



Western Pennsylvania Model Railroad Museum

5507 Lakeside Drive Gibsonia, PA 15044 — 724-444-6944

About Our Museum

The Western Pennsylvania Model Railroad Museum (WPMRM) is a volunteer non-profit 501(c)(3) dedicated to the preservation of history of railroading in the Pittsburgh area. This is done in part by creating a 40' X 100' HO scale, prototypical and historically accurate model railroad. A project that has been on going since 1988.

Our History

The WPMRM is one of the oldest model railroad organizations in the nation. Founded in 1938 as the Pittsburgh HO Railroad Club, the group has under gone several name changes from the Pittsburgh Model Railroad Club (approximately 1940) to The Pittsburgh Model Railroad Historical Society (1985) and finally to our current name in 1998. We have occupied four different locations over the years starting at the 11th Avenue Freight House Office Building (where the Lawrence Convention Center is currently located). In 1955 the group moved to the Shadyside passenger station and then moved again in 1963 to Troy Hill in the Eberhardt & Ober Brewery (currently occupied by The Penn Brewery). In 1986, we purchased the land for our current location and built our museum.

Our Display

Measuring in at 4,000 square feet, our display will be one of the largest in the nation. It depicts the tracks between Pittsburgh, PA to Cumberland Maryland set in the summer of 1952, and portrays numerous landmarks such as the P&LE train station (Market Square in Pittsburgh), J&L Steel Mill, Cox's Department Store (McKeesport, PA), Falling Water, Ohiopyle PA, Helmstetter's Curve and the Cumberland Station (Cumberland, MD).

Display Statistics

- HO Scale (1/87)
- 300,000+ trees
95% of which are hand made
- 350 Locomotives
250 diesel / 100 steam
- 6,500+ feet of track
- 5-8 miles of electrical wire
- Computer controlled
Automated routing and station stops
- 2000+ cars

Our Railroad

Our Mon-Valley System (M-V) is a composite of parts of the Western Maryland Railroad, the Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Railroad and the Pennsylvania Railroad. By using a fictitious combination of real railroad we are able to use a modeling tool called "freelance reality" to adjust history by changing minor facts (i.e. single track becomes double track) for our own convenience.



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Holiday Train Display

Each year the WPMRM opens its doors to the public for its annual Holiday Train Display Titled “A Railroad Journey in Miniature”. The Holiday show will run from mid-November through mid-January and draws approximately 10,000 visitors per year.

Twilight of Steam

On Friday nights, we lower the lights and turn back the clock from the summer of 1953 to an early fall evening in 1949. Our fleet of diesel engines take the night off and steam engines like “Consolidations”, “Mikes”, “Pacifics”, “Hudsons”, and “Appalachians” will rule the rails hauling America’s freight and passenger trains as they have for over 100 years.

Hours

Friday Nights, 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Saturdays & Sundays 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Extended Hours

“Black Friday” 11:00 AM to 9:00 PM

December 26—31 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Closed: Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year’s Day

See show.wpmrm.org for a current complete listing of hours or email: showhours@wpmrm.org (automated email reply)

Admission: \$10.00 Adults, \$5.00 Child (Under 12)

Online Contact Information

Web: www.wpmrm.org

Instagram: [instagram.com/wpmrm](https://www.instagram.com/wpmrm)

Facebook: [facebook.com/wpmrm](https://www.facebook.com/wpmrm)

YouTube: [youtube.com/wpmrm](https://www.youtube.com/wpmrm)

threads: [@wpmrm](https://www.threads.net/@wpmrm)

Twitter: [@wpmrm_org](https://twitter.com/wpmrm_org)

Media Contacts

- Bill Humphrey — Chairman, Holiday Train Show — bill.humphrey@wpmrm.org
- Ray Mueser — President — ray.mueser@wpmrm.org
- Bob Mueser — Webmaster / Social Media — bob.mueser@wpmrm.org

Images & Logos

For museum logos and images for use in blogs, online, print or video media please visit

www.wpmrm.org/mediainages

Additional images & raw video files (published to YouTube) can be obtained by emailing bob.mueser@wpmrm.org at the discretion of the museum.