GET OUT & LIVE
Enjoy a healthy, active lifestyle using your MetroParks.
See full story on pages 18–23.

CAMPING EXPANDED IN METROPARKS
SEE PAGES 15–16

LOW DAM REMOVAL IMPROVES FISHING
SEE PAGES 8–9

Photo by Amanda Barbosa
REMEMBER TO SAVE THE DATE
Be sure to mark your calendars for these upcoming Five Rivers MetroParks Events!

Sept. 4
RIVERTUNES: TOUCH
RiverScape MetroPark

Sept. 11
HISPANIC HERITAGE FESTIVAL
RiverScape MetroPark

Sept. 17–18
TASTE OF MIAMI VALLEY
RiverScape MetroPark

Sept. 25–26
COUNTRY FAIR
Carriage Hill MetroPark

Oct. 1–2
GEARFEST
Eastwood MetroPark

Oct. 9
VOYAGE ON THE PARKWAY
Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark

Oct. 16
FALL FAMILY FUN DAY
PNC 2nd Street Market

Oct. 16
HARVEST JAMBOREEE
Possum Creek MetroPark

Nov. 24
STOCK-UP WEDNESDAY
PNC 2nd Street Market

Nov. 26–28
ICE RINK GRAND OPENING WEEKEND
RiverScape MetroPark

For more information about these upcoming events or any of the programs and events offered by MetroParks each month, check the back section of this issue of ParkWays or visit www.metroparks.org
Get the lowdown on activities going on in your MetroParks! Be our friend on Facebook! Log on to www.facebook.com/metroparks. You can also get updates by following us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/metroparkstweet.

ONLINE EXTRA Read reviews of the new Bike Hub at RiverScape MetroPark from local cyclists. Visit metroparks.org/ParkWays and click the link on the right-hand side.

FEATURE PROFILE

GET OUT & LIVE
This list contains 101 ideas for enjoying the outdoors and getting active.
See pages 18–23

SPECIAL FEATURES

SAVE THE DATE
You don’t want to miss these upcoming MetroParks events!
See page 2

TOP TEN THINGS TO DO
This special list shows beginners how to enjoy the MetroParks’ facilities.
See page 44

CONSERVATION

NATURE EXCURSIONS
These recreational activities offer unique nature encounters.
See pages 6–7

EDUCATION

KEEPING KIDS FIT
Get tips on keeping your kids active and healthy.
See pages 10–11

NATURE PLAY
Fun and recreation await any visit to a MetroPark.
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RECREATION

RUT-BUSTERS
Break out of a boring routine with these suggestions.
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CAMP OUT
MetroParks has opened camping to everyone!
See pages 15–16

HUB-BUB
Learn about RiverScape MetroParks’s special cycling amenity.
See page 17

PARKWAYS IS YOUR GUIDE to all the great activities and programs MetroParks offers every month. Check out the Activity Guide beginning on page 26 and get outside!

MetroParks Commissioners

Five Rivers MetroParks is dedicated to the protection and stewardship of Greater Dayton’s natural heritage and to inspiring appreciation and understanding of these treasures through nature-based outdoor recreational and educational opportunities and experiences. This is all made possible through your levy support. Thank you!

TRAIL BLAZER

PASSION FOR RECREATION FUELS SHARON MULLINS’ VOLUNTEERISM

Sharon Mullins is no stranger to the MetroParks, but for the last two years, she has taken her appreciation for nature to a new level—engaging in volunteerism. “I had done (frontcountry) camping my whole life, but I wanted to try something a little more intense, so I went through the backpacking progression (offered through the Outdoor Recreation Department),” Mullins recalls. “We started out on short trips and eventually made our way to hike the Appalachian Trail. That got my bug for hiking the AT started.”

From her passion for the outdoors sprang a desire to give back, and today, not only does Mullins lead group hikes, she’s a member of the MetroParks volunteer patrol (MVP). Mullins says the transition was natural to go from an enthusiastic participant to a volunteer. “I figured, if I’m in the parks anyway, I might as well help out.” Mullins says she enjoys the interaction with the public, whether she’s on a hike or helping out at an event like this October’s GearFest. “It’s always nice to network and meet new people who share similar interests as you,” she says.

Learning opportunities are another reason Mullins continues her efforts as a volunteer. “The great thing about volunteering is that I’m always learning,” she says. “There are lots of opportunities to learn something new, like CPR or wilderness rescue.”

Even on her “days off” as a volunteer, you’re likely to catch Mullins in the parks. She says the MetroParks’ premier facilities coupled with the support and training she receives from the Outdoor Recreation Department give her the confidence and knowledge she needs to “get out and live” every day. “The frequency and variety of (outdoor recreation) programming is incredible,” she says. “(The Outdoor Recreation Department’s) graduated programs help you make the steps from just letting you try it out to taking group trips. They set things up so you can develop skills at your own pace and lead you toward independence where you can do these cool things on your own.”

Mullins has a bit of advice for anyone considering making a lifestyle change to a more healthy, active one—get outside! “Go see what these parks have to offer, or get started in a progressive course. Events (like GearFest) are great ways to try out an outdoor activity. It’s free; you get instruction and get to practice before you make any kind of investment,” she says.

Those who are ready to take their skills to the next level should consider volunteering. “Being an MVP gives you access to free training, networking and interacting with the public, and you really feel like you can make a difference in the parks,” she says. “Not only will you help make the parks safer and help visitors have a more enjoyable experience, it will lead you to a healthier lifestyle.”

OUTDOOR VOLUNTEERING

Those who might be new to volunteering or would like to make a “test run” should consider a trail-building day or adopt-a-campsite day. These volunteer opportunities do not require any long-term commitment and teach you about important conservation principles. Turn to page 39 for upcoming trail building and adopt-a-campsite days.

IN MEMORIAM

This spring, Five Rivers MetroParks lost a member of its family when Bernadette Harawa passed away. Bernadette began her career at MetroParks in 1997 as a member of the marketing team when she was just 23 years old. She later took her expertise to human resources and volunteers. She loved working with the volunteers—seeing their excitement for the outdoors grow and helping them learn about the natural world around us.

Bernadette grew up in Dayton and loved to hike the MetroParks. Taylorsville and Carriage Hill were two of her favorites. She was also attracted to the diversity and culture she found at Island and RiverScape MetroParks as well as the PNC 2nd Street Market. She would often take friends and their children to the Children’s Discovery Garden at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.

A memorial to Bernadette has been placed at Dull Woods along the Wolf Creek Rail Trail. This beautiful spot, with its tall trees, remind us of Bernadette’s love of nature and the strength of her spirit. Bernadette was an energetic and inspiring member of our team who constantly challenged us to serve the public well and to take care of the land we cherish. She was so proud to work at Five Rivers MetroParks. We lost her too soon, and we miss her dearly.
Dear Friends,

As summer closes, it is our hope that you expanded your exploration and involvement with MetroParks. Obviously, there is still time to do so—especially with all of the comfort and color that fall brings, so it isn’t too late to get out and invite MetroParks into your life more fully.

Outdoor recreation has always had a place within MetroParks’ programming and facilities, with hiking and bike trails, fishing opportunities and more. But it has really only been within the past five years that MetroParks has developed a formal Recreation Department to focus on this increasingly important aspect of our community. The driving force for this focus was multi-layered: increased awareness of and appreciation for the local natural environment, increased exposure and access to outdoor recreation opportunities using nature, and promotion and growth of an active outdoor lifestyle in the community. I think by all measures, through MetroParks staff, volunteer and partner efforts, we have made significant progress toward these goals.

The community has shown growing interest in learning basic outdoor recreation skills and then designing for themselves and/or their family a level of activity that offers challenge, provides a sense of accomplishment, and is sustainable. As I am out in my kayak or on my bike, I see increasing numbers of people of all ages on the trails and rivers, and as an agency, we are experiencing growth in our recreation program and event attendance. Access is the key; in the coming years, you will see access as an integral part of MetroParks’ strategy to engage more people and improve our parks and facilities. As you read or hear about development of a whitewater park at Eastwood MetroPark, removal of the low dam in downtown Dayton, or extension of the bike trail network, recognize them as projects that support a heightened outdoor identity for the region and the lifestyles we encourage. The idea is to provide the introduction and tools that lead people toward independent use of the rivers and trails at their pace and level of intensity. This builds an outdoor community and presents the region in an attractive, vibrant light that serves the existing population of residents and business while promoting the region to prospects.

This would not happen without the partnerships we have developed, such as those with the University of Dayton Rivers Institute and Wright State University Outdoor Resource Center. These partners provide the connection to student energy and optimism and help spread the word to the outdoor community and share opportunities. The other critical players in creating the outdoor community are local outdoor retailers, who provide product expertise and skill development. Examples include the Dayton Outdoor Recreation Retailers Association (DORRA), www.go4theoutdoors.com. This retail community represents an invaluable resource and one that we hope grows and prospers through all of these collective efforts.

So in summary, we as a community should feel a strong sense of optimism about the persona we can create for our region through the outdoor lifestyle connection. Our outdoor assets are a strength, and you should build on your strengths, right? You know, our recreation staff dubbed Dayton the “Outdoor Adventure Capital of the Midwest,” and now with an array of facilities and support from the outdoor community and local retailers, it has become just that. Dream big and stay active. I’ll talk with you soon.
Recreation and Conservation go hand-in-hand on these trips

There are so many great ways to experience a personal connection with nature, especially while enjoying recreational opportunities throughout the MetroParks. “We have a wealth of different types of native wildlife and habitats that people can observe while they hike, walk, paddle or bike through the MetroParks,” says Conservation Director Dave Nolin. Here is his top 10 list of favorite “nature spots” you can look for on your next MetroParks visit:

1. Listen for wild turkeys while hiking the Twin Valley Trail. Wild turkeys have made a strong comeback in the Twin Valley. These big, wild birds had been gone from the Miami Valley for over 100 years until they started resettling here 10 years ago.

2. Watch for turtles while biking along the Great Miami Trail. The Great Miami River is a healthy stream that’s full of life. Look for painted and softshell turtles basking on logs or other objects in the river.

3. Hike through a late summer/fall prairie. Take a hike through the big prairie at Carriage Hill MetroPark to experience tall grasses, colorful flowers, and open views like the first pioneers saw when they came to the Miami Valley. Start your hike at the Redwing Shelter and follow the Green Trail.

4. Catch a bass or sunfish at scenic Dogwood Pond at Twin Creek MetroPark. The quarter-mile hike is worth it to experience this beautiful “secret” pond. Park at the small parking lot at 10230 Eby Rd. No license is required to fish at this free, catch-and-release-only pond.

5. Take a break from riding the 13-mile Wolf Creek Trail and stroll the boardwalk at Dull Woods. This 8-acre woods is a remnant of the vast swamp forests that once covered northwest Montgomery County. Access the site from Wolf Creek Trail 0.25 miles south of US Route 40 near Brookville.
Explore the historic Argonne Forest at Possum Creek MetroPark. Park at the Argonne Forest Parking area and hike the 1.4 mile purple trail to see fascinating artifacts of an old amusement park and a stand of large American beech trees.

Learn about the Miami Valley’s natural habitats at the Children’s Discovery Garden at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. Take the kids to this beautiful interactive garden where they can learn about the forests, prairies, wetlands and streams of the Dayton area. Visit metroparks.org/ChildrensGarden to learn more.

Find the three waterfalls at Englewood MetroPark. Martindale, Patty and Oaks Falls can all be seen from hiking 4 miles of trails that are labeled on the park brochure map. Pick up a map from the kiosks at the park or download one from metroparks.org.

Enjoy a fall foliage lunch break. Pack a lunch in the morning before going to work. Take a scenic woodland drive through the West Park of Taylorsville MetroPark (1200 Brown School Road) and stop at one of the small pull-offs and eat your lunch at a picnic table. You can’t beat this site for fall colors in mid-to-late October!

Discover river wildlife along the Mad River. Kayak or canoe along the Mad River and check out the variety of animals that make their home near moving water. You can spot beavers (look for their dome-shaped lodges), osprey and bald eagles as you paddle.

Wild Turkey
Photo by Ingrid Taylor
One of the biggest projects to protect the natural resources of MetroParks is the restoration of nearly a mile-long stretch of the Stillwater River. Started in 2008, it is now almost complete. A low dam, built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s, was constructed just north of Englewood dam to provide a pool for recreation on the river. “Unfortunately, this pool caused the water to slow down, which increased the temperature and decreased the oxygen in the water,” explains Conservation Biologist Michael Enright. “The dam lowered the water quality, trapped sediment and harmed the fish populations. The goal of removing this low dam is to restore water quality.” Restoration will not only improve fishing, it will improve safety of those paddling.

The first step in the restoration was to ensure the lake in Englewood MetroPark would not be drained by the removal of the low dam. To accomplish this, a new inlet channel was built to allow the river to feed water into the lake during high flow. A new outlet structure was also completed, which will allow the water level to be manipulated to benefit wildlife. “Englewood Lake is an important feeding and resting place for migrating birds, so protecting this habitat for the future is critical. It is also a great place to watch blue herons and bald eagles,” Enright says. Once all components of the channel are fully functional, the water levels will be controlled to benefit wildlife in the future.

The next step was to remove about 2 feet of the dam and dredge trap sediment; this step was finished in 2008. This allowed the river to respond to the lower water levels before the dam was fully removed. “As the water level dropped, we noticed an amazing recovery in
the fish community,” Enright says. “Before the low dam was removed, a total of seven fish species were observed, and 67 percent of the biomass was common carp, an indicator of poor water quality. Just one year after the low dam was partially removed, 20 species were observed, and common carp made up only 33 percent of the biomass—a significant decrease.” An increase in the number and size of the smallmouth bass was also observed, indicating the restored area will offer good fishing in the future. MetroParks staff will continue to conduct fish surveys in the future to monitor fish populations.

Two large rock water control structures were installed to restore a more natural pool/riffle complex, and the rest of the dam was removed in late 2009. This is important for habitat restoration, and it also provides recreational opportunities. The water levels maintained by these structures provide a beautiful area for canoeing and kayaking. The float is easy enough for everyone and provides a scenic way to see Englewood MetroPark. “You may even catch a glimpse of an elusive otter, which have been spotted in the area,” Enright says.

The last steps of the project added several more rock control structures in the river to improve the habitat. “The majority of the funds for this project came from the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s section 319 grant program to improve water quality,” Enright explains. “It is expected that the river will achieve the ‘Exceptional Warm Water Quality Habitat’ ranking by the end of this year or next year. This is the highest ranking possible by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and will mark an extraordinary recovery for this beautiful section of the Stillwater River.”

**Disc Golf at Englewood MetroPark**

Looking for a fun way to engage the whole family in a low-cost outdoor activity? Check out the 18-hole disc golf course at Englewood MetroPark. New to the sport? Think of it as combining golf and Frisbee—each participant has a special flying disc that is thrown toward a basket at the end of each hole.

Learn more at [metroparks.org/DiscGolf](http://metroparks.org/DiscGolf)

**Online Extra**

Get tips on hooking a big one when you visit [metroparks.org/fishing](http://metroparks.org/fishing).

**If You Go**

To see the site of the former low dam at Englewood MetroPark, take State Route 48 north to Englewood and turn right on Lienesch Road. Park in the lot at the end of the 100 Lienesch Road entrance and hike downstream almost to where the large earthen dam is located.
OUTDOOR FUN INSTILLS HEALTHY HABITS THAT LAST A LIFETIME

Five Rivers MetroParks is a great resource for adults who want the best for their children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews or any special child in their lives. It’s important for children to grow up happy, healthy, intelligent and well-rounded. By providing clean, safe, educational and enjoyable facilities, we can give parents, grandparents, teachers and caregivers plenty of opportunities to incorporate enriching experiences with nature into their children’s routines. When children explore the outdoors with an adult who appreciates nature, the activities foster positive memories and a desire to care for the environment, creating the future stewards of our community. Here are a few ways to get kids outside and active.

HIKING

There are more than 175 total miles of trails that wind their way through MetroParks’ 25 facilities. These trails range from short lengths with mostly level terrain to long trails with varying degrees of grade. Whether you’re looking for a trail that you can traverse with your baby in a stroller or want to take your teen on a backcountry backpacking adventure, opportunities abound. Locate trails on the park map, which can be found at any park’s visitor’s center or kiosk. Color-coded trails lead you through each park. You can also download a printable map from metroparks.org—find the park you’d like to visit and click on the “map” tab.

CYCLING

Biking is a great way to spend time with the whole family. Recreation trails and bikeways combine natural settings and charming historic downtown areas.

Get on the Great Miami River bikeway at RiverScape MetroPark. If you time your visit just right, you can watch the fountains shoot powerful jets of water into the air, an act that has become symbolic of Dayton. Watch for the overspray areas along the trail; the mist is refreshing on a hot day. Don’t have a bike? You can rent bikes seasonally during weekends and holidays at the Ride the River Rentals located at RiverScape MetroPark.

Visit the Bike Hub at RiverScape MetroPark and pick up a Hub Trex. These day trips start and end at the Hub and include a map and activities at each destination. The map also shows parking and restrooms en route. This is a great way to get started cycling, and you can graduate from short trips to medium-length trips and finally long trips. Take a photo of your family at each destination and become a member of the active bodies, healthy kids.
Hub Club when you post it on the Hub’s community boards.

