

Beyond Your First Day

If you decide to volunteer with us more regularly, please begin learning the Safety and General Rules of the Railway.

- The WW&F Railway Rules and Standards for Operations (The Rule Book) provides a uniform baseline of understanding from which all WW&F Railway activity participants can act safely and efficiently while on this railroad. The document is intended to be comprehensive in nature, allowing the reader full insight into how we operate our railroad without leaving details to inference or presumption.
- Rule Books are generally available next to the Sign In log inside the Percival House. Please take one if you are interested!

Many volunteers are interested in joining the train crew.

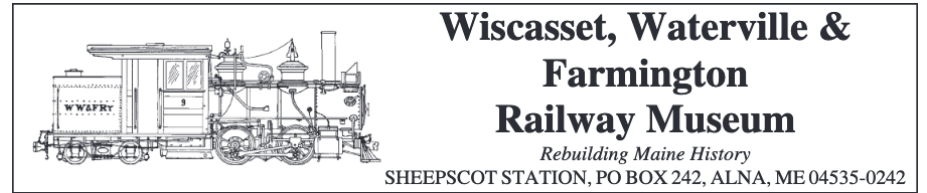
Here's how to go about that:

You may request entry into our training program after having volunteered four six-hour days. During a scheduled meeting with the Training Officer, you'll be given a rule book. After passing a safety rules test, you'll be qualified to serve as a Car Host. Upon learning more and passing a test in general railroad operations, you may qualify to serve as a Trainman, which is essentially a Brakeman-in-training. Following 150 hours of volunteer service (including much training and supervision) and one additional test, you'll be eligible to qualify as a Brakeman. You may progress to other positions from there. Specific details will be found in the rule book.

If interested, contact: info@wwfry.org or training.officer@wwfry.org.

Working on Other Projects:

Do you have a particular interest or set of skills? Is there a project you'd like to get involved with? Let us know! As with most things, contact info@wwfry.org - we'll put you in touch with the appropriate party who can help you get started. And if you see a need, please ask us about it - chances are you'll be "volunteered" to tackle it!



Volunteering at the WW&F Railway



Volunteers are a critical part of our operation. It is the volunteers that work on our projects, that meet and greet our visitors, and that operate our trains. We have no paid staff.

Our volunteer corps is like a family. Many meet for breakfast before the day begins or for supper after it ends. Others keep in touch with each other throughout the week.

We encourage new volunteers to come and find a place with us. All ages, abilities, and interests are welcome- there is truly something for everyone. Because of the variety of things we do, and the potential dangers of working around railroad equipment, we require that new volunteers only do work under the supervision or guidance of project managers, at least for the first couple of months, so that we can "show you the ropes".

Volunteers are always present on Saturdays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Typically, work begins by 8am on Saturdays (9am on weekdays) while "closing time" is after 4 PM. (During the late autumn and early winter months, when it gets dark early, we leave early.) Activities are usually rain or shine, but may move indoors during inclement weather.

Finding Your Volunteer Role

- Examples of volunteer work on the WW&F Railway include:
 - Buildings and grounds maintenance
 - Right-of-Way and track maintenance
 - Archival Work (including Computer assistance)
 - Restoration and Fabrication of Rail Equipment
 - Machine Shop and Wood Shop work
 - Communications (magneto telephone) maintenance
 - Train Operations (Car Hosts, Brakemen, Engineers, Conductors, etc.)
 - Administrative roles, Gift Shop attendants, cooks, sales/marketing.

- A great place to get a feel for the work being done is the discussion forum:

forum.wwfry.org.

To get the most current information, open the section titled “Volunteers” and look for the monthly “Work Reports” thread.



- The simplest way to start as a volunteer is to sign up for a work weekend or other scheduled work event. Find those at **www.wwfry.org/volunteer** - or contact **info@wwfry.org**
- Can't wait for the next event? Come next Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday! We'll be thrilled to have you, but we're all a bunch of volunteers ourselves, so there isn't someone designated to receive and direct walk-in volunteers. Therefore, you'll be most successful if we're expecting you. Send an email to **info@wwfry.org** before you plan to arrive.

Your First Day

- When you arrive, please go into Percival House (“Employees Only” now refers to you!) You'll find a log book to sign in along the wall in the “dining room”. The hours logged document your experience and help us with writing grant proposals. When you leave, make sure to sign out.
- Most Saturdays we provide a home-cooked lunch for folks in the Percival House (\$5 donation is appreciated), but you can bring your own food, too - a necessity on weekdays or if your work crew won't return for a lunch break.
- If you need help locating a work crew or foreman, just ask. New volunteers must work under the direct supervision of a crew Foreman.
- Restrooms are usually not available at remote worksites. Plan accordingly!

Safety for New Volunteers

- You'll start out under the direct supervision of a crew foreman. Engineers (and equipment operators) appreciate a friendly wave when passing nearby.
- Most jobs require work gloves, heeled/enclosed work boots, and long pants. Safety glasses are required when using power tools.
- Remember sunscreen, hat, water, snacks, and Bug Dope.
- Be ready to admit your physical / skills limits
 - Most of us wish we were a lot younger!
 - Take breaks when needed. (We love to stand around and talk, anyway.)
 - Be aware of your surroundings; always expect a train at any time.
- Prevent trips and falls:
 - Never run, jog, “speed walk”, jump, etc.
 - Step OVER the rails and avoid walking between the rails.
 - Set tools down where they won't be in the way.
 - Hold on when mounting or dismounting stationary rail equipment.
 - If riding non-passenger equipment, do not dangle your legs over the sides and ends of the car.
 - Never attempt to board (or disembark from) a moving train.
- **Always choose “safe” over “quick”.**