IRON AND STEEL HERITAGE

Come Home to Iron and Steel Country Hiking, Biking, History and Fun

One of Chester County's most enduring industrial legacies is our relationship to some of the nation's largest iron and steel industries in this country. To support this summer's tours theme, we invite you to explore the Iron & Steel Trail to experience the industrial past and present. You can also select a complimentary self-guided heritage tour and blend history and recreation to discover the Iron & Steel landscape's many "Faces of Freedom". These tours and information about historic sites are available at ironandsteelheritage.org

AMERICAN HELICOPTER MUSEUM & EDUCATION CENTER

Town Tour Special: $2.00 off admission with this brochure

The Cradle of Rotary Wing Aviation was born as the Iron & Steel industry matured in southeastern PA. From the Frank Piasecki's first flight in 1943 to modern tilt-wing rotary aircraft, the Iron & Steel heritage lives on.

Excitement awaits those who dare to plunge into the captivating world of rotary wing flight at the American Helicopter Museum & Education Center. Nestled amid several sites of pioneering helicopter invention, the nation's premier helicopter museum features one of only a few V-22 Ospreys on public display in the world. See and touch helicopters that saved countless lives. Changed the course of the Vietnam War and began the aircraft revolution. Learn about industry innovators like Igor Sikorsky, Arthur Young and Frank Piasecki. Enjoy the cheerful kids' exhibit. Master the exciting Copter Simulator, and experience informative, hands-on exhibits, movies and more - even climb aboard five interactive helicopters!

1220 American Blvd, West Chester, PA 19380
610-436-9800 | www.americanhelicopter.museum
**JUNE 14**
FROM FARMHOUSES & MEETINGHOUSES TO MANSIONS
**SPONSORS:** West Chester HARB & Historical Commission
Annual Kick-off Celebration: Chester County Historical Society
Scattered farmhouses in the land of Goshen will evolve into a 15th century “walking trail” called “A Walk West.” West Chester government, education, and industry will help create a county seat that will become known as the “Goshen of Pennsylvania.” Join us on the kick-off evening to learn about these developments. We will start the evening at the Chester County Historical Society which is celebrating its 125th anniversary. West Chester welcomes the trail.

**PARKING & REGISTRATION:** 225 N. High Street. Arrive at 5:30 pm for pre-registration; all tours leave at 6:30 pm after the celebration. The closest public parking for the Chester County Historical Society is the Chestnut Street Garage at 14 E. Chestnut Street. Many business and restaurants validate your garage ticket with purchase, so take it with you. There is some metered street parking as well.

**JUNE 21**
**THE AGE OF STEEL TOOLS**
**SPONSOR:** National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum
Our history is painted with many brushes—the evolution of steelmaking and products that passed with every passing nation, and the spirit of the men and women of steel marked in the homes, set and artifacts we hold in safeguarding. Start your visit at the Lukens Executive Office (circa 1922-3). Among the highlights are our Lukens Steel Fire Department vehicles and deep-sea submarine GUPPY II. The 137’' Rolling Mill has an active Lukens production facility from 1942 to 1969. Visit the Steelworkers’ Memorial which features a World Trade Center Column made from steel.

**PARKING & REGISTRATION:** 50 S. 1st Avenue, Coatesville;
www.steelheritagemuseum.org

**JUNE 28**
**AN INDUSTRIAL GIANT, ISABELLA FURNACE 1833-1894**
**SPONSOR:** West Nantmeal Historical Commission
A unique area of rural Chester County will be on display as hay wagons provide a tour of the Isabella Furnace Local Historic District in West Nantmeal Township. Isabella Furnace, and several of the buildings related to iron making, will be on the tour. The route follows the old stone walls built by furnace workers of that time. Isabella was a cold blast furnace which reflected, in its own dearth of failures and its remarkable capacity to produce the hot blast of the furnaces. Many innovations were brought over from Europe and implemented in the area. It was the last furnace to go out of business in Chester County. The stone walls reflect Mr. Potts committment to his employees; they were commissioned to build them after the furnace blew out for the last time.

