

# Auburn Heights "Steamin' Season" to begin May 6

May 6 marks the start of "Steamin' Season" at Auburn Heights Preserve in Yorklyn, Delaware. Visitors to this Victorian country estate eight miles northwest of Wilmington will board 1/8-size steam trains for a trip around the grounds, then ride in authentic 90-year-old autos powered by steam and electricity. In fact, Auburn Heights boasts the world's largest operating collection of steam cars, the legendary "Stanley Steamers."

The season kicks off with three "Steamin' Sundays" on May 6, July 1 and September 2. A special "Steamin' Weekend" on October 27-28 features tours of the Auburn Heights mansion in addition to the steam trains and vintage autos. The season winds up with "Steamin' Thanksgiving" on November 23-24, the Friday and Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend. Each event is open from 1 to 4:30 p.m.; tickets are available at the gate.

"Visiting Auburn Heights lets families travel back in time to sample the simpler life of a hundred years ago", according to Tom Marshall, President of the non-profit Friends of Auburn Heights Preserve, whose volunteer-members maintain and operate the trains and cars. Marshall should know: his grandparents built the mansion in 1897 and the Marshall family has lived there ever since. He and his wife, Ruth, are donating the property to the State of Delaware next year, when the 200-acre Auburn



Heights Preserve will become part of the State Parks system.

In addition to riding the trains and vintage autos, visitors can tour the Marshall Museum with its operating 1920s-era electric trains, antique cars and toys, and other memorabilia of a century ago. A highlight of each day's event is the "firing up" demon-

stration, where visitors learn how to steam up a Stanley Steamer.

Auburn Heights is located between Wilmington, Del. and Kennett Square, Pa. on Route 82 at the Pennsylvania state line. More information is available on the web at [www.AuburnHeights.org](http://www.AuburnHeights.org) or by calling (302) 239-2385 or (800) 349-2134.

## Spring is here! Get planting!

### *Come to the Downtown Plant Sale in Oxford*

Everyone loves spring, getting hands dirty in soil only creates an inner happiness, confirming warmer temps, flowers, plants, gardens and green grass. Oxford Mainstreet, Inc. (OMI) is pleased to announce that in cooperation with Oxford Garden Club, Oxford's Downtown will host the Sale on Saturday, May 5th. Planting." Find plants of all, shrubs, houseplants, on out from 8 am till 1 on the Corner of Third the Lawn next to Fulton the Plant Sale benefit Revitalization Project and Downtown Beautification program. Please contact OMI for more information. 610-998-9494.

