

Schuyler County Transit

• Making Connections •

August 16, 2010

203 Twelfth St.
Watkins Glen, NY 14891

607.535.3555
Fax: 607-535-2666

www.schuylercountytransit.org

Operated by:
The Arc of Schuyler

Greetings,

Schuyler County Transit begins its first day of operation today, August 16, 2010. County officials and Human Service agencies have been working for years to make public transportation in Schuyler County a realization. Schuyler County Transit will aspire to meet the transportation needs of the transportation disadvantaged, senior citizens, and people with disabilities, and to provide all public transportation consumers safe transportation, and courteous service.

Schuyler County Transit exists to enrich the community, and hopes that everyone will be encouraged to jump on the bus and take advantage of this new and exciting addition to Schuyler County services.

Please find enclosed:

- Schuyler County Transit Information Guide & Schedule
- Schuyler County Transit Fact Sheet
- Schuyler County Transit Contacts List
- News Release
- Benefits of Public Transportation Information

Thank you.

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News Release

For Immediate Release: August 16, 2010

Contact: Tim O'Hearn, Schuyler County Administrator

Phone: 607- 535- 8106

Email: tohearn@co.schuyler.ny.us

Schuyler Set to Kickoff Public Transit

After years of planning and preparation, Schuyler County Transit, the new public transportation system is here and ready to begin operations. State and local officials will unveil the new system on **Monday, August 16th at a ceremony scheduled to take place at the Human Services Complex in Montour Falls at 10AM.** In addition to unveiling the buses, which will be giving free rides and tours throughout the morning, a special announcement will be made concerning an introductory fare structure through Labor Day of this year. Regular route service is scheduled to begin at 1:30 PM that day.

The new system will connect the villages of Burdett, Watkins Glen, Montour Falls, and Odessa and incorporate a loop to Schuyler Hospital and the hospital's Primary Care Center. Additional stops will include Burdett Mini Mart, Wal-Mart in Watkins Glen, Seneca Harbor Park, Franklin St. & 7th St., 12th St. and Porter St., Tops/CVS, Main St. & Montour St. in Montour Falls, the Human Services Complex, Broadway St. in Montour Falls as well as the Odessa Municipal Building.

The standard fare for a one-way trip is \$1.00. Seniors 65 years and older and individuals with disabilities may access public transportation for \$.50 per one-way trip. Fares must be paid in exact change when boarding the bus, or Schuyler County transit tickets may be used in place of the cash fare.

Monthly passes allowing unlimited ridership within the month of purchase are priced at \$30.00 and \$15.00 for senior/disability. Seniors and persons with disabilities must present verification of age or disability when purchasing.

In addition to the fixed public transportation route Dial-A-Ride transportation, also know as paratransit transportation, will be available for eligible individuals with disabilities or who are approved through a contract agency. This service is intended to provide access to non emergency medical appointments. Once eligibility is met, this service could be available from any area of Schuyler County to four specific zones including Watkins Glen/Montour Falls, Horseheads/Big Flats/Southport/Elmira, Corning, and Ithaca on specified days during the week.

Information guides & schedules will be available at all Office of the Aging meal sites, the Human Service Complex, and at various sites throughout the Schuyler County community. For specific information, call Schuyler County Transit at 607-535-3555 or visit its website www.schuylercountytransit.org.

This transit service is being operated by The Arc of Schuyler through a contract with Schuyler County. The Arc of Schuyler's 203 Twelfth St. building serves as the Schuyler County Transit office. Tickets and passes may be purchased at The Arc of Schuyler.

-END-

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Schuyler County Transit

Contacts

Timothy O'Hearn

County Administrator
Schuyler County Government
105 Ninth St.
Watkins Glen, NY 14891
TOhearn@co.schuyler.ny.us

James E. Wilson

Executive Director
The Arc of Schuyler
203 Twelfth St.
Watkins Glen, NY 14891
607-535-6934
jwilson@arcofschuyler.org

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Schuyler County Transit

Fact Sheet

History

Schuyler County officials have been participating in a local coordinated transportation planning process in accordance with Federal and State Department of Transportation initiatives to promote coordinated transportation services within communities. As a result of this planning, an agreement was made that a public transportation service should be piloted in Schuyler County in order to establish baseline information on ridership for the purpose of projecting future sustainability of a public transit system. This pilot public transportation system will be named Schuyler County Transit.

