours notice is given.

(2) Friday through Sunday of every week, except holidays, the draw shall open if notice is given by 5 p.m. of the preceding Wednesday.

(3) The draw shall open on holidays if notice is given by 5 p.m. two workdays, excluding Friday, preceding the holiday.

(4) The draw shall open at any time for the passage of vessels engaged in an emergency.


ILLINOIS § 117.389 Calumet River.

The draws of the Norfolk Southern railroad bridges, miles 1.32 and 1.36 at Chicago, operate as follows:

(a) The draws shall open on signal; except that, if either one of the bridges is inoperable because of equipment breakdown, the other bridge need not be opened.

(b) In addition to the signals prescribed in §117.15, the following special visual signals shall be used on the bridges:

(1) When the draw cannot be opened immediately, or is open and must be closed promptly, two red lights are flashed alternately.

(2) When the draw can be opened immediately, two amber lights are flashed alternately.

(3) When the draw is open for passage, two green lights are flashed alternately.


§ 117.391 Chicago River.

The draws of the bridges operated by the City of Chicago over the Main Branch of Chicago River, the bridges on the North Branch of Chicago River from the Main Branch to North Halsted Street, mile 2.65, and bridges on the South Branch of Chicago River from the Main Branch to South Ashland Avenue, mile 4.47, shall operate as follows:

(a) For commercial vessels, all bridges shall open on signal if at least 12-hours advance notice is provided to the Chicago City Bridge Desk prior to the intended time of passage; except that, from Monday through Friday between the hours of 7 a.m. and 9:30 a.m., and between the hours of 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., except for Federal holidays, the draws need not open for the passage of vessels.

(b) For recreational vessels:

(1) From April 1 through November 30—

(i) The draws shall be scheduled to open, before 1 p.m., twice on Saturdays and twice on Sundays if requests for passage have been received at least 20 hours in advance. If the bridges have been authorized to remain closed for portions of a Saturday or Sunday to accommodate special events, openings shall be scheduled after 1 p.m. as necessary to provide two openings per day.

(ii) The draws shall open on Monday and Friday, after 6:30 p.m. Each opening requires notice that has been given at least 6 hours in advance of a vessel’s requested time of passage.

(iii) The draws shall open on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., or as soon thereafter as practical, if a request for passage has been given at least 20 hours in advance.

(iv) The draws shall open at times in addition to those listed in paragraphs (b)(1)(i) through (b)(1)(iii) of this section, after notice has been given at least 20 hours in advance requesting passage for a flotilla of at least five vessels. However, the bridges need not open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., and 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., except for Federal holidays.

(2) From December 1 through March 31, the draws shall open on signal if at least 48 hours notice is given. However, the bridges need not open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., and 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., except for Federal holidays.

(c) The following bridges need not be opened for the passage of vessels: The draws of South Damen Avenue, mile 6.14, over South Branch of Chicago River; all highway drawbridges between South Western Avenue, mile 6.7,
§ 117.393  Illinois Waterway.

(a) The draw of the automated Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad bridge, mile 88.8 at Beardstown, Illinois, operates as follows:

(1) The draw is normally maintained in the fully open position, displaying a green light to indicate that vessels may pass.

(2) When a vessel is approaching and the draw is in the closed position, the operator shall establish contact by radio-telephone with the remote operator to assure that the draw remains open until passage is complete.

(3) When a vessel is approaching and the draw is in the open position, contact shall be established by radio-telephone with the remote operator to assure that the draw remains open until passage is complete.

(4) When a train approaches the bridge and the draw is in the closed position, contact shall be established by radio-telephone with the remote operator. If the draw cannot be opened immediately, alternate flashing red lights are displayed. If the draw can be opened immediately, flashing amber lights are displayed.

(5) After the train has cleared the bridge, the draw may be lowered and locked in place.

(b) The draw of the Chessie Railroad Bridge, mile 254.1, at Seneca, Illinois, operates as follows:

(1) The draw is normally maintained in the fully open position, displaying green mid-channel lights to indicate the span is fully open.

(2) When a train approaches the bridge and the draw is in the open position, the train will stop, train operator shall walk out on the bridge and scan the river for approaching vessels.

(3) If a vessel is approaching the bridge, the draw will remain open. The vessel shall contact the train operator on VHF–FM channel 16 and the train operator shall keep the draw in the fully open position until the vessel has cleared the bridge.

(4) If no vessels are observed, the train operator initiates a five minute warning period on VHF–FM radio channel 16 before closing the bridge. The train operator will broadcast the following message: “The Chessie Railroad Bridge at Mile 254.1, Illinois River, will close to navigation in five minutes.” The announcement is repeated every minute counting down the time remaining until closure.

(5) At the end of the five minute warning period, and if no vessels are approaching the bridge, the train operator shall sound the siren for 10 seconds, activate the alternate flashing red lights on top of the draw, then lower and lock the draw in place. If no vessel is approaching the bridge or is beneath the draw, the draw may be lowered and locked in place.

(6) After the train has cleared the bridge, the draw shall be raised to its full height and locked in place, the red flashing lights stopped, and the draw lights changed from red to green.