

WINTER / SPRING 2020

FREE

# PARKWAYS

YOUR GUIDE TO FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS  
NEWS AND PROGRAMS

## PARKS FOR ALL PEOPLE

A GUIDE TO MAKING THE MOST OF  
YOUR METROPARKS AT ANY AGE  
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FOR YOUR METROPARKS  
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FIVE RIVERS  
METROPARKS



TM



# TOP 5 THINGS TO DO In Your MetroParks This Season

as selected by Chief of Public Safety Mark Hess

## 1 SNOW-COVERED TRAILS

For a more tranquil snow day activity, hike your favorite trails after a fresh snowfall. Bundle up and enjoy the peace and quiet of nature while you spot winter wildlife. Chief Hess recommends Germantown, Taylorsville and Possum Creek MetroParks for snowy hikes. [METROPARKS.ORG/WINTER](https://www.metro-parks.org/winter)

## 2 LIFE ON THE FARM

Both Carriage Hill and Possum Creek MetroParks provide a unique perspective of life on a farm. Visit during the winter and spring months to see how different seasons affect the farm, and compare Carriage Hill MetroPark's historical practices with Possum Creek MetroPark's more modern, sustainable farming practices. Say "hello" to the farm animals at both locations — you may even spot some farm babies in the spring! [METROPARKS.ORG/PLACES-TO-GO](https://www.metro-parks.org/places-to-go)

## 3 SPRING BLOOMS

From tulips and wildflowers to scores of bluebells, find vibrant spring blooms in your Five Rivers MetroParks. Chief Hess recommends strolling through Cox Arboretum, Aullwood Garden and Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks to find your favorite spring beauties — and perhaps inspiration for your own outdoor space. [METROPARKS.ORG/GARDENING](https://www.metro-parks.org/gardening)

## 4 URBAN WILDLIFE

Many of MetroParks' urban parks boast unexpected views of wildlife. While at RiverScape MetroPark enjoying a stroll along the paved trails that hug the Great Miami River, Chief Hess encourages you to keep an eye out for bald eagles, blue heron, various waterfowl and perhaps even river otters. [METROPARKS.ORG/FLORA-FAUNA](https://www.metro-parks.org/flora-fauna)

## 5 CHIEF'S "TRY SOMETHING NEW" CHALLENGE

With 18 clean, safe parks, plus the 2nd Street Market, there are many things to explore in your Five Rivers MetroParks. Challenge yourself to visit a new MetroPark, try a new activity or sign up for a program you haven't experienced before. Chief Hess' favorite hidden gem, Possum Creek MetroPark, is a must-visit destination. He suggests walking through the Argonne Forest and visiting the farm. [METROPARKS.ORG](https://www.metro-parks.org)

Visit [metro-parks.org/things-to-do](https://www.metro-parks.org/things-to-do) for more suggestions!

## CHIEF HESS

retired from the Dayton Police Department as the assistant chief after nearly 30 years of service and became MetroParks' Chief of Public Safety in 2012. Chief Hess and 33 other park rangers provide excellent, 24-hour law enforcement services to MetroParks' visitors and staff at more than 30 locations covering more than 16,000 acres of land. Learn how the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association recently honored Five Rivers MetroParks' rangers for their service during the Oregon District mass shooting on page 4.

During his free time, Chief Hess enjoys spending time with his wife, their four children and their three grandchildren.

- Favorite MetroPark: Possum Creek MetroPark
- Favorite recreation activities: Hiking and golfing
- Favorite events at MetroParks: The Celtic Festival and Germanfest Picnic at RiverScape MetroPark



### ALERTS AND CLOSURES

Weather conditions and construction can affect hiking trails, bikeways and access to certain park entrances. All construction information, including detours, and any weather-related notices, are posted online at [metro-parks.org/alerts](https://www.metro-parks.org/alerts).



### LOST ITEMS

If you lost something valuable in a MetroPark, contact the Rangers to identify and retrieve your belongings. Contact Alan Starnes at (937) 567-4265 for details.



### HOW TO CONTACT A RANGER

Inform the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office dispatcher you are in a MetroParks facility. A MetroParks law enforcement Ranger will be notified and respond to the situation as soon as possible. EMERGENCY CONTACT: 9-1-1 NON-EMERGENCY: (937) 225-HELP (4357)



Becky Benná

Executive Director

DEAR METROPARKS FRIENDS,

A growing body of research on the park and recreation industry supports the economic value of open spaces and the wellness benefits of spending time in nature. During last year's challenges, our community learned about another benefit of nature — its healing effects, providing solace during stressful times.

Many of you told us how much you appreciated having access to natural areas, how spending time outdoors helped you and your family cope with the tragedies our community faced last year. That is just one of the reasons why it's so important your Five Rivers MetroParks aid in the ongoing efforts to recover from the 2019 Memorial Day tornados.

Your MetroParks is playing a specific long-term role in these efforts: restoring lost habitat. An untold number of trees, shrubs and other plants critical to our region's wildlife and natural heritage were lost during the storms. It's important we replant trees in the areas where so many were lost to tornado damage, including Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.

You will have an opportunity to do just that during Five Rivers MetroParks' annual park cleanup event, which this year will focus on planting trees in the Montgomery County communities impacted by the tornados. **Adopt-A-Park: Healing Nature will take place the morning of Saturday, April 18. Volunteers of all ages and accessibility levels are needed to plant thousands of native trees** — and we hope you will join us. More information about this event is on page 23.

Yet this Healing Nature effort to restore lost trees and other habitat hardly ends this spring. Many trees that are now gone were hundreds of years old. It will take centuries for the landscape in certain areas to recover. Visit [metro-parks.org/healing-nature](https://www.metro-parks.org/healing-nature) for the most current information on MetroParks' tornado restoration efforts.

As spring unfolds, we encourage you to take a friend or family member to one of your 18 clean, safe MetroParks to share some healing nature — and imagine people, generations from now, enjoying these trees and the natural beauty surrounding you.

Best Regards,

*Becky Benná*

### THANK YOU, READERS!

We appreciate the hundreds of readers who completed a survey about *ParkWays* magazine. Look for changes in upcoming issues based on your feedback. Congratulations to the winners of our gift card drawing for survey participants: Joann Weisenbach, Veronica Ogletree, Beverly Martin, Ashley Wallace and Mike Bertke.

### OUR MISSION

*Five Rivers MetroParks is dedicated to protecting the region's natural heritage and providing outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature.*

### METROPARKS COMMISSIONERS



Karen L. Davis



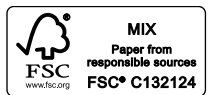
Jessica Saunders



Bear Monita



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### ON THE COVER

There's something for all people to Get Out & Explore in your 18 clean, safe Five Rivers MetroParks regardless of age, ability or interest.

Read more on page 6.



## METROPARKS RECOGNIZED WITH FOUR OPRA AWARDS



Five Rivers MetroParks received four awards from the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association (OPRA) this fall.

**1** First, OPRA recognized seven MetroParks rangers as Professionals of the Year for their response to the Oregon District mass shooting last August. The rangers recognized are: Cory Reis, Elyzabeth McDonald, Amanda Chiles, Scott Janicki, Rebecca Dieker, Kyl Caldwell and Sgt. Eric Lane.

Because MetroParks rangers are professionally trained officers, they're often first responders and provide support to law enforcement departments across Montgomery County. Such was the case in the early morning hours of Aug. 4, when MetroParks rangers responded to the mass shooting in Dayton's Oregon District.



**2** A partnership between the 2nd Street Market and local nonprofit Homefull was recognized with an OPRA award for a program that provides broader access to wholesome foods and fresh, local produce.

The presence of Homefull at the Market allows many of the Market's vendors to accept EBT/SNAP benefits, in addition to Produce Perks, a matching program for those who use these benefits to purchase produce. Both programs have seen exponential growth during the past year. The partnership also was nominated for a Governor's Award, OPRA's highest honor.

**3** Five Rivers MetroParks is also being recognized for a conservation project: its fishing line recycling program.

MetroParks rangers noticed an uptick in calls about wildlife getting caught up in fishing line. To mitigate this, MetroParks fabricated 35 fishing line recycling receptacles next to popular fishing destinations in 11 MetroParks and conservation areas. Volunteers empty these receptacles and monitor the parks for discarded and potentially harmful waste.

Since this program began in 2018, 15.2 miles of discarded line has been sent to the Berkley Conservation Institute to be recycled.



**4** Another conservation project, a recycled tree sinking at Eastwood Lake, also received an OPRA award. In January 2019, MetroParks asked the community to donate its used holiday trees, to bundle and sink into Eastwood Lake. The community donated 700 trees.

Bundling and sinking the recycled trees bolstered the food chain, resulting in healthier fish populations.

With help from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, volunteers, and MetroParks' rangers and staff, the bundled tree structures were sunk in Eastwood Lake last January. Though results won't be fully apparent until spring, video footage indicates positive results. Read more on page 11.



## FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT FOR SUNRISE METROPARK AND SUNSET PARK

Community partners – including Five Rivers MetroParks, the city of Dayton, the Miami Conservancy District and others – unveiled ideas for the design of Sunrise MetroPark and a proposed new Sunset Park during a public open house on Nov. 6.

The planning process began with a public meeting held on Nov. 5 to gather input about further development of these parks. The existing Sunrise MetroPark is in downtown Dayton, along the west bank of the Great Miami River by its confluence with Wolf Creek. The proposed future Sunset Park would be located across the Great Miami River closer to the downtown core. The Dayton Riverfront Plan's vision for these parks calls for them to be connected by a new bridge park – a green space that also serves as a pedestrian bridge – spanning the river.

After the initial public meeting was held, project consultants (Human Nature, OBJ and Stantec) and community partners participated in a charrette. During this intensive design session, stakeholders used public feedback to synthesize ideas – ultimately creating a collaborative, community-based plan.

During the Nov. 6 public open house, design concepts were unveiled, which included a variety of ideas:

- Construct an iconic observation tower that would be recognizable from the highway

- Develop a landscape plan that connects the parks and features a variety of plants
- Continue the park experience over the river with an expanded bridge that connects the two parks
- Connect to surrounding parks, neighborhoods and downtown Dayton
- Create dynamic spaces at the I-75 underpasses with public art, lighting and gardens to connect downtown Dayton to the proposed Sunset Park

In 2018, Sunrise MetroPark and the proposed Sunset Park were identified as a priority of the 20-year Dayton Riverfront Plan. This plan harnesses the 12 miles of greater downtown Dayton river corridor as a catalyst for placemaking, economic development and more.

"Of all the projects proposed for the Dayton Riverfront Plan, Sunrise-Sunset is the one that we found to be the most exciting," said Carrie Scarff, MetroParks chief of planning and projects. "The main idea is to create parks on both sides of the Great Miami River in downtown Dayton and have them speak to each other across the river. This will transform downtown's west riverfront from a place that used to divide our city in terms of east and west, black and white, into a place where the city unites."

To view the entire Sunrise-Sunset design presentation, visit [DAYTONRIVERFRONTPLAN.ORG](http://DAYTONRIVERFRONTPLAN.ORG).



# Parks for all People

A family learns about pollinator plants in the Butterfly House at Cox Arboretum MetroPark

*Parks provide versatile, inclusive outdoor experiences where everyone can find a personal connection with nature. Featuring 18 clean, safe parks and the 2nd Street Market, people of all ages and interests can discover something to enjoy in your Five Rivers MetroParks.*

## OUTDOOR ENTHUSIASTS

National Geographic Travel recently named Dayton the nation's newest outdoor adventure capital, due in part to the variety of recreation amenities you can experience in and around your Five Rivers MetroParks. Recreationalists of all levels can find something to get their hearts pumping and often utilize MetroParks as a springboard to tackle outdoor excursions far beyond the region.

**Paddle the River Runs:** Paddle the whitewater features at Mad River Run in Eastwood MetroPark and the RiverScape River Run at RiverScape MetroPark.

**Hike the Twin Valley Trail (TVT):** The TVT combines the network of trails in Germantown and Twin Creek MetroParks to create a longer, more integrated trail system totaling more than 43 miles through 2,600 acres.

**MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA):** At Huffman MetroPark, MoMBA offers nine miles of mountain biking trails for those of all experience levels and ages.

**Disc golf:** Play 18 holes of disc golf at Englewood MetroPark's Blue Heron Disc Golf Course.

**Cycle local and beyond:** The Dayton region is home to 340 miles of paved recreation trails — the nation's largest paved trail network. Dayton's paved trails also connect dots along the Great American Rail Trail, which stretches from Washington D.C. to Washington State.

## NATURE LOVERS

A conservation agency, Five Rivers MetroParks protects more than 16,000 acres of greenspace in the region — 90% of which is undeveloped and in its natural state. In addition to MetroParks' 18 clean, safe parks, three conservation areas are open to the public year-round.

Garden parks and those with robust networks of hiking trails and prairies offer unique opportunities to view flora and fauna. Even urban parks boast occasions to spot wildlife, such as blue heron, bald eagles and other birds of prey.

**Spring birding:** Englewood MetroPark is one of the best birding parks in the area. Visit the Benedict Blincoe Wildlife Observation Area to view a variety of migrating birds.

**Warm weather blooms:** See what's sprouting at Cox Arboretum, Aullwood Garden and Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks, including buds on flowering trees and native spring blooms.

**Get your hands dirty:** If MetroParks' spring blooms and demonstration gardens have provided you with some inspiration, consider renting a community gardening plot at Possum Creek or Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks to grow your own food. Or join one of the nearby 100 community gardens located throughout Montgomery County.

