



Tips for Rail Fans

Rail fans display a great interest in the overall operation of trains and locomotives; they enjoy taking pictures, making videos or just watching railway operations.

However, such recreational activities and hobbies often occur near vital infrastructure and pose significant security concerns. The primary responsibility of the rail fan must be safety.

Maintaining and enhancing the safety and security of the nation's rail transportation system and the people it affects remains a priority of Operation Lifesaver and its partners.

With current increased apprehension about public protection, the rules of behaviour for rail enthusiasts have changed and so Operation Lifesaver and its partners urge rail fans to adhere to the following guidelines:



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General Safety Tips for All Rail Fans

1. Do not trespass on railway property or rights-of-way. It is illegal and dangerous, and will be viewed by law enforcement as a security risk.
2. Do not enter private property without permission.
3. Avoid taking pictures of military trains and equipment.
4. Never walk out on a railway bridge or trestle.
5. Stay out of railway tunnels.
6. Do not climb on railway property such as signal bridges, cabinets or other structures.
7. Never climb on or crawl under railway cars or equipment.
8. Only take photographs or view trains from public locations.
9. When taking pictures from public railway crossings, stay at least 5 metres away from the nearest rail. This rule applies for staged "photo run-bys" as well.
10. Obey all highway-railway crossing signs and signals.
11. Cooperate fully with railway police or other law enforcement officers when contacted.
12. If suspicious activities are noted, report them to the railway police (CPR Police 1-800-716-9132/CN Police Services 1-800-465-9239), or local law enforcement officers.

Do Not Take Any Further Action!

By following these guidelines, rail fans can enjoy their hobby and help maintain the security of our nation's rail transportation system.

SET AN EXAMPLE FOR RAIL SAFETY AND SECURITY!

Too many people die each year because they do not understand railways. They underestimate the power of trains and the dangers around the rails.

Operation Lifesaver asks you to be more conscientious when it comes to safe behaviour around tracks and trains.

People, especially children, learn by example. What you do may be more significant than what you say.

1. Remember, most people do not understand that walking or playing on railway property is trespassing: it is illegal and it can be deadly. Moreover, law enforcement considers it to be a serious security risk.
2. If you're a railway photographer, give the crew a break! They have experienced too much tragedy and too many close calls already. Please photograph trains from public property only.
3. For your own safety, please stand back at least 5 metres from the nearest rail when filming at a public railway crossing.
4. Walking across a railway trestle or into a railway tunnel is much too dangerous. If your photographs suggest otherwise, you are leading other people into harm's way. Think about it.
5. Resist the temptation to walk down the middle of railway tracks, even at a rail museum where trains are not moving. Impressionable children may be tempted to imitate your behaviour on the railway tracks near home.
6. What is your message when you pose small children on railway tracks or other rail equipment for family photos? Are you misleading them to believe it is OK to climb on railcars parked on a siding in your community?
7. Please consider all this—for everyone's safety.

For additional railway safety information, please visit:

- › **Website:** www.operationlifesaver.ca
- › **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/oplifesaver
- › **Twitter:** www.twitter.com/oplifesaver

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