

# Agenda (May 12-13, 2025)

*(Workshop begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 5:00 p.m.  
each day.)*

Introduction and overview

Track fundamentals

Assessing track condition

Track drainage

- Ditching
- Culverts
- Storm sewer systems

Vegetation control

- Herbicide application
- Brush removal

Addressing roadbed issues

- Geotextiles/geogrids
- Soil stabilization
- Drains

Ballast

- Material properties
- Application
- Cleaning

Crossties

- Types
- Requirements
- Replacement methods

Rail

- Wear/defects
- Installation/replacement
- Inspection and maintenance
- Joints
- Continuous welded rail

Turnouts and track crossings

- Installation
- Maintenance
- Adjustment

Restoring track line and surface

Highway-railroad crossings

Estimating and scheduling track maintenance activities

Safety

## Basic Railroad Track Maintenance

May 12-13, 2025

Knoxville, TN



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hosting the course in your area.  
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CENTER FOR  
TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH

## Overview

This workshop provides two days of classroom instruction on basic track maintenance practices, with an emphasis on shortline, branchline, and industrial freight track of FRA Class 1 or 2 (25 mph or less). The participant will learn to identify:

- the basic elements of railroad track,
- maintenance issues,
- principles of maintenance planning, and
- maintenance approaches suited for various types of track.
- Focus areas include drainage, turnouts and track crossings, crossties, continuous welded rail, and track geometry.

## Date & Location

**May 12-13, 2025 (Knoxville, TN)**

ORNL Hardin Valley Campus  
(Formerly known as NTRC)  
2nd floor meeting room  
2360 Cherahala Blvd.  
Knoxville, TN 37932  
Tel: 865-946-1500 for directions

## Who Should Attend

Persons with responsibility for or interest in track maintenance will benefit from this class. These include shortline, regional, and Class I railroads; transit railroads; railroad contractors and consultants; state and local government agencies associated with railroad operation, finance, and regulation; and consultants.

## PDHs Available

12 Professional Development Hours (PDHs) are available for those completing the course. All attendees who successfully finish the course receive a certificate of completion.

## Fee

The course registration of \$785 includes course materials and refreshments. Registration fees must be received at least two weeks prior to the workshop to guarantee your place in the class.

Attendees are responsible for meals and lodging.

## Cancellation Policy

If you cannot attend, two weeks notification is required before the workshop. You may enroll a substitute at any time before the course starts. There will be no refunds for no-shows.

## Limited Enrollment

This workshop will be limited to 30 participants.

## Instructor

**David B. Clarke, Ph.D., P.E**

Dr. Clarke, formerly Director of the University of Tennessee's Center for Transportation, brings nearly 40 years of experience encompassing a variety of railroad design, inspection, research and education activities. He has taught railway related courses including this one, to college students and professionals since 1990. Dr. Clarke is well versed in the Federal Track Safety Standards covered in this course, and is frequently engaged as an expert to assess track conditions. As a licensed civil engineer, Dr. Clarke prepares specifications and designs for railroad track construction and maintenance. He is active in railroad related committees of AREMA, ASCE and TRB.

## Register online

### Rail Training

Center for Transportation Research  
The University of Tennessee  
309 Conference Center  
Knoxville, TN 37996-4133  
Tel: (865) 974-5255

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May 12-13, 2025  
(Knoxville, TN)**

**REGISTRATION FEES: \$785**

Online payment with credit card:

<https://reg137.imperisoft.com/TTAP-UTK/Search/Registration.aspx>

Please call 865-974-5255 if you wish to pay by check.

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