National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior Steamtown National Historic Site

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Steamtown National Historic Site News Release Use a "short-hand" version of the site name here (e.g. Palo Alto Battlefield not Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Site). June 6, 2005 For Release: Immediately Contact: Mark Brennan, 570-340-5244

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE GIVES FATHERS A CHANCE TO CELEBRATE

SCRANTON, PA -Families looking for the perfect Father's Day gift this year need not look far. Steamtown National Historic Site in Scranton, PA will offer free park admission to fathers visiting with children on Sunday, June 19, 2005. The park grounds are open from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Included in this free admission will be various walking tours of the railroad yard and locomotive shop. Train tours through the yard are also included, along with the History Museum, Technology Museum, Roundhouse and the Park's Theater, which features the railroad film, "Steel and Steam."

A variety of train options are available during the weekend, with a diesel-electric locomotive leading an excursion to Carbondale, PA, scheduled for Saturday, June 18, 2005. Departure is at 10:00 am from the Steamtown boarding platform, located within the National Park. This leisurely ride travels through the Lackawanna River valley's industrial heart and crosses the river four times between Scranton and Carbondale. Return to Steamtown is expected to be 4:00 pm. Tickets cost \$15.00 for adults, \$13.00 for those aged 62 and older, and \$10.00 for children 6 to 12 years old. Children under 6 years old require a ticket, but there is no admission charge.

Sunday, June 19, 2005 features a steam-powered excursion from Scranton to Tobyhanna, PA, departing at 11:00 am, with return at 3:30 pm. This is a quick run through the Pocono Mountains, with a 1 ½ hour layover in Tobyhanna, the peak of the mountains on this rail line.

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Many lakes, along with the head waters of the Lehigh River are seen on this 27-mile segment of track. Tickets are \$25.00 for adults, \$20.00 for those aged 62 and older, and \$15.00 for children 6 to 12 years old. Children under 6 years old require a ticket, but there is no admission charge. First class accommodations may be enjoyed for \$50.00 per person. Excursion ticket fees are not waived for fathers on June 19.

Located in Scranton, Pennsylvania, Steamtown is open daily from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. From I-81, follow exit 185 (Central Scranton Expressway); then, follow the signs to the main entrance at Lackawanna and Cliff Avenues.

Additional details regarding interpretive and educational programs and activities may be obtained by calling (570) 340-5200 or toll free (888) 693-9391, or by visiting the Steamtown web site at www.nps.gov/stea.