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BUTTERFLY HOUSE READY TO OPEN FOR THE SEASON

DAYTON – Summer has arrived, and so have the butterflies at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. The fun kicks off **Saturday, June 26**, when the Butterfly House officially opens for the season.

“Our native Ohio Butterfly House enables children and adults to view native butterflies and moths in all stages of metamorphosis,” says Beth Burke. “We hope families will visit us often at this perfect family destination. Knowledgeable volunteers will be on hand to help point out various species and answer your questions, making each experience a personal connection with nature.”

Hours of the display are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. “The best times to visit are during hot afternoons,” Burke says. “The butterflies are most active when it’s warm.” The House closes during heavy thunderstorms.

Visit throughout the summer to discover native species, including painted lady, red admiral, monarch, giant swallowtail, black swallowtail, spicebush swallowtail, tiger swallowtail, luna moth, Cecropia moth, Polyphemus moth and pipevine swallowtail.

These insects are home-grown. Butterflies and moths are not purchased from outside sources. Rather, they are raised on the grounds and released into the house. As the butterfly season comes to a close, the insects are released outside. Cox Arboretum MetroPark takes part each year in the tagging program that [Monarch Watch](#) conducts. The late September monarchs raised in the house are then tagged and released to make their migration to Mexico.

Those who would like to learn more about these beautiful creatures should take advantage of free butterfly-related programming, including [Butterfly Basics](#) (June 15 and 17), [Eureka Lab! Build a Butterfly Garden](#) (July 14), [Butterfly Discovery Day](#) (August 4), and Moths, Milkway and Meteorites (August 12).

Watch a video tour of the facility, download a brochure of species to look for, and learn more about the Butterfly House by visiting the website metroparks.org/ButterflyHouse or calling (937) 434-9005.

ABOUT FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

Five Rivers MetroParks focuses on three areas – conservation, recreation and education – as part of its role as steward of greater Dayton’s public lands. 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, sensitive river corridors, urban parks and a network of recreation trails. Educational programs and recreational opportunities are offered year-round for all ages. And, diverse natural habitats are being protected and cared for today to assure their future existence. To learn more about Five Rivers MetroParks, log onto www.metroparks.org or call (937) 275-PARK.

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