Schuyler County Transit begins operation on Monday, August 16, 2010. The system will service and connect the villages of Burdett, Montour Falls, Odessa, and Watkins Glen.

Purpose

County and Human Services agencies have been working for years to bring public transportation to Schuyler County with a goal to make the community more accessible and friendlier to the transportation disadvantaged, seniors, and people with disabilities, and to coordinate transportation services provided by various organizations. Access to various population centers and businesses will also allow more commerce and mobility between the four villages.

Operator

The Arc of Schuyler is a NYS Department of Transportation approved common carrier and contract carrier and has been granted authority to operate as a public transit provider. The Arc of Schuyler, a non-profit organization providing supports and services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Schuyler County community has a contract with Schuyler County to operate Schuyler County Transit. The Arc of Schuyler has more than 30 years experience operating a transportation system for individuals seeking support from The Arc and has been providing human service transportation on a contract basis.

Mobility Management

A mobility manager is available to customers seeking information and referral regarding transportation services available to Schuyler County residents. The mobility manager can assist by coordinating individual trip planning and providing information on available modes of travel. The mobility manager also assists with the planning and development of transit options based on collected data.

Dial-A-Ride

In conjunction with the new public transportation service, a paratransit service, also known as Dial-A-Ride is available to ADA eligible individuals on a per cost basis. Information on the Dial-A-Ride will be available by calling Schuyler County Transit at 607-535-3555.

Goals

Schuyler County Transit encourages all people to consider the advantages of public transportation, which includes a potential decrease in personal vehicle maintenance and fuel costs as well as benefits for the environment. This is an opportunity to make connections, create opportunities and conserve resources.

Information Guides & Schedules

Information Guides & Schedules are available at the following locations:

Village of Burdett

- Burdett Mini Mart
- Burdett Post Office

Village of Montour Falls

- Catherine Court Apartments
- Human Services Complex
- Montour House
- Montour Post Office
- Romeo Village Apartments
- Schuyler Hospital
- Schuyler Hospital Primary Care

Village of Odessa

- Dutton S. Peterson Memorial Library
- Sidney Village Apartments
- Odessa-Montour School
- Village Take Out Pizzeria

Village of Watkins Glen

- Arnot Ogden Medical Center
- Chemung Canal Trust Company
- Guthrie Medical Group
- Jefferson Village Apartments
- Mill Creek Center
- Tops
- Wal-Mart
- Watkins Glen Chamber of Commerce
- Watkins Glen Municipal Office
- Watkins Glen Harbor Hotel
- Watkins Glen High School
- Watkins Glen Public Library
- Watkins Glen Post Office

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Benefits of Public Transportation

1. Ensures Safety

- Public transportation continues to be one of the safest modes of travel in the United States. In fact, riding a transit bus is 91 times safer than car travel. Transit vehicle operators are highly trained to anticipate and avoid problems. Most transit vehicles are larger, newer and more substantial than autos or vans.

2. Saves Money

- For every \$10 million invested in public transportation, more than \$15 million is saved in transportation costs to both highway and public transportation users.
- According to the American Automobile Association, the estimated cost of driving a single-occupant vehicle is between \$4,826 (for a small car) and \$9,685 (for a large car), depending upon mileage. By contrast, the annual average cost for public transportation for one adult ranges from \$200 to \$2,000, depending upon mileage, time of day, type of vehicle or service.

3. Eases Traffic Congestion

- Nearly half of all Americans believe traffic is a serious problem where they live. Most (57 percent) do not feel their commute will improve over the next three years, and nearly a quarter expect to spend more time commuting.
- Public transportation helps to alleviate our nation's crowded network of roads by providing transportation choices.

