



For Immediate Release

DELAWARE COUNTY CONVENTION &

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CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU CELEBRATING DISCOVER OHIO/NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK

DELAWARE, OH. The Delaware County Convention & Visitors Bureau is celebrating Discover Ohio! Week at the Delaware Arts Festival, May 19-20. The CVB will provide area tourism information to out-of-town visitors and residents on things to see and do throughout Delaware County. "The Delaware County visitor brochure and events calendar are popular with visitors, new residents, families, and those looking to entertain guests by having them experience some of the great tourism destinations located in their own back yard."

The CVB also provides service to both visitors and the community by offering free Ohio travel information throughout the year at the CVB office. Those planning a close-to-home driving vacation or a weekend getaway discover lots of ideas by browsing the CVB's literature racks.

May 12-20, 2007 is the 24th Annual National Tourism Week which has been themed "Travel & Tourism: America's Front Door." The Ohio Division of Travel and Tourism has designated May 12-20 Discover Ohio! Week to raise Ohioans' awareness of the world-class travel experiences available within their home state.

Travel and Tourism continues to be the third largest industry in the state of Ohio with approximately 172.2 million trips taken to or within Ohio during 2005. Total direct visitor spending for 2005 was estimated at \$33.1 billion, generating state and local taxes of \$1.4 billion and \$732 million respectively. During that same time period, tourism provided 560,000 full-time equivalent jobs.

The latest figures available for travel and tourism in Delaware County indicate direct impacts of \$269.2 million in traveler expenditures, 4600 full-time equivalent jobs, \$79.3 million in wages, and state and local taxes of \$12.6 and \$6.7 million respectively. Travel expenditures include lodging, dining, transportation, recreation, retail, and other.

The Convention & Visitors Bureau serves as Delaware County's primary Destination Marketing Organization, distributing approximately 50,000 visitor brochures annually, as well as promoting the area on the web at www.visitdelohio.com. Tourism-friendly events throughout the County are also posted on visitdelohio.com, and event planners can use the on-site form to submit information about their events.

The CVB invites you to take a few moments during the Delaware Arts Festival May 19-20 to increase your awareness about the fun tourism destinations and activities in Delaware County.

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