

# Volunteer Opportunities

Cox Arboretum MetroPark offers hundreds of volunteers the chance to use their time and talents in a wide variety of activities. Become involved as a gardener, instructor or tour guide leading school or adult groups. For more information, call 937-275-PARK (7275) or visit [metroparks.org/volunteer](http://metroparks.org/volunteer).



# Support Your MetroParks

By making a donation to the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation, you support Five Rivers MetroParks' mission to protect the region's natural heritage and provide outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature. Donations are tax deductible and used to support programs and special projects. Sponsorships, tribute benches and trees, and planned giving options also are available. Visit [metroparks.org/donate](http://metroparks.org/donate) or call 937-275-PARK for more information.



Jan Underwood

**Cox Arboretum MetroPark** is located on State Route 741/Springboro Pike approximately one mile north of the Dayton Mall in Miami Township. 6733 Springboro Pike Dayton, Ohio 45449

## It's our nature.

This park is one of 25 outstanding public facilities operated by your Five Rivers MetroParks system. Founded in 1963 to serve the greater Dayton area, MetroParks protects more than 15,800 acres of open space and provides year-round recreation, education and conservation opportunities. Facilities are available to the public free of charge – made possible by Montgomery County citizen support of a property tax levy.

## For More Information

Administrative Offices.....937-275-PARK (7275)  
 Website ..... [www.metroparks.org](http://www.metroparks.org)

## Ranger Assistance

Contact the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office dispatcher at:  
**937-535-2580**



It's our nature.



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# COX ARBORETUM METROPARK

## USER'S GUIDE & MAP



Cover photo: Jan Underwood

# Escape. Discover. Grow. At Cox Arboretum MetroPark

## Cox Arboretum MetroPark



Visit this beautiful 189-acre facility where a wide variety of plants are cultivated for education and aesthetics. Every season has something special to offer, from spring's splashes of bright color to winter's textures. Stroll among specimen trees, shrubs and other plants suitable to our climate. The Arboretum features nine specialty gardens. In addition to exploring the gardens, hike trails through mature forests and colorful meadows. There's something for everyone at Cox Arboretum MetroPark!

Join the James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation. Your membership will help support this world-class landscape arboretum and its educational programs. Pick up your membership brochure and information inside the Zorniger Education Center or call (937) 275-PARK (7275).

## Things to Do

**ZORNIGER EDUCATION CAMPUS** - Designed as a gateway to the beauty and wonder of the gardens and natural areas, this series of buildings sets the stage for a wide variety of educational activities. Increase your knowledge of horticulture and natural history by participating in classes, programs and workshops held year-round for all ages. Program schedules and park information are available in the Zorniger Education Center or at [metroparks.org](http://metroparks.org).

**VISIT THE GARDENS** - Stroll the grounds and discover a variety of beautiful thematic gardens highlighting plants that grow well in southwestern Ohio. These include a pollinator garden, perennial gardens and an Edible Landscape Garden.



**WALKING** - The Arboretum grounds are easy to walk. A 1/2-mile paved loop pathway provides visitors access to all the park features. Natural areas and Conservation Corner offer about 2.5 miles of trails through woodlands and meadows. An overlook (see map) provides a scenic view of native woodlands and a beautiful ravine. Birds and other wildlife can be watched from a blind in Conservation Corner.

**GUIDED TOURS** - Schools and other groups may schedule guided tours of the Arboretum. Tram tours for adult groups are available with a reservation. Call 937-275-PARK (7275) to schedule.

## Information & Regulations

Protect Cox Arboretum MetroPark as a natural area and site for cultivated plants. Do not pick, collect or disturb plant or animal materials of any kind. Hunting, frog giggering and swimming are not permitted. Please remain on the paths and trails in gardens and natural areas. Bicycling, rollerblading, fishing, cross-country skiing and ice skating are not permitted, but may be enjoyed at other MetroParks facilities. **Thank you for your cooperation.**



**WILDLIFE FEEDING** - Please do not feed fish, ducks, turtles or geese. Feeding these animals creates unhealthy conditions for them and the public.

**PETS** - Not permitted.

**ALCOHOL** - Prohibited except by permit.

### HOURS

#### Arboretum Grounds:

April 1 - October 31: 8 AM - 10 PM  
November 1 - March 31: 8 AM - 8 PM  
Closed Christmas and New Year's Day

#### Zorniger Education Campus and Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture:

8 AM - 5 PM, Monday - Friday  
11 AM - 4 PM, Saturday & Sunday  
Closed holidays

## It's our nature.

CONSERVATION  
RECREATION  
EDUCATION





# COX ARBORETUM METROPARK

Five Rivers MetroParks supports the Americans with Disabilities Act by making reasonable accommodations in serving individuals with disabilities. Programs and facilities are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis. If accommodations are needed, please call (937) 275-PARK (7275) at least one week in advance.

