



IOWA'S TRACTOR MUSEUM

AS FARMERS GEAR UP FOR SPRING, a new Iowa attraction explores the evolution of the tractor-engine. Waterloo's John Deere Tractor & Engine Museum houses approximately 25 exhibits, including 19 tractors illustrating milestones in manufacturing. Galleries explore tractor history and John Deere's connections to the region.

The 27,000-square-foot museum occupies the original site where design and testing of two-cylinder tractors occurred, just north of the Waterloo Tractor Works site where Waterloo models rolled off the assembly line in the early 1900s.

"There was a lot of manufacturing here when Deere purchased the Waterloo Gasoline Engine Company in 1918," Dawn Hendershot, museum manager, says. "Waterloo was like a mini Chicago."

Representing that era is a model of the Froelich tractor and interactive displays. Children can draw tractors and design machines with magnets, or take photographs on tractors representing the past and the

present: a Model B (a John Deere first made in the 1930s) and today's 7290R.

Guests can book tours of John Deere's Waterloo tractor-cab-assembly or engine-works factories. Free for those 13 and older, the tours pick up where the Tractor & Engine Museum leaves off. "The museum covers the late 1800s through the mid- to late-1970s," Hendershot says. "Then visitors go across town to see modern manufacturing." www.deere.com/tractorandenginemuseum

—RENEE BRINCKS