Bike for the Health of It programs take place every Saturday March through October at rotating locations and are perfect opportunities to try out a new trail. Each session includes bicycle safety information and instruction for group rides. Look for listings in your current issue of ParkWays.

FISHING

Between lakes, ponds, rivers and other waterways, there are plenty of good places to catch fish. Programs such as Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs, or the annual fishing derby will introduce children to basic fishing skills that will last a lifetime. Enjoy a relaxing day fishing with your children or grandchildren at any MetroParks facility. You can even fish for free and without a license at several locations: Cedar Lake and North Woods Pond at Carriage Hill MetroPark; Argonne Lake and the ponds at Possum Creek MetroPark; Dogwood Pond and Lake George at Twin Creek MetroPark; and Sunfish Pond in Germantown MetroPark.

Get stocking updates, find the best places to catch trophy fish, learn about local fishing organizations and more when you visit metroparks.org/fishing.

PLAYING

One of the most important activities for helping children develop is unstructured play. These kinds of spontaneous opportunities promote imagination and activity. There are special areas devoted to developing play in nature. The prototype for these areas is located near White Oak Camp at Hills & Dales MetroPark. Here you’ll find traditional play equipment, frames for fort building, a small creek for wading, and short trails where children can explore and play independently. Children are free to use this space any way they like, letting their imaginations take over, fostering an appreciation for nature and developing creativity and problem-solving skills through play. More facilities like this are under construction. Check metroparks.org for updates and locations as they come on line.

Don’t forget about even simpler ways of playing with children outdoors. Hide-and-seek, scavenger hunts, races and exploration are all great methods to engage children in outdoor activity. How will you enjoy the outdoors with your kids?

SAFETY TIPS

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

On warm days, wear breathable fabrics, such as cotton. Hats keep the sun off your face and head. Wear long pants for wooded hikes to reduce the chance of exposing skin to poison ivy. Wear shoes, not sandals for playing outdoors. Layers are encouraged for cold weather play—don’t forget hats, gloves and scarves!

TOOL KIT

Children are naturally curious. Items such as magnifying glasses, bug nets and containers are relatively inexpensive and allow children to interact with their surroundings. Jump ropes, hula hoops, bicycles, kick balls and roller skates are great ways to encourage physical activity.

ROLL WITH IT

Paved trails and bikeways are stroller friendly. Several MetroParks also have ADA-accessible paths for strollers or those with limited mobility.

FIRST AID

Make sure you can recognize poison ivy and other skin-irritating plants. Remember the old saying “Leaves of three, let them be”? It’s handy to tell kids if they encounter a shiny, three-leaf cluster. Some parks have wild fruit, such as blackberries and elderberries. Tell children NOT to eat anything they find in the woods unless a grown-up gives them permission. If grown-ups aren’t sure, they should ask a MetroParks staff member. Bring water for long trips and be sure to wear sunscreen. Don’t forget to use the proper gear when engaging in recreational activities such as bike riding (helmets) and canoeing (life jackets).
Play With A Purpose

Nature Play Develops Bodies and Minds

Over the past few decades, research has shown that children are spending less time engaging in unstructured outdoor play than they have in the past. Many studies attribute this to the increased availability of electronic entertainment and the increase in organized activities. “The big concern here is that reduced playtime outside results in reduced knowledge of the outdoors in general,” says Five Rivers MetroParks Naturalist Josh York. “This can result in unnecessary fear and dislike of outdoor situations as the child grows older as well as other detriments to the child’s development.”

The good news is that there is a simple cure for what child development researchers have dubbed “Nature Deficit Disorder”—get outside! Nature play is simple, free and a great way to let kids do what they do best—play. “Nature play is non-adult-led activity, but that doesn’t mean there is no adult supervision,” York advises. “Just spend time with your kids outdoors and let them lead their own discoveries. Start them out young, before their imaginations are stunted by imposed entertainment like video games or television shows.”

Examples of nature play include creek walking, playing in mud or dirt, fort building, hide and seek, lifting up rocks, making leaf piles, rock skipping, or catching insects. “Really, don’t over-think this one,” York says. “Think back to when you were a kid, and a bike ride around the neighborhood was a trip to the moon, or a tall tree was the fortress you defended. Imagination comes naturally to children, so just let them take the lead.”

Benefits of Nature Play and Exploration:

- Interaction with nature before age 11 is likely to increase environmental awareness in adulthood.
- Outdoor exploration allows children to develop courage.
- Children who play outdoors are better able to cope when problems are presented to them.
- Outdoor exploration allows children to develop better social skills.
- In a study, children with AD/HD showed an increased ability to concentrate after spending time in a “green” setting versus an indoor or urban setting.

Scary Statistics

Out of 830 mothers, 70% reported playing outside everyday when they were young compared to only 31% of their children.

The average American 2-year-old spends an average of 4 hours a day with television or computers.

Children aged 8–10 spend about six hours a day engaged with electronic media during the school year.

One half of all North and South American children will be overweight by 2010.

90% of the global consumption of Ritalin is in the United States.
**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

In addition to simply playing outside with your kids, Five Rivers MetroParks provides a number of free educational opportunities for teachers and childcare providers. Visit [metroparks.org](http://metroparks.org) and click on the link for teachers listed under the special interest tab at the top or right-hand bar.

- **Take a field trip:** Schedule a naturalist to meet you at a specific destination within MetroParks. Programs on-site can be adjusted to fit your current topics in the classroom. Popular programs include nature walks, creek studies, mammal programs, and insect safaris.

- **Invite a naturalist to your facility:** Naturalists are available to come to your classroom at no cost to you. They will work with you to tailor a program that fits your current unit in the classroom, or you can choose from a variety of ready-made programs to spark children’s interest in the outdoors. When scheduling a program, please give as much notice as possible. The staff is very busy during the spring and summer. Call (937) 275-PARK for more details.

- **Explore around your school:** Even in your schoolyard, you can find all kinds of critters! Have the children collect some specimens and bring them inside for closer observation.

- **Check out an education kit:** Five Rivers MetroParks offers a number of education kits that local educators can use with their students within the classroom. These kits provide teaching tools to explore history, nature and conservation subjects through hands-on experiments and activities. Education kits are loaned with a $25 refundable deposit. Kits include activities, equipment, a list of supplies needed (where applicable) and a resource list. Topic covered include birds, aquatics, forestry, insects, Ohio fossils, soil and composting, and life in the 1880s.

- **Natural Adventures Box Program:** MetroParks has placed boxes in a number of parks that contain a number of tools that child care providers can use to help their children explore nature. These include creek nets, bug nets, containers and guides to be used for a self-led field trip in the park. Interested persons must first complete a training course on how to use the materials before they will be permitted to participate. Trainings occur in May and June. For more information, call (937) 277-4178.

- **Take a field trip:** Schedule a naturalist to meet you at a specific destination within MetroParks. Programs on-site can be adjusted to fit your current topics in the classroom. Popular programs include nature walks, creek studies, mammal programs, and insect safaris.

**Photo by Tim Gaffney**
DON’T GET STUCK WITH A CASE OF THE HO-HUMS.
With 25 facilities covering more than 15,000 acres, there’s always someplace new to explore. Sometimes it’s easy to get stuck in a rut—you’re short on time, so you end up visiting the same park or hiking the same trails. While there’s nothing wrong with repeat visits to your favorite MetroPark, why not shake things up a little and visit a new location or try a new activity? Here are a few suggestions to help you break out of your routine when you get outside:

TAKE A NEW LOOP
Many trails have overlapping loops. Why not extend your circle or take an alternative route? Plan your adventure by downloading a map at metroparks.org or head to a kiosk or visitor’s center at a MetroPark and find your new trail on a map.

VISIT A NEW PARK
No matter where you are in the greater Dayton area, you’re about 15 minutes away from a MetroPark. Set aside some time and visit a different park. Who knows—you may end up with a new favorite!

CHALLENGE YOURSELF
Sometimes adding an element of challenge can be a breath of fresh air. Whether you walk or run the trails, try to beat your fastest time. Find out how you stack up against mountain bikers, snowboarders, kayakers and climbers at this year’s GearFest, Oct. 1–2. Stop, look and listen: The same advice that keeps kids safe when crossing the street can help you find a new appreciation for your favorite park. While you’re enjoying the park, pause and count to 10. Look around and try to identify plants you can see, or the bird call you hear. You’ll be surprised at what you notice.

ENGAGE IN A NEW ACTIVITY
Consider trying a new outdoor activity. The whole family can do so for free when they attend this year’s GearFest presented by Subaru, set for Oct. 1–2 at Eastwood MetroPark. From camping to disc golf to kayaking and stand-up paddleboards, there’s something for everyone—and on-site exhibitors will hook you up with the gear you need to bust your rut completely. Even kids can get engaged in the Youth Adventure Zone. Get the complete schedule at metroparks.org/GearFest.

OCTOBER 1-2
Eastwood MetroPark
Whether you’re a casual outdoor enthusiast or a hard-core rec junkie, there’s something for everyone to enjoy at GearFest. Watch high-adrenaline demos, participate in a competition, or try out an activity you’ve never done before. Live music and food vendors will add to the weekend entertainment. Hit up the exhibitor village to learn about all the opportunities to get out and live in the region.

Learn more at metroparks.org/GearFest
FAMILIES INVITED TO CAMP IN THE METROPARKS

In response to overwhelming interest in making a personal connection with nature, Five Rivers MetroParks has opened camping to anyone, serving families, friends and small groups in addition to Scouts, church groups and other nature-oriented organizations. “We’re thrilled that so many people are interested in taking advantage of these wonderful facilities that are close to home and offer genuine natural experiences they can share with friends and loved ones,” says Outdoor Recreation Department Director Greg Brumitt. “We manage 16 different campsites, each one unique, allowing campers to enjoy a variety of environments, locations and surrounding activities.”

GETTING STARTED
Each campsite requires a permit. You can get a free permit by applying through the Outdoor Recreation Department, either by calling (937) 277-4374 between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM weekdays or stopping in the office located at 224 N. St. Clair Street, across from RiverScape MetroPark, during normal office hours. Staff members can help you select the perfect campsite for you and assist you with figuring out what and how much gear to bring.

In addition to the backcountry camping offered on the Twin Valley Trail (the 22-mile backpacking trail connecting Twin Creek and Germantown MetroParks), MetroParks has frontcountry camp sites. These sites are primitive, meaning each one has a fire ring, a picnic table and at least a pit toilet. There isn’t electricity at these sites. Families need to supply their own gear. Here are a few items you’ll want to make sure to bring along:

- Tent, sleeping bags, pillows
- Food and cooking equipment (either on a stove or over open flame, matches, pans, etc.)
- Water (some sites have potable water nearby, but bringing your own is recommended)
- Extra clothing, including thick socks and long sleeves and pants for after sunset when the air is cool
- Hand sanitizer
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- First aid kit
- Park/trail map

Do not bring firewood; your site will have firewood provided

FAMILY TIME
Once you have your campsite set up, enjoy everything the park has to offer. Each campsite location offers access to hiking trails, nature programs, rivers and lakes in a variety of native habitats, providing an intimate connection with Dayton’s own natural wonders. The Outdoor Recreation Department staff can offer suggestions and help you plan a fun-filled weekend and experiences that will last a lifetime.
### IF YOU GO

Register for your free camping permit with the Outdoor Recreation Department by calling (937) 277-4374 between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM weekdays. Permits must be requested at least one week in advance, and starting October 18, permits may be requested one full calendar year in advance.

For more information about the various campsites, locations and permit process, visit [www.metroparks.org/GetOutside/camping.aspx](http://www.metroparks.org/GetOutside/camping.aspx).

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### YOUR CAMPING STYLE

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“A motel without free cable is what I consider ‘roughing it.’”</td>
<td>Ash Camp at Sugarcreek MetroPark</td>
<td>Shaded campsite with easy access to restroom facilities and drinking water; fire ring with benches; four picnic tables; grocery store located in close proximity to the park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“I consider myself ‘outdoorsy,’ at least for a whole weekend.”</td>
<td>Patty’s Hollow Camp at Englewood MetroPark</td>
<td>Partially shaded site nestled among young hardwoods; little road noise; restrooms 60 yards from campsite; fire ring; two picnic tables; potable water available only in main park areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“I make ‘Man vs. Wild’ star Bear Grylls look like a Euro Disney tourist.”</td>
<td>Old Mill Camp at Germantown MetroPark, or any backcountry site along the Twin Valley Trail</td>
<td>Partially shaded site tucked away into the base of a hill; access road dead ends—limited traffic; nearest potable water located at the Nature Center on the other side of the park off the orange trail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
‘HUB’ TO IT

BIKE HUB NEWEST AMENITY AT RIVERSCAPE METROPARK

One of RiverScape MetroPark’s newest features is the Bike Hub. The Hub is located at the corner of the facility near the covered pavilion and features amenities that encourage cycling as a form of commuting and recreation. Everyone can take advantage of restrooms, concessions, coin-op lockers, bike and inline skate rentals, and a host of information related to cycling. Bike commuters will now have secure bike lockers, showers and restrooms that will support cycling as a form of transportation.

The hub is situated at the center of a 70-mile regional bikeway system, offering opportunities to go south to Warren County, north to Miami County, and east to Xenia and Greene County. The hub will become the “cycle-logical” center of the region as it directly supports county-wide efforts to increase access and remove barriers to cycling. Dayton’s efforts were recently recognized when the city became the second Ohio city to receive the League of American Bicyclists’ Bicycle-Friendly Community designation.

AMENITIES

BIKE PARKING
Permanent bike racks are scattered throughout the park, with large-scale bike parking available annually at RiverScape’s signature events, such as the upcoming Hispanic Heritage Festival and Taste of Miami Valley.

BIKE RENTALS
Ride the River Rentals, RiverScape’s rental concession, is open 11:00 AM–9:00 PM Saturdays and Sundays, and 1–9:00 PM holidays from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day. A variety of bicycles are available, including coaster bikes, tandems and geared cruisers as well as a host of child attachments. Bikes start at $6 per hour or $10 for three hours. Rollerblades and pedal boats are also available.

BIKE COMMUTER MEMBERSHIP
The commuter amenities—such as showers, indoor bike storage and changing rooms—are designed to facilitate and encourage bike commuting. Membership is available for a small fee and has been designed for individuals whose primary bike hub use is to commute downtown by bike for work or school.

HUB TREX

New to cycling, or looking for your next challenge? Grab a Hub Trex from the Bike Hub at RiverScape MetroPark. These cycling day-trips offer six different trips in short, medium and long lengths. Each trip begins and ends at the Hub and displays a map and directions on one side, and a list of activities you can enjoy when you reach the destination on the other. They’re perfect whether you’re just beginning to explore our region’s extensive bikeways or for veteran riders who are looking for something new. Join the “Hub Club”—take your picture at the destination and send it to outdoors@metroparks.org, and it will be posted on the community boards at the Hub.

HUB MEMBERSHIP

To apply for membership, complete an application available at www.metroparks.org/Parks/Riverscape/BikeHub.

For more information or to arrange a tour of the commuter amenities, contact the Outdoor Recreation Department at (937) 277-4374 or e-mail outdoors@metroparks.org.
101 WAYS TO GET OUT & LIVE

1. Take a stroll through a high-quality forested wetland along the Adirondack Trail Boardwalk connecting Dogwood Pond to the trailhead at Paw Paw Camp at Hills & Dales MetroPark.


3. Camp out at one of 16 sites located in seven different MetroParks. Call the Outdoor Recreation Department for details and permits at (937) 277-4374.

4. Check out the old bridge tucked away along the green trail at Englewood MetroPark. Old National Road used to pass over this limestone-and-oak-plank structure.

5. Wolf Creek is a great place for a creek stomp. Head out to Wesleyan MetroPark and try to find crawdads or minnows!

6. Germantown MetroPark has more than 800 feet of elevated boardwalk to view the scenic ravines and tree canopy.

get out & live!
7 Use the new Hub Trex to plan a fun cycling day trip that starts and ends at the Bike Hub at RiverScape MetroPark.

8 Turn cartwheels down the Crab Apple Allée at Cox Arboretum MetroPark.

9 Fish for free, without a license in the ponds and in Argonne Lake at Possum Creek MetroPark.

10 Follow the boardwalk into Englewood MetroPark and check out a remnant swamp forest that supports an unusual population of trees, including black ash, swamp white oak and pumpkin ash.

11 When the snow falls, wax up and cross-country ski on the hiking trails of a MetroPark near you.

12 Did you know there’s a monument to commemorate the Dayton Peace Accord symbolizing the agreement between Bosnia and Herzegovina? Find it at Deeds Point MetroPark.

13 Island MetroPark now has four reservable picnic shelters for your family’s next gathering.

14 Take your horse on the red bridle trail at Carriage Hill MetroPark and get the full perspective of this facility as you ride around the park’s perimeter.

15 A short walk from Taylorsville MetroPark’s CCC reservable shelter north of the dam leads to a huge pile of Brassfield dolomite with an exposed rock face behind.

16 When the weather’s nice, grab lunch at the PNC 2nd Street Market and sit outside on one of the picnic tables.

17 Look for the burr oak tree in Aullwood Garden MetroPark with marks from the 1913 flood.

18 Strap on a pack and hit the Twin Valley Trail, a 22-mile backpacking trail stretching between Twin Creek and Germantown MetroParks.