4. Improves Air Quality

- Public transportation helps promote cleaner air by reducing automobile use, which can exacerbate smog and public health problems. For each mile traveled, fewer pollutants are emitted by transit vehicles than by a single-passenger automobile. (Buses emit 80 percent less carbon monoxide than a car.)
- Each year, public transportation use avoids the emission of more than 126 million pounds of hydrocarbons, a primary cause of smog, and 156 million pounds of nitrogen oxides, which can cause respiratory disease.

5. Reduces Energy Consumption

- Public transportation can significantly reduce dependency on gasoline, reducing auto fuel consumption by 1.5 billion gallons annually. For example, a person who commutes 60 miles each way daily could save an estimated 1,888 gallons of gasoline every year by switching from using a car to using public transportation.
- Many U.S. transit systems are continuing to invest in compressed natural gas (CNG), low-sulfur burning buses or diesel-electric hybrid buses. The CMRTA has seven (7) CNG buses that are currently used on the fixed-route system.

6. Stimulates Economic Development

- A transit coalition report, "Dollars & Sense: The Economic Case for Public Transportation in America," found that every dollar taxpayers invest in public transportation generates \$6 or more in economic returns.

7. Fosters More Livable Communities

- Public transportation facilities and corridors are natural focal points for economic and social activities. These activities help create strong neighborhood centers that are more economically stable, safe and productive.
- Studies have shown that the ability to travel in an area conveniently, without a car, is an important component of a community's livability. Public transportation provides opportunity, access, choice and freedom, all of which contribute to an improved quality of life.

Tickets

Tickets may be used in place of a dollar fee.

Monthly Passes

Monthly passes allow unlimited ridership. Passes can be purchased at any time, but are only valid for the month in which the pass is purchased. Passes must be presented when boarding and must be in possession throughout the trip. The pass may be used by bearer's family members. Regular and Senior/Disability monthly passes are available.

Tickets and Monthly Passes may be purchased at:

The Arc of Schuyler, 203 Twelfth St., Watkins Glen, NY, 14891 or online with a PayPal Account at www.schuylercountytransit.org.

Persons with Disabilities/Senior Citizens Fare

Passengers with a disability and senior citizens may pay half the cash fare. Passengers must present a Half Fare I.D. card, which can be obtained from the Schuyler County Transit Office by providing proof of eligibility. Proof of having a disability may be verification of SSI, SSD or Disabled Veteran's Benefits; proof of age may be a Driver's License, other picture I.D. that identifies age, or a Medicare Card.

Dial-A-Ride Transportation Service

To meet the requirements of the Americans with Disability Act (1990), Schuyler County Transit operates a Dial-A-Ride Transportation Service, also known as a paratransit service, for individuals with disabilities or who are approved through a contract agency. Dial-A-Ride transport fees range from \$2 - \$13 dependent upon travel distance. For eligibility requirements and more information, or to schedule a Dial-A-Ride transport, please call 607-535-3555.

Holidays

Schuyler County Transit does not operate on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.



Fares for Route Service: EXACT CHANGE PLEASE

Passengers must have exact change. Drivers do not carry change.

Fares are subject to adjustment.

Cash Fare Each Boarding \$1.00

Senior/Disability \$0.50
(Half Fare I.D. Card, Medicare Card, Driver's License or other Picture I.D. with proof of age is required at each boarding)

Child Fare \$1.00
(Children 5 years of age and under may travel for free with a fare paying adult passenger. Limit 2 children 5 years of age and under per 1 adult passenger).

Monthly Pass \$30.00

Senior/Disability Monthly Pass \$15.00
(Provide proof of age when purchasing.)

Hours

Schuyler County Transit busses operate Monday - Friday, 7:45 a.m. -5:30 p.m. **Please note that operating hours and scheduled times are subject to change, and *not all stops are serviced until 5:30 p.m.***

Suggestions or Concerns

If you confront any difficulty in regards to Schuyler County Transit, have suggestions, comments, or concerns, please email: schuylercountytransit@arcofschuyler.org or call 607-535-3555.

