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NEWS FROM THE WABASH & ERIE CANAL • DELPHI, INDIANA March 2022



www.wabashanderiecanal.org

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Volunteer Callout

Are you interested in working with a dynamic team of people, serving the community, and having a blast all at the same time? We would love to invite you

2022 Events Calendar Announced



2022 Event Schedule

Festivals

July 2	Canal Days Festival	10-4pm
Dec 3	Christmas at the Canal Festival	10-4pm

Events

May 7	Village Landscape & Trails Spring Cleanup Day	9-12pm
May 28	Canal Boat Season Opening Day	1-4pm
June 11	Visit Pioneer Village Crafters & Docents	1-4pm
Aug 6	Kids' Fun Day in the Pioneer Village	1-4pm
Sept 3	Canal Boat Season Closing Day	1-4pm
Oct 18	Wabash & Erie Canal Annual Meeting	7pm
Oct 22	Village Landscape & Trails Fall Cleanup Day	9-12pm
Nov 5	Hike the Trails Day in the Park	1-4pm
Dec 26	Day After Christmas Walk guided tour	1pm

Saturdays May 28 through Sept 3

Canal Boat Rides 1:30 & 2:30pm*
Pioneer Village Crafters & Docents 1-4pm
Interpretive Museum* Reed Case House Tours* Kids Canal Playboat*

1030 N. Washington St. Delphi, IN 46923
Closed Jan, Feb, March, Easter, Memorial Day, Independence Day,
Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day

*Visit www.wabashanderiecanal.org or call 765-564-2870 for details

We are excited to announce our lineup of events for the 2022 calendar year! The Program Committee has been preparing for the upcoming season, and there is something in there for everyone.

to join our ranks to volunteer here at the Canal this year! Contact Mike Tetrault (director@canalcenter.org) to learn more.

There are many ways you can participate. Below are just a few options that are open to you!



Monday-Wednesday-Friday Crew: If you enjoy working with your hands and doing projects large and small, you can join our volunteer maintenance and construction crew! They work the mornings of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and you can join as often or as seldom as your schedule permits.



Pioneer Village or Case House Docent: If you want to share the story of the Canal with visitors or get a close-up view of our historical buildings, this is the opportunity for you! We can show you all you need to know, and you get the privilege of telling our story.

Our two largest events will be Canal Days (July 2) and Christmas at the Canal (December 3), and this is when we pull out all the stops and our Pioneer Village will be full of demonstrations, with vendors on site.

Otherwise, we plan an event each month starting in May. These include volunteer days to clean up the park, educational hikes, and family-friendly activities that are sure to engage all ages.

On any Saturday afternoon 1-4 PM starting Memorial Day weekend, you can ride the canal boat, tour the Pioneer Village, and visit the Case House and our museum. You can find more information [on our website](#). We hope to see you soon at the Canal!

The Legacy of the Irish



The month of March is upon us, and on March 17th we will celebrate Saint Patrick's Day. It seems appropriate to remember and honor the integral part that Irish workers played in building the Wabash and Erie Canal.

Dora Mayhill writes in her history, "At times there would be as many as a thousand [Irish laborers] at work along one section of the canal. A number of writers have said that had it not been for the Irish, the National Road, the canals, and railroads in the United States would never have been built."

Amidst great hardship in Ireland during the 1800s there was a massive influx of Irish immigrants to America. These hardworking people came to seek a better life for their families, and they were often met with brutal working conditions. As pictured above, consider the physical toll of digging the 40-foot wide canal by shovel and wheelbarrow, mile after mile. Many



Canal Boat Crew: This is for anyone who may have an interest in telling the Canal story from a replica boat, or perhaps even do some piloting. No prior nautical experience required!



Landscaping: A big part of our park's beauty is the time that volunteers devote to making sure our landscaping looks its best. Join us and enjoy the great outdoors while you also use your creativity.

And guess what, these are only a few of the options we have in store for you! We can connect you with a volunteer opportunity that matches your passion.

VOLUNTEER
TODAY!



If you would like to volunteer at the Wabash & Erie Canal please click [here!](#)

The Museum Is

workers along the canal perished from things like malaria, cholera, dysentery, and snake bites.



However, even when they were treated as "less than," they persevered and have become an essential part of the American story. By preserving this history, we hope that our nation may continually increase in generosity and hospitality towards those who wish to share in our story, contributing to a richer and more vibrant future together!

Wifi and Network Upgrades



If you visit our park in the near future, you might not even notice the small gray panels on the front and rear of the conference center's roof. But they are probably going to impact your experience while you're here! These little units broadcast wifi across much of our park, so guests can enjoy free internet access in the Pioneer Village or in the campground.

Open!



The Monday, Wednesday, Friday crew and our maintenance staff were hard at work preparing the museum for another season, and we are happy to report that the museum is once again open! Above you can see Don replenishing the water supply to our popular canal exhibit. Our crew waterproofed and repainted it, and we appreciate the clean water given to us by Culligan in Delphi!

You can visit the museum Monday through Friday, 1-4 PM. Starting in April, it will also be open Saturdays 1-4 PM!

Did you know...?



You can hold your wedding, corporate meeting, or birthday celebration at the Canal Center?



In fact, the photo above shows the furthest reach of the wifi signal--all the way to the rustic cabins, which you can [reserve on AirBnB](#) once the weather warms up. The cabins might not have electricity or running water, but you'll still be able to surf the web! Thanks to Blue Boat Solutions for installing the new wifi system while also upgrading our facility's network hardware!

Being There for the Community



On January 29, tragedy struck our community when Carroll County Deputy Noah Rainey and Jail Deputy Dane Northcutt died in a single car crash while responding to a call for assistance. When a space was needed for the community and planners to coordinate services to honor the fallen deputies, the Canal was privileged to offer our facilities.

We offer a variety of options for each different type of event. We offer free wifi and can accommodate up to 300 guests!

[Save your date today!](#)



For a complete list of activities please visit us at www.wabashanderiecanal.org

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Even in such a difficult time, there was an enormous outpouring of support from local businesses and law enforcement agencies from around the state. We can offer our space for such a time as this because of the generous support we have received from so many members of our Canal family. Thank you to all who join us in our mission, which goes well beyond historical preservation. We are grateful to serve our community. We are also endlessly thankful for law enforcement officers like Deputy Rainey and Jail Deputy Northcutt who selflessly put themselves at risk to serve and protect us.

The Wabash & Erie Canal E-Newsletter is brought to you by:



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