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## GROUNDBREAKING DATE SET FOR NEW AMENITY AT COX ARBORETUM METROPARK

DAYTON – Five Rivers MetroParks and the [James M. Cox Jr. Arboretum Foundation](#) invite Dayton-area residents and local media to a groundbreaking ceremony for [Observation Tower](#), a new amenity at [Cox Arboretum MetroPark](#). The ceremony is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, November 30, 2011, at the Arboretum, 6733 Springboro Pike, Dayton.

The tower is the culmination of more than a decade of planning and fundraising by the James M. Cox Jr. Arboretum Foundation. “This observation tower, which will give park visitors a dramatic panoramic view of Cox Arboretum MetroPark and Miami Valley region, is part of a capital campaign we kicked off in 2000,” explains Cox Arboretum MetroPark Director of Development Rosie Melia. “This observation tower is part of the master plan designed for us by renowned Belgian landscape architect [Francois Goffinet](#). The master plan was created to assure that Cox Arboretum is a spectacular destination for future generations.”

The tower will rise 46 feet above the conifer collection, providing breathtaking views of the Arboretum grounds and collections, as well as distant panoramas of the surrounding area. Construction on this amenity is slated for an April 2012 completion date.

“We couldn’t have done this without the generous support of our foundation members,” Melia says.

“Our partnerships with organizations like the [James M. Cox Jr. Arboretum Foundation](#) and the [Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation](#) are critical in helping us fund and support these wonderful amenities,” says Five Rivers MetroParks Executive Director Becky Benná. “Without their fundraising efforts, we wouldn’t have fantastic park features, such as the [Children’s Discovery Garden](#) at [Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark](#), or this new [observation tower](#), which will be a fantastic new way for park visitors to appreciate their natural heritage, and make a personal connection to nature.”

Learn more by visiting [www.metro parks.org](http://www.metro parks.org) or calling (937) 275-PARK (7275).

### ABOUT FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

Established in 1963 through the efforts of forward-thinking citizens concerned about preserving green space and natural areas, Five Rivers MetroParks has grown to a nationally renowned park system composed of natural area parks, gardens, high-quality river corridors, urban parks and a network of recreation trails. Five Rivers MetroParks focuses on three areas – conservation, recreation and education – as a steward of greater Dayton’s public lands. Educational programs and recreational opportunities are offered year-round for all ages, and diverse natural habitats are being protected and cared for today to ensure their future existence. To learn more, log onto [www.metro parks.org](http://www.metro parks.org) or call (937) 275-PARK.

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