

# **Information for Guests at Motorcar Operators West Excursions**

You have been invited to be a guest at an excursion hosted by Motorcar Operators West (MOW). Welcome! This information sheet has been prepared to remind you of the special regulations that promote the safe and smooth operation of this excursion. Please read the information thoroughly and ask the Excursion Coordinator or your host if there are questions.

**MOW GENERAL RELEASE:** The Motorcar Operators West General Release must be signed by all operators and guests, and is to be returned to the Excursion Coordinator before riding in a motorcar. The release contains regulations that the motorcar operator and guest agree to abide by.

**AUTHORITY:** The Excursion Coordinator (or designee) and the host railroad employee(s) are the controlling authorities of the excursion. Their instructions during the excursion are to be adhered to by all participants. To promote the safe and smooth operation of an event, the Excursion Coordinator may ask participants to leave the event if these instructions are not adhered to.

**MOTORCAR OPERATION:** Only NARCOA insured, NARCOA certified operators may operate motorcars on MOW excursions.

**SAFETY MEETING:** It is mandatory for operators and guests to attend all safety meetings where specific policies and special precautions relative to the excursion are discussed.

**SMOKING:** Smoking in or about motorcars is prohibited at all times, is strongly discouraged on railroad property generally, and may be prohibited entirely for specific events. The smoking policy for the excursion will be presented at the safety meeting.

**ALCOHOL & DRUGS:** Use and possession of alcohol and illegal drugs is prohibited at MOW excursions. Be sure to read and understand Section 9 of the MOW General Release before signing it.

**PROPER FOOTWEAR:** As a minimum, closed-toe, ankle-high boots are required on railroad property and while riding in motorcars. Steel toe boots are strongly recommended. Tennis shoes do not provide adequate protection and are prohibited.

**LOADING/UNLOADING OF MOTORCARS:** To avoid possible injury, operators and guests are not to walk or stand behind a motorcar as it is being loaded or unloaded from a trailer.

**RIDING POSITION:** Each passenger must have his or her own seating position, and be seated whenever the motorcar is in motion. The use of seat belts, when available, is recommended. Adults are not to hold children on their lap. No person should either get in or get out while the motorcar is in motion.

**TRACKS, TRAINS, AND ROLLING STOCK:** To prevent slipping and falling do not walk or step on the rails. Railroad equipment may unexpectedly move or be moved at any time; stay well clear of all locomotives, rolling stock, and railroad equipment. Because the visibility from locomotives is quite limited, be constantly aware that train crews may be completely unaware of the close proximity of people, or even of motorcars. If the excursion is placed in a siding and stopped for an approaching or overtaking train, operators and guests are to move to the opposite side of the motorcars farthest from the “hot” track. Unless you have permission from the railroad representative, **DO NOT CLIMB OR STAND ON RAILROAD EQUIPMENT OR ROLLING STOCK.**

**RAILROAD PROPERTY:** Remember that we are guests of the railroad we are traveling on. Respect railroad property by disposing of trash in a suitable receptacle. If you pick up railroad property, set it back down where you found it.

**CHILDREN:** Check with the Excursion Coordinator before bringing children to an excursion. The minimum age on any NARCOA/MOW excursion is 5 years but the railroad may set a higher minimum age. Children ages 12 and under must have their own seating position with a seat belt fastened while the car is in motion. They must not sit on the lap of another passenger. A bicycle helmet for younger children is suggested. Because recreational railroad motorcar operation is inherently an adult activity, special care must be paid to the presence of, and the safe participation of children. Children must be under the supervision of an adult at all times.

*Motorcar Operators West, 2012*