

Pennsylvania Canal Society

2017 SPRING FIELD TRIP

May 5 – May 7

Middle Section of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal

Ramada Plaza Hotel, Hagerstown MD

(Hotel information on next page)

Friday May 5	9:45 - 10:00AM	Early bird - meet at hotel parking lot for carpooling for groundbreaking on the Conococheague Creek Aqueduct Restoration
	12:45 - 1:00 PM	Early bird - meet at hotel parking lot for carpooling to Restored Monocacy Aqueduct – The Crown Jewel of the C&O
	4:00 - 6:00 PM	Registration in hotel lobby
	7:00 – 8:00 PM	Saturday Preview by Dave Johnson in Pen Mar Room
Saturday May 6	6:30 - 7:45 AM	Breakfast buffet at Fireside Restaurant (complimentary for Ramada Plaza guests)
	7:45 - 8:00 AM	Leave at 8:00 AM SHARP for Four Locks (option to walk 2 miles to Dam 5), Dam 5, Antietam Aqueduct, Lock 38 & Shepherdstown Lock
	12:00 PM	Box Lunch (included) outside at Ferry Hill Visitor Center
	1:00 PM	Dam 4 and Guard Lock, Restored Lock 44 and Lock Tenders House, and Cushwa Basin including Conococheague Aqueduct, RR Lift Bridge, Bollman Pratt Truss Bridge, and NPS Williamsport Visitor Center
	5:00 PM	Return to hotel
	6:00 PM	Meet and Greet with Cash Bar in Pen Mar Room
	6:45 PM	Buffet Banquet (see description on next page)
	7:45 PM	Slide Presentation on C&O Culverts by Steve Dean, editor of <i>American Canals</i> and member of the C&O Canal Association
Sunday May 7	6:30 - 8:00 AM	Breakfast buffet at Fireside Restaurant (complimentary for Ramada Plaza guests)
	8:00 - 8:15 AM	Optional - carpooling to Harpers Ferry and walk to Dam 3 & Locks 33 - 36, or go there on your own (you can meet group at 10:00 at the river junction point, near John Brown's Fort & the Potomac RR bridge - NPS parking lot shuttles run every 15 minutes starting at 9)

Ramada Plaza Hotel

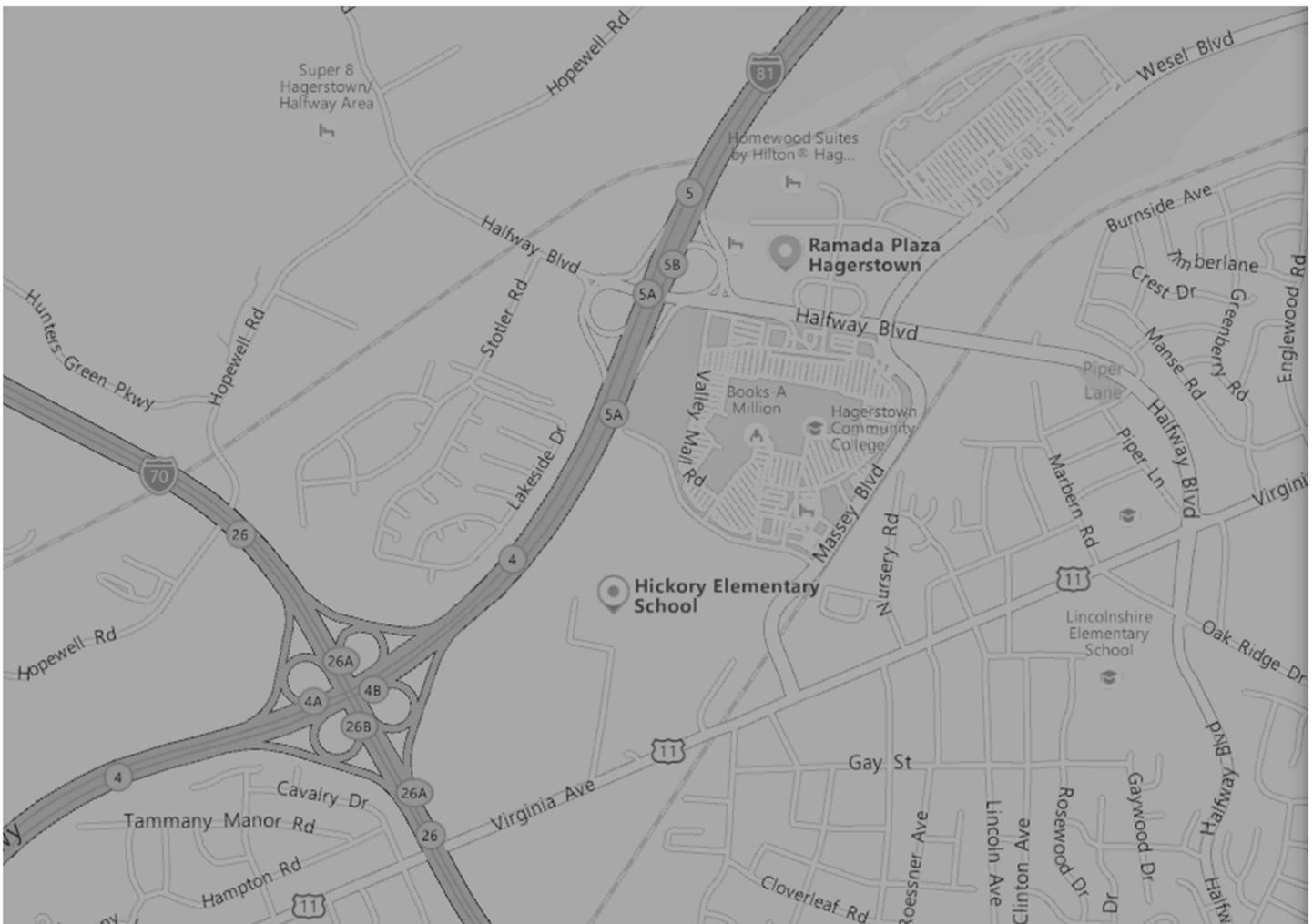
A 3 star hotel and our base of operation. Our discount rate is **\$79** (+ tax) per night so **mention PA Canal Society** when you call 301-797-2500. Call soon but definitely **before April 21st**. The address is 1718 Underpass Way, Hagerstown, MD 21740. Visit their website for more information about the hotel at www.ramadaplazahotelhagerstown.com

