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# Port N' News

Current Port, Maritime & Transportation  
Topics at the Port of Green Bay

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## Upcoming Events

February 12—Harbor Commission Meeting at 10:30 am at 2561 S. Broadway, Green Bay, WI

March 12—Harbor Commission Meeting at 10:30 am at 2561 S. Broadway, Green Bay, WI

TBD—Port Symposium

\*Harbor Commission meetings subject to change

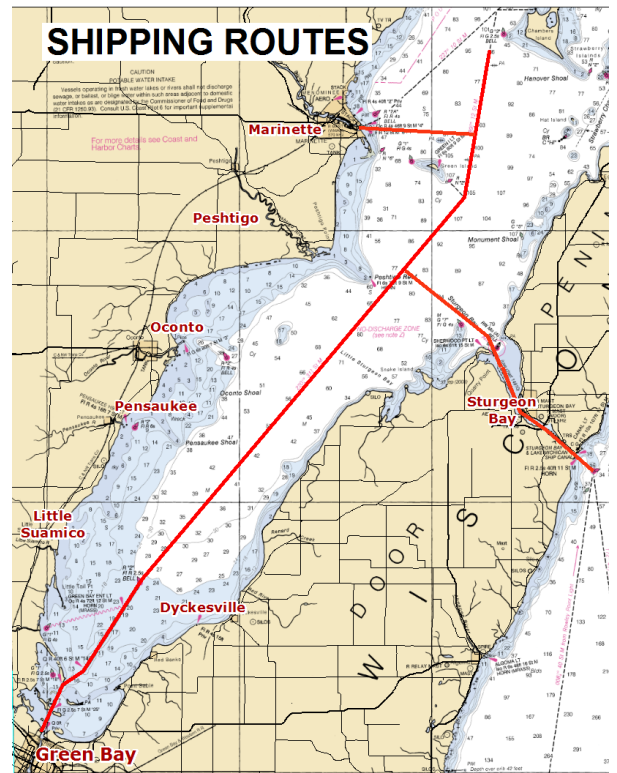
## Ice Breaking

(Green Bay, WI) The [U.S. Coast Guard](#) conducted ice breaking operations in the bay of Green Bay December 2017 through January 2018 in order to keep the shipping channel open. Members of the public who fish, operate a snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle or otherwise recreate on the bay of Green Bay during periods of ice cover were made aware of this activity.

While the public should exercise caution at all times, it was especially important while there were three tanker destined for the [Port of Green Bay](#) in December and two additional transits in January.

The U.S. Coast Guard recommended that all recreational ice users plan their activities carefully, dress appropriately, use caution on the ice, and stay away from shipping channels. Recreational users should stay tuned to local media for the status of regional waterway closures.

The U.S. Coast Guard conducts ice breaking to keep the shipping channel open for safe navigation and transport of economically-significant commercial shipments.



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## Tonnage Update

The [Port of Green Bay's](#) 2017 shipping season came to an end as it began, with a shipment of petroleum products delivered by the tanker *Michigan Great Lakes*. The *Michigan Great Lakes* departed the Port on Monday, January 22, bringing an end to a season that saw slightly higher shipping numbers over the previous year (a 1 percent increase over 2016). The season began on March 21, the same date as last year, and ran 15 days longer. Overall, port tonnage totaled 1.833 million metric tons of cargo.

“Any time we see an increase in shipping, it’s a good season and it’s good for the local economy,” said [Port Director Dean Haen](#). “Our final months were strong. Overall, the 2017 shipping season saw significant increases in coal, U.S. and Canadian salt, foreign imports and exports of petroleum products, and the growth of ash exports.” However, there were decreases in limestone and a reduction in domestic import and export of petroleum products.

Some specific numbers of note include:

- Shipments of coal, cement and limestone accounted for 64 percent of the cargo delivered to the Port in 2017.
- Shipments of petroleum products decreased sharply (40 percent) from domestic sources but increased dramatically (124 percent) from foreign sources, as the fuel pipeline that served Northeast Wisconsin remains shut down.
- It was also another strong year for salt imports, which increased 95 percent.

The total number of ships passing through the port’s waters reached 166, a 5 percent increase.

“Once again, the closure of the petroleum pipeline played a major role in generating business for the Port, as it remains the primary method of bringing petroleum products into the area,” Haen said. “The large deliveries of cement, limestone and other non-petroleum products show how the port is helping other businesses in the area thrive, helping to fuel the area’s growing economy.”

Haen says he is optimistic about what the 2018 shipping season will bring. “Northeast Wisconsin’s economy continues to grow, and the Port will continue to help our local businesses thrive,” Haen said. “We’re a valuable resource that many cities don’t have, which is a major bonus for local business and it helps make our area more attractive for new business.”