19 Observe our fine, feathered friends from a bird blind. Find one at Cox Arboretum or Possum Creek MetroPark.

20 New to mountain biking? Try the Creekside or VooDoo trails at MoMBA, MetroParks Mountain Biking Area. Log on to metroparks.org/MoMBA to learn more.

21 Bike the Great Miami River Bikeway. Currently, it runs from Franklin all the way up through Taylorsville MetroPark. Stay tuned for updates on the connection to Tipp City’s bikeways!

22 Fish without a license and free of charge from the banks of both Cedar Lake and North Woods Pond at Carriage Hill MetroPark.

23 Search for remains of the Erie Railroad bridge abutments along the Mad River at the north end, or from the hiking trail at the bottom of the hill at the south end of Huffman MetroPark.

24 Join us for Hike for the Health of It, a series of hikes that take place every Saturday, year-round, rain or shine. Each 3-mile hike starts at 2 PM at various MetroParks. Visit metroparks.org/HikeHealth or turn to page 41 for a schedule.

25 From Englewood MetroPark’s entrance of Patty Road, it’s just a short hike to see the Martindale Falls.

26 Love wayfinding? There’s a map for that! Orienteering uses a compass and a good old-fashioned map to find landscape points. Enjoy this activity as a slow-paced tour, or make it more competitive as a race.

27 Take a hike into the Argonne Forest at Possum Creek MetroPark and search for great horned owls and scarlet tanagers.

28 The North Country Scenic Trail winds its way through seven states. Walk, jog or bike on this paved trail as it passes through Eastwood MetroPark.

29 Take a trip back in time and observe 1880s agricultural techniques that take place as part of the daily farming activities at Carriage Hill MetroPark’s historical farm.
30  Become healthier and more self-sufficient by renting a plot at your local community garden. Visit metroparks.org/GWYN to learn more about the Grow With Your Neighbors program.

31  Visit the Butterfly House at Cox Arboretum MetroPark from the end of June through Labor Day and discover an array of native butterflies and moths.

32  Saddle up and hit the trails at the Riding Center at Carriage Hill MetroPark. Weekend trail rides or pony rides are available April through October. Visit metroparks.org/RidingCenter to learn more.

33  Wesleyan MetroPark has 1.5 miles of hiking trails through natural areas on both sides of Wolf Creek. Watch for the nature play area to debut at this park!

34  Interested in learning more about outdoor recreational pursuits? Check out the Try It! programs, where you can get hands-on instruction from trained staff members and “test drive” a kayak, mountain bike, fly fishing rod or backpack free of charge. Check the recreation section of this catalog (starting on page 38) for details.

35  Wait for a good blanket of snow, then sled down one of MetroParks’ best sledding hills: Germantown, Englewood, Taylorsville or Carriage Hill MetroParks.

36  Sunrise MetroPark offers fishing opportunities for both the Great Miami River and Wolf Creek. Catch bass, bluegill, catfish and carp. An Ohio fishing license is required.

37  Let the kids explore Ohio’s habitats in a fun learning environment at the Children’s Discovery Garden at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.

38  Grab a book and a blanket and spread out on a sunny patch next to Eastwood Lake at Eastwood MetroPark.

39  Germantown MetroPark has been designated an “Important Birding Area” by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Try to find various species of migratory birds.

40  Enjoy a cycling excursion. Hop on the Creekside Trail and follow it to spend the afternoon in Xenia or connect to the Little Miami Scenic Trail and head to Yellow Springs.

41  Have a picnic in one of the Adirondack-style shelters at Hills & Dales MetroPark.

42  Visit the animals at Possum Creek MetroPark’s sustainable farm. The Kids Corral takes place 1-4:00 PM every Saturday and Sunday.

43  Charge your batteries and start snapping photos in your MetroParks. Don’t forget to share them on Flickr—your photo could be published and seen by thousands!

44  Hot day? Cool off with a cold treat from the concessions at RiverScape MetroPark.

45  Blooming flowers continue through the year at Aullwood Garden MetroPark. Look for colchicum in the fall or witch hazel in the winter.

46  Follow the Great Miami River bikeway to the site of Tadmor, a bustling village in the 1880s that is now just the remains of a town hidden in Taylorsville MetroPark.

47  Find an interesting tree, rock or flower and write down a list of three things it might say if that object could talk.

48  Paddle down the Twin Creek during the fall. The colorful foliage in the valley is exceptional.

30 Sugarcreek, Germantown and Englewood MetroParks provide plenty of cover for a game of hide-and-seek.

31 sugarcreek, Germantown and Englewood MetroParks provide plenty of cover for a game of hide-and-seek.
50 Have a “fling” at the disc golf course at Englewood MetroPark. Learn more about this low-cost, family-friendly activity at metroparks.org/DiscGolf.

51 You can cross-country ski on hiking trails or bikeways when the weather permits. Try the yellow trail at Possum Creek MetroPark.

52 Volunteer with Five Rivers MetroParks: From administrative tasks to historical interpretation to plant propagation, there’s lots of ways you can contribute your unique talents to the parks. Visit metroparks.org/volunteer to learn more.

53 Find a bench at your favorite MetroPark and read a good book.

54 Colorful, fragrant blossoms emerge each spring. Visit Cox Arboretum or Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks and go on a “sniffing safari.”

55 Splash in the interactive fountains at RiverScape or Island MetroPark.

56 Rock out with fossils! Collection sites are located at Englewood and Germantown MetroParks. How many can you identify?

57 After achieving flight at Kittyhawk, the Wright brothers refined their work on airplanes back in Ohio’s native prairies. Wait for a perfect windy day and put a kite in the sky and imagine what it must have been like for the Wright brothers to look down on the landscape below.

58 Play flashlight tag in the forest! Stick close to the trails and bring a whistle for safety.

59 Reach new heights and picnic at Twin Creek MetroPark’s High View Shelter with an overlook of the Twin Valley.

60 Trail running lets you enjoy the physical attributes of jogging in a natural setting. Beginners should try the orange trail at Carriage Hill MetroPark.

61 Host a neighborhood get-together in one of the reservable shelters. Most shelters have grills and access to a restroom. Island and Wesleyan MetroParks have playground equipment nearby for children to enjoy.

62 Grab some crayons and tracing paper and make colorful rubbings of items you find in the park.

63 See the beauty of form and function at the Edible Landscape Garden at Cox Arboretum MetroPark.

64 Float on the Great Miami River on a tandem hydrobike. Ride the River Rentals are available weekends and holidays Memorial Day through Labor Day. You can also rent rollerblades, bikes, kiddie carriers and other pedal boats.

65 Hike the orange, yellow or blue trails at Germantown MetroPark to see Montgomery County’s largest tract of old-growth woodland.

66 Follow Possum Creek MetroPark’s orange trail to see tall grass prairies with grasses that reach as high as 10 feet!

67 Five Rivers MetroParks supports the Americans with Disabilities Act by making reasonable accommodations in serving individuals with disabilities. Cox Arboretum, Island, RiverScape, Sugarcreek and Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks have a variety of trails, paths and amenities that are wheelchair-accessible.

68 Watch as RiverScape MetroPark’s Five Rivers Fountain of Lights shoots 2,500 gallons of water per minute toward the center of the river as high as 200 feet!

69 Join a friendly, free group ride, such as Bike for the Health of It or Courteous Mass.
70 Tour Aullwood Garden MetroPark’s historic Aull Home, built in a rustic 1920 arts-and-crafts style. The house is open by appointment and during special programs.

71 Hunt for prizes hidden in the parks using your hand-held GPS in a high-tech treasure hunt called geocaching. Visit metroparks.org/geocaching to learn more and download a list of cache locations.

72 Hike the green trail at Englewood MetroPark for awesome scenery, including Patty Falls and the pumpkin ash and swamp forest, full of rare trees.

73 Hit up the PNC 2nd Street Market for unique, locally made gift ideas. Pick from fine jewelry, handmade soaps and lotions, knitted items, wine, fresh flowers and more.

74 Take a break from work and brown bag it at Huffman MetroPark. It’s conveniently located close to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

75 For a spectacular view, especially during the peak of fall color, stop at the Valley Overlook in Germantown MetroPark. This site provides a scenic view into and across Twin Creek Valley.

76 Combine nature and art appreciation: Check out the “Staged Gates” sculpture located near Paw Paw Camp at Hills & Dales MetroPark.

77 Get educated as you stroll along the Inventor’s River Walk at RiverScape MetroPark, highlighting some of Dayton’s great creators.

78 Head to the east side of Taylorsville MetroPark off of Bridgewater Road and hike the trail to see remnants of the Miami-Erie Canal.

79 Hike the pink trail loop at Germantown MetroPark and take the non-colored trail that leads to Sunfish Pond, where you can fish for free and without a license.

80 Hit the ice at the new skating rink at RiverScape MetroPark. The season kicks off Friday, November 26, and runs through St. Patrick’s Day weekend. Learn more at metroparks.org/skating.

81 Check out the scenic overlook on Cox Arboretum MetroPark’s blue trail, located near trail intersection C.

82 Babies love the stimulation of the great outdoors. Take your baby on a hike. Get started with other parents with a Backpacking Babies program. Turn to page 33 for upcoming dates.

83 The 5.3-mile Stillwater River bikeway makes a great day trip. The central segment runs between Island MetroPark and Sinclair Park, and the northern segment connects Grossnickle Park to Englewood MetroPark.

84 Become a MetroParks nature traveler by collecting stamps for your Passport to Nature. Turn to page 31 or visit metroparks.org/passport to learn more.

85 Leave your mark! Give the kids some chalk and have them draw pictures of their favorite park experiences on your sidewalk at home.

86 Short on time? Here are three hikes that should take 20 minutes or less: white trail at Taylorsville MetroPark, red trail at Cox Arboretum MetroPark, or the red trail at Germantown MetroPark.
**87** Sugarcreek MetroPark’s orange trail takes you past two of the park’s most popular features: the 550-year-old “Three Sisters” oak trees and the osage orange tunnel.

**88** Take your pooch to a park! Pets are welcome in all MetroParks with the exception of Cox Arboretum MetroPark, Aullwood Garden MetroPark, the farm areas of Possum Creek and Carriage Hill MetroPark, the formal gardens of Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark, and during special events at RiverScape MetroPark. Please clean up after your pet and keep dogs on a leash no longer than 8 feet at all times.

**89** Visit the site of the former old barn camp when you hike the Inspiration Point Trail at Hills & Dales MetroPark.

**90** Make a recording of nature sounds in your favorite MetroPark and play it back whenever you need to de-stress.

**91** Go green! Recycle used batteries at the PNC 2nd Street Market or take a Living with Mother Earth program. Turn to page 30 for details.

**92** Get active for a good cause. Participate in a 5K walk or fun run. Check the special events section of ParkWays for events taking place in a MetroPark.

**93** Join a MetroParks Volunteer Patrol (MVP) and enjoy the outdoors while keeping your parks safe. MVPs patrol via bike, hike, mountain bike or horseback. Contact Rachel Brand at rachel.brand@metroparks.org for details.

**94** The sycamore is usually a tree of floodplains, stream sides and moist banks, but if you hike the red trail at Sugarcreek MetroPark, you’ll be able to see a unique collection of sycamore trees growing on a ridge.

**95** Take the green trail off Twin Creek MetroPark’s entrance at 8502 Chamberlain Road and check out the Hopewell Earthwork. This is actually a hilltop enclosure constructed nearly 2,000 years ago by the Hopewell Culture. It is a long, winding mound of raised earth about 3 to 4 feet high. This enclosure is known locally as Carlisle Fort.

**96** Paddle from the Mad River from Eastwood MetroPark to downtown Dayton via the Great Miami River.

**97** Get up close and personal with wildlife at the Germantown MetroPark Nature Center. Hours are noon to 5 PM Fridays and Sundays, and 10 AM to 5 PM Saturdays.

**98** Start an impromptu game of kickball in the wide open areas in Eastwood MetroPark.

**99** Multitask at the PNC 2nd Street Market—hook up to the facility’s free wifi and do a little work while taking in the sights, sounds and smells of the Market.

**100** When the trails get muddy or covered with snow, those are perfect times to search for animal tracks. How many can you identify?

**101** Find the twin sycamore tree that was just a sapling when Christopher Columbus set sail from Portugal. You can find it and more interesting garden features at Aullwood Garden MetroPark.
GERMANTOWN METROPARK
7101 Conservancy Rd., Germantown. Follow St. Rt. 725 west through Germantown. Turn right onto Creek Rd. Take right on Conservancy Rd.; entrance will be on the left. To Nature Center (6910 Boomer Gable Rd.); pass Creek & Conservancy roads; turn right onto Boomer Gable Rd., park entrance will be on the right. (937) 855-7717
Nature Center
HOURS: Fridays, Noon-5PM; Saturdays 10AM-5PM; Sundays Noon-5PM. The center will also be open for scheduled public programs and tours by appointment.

Twin Valley Backpacking Trail
Overnight parking available by permit (937) 277-4374 at Boomer Gable trail head. 6206 Boomer Gable Rd.

HILLS & DALES METROPARK
2655 Patterson Blvd., Kettering. From 741, turn left on Dorothy Lane. Go thru S. Dixie Hwy. intersection. A few streets east of there is Hilton Dr. Turn left. Go 5 blocks north through residential area. Turn right onto Stockton Ave then right onto S. Patterson Blvd. Twin Oak Shelter: 1/4 mile past Stockton on Patterson Blvd.; north of Patterson Monument. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

HUFFMAN METROPARK
4439 Lower Valley Pike, Fairborn. From St. Rt. 4 Exit at Huffman Dam Rd. Continue onto Lower Valley Pike. Entrances are on the right. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

MoMBA-MetroPark Mountain Bike Area
4485 Union Road, Fairborn. On Lower Valley Pike pass the main Huffman parking lot. Come to very sharp left-hand turn, pass under St. Rt. 4. Come straight through Union and Baker Rd. intersection. First left is MoMBA parking lot. (Union Rd. becomes Union Schoolhouse Rd. in Montgomery County west of the MoMBA parking lot.)

ISLAND METROPARK
101 E. Helena St., Dayton. From I-75 take the Stanley Ave. west until it dead ends at Helena St. Turn right and continue to Island MetroPark, which is on right side of the street near Riverside Dr. Use overflow parking lot east of park. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

PNC 2ND STREET MARKET
600 E. 2nd St., Dayton. Take Keowee St. to Third St. and turn left. Turn right at Webster St., then right at 2nd St. (937) 228-2088

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK
4790 Frytown Road, Dayton. From Frys Mill Rd.; turn west onto Germantown St. Route 4. Go about 15 miles to Frytown Rd. and turn left. Head to main entrance or to reservable shelter area. (937) 276-7062

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK
111 E. Monument Ave., Dayton. Take I-75 to First St. and head east. Turn left on Patterson Blvd. and left on Monument Ave. (937) 274-0126

SUGARCREEK METROPARK
4178 Conference Rd., Bellbrook. From I-675 turn left onto Patterson Pike south. Street name changes to Wilmington-Dayton Rd. Continue until it makes sharp turn to the right. Go straight; road turns into Conference Rd. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

SUNRISE METROPARK
50 Edwin C. Moses Blvd., Dayton. Take Salem Ave. to Riverview Ave. and turn right. Continue onto Edwin C. Moses Blvd. Sunrise is on the east side of the road where the Great Miami River and Wolf Creek meet. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK
2000 St. Rt. 40, Vandalia. From I-75 take U.S. 40 Exit (National Rd.) and head east. Continue on 40 where it heads south onto Brown School Rd. Then go on Brown School Rd. past U.S. 40 to entrances, or follow U.S. 40 east to other entrances. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

TWIN CREEK METROPARK
9688 Eby Rd., Germantown. Follow St. Rt. 725 west through Miamisburg. Take St. Rt. 4 south through Germantown; turn left on Eby Rd. Park entrance is on the left. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

Twin Valley Backpacking Trail
Overnight parking available by permit (937) 277-4374 at the High View trail head. 9688 Eby Rd.

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK
1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave., Dayton. Take I-75 to Wagner Ford Rd./Siebenthaler Ave. Turn left onto Siebenthaler Ave. off N. Dixie and the administrative offices. Turn right into drive at bottom of the hill before bridge. Wegerzy Center is located in the center of the Cultural Arts Complex; gardens are to the right of the parking lot. (937) 277-6545

Children’s Discovery Garden
Directly to the right of the parking lot behind the walled area.

WESLEYAN METROPARK
1441 Wesleyan Rd., Dayton. From St. Rt. 35 to Gettysburg Exit; turn right. Go 3 miles, turn right on Cornell Dr. Go 2 blocks to Wesleyan Rd., turn right. Park is on the right side of the street. (937) 278-2601
DETOURS & CLOSINGS

GET UP-TO-DATE ALERTS AT www.metroparks.org/DETOURS

TRAIL CONDITIONS
For up-to-date conditions and closures at the following trails, call the number listed:
MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA) Trail Conditions: (937) 277-4374
Twin Valley Backpacking Trail (TVT) Conditions: (937) 274-3163

RECREATION TRAIL CLOSURES

GREAT MIAMI TRAIL
The trail, where parallel to Waggoner Ford Road, will be closed to allow for sewer line repairs. Limited sections will be affected. Experienced adult cyclists may detour around the work by using Waggoner Ford Road, but this is not recommended for children, new cyclists or other wheeled trail users. Pedestrians should be able to avoid the construction areas without using the road. The ramp up to Patterson Boulevard from the upper trail adjacent to RiverScape MetroPark is slated to be open in September as bridge work finishes.

