

**NNEC SPRING TOUR: Saturday, May 21, 2016
Hillsboro, NH, beginning at 9:30 am (rain or shine)**

In Hillsboro we'll see five stone arch bridges constructed without mortar. A couple of the locations require a short walk and boots (and bug spray) are recommended. We will also take a look at two sections of a large penstock leading from Pierce Lake to a hydroelectric site on Saw Mill Rd. The morning will end with a short stop in the pre-industrial village of Hillsboro Center.

Directions: We will meet at the Shaw's grocery store in Hillsboro (276 W. Main St. across from Oshram-Sylvania). Park close to Main St. From Rt. 149N take a left onto Main St. at center of town. Proceed a mile or so and Shaw's is on the left side of road before Rt. 202. From Rt. 202 coming from Antrim, take a right onto Main St. and Shaw's is second right. From Rt. 202 coming from Henniker, take a left at the intersection with Rt. 9, 31, and Main St. Shaw's is second right. From Rt. 9 and 31 go straight at intersection with Rt. 202 and Shaw's is second right after intersection.

About noon we'll leave for Contoocook to be there for lunch at 1:00 PM, stopping by the dam on the way. Pick up a flyer and see it on your own.



Having *seen* so many covered railroad bridges, now we're actually going to see and learn how one is restored. Dane Malcolm, a railroad historian and photographer, was on the job each day asking questions and taking pictures. This will be a don't-miss tour. Revisit www.contoocookdepot.org; click on the History tab and then the Photo tab at the bottom for a preview. We will also study the restored railcar and station.

There won't be time for the telephone museum; the free admission day will have passed anyway. Also, from past experience, we'll run overtime here with our many questions and contributions from all of you railroad and bridge experts.

Directions Head east from Hillsboro on Rt. 9; 3.8 miles *after crossing Rt. 114 in Henniker* turn left onto Rt. 127 by the Dunkin Donuts. In half a mile, stop at the dam, read the sign, get a brochure and look around. After the dam, stop and see Rowell Covered Bridge (on your own).

In another 3-4 miles you'll end up in Contoocook ("Tookey"). Turn right at the stop sign and then immediately left into "Municipal Parking". Park for the rest of the day; get out and walk through the covered bridge. Choose 1 of 4 restaurants across the *granite* bridge and meet back at the far end of the bridge at 2:00 PM. The Covered Bridge Restaurant has the best view.

