

How to use the

# Water Taxi Schedule Script Generator

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This guide provides step-by-step instructions for the Metro Web Team on how to use the Water Taxi Schedule Script Generator tools. Follow the workflow below to generate, export, and save scripts for Water Taxi schedule updates (Vashon or West Seattle).


## 1. Enter developer information

- In the Developer section, enter your name.
- Select your name from the dropdown list. This enables the Generate/Export buttons.
- Your choice will be saved in local storage for next time.

## 2. Select destination

- Under Water Taxi service, confirm the destination is set to the one you plan to edit (either Vashon or West Seattle).

## 3. Import previous settings

- Important: Always load the most recent settings JSON file from the shared folder before making any changes.
- This ensures you're continuing from where the last team member left off and prevents duplicate work.
-  Only import settings that match the destination you are working on:
  - Import Vashon settings into the Vashon tool
  - Import West Seattle settings into the West Seattle tool).

## 4. Define service change date range

- Enter the Start date and End date for the service change.
- These dates usually load from the imported JSON but can be adjusted manually if needed.
- This range determines when the schedule is active and affects the filtering options.
- Note: Water Taxi service dates may differ from bus service dates.

## 5. Manage schedule settings

Click into each section to add, edit, hide or remove entries:

### Default schedules

- Day-of-week groupings that share the same schedule table (e.g., Mon-Thu, Fri, Sat)
- No filtering options - these define the basic schedule structure

### Special service

- Dates with unique schedules (e.g., festival service, special events)
- Date range filtering: Check "Show only within date range" to hide entries outside your service change dates. You can manually add more dates if needed for the current service change.
- Filtered entries won't be included in the generated script.

### Holidays

- Federal or county holidays where schedules may differ from regular service
- Date range filtering: Check "Show only within date range" to hide entries outside your service change dates. Uncheck "Show only" to show all the available holidays. You can manually add more dates if needed for the current service change.
- Filtered entries won't be included in the generated script.

### No sailing days

- Days when no service is offered (e.g., Thanksgiving, Christmas)
- Date range filtering: Check "Show only within date range" to hide entries outside your service change dates. Uncheck "Show only" to show all the available entries. You can manually add more dates if needed for the current service change.
- Filtered entries won't be included in the generated script.

### Understanding the filtering

- **Summary counts:** When filtering is active, counts show "X of Y entries" (e.g., "5 of 30 entries")
- **Real-time filtering:** Entries are hidden/shown immediately when you check/uncheck the filter
- **Automatic updates:** When you change the service date range, filtered counts update automatically
- **Generated script impact:** Only visible (non-filtered) entries are included in the generated JavaScript

### Modal controls

- Each row requires both a Date and a Description
- **Add row** -- Insert a new entry
- **Trash icon** -- Remove a row
- **Save** -- Applies your changes to the tool (you can still re-edit or adjust later).
- **Cancel** -- Discards unsaved changes

## 6. Generate and download the script

- After entering all settings and applying desired filters, click Generate script
- The script will appear in the Generated script panel
- Export options:
  - **Download JS** -- Saves the script as a .js file with a predetermined filename (preferred method)
  - **Copy JS** -- Copies the script to your clipboard
  - **Export settings** -- Saves your current settings as a JSON file that other team members can import (Required at the end of your session)

## 7. Tips and best practices

- Always import first: Load the most recent settings JSON from the shared folder before starting work
- Double-check date ranges: Verify the service change date range matches your intended schedule period
- Use filtering strategically: Enable "Show only within date range" to focus on relevant entries and reduce clutter in the generated script.
- Consistent descriptions: Use clear, consistent descriptions for special service dates
- Always export when done: Export the settings JSON before closing the tool to avoid losing work
  - The exported file includes a date/time stamp and your name
  - Do not rename the exported file or modify the timestamp
  - Save the exported file in the designated shared folder for the next team member