IRON HORSE TRAIL
 Portions of this trail between Woodman Drive and Spaulding Road will be closed install of a new sewer line. Trail users going east can detour around the construction area by turning left (north) onto Woodman Drive; to a right (east) onto Rainier Drive; to a right (south) onto Northdale Road; to a left (east) onto Haverfield Road; to a right (east) on Plainfield Road; to a right (south) on Spaulding Road; to a left back onto the Iron Horse Trail. Trial users going west can reverse these directions.

NEW HOURS FOR CHILDREN’S DISCOVERY GARDENS

FALL HOURS
(September and October): 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

WINTER HOURS
(November, December, March; closed January and February): 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

SPRING HOURS
(April and May): 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

SUMMER HOURS
(through August): 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Other detours may be in effect or the schedule of a project may have changed by the time ParkWays has been published. For more information, visit the Alerts, Closures and Construction page at www.metroparks.org.
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS IS PLEASED TO PRESENT
YOUR GUIDE TO FALL ACTIVITIES

Finding your interests is quick and easy. You can find them in this ParkWays by ACTIVITY or by DATE. Follow the simple instructions below and start filling up your calendar with fun, educational and physical activities for all ages.

BY ACTIVITY
Interested in art, cooking, gardening or hiking? Looking to volunteer or maybe just want to find all the seasonal happening in the MetroParks? Check out the ACTIVITY section. Each program lists the date, name, time, place and description. For more details on programs, check www.metroparks.org. You can register online or by phone.

BY DATE
You can also search events and programs by date. This is a chronological listing of every activity at every park. Pick a date, find an activity that interests you and go to the page listed to find out more information. For more details on programs, check www.metroparks.org. You can register online or by phone.

ONLINE
You can also search for events online at www.metroparks.org. Activities by park, interest group or topic can be found under the Get Outside tab. To search by Course Code, click on Things to See and Do under the Get Outside tab, then click on the Course Code Search button on the right side of the page. Metroparks.org helps you get connected to park information, program guides, videos, nature play games and online registration. If you’re a “go on your own” park user, the website is a great place to find maps, park features, trail information and more.

NOTE: Some programs require a minimum number of participants and are subject to cancellation. Those with reservations will be contacted if this occurs. Some outdoor events are weather permitting. The website contains up-to-date information on cancellations.

FEES: Fees are required at the time of registration and are non-refundable.

PASSPORT TO NATURE!
Your child can become an official MetroParks Nature Traveler by participating in eight Passport to Nature programs. Nature Travelers will receive a special backpack. Look for the symbol showing designated passport programs.

HOW TO CONTACT A RANGER IN A METROPARK:
Emergency contact: 9-1-1
Non-emergency contact: (937) 535-2580
Inform the Montgomery County Sheriff 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.
EDUCATION FARMING

(FREE) FARM TOUR AND WAGON RIDE
SAT, SEP 4, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM
SAT, SEP 4, 1:30 PM-3:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Sustainable Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.
You will be given a guided tour of the farm and learn about some of the planting techniques we are using along with learning about our animals. Afterwards we will take a tour of the park via the hay wagon. There will be one at 11:00 AM -12:30 PM and one at 1:30 PM -3:00 PM, weather permitting. Reservations required and limited beginning August 15. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 3Y and up. 5430

(FREE) COVER CROPS FOR THE FARM OR GARDEN
SAT, SEP 11, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Sustainable Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn about beneficial cover crops, how they are used in soil and land management, and how they can benefit your own garden. A variety of cover crops will be displayed and discussed as we plant our cover crops for next year’s use. Meet at demonstration fields. Ongoing information, questions and answers from 1-4 PM. No reservations necessary. Weather permitting; call (937) 276-7062. 5446

(FREE) PARENT & PRESCHOOLER SUSTAINABLE FARM PROGRAMS:
Parents and preschoolers are invited to Possum Creek MetroPark’s sustainable farm to learn how food gets from the farm to the dinner table in this series of programs. Reservations required; call (937) 276-7062. Age: 3Y -6Y. 5432

WHO INVENTED THE SCARECROW?
TUE, SEP 14, 1:30 PM-3:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
You will learn about scarecrows in this program. You will also make your own scarecrow to take home. Reservations required and limited beginning Aug. 15. 5432

PUMPKIN FUN
TUE, OCT 12, 1:30 PM-3:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Enjoy everything pumpkin in this fun program. There will be a pumpkin story, a pumpkin craft and pumpkin treats to enjoy. Reservations required and limited beginning September 15. 5440

BREAD, THE STAPLE OF LIFE
TUE, NOV 9, 1:30 PM-3:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn about different grains that go into bread. You will make bread dough in a bag to take home to bake. There will also be some different types of bread to sample. Reservation required and limited beginning Oct. 15. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 3Y -6Y. 5445

(FREE) FAMILY FARM CHORES
SAT, SEP 18, 8:30 AM-10:30 AM 5650
SAT, OCT 2, 8:30 AM-10:30 AM 5651
SAT, NOV 6, 8:30 AM-10:30 AM 5652
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Sustainable Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Join a farm staff person to feed and brush animals, gather eggs, and clean stalls. Get to know some of the farm animals up close and personal. Dress in clothes suitable for dirty situations and washable footwear. Meet at farmhouse. Reservations required and limited, beginning September 1. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 6Y and up.

(FREE) MORNING CHORES ON THE FARM
SAT, SEP 18, 8:30 AM-10:00 AM 4763
SAT, OCT 16, 8:30 AM-10:00 AM 4764
SAT, NOV 20, 8:30 AM-10:00 AM 4765
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Historical Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
Families can help the farm hand with daily chores. Clean stalls, collect eggs or feed the animals. Dress for the weather and barnyard work. Meet at the front gate to the historic farm. Reservations required and limited, call (937) 278-2609. Age: 6Y -18Y. 5341

(FREE) SHARING THE HARVEST WITH OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS
SAT, OCT 30, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
We’ll focus on some of the grains that are grown in Ohio for food for the many birds that winter here. Some of these birds play an important part in pollination and pest control. We will make some tasty treats from grains grown at Possum Creek MetroPark’s sustainable farm that will help supply energy for the birds to survive the cold. Reservations required and limited beginning October 1. Call (937) 276-7062. 5433

(FREE) THE WONDERS OF WHEAT
SAT, NOV 13, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn about the cereal grain wheat. We will explore some of its history and how the grain is used. We will also make pretzels and have some other items made from wheat to taste. Reservations required and limited beginning October 15. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 5Y -14Y. 5442
GUIDE TO EVENT ACTIVITY

(FREE) CORN HARVESTING
SAT, NOV 13, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Sustainable Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Help the farmers harvest this year’s corn crop, shell and grind corn, and watch as the tractor and machinery harvest our corn fields. There will be ongoing demonstrations and hands-on participation from 1-4 pm. Meet at the barn. No reservations necessary. Weather permitting; call (937) 276-7062. 5447

GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

(FREE) POLLINATOR PROTECTORS
WED, SEP 8, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
WED, SEP 15, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
WED, SEP 22, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter’s Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
This session, we’ll take a close look at what our feathered friends are doing in the fall and how they are using the habitat garden we provided for them. Meet at Skeeter’s Garden. Reservations required and limited. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online. Age: 6Y - 11Y. 8

(FREE) GARDEN PRIMER SERIES:
This series is an introduction to sustainable gardening practices and is a prerequisite for more in-depth horticulture programs. Classes can be taken individually or as a series. Those completing all 10 sessions will receive a certificate. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. 5369

THE FUNDAMENTALS
WED, SEP 8, 6:00 PM-8:30 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn how to evaluate your site, decide where to place plants and visualize the change. Then, learn a few simple techniques to create a plan that reflects your ideas. 5378

DESIGN ESSENTIALS
WED, SEP 15, 6:00 PM-8:30 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
What information is essential in creating a good garden design? Bring at least one picture of your garden to share for discussion. 5379

SOIL HEALTH
WED, SEP 22, 6:00 PM-8:30 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn what plants need to flourish, how to create healthy soil, and how to develop a good foundation for your garden. 5380

PLANTS FOR PENNIES
WED, SEP 29, 6:00 PM-8:30 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Vegetative propagation is an easy and economical way to grow more plants. Learn how and when to divide, take cuttings and other techniques. Participants will also learn how to interpret seed catalogs correctly and grow plants successfully at home. 5381

PLANTS FOR OHIO
WED, OCT 6, 6:00 PM-8:30 PM
WED, OCT 13, 6:00 PM-8:30 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn which plants are must-haves for your Ohio home. 5382

GARDEN MAINTENANCE & CARE
WED, OCT 20, 6:00 PM-8:30 PM
WED, OCT 27, 6:00 PM-8:30 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn some basic maintenance tips to keep your plants looking their best all season. Planting, maintenance, and basic pruning techniques will be presented. 5383

PEST, PLANT, AND PROBLEM SOLVING
WED, NOV 3, 6:00 PM-8:30 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
“Friend,” “foe” or “nuisance” is a fuzzy line and “enemy” is a strong term. We will look closely at the benefits and challenges of some of your garden pests. 5384

SIMPLE GARDEN LAYOUTS
WED, NOV 10, 6:00 PM-8:30 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
We will create some simple designs for your home garden, using your garden photographs and favorite garden pictures from magazines or garden books Prerequisite: Participants must have attended the entire series, the Fall Garden Primer series, or be a current Master Gardener for this last session. 5385

(FREE) GARDENER’S PLANT EXCHANGE
FRI, SEPT 10, 5:00 PM-7:30 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
The Gardener’s Plant Exchange is a great way to add variety to your garden. Guidelines for the exchange will be available at the Garden Gate Desk. When making your reservation, please provide a brief list of plants you plan to bring. NOTE: Participants may drop off plants and pick up vouchers starting at 8:00 AM on Sept. 4. The exchange begins at 5:00 PM. Reservations required; call (937) 434-9005 for more information or to register. Age: 18Y and up. 5387

(FREE) LEARNING FROM THE LANDSCAPE SERIES:
This is a “walk and talk” program. Seasonal topics will be discussed within the Arboretum’s landscape. Dress appropriately. Reservations requested, call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. 5447

LATE SEASON CARE
SAT, SEP 11, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn how to make late season changes, improve next season’s garden and eliminate invasive plants from your gardens. 5269

FOUR SEASONS OF INTEREST
SAT, OCT 9, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.
There are plants that offer four seasons of interest. Learn about these plants for your site and correct care for these gems of the garden. 5270

(FREE) SEED SAVING
SAT, NOV 11, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM
OFF SITE, Good Shepherd Church and Community Gardens, Contact Us for Map
Learn the basics of saving vegetable and flower seeds for next year. Church will host canning demonstration. Held at Good Shepherd Church and Community Garden, 2661 Harshman Road, Riverside. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 for details. 5560

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**HERBAL HOLIDAY GIFTS**
**TUE, NOV 9, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM**
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Bring your lunch and learn how to use herbs to create unique gifts. 5394

**TOOL TIME**
**THU, NOV 18, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM**
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Tools are the basics of a well-tended garden. Learn which tools are essential and how to care and maintain basic garden tools. Bring your pruners and learn how to sharpen them. 5391

**ALL ABOUT TREES**
**SAT, OCT 19, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
We will be sharing information on correct selection, transplanting and establishing of new trees, general care and maintenance, and updates on the emerald ash borer and this invasive insect’s threat to your trees. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. 5543

**GARDEN STRUCTURES**
**SAT, OCT 2, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Many landscape plans call for trellises, walls or fences. Learn which structures are best for which plants and how to use them as accents or focal points. We’ll look at examples of all these structures from the simple to the elaborate and help you decide what is right for your own yard. Please call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. 5544

**OLIO GARDENING**
**SUN, OCT 3, 8:30 AM-4:30 PM**
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.
A great design makes an ordinary garden inspiring. This workshop features speakers and information highlighting plants for Ohio and ideas for maximum impact in our landscapes. Fee: $30/Foundation member; $40/non-member; required with reservation. Make checks payable to Five Rivers MetroParks. Credit cards accepted. For a full program listing, call (937) 434-9005 or visit www.metroparks.org/Parks/CoxArboretum and click the link to “see all programs.” Age: 18Y and up. Fees: $40 5386

**FREE**
**BLOSSOM BUGGY TOURS**
**TUE, SEP 14, 5:00 PM-7:00 PM** 5262
**TUE, SEP 28, 5:00 PM-7:00 PM** 5263
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Join us for guided tram tours of the beautiful grounds of the Arboretum. These are the last tours of the season. Organized groups are asked to register in advance; individual walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 for more information or to register. 5262

**FREE**
**LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES:**
Enjoy speakers who will give new meaning to the term “power gardening” during this popular brown bag lunch series. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. 5388

**FREE**
**LASAGNA GARDENS**
**TUE, SEP 28, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM**
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn how to turn your yard waste into “garden gold,” and create next season’s beautiful grounds of the Arboretum. These are hands-on division sessions so everyone gets a free plant. Registration is requested and walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. 5542

**FREE**
**TOOL TIME**
**THU, SEP 18, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Join us as we examine the 10 best perennials for our area, how to care for them, and how to ensure the longest bloom time. There will be a hands-on division session so everyone gets a free plant. Registration is requested and walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. 5542

**FREE**
**ALL ABOUT BEES**
**WED, SEP 15, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM**
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn more about bees, how to help their habitat, and some beginner beekeeping insights for starting your own hive. 5389

**FREE**
**COMPOST KITCHEN SERIES:**
Compost can be the winning ingredient for a successful garden. Classes can be taken individually or as a series. Those completing all three classes will receive a certificate for a free composter. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005. Age: 18Y and up. 5265

**FREE**
**10 PERFECT TREES**
**SAT, SEP 25, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Trees provide beauty, shelter and shade in any landscape. We’ll look at the 10 best ornamental trees for our area – their size, bloom if any, fall color, and growth habit. We’ll also discuss planting and maintenance. Please call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. 5543

**FREE**
**GARDEN PHOTOGRAPHY**
**FRI, OCT 15, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM**
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Bring your lunch join us as we discuss the basics to creating great garden photographs. We will share tips for the best way to capture visitors, flowers, landscapes, and the bugs, bees, and butterflies that are part of our picture. 5390

**FREE**
**GROWING MUSHROOMS**
**WED, OCT 27, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM**
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Join us as we explore growing mushrooms at home. Supplies will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Call (937) 434-9005 for cost information and to reserve supplies. 5393

**FREE**
**10 PERFECT PERENNIALS**
**SAT, SEP 18, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Join us as we examine the 10 best perennials for our area, how to care for them, and how to ensure the longest bloom time. There will be a hands-on division session so everyone gets a free plant. Registration is requested and walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. 5542

**FREE**
**ALL ABOUT WORMS**
**THU, SEP 30, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM**
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Worms can make fast work of turning kitchen waste into treasure for your garden. Discover if using wiggly is your preferred type of composting. 5266

**FREE**
**10 PERFECT PERENNIALS**
**SAT, SEP 18, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Join us as we examine the 10 best perennials for our area, how to care for them, and how to ensure the longest bloom time. There will be a hands-on division session so everyone gets a free plant. Registration is requested and walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. 5542

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Bring your lunch join us as we discuss the basics to creating great garden photographs. We will share tips for the best way to capture visitors, flowers, landscapes, and the bugs, bees, and butterflies that are part of our picture. 5390

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Join us as we examine the 10 best perennials for our area, how to care for them, and how to ensure the longest bloom time. There will be a hands-on division session so everyone gets a free plant. Registration is requested and walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. 5542

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**GARDEN PHOTOGRAPHY**
**FRI, OCT 15, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM**
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Bring your lunch join us as we discuss the basics to creating great garden photographs. We will share tips for the best way to capture visitors, flowers, landscapes, and the bugs, bees, and butterflies that are part of our picture. 5390

**FREE**
**GROWING MUSHROOMS**
**WED, OCT 27, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM**
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Join us as we explore growing mushrooms at home. Supplies will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Call (937) 434-9005 for cost information and to reserve supplies. 5393
SOUTHWEST OHIO URBAN FORESTRY CONFERENCE
TUE, OCT 5, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Five Rivers Metroparks and the Ohio Division of Forestry present this full day of programs related to tree care and urban forestry. Speakers will include Dave Boutelle, Dr. Ron Powell, and staff from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. This is an excellent learning opportunity for professionals, Master Gardeners and tree enthusiasts. CEU’s will be available. Fee required with reservation. Make checks payable to Five Rivers MetroParks. For more information or to register call (937) 434-9005. Fees: $18 5272

BUS TRIPS:
Checks must be made to Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation. Fees include transportation, admission and lunch. Internet registration is not available. For more information or to register, call (937) 277-6545.