## PEOPLE WITH MOBILITY CHALLENGES

Being in nature has benefits for those of all abilities. According to Connections Therapy Center, children with disabilities can experience reduced stress levels, increased self-awareness and better development of sensory skills from experiencing the natural world. People with mobility impairments can gain physical, mental health benefits and social health benefits from time in nature, ranging from passive contact to active involvement, according to a study published in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. People who use wheelchairs or other assisted mobility devices will find ADA-accessible parking, restrooms and shelters at many MetroParks, including those highlighted below.

**Prairie and garden exploration:** Sugarcreek MetroPark features a level, paved path that begins at the parking lot off Conference Road, which has several handicapped parking spots. The path makes a quarter-mile loop through the scenic prairie and travels by a picnic shelter with an accessible table. At Cox Arboretum MetroPark, all the buildings, gardens and paved paths are ADA-accessible. Cox Arboretum is a great place to discover spring flowers or just relax in nature.



**Downtown Dayton adventure:** RiverScape MetroPark is a great place to view spring blooms and relax along the riverfront. It's also wheelchair accessible. Wheelchairs are welcome on the ice rink (open through March 1), and those who cannot wear skates also can enjoy the rink. RiverScape is located at the hub of the region's 340-plus miles of recreation trails — the nation's largest paved trail network. In downtown Dayton, those paved trails connect RiverScape to Island MetroPark, which features ADA-accessible restrooms and picnic shelters, and on to Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. All pathways in Wegerzyn's formal gardens and the Children's Discovery Garden are handicapped accessible. While you're downtown, stop by the 2nd Street Market to shop for local food and grab a bite to eat. The Market building has three accessible ramps, parking and restrooms.

**Other paved trail adventures:** Enjoy numerous paved trails to experience nature. Those with ADA restrooms near the trail access include RiverScape, Island, Englewood and Eastwood MetroParks. The Great-Little Trail at Medlar Conservation Area is an excellent 2.25-mile trail for experiencing a variety of habitat, from old growth forest to wetlands. It does include a rather steep hill, but it's still a good option for those ready to take on a little more challenge.

**On the boardwalk:** Explore MetroParks' Woodman Fen, a conservation area featuring 1,800 feet of ADA-accessible boardwalk. Carriage Hill's ADA-accessible boardwalk and fishing pier at Cedar Lake is located adjacent to parking and a restroom. The boardwalk at Hills & Dales connecting Paw Paw and Dogwood Pond and the paved loop trail around the pond are also ADA-accessible.

*Volunteer wildlife ambassador William Masterson handles Ruby, the red tail hawk*  
Photo by: Jan Underwood



**On the farm:** The farm and barn at Possum Creek MetroPark are accessible, as are the restrooms at the farm, reservable area, pond lot and the Argonne picnic area. The first fishing pond is connected to the parking lot by a handicapped-accessible asphalt path.

## ACTIVE OLDER ADULTS

Time spent outdoors is important for those of all ages, including aging populations. The ElderCare Alliance lists improved mental health, energy and overall wellness as benefits for older adults who spend time outdoors. In addition, many active older adults volunteer for Five Rivers MetroParks, which also allows them to learn new skills and make new friends while helping MetroParks meet its mission.

**Scope out scenic views:** A short walk from the Cedar Lake parking lot at Carriage Hill MetroPark, the boardwalk offers views of the lake and tree lines along the trails. Head to Twin Creek MetroPark and park at the Eby Road lot for easy access to High View, a beautiful overlook of the Twin Valley. If you're downtown, head to RiverScape MetroPark and settle down at the swings facing the Great Miami River to watch the sunset or paddlers in RiverScape River Run.

**Take to the trails:** Nearly all MetroParks feature loop trails and offer hikes of varying lengths. Head to Cox Arboretum MetroPark and hike the red trail for a half-mile adventure featuring a stop at the bird blind along the way. Enjoy the view of the prairie at Sugarcreek MetroPark before heading to the 0.7-mile yellow trail loop. For the option to embark on a longer hike, start at the Twin Valley Welcome Center at Germantown MetroPark. Take the red trail for a half-mile hike, or access the green and orange trails for a hike up to 7.5 miles.

**Become a MetroParks volunteer:** Volunteers are integral to MetroParks and needed in a variety of capacities, from gardening to administrative help. Volunteer orientations and skill development programs are held on a regular basis by MetroParks' volunteer services staff and are a great way to find a new hobby and help connect people to nature. Because of similar interests, volunteers make lasting friendships while supporting MetroParks and serving the community.

## HISTORY BUFFS

From some of the country's most famous inventors to ancient native peoples, Dayton is home to a very rich history — some of which can be discovered in your MetroParks.

**Argonne Forest at Possum Creek MetroPark:** Hike the purple trail loop to explore the remnants of this former amusement park. A popular entertainment destination in the 1920s, you can view the old dancefloor and more. Winter and spring are great seasons to visit, as the sites can more easily be seen.

**Carriage Hill MetroPark's historical farm:** Featuring period demonstrations, heritage farm animals and a blacksmith shop and farm house, the historical farm allows visitors to experience what life was like on the farm in the 1880s.

**Earthworks at Twin Creek MetroPark:** Some of the earliest natives, the Hopewell people, constructed Carlisle Fort 2,000 years ago.

**2nd Street Market:** Built in a historical freight house dating to 1911, the 2nd Street Market is reminiscent of European markets and features more than 40 vendors.

**Hidden gems at Hills & Dales:** Visit the Patterson Monument for beautiful views atop a vista. The memorial to John H. Patterson was erected in 1920 in honor of his leadership and belief that the outdoors was essential to good health. Visit Mary Miss' *Staged Gates* sculpture, installed in 1979, and the Stone Tower, constructed in 1940.

## YOUTH AND FAMILY

Many parents have fond memories of time spent exploring nature, which is often something they want their children to experience as well. In addition to simply having fun, time spent outdoors results in happier, healthier and smarter children, according to the World Wildlife Federation. MetroParks offers a variety of natural and child-focused spaces that provide immersive, nature-based experiences. Make lasting family memories and grow your kiddo's mind and body at the following destinations:

**Children's Discovery Garden:** Located at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark, learners of all ages will experience plenty of hands-on sensory opportunities and fun activities. (The garden is closed in January and February.)

**The farms at Possum Creek and Carriage Hill MetroParks:** Visit the historical farm at Carriage Hill MetroPark to experience farming practices from the 1880s, then visit Possum Creek MetroPark's farm to learn about



*Showing off the catch of the day at Possum Creek MetroPark*

sustainable and food-to-table farming.

**Carriage Hill MetroPark Riding Center:** Experience trail rides, pony rides, summer horse camps and riding lessons. New this year: vaulting lessons. Read more on page 26.

**Fishing adventures:** Families of anglers can cast a line in more than 10 MetroParks locations. Fish without a license at designated locations in Carriage Hill, Eastwood, Germantown, Possum Creek and Twin Creek MetroParks.

**Explore Cox Arboretum MetroPark:** Climb the 65-foot Tree Tower for expansive views of the Dayton area, walk through the Bell Children's Maze, look for spring-blooming wildflowers and watch wildlife at the bird blind.

**Sleep under the stars:** MetroParks offers camping facilities at Possum Creek, Englewood, Germantown and Twin Creek MetroParks. Front country camping sites come with amenities, such as picnic tables and firepits, whereas backcountry sites in Germantown and Twin Creek MetroPark are more immersed in nature along the Twin Valley Backpacking Trail.



# Clearing Callery

University of Dayton  
master's student  
Megan Maloney (left),  
and Michaela Woods  
(right), PhD student.

**WHEN IN BLOOM**, callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*) trees look harmless enough: white blossoms, brown fruit and glossy leaves. However, this species — which is often used to adorn landscapes — is considered invasive. Taking over large swaths of our forests, grasslands and parks, callery pear can grow to 45 feet tall and survive in a variety of soil conditions.

Because callery pear is a threat to the delicate balance of flora and fauna in local habitats, MetroParks — in conjunction with local partners — is conducting research to mitigate the spread of this invasive species.

University of Dayton (UD) graduate student Meg Maloney is working with Five Rivers MetroParks' parks and conservation staff to research ways to stave off callery pear. Maloney has experimented with everything from fire to ice to kill the callery, which crowds native plants needed for a healthy, diverse ecosystem.

At the Shiloh Woods Conservation Area, Maloney has tried cutting the trees to ground level and burning the

stumps. At the Medlar Conservation Area, her approach is to use liquid nitrogen to freeze the tree's cambium layer (the growing part of the trunk) because the trees can't thrive in cooler temperatures.

Initial results are unclear as to how effective these methods will be for a plant that seems to adapt, and even thrive, under attack. For example, a callery that's mowed to the ground will drop up to six dormant buds, which can take root and grow as tall as six feet in just one year. The callery pear tree is also one of the more under-studied invasives, so there is little data on how to manage its growth.

MetroParks' conservation team believes invasions tend to occur more frequently when prairie restorations are close to residential areas and roads. Therefore, research will continue in additional parks and conservation areas, such as the Great Miami Mitigation Bank and Germantown MetroPark.

Additionally, UD doctoral student Michaela Woods will be working with MetroParks and some of her peers on a study to see if certain soil conditions are a good predictor

of the spread of callery pear. Findings could help inform land management decisions, resources used for prairie restoration and what proactive steps can be taken to reduce the likelihood of callery invasion.



A callery pear shown above in bloom in the spring. Keep your landscape clear of invasive species, such as the callery pear and honey-suckle, by learning more at [www.oipc.info](http://www.oipc.info).

## WHAT'S HAPPENING ONE YEAR AFTER 700 TREES WERE SUNK IN EASTWOOD LAKE

In January 2019, MetroParks put out a call for the community's soon-to-be-tossed holiday trees for an important conservation project to address the under-nourished bass population in Eastwood Lake.

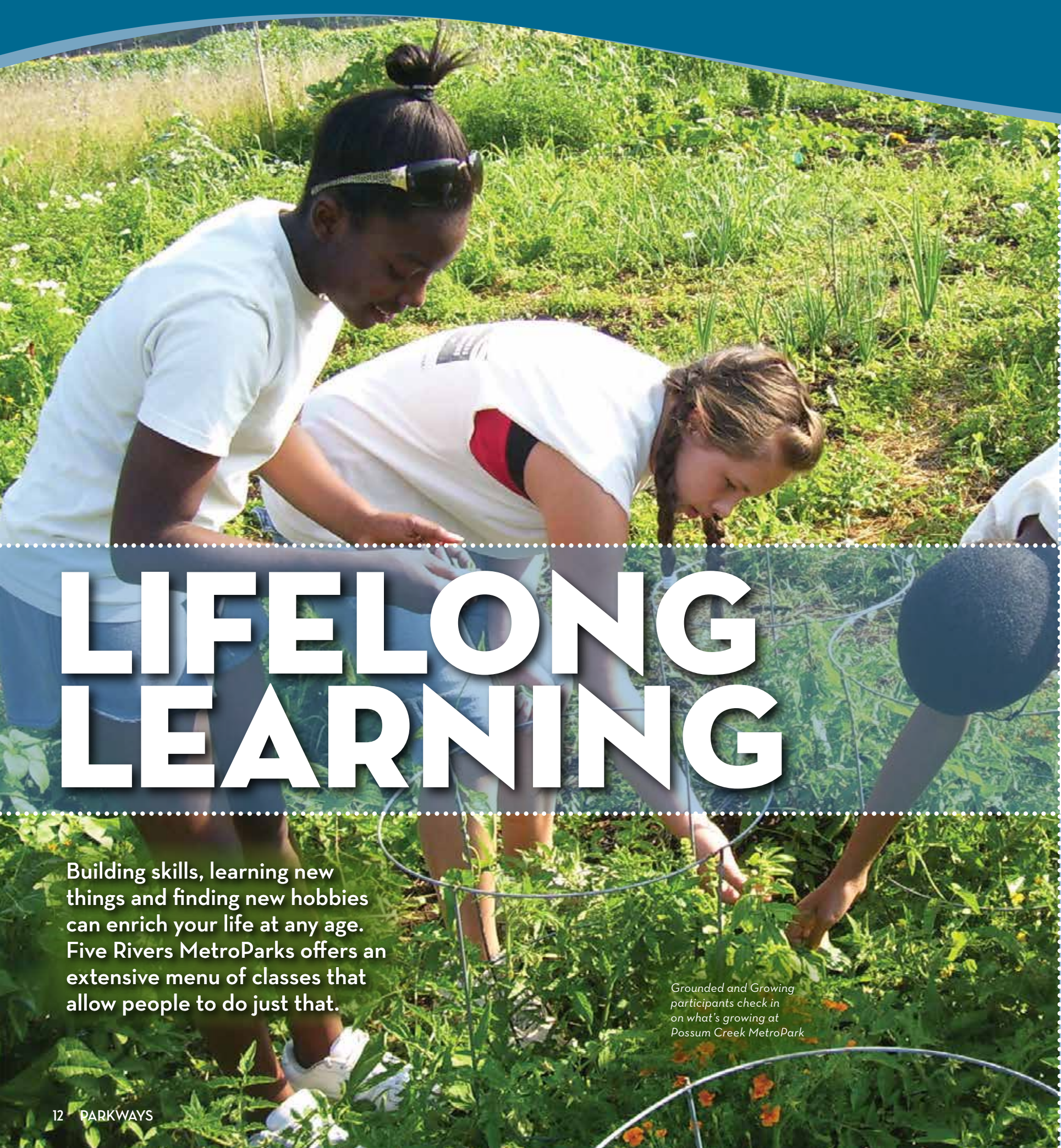
The community answered resoundingly by donating 700 trees, which were then bundled into structures and sunk in the lake with help from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), volunteers, and MetroParks rangers and staff.

