

The Canal Society of Indiana is coming to Wayne County on April 9, 10 and 11!

The spring tour of the society will bring up to 80 members from all around the state, as well as Ohio, Illinois and Michigan to follow the 18 mile path of the Whitewater Canal through Wayne County and see many other historic sites. The tour begins at 2:00 p.m. on Friday at the Wayne County Historical Museum where docents will lead the group on a 90 minute overview of the many collections, including a section from a canal boat that plied the waters of the canal in the mid 1800s.

Early Saturday morning the participants will board buses for an all-day tour of the many historic sites in the county, starting with the Whitewater Gorge, then along the Historic National Road Scenic Byway to S.R. 1 in western Wayne County. The group will visit the location of the Feeder Dam on the Whitewater River, the stone arch culvert over City Run south of Milton, the remains of three locks and an aqueduct, as well as see the preserved 150 foot section of the canal at Cambridge City, part of the Whitewater Canal Scenic Byway.

A walking tour of downtown Cambridge City will take them to a canal warehouse, the Overbeck Pottery museum, and the Vinton House early hotel, where an interpretive sign will be dedicated. Also on the itinerary is the General Solomon Meredith 40 foot monument in Riverside Cemetery, as well as the Overbeck family stones, plus others. The monument to famous race horse Single G is in Creitz Park

Near Hagerstown airport is an early brick lock tender's house, Scout Lake and a canal culvert. At the southeast corner of the Main Street bridge is a monument to the Hagerstown Canal, the most northern eight miles of the 76 mile Whitewater Canal.

The tour includes lunch in Cambridge City and dinner in the Grand Hall at the new Reid Hospital, where a DVD about the National Road produced by Ball State University will be shown. Also included is a tour packet with a 50 page tour book, packed with information about the Whitewater Canal and local history.

On Sunday morning a car caravan will visit Bulla Cemetery, Thistlewaite Falls, and the Walk of Fame in the Whitewater gorge. Dr. Ron Morris of Centerville will give a tour of his restored home and tell the group about the history of Centerville and the historic National Road.

The tour is open to the public, but bus seating is limited. Registration deadline is Sunday, March 7. For more information, phone 765-478-5993 or visit www.Indcanal.org.