Five Rivers MetroParks is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



**LEGEND:**

- E** entrance
- P** parking
- ff** restrooms
- W** drinking fountain
- wheelchair accessible
- woods
- stream
- pond
- pathway
- paved loop pathway
- park boundary
- park road
- public road

**TRAIL KEY**

**Color Coded Trails**

- red trail (0.6 miles)
- blue trail (1.1 miles)
- yellow trail (1.8 miles)
- A** trail intersection

Scale: 1 inch = .06 miles

**ZORNIGER EDUCATION CAMPUS**

- a. Zorniger Education Center including Huffman Gallery, Fifth Third Conference Center, MeadWestvaco Classroom
- b. Kettering Learning Lab
- c. Fred and Alice Wallace Botanical Library
- d. Volunteer Center



State Route 741/Springboro Pike

## PARK FEATURES

- 1 VISITOR CENTER**  
Start your Cox Arboretum MetroPark experience here. Learn from staff about all the park features in detail and make the most of your visit.
- 2 THE LOOP PATH**  
The 1/2-mile loop path is designed to orient visitors to the Cox Arboretum MetroPark experience by leading them on a loop that links many aspects of the Arboretum. The specially colored permeable clay paver path is a simple reminder that visitors are on the right track and will return to the point at which they started. The path meets ADA standards.
- 3 BARBARA COX CENTER**  
The Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture provides visitors experiential education opportunities with an emphasis on conservation and sustainability. The Center is home to two of Five Rivers MetroParks' native tree and wildflower propagation programs, where native plants are grown for use in habitat restoration projects throughout MetroParks.
- 4 WATER GARDEN**  
Enjoy the serenity of a water garden landscaped with a mix of water-loving plants, perennial and shrub borders, and seasonal displays.
- 5 STONEWALL PERENNIAL GARDEN**  
This mixed border features perennials chosen for year-round interest, including reliable garden favorites and promising new introductions.
- 6 ROCK GARDEN**  
Alpine plants, low growing vegetation and dwarf conifers all thrive in this sloping garden of rocks and gravel. Peak blooming period is April and May.

- 7 ARBOR**  
This beautiful arbor is part of a new and improved allée planted with flowering trees. It also is a popular wedding venue.
- 8 BUTTERFLY HOUSE**  
View many species of native butterflies close-up and the pollinator gardens that surround the house. The Butterfly House opens in early July and remains open through August. Call for open days and hours.
- 9 ALLÉE**  
This popular spot has been replanted with 100 flowering trees. The new trees retain and extend the beauty of the allée, providing four seasons of interest. Watch for beautiful blooms, showy fall foliage, ornamental bark and a bird-attracting fruit display late in the season.
- 10 SHRUB GARDEN**  
This garden allows home gardeners to evaluate growth and flowering habit, fall color and winter character of hundreds of different trees and shrubs.
- 11 BELL CHILDREN'S MAZE**  
Parents are invited to watch from the overlook or join in the fun as children discover a path through 1,175 boxwoods to the center of the maze.
- 12 EDIBLE LANDSCAPE GARDEN**  
The Maimon Memorial Garden features edible plants as ornamental components of the landscape. This garden combines beauty and utility through a unique display of fruits, vegetables and herbs. The pavilion serves as an outdoor classroom and wedding venue.
- 13 WOODLAND WILDFLOWER AREA**  
This young, successional woodland features a collection of native woodland wildflowers and non-native species

- that can grow well with natives in a residential shade garden. During spring, the wildflowers are at their peak. At the west end of the garden is a connection to the red trail and Conservation Corner.
- 14 CONSERVATION CORNER**  
Land stewardship practices are demonstrated in this area that includes two wetlands and 13 acres of re-introduced prairie, creating ideal wildlife habitat. A bird blind provides opportunities for wildlife viewing.
- 15 CONIFER COLLECTION**  
View a variety of evergreens that can be grown in the Dayton area. The collection exhibits the wide range of textures and colors available for the home landscape.
- 16 TREE TOWER**  
Three Douglas Fir tree trunks rise 45 feet above the tree tops, supporting an observation deck that provides visitors with a breathtaking panoramic view of Cox Arboretum MetroPark and the surrounding region.
- 17 IRIS GARDEN**  
This garden features species of irises native to Eastern North America, as well as a few selected horticultural varieties. Additional plant species added to the stream bank planting help extend the flowering season.