Because Eastwood Lake was once a quarry, there is a lack of natural foliage surrounding it. Sinking tree structures created food at the lowest levels of the aquatic habitat's food chain, eventually resulting in healthier bass populations.

Indeed, it already has made a difference in the aquatic habitat at Eastwood Lake. Recent video taken by biologists at ODNR captured footage of fish using the sunken tree structures to find food. ODNR fisheries biologist Mike Porto caught a few perch near the structures and expects the perch and crappies will congregate around the structures during the winter to access aquatic vegetation. Anglers can expect to fully see results this spring.

To stay up-to-date about conservation projects happening in your Five Rivers MetroParks, sign up for digital newsletters at [metroparks.org/newsletters](http://metroparks.org/newsletters).





# LIFELONG LEARNING

Building skills, learning new things and finding new hobbies can enrich your life at any age. Five Rivers MetroParks offers an extensive menu of classes that allow people to do just that.

*Grounded and Growing participants check in on what's growing at Possum Creek MetroPark*



## GROW YOUR OWN, MAKE YOUR OWN:

Creating a beautiful landscape and growing your own food can provide a sense of accomplishment and benefit the environment. Take it full circle and use your home-grown produce in recipes. Because growing your own food is often healthier and less taxing on the environment, MetroParks offers a variety of programs that take you from earth to table.

- Develop a greener thumb and a grow beautiful plants and flowers by learning seasonal techniques, how to attract pollinators and more. **Page 31**
- Fill your garden with fresh veggies with help

from MetroParks educators, from companion planting to starting seeds. **Page 31**

• Grow your palate with a taste of the past and present. Traditional cooking programs incorporate methods from simpler times, such as sausage and bread making. Add more veggies to your diet with cooking demonstrations at the 2nd Street Market and make nightshade-themed meals. **Page 28**

• For those who don't have extra greenspace – or simply want more room to grow – community garden plots are available at Possum Creek and Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks, as well as in neighborhoods throughout Montgomery County. [metroparks.org/community-gardening](https://metroparks.org/community-gardening)



## SPEND TIME IN NATURE:

According to a story in the *New York Times*, doctors are recommending at least two hours of outdoor time a week to increase health and well-being. The natural world can spark curiosity at any age, so pick a program that piques your interest and let it inspire you get outdoors more often.

- Learn how to spot and appreciate all things native, from wildflowers to common birds.

MetroParks educators take you on adventures through the parks so you can identify trees, birds, mammals and plants. Once you learn something new, take to the trails to see what you can find. **Page 32**

• Conservation Kids offers an array of nature-based programs that empower children ages 3-13 to become young naturalists. Children who progress through the program learn about a variety of subjects, from the importance of pollinators to amphibian friends. **Pages 34-35**



## EARTH FRIENDLY LIVING:

According to HeadStuff.org, recent concerns about food and the environment have many Americans headed back to the basics, learning home-based DIY skills. Learning such techniques can cut down on waste, lessen your carbon footprint and save your family money.

- 19th century farming demonstrations offered at Carriage Hill MetroPark are perfect for those who want to learn more about butchering, live-stock, traditional recipes and crops from simpler times. Perhaps the sweetest program this winter,

be sure not to miss Maple Sugaring on the Farm. **Page 22**

• Compost Kitchen is an opportunity to learn how to be more sustainable at home by being purposeful with food waste. Bonus: adding compost to your garden's soil is an inexpensive, natural way to keep your plants happy and thriving. **Page 31**

• For those looking to raise their own meat – such as rabbits, goats and more – MetroParks offers a variety of programs that can get you started. **Page 28**



# THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT OFFERS INSPIRATION FOR ALL

## BETWEEN WORK, FAMILY AND LIMITED VACATION TIME,

scheduling outdoor adventures can be challenging for Jeremy Cox. The husband and father of two is a regular at The Adventure Summit, where he finds inspiration from men and women just like him.

*Jeremy Cox takes stops to enjoy the sites in Pittsburgh on the last leg of his most recent cycling adventure.*

“Personally, I enjoy the talks where everyday people with day jobs and families come up with ways to be outside or adventurous,” said Cox, whose last adventure included a 330-mile bike excursion from Washington, D.C. to Pittsburgh along the C&O Towpath and Great Allegheny Passage trails.

A Five Rivers MetroParks and Wright State University event presented by Wagner Subaru, The Adventure Summit is a two-day celebration of outdoor skill, culture and experience. Speakers from across the nation and your own backyard will share their experiences in the great outdoors.

Cox, who has attended all nine Summits (and been a speaker himself), has been inspired to take multiple adventures, from a five-day kayak trip down the Little Miami River to RV camping with his family. He found inspiration for his bike trip after hearing Mike Crider present “Family Bikepacking on the Great Allegheny Passage: 3 Generations, 1 Trail” at the 2016 Adventure Summit.

“Mike Crider triggered the initial idea,” Cox said. “I kept it on the backburner to sneak in whenever I was able to work around other things. I ordered the trail guide and familiarized myself with the trail network. I figured out how long I could be gone, did the math on how far we needed to go per day to be back to work in a week, bought the train ticket and walked out the door.”

Though Cox is now an experienced outdoorsman, he wants people to understand The Adventure Summit has something for everyone – even those who aren’t interested in bikepacking across the country.

“The speakers cover the entire spectrum,” Cox said. “Anybody can take something away because the speakers are so inspirational. You’ll also learn there’s so much to do right here in the Dayton area.”



## PEDAL YOUR WAY THROUGH MAY

National Bike to Work Week starts Monday, May 11, and culminates with National Bike to Work Day on Friday, May 15, when Five Rivers MetroParks hosts its annual pancake breakfast. The event, presented by MVRPC, celebrates human-powered transportation and its many benefits.

### NATIONAL BIKE TO WORK DAY BREAKFAST

Friday, May 15  
7 - 9 AM  
RiverScape MetroPark  
[metroparks.org/biketowork](http://metroparks.org/biketowork)



## TOP 5 REASONS YOU SHOULD BIKE TO WORK

- 1 GET IN SHAPE:** According to the Atlanta Bicycle Coalition, the average person will lose 13 pounds in their first year of riding to work.
- 2 COST SAVINGS:** Those who opt to cycle instead of drive can save about \$10 per round trip on average.
- 3 FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE:** According to Bike Hint, 1.2 billion cubic yards of polluted air and millions of tons of solid waste are produced simply by manufacturing cars. A passenger car produces about 0.96 pounds of carbon emissions, whereas bikes produce 0.074 pounds – and that’s only because of human respiration!
- 4 SMART CYCLERS:** According to Momentum Mag, research has proven that moderate, daily exercise – such as cycling – can prevent cognitive decline and sharpen memory and learning.
- 5 SKIP GETTING STUCK:** Live in an urban area? Cyclists are rarely affected by traffic jams and other delays. Plus, it’s easy to find somewhere to park a bike, especially with ample (and free) bike parking in downtown Dayton.

the ADVENTURE SUMMIT

PRESENTED BY WAGNER SUBARU

**FRIDAY, FEB. 14**  
5 TO 9 PM

**SATURDAY, FEB. 15**  
9 AM TO 6 PM

AT WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

[TheAdventureSummit.com](http://TheAdventureSummit.com)





# VOLUNTEERISM is about family

## THE MCDANIEL family

Game nights, Sunday dinner, trips to the movies – family time can be as dynamic as families themselves. But if you ask Earl McDaniel, family time is about sharing experiences on the trails with his son, Tim McDaniel.

The father-son duo are MetroParks Volunteer Patrol (MVP) members, who are trained to patrol and assist people on portions of the paved and natural surface trails that MetroParks manages. Earl was the first to become an MVP in 2016, with Tim following in his footsteps last year.

Avid cyclists, Earl, 52, is on the trails 300 days a year and Tim, 24, is no stranger to 100-mile cycling adventures with his friends. While they patrol different sections of the trails, they meet on Friday evenings for a family dinner to share their stories. In addition to cycling, Earl and Tim share the desire to give back to the community.

“If you want to keep your home to be a good place to live – and I consider Dayton my home – you have to put in the effort,” said Earl. “If you don’t care, who’s going to?”

## THE RHOTON family

Having grown up in rural Tennessee, Tearlinda Rhoton is no stranger to the pastures, but her son, Aden Rhoton, was until last April. The mother-son team started volunteering at the Carriage Hill MetroPark Riding Center after reading *ParkWays* magazine.

A military family, the Rhotons moved frequently before coming to Dayton. Tearlinda was eager for Aden, a junior at the Dayton Regional STEM School, to have the same experiences she did growing up.

“It’s nice to get a little taste of home,” said Tearlinda. She also enjoys seeing her son experience new things. “One day, he looked at me and said, ‘Wow, there’s nothing like leading a horse.’”

The volunteer team enjoys leading pony rides most of all.

“We see everybody – young, old, all different cultures,” said Tearlinda. “The look on a kid’s face when they get their first lap in – their eyes just light up.”



Tim McDaniel with his father, Earl McDaniel  
MetroParks Volunteer Patrol (MVP) members



Aden Rhoton with his mother, Tearlinda Rhoton  
Carriage Hill MetroPark Riding Center Volunteers

To learn more about these volunteer opportunities and others at MetroParks, visit [metroparks.org/volunteer](http://metroparks.org/volunteer) or sign up for a volunteer orientation. See pages 32 & 33.



SUPPORT

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

Learn more about giving to the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation; The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation; Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation; and Friends of Carriage Hill. Visit [metroparks.org/donate](https://metroparks.org/donate).

PHILANTHROPY

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS FOUNDATION

REACHED GOAL!

THANKS TO THE COMMUNITY'S tremendous philanthropic support, the foundation reached its fundraising goal and Adventure Central, located at Wesleyan MetroPark, will soon have a new expanded kitchen to better serve its youth. Construction will begin this summer and be completed in time for the 2020-2021 school year. An official ribbon cutting celebration will take place in September.

# THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Philanthropic support to the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation and partner foundations helps protect the region’s natural heritage and provide outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature. In 2019, thanks to the generosity of donors, the foundations were able to support multiple projects and programs throughout MetroParks, including:

The Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation funded the seed money to start kayak and stand up paddleboard rentals at RiverScape MetroPark.

The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation funded the rebuilding of the stone wall at the edge of the pond and steps leading to the pond.

The Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation funded the restoration of 45 teak benches within the park.

# FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS PARK SYSTEM MAP

## METROPARKS.ORG/MAP

Five Rivers MetroParks operates 30 locations. Founded in 1963 to serve the greater Dayton area, MetroParks protects more than 16,000 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.

METROPARKS

2nd Street Market

Aullwood Garden

Carriage Hill

Cox Arboretum

Deeds Point

Eastwood

Englewood

Germantown

Hills & Dales

Huffman

Island

Possum Creek

RiverScape

Sugarcreek

Sunrise

Taylorville

Twin Creek

Wegerzyn Gardens

Wesleyan

CONSERVATION AREAS

Dull Woods

Medlar

Woodman Fen

# PROGRAM GUIDE

## PROGRAM DETAILS

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Online registration is available for programs marked with this icon.

WEATHER DEPENDENT

Some outdoor events and programs are weather permitting.

**PROGRAM SERIES**  
Programs contained within a light blue box are part of a series of programs.

**FEES**  
Fees are required at the time of registration. Visit [metroparks.org/policies](https://metroparks.org/policies) for information on refunds.

**CANCELLATIONS**  
Some programs require a minimum number of participants and are subject to cancellation. Those who are registered will be contacted if this occurs. The website contains up-to-date information on cancellations.

## CATEGORIES

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE

Enjoy time with friends and family at these community celebrations.

ACTIVE OUTDOORS

Discover how easy it is to have an active, healthy outdoor lifestyle.

EARTH FRIENDLY LIVING

Learn how to live more sustainably and make better choices for the environment.

ADULT NATURE EXPLORATION

Enjoy and learn about the splendor of the natural world.

PROGRAMS FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

Spend quality time outdoors with family.

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND TRAINING

Share an active, nature-based lifestyle with your community and future generations.

## HOW TO REGISTER

**ONLINE**

[metroparks.org/programs](https://metroparks.org/programs)

Search online by date or program number to register.

**BY PHONE**

**937 275-PARK (7275)**

Register for all programs by calling 275-PARK unless otherwise noted in the listing.

18 PARKWAYS



# SPECIAL EVENTS

Enjoy time with friends and family at these community celebrations.

EVENTS ARRANGED BY DATE

## FEBRUARY

### (FREE) THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT

**FRI. FEB 14, 5:00-9:00 PM** D122

**SAT. FEB 15, 9:00 AM-6:00 PM**

OFFSITE, Wright State University, 3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.

Presented by Wagner Subaru, this event celebrates the spirit of outdoor adventure by showcasing the lifestyle and culture of human-powered endeavors through inspiration, education and experience. Presenters include National Geographic's 2019 Adventurers of the Year Heather Anderson and Maureen Beck, and solo climber Ryan Richardson. No registration required. theadventuresummit.com. All ages. See page 25 for info on volunteering for this event.



### PRESIDENTS DAY SKATE

**MON. FEB 17, 11:00 AM-5:00 PM** D158

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Spend the holiday at the MetroParks Ice Rink! No registration required. All ages. Admission & Rental: \$8

### (FREE) BLACK HISTORY DAY AT THE MARKET

**SAT. FEB 22, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM** D147

2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.

Celebrate the rich history of African American art and culture with some of Dayton's most creative African American musicians, dancers and artists. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 or marketinfo@metroparks.org for details. All ages.