**PARKING & REGISTRATION:** Board wagons for the tour at Wywebrock Farm located at 195 Wywebrock Road, Henney Brook.

**JULY 12**
**THE BIRTH, GROWTH AND FUTURE OF THE MUSHROOM INDUSTRY**
**SPONSORS:** Kennett Township Historical Commission and Historic Kennett Square
Come to the "Mushroom Capital of the World" to learn about the Quaker forest credited with the birth of mushroom farming in our area. You will be a special guest at a 4th generation farm owned and operated by the Phillips family. There you will learn about the growing practices of the past, present and future, new technology linked to the growers and tour their restored 1820 farm house. At the American Legion Hall, you will hear about the 1950 Mushroom Day, see models of mushroom technology which has changed over time and hear how those changes have happened. There will be a panel discussion on mushrooms with displays of mushrooms.

**PARKING & REGISTRATION:** Parking garage, 120 E. Linden Street. Follow signs to American Legion Hall, Broad and State Streets for registration and the start of the program. A short bus ride to mushroom farm; last bus leaves at 7.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** VISIT CHESCO.ORG/PLANNING/TOWNTOWNS.
All sites have handicapped access limitations. Carl Karon Marshall at 610-344-862 for specifics.

**JULY 19**
**INDUSTRY REBELS: WOMEN AT YELLOW SPRINGS INDUSTRY**
**SPONSOR:** Historic Yellow Springs
In the 18th, 19th and even the 20th century, when women in some communities and by their very social and cultural status were denied the opportunity to work, have property, vote or even earn an income, there were women who were stepping in innovative ways to defy stereotypes and to contribute to local society and the larger world. Women entrepreneurs and innovators in the valley were involved in a wide range of economic and social activities. Today, the beauty of the valley, the strength and determination of its residents is a testament to the women who have struggled to meet the challenges of women in innovative ways.

**PARKING & REGISTRATION:** Historic Yellow Springs located at 1895 Art School Road, Chester Springs. Follow directional signs for parking after entering the village.

**HANDICAPPED ACCESS LIMITED**

**JULY 26**
**THE MILLING THAT MADE CHESTER COUNTY**
**SPONSOR:** The Mill at Anselma Preservation & Education Trust
Nested along the Pickering Creek in Chester County, the Mill at Anselma is an extraordinary artifact of 250 years of Chester County’s industrial heritage. Opened in 1747 by Samuel Lighthart, the mill retains its original colonial-era power train. The Mill and the village of Anselma demonstrate how 18th Century technology adapted to the area, the prosperity of the Industrial Revolution and the challenges of the Great Depression. Today, the Mill at Anselma connects visitors with Chester County’s rich industrial and agricultural past through tours, flour milling demonstrations and its stone ground flour. A special milling demonstration will be offered at the end of the tour.

**PARKING & REGISTRATION:** The Mill at Anselma located at 1370 Conestoga Road, Chester Springs.

**AUGUST 2**
**THE PHOENIX COLUMN: A BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE**
**SPONSOR:** The Historical Society of the Phoenixville Area and Schuylkill River Heritage Center
Come visit and walk the grounds of one of Chester County’s most important industrial companies, the Phoenix Iron Company. The history begins as early as 1732 with a grist mill built along the French Creek to mill the late 1700s, when rails were being produced at highest amount in the Colonies. Jump forward and learn about the Phoenix Iron Company started and became one of the largest blast furnaces in the world, the left coast of the United States. You will explore an original example of a Phoenix Bridge and learn about the Phoenix Column which was patented in 1880 by the company, something that would go on to be used in the building of bridges and structural supports across the world. On this tour you will see lesser known buildings that still stand that were built by this company and also learn about buildings that no longer stand using then and now photographs. We look forward to your visit to Phoenixville!

