

FIVE RIVERS
METROPARKS



TM

THE nature OF OUR FUTURE

 protect  connect  enrich  respect



Thank you for taking the time to allow us to give you a glimpse of the future of Five Rivers MetroParks.

The foundation of MetroParks, since our beginnings in 1963, has been based in grass roots community support for the value of conserving and enjoying nature. Throughout our 45-year history we have grown into an incredible agency of diverse beauty and experiences, and at our heart remains the fundamental value of land and waterway conservation. We will ensure that this core mission endures.

In the following pages we want to share a snapshot of MetroParks' strategic priorities as we move forward. As society's leisure time needs and expectations change, it is essential that MetroParks keep these special outdoor spaces and the agency as a whole relevant to you and your family.

MetroParks has enjoyed a very strong relationship with this community over the years and we hope you consider us a trusted friend who delivers on our promises. Protecting that loyalty and confidence is paramount as we determine the future direction of Five Rivers MetroParks. We invite your comments and participation as we move toward this vision.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Charlie Shoemaker", with a long, sweeping underline.

*Charlie Shoemaker, Executive Director
Five Rivers MetroParks*



PROTECT

Conserving Our Natural Heritage

Five Rivers MetroParks' continued leadership in the conservation of Montgomery County's cherished natural heritage will forever strengthen the protection of our critical forests, grasslands, wetlands, rivers, streams and the native wildlife.

Since our founding over 45 years ago, Five Rivers MetroParks has led the charge to protect our irreplaceable natural resources. We are poised to build on that leadership. Making the protection of our natural heritage a priority speaks to our shared values and our legacy of care that must be handed to those who follow. It is now our responsibility, for if we as a community do not seek to protect our own local natural heritage, who will?

Five Rivers MetroParks will:

- Identify new local land and waterway protection opportunities that address biological significance, habitat potential and public access.
- Apply the most current land management techniques to the native habitats to ensure long term health and survival.
- Develop creative and effective partnerships for local land conservation and habitat restoration through collaboration.
- Design additional educational programs and volunteer opportunities that offer citizens hands-on opportunities to participate in our conservation and protection efforts.



Carriage Hill MetroPark



Germantown MetroPark



CONNECT

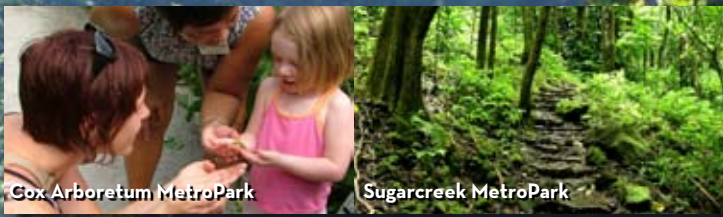
Connecting People with Nature

Through Five Rivers MetroParks' leadership, the 21st century residents of Montgomery County will discover and grow new ways to personally connect with nature and create enduring active lifestyles.

Nature has a restorative impact on the soul and provides opportunities for supporting life-long educational and recreational pursuits as well as priceless personal connections to be shared with others. Unfortunately, some of these connections have been lost in the competition for time in our modern world. The need to rediscover these connections in a system of nature parks in our own backyard is essential to promote appreciation and awareness of the world around us.

Five Rivers MetroParks will:

- Update park areas and accommodations to improve visitor experiences.
- Increase access to park programs and features for ease of use and enjoyment.
- Develop new areas specifically for children that introduce them to nature through play.
- Serve as a public resource to share information about such issues as healthy lifestyles and environmentally sensitive practices.
- Expand on the development of facilities and programs to support active outdoor pursuits.



Cox Arboretum MetroPark

Sugarcreek MetroPark

Twin Creek MetroPark





ENRICH

Promoting Community Vitality

Five Rivers MetroParks will be a recognized community partner in strengthening economic and social vitality as well as recruiting and retaining business and young talent.

The benefits that Five Rivers MetroParks bring to the Greater Dayton community through our programs, events and facilities is not always easy to measure with statistics; however, MetroParks clearly makes a vital contribution to our quality of life. MetroParks can be a continuous source of pride, stability, reliability, and optimism within our community. The type of programs and facilities MetroParks offers help position this region for the future.

Five Rivers MetroParks will:

- Collaborate with community partners to promote the region's image and benefits.
- Develop better methods to measure our impact which will allow us to implement programs that advance the community.
- Serve as a resource to support community economic development and vibrancy.
- Expand volunteer opportunities and increase partnerships with local educational institutions and service organizations.
- Continue to be an economic engine that improves quality of life while making our community more livable and attractive for businesses and residents.



National City 2nd St. Market



Taylorville MetroPark



RESPECT

Honoring Your Trust

Five Rivers MetroParks will serve as a model of public fiscal responsibility, integrity and return on tax dollar investment.

We take public accountability seriously and understand the need to remain sensitive to ever-changing economic conditions and demands faced by the community. MetroParks never has and never will take the generosity of the people we serve or the confidence placed in us for granted. Our track record for making the most of local tax monies through outside grants, private contributions, sponsorships, and operational efficiency has been a testament to that understanding.

Five Rivers MetroParks will:

- Aggressively seek alternate funding sources to stretch local tax dollars.
- Continue to design organizational practices and policies that improve the effectiveness and accountability of the agency.
- Keep spending focused on our strategic priorities yet maintain flexibility to respond to changing community needs.
- Continue to design improved asset and risk management plans and programs to protect the workforce and the community's investment.



Deeds Point MetroPark



Creekside Recreation Trail

Five Rivers MetroParks is dedicated to protecting Greater Dayton's natural heritage and to providing outdoor recreation and education experiences that inspire a lasting personal connection with nature.

Five Rivers MetroParks Board of Park Commissioners

By Ohio law, Five Rivers MetroParks is governed by a three-member volunteer Board of Park Commissioners who are appointed by the Probate Judge of Montgomery County. The Board establishes all policies and rules, approves developments and land acquisition, and controls all funds.

Each Commissioner serves without pay for a three-year term with one member's term expiring each year. Commissioners can be reappointed for successive terms. Board meetings are held monthly and are open to the public.

Current Commissioners:



Irvin G. Bieser, Jr., President

Mr. Bieser is an attorney, supporter of the arts and nature-lover.



Alan F. Pippenger, Vice President

Mr. Pippenger is a local businessman, supporter of open-space preservation and community leader.



Karen L. Davis

Ms. Davis is a health care professional, community volunteer and family advocate.



➤ Aullwood Garden MetroPark ➤ Carriage Hill MetroPark ➤ Cox Arboretum MetroPark ➤ Creekside Recreation Trail ➤ Deeds Point MetroPark ➤ Eastwood MetroPark ➤ Englewood MetroPark ➤ Germantown MetroPark ➤ Great Miami Recreation Trail ➤ Hills & Dales MetroPark ➤ Huffman MetroPark ➤ Island MetroPark ➤ Mad River Recreation Trail ➤ National City 2nd St. Market ➤ Possum Creek MetroPark ➤ Recreation Trails ➤ RiverScape MetroPark ➤ Stillwater River Recreation Trail ➤ Sugarcreek MetroPark ➤ Sunrise MetroPark ➤ Taylorsville MetroPark ➤ Twin Creek MetroPark ➤ Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark ➤ Wesleyan MetroPark ➤ Wolf Creek Recreation Trail ➤

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS ➤ 25 PARKS ➤ 15,963 ACRES