### CARRIAGE HILL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**SAT. FEB 22, 10:00-11:30 AM** D19

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center, 7800 E. Shull Rd

Join us for breakfast on the farm. Pancakes, sausage, fresh fruit, juice and coffee will be included. Tickets are available at the door. A Friends of Carriage Hill fundraising event. Proceeds support programming at the Historical Farm. No registration required. All ages. Fee: \$5

## MARCH

### (FREE) ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT THE MARKET

**SAT. MAR 14, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** D148

2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.

Enjoy live Celtic music, followed by youth dancers from the Celtic Academy of Irish Dance. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 or marketinfo@metroparks.org for details. All ages.

## APRIL

### (FREE) THE CAROLYN KIMES TREE SEEDLING GIVEAWAY

**FRI. APR 17, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM** D151

**SAT. APR 18, 8:00 AM-3:30 PM** D149

2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.

Commemorate Earth Day with free tree seedlings while supplies last! This project is brought to you with the support of the Montgomery and Miami County Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Rush Creek Gardens. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. All ages.



### (FREE) ADOPT-A-PARK 2020: HEALING NATURE

**SAT. APR 18, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** D187

Various outdoor locations in Montgomery County

Join thousands of volunteers during MetroParks' annual clean up event. This year's focus will be on tree planting to aid tornado recovery (see pg. 23). Volunteers are needed for this and other projects. There's something for everyone. Advanced registration is required online at [metroparks.org/adopt](https://metroparks.org/adopt). Groups should register early. All ages and abilities.

## MAY



### PICKIN' IN THE PARK

Enjoy progressive bluegrass music, food trucks and more along downtown Dayton's scenic riverfront at RiverScape MetroPark!

### (FREE) PICKIN' IN THE PARK

**FRI. MAY 1, 6:00-10:00 PM** D136

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.

Celebrate the beginning of the RiverScape Summer Music Series, presented by the Jack W. and Sally D. Eichelberger Foundation. Bring your dancing shoes and a lawn chair for seating. No registration required. All ages.



### (FREE) ANNUAL MAYFAIR PLANT SALE

**SAT. MAY 2, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM** D157

**SUN. MAY 3, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Get a jump on spring and purchase unusual perennials, annuals, vegetables and herbs for companion planting or to enhance your landscape. Pass-along plants are locally grown. Enjoy hanging baskets, just in time for Mother's Day. A Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation event and fundraiser. No registration required. Contact (937) 474-3760 or [contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org](mailto:contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org) for details. [wegerzyngardensfoundation.org](https://wegerzyngardensfoundation.org). All ages.

nials, annuals, vegetables and herbs for companion planting or to enhance your landscape. Pass-along plants are locally grown. Enjoy hanging baskets, just in time for Mother's Day. A Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation event and fundraiser. No registration required. Contact (937) 474-3760 or [contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org](mailto:contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org) for details. [wegerzyngardensfoundation.org](https://wegerzyngardensfoundation.org). All ages.

### (FREE) DAYTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ALL CITY ARTS FESTIVAL

**SAT. MAY 2, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM** D130

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.

Join us for a day of music, art and food featuring the talents of Dayton Public Schools' students from all elementary, middle and high school buildings. Students are selected to perform this annual festival of the arts. No registration required. Contact (937) 542-3522 or [jvseay@daytonpublic.com](mailto:jvseay@daytonpublic.com) for details. [dps.k12.oh.us/our-departments/fine-and-performing-arts](https://dps.k12.oh.us/our-departments/fine-and-performing-arts) All ages.



### (FREE) NATIONAL BIKE TO WORK DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**FRI. MAY 15, 7:00-9:00 AM** D68

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.

Leave your car in the garage and support National Bike to Work Day. Ride in on your own or with a group to RiverScape MetroPark for a free pancake breakfast before you head to work. Live music, cycling-related exhibitors and a team challenge are all part of the fun. No registration required. [metroparks.org/biketowork](https://metroparks.org/biketowork). All ages.

### (FREE) TAB-A-PULL-OOZA

**SAT. MAY 16, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM** D150

2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.

Bring your aluminum can pull-tabs to help raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Miami Valley. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. All ages.

### (FREE) FOR DAYTON, BY DAYTON

**SAT. MAY 30, 5:00-9:00 PM** D138

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.

For Dayton By Dayton is an event with nothing but homegrown artists. Designed to bring a positive hip hop presence to the city, this event will show the community that hip hop cares. Enjoy a variety of local performers, food, merchandise and more at this free family-friendly event. No registration required. Contact [kcartersohh@gmail.com](mailto:kcartersohh@gmail.com) for details. All ages.

[METROPARKS.ORG](https://metroparks.org)

## SPECIAL EVENTS



### SAVE THE DATE

**June 5, from 6 to 10 PM at RiverScape MetroPark**

Get a sneak peek at what summer has to offer during downtown's newest festival!

MetroParks staff experts and representatives from Dayton's favorite festivals will lead fun, hands-on activities. Register for programs, meet MetroParks' live animal ambassadors and fill your passport to be entered to win cool prizes. Preview the GermanFest picnic, African American Cultural Festival, Celtic Festival and Hispanic Heritage Festival with live music, food, dancing and more during this free family friendly event.

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC** *LIVE!*

**GET YOUR SEASON TICKETS NOW!**  
ALL THREE EVENTS STARTING AT \$75!

### 2019-2020 SPEAKER SERIES

The Adventure Returns To The Victoria Theatre



**ANAND VARMA: BEAUTY AND THE BIZARRE**

February 23 - 24, 2020  
Photo: ©Anand Varma



**KARA COONEY: WHEN WOMEN RULED THE WORLD**

March 22 - 23, 2020  
Photo: ©Marissa Stevens



**RONAN DONOVAN: SOCIAL BY NATURE**

April 19 - 20, 2020  
Photo: Neal Herbert

TITLE SPONSOR  
**SUBARU**  
Confidence in Motion  
Subaru of America & Wagner Subaru

PERFORMANCE SPONSOR  
**Greenpoint Metals**  
Ohio Arts COUNCIL MONTGOMERY

PRESENTED BY  
**VTA**  
VICTORIA THEATRE ASSOCIATION



**TICKETCenterStage.com**  
**937-228-3630**  
GROUPS SAVE! Call 937-461-8295



# FOR EVERYONE

Connect with and learn about nature with friends and family.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS ARRANGED BY TOPIC



FOR EVERYONE

## CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

**(FREE) VOLUNTEER: SEEDLING SATURDAYS**

**SAT. MAR 28, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** D107

**SAT. APR 25, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** D108

**SAT. MAY 23, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** D110  
GREAT MIAMI WETLAND MITIGATION BANK, 8401 Little Richmond Rd.

Join Five Rivers MetroParks' conservation efforts and plant seedlings in the ground! Restoration is a vital part of building a habitat, and MetroParks could use your help planting hundreds of native trees and shrubs -- especially after so many trees were destroyed during the Memorial Day 2019 tornados. Registration required. Contact allison.zimmerman@metroparks.org for details. metroparks.org/volunteer. All ages. 🌱 ⚙️

## HERITAGE & HISTORY

### 19TH CENTURY FARMING DEMONSTRATIONS

Join us for ongoing drop-in demonstrations of 19th century farm life. Typical farm chores will be recreated to demonstrate daily life in the 1880s.

### **(FREE) FROM HOGHOUSE TO SMOKEHOUSE: TRADITIONAL BUTCHERING**

**SAT. FEB 1, 12:00-4:00 PM** D17

**SUN. FEB 2, 12:00-4:00 PM** D18

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

Watch the age-old activity of processing pork, a staple of the 19th century farmer's diet. Watch as we prepare various cuts of meat, grind and prepare sausage and cook fresh pork on the woodstove. Also, learn about curing bacon and pork for future usage. No registration required. All ages. ⚙️

### **(FREE) MAPLE SUGARING ON THE FARM**

**SAT. FEB 22, 12:00-4:00 PM** D22

**SUN. FEB 23, 12:00-4:00 PM** D23

**SAT. FEB 29, 12:00-4:00 PM** D21

**SUN. MAR 1, 12:00-4:00 PM** D20

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

The end of winter has traditionally marked the beginning of maple sugaring season. Join us as we demonstrate maple sugaring. Come learn about the various tools and processes used to collect the sap. Watch as the sap is boiled down into the sweet syrup. No registration required. All ages. ⚙️

### **(FREE) FROM SHEEP TO SHAWLS**

**SAT. APR 4, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** D32

**SUN. APR 5, 12:00-5:00 PM** D33

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

The role sheep played on the farm will be discussed during this comprehensive program. Watch as the sheep are sheared for the spring at 2 pm. Help card wool and watch as yarn is dyed using traditional methods. Come hear about the spinning process. Watch spinners process the wool into yarn and weavers make a shawl. No registration required. All ages.

### **(FREE) MIDWEST MAIZE: THE STORY OF CORN**

**SUN. MAY 3, 12:00-5:00 PM** D49

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

Corn was a pivotal crop on a 19th century farm. It was used as food for both people and animals. Watch as corn is planted using horse drawn equipment. Corn meal will be milled and made into griddle cakes and corn bread. Learn about the importance of heirloom corn and discover sources for seed today. No registration required. All ages. ⚙️

### **(FREE) BISCUIT DAY**

**SUN. MAY 17, 12:00-5:00 PM** D36

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

One of the most common staples of any farm family's meal was the biscuit. Celebrate National Biscuit Day with us, as we dedicate

a whole program to the biscuit. Watch as various types of biscuits are made around the farm, and then baked in our outdoor bake oven. No registration required. All ages.

### **(FREE) GUIDED MAPLE SUGARING TOUR**

**SAT. FEB 22, 12:30-1:00 PM** D188

**SAT. FEB 22, 2:30-3:00 PM** D189

**SAT. FEB 29, 12:30-1:00 PM** D190

**SAT. FEB 29, 2:30-3:00 PM** D191

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

Join the park historian on a guided tour of our maple sugaring operation. Learn about the role that maple sugar played on the farm in the 1880s and how maple sugaring is done today. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages. ⚙️

## NATURE APPRECIATION

### **(FREE) URBAN BIRD WALK IN DOWNTOWN DAYTON**

**SAT. APR 25, 8:30-10:30 AM** D154

2ND STREET MARKET, ATM Entrance

Meet at the 2nd Street Market main entrance and enjoy a spring time walk with a passionate birder, Ron Bicknell, as you walk to Deeds Point and Island Park identifying birds in the downtown area along the way. The walk is 1.7 miles so dress appropriately. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 228-2088 or marketinfo@metroparks.org for details. metroparks.org. All ages. 🐦

## SKATING

### QUEEN

**FRI. FEB 7, 7:00-10:00 PM** D162

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Do you love the rock anthems of Queen? Then come to MetroParks Ice Rink to skate to the sounds of the legendary vocalist with family and friends. No registration required. All ages. Admission & Skate Rental: \$8 ⚙️



**SATURDAY, APRIL 18  
9 AM TO NOON**

This year, Five Rivers MetroParks' annual park clean up event will focus on planting trees in the Montgomery County communities impacted by the 2019 Memorial Day tornados. MetroParks has thousands of native trees to plant -- and needs your help to get them in the ground.

Nature provides habitat for wildlife, offers healing respite during challenging times, and heals body, mind and soul -- which is why it's critical we begin to replant trees in the areas where

so many were lost to tornado damage, including at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.

Volunteers of all ages and accessibility levels are needed to help with tree planting and other projects. Supplies are provided, and volunteers receive a free T-shirt.

Online registration is required and open March 1 to April 10. Groups should register early to ensure space.

**METROPARKS.ORG/HEALING-NATURE**

*There are other ways to help reforest our region this spring:*

### **TREE SEEDLING GIVEAWAY**

Friday, April 17 -- 11 AM to 3 PM

Saturday, April 18 -- 8 AM to 3 PM

2nd Street Market, 600 E. Second St.

Pick up a free tree seedling while supplies last.

### **SEEDLING SATURDAYS**

March 28, April 25 & May 23

9 AM to NOON

Great Miami Mitigation Bank, 8401 Little Richmond Rd.

Volunteer to plant seedlings at this conservation area.

Registration is required; see page 22 for details.

*You also can support the Healing Nature tree restoration effort by making a donation. Visit metroparks.org/healing-nature to learn how.*



# ACTIVE OUTDOORS

Discover how easy it is to have an active, healthy outdoor lifestyle.