**PARKING & REGISTRATION:** Phoenixville Foundry located at 2 N. Main Street, Phoenixville.

**AUGUST 9**
**AGRICULTURAL ANTIQUES & MODERN MACHINES**
**SPONSORS:** Upper Oxford Township Historical Commission & Chester County Agricultural Development Council
Come visit historic Maple Lawn Farm in southern Chester County and experience the evolution of agriculture from past to present. Maple Lawn Farm is a private farmer run family farm and has seen many of the changes that have happened over the years. This tour will provide an opportunity to experience the land and farming practices from the late 1800s and early 1900s, up to including some of the modern combines and tractors used today. A highlight will be on the tour, the chance to demonstrate how farm implements and horticulture are farmed. In addition, Maple Lawn Farm features a stunning example of a historic barn, barn yard and out buildings. This tour will provide many of the covered bridges that make Chester County’s landscape as distinctive in the region.

**PARKING & REGISTRATION:** Parking on site at the farm, 380 Forest Manor Road, Cochranton, with shuttle services provided from overflow parking area. Self-guided on-site farm tour, expect uneven terrain.

**AUGUST 16**
**FRICKS LOCK: BIRTH OF A CANAL VILLAGE**
**SPONSOR:** East Coventry Historical Commission
John Frick married an heiress, fifteen-year-old Catherine Grumbacher. As was the custom of the time, Catherine’s property became John Frick’s property, but none as significant as his agreement with the Schuylkill Navigation Company to navigate the Girard Canal through his property. Visit John Frick’s legacy — Fricks Lock Historic District — and learn about the innovations that made the Schuylkill River Canal possible and stroll through the restored village at the foot of the Linenick Water Power Plant Cooling Towers which time forgot.

**PARKING & REGISTRATION:** Turn onto Fricks Lock Road from Route 724 in East Coventry Township and follow signs. For navigation direction use Fricks Lock Road, Pottstown.

**AUGUST 23**
**SPECIAL NEW PROGRAM: LIGHT S UPPER & LECTURE AT THE SPRINGS THE MILLS OF CHESTER COUNTY**
**SPONSOR:** Chester County Historic Preservation Network
Come experience Historic Yellow Springs from a completely new perspective. Chester County Historic Preservation Network invites you to enjoy a light buffet and listen to Preservation Architect Dan Campbell. Dan will speak about the history of milling in southeastern Pennsylvania and the processes of locating and identifying these mostly existing, re-purposed or in some degree of decay. This engaging perspective on Chester County’s milling legacy will be in preparation of the tour of Bondsville Mill on August 30th and will inform you as you continue to explore our historic landscapes on your own.

**PARKING & REGISTRATION:** Advanced reservations required; $15.00 will include the lecture, a box supper and refreshments, and a guided stroll of the grounds after dinner, weather permitting. Call 610-344-863 to email kmarshall@chesco.org to make your reservations.

**AUGUST 30**
**THE EVOLUTION OF POWER AND FABRIC PRODUCTION AT BONDSVILLE**
**SPONSOR:** East Brandywine Township
Bondsville Mill, located in East Brandywine Township, operated as a textile mill from 1851 through 1934 (over 100 years). An important feature of the mill is the evolution of power sources used there as new technologies became available and were adopted. During this period, materials were manufactured for a wide variety of products over that time, including: civil war uniforms, top brimmed cowboy hats, and women’s ‘flapper’ dresses. The mill will be "plush," to a name a few. The Mill was significant to the area, creating its own community complex with school, post office, general store and housing, and employing 200 people in its heyday. The Mill is currently part of a Township Park that combines its regional heritage with a large natural area (67 acres in all) that is now traversed by a network of trails. Rehabilitation of the Mill is a work in progress, with much already done and more planned.

**PARKING & REGISTRATION:** East Brandywine Township Building, 1214 Horseshoe Pike, Downingtown. Groups will be shuttled from the township building to the Mill for tours then back to the township building.

JOIN THE CHESTER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION in developing the county’s next long-range plan, Landscapes3!
Visit www.chescoPlanning.org/CompPlan.cfm for more details.

**Landscapes3**