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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Nostalgic Wisconsin Ducks Provide First-Class Tours,
Great Family Time in the Dells**

WISCONSIN DELLS, Wis. (April 15, 2019) – Taking in the beautiful views and rugged trails of Wisconsin Dells aboard an amphibious Duck is a nostalgic Wisconsin experience generations of families have enjoyed. Original Wisconsin Ducks provide unique land-and-water tours on an exclusive nature trail system from spring through fall.

“First-time passengers are amazed by the scenic adventure our Ducks provide just off the bustling parkway of amusements and attractions,” said Dan Gavinski, general manager of Original Wisconsin Ducks. “This is not a city tour; there is a quiet side of the Dells.”

Original Wisconsin Ducks is a popular classic Wisconsin attraction, having shuttled generations of vacationers over its 74-year history. Families can load up the troops to journey together on the 8½-mile tour of the Lower Dells Scenic Park, 200 acres preserved in its natural state. Duck trails follow paths that were originally cut by stagecoach runs and rivermen who worked this land in the mid-1800s. Today, Ducks wind through the pristine woods, taking passengers into fern-filled dells, squeezing between rocky gorges and to the tops of river bluffs, beautiful rock formations carved out by glaciers and shaped by wind and rain over time.

The novel capabilities of the authentic Ducks themselves are also a draw for visitors. The vehicles are amphibious, designed to travel on both land and water. The natural landscape provides a picturesque backdrop for the Ducks to perform. Passengers sit back and enjoy, as the Duck travels the woodlands, then splashes down into the Wisconsin River for an up-close view of the towering sandstone cliffs that line its banks. A second water entry takes riders on beautiful Lake Delton, before climbing back out for more adventure on the trails.

A desire to share the scenery with others is what prompted the start of the Original Wisconsin Ducks tours in 1946. The varied terrain of the area made the amphibious Duck a perfect mode of transportation to see the landscape without disturbing it. From a drive over the rough gravel and dirt trails, to a climb up hilly terrain to reach the bluff tops, the Duck can traverse most any surface.

It's that ruggedness that earned Ducks their stripes during World War II. The vehicles proved to be versatile where other larger military vehicles could not. The mighty Ducks carried thousands of troops and tons of supplies to the battlefields of Europe and the Pacific, shuttling from the large battleships direct to the beachfront and up onto the shore. More than 2,000 Ducks were used in the historic D-Day invasion on June 6, 1944 at Normandy, France, which is touted as the greatest amphibious operation in history. Military leaders sung the praises of the handy vehicle. In all, General Motors manufactured 21,200 Ducks for the war effort from 1942 to 1945.

Today, preserving the legacy of these exceptional craft is an important part of the Original Wisconsin Ducks operation. It takes great care to maintain the large fleet so that generations to come can enjoy the Wisconsin Dells beauty and learn the significance of the historical amphibious Ducks.

"People have always revered the Ducks as a must-do Wisconsin experience and we are proud to live up to that honor by simply continuing to be an exemplary tourism attraction not only for Wisconsin Dells but for the entire state," said Gavinski.

With 92 vehicles, Original Wisconsin Ducks is the largest WWII amphibious tour Duck operation in the United States and is the longest running tour. Original Wisconsin Ducks' 2019 season runs mid-March through mid-November, weather permitting. Tours depart every few minutes during the peak summer season. For more information about Original Wisconsin Ducks, please call (608) 254-8751 or visit wisconsinducktours.com.

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Editor's Note: High-res and historical photos available by contacting Andrea Novotny at (608) 575-7739 anovotny@charter.net.

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