Immerse Yourself in John Deere Tractor & Engine History

Background
The John Deere Tractor & Engine Museum in Waterloo opened in December of 2014 and offers a variety of exhibits educating visitors of all ages about the history of tractor and engine design and manufacturing in Iowa’s Cedar Valley. The historic building that now houses the museum was built in 1941 and is the site of the very first John Deere tractor factory. The original floors, beams, and the brick wall stand as a lasting tribute to the work of past and present John Deere employees.

The museum provides the most comprehensive history of how John Deere entered the tractor business and how the company grew over time. It includes a collection of rare John Deere artifacts such as the original check used to purchase the Waterloo Gasoline Engine Company. Several temporary exhibits on loan from private collectors are also featured including the oldest known Waterloo Boy and the first 3010 tractor made. All equipment on loan to the museum includes the personal story behind it, sharing the history and bringing the sentimentality of it to life.

Guests to the museum take an interactive walk through the history of John Deere tractors and engines and are able to celebrate employee contributions, customers, and the continuing values of Deere & Company. The museum’s gift shop features a large selection of apparel, toys and other collectibles and is open during regular museum hours.

The John Deere Tractor & Engine Museum is located on the west side of the TechWorks Campus, a 30-acre advanced manufacturing, research and development, innovation, education, commercial and manufacturing center in downtown Waterloo. It is also the site of the very first John Deere tractor factory.

Tractor & Engine Museum Galleries and Exhibits
Our Museum houses four main galleries, each featuring a variety of exhibits. The Galleries include:

Working the Land – In the museum’s first gallery, guests trace the evolution of work from people power to the early days of tractors and engines.

Storyline – This area allows guests to explore the story behind John Deere’s arrival in Waterloo, how the company survived during global conflict and economic unrest, and uncovers the top-secret story behind the New Generation of Power.
Manufacturing – This area follows the production of a historic John Deere tractor from design to final assembly. Create a customized keepsake using your museum ticket as a time card to “clock in” and explore the historic John Deere factory site on Westfield Avenue.

Into the World – The final gallery provides an experience of how John Deere tractors and engines help people do their work today. Also while here, guests learn about the important role of the dealerships throughout time and in the present day.

Visitor Information
The John Deere Tractor & Engine Museum is open daily all year long and is a free attraction. The Museum is closed News Year’s Day, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Hours of Operation
Mon. – Sun. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sun. Noon – 4 p.m.

For more information about the John Deere Tractor & Engine Museum, visit www.VisitJohnDeere.com. Photography of the Museum is available upon request. Members of the media should contact Wendy Artman, at (920) 819-8968 or by email at ArtmanWendy@JohnDeere.com. For lodging accommodations and to plan a trip to the area, check out www.TravelWaterloo.com.