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY TOPIC



## BACKPACKING

### APPALACHIAN TRAIL TRIP PLANNING

**THU. MAR 5, 6:00-8:30 PM** D119  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
We'll walk through planning your long-distance A.T. hike. You'll receive a planning booklet (optional) and talk with past thru-hikers and local experts. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: Program Fee WITH Booklet: \$12, Program Fee WITHOUT Booklet: \$5 🗝️

### BACKPACKING 1

**THU. MAR 26, 6:00-8:30 PM** D121  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn about gear, food, trip planning and other tips and tricks during this classroom session, setting you up to have a safe and enjoyable backpacking adventure. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$5 🗝️

### BACKPACKING 1: WOMEN

**TUE. APR 7, 6:00-8:30 PM** D126  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Join other women interested in backpacking to learn about gear, food, trip planning, personal hygiene and other tips and tricks. This classroom session sets you up to have a safe and enjoyable backpacking adventure. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$5 🗝️

### BACKPACKING 2

**SAT. APR 25, 12:00 PM - SUN. APR 26, 12:00 PM** D127  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershire Rd.  
Spend a night on the Twin Valley Trail learning how to pack your backpack, use a water filter, cook in the backcountry, select a campsite and more. Equipment is available at no additional charge with reservation. Prerequisites: Backpacking 1 or prior experience recommended. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$25 🗝️ ⚙️

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: BACKPACKING TRAIL WORK DAYS

**SAT. MAY 9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** D103  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Park Office, 6675 Conservancy Rd.  
Learn about sustainable trail building while helping maintain the Twin Valley Backpacking Trail. No experience is necessary; tools are provided. Please bring water and work gloves. Youth 14-17 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required. Contact allison.zimmerman@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up. 🗝️ ⚙️

## CYCLING

### BICYCLE TOURING IN THE MIAMI VALLEY

**TUE. FEB 25, 6:00-8:00 PM** D113  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Have you ever thought about going on a bicycle touring trip, but aren't sure where to start? Learn about opportunities right here in the Miami Valley to take a trip on your bicycle. We'll cover local routes, resources and where to stay. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$5 🗝️

### BICYCLE TOURING 1

**TUE. MAR 24, 6:00-8:00 PM** D115  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Learn the basics of traveling by bicycle, whether you call it bikepacking, bicycle camping or bicycle touring. Topics covered will include gear, food, trip planning, and other tips and tricks. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$5 🗝️

### BICYCLE MAINTENANCE 1

**TUE. APR 14, 6:00-8:30 PM** D117  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
This hands-on classroom session will help you diagnose and perform common bike repairs. Topics will include inspections, fixing a flat tire and chains. Bring your own bike or practice on ours. Participants under 18 must be accompanied by a registered adult. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$12 🗝️

### BICYCLE MAINTENANCE 2: SHIFTERS & DERAILLEURS

**TUE. APR 21, 6:00-8:30 PM** D120  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
This hands-on class will offer instruction and guided practice with drive-train maintenance including shifter and derailleur adjustments. Bring your own bike or practice on ours. Participants under 18 must be accompanied by a registered adult. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$15 🗝️

### BICYCLE MAINTENANCE 2: BRAKES

**TUE. APR 28, 6:00-8:30 PM** D123  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
This hands-on class will offer instruction and guided practice in brake maintenance. Bring your own bike or practice on ours. Participants under 18 must be accompanied by a registered adult. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$15 🗝️

### INTRODUCTION TO BICYCLE COMMUTING

**TUE. MAY 12, 6:00-8:00 PM** D128  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Want to ride your bike to work or school, a quick trip to the store, or a favorite restaurant? Learn the basics on choosing the right bike, equipment to carry your load, and route considerations. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$5 🗝️

## FISHING

### NYMPHS, EMERGERS, DRIES

**WED. FEB 5, 6:00-7:30 PM** D93  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
What is the difference between an emerger, a streamer and a dry fly? Learn all about various flies, how they imitate nature and when to use them during this program designed for those with some knowledge about fly fishing. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$10 🗝️

### FILLETING FISH

**WED. FEB 19, 6:00-8:00 PM** D94  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
You have your catch and want to bring it home to the dinner table, but are not sure what to do with it once it's off the hook. This class will show you how to efficiently fillet and store your fish until ready to cook. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: \$10 🗝️

### (FREE) TRY FLY FISHING

**WED. MAR 25, 4:00-7:00 PM** D96  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Outdoor Venues, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
**WED. APR 15, 4:00-7:00 PM** D99  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Jay Lake and Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
**WED. MAY 6, 4:30-7:30 PM** D100  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Farm Shelter/Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Road  
Always wanted to try fly fishing? Here is your opportunity. Instructors available for questions and will teach basic fly fishing techniques in a controlled environment. Equipment is provided. No fishing license required at this location. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 14Y and up. 🗝️

### FLY FISHING 1

**WED. APR 22, 5:00-7:30 PM** D97  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
An introduction to fly fishing, this classroom program covers gear (both essentials and accessories), flies, and a larger focus on casting. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$10 🗝️

### FLY FISHING 2: LAKE

**SAT. APR 25, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** D98  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm Shelter Event Area,  
Fly Fishing 1 taught you skills. Now, let's move it to your hands! Learn to cast, tie on a fly, set the hook and strip in the line, all essential skills for catching that fish so you can post to all your friends. Equipment available upon request. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Prerequisites: Fly Fishing 1. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$30 🗝️

### FLY FISHING 2: RIVER

**SAT. MAY 9, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM** D101  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Creek Access & Dam Overlook, 7481 Creek Rd.  
Fly Fishing 1 got you started and now you're ready for the next step. Learn about habitat, how to read the water and casting techniques needed for fishing in the current. Equipment available upon request. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Bring a water bottle. Ohio fishing license required. Prerequisites: Fly Fishing 1. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$55 🗝️

## ACTIVE OUTDOORS PROGRAMMING

## FITNESS

### FITNESS IN THE PARK

Enjoy fun, effective and FREE outdoor workouts under the pavilion! Center yourself on yoga days with Tori Reynolds of Speakeasy Yoga. Enjoy a fast-paced Cardio Dance workout with Meghan Millat of Fit N Fruitful using dance moves to upbeat music. Take on a fun, high-energy HIIT workout with Beaver Creek/Kettering Fit Body Boot Camp instructors. Wear comfortable clothes and bring water. Check metroparks.org/fitnessinthepark for the specific class schedule. No registration required. All ages. Presented by Kettering Health Network.

### (FREE) FITNESS IN THE PARK

**SAT. MAY 9, 10:00-11:00 AM** D131  
**SAT. MAY 16, 10:00-11:00 AM** D132  
**SAT. MAY 23, 10:00-11:00 AM** D133  
**SAT. MAY 30, 10:00-11:00 AM** D134  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. All ages. ⚙️

### GARDEN GODDESS YOGA CIRCLE

**WED. MAY 13, 6:15-8:15 PM** D64  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Join certified yoga instructor Robyn Moore in the Possum Creek Farm Garden for a gentle, women-centered yoga practice. Honor the season and bask in the evening light with friends both old and new. The program will conclude with herbal teas and a healthy, spring soup (vegan/vegetarian). Bring a yoga mat/blanket. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: \$20 🗝️

## HIKING

### (FREE) HIKE LEADERSHIP

**WED. MAR 25, 6:30-8:30 PM** D6  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn the basics of how to get started leading day hikes in our local parks. Gain the skills and confidence necessary to plan, organize and lead safe and enjoyable hikes. Topics include trip planning, trail etiquette, hiker safety, group dynamics and minimizing your impact to the trails. Experienced hike leaders are encouraged to attend too. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up. 🗝️

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: SUSTAINABLE TRAIL BUILDING WORKSHOP

**SAT. APR 4, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM** D105  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Park Office, 6675 Conservancy Rd.  
**THU. APR 23, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM** D106  
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA Big Barn, 4485

Union Rd.  
Trails can foster a greater understanding of the natural world by creating access; by leading people through diverse terrain, habitats, and historical areas; and by enhancing an individual's appreciation for our natural heritage. Theory and hands-on activities will give you insight on building a sustainable trail, and how to get involved. Registration required. Contact allison.zimmerman@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up. 🗝️ ⚙️

## MOUNTAIN BIKING

### (FREE) TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING

**THU. APR 9, 4:00-7:00 PM** D116  
**THU. MAY 7, 4:00-7:00 PM** D124  
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.  
Want to try mountain biking? If so, come out to MoMBA and borrow one of our bikes. Bikes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Riders younger than 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Helmets are required and are provided with the bike. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages. 🗝️ ⚙️

## OUTDOOR PLAY

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT

**WED. FEB 5, 6:00-7:00 PM** D155 OFFSITE,  
Be part of The Adventure Summit team! Join Five Rivers MetroParks and Wright State University as an event volunteer to support information, exhibit, event set-up & tear-down, presentation, and other needs. Get details at this volunteer orientation at Wright State 3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy, Student Union, Discovery Room 163. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact jenny.hymans@metroparks.org for details. theadventuresummit.com. Age: 14Y and up. 🗝️

## OUTDOOR SKILLS AND SAFETY

### BACKCOUNTRY KNOTS

**THU. FEB 6, 6:00-8:00 PM** D118  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Learn some of the best knots for use in the outdoors as we take a hands-on approach to knot tying use and know-how in a classroom setting. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$10 🗝️

### WILDERNESS FIRST AID

**SAT., SUN MAR. 7-8, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM** D4  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
This two-day introduction to general medical concepts and basic life support skills is targeted



to outdoor enthusiasts on day trips or short adventures. See contact info to register. Contact (719) 395-5358 or coloradooutside@gmail.com for details. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: \$275


**WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER**  
**MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI., SAT., SUN**  
**MAR. 9-15, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM** D3  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Through lectures, discussions and scenarios, you'll learn the essential principles and skills required to assess and manage medical problems in isolated and extreme environments for days and weeks if necessary. See contact info to register. Contact (719) 395-5358 or coloradooutside@gmail.com for details. wildmed.com. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: \$750

**WILDERNESS MEDICINE OPEN**  
**RECERTIFICATION**  
**FRI., SAT., SUN MAR. 20-22, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM** D5  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
This course is open to graduates of all wilderness medical training courses of 64 hours or longer with a current WFR certification. WMA WEMT graduates with a current EMT-B or Paramedic certificate may also recertify the wilderness portion of their WEMT with this course. See contact info to register. Contact (719) 395-5358 or coloradooutside@gmail.com for details. wildmed.com. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: \$375

PADDLING

**RIVER ACCESS VAN TOUR:**  
**MAD RIVER AND RIVER RUNS**  
**TUE. MAR 31, 6:00-8:30 PM** D111  
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Mad River Access Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.  
Join us for a driving tour, visiting river access points along the Mad River from Eastwood MetroPark to downtown to help plan your next paddling adventure. We'll check out the new River Run features along the way. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: \$5

**RIVER ACCESS VAN TOUR:**  
**TWIN CREEK**  
**WED. APR 8, 6:00-8:30 PM** D112  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Welcome Center Parking Lot, 6910 Boomershire Rd.  
Join us for a driving tour, stopping at different river access points along the Twin Creek to help plan your next paddling adventure. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: \$5



See page 30 for info about MetroParks' Access to Nature Scholarship that covers a portion of camp and program costs for qualified applicants!

**RIVER ACCESS VAN TOUR:**  
**GREAT MIAMI RIVER**  
**THU. APR 23, 6:00-8:30 PM** D114  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Program Parking Area, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Join us for a driving tour, stopping at different river access points along the Great Miami River to help plan your next paddling adventure. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: \$5

**ACA KAYAK INSTRUCTOR**  
**CERTIFICATION**  
**TUE., WED. MAY 19-20, 9:00 AM-6:00 PM** D109  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
American Canoe Association Level 1 Kayak certification gives you a good foundation in the skills and knowledge needed to instruct kayaking on flatwater. This course will be a combination of classroom and on-the-water skills, including participants teaching topics and skills. Prerequisites: ACA membership & SEIC dues paid; current CPR and First Aid certifications. Registration required. Contact angie.sheldon@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: \$145

**KAYAK EXPLORING: TWIN CREEK**  
**WED. MAY 27, 5:30-8:30 PM** D125  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Creek Access & Dam Overlook, 7481 Creek Rd.  
Enjoy a pleasant float down the Twin Creek with a Five Rivers MetroParks naturalist and learn about the wildlife that exists here. We will kayak from the Germantown Dam to Cherry Street in Germantown. Prior kayaking experience is strongly recommended. Equipment provided. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: \$40

SKATING

**LEARN TO ICE SKATE! ADULT**  
**COURSE**  
**SUN. FEB 2, 9 & 16 12:20-12:50 PM** D161  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
Skills include skating forward and backward edges on a circle, three-turns, backward stops, bunny hop, lunges, and crossovers. Registration fee includes two free skating admissions, use of skates and lessons on February 2, 9 and 16. Make-up date in the event of closure will be Feb. 23. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 or riverscape@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: \$50



GET OUT & RIDE

# CARRIAGE HILL RIDING CENTER

Offering lessons, camps, rides – and, new this year, vaulting – the Carriage Hill Riding Center is your destination to connect with nature on horseback.

**NEW THIS YEAR!**  
**VAULTING**

Keep active this winter with MetroParks' new vaulting lessons. This sport of gymnastics/dance on horseback is open to riders of all levels, including beginners. Vaulting helps riders' flexibility and balance and improves their relationship with their horses through trust and respect. Lessons available every Saturday. Ages 8Y and up.



**SUMMER HORSE CAMPS**  
Learn to lead, groom, saddle, take care of a horse, and ride English and Western styles. These half-day, week-long camps are for ages 8-17 and include multiple skill levels. Camps run June 1-Aug. 7. Registration opens March 1. Fee: \$260

**TRAIL RIDE RESERVATIONS**  
The Carriage Hill Riding Center starts taking reservations on May 1 for the summer riding season that begins June 6.

**METROPARKS.ORG/**  
**RIDINGCENTER**

(937) 275-PARK

A FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS FAMILY-FUN, FREE EVENT

# BIKE TO WORK DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

PRESENTED BY  **MIAMI VALLEY**  
Regional Planning Commission

**FRIDAY, MAY 15 • 7 TO 9 AM**  
**AT RIVERSCAPE METROPARK**

Celebrate National Bike Month during the region's largest Bike to Work Day event. Join hundreds of cyclists for a free pancake breakfast and check out cycling-related exhibitors and live music. Participate in the team challenge for a chance to win sweet prizes!

**METROPARKS.ORG/BIKETOWORKDAY**





PRESENTED BY 

**FEBRUARY 14 & 15**  
**WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY**

**GET INSPIRED TO TACKLE YOUR OWN BUCKET LIST ADVENTURES DURING THIS FREE, FAMILY-FRIENDLY SPEAKER SERIES AND EXPO**

**Friday, Feb. 14, 5 to 9 PM**

- Featured speaker: Heather 'Anish' Anderson, 2019 National Geographic Adventurer of the Year and first female Triple Crown hiker.
- Enjoy hor'dorves, live music and beverages, and meet the presenters during the Summit Soiree from 6 to 8 PM.