Annual Tonnage Comparison		
	2016	2017
<b>Domestic Imports</b>		
Cement	361,634	363,151
Coal	330,269	402,776
Limestone	568,803	393,733
Petroleum Products	128,736	77,642
Salt	66,458	94,335
<b>Total Domestic Imports (-9%)</b>	<b>1,455,900</b>	<b>1,331,636</b>
<b>Foreign Imports</b>		
Cement	0	6,020
Petroleum Products	17,579	39,457
Limestone	62,575	26,222
Salt	150,861	293,769
<b>Total Foreign Imports (58%)</b>	<b>231,014</b>	<b>365,468</b>
<b>Domestic Exports</b>		
Ash	17,555	25,000
Limestone	0	17,178
Petroleum Products	39,299	17,799
Project Cargo	126	137
Limestone	0	4,558
<b>Total Domestic Exports (8%)</b>	<b>56,979</b>	<b>61,672</b>
<b>Foreign Exports</b>		
Petroleum Products	68,249	73,993
<b>Total Foreign Exports (8%)</b>	<b>68,249</b>	<b>73,993</b>
<b>Total Tonnage (1%)</b>	<b>1,812,143</b>	<b>1,832,769</b>

# First Ship Contest

Shipping as a means of transportation has been an integral part of Green Bay since the early 1800s. At that time waterway commerce focused on fur trading and peltry.

Each winter the Port of Green Bay must close its waterways to cargo vessels due to the ice. In the last few years the Port of Green Bay has remained open longer throughout the year due to a demand for petroleum products. Inevitably the waterway closes. The 2017 shipping season ended on January 21st with the arrival of the Michigan Great Lakes.

With the end of the shipping season we are already looking forward to the opening of the next season which should just be a few months away!

Each year the Port of Green Bay hosts an annual First Ship Contest where we encourage people from anywhere to participate in the contest.

Will your answer be based on past ship arrivals? Will it be based on the farmer's almanac for weather predictions? Or will your answer come to you in a dream? Whatever your source is, we want to know!

The Greater Green Bay Convention & Visitors Bureau will once again host the First Ship Arrival contest. The person who comes closest to the date and time of the first ship's arrival will win a prize package offered by the Port of Green Bay. To enter your official guess of date and time, there will be a link coming in mid-February on the Port of Green Bay website at [www.portofgreenbay.com](http://www.portofgreenbay.com) and Greater Green Bay Convention and Visitors Bureau website at [www.greenbay.com](http://www.greenbay.com). This year's prize package will include the 200th Anniversary Brown County Monopoly game as well as a gift card to Tiletown Brewery.

The shipping season generally starts once ice has melted or ice breaking begins in the bay and the Fox River. Water conditions in other parts of the Great Lakes play a factor in determining when the shipping season will commence. For historical records of previous shipping seasons refer to our website - [www.portofgreenbay.com/ship-activity/ship-arrivals](http://www.portofgreenbay.com/ship-activity/ship-arrivals).

We are excited to see your guess! Don't forget to watch for the link on [www.portofgreenbay.com](http://www.portofgreenbay.com) and [www.greenbay.com](http://www.greenbay.com). Good luck!



Innovation was the first ship of the 2016 shipping season. It carried cement to Lafarge on March 21.



Michigan Great Lakes was the first ship of the 2014 & 2015 shipping season. It carried petroleum to U.S. Oil on April 18 and April 3, respectively.



S.S. Alpena was the first ship of the 2013 shipping season. It carried cement to Lafarge on April 3.

## Ice Breaking ...continued

In particular, this allows for petroleum products to continue arriving at the Port of Green Bay, while the only fuel pipeline between Milwaukee and Green Bay is shut down. The pipeline was closed indefinitely in May 2016.

“The Port’s ability to handle petroleum products throughout the winter months is a key piece in the current supply chain as well as an important factor in keeping the Northeast Wisconsin’s economy strong,” explained Dean Haen, Director of Brown County Port & Resource Recovery. Prior to the closure of the pipeline, the Port of Green Bay was exporting petroleum products to the east coast of the United States and to Canada.

The U.S. Coast Guard established and maintained tracks through the ice from Rock Island Passage to the Fox River. The tracks through the ice extended to Escanaba, Marinette-Menominee, Sturgeon Bay and Green Bay.



Ice Breaking on Lake Michigan in 2016/2017 Shipping Season

Check Out Our Website  
[www.portofgreenbay.com](http://www.portofgreenbay.com)  
Find us on Twitter @PortofGreenBay  
Check us out on Facebook, search Port of Green Bay

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