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Canal may be refilled early in Fairport

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Messenger Post

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Fairport, N.Y. — Canal officials look forward to an early opening this year on Friday, April 29, according to Kal Wysokowski, executive director for the Fairport Office of Community and Economic Development.

This year, the New York State Canal Corporation, which is responsible for the Erie Canal across the state, will open it section by section after inspecting the locks, dams, and infrastructure of each canal town.

So far, “We’re looking good,” said Wysokowski.

The canal is closed each year from November until mid-May. **The early opening will not be delayed by the recent damage to the canal wall, which collapsed in mid March.** Although the Canal Corp repaired the wall temporarily, they plan to have a more permanent fix in the coming months, Wysokowski said.

“The pressure and weight of the water will help stabilize the wall,” she added.

It will take several days for the canal to fill completely, but when it will be 12 to 15 feet deep in parts.

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