



Chicago Burlington & Quincy 504, a diesel-electric SD 24 locomotive built by the Electro-Motive Division of General Motors in 1959, pulls a freight train along the IRM mainline. The 328,000-pound locomotive arrived in 1989 and featured Burlington Northern Railroad colors of cascade green/black/white. It would later be restored to its original red/gray/white color scheme by Museum volunteers.

Photo By: David Zeman

VISIT WWW.IRM.ORG FOR INFORMATION AND UPDATES REGARDING OPEN DAYS, HOURS, FARES, AND SPECIAL EVENTS DURING 2026

MUSEUM
IS CLOSED.

ELECTRIC CARS
MONDAY – FRIDAY
11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
SATURDAY & SUNDAY
11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

ELECTRIC CARS AND
STEAM OR DIESEL
TRAINS
11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

SPECIAL EVENT DAYS
Visit www.irm.org
for more details.

SPECIAL FARE DAYS
No passes honored for these
events. Visit www.irm.org for
more details.

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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FEBRUARY

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MARCH

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APRIL

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JULY

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SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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ILLINOIS RAILWAY MUSEUM



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2026 SCHEDULE

MUSEUM HOURS 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM (last train 4:00 PM) on weekends and 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM (last train 3:00 PM) on weekdays unless otherwise announced.

EXHIBITS CLOSE AFTER LAST TRAIN OF THE DAY DEPARTS.

ELECTRIC CARS operate Sundays in April, Saturdays and Sundays May 2 to October 25, and weekdays from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

STEAM AND/OR DIESEL TRAINS operate Saturdays and Sundays May 2 to October 4.

WEEKEND MAINLINE TRAINS operate on the hour from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM - additional trains as needed.

WEEKDAY MAINLINE TRAINS operate as needed 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

STREETCARS operate on our streetcar loop most weekends 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Illinois Railway Museum is open to anyone who likes trains or who is interested in the Museum's historic and educational programs. The member receives a pass allowing admission to the Museum, passage on the Museum's operating railway, and a discount on certain educational materials in the Museum Store. Members also receive the Museum's quarterly magazine, Rail & Wire. A Sustaining Member has the same membership benefits but provides additional (tax-deductible) financial support to the Museum.

Membership Rates:

\$50 Individual Associate	\$100 Family Associate
\$100 Individual Sustaining	\$200 Family Sustaining

Annual memberships run from January through December.

Sign up today at www.irm.org/membership

DONATIONS

The Illinois Railway Museum is a non-profit 501(c)(3) educational organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Donations to our general fund are needed to bridge the gap between gate revenue and funds needed for general operations. IRM depends on help from the public to fulfill its preservation and educational mission. Please visit www.irm.org/fundraising for more information.

IRM SIGNS WEB STORE

IRM sells authentic, obsolete Chicago "L" signs. Your purchase will help historic sign restorations across the Museum. Go to www.irmsigns.org for more information.

IRM USED BOOKSTORE & HOBBY SHOP

Visit IRM's online store dedicated to classic railroad publications, train memorabilia, models, and toy trains. Online at www.irm.org/usedbookstore

2026 SPECIAL EVENTS

★ **BUNNY TROLLEY HOP** - Saturdays & Sunday - March 28, 29 & April 4 - Celebrate the arrival of Spring on a festive train ride with the Easter Bunny, egg hunts and more!

★ **SPECIAL FARE DAYS — NO PASSES HONORED FOR THIS EVENT.**

★ **PULLMAN WEEKEND** - Saturday & Sunday - May 2 & 3 - Celebrating Pullman passenger railcars throughout the weekend with many classic coaches open for inspection and rides along our mainline.

★ **MOTHER'S DAY** - Sunday - May 10 - All Moms admitted FREE when accompanied by at least one fare paying child or adult.

★ **MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND** - Saturday through Monday - May 23, 24 & 25 - Join us for expanded steam, diesel, and electric train operation throughout the weekend. Saturday May 23 will feature our first Trains & Tunes evening concert of the season. Active-duty military personnel and their families admitted free with military ID.

★ **RAILRUNNER 5K/10K** - Sunday - June 14 - Run through history with a course around the Illinois Railway Museum, past historic trains and along the rails. Bring the whole family for a kids' Dash to the Depot and a post-race day at the Museum.

★ **FATHER'S DAY** - Sunday - June 21 - All Dads admitted FREE when accompanied by at least one fare paying child or adult.