**Saturday, Feb. 15, 9 to 6 PM**

- Featured speakers: Ryan Richardson, renowned rock and ice climber, and Maureen Beck, 2019 National Geographic Adventurer of the year and differently abled rock climber.

See page 25 to learn how you can volunteer to support this event!

 **FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS**

**TheAdventureSummit.com**

METROPARKS.ORG



# EARTH FRIENDLY LIVING

Learn how to live more sustainably and make better choices for the environment.

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

## FOOD: EARTH TO TABLE

**(FREE)** CONTEMPORARY CUISINE: A MARKET COOKING DEMONSTRATION WITH INVOKE

**THU. FEB 13, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM** D153  
2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.  
Invoke's menu features healthy, and numerous vegan, offerings. Learn from Invoke's chef Lester as he and his brother Larry introduce you to some of their delicious recipes you can make at home. Registration required. All ages. 📅

**SAUSAGE MAKING: TRADITIONAL PORK SAUSAGE**

**SUN. FEB 16, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** D27  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Meeting Room, 7800 E. Shull Rd.  
Butchering season meant an abundance of pork. One of the best uses for pork scraps was making sausage. Learn about the various types of sausage and its history. Next, make a variety of different sausages using 19th century recipes and techniques. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$35 📅

**19TH CENTURY COOKERY CLASS FOR COUPLES**

**SAT. MAR 7, 5:00-7:30 PM** D28  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.  
Couples (friends, significant others, adult family members), experience an evening of historical cooking and entertainment. Learn how to prepare fresh, local vegetables and do some simple baking. Afterward, play historical games and enjoy entertainment in the candlelit parlor. Fee covers two people. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$50 📅

### HERITAGE BAKING SERIES

Using 19th century recipes and methods, students will learn to bake using a wood-fired oven.

**SOURDOUGH 101**  
**SAT. MAR 21, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM** D30  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill

Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.  
Join us in the farmhouse for a hands-on lesson about leaven (sourdough). Students will prepare a batch of dough and, using some pre-risen dough, bake a boule, a pan loaf and a pizza crust in a wood-fired stove. Recipes, a sourdough starter, a dough bowl, and students' freshly baked breads will be included. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$100 📅

**GETTING STARTED RAISING SMALL LIVESTOCK AT HOME**

**THU. MAR 26, 6:00-8:00 PM** D40  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Interested in raising your own animals for food, fiber or hobby, but don't know where to start or even if it's right for you? Then join us as we talk about a variety of small livestock and what you will need to know before spending time and money on animals, food and other needs. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 📅

**HOW TO MAKE GOETTA**  
**SUN. MAR 29, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** D31  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Meeting Room, 7800 E. Shull Rd.  
Goetta is a historic regional dish that used pork and beef sausage as well as pin oats and seasoning. Join us as we trace its origins and discuss its history. Instructions on how to make goetta at home will be provided during this hands-on class. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$35 📅

### THE COMFORT CAULDRON

Make seasonal soups utilizing fresh, local produce grown at Possum Creek MetroPark Farm or other local farms.

### SPRING SOUPS

**WED. APR 1, 6:00-8:00 PM** D58  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
The first emergences of spring greens naturally prompt us to start thinking about lightening our meals and detoxing our bodies of the accumulated winter sludge. Participants will make a trio of light and healthy

spring soups. Recipes (and leftovers) will be sent home with the soup-chefs. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 📅

**(FREE)** A TASTE OF THE 2ND STREET MARKET: SALAD DAYS

**THU. APR 9, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM** D166  
2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.  
Come & greet Lisa Helm one of the Market's urban farmers talk about what she grows all year long in her urban garden. She will bring lettuces that she has growing while Chef Joe Fish from The Chef's Case will show you how to make different salads from them. Come ready to sample! Remember, know your farmer, know your food. Registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 or marketinfo@metroparks.org for details. All ages. 📅

**BACKYARD RABBITS: TASTE AND LEARN**

**THU. APR 23, 6:00-8:00 PM** D43  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Are you interested in raising rabbits for food, fiber, manure or pets? In this program staff will walk you through what you need to know about space requirements, feeding and breeds. Taste a rabbit dish and see fiber products from rabbits. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 📅

**BACKYARD GOATS: TASTE AND LEARN**

**THU. MAY 21, 6:00-8:00 PM** D45  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Goats have a lot to offer any household or farm. Goats can be kept on small acreage, and provide meat, milk, fiber — and even brush-clearing. Learn about breeds, care, and fencing. Taste goat meat, goat cheese, and take home a bar of goat milk soap. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 📅



BLOOMS AT AULLWOOD



BLOOMS AT GERMANTOWN



BLOOMS AT COX ARBORETUM

## STAY TUNED FOR SPRING BLOOMS

When they bloom in April, the thousands of bluebells originally planted by conservation pioneer Marie Aull are an amazing sight to behold.

Spring blooms create stunning displays in all your MetroParks — but they're only around for a short time. Sign up to be notified when flowers are blooming at Aullwood Garden, Cox Arboretum and Germantown MetroParks so you can take a self-guided tour. You'll receive an email with park maps, instructions on what to look for and information about how long the blooms will last.

To sign up, contact:  
Betty Hoevel, Education Coordinator  
dorothy.hoevel@metroparks.org  
(937) 275-PARK

## RENT A FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOT

LARGE GARDEN PLOTS ARE AVAILABLE ON AN ANNUAL BASIS AT:

- POSSUM CREEK (available from late April through Nov. 1)
- WEGERZYN GARDENS (available seasonally and year-round; organic plots also are available)

Standard seasonal plots are 800 square feet and cost \$20 per plot annually. Year-round plots are \$40 per plot per year.

Gardeners are responsible for watering, weeding, pest control and harvesting. Five Rivers MetroParks provides initial tilling of the soil, water and access to seeds.

[METROPARKS.ORG/COMMUNITY-GARDENS](https://www.mtmetroparks.org/community-gardens)



## GET OUT & DISCOVER DURING TOUR DE WAY THROUGH MARCH 1

Adventure awaits along the 99 miles of river corridor connecting communities along the Great Miami Riverway. Take the Tour De Way challenge and explore more than 100 locations in our region that promise to pique the interests of everyone from aviation enthusiasts to art lovers — and, of course, those who enjoy being active outdoors. Plus, you'll be entered for the chance to win cool prizes!

- How to tackle the Tour De Way:
- 1) Visit [bit.ly/TourDeWay](https://bit.ly/TourDeWay) to create your account so you can start filling your digital passport.
  - 2) Visit one of the many stops, and scan the QR code you'll find there.
  - 3) Keep visiting locations! Every QR code you scan will be saved in your digital passport.
  - 4) Take fun, family-friendly pictures and use the hashtag #RiverwayGiveaway when posting to social media.

The Tour De Way ends on March 1, 2020, with prize winners announced at the Riverway Summit on April 17.





# GET OUT & EXPLORE YOUR METROPARKS

For more than 50 years, Five Rivers MetroParks has protected the region's natural heritage and provided outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection to nature.

## FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS OVERVIEW



**3.6 MILLION ANNUAL VISITS**



**18 CLEAN, SAFE PARKS**



**2ND STREET MARKET**



**11 CONSERVATION AREAS**



**160 MILES OF MANAGED TRAILS**  
for hiking, biking, mountain biking and horseback riding



**270 MILES OF RIVER CORRIDOR**  
42 miles managed by Five Rivers MetroParks



**8+ OUTDOOR RECREATION FEATURES**  
Including MoMBA and the Twin Valley Trail



**9+ EDUCATIONAL FEATURES**  
Including the Butterfly House and Children's Discovery Garden



## 16,112 ACRES OF PROTECTED LAND

90 percent of the land is maintained in its natural state, meaning the land is managed so habitat for plants and wildlife is a priority. Doing so preserves clean water and air, supports plant and wildlife biodiversity, and provides beautiful places where people can connect with nature.

**METROPARKS.ORG/EXPLORE**

## TRY A NEW OUTDOOR ADVENTURE THIS SUMMER!

- Youth and Teen Summer Camps
- Kayaking
- Mountain Biking

Opportunities for ages 9-17  
Registration opens Feb. 1



Visit [metroparks.org/scholarships](https://metroparks.org/scholarships) to learn about MetroParks' Access to Nature Scholarship that can cover a portion of camp costs for qualified applicants!

**METROPARKS.ORG/SUMMERCAMPS**

## GARDENING

### HOUSEPLANT HOW-TO AND SWAP

**SAT. FEB 8, 10:00-11:30 AM** D7  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Love your houseplants? Want to know more and have more? We'll talk about varieties, care, and propagation. Join us for an information filled morning and bring along a houseplant or cutting to share or swap. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🍷

### GREENING YOUR GARDEN: PRODUCTS AND PLANTS

**SAT. MAR 21, 10:00-11:30 AM** D10  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Healthy plants make a healthy environment. We'll discuss methods, plants, products, and how to get the best results from your garden without harming soil, water, or pollinators. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🍷

### GARDENING BY THE MOON

**WED. MAR 25, 6:00-8:00 PM** D52  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Come out for an evening of lunar learning as we delve into the ancient practice of using the moon's cycles as way to produce higher yields in the vegetable garden. We will also discuss our gardens and set intentions for a successful season. Participants will enjoy a cup of moon tea, make an herbal moon bath soak, and take home moon flower seeds. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 🍷

### GREAT NATIVES

**SAT. APR 25, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** D13  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
April is Ohio Native Plant Month and Nancy Linz, one of the leaders for this cause, will talk about the native plants of Ohio, where to find them, and how to use them in your garden. Each attendee receives a native plant start. Tours of the wild-flower area and prairie garden will follow the talk. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 🍷

### (FREE) ANNUAL MAYFAIR MEMBERS-ONLY PRE-SALE

**FRI. MAY 1, 5:00-7:00 PM** D156  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation members get a jump on their spring plant shopping and 10% off their total purchase on this special members-only night. Anyone can become a member at the door; memberships start at \$40. This event is a fundraiser for the Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation. No registration required. Contact (937) 474-3760

or [contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org](mailto:contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org) for details. [wegerzyngardensfoundation.org](https://wegerzyngardensfoundation.org). All ages.

### GARDEN SPOTLIGHT: LATE SPRING PERENNIALS

**SAT. MAY 9, 10:00-11:30 AM** D14  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
As spring bulbs end their time, perennials fill in with new beauty. Join us as we tour perennial plantings and see how seamlessly one season can blend into the next in the well-planned garden. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🍷

### PLANTING WORKSHOP

**SAT. MAY 16, 10:00-11:30 AM** D16  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
It's time to get the garden going, so join us as we discuss planting techniques, plant choices (annuals, perennials, bulbs, herbs and vegetables) and how to get everything from a large border to a small patio looking wonderful for the season ahead. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🍷

## HERITAGE & HISTORY

### DRAFT HORSE DRIVING CLASS

**SAT. APR. 11-18, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM** D47  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Meeting Room, 7800 E. Shull Rd.  
In the 1880s, draft horses were used for a wide variety of chores on the farm. In this modern era, draft horses can still be used as a sustainable way of doing farm work. Join us for this two-part class on basic draft horse driving. Students will learn about draft horse safety, the basics of harnesses and do basic ground driving. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$50 🍷

### BUS TRIP: FRANKLIN PARK CONSERVANCY, GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE, HERITAGE GARDENS & DEMONYE'S GREENHOUSE

**TUE. MAY 5, 7:45 AM-6:45 PM** D152  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Program Parking Area, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Visit the unique gardens in central Ohio, including the Franklin Park Conservancy Gardens' Chihuly in Nature exhibit and new children's garden. Tour the governor's residence and the adjoining Ohio's Heritage Garden. The last stop will be at DeMonye's Greenhouse. Lunch included. A Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation fundraiser. Reservations due by April 1. Contact (937) 233-3481 or [contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org](mailto:contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org) for details and to register. Age: 18Y and up Fee: Foundation non-members: \$104, Wegerzyn Foundation Members: \$99

## HERITAGE CRAFTS

Our heritage craft series helps keep historical crafts alive through hands-on opportunities.

### BLACKSMITHING

**THU. MAY 7, 6:00-8:00 PM** D50  
**SAT. MAY 9, 9:00-11:00 AM** D51  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.  
Have you ever wanted to try your hand at blacksmithing? Join us each month as we focus on a different heritage skill. Basic principles and skills will be taught and participants will work on a simple project. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 🍷

## SUSTAINABLE HOME

### (FREE) MASTER RECYCLING CLASS

**WED. MAR. 4-APR. 1, 6:00-8:00 PM** D65  
OFFSITE, Montgomery County Solid Waste District, 2550 Sandridge Dr.  
Presented in partnership with Montgomery County Environmental Services, learn how to reduce, reuse and recycle and become advocates in waste reduction. Attend 5 classes and commit to 20 volunteer hours. Join us February 19 from 6-7:30 PM at MetroParks' main office (409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd floor) for an informational session to learn more. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

### (FREE) COMPOST KITCHEN

**WED. APR. 8-22, 6:00-8:00 PM** D165  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
This three-part program covers everything you need to know to compost effectively and is offered free of charge thanks to a partnership with Montgomery County Environmental Services. Talks and activities explore soil ecology, chemical-free gardening and household waste management. Participants completing all three programs receive a free composter. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 🍷



**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM EXPANDED TO COVER RENTALS!**  
Visit [metroparks.org/scholarships](https://metroparks.org/scholarships) for details.

## FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS FOUNDATION

### ACCESS TO NATURE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Providing qualifying families with financial assistance for fee-based MetroParks programs, the Access to Nature Scholarship is available for those of all ages. From summer camps to family programs, these funds enable more families to Get Out & Explore!

