

Steam train excursion through Smoky Mountains



On Saturday, September 6th, 2025, the Watauga Valley Railroad Historical Society and Museum will sponsor a steam train excursion on the Great Smoky Mountains Railroad. This is a wonderful opportunity to relax and enjoy the beauty of Western North Carolina while riding the rails behind a steam engine in vintage passenger railroad cars.

The #1702 locomotive dates back to 1943. The engine's construction was an officially commissioned WWII steam engine plan. It is of the world's largest engine class and is one of two remaining in the United States.

The one-day excursion will cover most of the operating trackage of the Great Smoky Mountains Railroad. The track follows the route of the former Southern Railway's Murphy Branch Line, established in 1891, with its five percent grade and many bridges. Our scenic steam excursion takes us from the historic depot in Bryson City, NC, through the beautiful countryside of Western North Carolina, into the breath-taking Nantahala Gorge surrounded by the majestic Smokies, and back to Bryson City.

Much of the route hugs the banks of the Little Tennessee and Nantahala Rivers. It crosses Fontana Lake on a

trestle spanning 780 feet 100 feet above the lake.

Passengers ride in comfort in FIRST CLASS, CROWN CLASS, TOURIST COACH, or OPEN- AIR cars. All classes offer seating in classic antique restored passenger cars. There are restrooms throughout the train.

FIRST CLASS: Cars are climate-controlled and feature large windows and lounge-car seating. Includes lunch options. Ticket price \$185

CROWN CLASS: Cars offer large windows and climate control for passenger comfort. Ticket price is \$126/adult and \$98/child (2 -12). Ticket price is \$110/ adult and \$88/child (2-12).

TOURIST COACH CLASS: Cars have ceiling fans and windows that open and close for fresh air viewing. Ticket price is \$110/adult and \$88/child (2-12).

OPEN-AIR COACH: Cars are great for picture-taking and "experiencing" the ride and scenery. Ticket price is \$112/adult \$87/child (2-12).

Passengers have two options for arrival at the Bryson City Train Depot: Ride a chartered tour bus out of Johnson City, TN (Liberty Bell Middle School), or drive directly to Bryson City, NC, if that is more convenient.

Schedule for passengers. Arrive in Bryson City, NC by 11:00 a.m.; Board Train 11:15 a.m.; Train Departs 12:01 p.m. Arrives back to Bryson City 4:30 p.m.

All excursion tickets include free admission to the Smoky Mountain Lionel Train Museum near the Bryson City Depot. The museum boasts a collection of 7,000 Lionel engines, cars and accessories, and an impressive operating layout and children's activity center.

MEAL OPTIONS:

BOX LUNCH: \$16.00. Includes sandwich, Ms. Vickie's Kettle chips, Grandma's chocolate Pecan pieces, and crunchy fresh celery.

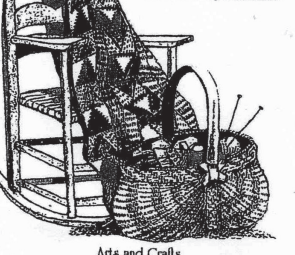
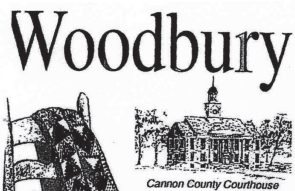
CONCESSIONS CAR: Sandwiches, drinks, chips, and snacks will be available for purchase on board.

BRING YOUR OWN: A small cooler is acceptable if you wish to bring food with you. Tickets and pre-purchased meals must be ordered online by credit card at <http://www.wataugavalleynrhs.org/>. Click on the EXCURSIONS link.

There's nothing like riding behind steam. Steam excursions sell out quickly. Order soon so you don't miss out!

The excursion runs rain or shine. Every effort will be made to maintain an on-time schedule.

Questions about the trip or to order tickets? Go to www.wataugavalleynrhs.org, or email wataugavalley@gmail.com



*State Archeologist Phil Hodge
featured speaker at upcoming
Cannon County Historical
Society Meeting*

**Cannon County
Tennessee**

The next scheduled meeting of the Cannon County Historical society will be Tuesday September 16, 2025 starting at 6:30PM, "Adams Memorial Library", Austin Jennings Room. Phil Hodge, Archeologist for the state of Tennessee will present a program on the Upper East Fork Stones watershed. A large portion of modern day Cannon County lies within to large headwaters, the Smith and the Stones. From Rutherford County's "old Jefferson settlement", settlers moved into the remotest headsprings of the East Fork Stones where they claimed the air was fresher, the soils richer and the waters purer.



Annual Meeting

Saturday, September 13, 2025

DeKalb County Fairgrounds • Alexandria

Gates Open at 7:45 a.m. • Cast Your Vote from 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Business Meeting Begins at 10 a.m.
(or after the last person in line at 10 a.m. has voted)

To make sure your vote counts, remember...

- September 4 is the last day to make changes to your membership to be eligible to vote in the 2025 election.
- Only DTC members with proper photo ID may vote:
 - Single membership: only that individual may vote.
 - Joint membership: either member may vote, but not both.
 - Business membership: a business affidavit is required.

For more information about membership & voting, call DTC Communications at (615) 529-2955.

**PLEASE NOTE:
NEW HOURS**

LEGALS & PUBLIC NOTICES

The Cannon County Board of Commissioners will have a public hearing on Thursday, September 4, 2025 at the Cannon County Courthouse, 200 W Main Street Woodbury TN 37190 for the purpose of reviewing the following item:

To amend the Cannon County Zoning and Building Codes Resolution; such amendment to include provisions to redefine the square footage calculators in the fee schedule for Commercial, Industrial, and Multi-family building permits.

The proposed amendment can be reviewed at the office of the Cannon County Planning Department, 200 W Main Street, Woodbury TN, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

The public hearing will begin at 6:00 P. M. All citizens are invited to attend. Any questions or comments can be addressed to Cannon County Land Use Administrator by phone: 615-563-5263 or by email: David.Robinson@CannonCountyTN.gov

Greg Mitchell
Chairman
Cannon County Commission

The Cannon County Board of Commissioners will have a public hearing on Thursday, September 4, 2025 at the Cannon County Courthouse, 200 W Main Street Woodbury TN 37190 for the purpose of reviewing the following item:

To amend the Cannon County Zoning and Building Codes Resolution; such amendment to include provisions to limit the time period for review of Special Exceptions and Variances by the Board of Zoning Appeals to 60 days.

The proposed amendment can be reviewed at the office of the Cannon County Planning Department, 200 W Main Street, Woodbury TN, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

The public hearing will begin at 6:00 P. M. All citizens are invited to attend. Any questions or comments can be addressed to Cannon County Land Use Administrator by phone: 615-563-5263 or by email: David.Robinson@CannonCountyTN.gov

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NOTICE OF GRAND JURY MEETING

It is the duty of your grand jurors to investigate any public offense which they know or have reason to believe has been committed and which is trialable or indictable in this county. Any person having knowledge or proof that an offense has been committed may apply to testify before the grand jury subject to the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated 40-12-104. The foreman in this county is presently Greg Rogers. The Grand Jury will meet on **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH, 2025 AT 9 AM.** You may be prosecuted for perjury for any oral or written statement in which you make under oath to the grand jury, when you know the statement to be false, and when the statement touches on a matter material to the point in question.

The Cannon County Board of Zoning Appeals meets at 5:30pm and Planning Commission meets at 6:00pm, 4th Tuesday of each month at Cannon County Courthouse.

Additional Legal Ads on Pages B2 & B6