LOUISVILLE, KY
WED, OCT 13, 7:15AM-6:30 PM
WGEREZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Today we tour Yew Dell Gardens in Louisville, KY, an arboretum with outstanding woody plants and gardens. We’ll also visit Whitehall house and gardens. Lunch is on the Ohio River at Rocky’s. Departure is 7:30 AM. We return 6 or 6:30 PM. Reservations due September 10. Fees: $77 5556

KROHN CONSERVATORY AND TAFT ART MUSEUM
WED, DEC 1, 9:00AM-5:30 PM
WGEREZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
We’ll tour the Lloyd Library of natural history and botany, then lunch at and tour the Taft Art Museum. Next we’ll go to the Krohn Conservatory to see their Christmas display, rainforest waterfall and exotic plants. Reservations due October 29. Bus departs at 9:15 AM and returns at 5:30 PM. Fees: $48 5558

(FREE) WGEREZYN TREES
SAT, OCT 16, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
WGEREZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Join us as we tour the beautiful trees at Wegerzyn. Tomasz Przepiorkowski will be our guide. We’ll look at the oldest and newest and discuss what makes each of them special. This is an informative, fun-filled session, so bring your camera and notebook. Reservations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. 5548

(FREE) THE BEST IN FRUIT TREES
SAT, OCT 23, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
WGEREZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Few things are as wonderful as a fresh-picked fruit from your own yard. Join us as Tomasz Przepiorkowski of Studebaker’s talks about the best fruit trees for our area, their culture and maintenance. Come with your questions and go home with new ideas. Reservations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. 5549

(FREE) PUTTING THE GARDEN TO BED
SAT, NOV 6, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM
WGEREZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter’s Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Families, there’s a lot of work to be done in the garden before the snow falls. Help us get Skeeter’s Garden ready for winter and get some hands-on gardening experience by building lasagna gardens, constructing cold frames and completing other seasonal tasks. Reservations required and limited. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online. Age: 3Y-12Y. 5570

(FREE) COMMUNITY GARDENING
TUE, NOV 16, 6:00 PM-7:30 PM
WGEREZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
How can you start a community vegetable garden in your neighborhood, school or church? Learn the essential steps to a successful project. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 for more information or register online. Age: 15Y and up. 5562

GREEN LIVING
(NEW) LIVING WITH MOTHER EARTH SERIES:
The Living With Mother Earth series explores the environment and how we as individuals and families can make a difference. We cover topics on water, air, gardening and innovative methods of making the Miami Valley a healthier and more beautiful place for now and the future. To register, call (937) 277-6545 or register online.

TOUR OF WOODMAN FEN
SAT, SEP 11, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
WGEREZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Discover the fall beauty of Woodman Fen as MetroParks’ Mike Enright leads us on a tour of this newly developed facility. We will meet at Wegerzyn and go in vans to the site. Registration required and limited. This program is weather dependent. Please check the MetroParks website for cancellation notice. 5541

SAVING THE LAND — METROPARKS UPDATE
SAT, NOV 13, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
WGEREZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Join us as MetroParks’ Dave Nolin tells of this year’s land acquisition and development plans for current and future sites. This is a great, informative program, one you won’t want to miss! Reservations are requested, and walk-ins are welcome. 5552

TRIP TO SHILOH WOODS
SAT, NOV 20, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
WGEREZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Join us for a fall hike at beautiful Shiloh Woods. Dress for the weather, wear hiking shoes, and enjoy a wonderful morning. We’ll meet at Wegerzyn and drive in vans to the site. Reservations required and limited. 5553

HERITAGE & HISTORY
(NEW) PUFFS, DROPS AND BRITTLE: CANDY IN THE 1880s
SUN, OCT 10, 1:00 PM-5:00 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Historical Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
Everybody has a favorite candy, but have you ever wondered how old some kinds of candy really are? Come see a wide variety of period favorites being made. Also, learn about the history of some of these tasty treats. 4754

(NEW) CORN HUSKING
SUN, OCT 17, 1:00 PM-5:00 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Historical Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
During the 19th century, corn was a common staple crop throughout the Midwest. Help
husk corn that will be food for the livestock throughout the winter. 4759

(FREE) AULLWOOD MOONLIGHT WALK
SAT, OCT 23, 8:00 PM-10:00 PM
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Garden Parking lot, 955 Aullwood Road
Aullwood Gardens MetroPark is always beautiful and takes on an even more wonderful look by moonlight. Join us for a guided moonlight walk through the garden. Flashlights are required. Please dress for the weather. A guide will meet you at the parking lot and lead you to the garden. Reservations are required and limited. Please call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. This program is weather-dependent. Please check the MetroParks website for cancellation. 5550  

(FREE) FOODS ON THE FARM
SAT, NOV 6, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM
SUN, NOV 7, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Historical Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
Do you know where your food comes from? Find out how food got from the farm to the table in the 1880s. Come learn about a variety of foods and how they were produced. Help grind wheat into flour, learn about meat preservation through smoking and salting, sample some fresh bread, try your hand at making butter and drying fruit, and help save some seeds from the garden. Enjoy a whole weekend dedicated to food. 4761

(FREE) VICES OF THE 1880s
SUN, NOV 14, 12:00 PM-5:00 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Historical Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
Help the farm hands strip the cured tobacco from the stalk and get it ready for sale as they did 100 years ago. Watch as tobacco plugs are made. Information on several other period vices will be provided, including coffee, tea, beer, and gambling. 4762

(FREE) OHIO’S FIRST FARMERS
SAT, NOV 20, 1:00 PM-3:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn about the Native Peoples who farmed in this area and how they influenced us today. Reservations requested beginning October 30. Walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: 8Y and up. 5444

HOME & HOBBIES

(FREE) HOME FOOD PRESERVATION - DEHYDRATION
SAT, SEP 4, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn about the benefits of preserving food through dehydration or drying. This method of food preservation is one of the oldest. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 276-7062. Age: 18Y and up. 5334

(FREE) GO LOCAL PROGRAMS
Become a “locavore” and buy locally made or locally sourced goods. Five Rivers MetroParks makes it easy with the PNC 2nd Street Market, your source for local produce, meats, artisan breads, gifts and more. Sign up for one of these group tours.

SECOND STREET MARKET VISIT
SAT, SEP 4, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.
The Carriage Hill Herb Group is invited to meet at the Market near the dining room and explore the market with fellow herbies. Shopping and meals are self-pay. 4767

BEGIN EATING LOCALLY
SAT, SEP 11, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.
Need hints on how to get started eating locally? Join us for a panel discussion about the benefits of eating fresh, local foods and how eating healthy can also benefit the local economy. Many local food resources will be shared. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 228-2088 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. 5633  

EATING SEASONALLY, EATING LOCAL
SAT, NOV 6, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Join us for a trip to the 2nd Street Market. We’ll have a short program on local vendors and then free time for shopping and tasting! We’ll meet at Wegerzyn and go in vans to the Market. Reservations are required and limited. Please call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. 5551  

FALL FLOWER ARRANGING
THU, SEP 9, 10:30 AM-11:30 AM
FRI, SEP 10, 10:30 AM-11:30 AM
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.
Fall flowers will be the focus of this fun flower arranging class conducted by Wendy

PASSPORT TO NATURE

This popular program gives incentives for families to complete eight visits to our designated passport programs. If you are new to this program, here’s how it works: Visit MetroParks facilities, participate in designated passport programs and get your passport stamped. When eight of the boxes are stamped, fill in the requested information and mail your passport to Five Rivers MetroParks. Every child who completes a passport with eight stamps will become an official MetroParks Nature Traveler and will receive a special nature traveler gift along with recognition in this MetroParks publication. Children completing additional passports will receive special opportunities to explore MetroParks.

Look for PTN in the program listing to see if it qualifies as a Passport to Nature program! For more information or directions to program sites, call 275-PARK or visit us on the web at METROPARKS.ORG.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE RECENT METROPARKS NATURE TRAVELERS!

FIRST PASSPORT
Autumn Berns
Rainie Berns
Theodore Horvath
Caleb Keeton
Cloe Keeton
Isaac Koch
Katie Koch
Annika McFarland
Anson McFarland
Finley McFarland
Randy Prichard
Sophia Shatto
Logan Tinney
Noah Tinney

SECOND PASSPORT
Jack Horvath
FOURTH PASSPORT
Wesley Taylor
William Taylor
Plants students from Sinclair demonstrating The Market will celebrate local food week
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.
FR, Sep 17, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM
(FREE) MARKet MEALS
online. Age: 5Y - 12Y.
5572
welcome. Call (937) 228-2088, or register online.
5571

FRUITS
SAT, SEP 11, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Daniel Arnold House, 7860 E. Shull Rd.
Learn various methods of preserving fruit for the winter. No registration required; online registration is available. 5675
END OF SEASON HARVEST
SAT, OCT 9, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Daniel Arnold House, 7860 E. Shull Rd.
Preserve your garden’s bounty so you and your family can enjoy the healthy benefits of eating produce through the cold winter months. No registration required; online registration is available. 5676

BUTTERS
SAT, NOV 13, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Daniel Arnold House, 7860 E. Shull Rd.
Making and preserving your own butter is a process you can do in your own home. Learn how this method was performed in the 1880s and is still a great way to preserve food today. No registration required; online registration is available. 5677

(A FREE) AWESOME APPLES
THU, SEP 16, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.
Join staff from Carriage Hill MetroPark in discovering all the awesome attributes of apples. Registration is requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 228-2088, or register online. Age: 5Y-12Y. 5572

(A FREE) MARKET MEALS
FRI, SEP 17, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.
The Market will celebrate local food week with Chef Gabe Gardner and culinary arts students from Sinclair demonstrating how to make meals from Market products. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 228-2088 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. 5638

(A FREE) APPLES AND PRETZELS ON THE FARM
SAT, SEP 25, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Use locally grown apples from farmers to make caramel apples. Learn about wheat flour that goes into making pretzels. Reservations required and limited. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 5Y and up. 5431

(A FREE) SOUP’S ON
SAT, OCT 2, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Meeting Room, 7800 E. Shull Rd.
Join us for our annual herbal soup program as we demonstrate and let you sample this year’s choices. Information on marigolds will also be available. 4766

(A FREE) COOKING WITH GARLIC
THU, OCT 7, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.
Chef Dana Downs from Veritas Foods and Black Rooster Pasta Bar will demonstrate how garlic can be used in preparing a meal—the appetizer, salad, entree and a side dish. Learn good Italian cooking from a pro. There will be sampling, of course. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 228-2088 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. 5634

(A FREE) GOURMET GARLIC RECIPES
THU, OCT 14, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.
Robbie Rice from All Mixed Up will demonstrate and discuss the many uses of garlic in preparing dips, salad dressings, meals and snacks. Bring a recipe to share. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 228-2088, or register online. Age: 18Y and up. 5637

(A FREE) PASTA SEASONING AND THANKSGIVING RECIPES
THU, OCT 14, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn how to make a tasty, dry pasta seasoning. Also, please bring a copy of your favorite Thanksgiving recipe using herbs to exchange with other participants. 4768

(A FREE) PUMPKINS – MORE THAN JUST DECORATIONS
SAT, NOV 6, 1:00 PM-3:30 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn some ways that you can cook and preserve pumpkin. Demonstration of cooking techniques and recipes for desserts, main courses, and appetizers will be shared. Recipes to try will be available. There will be discussion of the different types of pumpkins. Reservations required and limited beginning October 1. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 18Y and up. 5581

HOLIDAY CENTERPIECES
THU, NOV 18, 10:30 AM-11:30 AM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn to create your own holiday centerpieces in this class conducted by Wendy Poli from The Flowerman. A $10 materials fee is due the day of the class. Registration is required and limited; call (937) 228-2088 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: $10

HERBAL HOLIDAY
FR, NOV 5, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.
Get lunch from any of the Market vendors and join staff from Cox Arboretum MetroPark to learn how to use herbs to create unique holiday gifts. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 228-2088 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: $10

PASTA SEASONING AND THANKSGIVING RECIPES
FR, NOV 5, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn to create your own holiday centerpieces in this class conducted by Wendy Poli from The Flowerman. A $10 materials fee is due the day of the class. Registration is required and limited; call (937) 228-2088 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: $10

GUIDE TO EVENT ACTIVITY
NATURE

(FREE) STROLL AT HILLS & DALES
WED, SEP 1, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 5500
WED, SEP 8, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 5501
WED, SEP 15, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 5502
WED, SEP 22, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 5503
WED, SEP 29, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 5504
WED, OCT 6, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 5505
WED, OCT 13, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 5506
WED, OCT 20, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 5507
WED, OCT 27, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 5508
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 Patterson Blvd.
Escape on this 1.5-hour relaxed-paced adventure through the park while learning about nature and discovering this park’s history. Reservations are not required. Weather permitting; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. Grade: 16Y and up.

(FREE) ENVIRONMENT & ADVENTURE FILM: THE RETURN OF THE CUYAHOGA
WED, SEP 1, 7:00 PM-9:00 PM 33
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Co-presented by the Outdoor Recreation and Education departments, this film is a documentary about the death and rebirth of one of America’s most emblematic waterways. In its history, we see the end of the American frontier, the growth of industry, the scourge of pollution and the advent of a political movement that sought to end pollution. Film length: 57 min. Reservations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. 4705

(FREE) BACKPACKING BABIES
Backpacking Babies programs are just for parents and their babies to share stories, enjoy fresh air and learn about nature.

Babies are exposed to new sights, sounds, textures and smells on each journey. A baby backpack or snuggi is required, as trails are not stroller-friendly. Weather permitting: Call (937) 277-4178 for further information. Age: 1M -2Y.

BIRD STUDY
THU, SEP 2, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM 4706
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.
Let your baby gaze upon these feathered friends as a naturalist lures them in for your baby to get good, close looks. 5475

SOUNDS OF NATURE
THU, OCT 7, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM 4707
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.
Enjoy a hike through the various habitats of Sugarcreek MetroPark while serenading your baby with nature sounds. In addition to the natural sounds heard, naturalists will also play owl, coyote and frog sounds to get your baby actively listening to nature. 5474

LEAVES OF COLOR
THU, NOV 4, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM 4708
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.
Treat your baby to some fresh, autumn air while exposing your baby to the colors of fall. 5473

(FREE) NATURE CENTER DISCOVERY HIKES
SAT, SEP 4, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM 5463
SUN, SEP 26, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM 5465
SAT, OCT 9, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM 5466
SUN, OCT 24, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM 5467
SAT, NOV 6, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM 5468
SUN, NOV 14, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM 5464
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Come by yourself or bring your family and join a naturalist on a hike around fields and woods near the center to see what’s new in our natural world. MetroPark Volunteer Naturalists (MVNs) will lead these discovery hikes. No reservations required. Weather permitting; Call (937) 855-7717.

(FREE) TUESDAY MORNING ADULT WALKS
Join us every Tuesday morning for a nature walk in the park. Bring binoculars for wildlife viewing. For details, call (937) 278-2623 Monday-Friday. No reservations required.
TUE, SEP 7, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4376
TUE, SEP 14, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4377

HOME SCHOOLER SERIES:
Let MetroParks help you educate your student with these classes designed to inspire and stimulate young minds. Each class also helps strengthen your student's relationship with nature. Parents are required to remain on park property throughout the program for maximum learning in the home classroom.

MONARCH MADNESS
WED, SEP 8, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM 5336
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Classroom, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Learn how scientists are studying monarch migration and help catch monarch butterflies to assist in this important research. Each student will receive a monarch tagging kit to use at home. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 855-7717 or register online. Grade: 3 and above. Fees: $6 5527

(FREE) FROM NORTH TO SOUTH
FRI, SEP 17, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM 5337
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.
Right now, baby birds have fledged from their nests and are preparing for their arduous journey to their southern wintering grounds. Come take a front-row seat and watch fall migration unfold. We will discover bird biology and behavior to grasp an understanding of a bird’s struggle for survival. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. PTN Grade: 1-4. 5478

(FREE) POND: UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL
WED, SEP 22, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM 5338
**Guide to Event Activity**

**CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK**, Redwing Shelter/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd. Come explore the pond! In addition to our normal pond critters, we will use a microscope to check out the tiny animals that call our local ponds home. Wear clothes that can get dirty. Reservations are required and limited. Call (937) 277-3413 Monday through Friday or register online. PTN Grade: 1-3. 5616

**FREE** HIDE & SEEK
**FRI, OCT 22, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM**
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.
Hiding is the first line of defense for many animals. Come learn the various methods animals use to hide while playing games and studying nature. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. PTN Grade: 1-4. 5477

**FREE** WHAT IS AN INSECT?
**THU, NOV 4, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM**
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Learn about the characteristics of the group known as Insecta. We will discuss physiology, life histories and ecological importance of this large and fascinating class of animals. Students will then use their knowledge to classify insects found in the park. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. PTN Grade: 4-6. 5617

**FREE** CAMPFIRE STORIES
**THU, NOV 18, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM**
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.
Sit around a campfire and learn how Native Americans lived in Ohio, while listening to their stories. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. PTN Grade: 1-3. 5476

**FREE** TIKE HIKE PROGRAMS:
Explore nature with your little ones! Attend one or more. Reservations are not required for these programs.

**DISCOVER NATURE**
Discover the treasures of nature with your little ones! Join us for a short walk as we explore the great outdoors. Walks will be held rain or shine. PTN
**WED, SEP 8, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**
HUFFMAN METROPARK, Redtail Shelter/ Parking Lot, 4439 Lower Valley Pk.
Call (937) 278-2623 for more information.
**WED, SEP 15, 1:30 PM-2:30 PM**

**GERMANTOWN METROPARK**, Nature Center, 6910 Boormershine Rd. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.
**WED, OCT 13, 1:00 PM-2:00 PM**
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Call (937) 278-2623 for more information.
**WED, OCT 20, 1:30 PM-2:30 PM**
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boormershine Rd.
Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.
**WED, NOV 10, 1:00 PM-2:00 PM**
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4360 National Rd.
Call (937) 278-2623 for more information.
**WED, NOV 17, 1:30 PM-2:30 PM**
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boormershine Rd.
Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.

