

News Release

DATE: September 9, 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“Railroad Days” Open House in Fairbanks

Accessible, family-friendly event is 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 28

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – The Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC) invites the public to the “Railroad Days” community open house in Fairbanks, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 28. The Alaska Railroad event features FREE entrance, FREE parking, FREE shuttle service, FREE train rides and many more FREE family-friendly activities.

“Railroad Days” is returning to Fairbanks for 2024. This community event is an opportunity to meet railroaders, rail enthusiasts, ride aboard a train, and learn more about railroad equipment and safety. The highlight of the event provides open house guests the opportunity to enjoy a free train ride aboard a comfortable rail coach. For children and adult railfans alike, the open house features static displays of locomotives, rolling stock and track maintenance equipment. Knowledgeable employees will be on-site to talk about the equipment, travel routes and rail safety.

“We had such a great time in Fairbanks last year, we could not wait to return and make this special event happen again in 2024. Our dedicated employees love the opportunity to meet other Alaskans and share their passion for the railroad,” said Meghan Clemens, Director of External Affairs for the Alaska Railroad. “This year, one of our incredibly talented Onboard Supervisors, Daniel Fretwell, created a coloring page for the coloring station we set up. We are hoping kids and adults alike come out and join us and enjoy some fun activities and free train rides. We want as many people as possible to come out and enjoy our depot, our employees and of course our trains.”



Alaska Railroad Fairbanks Depot during the September 2023 Open House. Photo Courtesy: Jaime Holt

The open house is a family-friendly, accessible event with several activities geared toward children, including a magician, coloring station, photo booth, temporary tattoos, and train safety giveaways. Food and beverages will be on sale by a Fairbanks PTA-operated booth. The railroad’s depot gift shop and rail

ticket counter will be open, with employees available to answer questions about the Alaska Railroad, travel routes and plans. Additional off-site parking will be available at the nearby Anne Wien Elementary School, with easy access to the depot through free shuttle service from the school.

To help the public plan their open house day, ARRC's public events webpage includes helpful details like activity descriptions, an activity locator, parking map and train ride schedule. A link to the webpage can be found here: <https://www.alaskarailroad.com/corporate/community/public-events>. A detailed list of open house activities is also included on page 3.

The Alaska Railroad is state-owned corporation providing year-round inter-city public rail transportation and freight service from Seward to Anchorage to Fairbanks. More information about passenger service schedules, fares and depot locations is available at <https://www.alaskarailroad.com/>.



Alaska Railroad employees welcome guests to the 'Railroad Days' Open House in Fairbanks on Sept. 23, 2023. Photo Courtesy: Jaime Holt



Alaska Railroad employee and artist Daniel Fretwell shares his coloring page specially designed for the 2024 Fairbanks Open House. Photo Courtesy: Alaska Railroad

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Alaska Railroad 2024 Fairbanks Open House Schedule

Saturday, September 28, 2024 • 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Fairbanks Railroad Depot ~ 1031 Alaska Railroad Depot Road

FREE to the attending public:

- 20-minute train rides offered between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. (last train scheduled to board at 12:30 p.m.)
- Inside the Depot (9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.):
 - ✓ Tattoos (kid friendly and non-permanent)
 - ✓ Giveaways and Rail Travel Door Prize Drawing
 - ✓ Historic Steam Engine 557 restoration project info
 - ✓ Alaska Photo Booth station - get your photo taken and an instant printed souvenir
 - ✓ Magician
 - ✓ Coloring station featuring original artwork by ARRC employee Daniel Fretwell
- Locomotives, passenger and freight railcars, and railroad maintenance equipment on static display
- Operation Lifesaver train safety information and giveaways
- Drawing for round-trip rail travel during 2024-2025 for:
 - Two (2) family packages, each with FOUR (4) tickets for travel between Fairbanks and Denali
 - One (1) package with TWO (2) tickets for travel between Fairbanks and Talkeetna
 - One (1) package with TWO (2) tickets for travel between Fairbanks and Anchorage
 - One (1) package with TWO (2) tickets for travel between Fairbanks - Denali (GoldStar Service)
 - PLUS, drawings for several 2024 *Women on the Railroad* poster and pin sets
 - Need NOT be present to win
- Free Parking & Free Shuttle Service (at the depot and off-site parking with shuttle service at Anne Wien Elementary School ~ 1501 Hampstead Avenue)

For purchase:

- Alaska Railroad Gift Shop Open - featuring centennial designs on merchandise
- Alaska Railroad Ticket Counter Open - staff onsite to assist with rail travel booking
- Snacks, beverages and more from the Anne Wien Elementary PTA

The ARRC is an Equal Opportunity Corporation. If you need special assistance (including language) in order to participate in any ARRC service, program, or activity, please contact the Alaska Railroad Corporation; P.O. Box 107500; Anchorage, AK 99510; Attention: Legal Department, zappasj@akrr.com, (907) 265-2461; via Alaska Relay Service for hearing impaired – dial 7 11 anywhere in Alaska, OR dial toll-free from anywhere outside the state 1-800-770-8255 (voice); 1-800 770-8973 (TTY). Upon request, printed materials can be made available in alternate format.

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