

MICHIANA DIVISION

FORM - 19

BULLETIN #14

9 -1-2022

ZOOM links are provided on the Groups.io List before each event as needed.
Here is our tentative Division schedule for September 2022.
Please note the time for the event.

**WATCH FOR MORE EVENT INFORMATION IN THE
FORM - 19 NEWSLETTERS, FORM-19 BULLETINS and on the Groups.io List.**

MICHIANA DIVISION EVENT SCHEDULE

EVENT	DATE	TIME	INFO	PRESENTER
'West Michigan Railroad'	September 17	9:00am CT 10:00am ET	See Below & Rain Day Plan	NCR Division 9

RAILFAN THE WEST MICHIGAN RAILROAD Michiana Division September 17, Railfan Road Trip 9:00AM CT/10:00AM ET

Members of the MWR Michiana Division will join members of the NCR Division 9 to Railfan the West Michigan Railroad (WMI) in Hartford, MI. The West Michigan Railroad (reporting mark) WMI) is a shortline railroad in southwest Michigan. It began operations in 1995, replacing the bankrupt Kalamazoo, Lake Shore and Chicago Railroad (reporting marks) KLSC) on an ex-Pere Marquette Railway line between Hartford and Paw Paw, Michigan. That company had taken over operations in 1987 from CSX Transportation. Traffic on the West Michigan Railroad consists of canola pellets, plastic pellets, frozen food, refrigerated fresh food, stone, methanol, and corn oil. The railroad has been owned by Hamilton Hartford Group, LLC since 2015. We will visit 2 WMI locations

We'll start at 10:00am ET for our first stop at the Paw Paw River Transload Facility, which is behind the Paw Paw River Produce Facility on the Red Arrow Highway, west of the Fair Ground Area. The Transload Facility is on 59 1/2 St that runs north off the Red Arrow Highway, north of the fruit facility at the train tracks. While there we will learn about the West Michigan Railroad operation during a presentation by WMI personnel and tour the WMI Transload Facility.

Next we will move to the area of N Maple St and Hilliard St in the city of Hartford. This is just north of downtown. Just west of that intersection are some facilities in a dirt parking lot that the West Michigan Railroad uses and this is where the WMI interchanges with the CSX.

After Railfanning the WMI, Division 9 will go to 501 W. Main St. Hartford, for a final discussion of the WMI operations and their future and the Annual Division 9 meeting with an approximately \$10.00 cash/per person catered lunch. The Michiana Division is welcome to join Division 9 for the WMI discussions, Division 9 meeting and lunch.

PLEASE NOTE: You must **RSVP** by Thursday, September 15th to Rich Mahaney, hazmatrichm@aol.com if you will be attending these discussions, lunch and the Division 9 meeting after the Railfan Road Trip.

RAIN DAY PLAN: If it is raining the morning of this Railfan Road Trip we will meet at 501 W. Main St. in downtown Hartford for the WMI Railroad presentation, PowerPoint slides and a discussion. Then we will have the same lunch plan with the required **RSVP** and Division 9 will have their annual meeting. The 501 W Main Street building has a sign on it that says "Stone Soup Lab".

Please send articles, news items, photos and comments to the Editor of the Michiana Division FORM-19 Newsletter, Chuck Hart, email: chart7968@yahoo.com by September 10th to be included in the October 2022 Fall issue