The hotel has an indoor swimming pool (remember to pack your bathing suit), fitness center, business center, spacious and luxurious rooms including deluxe continental breakfast daily with two hot items, cable TV, coffee makers, irons & ironing boards, and newspapers.

Directions

From Interstate 70, take exit 26 for Interstate 81 Northbound to Harrisburg, go 1.46 miles and follow directions below

From Interstate 81, take exit 5A on Halfway Blvd East, turn right into Valley Mall, turn left on Valley Mall Rd, at the light turn left on Underpass Way, Ramada Plaza Hotel entrance on left just before their sign.



Friday Early Bird - 2 Optional Trips

Meet at **10:00 AM** in the hotel parking lot for carpooling to a NPS **groundbreaking** ceremony for the restoration of the **Conococheague Aqueduct** at Williamsport. Carpooling is essential due to limited parking at the site. We need to be parked by 10:30 AM for the 11:00 AM groundbreaking.

Meet at **1:00 PM** in the hotel parking lot for carpooling to the restored **Monocacy Aqueduct**. Known as the Crown Jewel of the C&O, it has 7 arches and is the largest of 11 C&O aqueducts. Prior to restoration and following the 1972 Hurricane Agnes flood, a steel and wood banding support system was added to stabilize the structure. Two subsequent major floods in 1996 furthered the damage. Restoration was begun in 2002, cost \$6 million, and took 2 years to complete. The C&O Canal Association, a major partner and non-profit park support group, raised more than \$150,000 for the restoration project. That amount was raised largely through small donations, thus indicating broad support for preservation of the Monocacy Aqueduct.

Saturday Bus Trip

Our trip will begin to the west at Four Locks and on to Dam 5, with an option to walk 2 miles along the canal between the two to view Locks 45 & 46 along the way. From Dam 5 we will travel to the easternmost end of the trip - Antietam Creek Aqueduct. From there we'll head to Lock 38 and the Shepherdstown River Lock and old ferry site with a view of the James Rumsey Monument and Bridge. We head up the hill to NPS Visitor Center at Ferry Hill and eat our delicious box lunches. Dam 4 and Guard Lock are next, followed by Restored Lock 44 and Lock Tender's House. We end our trip at the Conococheague Creek Aqueduct at the Cushwa Basin NPS Visitor Center. Also on site are a railroad lift bridge, the 1879 Bollman Pratt Truss Bridge, and Trolley Building.

Saturday Evening Buffet Banquet

Our Saturday night buffet banquet will be in the Pen Mar Room, and will include a tossed salad, rolls & butter, pot roast with roasted vegetable, chicken breast with wild mushrooms & Sherry herb sauce, baked lasagna in meat sauce, California blend of vegetables, whipped potatoes, cucumber & onion salad, peach melba or strawberry shortcake, and coffee, tea, iced tea, and water. The gratuity is included.

Saturday Evening Presentation

After the banquet Steve Dean of the C&O Canal Association and editor of *American Canals* will give a slide presentation on C&O Culverts.

Planning to Visit Some Sites On Your Own?

There are many places we can't cover like the three arch Restored Catoctin Creek Aqueduct and Antietam Battlefield so depending on your interests you may want to go on your own Friday or Sunday or plan for an extra day's visit. You'll have C&O Canal (CandOcanal.org and <https://www.nps.gov/choh/>) and local information (www.VisitHagerstown.com) in your packet but these web sites can help you plan ahead to make the most of your stay.

A Note about Great Falls - The bridges to the falls overlook will be closed for repairs until June. The rest of the park at Great Falls will be open.

Trip Questions: Contact Doug Logan at LoganD2@verizon.net or call 610-955-6436.

Membership Questions: Contact Roberta Longenbach at RLongenbach@rcn.com or call 610-438-2281.

Full length, full color map at <https://www.nps.gov/choh/planyourvisit/upload/CHOHmap-full-140922-v7.pdf>