**A SEED’S JOURNEY**
**FRI, SEP 17, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.
Either by wind, water, explosions, or by animal fur, seeds travel in style. Collect different kinds of seeds on this hike, then plant them in your yard to see what happens. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. PTN 5513

**SPIDER KID**
**TUE, SEP 21, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.
Discover the world of spiders as we search for webs and learn about their occupants. We will also discuss why people are so afraid of these little friends of nature. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. PTN 5510

**ANIMAL HOMES**
**WED, OCT 20, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.
Find out different ways animals build their homes and discover the variety of nature’s architecture on this hike just for preschoolers and their families. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. PTN 5512

**LEAF SAFARI**
**FRI, OCT 22, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.
Leaves are perfect study materials for preschoolers; they learn colors, shapes, and relative sizes while developing a close relationship with the season. Bring your child out to collect nature’s retired food makers. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. PTN 5514

**PILES OF LEAVES**
**WED, OCT 27, 1:00 PM-2:00 PM**

**NOCTURNAL ADVENTURE**
**FRI, NOV 12, 6:00 PM-7:00 PM**
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.
Join us on a night hike just for preschoolers and their families. First, we’ll sit around a campfire and discuss the differences between night and day, talk about our fears of the night, then explore pelts of nocturnal animals. Then, we will venture out into the dark in search of screech owls, and attempt to lure one in close for children to see. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. PTN 5509

**MY FIRST LEAF COLLECTION**
**TUE, NOV 16, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.
Leaves are perfect study materials for preschoolers; they learn colors, shapes, and relative sizes, while developing a close relationship with the season. Bring your preschooler out for a hike to collect nature’s retired food makers! Call (937) 277-4178 for details. PTN 5511

**WOODLAND TUNNEL**
**THU, NOV 18, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.
Join other preschoolers and parents for an adventurous nature hike to the Osage Orange Tunnel for a picnic. Don’t forget your drinks and snacks! Call (937) 277-4178 for details. PTN 5515

**FREE** ADULT NATURE WALK
**THU, SEP 9, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM**
HUFFMAN METROPARK, Lower Parking Lot, 4095 Lower Valley Pk.
Fall is the perfect season for your little one to get out and explore. Look for leaves of all shapes and sizes to add to your collection. Many tiny creatures call these newly fallen leaves home. What will we discover under them? Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more details. PTN 5603

**FREE** ADULT NATURE WALK
**THU, OCT 14, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM**
HUFFMAN METROPARK, Lower Parking Lot, 4095 Lower Valley Pk.
Fall is the perfect season for your little one to get out and explore. Look for leaves of all shapes and sizes to add to your collection. Many tiny creatures call these newly fallen leaves home. What will we discover under them? Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more details. PTN 5603
(FREE) PARENT & PRESCHOOLER NATURE PROGRAMS

Parents and young children may choose from these fun lessons to share together. Most classes involve creation of a craft and an outdoor exploration experience. Dress in play clothes and get ready to be a little muddy. Reservations are required; call the number listed or register online. Age: 3Y -6Y.

LEAF MAN
THU, SEP 9, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert will be the inspiration for the creations we make. Explore all the interesting shapes and sizes of tree leaves and seeds. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Registrants may arrive between 10:00 and 10:30 AM.

TEA WITH THE TREES TEA PARTY
FRI, SEP 24, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Garden Green, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Bring a tea cup, lunch and a blanket and enjoy a tea party among the trees with us. We’ll provide the tea and plenty of “tree-mendous” activities to make the afternoon special. Weather permitting. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online.

ROOT ZONE
THU, OCT 14, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Get into the zone—the root zone. Discover what is really going on underground as plants grow. Hands-on science and nature related activities at each station. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Registrants may arrive between 10:00 and 10:30 AM.

CEREAL BOWL
THU, NOV 18, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Yummy, crunchy and good to eat! Take a closer look in your bowl and discover how cereal is made, and what kinds of plants are used to make cereal. Registrants may arrive between 10:00 and 10:30 AM.

(FREE) BEAVER WALK
FRI, SEP 10, 7:30 PM-9:00 PM
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Search for beavers while learning about the life history of North America’s largest rodent. No reservations required. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for details.

(FREE) NO STONE UNTURNED!
SAT, SEP 11, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
INGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter/East Park, 4361 National Road

Summer is coming to an end! Join a naturalist as we look for creek creatures one last time. Wear shoes that can get wet. No sandals please. Reservations are not required. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more details.

(FREE) MONARCH BUTTERFLY DAY
SAT, SEP 11, 1:00 PM-3:30 PM
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boonershire Rd.

September begins the monarch butterfly migration to Mexico. Join us in the Nature Center to learn about a citizen science project monitoring these amazing butterflies. Follow us outside with nets and clipboards to help us capture and tag monarchs. Fun for anyone able to swing a net or enjoy watching someone else try to catch a butterfly. No reservations required. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.

(FREE) BATS OF CARRIAGE HILL!
SAT, SEP 11, 7:30 PM-9:00 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitors Center Parking Lot, 7800 E. Shull Rd.

Watch for bats as they leave the barn at dusk to forage for insects. Get the facts about this flying mammal that hangs upside down and is active at night. Reservations are not necessary. Call (937) 278-2623 weekdays for more information.

(FREE) BEAVER FEVER
SAT, SEP 11, 8:00 PM-9:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Learn the life history of the largest rodent in North America while searching for them and the clues they leave behind. Reservations are not required. Call (937) 277-4178 for details.

(FREE) HAWKS ON THE MOVE
SUN, SEP 12, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boonershire Rd.

Join guest presenter Betty Ross with the Glen Helen Raptor Center for a presentation on hawks and migration. Live birds will be featured during this close-up opportunity to see these magnificent predators. Learn how you can help them survive. No reservations required. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.

(FREE) MONARCH TAGGING
SUN, SEP 12, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Redwing Shelter/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.

Researchers have spent years tracking the southward migration of monarch butterflies. Join us as we participate in this famous study! Reservations not required. Weather permitting; call (937) 278-2623 weekdays for more information.

(FREE) MOTHER NATURE STORY TIME

Enjoy stories about nature, then experiencing some of the topics we discuss. Reservation requested; drop-ins welcome. Program is weather-dependant. Call (937) 434-9005 with questions. Age: 1M -6Y.

WED, SEP 15, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM
5408 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Edible Landscape Pavilion, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Today we’ll read “In My Garden” by Ward Schumaker and “The Enormous Carrot” by Vladimir Vagin. Then we’ll have some counting fun as we explore the plants in the Edible Landscape Garden.

WED, OCT 20, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM
5409 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Edible Landscape Pavilion, 6733 Springboro Pk.

“What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?” by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page, and “Animal Tracks” by Arthur Dorros will be the stories we read today. After the stories, we’ll take a look for signs of animals at the arboretum.

(FREE) MORNING BIRD WALK
WED, SEP 15, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
5426
WED, OCT 20, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
5425
WED, NOV 17, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
5427
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boonershire Rd.

Germantown MetroPark has been designated as an Important Birding Area. Search a variety of habitats and discover why this park is such a great place for birds. Bring binoculars if you have them; there is a limited supply to borrow. Beginners and experienced bird watchers welcome. For more details, call (937) 855-7717.

(FREE) EUREKA LAB!

Discover science and nature together! Our award-winning program is designed for families with hands-on experiments and activities based on the Ohio Academic Content Standards for Life Science. Participants can drop in anytime between 1:00 and 2:30 PM and must be accompanied by an adult.
GUIDE TO EVENT ACTIVITY

4876
Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 6Y-12Y.

TO SEE A SEED
SAT, SEP 18, 1:00 PM-3:00 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Whether big or small, seeds are amazing packages with special cargo — new plants waiting to grow. Join us today to discover more about what’s inside a seed and why seeds are so important for plants and people. Children must be accompanied by an adult and can drop in between 1 and 2:30 PM.

COMPOST CAPERS
SAT, NOV 20, 1:00 PM-3:00 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
How does nature clean up and take out the trash? Find out the answer and more in today’s lab when we explore compost. Discover how to get treasure for your plants from their trash, get “dirty” with compost cookies and more in the lab. Children must be accompanied by an adult and can drop in between 1 and 2:30 PM.

SUSTAINABILITY IN PRACTICE
THU, SEP 23, 7:00 PM-9:00 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Sustainability is a hot topic and has become an important goal for many organizations across the country and in our own community. Kurt Hoffman, environmental sustainability manager for the University of Dayton, will give us a closer look at sustainability on campus and how UD is working to promote a healthy regional environment. RSVP by September 22 for name tags.

2010 WRAP-UP CELEBRATION
THU, OCT 28, 7:00 PM-9:00 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Join us as we celebrate another successful season of Cafe Sci! Join speakers from the 2010 season for casual discussion and light refreshments. We’ll get input on topic suggestions for the new season.

4876

(FREE) OWL PROWL
FRI, SEP 24, 7:30 PM-9:30 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Journey into the Argonne Forest and search for the elusive great horned owl, as a naturalist attempts to call them in. Later, travel through screech owl habitat and bask in the sounds of these little owls. Reservations are not required. Call (937) 277-4178 for details.

(FREE) INSECT INVESTIGATION
SAT, SEP 25, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM
HUFFMAN METROPARK, Huffman North Park, 4095 Lower Valley Pk.
Look up, down, over and under as we explore the amazing world of insects! A limited number of magnifying glasses, nets and containers will be provided for the expedition. A brief discussion on the life cycle and characteristics of insects will take place. Reservations not required. Call (937) 278-2623 weekdays for more information.

(FREE) NATURAL OHIO: FERNS
SAT, SEP 25, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Classroom, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Ferns are often overlooked and yet add interest to your walks through the woods. Germantown offers a diversity of ferns to appreciate. This workshop will involve an indoor presentation followed by outdoor field study. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 855-7717 or register online.

(FREE) STROLLER STRUTS:
Stroller Strut is a casual stroll on the arboretum ground for caregivers and children. Each strut has a nature theme and encourages interaction between the caregiver and child as they discover new plants and their surroundings. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 1M-3Y.

GARDEN ABC’S
TUE, SEP 28, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Nature has a special way of writing the alphabet. Discover the letters all around us as we explore the arboretum grounds. Dress for the weather.

WHAT DO LEAVES DO?
TUE, OCT 26, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM
TUE, OCT 26, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Leaves have an important job. Let’s take a closer look and discover some of the special things they do.

(FREE) FALL TREE ID WORKSHOP
SAT, OCT 9, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Twin Oak Shelter, 2655 Patterson Blvd.
Join us for a journey through the forest and learn to identify common trees found in MetroParks. A discussion on terminology, forest ecology, and identification methods will follow a field study in the forest, where we will examine trees in a natural setting. Afterwards, we will quiz ourselves on this newly acquired skill. Each participant will receive a tree ID workbook. Reservations required; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. Age: 14Y and up.

(FREE) LEAF COLLECTION WALKS
Learn fun facts and the distinguishing characteristics of our local trees and shrubs while adding to your leaf collection. Bring something to store your new treasures in as you hike through the forest. Participants are encouraged to bring a large, spiral-bound notebook to put leaves in, and a pencil. Reservations are not required.

SAT, OCT 9, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Blue Heron Shelter, 2000 U.S. 40
Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more details.

SUN, OCT 24, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.
Call (937) 277-4178 for details.

(FREE) FAMILY SPIDER SEARCH
SAT, OCT 9, 1:30 PM-3:30 PM
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.
Scared of spiders? Want to learn more about them? Join us on this family-based excursion in search of spiders in the park, while learning about how they live. See a real brown recluse and black widow so you’ll know how to recognize them, but also learn how to appreciate these little creatures. Reservations are not required. Call (937) 277-4178 for details.
(FREE) OWL AND BEAVER SEARCH  
SAT, OCT 9, 7:00 PM-9:00 PM  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Search for beavers and screech owls on this slow-paced adventure around the fishing ponds. Reservations are not required. Call (937) 277-4178 for details.  
PTN 5526

(FREE) PUMPKIN CARVING  
THU, OCT 14, 4:00 PM-6:00 PM  5460  
THU, OCT 14, 7:00 PM-9:00 PM  5461  
TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Camp Hook Gardner Lodge, 8539 Morningstar Rd.  
Carve a Jack-o’-lantern to display for the Halloween Tales and Night Hike program. Try your hand at a complex pumpkin pattern or assist your young artists with their pumpkin. Pumpkins may be taken home after the Halloween program on Saturday, October 16. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 855-7717 or register online.  
PTN 5462

(FREE) FALL BIRD HIKE  
While many of our summer birds flew south for the winter, Canadian birds came to Ohio to spend their winter. Find out which birds call Ohio their warm refuge while go on a hike searching for them in the park. Bring binoculars if you have them. Reservations are not required.  
SAT, OCT 16, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM  5486  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Call (937) 277-4178 for more details.  
PTN 5487

(FREE) OWLS IN THE WOODS  
SAT, OCT 23, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM  5594  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.  
Join guest Betty Ross with the Glen Helen Raptor Center for a presentation on owls in the woods. Live birds will be featured during this close-up opportunity to see these magnificent predators and learn how you can help them survive. No reservations required. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.  
PTN 5594

(FREE) FORT FUN!  
SAT, OCT 30, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM  5597  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.  
Come to our newest Nature Play area for a morning of fort building! Reservations not required. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more details.  
PTN 5597

(FREE) FOSSIL FUN  
SAT, NOV 6, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM  5490  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, CCC Shelter, 2101 U.S. 40  
Learn about Ohio’s local fossils and geologic history. Participants will make their own fossil and hike a short distance to view rock formations. This program is suitable for elementary school students. Reservations not required. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more details.  
PTN 5490

(FREE) COLossal HIDE AND SEEK  
SAT, NOV 13, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM  5598  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.  
Enjoy a family-based game of hide and seek in the park. Your family will hide together as a team, while the “it” family meanders through the play area in search of you. We will use supplied radios to keep in contact with each other, and use them to give the seeker hints. Camo optional. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online.  
PTN 5599

(FREE) MAMMAL STUDY  
SAT, NOV 13, 4:00 PM-5:00 PM  5599  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.  
Explore the common mammals of Dayton by examining their pelts, tracks, replicated scat, and skulls. We will learn how each mammal interacts with its environment and explore their relationship with humans. Reservations are not required. Call (937) 277-4178 for details.  
PTN 5493

(FREE) ALMOST FULL MOON WALKS  
FRI, NOV 19, 6:00 PM-7:30 PM  5600  
TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Chamberlain Parking lot, 8502 Chamberlain Rd.  
Walk the trails with a naturalist to enjoy the sights, smells and sounds of the night. Reservations are not required. Weather permitting. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.  
PTN 5579

(FREE) PRAIRIE PLAY  
SAT, NOV 20, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM  5593  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Redwing Shelter/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.  
The time is right for prairie exploration! Spend an afternoon playing some fun prairie games. Wear clothes suitable for outdoor play. No sandals, please. Reservations not required. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more details.  
PTN 5593

(FREE) STROLLER STUDIES: PINECONE CRITTERS  
TUE, NOV 23, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM  5602  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Did you know there’s a critter hiding in a pinecone? Today we’ll help these critters come to life. Have fun with nature crafts and playing with nature friends. Reservations required. Call (937)-434-9005 or register online. Age: 1M -3Y.  
PTN 5596

(FREE) HallowEEn TALES AND NIGHT HIKe  
SAT, OCT 16, 7:00 PM-8:30 PM  5599  
TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Camp Hook Gardner Lodge, 8539 Morningstar Rd.  
Participants will walk from the parking lot and follow the candlelit trail to the lodge for refreshments. Continue to the amphitheater and enjoy some entertainment by the fire. Finish the evening with a short, self-guided walk on an enchanting Jack-o’-lantern-lit trail. No reservations required. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.  
PTN 5602

(FREE) LAST CHANCE CREEK FUN  
SAT, OCT 16, 1:00 PM-3:00 PM  5491  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.  
It’s your last chance to search for salamanders, crawdads, and rainbow darters in Sugar Creek! Try your luck in finding fossils like brachiopods, horn corals, and bryozoans. We will discuss water quality and what kids can do to keep water clean. Wear shoes you can wear in the water; no sandals, please. Fossil collectors must follow collecting rules. No reservations required. Call (937) 277-4178 for details.  
PTN 5490

(FREE) ALPHABET SAFARI FOR TWoS: LETTERS A-F  
WEd, NOV 10, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM  5492  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
The adventure begins! Bring your 2-year-old and explore the fun world of letters with nature-inspired activities. You’ll pick up your passport at the door and travel the stations. Attend at least two Alphabet Safaris and receive a patch. Reservations required; call (937) 434-9005 or register online.  
PTN 5491

(FREE) STROLLER STUDIES: PINECONE CRITTERS  
TUE, NOV 23, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM  5493  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Did you know there’s a critter hiding in a pinecone? Today we’ll help these critters come to life. Have fun with nature crafts and playing with nature friends. Reservations required. Call (937)-434-9005 or register online. Age: 1M -3Y.  
PTN 5415