Operated By:

**The Arc of Schuyler
203 Twelfth St.**

Watkins Glen, NY 14891

The Arc of Schuyler is the location of the Schuyler County Transit Office.

Schuyler County Transit

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Information Guide & Schedule

607-535-3555

www.schuylercountytransit.org

Serving

Burdett • Montour Falls • Odessa

Watkins Glen

7:45 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Effective August 2010

Schuyler County Transit Schedule

BURDETT → ODESSA

STOP	DESTINATION	TIME OF ARRIVAL							
Express Transport leaves 12th St. & Porter St. at 7:45 and arrives at Burdett Mini Mart at 8									
1	Burdett Mini Mart	8:00	9:15	10:30	11:45	1:30	2:45	4:00	
2	Wal-Mart	8:12	9:27	10:43	11:57	1:42	2:57	4:42	
3	Seneca Harbor Park	8:19	9:34	10:50	12:04	1:49	3:04	4:19	
4	Franklin St. & 7th St.	8:24	9:39	10:55	12:09	1:54	3:09	4:24	
5	12th St. & Porter St.	8:29	9:44	11:00	12:14	1:59	3:14	4:29	
6	Tops/CVS	8:35	9:50	11:06	12:20	2:05	3:20	4:35	
7	Primary Care	8:43	9:58	11:14	12:28	2:13	3:28	4:43	
8	Schuyler Hospital	8:47	10:02	11:18	12:32	2:17	3:32	4:47	
9	Main St. & Montour St. - MF	8:54	10:09	11:25	12:39	2:24	3:39	4:54	
10	Human Services Complex	8:59	10:14	11:30	12:44	2:29	3:44	4:59	
11	Broadway St. - MF	9:06	10:21	11:37	12:51	2:36	3:51	5:06	
12	Odessa Municipal Building	9:15	10:30	11:45	1:00	2:45	4:00	5:15	
Express Transport leaves Odessa Municipal Building at 5:15 and arrives at 12th St. & Porter St. at 5:30									

ODESSA → BURDETT

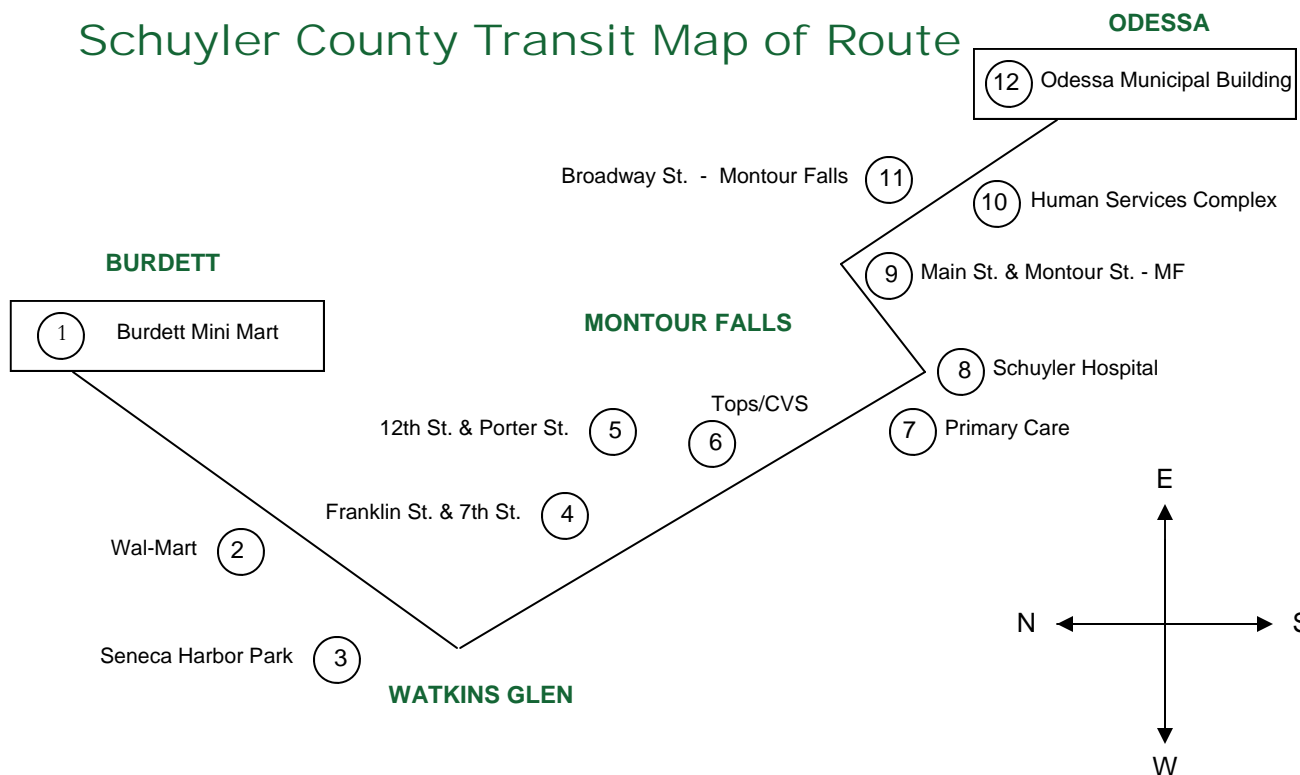
Bold Type indicates P.M. times.

