
14th Annual Central Iowa Garden Railway Society Tour

2023 Midwest Garden Railroad Gathering

Saturday, June 24, 2023
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM



Enjoy this tour at your own leisure – You may start at any Railroad

Boulder Creek Railroad - BCRR

John & Pat Olsen – [361 NW 58th Place, Des Moines, Iowa 50313](#)

Boulder Creek RR will enjoy its 16th season with new ties on all rails with lots of colorful mini plants, shrubs, and trees throughout the layout. Come walk through our garden railroad and see what's growing! Motive power and rolling stock include USA trains, Aristo, Bachmann and MTH.



G.P. Short Line

Jud & Helen Stover – [911 North 15th Av, Winterset, Iowa 50273](#)

The G.P. Short Line is a project that connects many memories. First, it reminds me of my older brother's incredible ability at building HO layouts. Second, it reminds me of my friendship with Gene Prichard for which this project is named. Third, it is a cost effective functionally reliable garden rail used every Halloween to deliver treats.



Reindeer Pass Railroad

Mike & Renee Kidman – [5220 NW 8th St, Ankeny, Iowa 50023](#)

This 500 ft railroad runs all varieties of trains – steam, diesel, and whimsical. It is based most generally on logging or steam railroads. Our layout showcases tunnels, bridges over water, several trestle areas, and miniature plantings throughout. Thomas or Percy may run on any given day!



Iron Horse Railroad

Ron & Kay Huntimer – [1318 SW 3rd Street, Ankeny, Iowa 50023](#)

Come see our railroad from our observation deck and see the Old West 1886 town of "Iron Horse." We showcase a lumber mill, a grist mill, covered bridges over lakes, trestles, farms, cowboys, Indians, stagecoaches, and many wagons from this era; on over 200 ft of track. Our railroad comes alive with many different ground covers, trees, and flowers!



Merle Hay Mall Railroad - MHMRR

Ben Hancock – [3800 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines, Iowa 50310](https://www.google.com/maps/place/3800+Merle+Hay+Road,+Des+Moines,+Iowa+50310)

Enter off Douglas Avenue near Flix Brewhouse, proceed to suite 1255.

In operation since 2018 and in our second location. MHMRR is a modular system owned by the members of CIGRS. Individual modules represent a theme that is unique to the member(s) who owns it. We share our hobby with the public on Sunday from 12 noon to 3:00 pm.

A huge thank you to the management at Merle Hay Mall.



King's Way Crossing Railway

Bob & Joy King – [14404 Clearview Lane, Urbandale, Iowa 50323](https://www.google.com/maps/place/14404+Clearview+Lane,+Urbandale,+Iowa+50323)

Our railway was only a dream ten years ago when Bob received a windfall of LGB G-scale trains. Construction began in 2018 with a raised wall, water feature, and flagstone patio & walk. We filled the area with compost and let it mature over the winter. In a short nine days 270 feet of track was laid. This railroad includes two mainlines, and a short loop.



Urbandale & Midwestern Railroad

Mike & Alex Steenhoek – [14401 Oak Brook Dr, Urbandale, Iowa 50323](https://www.google.com/maps/place/14401+Oak+Brook+Dr,+Urbandale,+Iowa+50323)

The Urbandale & Midwestern Railroad was established in the Spring of 2023 by Alex, who is 15 years old, and his dad, Mike. This layout shows how garden railroads can be for all ages! The Urbandale & Midwestern Railroad recreates a mining community in Colorado from the late 19th century to the early 20th century. This railroad includes a western mining town, tunnel, and an ascent up a mountain to a mining outpost!



Lovington Station

Bruce & Beth Rydberg – [4507 44th Place, Des Moines, Iowa 50310](https://www.google.com/maps/place/4507+44th+Place,+Des+Moines,+Iowa+50310)

This brand-new railroad will give you a sense of how you can put together a railroad in a small space and provide fun for all ages! This also showcases a wide variety of plants that you can use in yours.



THIS IS YOUR ADMISSION TICKET
\$10.00 per car for the entire TOUR



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CIGRS – Central Iowa Garden Railway Society

TOUR Courtesy and Information

Saturday, June 24, 2023

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Print all pages of your TOUR ticket

Bring a printed copy of your TOUR ticket

At your first TOUR stop pay \$10.00 cash fee per car

Have your ticket stamped and the next SEVEN stops are included!

***Registrants of the Gathering display name badge for entrance to Garden Tour**

“CIGRS” and TOUR hosts will not assume liability

Terrain in and around garden railroads can be difficult to maneuver, please be mindful of your surroundings

Please be respectful of the TOUR hosts property and their neighbors

Children are always welcome, please keep watch over them

Abide by the TOUR hours shown above

There are no public restroom facilities at the TOUR sites

Please ask questions – hosts are eager and willing to talk about their hobbies

Have fun and enjoy your day!