### NEW IN 2020!

You now can use the Access to Nature Scholarship to rent Five Rivers MetroParks' shelters and campsites! Now is the perfect time to plan your spring or summertime gathering or outdoor adventure with family and friends.

To learn more and apply for an Access to Nature Scholarship, visit [metroparks.org/scholarships](https://metroparks.org/scholarships).





# ADULT NATURE EXPLORATION

Enjoy and learn about the splendor of the natural world.

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

## CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

**(FREE) VOLUNTEER: CONSERVATION SEASON OPENER**  
**SAT. FEB 8, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM** D104  
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor  
Learn about the elements of conservation, how Five Rivers MetroParks' stewardship plans protect our native habitats and how individuals and groups can help. Learn about 2019 accomplishments and what's planned for 2020, meet staff and volunteers, and discover how you can get involved. New and returning volunteers welcome! Registration required. Contact [allison.zimmerman@metroparks.org](mailto:allison.zimmerman@metroparks.org) for details. [metroparks.org/conservation](http://metroparks.org/conservation). Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚙️

### BIRD FEEDER COFFEE BREAK

Sip coffee (made from beans grown using bird-friendly methods) and learn your wintertime birds while taking part in Project FeederWatch, a citizen-science initiative through Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology.

### (FREE) OUR COMMON BIRDS

**FRI. MAR 13, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM** D2  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.  
Explore bird diversity while learning courtship displays, nest types, diet, and other details of our common birds, like Blue Jays, Cardinals, Mourning Doves, and more! Bring binoculars and field guide if you have them. A limited supply will be available. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages 📅 ⚙️

## FLORA & FAUNA

### WINTER TREE ID WORKSHOP

**SAT. FEB 8, 1:00-4:00 PM** D73  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn how to identify more than 20 native trees by their twig, bark, and other winter characteristics. Discover pioneer, wildlife and commercial

uses for each tree while sharing stories of folklore. Each participant will receive a winter tree identification notebook with everything needed to get started identifying trees. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$10 📅 ⚙️

### MAMMAL TRACKING

**SAT. FEB 22, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** D70  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Discover the art and science of animal tracking as we learn how to identify mammal tracks and scat. We will explore collections, make plaster casts of animal tracks and explore animal signs in the field. Dress warmly. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$8 📅 ⚙️

### OWLS OF OHIO

**SAT. FEB 22, 6:00-8:30 PM** D72  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.  
Explore Ohio's eight owl species during a presentation about their courtship rituals, feeding behaviors, identification characteristics, songs, and interactions with people. Then take a slow-paced night hike into the forest in search of owls. Each participant will receive an ODNR field guide to Ohio owls. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$10 📅 ⚙️

### BEGINNING BIRDING

**SAT. MAY 9, 1:00-5:00 PM** D77  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Get started with the basics of birding, including identification, field guide and binocular use; identifying bird song; and biology and behavior. The 2-hour indoor session will be followed by a 2-hour field study. Participants receive an ODNR birding handbook and field guides. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$15 📅 ⚙️

## HERITAGE & HISTORY

### (FREE) CARLISLE FORT: A HOPEWELL SITE WORKSHOP

**THU. APR 23, 4:30-6:30 PM** D167  
TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Hopewell Parking Lot, 8502 Chamberlain Rd.  
Discover the remnants of a culture from 2,000

years ago. Explore the Twin Creek MetroPark trails on this guided hike to a unique mound built by the Hopewell people. Learn what's been discovered about this culture and enjoy exciting activities from MetroParks' new Hopewell Education Kit, which you can rent. Trails are moderately difficult. Registration required. Contact [dhorvath@metroparks.org](mailto:dhorvath@metroparks.org) for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚙️

## NATURE APPRECIATION

### ADULT NATURE WALKS

Enjoy a leisurely hike through natural areas as we explore Montgomery County's ecology and gain a deeper perspective for how nature works. We also will discuss humans' role in nature and how we can minimize our impacts and get involved with conservation efforts. It's our nature!

### (FREE) ADULT NATURE WALK

**TUE. FEB 4, 9:00-11:00 AM** D171  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40  
**TUE. MAR 24, 9:00-11:00 AM** D184  
EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.  
**TUE. APR 21, 9:00-11:00 AM** D181  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake Program Parking Area, 7891 E. Shull Rd.  
**TUE. MAY 12, 9:00-11:00 AM** D178  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Program Parking at Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.  
Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚙️

### (FREE) DISCOVERY STROLL

**WED. MAR 18, 10:00-11:30 AM** D168  
**WED. APR 15, 10:00-11:30 AM** D169  
**WED. MAY 20, 10:00-11:30 AM** D170  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Program Parking, 2471 Deep Hollow Rd.  
Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚙️

**(FREE) VOLUNTEER: FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION**  
**WED. FEB 5, 9:00-11:00 AM** D139

(937) 275-PARK

**THU. FEB 20, 6:30-8:30 PM** D140  
**WED. MAR 4, 9:00-11:00 AM** D141  
**THU. MAR 19, 6:30-8:30 PM** D142  
**THU. APR 2, 6:30-8:30 PM** D143  
**WED. APR 22, 9:00-11:00 AM** D144  
**WED. MAY 6, 9:00-11:00 AM** D145  
**THU. MAY 21, 6:30-8:30 PM** D146  
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor  
Five Rivers MetroParks has volunteer opportunities year-round and at nearly every park. Orientation provides a history of the parks and an overview of location and subject-specific volunteer opportunities for you to choose from. Attendance does not commit you to anything. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up 📅

## PHOTOGRAPHY & ART

### PHOTOGRAPHY BOOT CAMP

**SUN. FEB 16, 1:00-4:00 PM** D8  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Bring your camera and instruction manual to this hands-on program and learn about the capabilities of your equipment and how to quickly adjust settings for different shooting situations. Each participant will receive individual attention from the instructor and leave the class with a customized quick reference guide. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$40 📅

### PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

**SUN. MAR 15, 1:00-2:30 PM** D9  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
The instructor will present participants with challenging photographic problems regarding light, blur and motion. Working together, you'll learn to take good pictures in difficult situations. Bring a tripod and a flash if possible. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 📅

### BEAUTY IN OUR OWN BACKYARD

**SUN. APR 19, 1:00-2:30 PM** D11  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
April is Ohio Native Plant Month and this class will introduce many of the plants and flowers that can be found in this area. Techniques for how to photograph them and their surroundings will be presented. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 📅

### SPRING INTO ACTION

**SUN. MAY 10, 1:00-2:30 PM** D15  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Nature offers so much for photographers to enjoy at this time of year. Spend some time taking pictures of colorful flowers, insects and birds. Learn techniques for taking close-up photos of small treasures in the garden. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 📅

[METROPARKS.ORG](http://METROPARKS.ORG)

## ADULT NATURE PROGRAMMING

## BECOME A CHAMPION

OF FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

Help support Five Rivers MetroParks in its mission to protect the region's natural heritage

Sign up for a monthly donation and receive a t-shirt and window cling

[METROPARKS.ORG/FOUNDATION](http://METROPARKS.ORG/FOUNDATION)



# GET OUT & GIVE

The Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation secures philanthropic funding for special projects and programming, as well as an endowment. Charitable contributions can support all MetroParks or one specific park. Donations also can be directed to support MetroParks' educational and recreational services, as well as conservation initiatives.

When you support the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation, you support MetroParks' special projects and programs that connect families to nature, protect local habitats and wildlife, and preserve greenspace. With so many ways to make a donation, supporting the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation has never been easier.

- Champions Program: The easiest way to contribute is by making a monthly recurring gift.
- Tribute Program: Honor a special person with a named bench, tree and more in their favorite MetroPark.
- Planned Giving: Leave a lasting legacy with a planned gift that will provide Five Rivers MetroParks with long-term stability and ensure future generations enjoy great parks.
- Individual Donations: One-time donations can be made securely online in any denomination.
- Shop for a Cause: Support MetroParks via Amazon Smile and at Kroger and Dorothy Lane Market.
- Access to Nature Scholarship: Help provide financial assistance for qualified children and adults who want to participate in MetroParks' fee-based programs and camps.

The Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and your donations are 100% tax deductible.

[METROPARKS.ORG/DONATE](http://METROPARKS.ORG/DONATE)



## SIGN UP FOR METROPARKS' MONTHLY DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

Check your inbox to learn how you can Get Out & Explore your MetroParks. A monthly newsletter is packed with highlights, and newsletters for special interests such as gardening, outdoor recreation and volunteerism also are popular. All are designed to help you make the most of your Five Rivers MetroParks!

[METROPARKS.ORG/NEWSLETTERS](http://METROPARKS.ORG/NEWSLETTERS)





# FAMILY

*Spend quality time outdoors with everyone in your family.*

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY DATE

## CONSERVATION KIDS

We've recently made it easier for families to participate in Conservation Kids programs by removing age-level restrictions. You will find all your Conservation Kids programs in one place. These age-appropriate programs give your kids clear steps to take and opportunities to see the impact they make through planting for pollinators, collecting seeds to plant a forest, creating their own wildlife habitat in their backyard, being a naturalist for their classmates at school and building connections!

By completing programs in each of the three levels of this series, your child will also receive a special reward. Visit [metroparks.org/kids](https://metroparks.org/kids) for more information. Look for color triangles (▲, ▲, ▲) in the program listings for Conservation Kids to see what level each program is designated for within the series. Participants should begin by taking Discovery Level (green) programs and build onto their knowledge with blue and orange programs after completing the green level.

### PROTECTOR OF NATURE

Congratulations to our most recent Conservation Kids!

Coraline Fecke  
Willem Fecke

Cora Dahlstrom  
Logan Combs

### CONSERVATION KIDS

This series nurtures kids' desire to explore nature and empowers them to speak out for the planet they will soon inherit. Watch as your child grows closer to nature, develops leadership skills and works with peers to protect Montgomery County's ecology. By completing programs in each of the three levels of this series, your child also will receive a special MetroParks Conservation Kids hat and become eligible to volunteer and help lead future programs. Visit [metroparks.org/kids](https://metroparks.org/kids).

#### (FREE) FOREST BIRD SEARCH

**SAT. FEB 8, 10:00-11:30 AM** D74  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Program Parking at Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.  
Test your bird finding abilities as we track down some of the forest's most beautiful birds. Discover why forests and birds depend on each other for survival, and how you can help! Bring binoculars if you have them. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) SLEEPING NATURE

**SAT. FEB 8, 6:00-7:30 PM** D75  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot , 4178 Conference Rd.  
Ohio's winters can be harsh, but plants and animals have developed successful strategies for enduring colder temperatures. Come discover these adaptations as we explore the outdoors on this family adventure. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

**SAT. FEB 15, 1:00-2:30 PM** D71  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershire Rd.  
People all across the country will be counting the birds they see this weekend and reporting their sightings online, and you can be a part of the story! Bring binoculars if you have them, a limited supply will be available. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) BIRDS AND COMMUNITY

**SAT. FEB 22, 1:00-3:00 PM** D69  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn your local birds, how to attract them to your

yard, and how to get other kids excited about nature. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) WOODCOCK WATCH

**FRI. MAR 6, 6:30-7:30 PM** D76  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Be a witness to the woodcock's extravagant mating display of circles, spirals, and dives while enjoying the crisp night. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) SIGNS OF SPRING

**SAT. MAR 14, 10:00-11:30 AM** D79  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw/ Parking Lot, 2471 Deep Hollow Rd.  
Satisfy your itch to get outside after a long winter, and help us look for signs of spring! We'll discuss seasonal changes, and explore nature's awakening. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) PROJECT BUDBURST

**SAT. MAR 14, 1:00-2:30 PM** D78  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.  
Join a national network of citizen scientists responsible for keeping track of the timing of plant growth, from leaving to fruiting! We will venture out, collect data, then submit to Project Budburst and continue monitoring through the year. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) BECOME A GARDENER

**SAT. MAR 21, 1:00-3:00 PM** D80  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn what it takes to be a gardener and what all plants need in order to survive. Get tools to have a gardening party with your friends. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) AMPHIBIAN NATURALIST TRAINING

**FRI. APR 3, 7:00-9:00 PM** D83  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn your local amphibians and practice techniques in searching for them and sharing them with others. We'll venture out into the

wetlands for our own adventure, then help you develop your own get-together! Participants will receive tools to help them guide peers on their own frog hunt. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) NOCTURNAL AMPHIBIAN SEARCH

**FRI. APR 17, 7:30-9:00 PM** D87  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot , 4178 Conference Rd.  
Search for Spring Peepers, Spotted Salamanders, and other amphibians in Sugarcreek's vernal pool, only 1/4 mile away from the parking lot. Bring a flashlight and wear clothes that can get muddy. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) SPRING FLOWER EXPLORATION

**SAT. APR 25, 1:00-3:00 PM** D90  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40  
Did you know that some of the most beautiful flowers are only around for a couple of weeks in the spring? Come explore them with us. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) BULLFROG ROUNDUP

**SAT. APR 25, 8:30-10:00 PM** D86  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Shelter: Sunfish/ Valley Overlook/ Parking Lot, 7101 Conservancy Rd.  
Take part in conservation efforts in removing bullfrogs from natural pools that have delicate species like Wood Frogs and Red-spotted Newts. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) PLANTING FOR POLLINATORS

**SAT. MAY 2, 1:00-3:00 PM** D89  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Pollinators have an important job to do, so let's help them by planting flowers they need! Learn about pollinator friendly plants, and get ideas to make your family habitat more pollinator friendly. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) NOCTURNAL BACKYARD INSECTS