STOP	DESTINATION	TIME OF ARRIVAL							
Express Transport leaves 12th St. & Porter St. at 7:45 and arrives at Odessa Municipal Building at 8									
12	Odessa Municipal Building	8:00	9:15	10:30	11:45	1:30	2:45	4:00	
11	Broadway St. - MF	8:09	9:24	10:39	11:55	1:39	2:54	4:09	
10	Human Services Complex	8:16	9:31	10:46	12:02	1:46	3:01	4:16	
9	Main St. & Montour St. - MF	8:21	9:36	10:51	12:07	1:51	3:06	4:21	
8	Schuyler Hospital	8:28	9:43	10:58	12:14	1:58	3:13	4:28	
7	Primary Care	8:32	9:47	11:02	12:18	2:02	3:17	4:32	
6	Tops/CVS	8:40	9:55	11:10	12:26	2:10	3:25	4:40	
5	12th St. & Porter St.	8:46	10:01	11:16	12:32	2:16	3:31	4:46	
4	Franklin St. & 7th St.	8:51	10:06	11:21	12:37	2:21	3:36	4:51	
3	Seneca Harbor Park	8:56	10:11	11:26	12:42	2:26	3:41	4:56	
2	Wal-Mart	9:03	10:18	11:33	12:49	2:33	3:48	5:03	
1	Burdett Mini Mart	9:15	10:30	11:45	1:00	2:45	4:00	5:15	
Express Transport leaves Burdett Mini Mart at 5:15 and arrives at 12th St. & Porter St. at 5:30									

Safety and Passenger Tips

- Take a seat quickly.
- Do not change seats while the bus is in motion.
- Wait until the bus departs the bus stop before crossing the street.
- Refrain from engaging in unnecessary and distracting conversation with the driver.
- No pets with the exception of service animals.
- Stand back from the street or platform edge while waiting at bus stops.
- Arrive at the bus stop early; busses do not wait.
- Check the bus head sign to ensure the approaching bus is the vehicle servicing your stop. Ask the driver if you are unsure.
- Do not eat, drink, smoke, or play excessively loud music.
- Secure your personal belongings and remember when shopping not to purchase more than you can carry. Please note that drivers are not able to leave the bus to assist with packages.
- Be sure you have all of your belongings when you exit the bus. Schuyler County Transit is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- Please be ready to exit the bus at your stop.

Schuyler County Transit Map of Route





Schuyler County Transit

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Serving Burdett • Montour Falls • Odessa • Watkins Glen

RIDE FREE THROUGH LABOR DAY

JUMP ON THE BUS

Fares are suspended through Labor Day!

Cash Fare: \$1.00

Senior/Disability Fare: \$0.50

**For Information, visit www.schuylercountytransit.org
or call 607-535-3555**