Volunteer Opportunities

Carriage Hill MetroPark offers a wide variety of opportunities. Volunteers help bring the past to life by demonstrating 1880s farm or household chores and assisting with weekend activities. In addition, volunteers are needed at the Visitor Center. For more information visit metroparks.org/volunteer or call (937) 275-PARK (7275).

Support Your MetroParks

By making a donation to the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation, you support Five Rivers MetroParks’ mission to protect the region’s natural heritage and provide outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature. Donations are tax deductible and used to support programs and special projects. Sponsorships, tribute benches and trees, and planned giving options also are available. Visit metroparks.org/donate for more information.

Carriage Hill MetroPark

Once farmland and woodlots, this 900-acre park is rich in cultural and natural history. Explore forests, meadows, prairies, ponds and wetlands, and a 14-acre lake. Carriage Hill offers hiking and horseback riding trails, as well as scenic places to fish, picnic and paddle.

Learn about 1880s farm life at the Visitor Center. Photographs, maps, art and displays tell the history of the Carriage Hill Historical Farm, Dayton and the surrounding community. Journey to the 1880s at the Historical Farm, complete with period farm animals. Volunteers demonstrate household chores, farming, cooking, blacksmithing and more as they were done 125 years ago.

The Carriage Hill MetroPark Riding Center offers beginner through intermediate horseback riding activities and stables more than 20 horses representing a variety of breeds.

For More Information

Riding Center and Admin Offices …… (937) 275-PARK (7275)
Website ……………………………………… metroparks.org

THINGS TO DO

VISITOR CENTER, COUNTRY STORE & HISTORICAL FARM — Tour the Visitor Center and historical farm to learn about life in the 1880s. Volunteers and staff follow the farm seasons, demonstrating century-old techniques. Hours vary for the Country Store, located in the Visitor Center.

WALKING & HIKING — Enjoy more than 5 miles of easy walking trails through scenic meadows, prairies and woodlands. Most trails are color-coded and marked.

FISHING — Fish without a license and free of charge from the banks of both Cedar Lake and North Woods Pond. There is a catch-and-release program on all sizes of bass.

PICNICING — Reserve a shelter in a beautiful natural setting for your exclusive use by visiting metroparks.org/reservations or calling (937) 275-PARK (7275) during weekday business hours. Amenity fees and fees vary by shelter. Shelters that haven’t been reserved are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Picnic table sites also are available.

HORSEBACK RIDING — Carriage Hill Riding Center offers camps for kids ages 8-17, June through August. These half-day sessions take place Monday through Friday. Adult camps are available in September. Guided trail rides for those 8 years and older are offered Saturdays and Sundays. Youngsters 2-8 can enjoy hand-led pony rides. You also can bring your own horse and ride 6 miles of bridle trails. Horses should be loaded and unloaded at the trailer parking lot, 7743 E. Shull Rd. To learn more, visit metroparks.org/ridingcenter or call (937) 275-PARK (7275).

PADDLING — Kayak and canoe on Cedar Lake.

WINTER SPORTS — Cross-country skiing is permitted on the hiking trails and through the picnic areas.

SCHOOL & GROUP FARM TOURS — Call (937) 275-PARK (7275) for information and scheduling.

INFORMATION & REGULATIONS

Protect Carriage Hill MetroPark as a natural area and historical farm. Do not pick, collect or disturb plant or animal materials of any kind. Hunting, frog gigging and swimming are not permitted. Hikers and horseback riders must remain on their designated trails. Motor vehicles must remain on roads. Parking is permitted in designated parking areas only.

ANIMALS — Do not pet or feed the farm livestock.

PETS — Dogs allowed on leash only. Leashes may be no longer than 6 feet. Pets are not permitted in the historical farm area.

ALCOHOL — Prohibited except by permit in reservable shelters.

BICYCLES — Not permitted on trails or in the historical farm.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

HOURS OF OPERATION

PARK GROUNDS:
April 1 – Oct. 31 8 AM – 10 PM
Nov. 1 – March 31 8 AM – 8 PM

The park is closed Christmas and New Year’s Day.

VISITOR CENTER AND HISTORICAL FARM:

APRIL – OCTOBER

Visitor Center
10 AM – 5 PM Tue - Sat
Noon – 5 PM Sun

Historical Farm
8 AM – 5 PM Tue – Sun

November – March

Visitor Center
Noon – 4 PM Tue – Sun

Historical Farm
8 AM – 4 PM Tue – Sun

Historical Buildings
10 AM – 5 PM Tue – Sat
Noon – 5 PM Sun

The Visitor Center and Historical Farm are closed Mondays and Memorial Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s Day.
Five Rivers MetroParks supports the Americans with Disabilities Act by making reasonable accommodations in serving individuals with disabilities. Programs and facilities are offered on a non-discriminatory basis. If accommodations are needed, please call (937) 275-PARK (7275) at least one week in advance. Five Rivers MetroParks is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

LEGEND
- Entrance
- Reservable Shelter
- Parking
- Wheelchair Accessible
- Bathrooms
- Picnic Area
- Fishing
- Gift Shop (Hours Vary)

HIKING TRAILS
- Red Trail = 0.7 miles
- Green Trail = 1.5 miles
- Yellow Trail = 1.8 miles
- Blue Trail

HORSE TRAILS
- Red Trail
- Green Trail
- Yellow Trail

HISTORICAL FARM
1. Original Log House
2. Engine Shed/Wood Shop
3. Blacksmith Shop
4. Icehouse
5. Restroom
6. Log Barn
7. Daniel Arnold House
8. Summer Kitchen/Wash House
9. Bake Oven/Kitchen Garden
10. Buggy Shed
11. Poultry House
12. Bank Barn
13. Sawmill Site
14. Truck Patch
15. Equipment Graveyard
16. Cemetery
17. Crop Demonstrations
18. Kingpost Bridge
19. Farm Pond
20. Display Barn
21. Joseph Arnold House
22. Visitor Center/Country Store

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK • PARK MAP

[Map of Carriage Hill Metropark with various trails, facilities, and historical structures marked.]