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PRESS RELEASE

City of Akron Press Release

From the desk of Ellen Lander Nischt, Press Secretary

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AWR! Kicks Off The 2018 Trolley Tour Season

Akron, Ohio, March 16, 2018 – The Akron Waterways Renewed! program (AWR!) is kicking off the 2018 AWR! Construction Site Trolley Tour season today and tours will continue through the remainder of the year. Last year more than 1,800 people participated in trolley tours of active and complete AWR! construction sites.

“Surveys showed an overwhelming recommendation to continue tours in 2018,” said Patrick Gsellman, AWR! Program Manager. “People leave with a better appreciation of the complexity of work happening, a better sense of the need for these major environmental improvements, and a better understanding of how we work every day to try and make an unaffordable program, less unaffordable.”

The tours start at the Mustill Store (57 W. North St., Akron, Ohio 44304), where attendees learn all about its significance and the history of the canal, as well as the ongoing Ohio Canal Interceptor Tunnel (OCIT) work. Immediately following a short video about OCIT and a question and answer period, participants board a trolley, and visit a variety of storage basins and green infrastructure sites.

Residents or groups interested in signing up for a tour can do so [here](#). The public is encouraged to browse the www.akronwaterwaysrenewed.com site for project and community information, pictures, and updates.

“The tours allow us to give residents an up-close and personal look at the work being done in their city to improve infrastructure and the environment,” Gsellman said. “We use program experts as our tour guides so that we can answer as many of the participants’ questions as possible.”

Opportunities for tours are provided on a first-come, first-serve basis. Each tour is primarily by trolley, with an opportunity to get out of the trolley at various project sites that are not in the area of active construction, weather and time permitting.

For questions, to arrange a tour for a large group, or to request accommodations for any special needs, **please contact Heather Bolestridge, AWR! Communications Manager, at (330) 375-2501 or by email at hbolestridge@gstephensinc.com.**

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