**SAT. MAY 2, 7:30-9:30 PM** D88  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Come explore the incredible diversity of nocturnal insects, and how to share them with friends. Participants will get a nocturnal insect starter kit to enhance their next backyard sleepover. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) SIX LEGGED BEASTS

**SAT. MAY 16, 10:00-11:30 AM** D92  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Prairie

## FAMILY PROGRAMMING

Dock/Parking Lot, 4730 Frytown Rd.  
Come explore the prairie and wetland to catch insects that probably live in your own backyard. We'll use nets for close up inspection and we'll release after identifying what we've captured. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### (FREE) NATURE'S DEFENSES

**SAT. MAY 16, 1:00-2:30 PM** D91  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Nature has come up with many ways to protect itself from predators. Come explore some of these unique defenses with us! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🦋 ⚙️ ▲

#### FAMILY NIGHT BY CANDLELIGHT

**SAT. FEB 22, 10:00-11:30 AM** D37  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Family time is important and so is conserving energy. In this program you will make candles out of soy to take home and have a game or movie night by candlelight with the family. There will be items to decorate your candle with and each family will make three candles. Registration required. All ages. Fee per family: \$20 🦋

#### MAPLE SYRUP AND OTHER NATURAL SWEETENERS

**SAT. FEB 29, 10:00-11:30 AM** D38  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Nature is generous when it comes to the sweeteners it makes. During this program we will try samples of different sweeteners such as maple syrup, honey, agave, stevia and raw sugars such as cane and palm. Have a sweet adventure and take home a small container of honey and maple syrup. Registration required. All ages. Fee per family: \$15 🦋

#### FAMILY FARMHANDS

**SAT. MAR 28, 9:00-11:00 AM** D39  
**SAT. APR 11, 9:00-11:00 AM** D42  
**SAT. MAY 9, 9:00-11:00 AM** D44  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Become a farmhand for the morning and help feed and care for the rabbits, chickens, sheep, goats and donkey. Registration required. Age: 5Y-8Y Fee per child: \$5 🦋

#### (FREE) SPRING FAMILY GET GROWING DAY

**SAT. MAR 28, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** D67  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Spring is popping outdoors and indoors, so come for a fun day of exploration and learning. There'll be kid games and crafts, seed planting, herb tasting, native plant propagation, garden tips, green-

house tours and a presentation by farmer and dad Doug Christen on kids and family gardening. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages. 🦋

#### GROW LITTLE SEED

**SAT. APR 25, 10:00-11:30 AM** A277  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Spring is here and it's time to start thinking about what you would like to grow in your garden. To help you get started on your planting, we will provide a container and seeds for you to start with. You will learn about how to care for your seedlings and when to transplant them. Registration required. All ages. Fee per family: \$10 🦋

#### MOTHER AND SON FISHING DAY

**SAT. MAY 2, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** D102  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Farm Shelter/ Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Road  
We have planned a special morning just for mothers and sons as they enjoy a great American pastime. This is a Passport to Fishing program sponsored in part by the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Instruction, equipment and bait provided. Please bring a water bottle with you. Registration required. All ages. Fee: \$5 🦋

#### PAPER CLAY CREATIONS

**SAT. MAY 2, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** D46  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Learn how to turn paper into clay that can be used to create great works of art. Make gnome homes from this clay and a recycled pop bottle to take home and start a fairy garden. Registration required. All ages Fee per family: \$10

#### (FREE) YMCA HEALTHY KIDS DAY

**SAT. MAY 9, 12:00-4:00 PM** D137  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.  
Kick off summer with Healthy Kids Day, part of the national initiative to improve the health & well-being of kids. Join kids Zumba classes, line dancing, sports skills clinics, martial arts, ballet, arts & crafts, other enrichment activities, a family Fun Run, and games from Camp Kern. Prizes & giveaways will be handed out to all participants. No registration required. Contact (937) 223-5201 for details. [daytonymca.org/programs/healthy-kids-day](https://daytonymca.org/programs/healthy-kids-day). All ages. ⚙️

#### FAIRY GARDEN WORKSHOP

**SAT. MAY 16, 2:00-3:30 PM** D66  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Come have a magical afternoon creating a little fairy garden with your children. We will have an array of vessels or you may bring your own 12x12 container. Each family will receive soil, pebbles and plants, then create one fairy garden to take home. Registration required. All ages. Fee Per Family: \$25 🦋



# GET OUT & SKATE

## AT THE FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS ICE RINK

Open daily through March 1, the MetroParks Ice Rink is the perfect spot to enjoy a couples skate, a day of family fun and to maintain your healthy, active outdoor lifestyle.



### SWEETHEART SKATE

Take your sweetie to the rink and enjoy two admissions, two pairs of skates, two cups of hot chocolate, and a box of Bellbrook Chocolates for only \$20. The Sweetheart Skate deal is available Feb. 14-16 during regular rink hours.



### CELEBRATE PRESIDENTS DAY

at the MetroParks Ice Rink on Mon., Feb. 17, from 11 AM to 5 PM.

937-278-2607  
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## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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## SUMMER STARTS IN MAY

### AT RIVERSCAPE METROPARK

Enjoy RiverScape Rentals, the fountains, free fitness programs and more

#### FRIDAY, MAY 1

Summer unofficially starts with Pickin' in the Park! RiverScape MetroParks' first outdoor concert of 2020 kicks off at 6:00 PM.

#### TUESDAY, MAY 5

Enjoy lunch and live acoustic music by the Great Miami River during Music @ Lunch, Tuesday through Friday, 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM

#### SATURDAY, MAY 9

Fitness in the Park features free cardio dance and yoga classes on most Saturdays, from 10 to 11 AM. Starting in June, bootcamp classes are most Tuesdays, from 5:30 to 6:30 PM.



Rent bikes and watch the fountains starting Memorial Day weekend!

# PRESCHOOL, YOUTH AND TEENS

Help children discover the wonders of nature.  
Explore the outdoors while learning and growing.

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY DATE

## PRESCHOOL

### LEARN TO ICE SKATE! CHILDREN'S COURSE

**SUN. FEB 2, 9 & 16 11:00-11:30 AM** D159  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Learn the basics of skating, including how to get on and off the ice, fall safely, and get up on your own. Fee includes use of skates and lessons on Feb. 2, 9 and 16, as well as two free skate admissions so you can return to the rink to practice your new skills. Make-up date is Feb. 23. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$50 🗓 ⚙

### (FREE) WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE FARM

**THU. FEB 6, 10:00-11:00 AM** D198

**THU. MAR 5, 10:00-11:00 AM** D199

**THU. APR 2, 10:00-11:00 AM** D200

**THU. MAY 7, 10:00-11:00 AM** D201  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Things are always changing at the farm; whether it's the seasons, what's growing in the garden or prairie or how the different animals are changing to adapt to the weather. Life on the farm is always in motion. Each month there will be different fun subjects to learn about from stories to activities. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 2Y-5Y 🗓 ⚙

### TIKE HIKE

Explore nature with your preschooler as we venture through diverse habitats, pretend, tell stories, and play during these theme-based gatherings.

### (FREE) SILENT FLIERS

**THU. FEB 20, 10:00-11:00 AM** D81  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Learn about Ohio's owls by listening to their sounds; exploring study skins; meeting our Screech Owl, River; and taking a hike to explore owls' homes. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 🗓 ⚙

### (FREE) LITTLE SPROUTS

**WED. MAR 25, 10:00-11:00 AM** D82  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw/ Parking Lot, 2471 Deep Hollow Rd.

Come learn what a plant needs to grow, and then we will search for baby plants in the park! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 🗓 ⚙

### (FREE) SALAMANDER SEARCH

**THU. APR 30, 10:00-11:00 AM** D84  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Patty/East Park, 4361 National Rd.

Treat your preschooler to dirty hands and fresh air as we explore the park for salamanders. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 🗓 ⚙

### (FREE) WOODLAND ADVENTURE

**TUE. MAY 12, 10:00-11:00 AM** D85  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Program Parking, 4178 Conference Rd.

Get out for crisp, fresh air and take an adventurous nature hike through the woodlands, exploring the trees, plants, and wildlife. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 🗓 ⚙

### GROW WITH ME IN THE GARDEN

The garden is the perfect outdoor learning space and full sensory experience for preschoolers. Each month, children will participate in a garden activity (planting, harvesting, building) that's themed around a seasonal vegetable or flower.

### PEAS AND THANK YOU

**WED. MAR 18, 10:00-11:30 AM** D60  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Edible Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

More peas, please! Bring your preschooler out to the farm garden to learn all about the wonderful pea. Children will hear a story, plant peas, and try a tasty pea snack. Dress for the weather and to get dirty. Registration required. Age: 0Y-6Y Fee per preschooler: \$5 🗓 ⚙

### CARROT TOPS AND LETTUCE CROPS

**WED. APR 8, 10:00-11:30 AM** D61

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Edible Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Plant carrots and lettuce for Possum Creek's rabbits and learn about what they eat. A story will be told, and kids will play a game in the garden and enjoy a healthy carrot and lettuce snack. Dress for the weather. Registration required. Age: 0Y-6Y Fee per preschooler: \$5 🗓 ⚙

### THE BEES KNEES

**WED. MAY 6, 10:00-11:30 AM** D62  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Edible Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Learn all about bees and why they're one of the most important pollinators. Children will plant flowers for the bees and butterflies, pot a flower to give to their mother or grandmother for Mothers Day, play a game, and enjoy a healthy snack. Dress for the weather and to get dirty. Registration required. Age: 0Y-6Y Fee per preschooler: \$5 🗓 ⚙

## YOUTH AND TEEN

### LEARN TO ICE SKATE! YOUTH/ TEEN COURSE

**SUN. FEB 2, 11:40 AM-12:10 PM** D160  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Learn how to fall and get up, get safely across the ice, and skate forward and backward. Fee includes use of skates and lessons on Feb. 2, 9 and 16, as well as two free admissions so you can return to the rink and practice your new skills. Make-up date in the event of closure will be Feb. 23. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Registration required. Age: 6Y-17Y Fee: \$50 🗓 ⚙

### MORNING CHORES

**SAT. FEB 8, 8:30-10:00 AM** D26

**SAT. MAR 21, 8:30-10:00 AM** D29

**SAT. MAY 16, 8:30-10:00 AM** D35  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

Join a farm staff member to experience a typical work day for a farm hand. Participants will help with a variety of historic chores. Meet at the front gate of the farm. Registration required. Age: 8Y-12Y Fee: \$5 🗓 ⚙



# COMMUNITY GROUPS & TRAINING

*Share the benefits of an active, nature-based lifestyle with your community and future generations.*

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

## GARDENING

**(FREE) COMMUNITY GARDEN COORDINATORS DINNER**

**THU. MAR 12, 6:00-8:00 PM** D55  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Everyone who works with a community garden in Montgomery County is invited to join MetroParks' community gardening program staff and fellow community gardeners for our annual kick-off dinner. Discover essential resources and information and meet your gardening colleagues. Registration required. Contact [kaitlyn.lowry@metroparks.org](mailto:kaitlyn.lowry@metroparks.org) for details. Age: 18Y and up

## NATURE APPRECIATION

### TEACHER WORKSHOPS

Professional development hours are more fun when you're in a park! Join us as we explore new curriculum guides to bring nature to your classroom and your classroom outside!

**PROJECT WILD & INQUIRY ADVENTURES WORKSHOP**

**SUN. MAR 15, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM** D129  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.

This workshop certifies classroom teachers in the nationally recognized Project Wild curricula, engage educators in outdoor inquiry, and demonstrate how to utilize Five Rivers MetroParks' resources to make science come alive for students. Graduate degree (0.5) and 6 hours of Ohio approved credit is available, with no homework or papers to write. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$25 🍷

## 9TH ANNUAL Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Summit

**Saturday, March 7 • 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Brukner Nature Center • 5995 Horseshoe Bend Rd., Troy**

The 9th annual Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Summit will help activists, health practitioners, and educators learn how they can help children discover the benefits of unstructured outdoor play. This free event will feature workshops, keynote speakers, award presentations and a chance to explore Brukner Nature Center.

Registration is required and available at [bit.ly/MVLNCI](http://bit.ly/MVLNCI).



## DO YOU KNOW EDUCATORS WHO USE NATURE AS A CLASSROOM?

Nominate them for a 2019 OUTstanding Teacher Award. Winners receive a plant kit, classroom materials and more. Dayton-area classroom educators who teach any subject from kindergarten through high school are eligible.

Submit nominations by Jan. 31.  
Winners will be announced at the 2020 Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Summit.



## CELEBRATE TEACHERS WHO INSPIRE YOU TO GET OUTDOORS

[METROPARKS.ORG/OUTSTANDING](http://METROPARKS.ORG/OUTSTANDING)

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Artisan Goods

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Prepared Foods



Nearly 30 Market vendors  
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and Produce Perks!

### HOURS

Thursday & Friday — 11 AM to 3 PM  
Saturday — 8 AM to 3 PM

[METROPARKS.ORG/LOCALFOOD](http://METROPARKS.ORG/LOCALFOOD)





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## HOLD ON TO YOUR PARKWAYS!

This issue covers programs from February through May 2020.

View this *ParkWays* publication online at [metroparks.org/parkways](https://metroparks.org/parkways).



PLEASE RECYCLE

RESERVE NOW →



## RESERVATIONS MADE EASY

RENT A METROPARKS SHELTER OR CAMPSITE NOW FOR THE BEST SELECTION OF DATES AND LOCATIONS — BOTH EASY TO RESERVE ONLINE.

Shelters and campsites are located in beautiful natural settings and near park activities, such as hiking, play areas, fishing, paddling and cycling.

[METROPARKS.ORG/EASY](https://metroparks.org/easy)

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