

## WORK IN CANAL PARK GOES ON DESPITE THE WET WEATHER

As we prepare for the arrival of the new replica Canal Boat to our expanding historical venture in Delphi we are slowed somewhat by wet weather lately. Our volunteers continue to find the best job to work on each day. Some days lately we work indoors on the trailside restrooms or completing the inside of our Mule Barn. Nice days outside we are tackling work on some very important features that will improve the canal banks, remove obstructions and assist the safe (scratch free) transit of the new boat under the Washington Street Stone Arch Bridge.



Twelve "Jersey Barriers" given to us by Milestone Construction in Lafayette are being placed on an elevated, compacted floor with crushed stone donated by US Aggregates/Delphi Quarry. When water level returns the surface will be 89 inches higher than the tops of these concrete barriers.



The orange line to the right is where the paralleling second row of barriers will be placed. The barriers will allow one foot of vertical space between the boat and the barrier on each side. The boat's durable underwater rub rail will help guide the passage of the boat. Note the boat's new warehouse in the far background.



Longtime volunteers Roy Patrick and Ed Gruber study the ways to fabricate an upright 24 inch "roller" to be installed in the gap between the entry barriers and nudge the boat's rub rail. The concrete sides providing the bulk of the nudging have been painted with epoxy paint to create a smooth wall.



In a future issue of *CANAL UPDATES* the story of our new boat will entertain you. These three Canal Board members went to the Scarano Boat Company in Albany, New York last Wednesday to check on the construction of our beautiful boat. It is expected to be delivered to Delphi in the third week of May.



**You are invited to attend a program at the Canal Center  
Wednesday, MAY 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm**

**A Concept Plan Unveiled for the Wabash Erie Canal Towpath Trail  
Presented by Purdue University  
Landscape Architecture Program**

Students from a Purdue University Landscape Architecture class took on the challenge of examining how to deal with the concerns of producing a trail featuring historic water transportation and connect communities. After much field and classroom study under the direction of Bernie Dahl, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, the students prepared ideas and will present the Canal Towpath Trail Concept Plan on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm at the Wabash Erie Canal Interpretive Center in Delphi, Indiana.

Join us and hear about the possibilities of the vision.

Tom Castaldi