METROPAKs.ORG 37
OUTDOOR PLAY

(FREE) ONGOING: GET OUTSIDE BOOKCLUB
MON, AUG 23 - SAT, OCT 9, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
WEGERTZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Center, 1301 East Sibenthaler Ave. Get ready for some nature adventures right in your backyard! This special reading club for preschoolers includes stories that will kick-start imaginations and get you and your little one outside exploring and discovering. Participants can sign up anytime after August 16 and are asked to complete 6 books and 6 activities from the book club list. Visit metroparks.org/Bookclub for more information on programs and materials, or call (937) 277-6545. Age: 3Y -5Y. 5568

(FREE) FAMILY NATURE WALK
SAT, NOV 27, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd. Explore nature on this exciting walk for the whole family! Enjoy an afternoon on the trail as we look for critters and plants, and play a game! Reservations not required. Call (937) 278-2623 weekdays for details. PTN 5597

(FREE) CAMOUFLAGE!
FRI, SEP 3, 5:30 PM-7:00 PM
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Blue Heron Shelter, 2000 U.S. 40
Let’s play outside! Join a naturalist as we play the classic game of Camouflage, also known as Thicket. Participants are encouraged to wear articles of clothing to help them blend in with their surroundings. A brief discussion on different cryptic strategies employed by our local wildlife will take place before play. Wear clothing that is suitable for the elements. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-3413 weekdays or register online. Free. Age: 3Y -5Y. 5546

(FREE) CAMOUFLAGE!
FRI, SEP 3, 5:30 PM-7:00 PM
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Blue Heron Shelter, 2000 U.S. 40
Let’s play outside! Join a naturalist as we play the classic game of Camouflage, also known as Thicket. Participants are encouraged to wear articles of clothing to help them blend in with their surroundings. A brief discussion on different cryptic strategies employed by our local wildlife will take place before play. Wear clothing that is suitable for the elements. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-3413 weekdays or register online. Free. Age: 3Y -5Y. 5546

SILLY AND SCARY TALES
SAT, OCT 9, 7:00 PM-9:30 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center, 7801 E. Shull Rd.
Join us for a night of storytelling. Come early for some silly stories appropriate for any age. Afterwards, scary tales will set you shivering. Bring flashlights, lawn chairs and blankets. Make sure to dress warmly. One ticket admits one adult or two children under the age of 10, to both events. Tickets are $5 and are available at the door. Call (937) 278-2609 for details. Fees: $5 4760

(FREE) OUTDOOR EXPLORERS CLUB
THU, OCT 14, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
THU, OCT 21, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
THU, OCT 28, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
THU, NOV 4, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
THU, NOV 11, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
THU, NOV 18, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
THU, NOV 25, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
THU, DEC 2, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
THU, DEC 9, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
THU, DEC 16, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
WEGERTZYN GARDENS METROPARK, South Picnic Area, 1301 East Sibenthaler Ave.
Each week, Club members have fun getting to know the natural world through play and planned activities such as rock skipping, following animal tracks, turning over rocks and logs, building forts, and digging holes. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-6545 or register online. Age: 8Y -12Y. 5546

(FREE) SHOOTING OUTDOOR PORTRAITS
SAT, SEP 18, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM
WEGERTZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 East Sibenthaler Ave.
Taking impressive outdoor portraits requires more than just a picturesque location and a person willing to pose. This session explains the importance of background and foreground elements, depth of field, and sunlight and shadow. Each topic will be clearly illustrated with photos. Reservations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. Free. Age: 8Y -12Y. 5546

(FREE) AUTUMN PHOTOGRAPHY
SAT, OCT 16, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM
WEGERTZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 East Sibenthaler Ave.
Fall is the perfect time of year to capture colorful outdoor pictures. Join Adam Alonzo for an informal photography session in the garden. Participants can take pictures, ask questions and try new techniques. Reservations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. Free. Age: 14Y and up. 5546

(FREE) GETTING STARTED WITH DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY
SAT, NOV 13, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM
WEGERTZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 East Sibenthaler Ave.
Before you can shoot breathtaking outdoor photos, you need to understand the basics of digital photography. This session explains concepts such as megapixels, magnification, memory cards, quality settings and aspect ratio. Each topic will be clearly illustrated with photos. Bring your camera and your questions. Reservations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. Free. Age: 14Y and up. 5546

PHOTOGRAPHY

(FREE) DIGITAL PHOTOGRAphy
FRI, OCT 14, 4:00 PM-7:00 PM
PICNIC AREA, WEGERTZYN GARDENS METROPARK, 1301 East Sibenthaler Ave.
Learning the basics of digital photography is necessary if you want to enhance your outdoor photos. This session explains how to use your camera, the importance of the right lens and memory cards, quality settings and aspect ratio. Each topic will be clearly illustrated with photos. Reservations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. Free. Age: 8Y -12Y. 5546

(FREE) AUTUMN PHOTOGRAPHY
SAT, OCT 16, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM
WEGERTZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 East Sibenthaler Ave.
Fall is the perfect time of year to capture colorful outdoor pictures. Join Adam Alonzo for an informal photography session in the garden. Participants can take pictures, ask questions and try new techniques. Reservations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. Free. Age: 14Y and up. 5546

We offer volunteer opportunities throughout the year to help keep our parks beautiful and safe for all to enjoy. Visit us at volunteer@metroparks.org to learn more.

RECREATION ALL OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

(FREE) TRY BACKPACKING!
THU, SEP 2, 4:00 PM-7:00 PM
5642 TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, CCC Shelter, 2101 U.S. 40
Have you ever tried backpacking? Are you even slightly curious? Then come to this evening, hands-on program, try on a backpack, talk with local experts, and experiment with some of the gear. Backpacks are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. For more information and to register, please contact Rachel Brand at Rachel.Brand@metroparks.org or (937) 564-5431. Age: 14Y and up. 5546

(FREE) OCTOBER DINNER & THEATER
FRI, OCT 28, 5:30 PM-8:00 PM
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, CCC Shelter, 2101 U.S. 40
Don’t miss this family-friendly outdoor drama! Participants can take pictures, ask questions and try new techniques. Reservations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. Free. Age: 8Y -12Y. 5546

(FREE) GETTING STARTED WITH DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY
SAT, NOV 13, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM
WEGERTZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 East Sibenthaler Ave.
Before you can shoot breathtaking outdoor photos, you need to understand the basics of digital photography. This session explains concepts such as megapixels, magnification, memory cards, quality settings and aspect ratio. Each topic will be clearly illustrated with photos. Bring your camera and your questions. Reservations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online. Free. Age: 14Y and up. 5546

BACKPACKING

(FREE) TRY BACKPACKING!
THU, SEP 2, 4:00 PM-7:00 PM
5642 TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, CCC Shelter, 2101 U.S. 40
Have you ever tried backpacking? Are you even slightly curious? Then come to this evening, hands-on program, try on a backpack, talk with local experts, and experiment with some of the gear. Backpacks are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. For more information and to register, please contact (937) 277-4374. 5546
BACKPACKING BASICS
SAT, SEP 11-SUN, SEP 12, 12:00 PM-12:00 PM
TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Twin Creek Group
Camp Site #2, 8539 Morningstar Road
This overnight field-based program hits the trail for a trip into the wilds of Twin Creek MetroPark on the Twin Valley Trail. Spend a night out under the stars utilizing Leave No Trace principles and practice the techniques covered during Introduction to Backpacking. Prerequisite: Introduction to Backpacking.
Backpacking Basics is a prerequisite for trips. Gear is available at no additional charge with reservation. Registration is required and limited, so please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: $25 5449

BIG SOUTH FORK BACKPACKING TRIP
FRI, OCT 22-SUN, OCT 24, 8:00 AM-8:00 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Cox House Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Come backpack with the Outdoor Recreation Department as we head to the scenic gorges and sandstone bluffs of the Big South Fork Recreation Area. This is a Level 4 backpacking trip; prior backpacking experience is a must. Equipment is available upon request. Pre-trip meeting attendance on October 7 is mandatory. Registration is required and limited, so please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: $75 5451

FUNDAMENTALS OF BACKCOUNTRY KNOTS
THU, NOV 18, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM
FIVE RIVERS ST. CLAIR BUILDING, Outdoor Recreation Classroom, 224 N St Clair St.
Do you struggle with knots and knot tying? Would you like to learn some of the best knots for use in the backcountry? Then join the Outdoor Recreation Department as we take a hands-on approach to knot tying, use and know-how in this informative evening program. Registration is required and limited, so call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: $5 5454

CYCLING
(FREE) COURTEOUS MASS RIDE
FRI, SEP 3, 5:00 PM-6:30 PM 5436
FRI, OCT 1, 5:00 PM-6:30 PM 5435
FRI, NOV 5, 5:00 PM-6:30 PM 5437
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.
This Outdoor Community Calendar event is brought to you by Courteous Mass Dayton. Bring your bike and join a community of “bike-minded individuals” as they hit the streets of Dayton to promote cycling on the first Friday of every month. This group ride meets at the PNC 2nd Street Market and departs at 5:30 PM. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/courteousmassdayton.

(FREE) BIKE FOR THE HEALTH OF IT
This series of guided bicycle rides will be held Saturdays April through October, rain or shine. Participants will have the opportunity to learn basic bicycle maintenance tips. Earn a T-shirt by reaching a goal of 125 miles. Look for the asterisk (*) for Pride Rides: Wear your BFTHOI T-shirt.
Parents/guardians must remain with their children during the program. For award details or information about the rides, contact Officer Zimmerman at (937) 275-PARK ex. 1416.

CREEKSIIDE RECREATION TRAIL
SAT, SEP 4, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 5627
SAT, OCT 9, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 5622
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Join us for a bike ride rain or shine on the Creekside Recreation Trail. Meet in the last parking lot at Eastwood MetroPark. We’ll ride to Greene County (12 miles).

GREAT MIAMI RECREATION TRAIL (S)
SAT, SEP 11, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM 5623
SAT, SEP 25, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM 5625
RECREATIONAL TRAILS, Great Miami River Rec Trail, Ohio Bike Route 25
Join us for a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Great Miami Recreation Trail. Take North Alex Road (beside Wendy’s) to Hydraulic Road; entrance is on right. We’re riding to Crains Run Nature Park (20 miles).

GREAT MIAMI RIVER RECREATION TRAIL (N)*
SAT, SEP 18, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 5624
RECREATIONAL TRAILS, Great Miami River Rec Trail, Ohio Bike Route 25
Join us for a bike ride rain or shine on the Great Miami River Recreation Trail (north). Go to Rip Rap Park at the intersection of Rip Rap Road, Taylorsville Road and Little York Road. Meet at the parking lot near the soccer fields. We’ll ride through historic Tadmor (9 miles). 5618

STILLWATER RIVER RECREATION TRAIL (C)*
SAT, OCT 2, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Join us for a bike ride rain or shine on the Stillwater River Recreation Trail (central). We’ll be riding to Eastwood MetroPark (13 miles). 5626

STILLWATER RIVER RECREATION TRAIL
SAT, OCT 16, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Morgan Shelter/ West Park, 100 E. National Road
Join us for a bike ride rain or shine on the Stillwater River Recreation Trail. Head to 100 E. National Rd. at the intersection of U.S. 40 and State Route 48 in Englewood, north of the dam. Meet in the park parking lot. We’re
riding to Jake Grossnickle Park and past Patty Shelter (9 miles). 5628

WOLF CREEK RECREATION TRAIL
SAT, OCT 23, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
RECREATIONAL TRAILS, Wolf Creek Rec Trail, Ohio Bike Route 38
Join us for a bike ride rain or shine. This ride will begin at the parking lot behind Rob’s Restaurant, 705 Arlington Rd., in Brookville. We’ll ride toward Trotwood (14 miles). 5630

WOLF CREEK RECREATION TRAIL*
SAT, OCT 30, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
RECREATIONAL TRAILS, Wolf Creek Rec Trail, Ohio Bike Route 38
Join us for a bike ride rain or shine. This ride will begin at the parking lot behind Rob’s Restaurant, 705 Arlington Rd., in Brookville. We’ll ride to Verona (11 miles). 5629

(FREE) MAD RIVER TRAIL TIME TRIAL
TUE, SEP 7, 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.
This Outdoor Community Calendar event is brought to you by Speedy Feet Racing. Join Speedy Feet on the first Tuesday of the month during the summer to test your fitness and race against the clock in a family-friendly, safe environment at the Mad River Trail Time Trials. Ride distance ranges from 6 to 10 miles. Registration starts at 6:00 PM; first rider starts at 6:30 PM. For more information, visit www.speedy-feet.com 5052

(FREE) URBAN BIKES @ URBAN NIGHTS
FRI, SEP 10, 5:00 PM-6:30 PM
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.
This is an Outdoor Community Calendar event. Preview all the festivities at Urban Nights from the seat of a bike and join other “bike-minded individuals” in promoting cyclists’ right to the road and continuing to make Dayton more bike-friendly. Ride leaves at 5:30 PM. Helmets are recommended. Ride will end at Courthouse Square. Valet bike parking available. 5438

(FREE) NIGHT FISHING AT EASTWOOD METROPARK
FRI, SEP 3 -SAT, SEP 25, 10:00 PM-2:00 AM
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.
Every Friday and Saturday, through September 30, for fishing only. Please note: occasional boat races at Eastwood MetroPark Lake may affect night fishing schedule. Bring flashlight or lantern. Use lake entrance. No reservations required. 4315

(FREE) NIGHT FISHING AT POSSUM CREEK
FRI, SEP 3 -SAT, SEP 25, 10:00 PM-2:00 AM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Every Friday and Saturday, through September 30, for fishing only. Bring flashlight or lantern. No reservations required. 4316

FISHING

STEELHEAD TROUT SERIES
Learn to fly fish for steelhead trout in this four-part series. The book Steelhead Guide will be used as a reference. It includes maps of rivers and streams to fish, guide services and listing of shops that cater to steelhead anglers. Reservations required and limited, so call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. 5604

INTRO TO FLY FISHING FOR STEELHEAD TROUT
WED, SEP 1, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM
FIVE RIVERS ST. CLAIR BUILDING, Outdoor Recreation Classroom, 224 N St Clair St.
Class will cover equipment in fly fishing and spin fishing for steelhead trout. You’ll get an overview of rods, reels, lines, flies, lures and baits, as well as how and when to use different rigs. Fees: $5 5605

FLY TYING FOR TROUT
TUE, OCT 26, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM
FIVE RIVERS ST. CLAIR BUILDING, Outdoor Recreation Classroom, 224 N St Clair St.
Get an overview of fly fishing for trout, including information on rods, reels, lines, flies and other equipment needed. Instructor will give advice on casting techniques and resources to improve your fly fishing knowledge. Learn when, where and how to catch trout, including opportunities right here in the Miami Valley on the Mad River. Registration required and limited, so please call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: $5 5606

FLY TYING FOR TROUT
THU, OCT 28, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM
FIVE RIVERS ST. CLAIR BUILDING, Outdoor Recreation Classroom, 224 N St Clair St.
Learn the basics of tying flies for trout, including an overview of tools, materials and patterns. Students will tie two to three flies during session. Resources and additional trout patterns are covered to expand your knowledge of trout flies. All tools and materials are provided. Registration required and limited, so please call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: $10 5607

FITNESS & HEALTH

(FREE) GARDEN SOJOURN: MIND, BODY & SPIRIT
FRI, SEP 3, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM 5267
FRI, SEP 17, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM 5268
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Water Garden Terrace, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Walk through the garden, take a tram tour, practice Tai Chi and indulge in light refreshments. Do as much or as little as you like in a program for folks 55 and older. The Water Garden Terrace is the starting point for all activities. Program takes place first and third Fridays, May through September. Organized groups are asked to register in advance; individual walk-ins welcome. For details or to register, call (937) 434-9005. Age: 55Y and up.

(FREE) HIKE FOR THE HEALTH OF IT! SERIES
Hike for a healthier lifestyle in the great outdoors! Hikes will be held every Saturday year round at 2:00 PM. Each hike will be about 3 miles and will move at a
comfortable, brisk pace. Terrain will vary with the site and some is rugged. Hikers who complete 10 hikes will receive a Five Rivers MetroParks Health Hike ball cap. For general Health Hike questions, call (937) 278-2623, Monday-Friday.

SAT, SEP 4, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM 4431  EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1353 Harshman Rd.

SAT, SEP 11, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM 4435  POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

SAT, SEP 18, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM 4436  ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.

SAT, SEP 25, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM 4437  GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 BoomerShine Rd.

SAT, OCT 2, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM 4438  WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

SAT, OCT 9, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM 4439  SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

SAT, OCT 16, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM 4440  TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Blue Heron Shelter, 2000 U.S. 40

SAT, OCT 23, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM 4441  TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Chamberlain Parking lot, 8502 Chamberlain Rd.

SAT, OCT 30, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM 4442  ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.

SAT, NOV 6, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM 4443  CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake Shelter/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

SAT, NOV 13, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM 4444  HUFFMAN METROPARK, Huffman North Park, 4095 Lower Valley Pk

SAT, NOV 20, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM 4445  COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

SAT, NOV 27, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM 4446  POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

HORSEBACK RIDING

HORSE CAMPS FOR ADULTS
MON, SEP 6 - FRI, SEP 10, 6:00 PM-9:00 PM  5039
MON, SEP 20 - FRI, SEP 24, 6:00 PM-9:00 PM  5040

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Riding Center, 811 E. Shull Rd.