★ **TROLLEY WEEKEND** - Saturday & Sunday - June 27 & 28 - Vintage trolley equipment will operate with different cars featured each day. Great photo opportunities for the traction / trolley fans.

★ **4TH OF JULY WEEKEND** - Friday through Sunday - July 3, 4, & 5 - Join IRM for an expanded schedule of train operations throughout the long holiday weekend. Kick off the holiday weekend with our Trains & Tunes Friday evening concert.

★ **DAY OUT WITH THOMAS™** - Saturdays & Sundays - July 11, 12, 18 & 19 - Thomas the Tank Engine and Percy return to IRM. Event licensed by Gullane (Thomas Ltd. / Hit Entertainment Ltd.)

★ **SPECIAL FARE DAYS — NO PASSES HONORED FOR THIS EVENT.**

★ **VINTAGE TRANSPORT EXTRAVAGANZA** - Sunday - August 2 - Enjoy a large display of historic cars and trucks of all makes and models on display for just one day! Ride a streetcar to the various viewing areas and be sure to ride our mainline trains also operating throughout the day. For information about displaying your vehicle please call our office at 815-923-4391 ext. 404.

★ **DIESEL DAYS** - Friday through Sunday - August 7, 8 & 9 - Enjoy IRM's large variety of diesel locomotives along with their unique color schemes. Extra-fare operational opportunities will be available!

★ **HOPS ABOARD** — Saturday - August 15 - Sample local brews while exploring IRM at this *adults-only evening event*. **SPECIAL FARE EVENING, STARTING AT 5PM — NO PASSES HONORED FOR THIS EVENT.**

★ **LABOR DAY WEEKEND** - Saturday, Sunday & Monday - September 5, 6 & 7 - Join us for three days and two evenings of fun including our final Trains & Tunes evening concert of the season on Saturday, September 5. Enjoy a twilight ride on multiple trains as you explore the grounds and see our many illuminated sign displays. **EXTENDED HOURS SATURDAY AND SUNDAY TO 9:30 PM.**

SCOUT DAY - Saturday - September 12 - Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops participate in a daylong event. The day includes a flag ceremony, awarding of badges, touring the Museum and participating in various projects.

★ **MUSEUM SHOWCASE WEEKEND** - Saturday & Sunday - September 19 & 20 - An opportunity to see and ride some of the less frequently run equipment at IRM as we honor the volunteers who make the Museum work. Great photo opportunities along with late evening operations on Saturday.

★ **BUS DAY** - Saturday - September 26 - Join us for trolley and motor bus operations along with other buses open and on display.

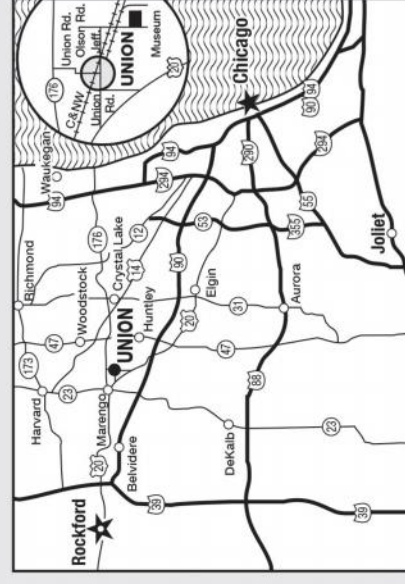
★ **STEAM INTO FALL** - Saturday & Sunday - October 3 & 4 - Enjoy our steam locomotive operations throughout the weekend to leave you with warm memories over the cold months ahead.

★ **PUMPKIN TRAIN** - Saturdays & Sundays - October 10, 11, 17, 18, 24 & 25 - Pick up your pumpkin by train and enjoy family-themed fall fun.



★ **HAPPY HOLIDAY RAILWAY** - Friday November 27; Saturdays & Sundays - November 28, 29 December 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20 & Monday December 21. Embark on a magical train ride featuring a spectacular light and music show as you carol through the winter countryside with Santa Claus himself! Treats will be served, along with a special gift for kids on Santa's "good list." Tickets available after August 1 on our website, www.irm.org. **SPECIAL FARE DAYS — NO PASSES HONORED FOR THIS EVENT.**

NOTE: Operation of all trains is subject to safety, mechanical and weather conditions. All schedules are subject to change without notice. Visit www.irm.org for information and updates regarding open days, hours, fares and special events.



7000 Olson Road, Union, Illinois 60180, in McHenry County
See www.irm.org/directions for more information.