

# NEW HAVEN – HARTFORD – SPRINGFIELD RAIL PROGRAM

Communication Cables Upgrade Fact Sheet

[www.nhhsrail.com](http://www.nhhsrail.com)



## Communication Cables Upgrade

In October 2012, the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield (NHHS) Rail Program began the installation of underground signal and communication cables, the first portion of construction for the NHHS Rail Program.

The cable installation is part of the work required to upgrade signal and communication systems for the new NHHS rail corridor. Installing the cables in advance clears the path for subsequent track and infrastructure improvements to re-establish the second track.

The work includes installation of approximately 59 miles of underground signal, communication, and power cables between Hamden, Connecticut and Springfield, Massachusetts. The new cabling is required to support existing and future equipment and implementation of “positive train control”. Positive train control is a system that provides for monitoring and controlling train movements to increase safety.

The cables will be installed primarily using equipment moving along the railroad right-of-way. The initial work activity is “pre-ripping”, which involves running the plow train to locate and remove sub-surface obstructions in advance of the cable installation.

Occasional, but brief traffic interruptions are expected at roadway grade crossings as the cable installation is progressed along the corridor. Every effort will be made to limit these disruptions. The cable installation work, which is being coordinated by Amtrak, is expected to be completed in the fall of 2014.



## What to Expect During Construction

While the majority of the cable installation activity will occur underground and along the rail line, the public will occasionally be impacted by this activity, particularly at grade crossings. Disruptions may include:

### TRAFFIC

- ▶ Occasional traffic delays of approximately fifteen minutes are expected at grade crossings.

### NOISE

- ▶ Noise and vibration levels near rail lines are expected to be similar to a train passing by, but longer in duration, since the cable plow train moves at a slower speed.

### HOURS OF CONSTRUCTION

- ▶ Daytime and occasional evening activity.

## For Additional Information:

- ▶ Updates on the status and location of the cable installation activities can be found on the NHHS program website ([www.nhhsrail.com](http://www.nhhsrail.com)). You may also register on the website to receive email updates.