This camp is designed for 18 and over adults who want to learn basic horsemanship and equitation. Class is Monday through Friday 6-9 PM. Be ready to ride a variety of horses. Class is limited to five, so register early. Students should wear boots with 1-inch heels, appropriate riding attire such as jeans or breeches, and helmets are provided and required. For specific camp dates, availability and reservations, call the Riding Center at (937) 274-3120. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: $150

FAMILY CAMP
MON, SEP 13 - FRI, SEP 17, 6:00 PM-9:00 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Riding Center, 811 E. Shull Rd.

Camp provides opportunities for families to learn basic equitation and horsemanship together. Minimum age is 8. For specific camp dates, availability and reservations call the Riding Center at (937) 274-3120. Age: 8Y and up. Fees: $150  5044

MOUNTAIN BIKING

(FREE) MOMBIA RIDE FOR REMEMBRANCE
SAT, SEP 11, 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

Join the mountain biking community and local firefighters, policemen and military personnel in honoring them for their continual sacrifice in the line of duty. Remember the events of 9/11 in a positive and active way with the Miami Valley Mountain Bike Association and Five Rivers MetroParks during a mountain bike ride at MoMBA. Families and individuals are welcome to come out to the ride. To register or for information, call (937) 277-4374 or register online. 5456

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: MOMBIA TRAIL WORK DAYS
SAT, SEP 11, 12:00 PM-4:00 PM  5529
THU, SEP 23, 6:00 PM-8:30 PM  5530
SAT, OCT 9, 12:00 PM-4:00 PM  5531
SAT, NOV 13, 12:00 PM-4:00 PM  5532
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

Help maintain MoMBA, MetroParks’ mountain bike trail. No experience necessary. Volunteers will have the opportunity to learn sustainable trail building techniques including corridor clearing, contour bench trail construction, creek armoring and more. Bring water and work gloves; tools and instruction provided. Meet at the picnic tables next to the parking lot. Registrations requested; walk-ins welcome. Youth 14-17 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information and to register, call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 14Y and up.

(FREE) TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING!
TUE, SEP 14, 4:00 PM-7:00 PM
HUFFMAN METROPARK, Mountain Biking Trailhead, 4485 Union Rd.

Is not having a mountain bike keeping you from getting out to ride MoMBA? Come out to MoMBA, MetroParks Mountain Bike Area, and use one of our program bikes to take a lap on some sweet single track. Bikes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Youth under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Helmets are mandatory and provided with bike. Call (937) 277-4374 for more information or register online. 5439

(FREE) MOMBIA WOMEN’S RIDE
THU, SEP 16, 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

Come out to MoMBA, MetroParks Mountain Biking Area, and join other mountain biking women of all skill levels from all over the Miami Valley for this casual ride along some of the best single track around. Group will meet at the Trailhead Kiosk. Please bring a helmet, bike and water. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-4374 or register online. 5457

MOMBIA CROSS-COUNTRY CLASSIC
SUN, OCT 3, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

One of the many exciting competitions of GearFest, the Midwest’s premier outdoor adventure experience is the MoMBA XC Classic, the only race event held at this amazing, sustainable single-track, mountain bike-specific facility. Race will be operated in a professionally timed, mass-start fashion with numerous classes racing anywhere from one to three laps around the nearly 9-mile course. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. For more information about this event, visit www.metroparks.org/GearFest/Competitions.aspx Fees: $7  5649

GUIDE TO EVENT ACTIVITY
THE RIDING CENTER
AT CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK

Come visit our newly renovated riding center offering seasonal trail rides, pony rides, lesson packages, clinics and much more! Gift certificates are also available. To make a reservation and for more information, call (937) 274-3120 or visit www.metroparks.org/ridingcenter.

ORIENTEERING
INTRO TO LAND NAVIGATION
THU, OCT 28, 6:00 PM-9:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Would you like to learn how to use a map and compass in the backcountry? Do you need to dust off some little-used skills? Then this is the program for you. This classroom session will teach the basic parts and ways to use maps and compasses. This program is a prerequisite for Land Navigation Basics. Registration is required and limited, so please call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: $5 5452

LAND NAVIGATION BASICS
SAT, NOV 6, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM
TWIN CREEK METROPARK, High View Shelter, 9688 Eby Rd
Are you ready for the next step in the Land Navigation progression? Get out and use map and compass together in this field-based program. Prerequisite: Intro to Land Navigation. Registration is required and limited, so please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: $10 5453

OUTDOOR SKILLS & SAFETY
FUNDAMENTALS OF OUTDOOR ADVENTURE TRIP PLANNING
TUE, NOV 9, 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
FIVE RIVERS ST. CLAIR BUILDING, Outdoor Recreation Classroom, 224 N St Clair St.
Getting properly prepared for your next outdoor excursion can seem overwhelming when you are trying to be efficient and thorough. We will teach safe and realistic experiences for getting prepared for your next outdoor trip no matter what your activity focus is. We will prepare you with field management tools, route planning, food planning, safety and hazards to be aware before you head outside. Registration required, so call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: $5 5458

PADDLING
(TREE) TRY KAYAKING!
THU, SEP 9, 4:00 PM-7:00 PM
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Hole, 1401 Harshman Road
Come try a kayak and see if it is something you would like to learn more about in the future. An introduction to the boat and proper safety gear will be offered, and you will have the opportunity to try different styles of kayaks. A great way to learn about the sport in a controlled environment. For more information, please call (937) 277-4374 or register online. 5643

(FOOL) WHITEWATER KAYAK VIDEO SESSION
TUE, NOV 16, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM
FIVE RIVERS ST. CLAIR BUILDING, Outdoor Recreation Classroom, 224 N St Clair St.
Come enjoy an evening of whitewater kayaking adventure as we gather to watch the most recent footage of the best kayaking throughout the world. You will be able to watch a video and enjoy a light snack as we gather with like-minded people with a love of paddle sports. To register, or for more information, please call (937) 277-4374, or register online. Age: 10Y and up. 5516

PETS
(TREE) PAW WALKERS LUNCHTIME WALKS
FRI, SEP 3, 11:30 AM-12:15 PM 5355
FRI, SEP 3, 12:15 PM-1:00 PM 5356
FRI, SEP 24, 11:30 AM-12:15 PM 5357
FRI, SEP 24, 12:15 PM-1:00 PM 5358
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Borrow an adoptable dog from the Humane Society of Greater Dayton and explore the river corridor in downtown Dayton during these 45-minute walks. Enjoy health benefits for you and the dog. Reservations required to walk an adoptable dog. Call (937) 274-0126 to reserve your adoptable dog or register online. Weather dependent. Age: 18Y and up.

SPECIAL EVENTS
ALL OUTDOOR ADVENTURE
(TREE) GEARFEST PRESENTED BY SUBARU
FRI, OCT 1, 6:00 PM-10:00 PM 5359
SAT, OCT 2, 10:00 AM-6:00 PM 5360
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Park, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Celebrate the Midwest outdoor experience at GearFest! The event offers something for everyone from the hard-core outdoor enthusiast to the budding weekend warrior.
Visitors can enjoy a variety of activities including free camping, live music, outdoor athlete demos, Mad River kayaking, the Youth Adventure Zone and more. For more information or to register, call (937) 277-4374 or visit metroparks.org/garreqst. 5600

ENTERTAINMENT

(FREE) RIVERTUNES: TOUCH
SAT, SEP 4, 7:30 PM-9:30 PM
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Touch has been entertaining and delighting audiences all over the country for over a decade. Their energetic dance performances and engaging personalities will have the audience on their feet. Touch has shared center stage with Al Green, Lou Gramm/Foreigner, The Isley Brothers, Eddie Money, Ray Charles and more. Come and check out this “Old Skool Motown” sound explosion! Chairs fill quickly, bring a lawn chair for seating. Weather dependent. For more information, call (937) 274-0126. 5360

(FREE) HISPANIC HERITAGE FESTIVAL
SAT, SEP 11, 11:00 AM-11:00 PM
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

The exciting Hispanic Heritage Festival is back with hot Latin music and spicy, delicious Latin food. The sounds of Salsa, Merengue, Mexico, Latin Jazz, Cumbia and Bachata music will come alive in the biggest FIESTA in downtown Dayton! Admission is free. Call (937) 274-0126 for more information. 5361

(FREE) TASTE OF MIAMI VALLEY
FRI, SEP 17, 5:00 PM-11:00 PM 5362
SAT, SEP 18, 2:00 PM-11:00 PM 5363
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Miami Valley Restaurants are serving delicious food at this year’s Taste of Miami Valley! Come sample portions of signature dishes from over 25 area restaurants.

While you're sampling, enjoy electrifying performances by Deron Bell, This Side Up and Spungeworthy. New this year, several home improvement companies will be on site such as Bath Fitter and Craftsman. Vote on the first American Ale Idol. For more information, call (937) 461-MVRA or visit dineoutdayton.org.

(FREE) COUNTRY FAIR
SAT, SEP 25, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM
SUN, SEP 26, 12:00 PM-5:00 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Historical Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

As the fall harvest approaches, Carriage Hill MetroPark’s historical farm celebrates the tradition of an 1880s country fair. From agricultural demonstrations to a pie-baking competition, all the sights and sounds of a country fair will be recreated. Living history talks and demonstrations illustrate our past. Watch the sorghum make its way from a press squeezing the juice from the stalks to the steam engine boiling it into molasses. Visit metroparks.org/CountryFair or call (937) 278-2609 for details. 4751

(FREE) VOYAGE ON THE PARKWAY
SAT, OCT 9, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Park, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Find out how spending the day at the park can help get your child ready for kindergarten. Begin your adventure at either the Boonshoft Museum or Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark and enjoy a variety of free art, music, science and nature activities provided by area early childhood professionals. This event is fun for the whole family, and overflow parking is available at Triangle Park. Call (937) 277-6545 for details. 5567

(FREE) FALL FAMILY FUN DAY
SAT, OCT 16, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.

Pumpkin decorating, musical entertainment and sampling of in-season fruits and vegetables will be a part of this day-long program perfect for the whole family. Visit metroparks.org/LocalFood to find a list of all the Market vendors. For more information, call (937) 228-2088. 5573

(FREE) POSSUM CREEK HARVEST JAMBOREE
SAT, OCT 16, 12:00 PM-5:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Sustainable Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Fall is the perfect time for a harvest celebration. Bring the family to experience this free family festival with music, food, demonstrations, displays, children’s games and more! Learn about the science of modern agriculture. Visit the Scarecrow Convention display around the crop field. For more information, call (937) 276-7062 or visit metroparks.org/Harvest. 5575

(FREE) STOCK-UP WEDNESDAY
WED, NOV 24, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.

Pick up your Thanksgiving pre-orders or stock up on last-minute purchases for the holiday! If homemade breads, fresh turkey, ham, pies or flowers are on your list, let the Market be your one-stop shop! Vendors will start taking pre-orders at the beginning of the month. Call (937) 228-2088 for more information. 5574

FITNESS & HEALTH

GHOST N GOBLINS 5K
TUE, OCT 26, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

This outdoor community opportunity is provided by the Ohio River Road Runners Club. Whether you’re racing or just watching, this costume-clad race is fun for the whole family. For more information, visit www.orrrc.org. Fees: $20 5401

SKATING

ICE RINK GRAND OPENING WEEKEND
FRI, NOV 26, 11:00 AM-6:30 PM 5644
FRI, NOV 27, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM 5645
SAT, NOV 27, 11:00 AM-6:30 PM 5646
SAT, NOV 27, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM 5647
SUN, NOV 28, 1:00 PM-5:30 PM 5648
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape MetroPark Ice Rink, 229 E. Monument Ave.

Be one of the first to enjoy the brand-new MetroParks Ice Rink! The rink will transform into a winter wonderland with holiday music, horse-drawn carriage rides, giveaways and more during our opening weekend! Admission is $5 and includes skate rental. Warm up with a coney or some hot chocolate from the food concession operated by Skyline Chili. Sign up to win a family pass! Call (937) 274-0126 or visit metroparks.org/skating for further information. Fees: $5
#1 BACKPACKING BABY STEPS: Novice backpackers should try the Oak Ridge campsite on the Twin Valley Trail, which offers easy access to parking, potable water and restrooms.

#2 GET HOOKED: Fish for free and without a license at the ponds at Possum Creek MetroPark.

#3 IN THE FLING OF THINGS: Break in your disc golf set on the back nine holes of the course at Englewood MetroPark.

#4 BIKE TO IT: Grab a Hub T Rex from the Bike Hub at RiverScape MetroPark and enjoy a day trip on the bikeways.

#5 MEET MoMBA: Introduce yourself to MoMBA, the MetroParks Mountain Biking Area at Huffman MetroPark, by riding the Voodoo trail.

#6 HORSE PLAY: Give horseback riding a try! Weekend trail and pony rides at the Carriage Hill Riding Center last through Oct. 31.

#7 PADDLE PALs: The Stillwater River provides plenty of flat-water paddling, which can help beginners master their technique.

#8 HIKE HAPPY: Haven’t hiked in a while? Get back on your feet at Cox Arboretum MetroPark, which has lots of short, mostly level loops.

#9 NATURAL ACTIVITY: Nature play is so easy, any kid can do it—no matter how young (or young at heart)!

#10 SKATE THE ‘SCAPE: Rent ice skates when the rink at RiverScape MetroPark opens Nov. 26 and see if it’s something you’re into before investing in your own pair.
**EVENTS BY DATE, TIME**

**MON, AUG 23, 2010**
8:00 AM Ongoing: Get Outside Bookclub, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 38)

**WED, SEP 1, 2010**
10:00 AM Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 33)
6:30 PM Fly Fishing for Steelhead Trout, Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 40)
7:00 PM Environment & Adventure Film: The Return of the Cuyahoga, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

**THU, SEP 2, 2010**
10:00 AM Backpacking Babies: Bird Study, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 33)
4:00 PM Try Backpacking! Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 38)

**FRI, SEP 3, 2010**
9:00 AM Garden Sojourn: Mind, Body & Spirit, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 40)
11:30 AM Paw Walkers Lunchtime Walks, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)
12:15 PM Paw Walkers Lunchtime Walks, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)
5:00 PM Courteous Mass Ride, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 39)
5:30 PM Camouflage! Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 38)
10:00 PM Night Fishing at Eastwood MetroPark, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 40)
10:00 PM Night Fishing at Possum Creek, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 40)

**SAT, SEP 4, 2010**
9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Creekside Recreation Trail, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 39)
10:00 AM 2nd Street Market Visit, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 31)
11:00 AM Farm Tour and Wagon Ride, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27)
1:00 PM Home Food Preservation - Dehydration, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)
1:00 PM Nature Center Discovery Hikes, Germantown MetroPark (see page 33)
1:30 PM Farm Tour and Wagon Ride, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Eastwood MetroPark (see page 41)
7:30 PM RiverTunes: Touch, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)
10:00 PM Night Fishing at Eastwood MetroPark, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 40)

**WED, SEP 8, 2010**
10:00 AM Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 33)
10:00 AM Tike Hike: Discover Nature, Huffman MetroPark (see page 34)
1:00 PM Home Schooler: Monarch Madness, Germantown MetroPark (see page 33)
4:00 PM Pollinator Protectors, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 28)
6:00 PM Garden Primer: The Fundamentals, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28)
6:30 PM Fly Tying for Steelhead Trout, Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 40)

**THU, SEP 9, 2010**
9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 34)
10:00 AM Parent and Preschooler: Leaf Man, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 35)
10:30 AM Fall Flower Arranging, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 31)
4:00 PM Try Kayaking! Eastwood MetroPark (see page 42)

**FRI, SEP 10, 2010**
10:30 AM Fall Flower Arranging, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 31)
5:00 PM Gardener’s Plant Exchange, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28)
5:00 PM Urban Bikes @ Urban Nights, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 40)
7:30 PM Beaver Walk, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 35)
10:00 PM Night Fishing at Eastwood MetroPark, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 40)
10:00 PM Night Fishing at Possum Creek, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 40)

**SAT, SEP 11, 2010**
9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Great Miami Recreation Trail (S), Recreational Trails (see page 39)
9:00 AM Learning from the Landscape: Late Season Care, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28)
9:00 AM Volunteer: Backpacking Trail Work Days, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 39)
9:30 AM Seed Saving, Off Site (see page 28)
10:00 AM Canning Club: Fruits, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 32)
10:00 AM Living With Mother Earth: Tour of Woodman Fen, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 30)
10:00 AM No Stone Unturned! Englewood MetroPark (see page 35)
11:00 AM Hispanic Heritage Festival, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)
12:00 PM Backpacking Basics, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 39)
12:00 PM Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days, Huffman MetroPark (see page 41)
1:00 PM Begin Eating Locally, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 31)
1:00 PM Cover Crops for the Farm or Garden, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27)
1:00 PM Monarch Butterfly Day, Germantown MetroPark (see page 35)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 41)
6:00 PM MoMBA Ride for Remembrance, Huffman MetroPark (see page 41)
7:30 PM Bats of Carriage Hill! Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 35)
8:00 PM Beaver Fever, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 35)
10:00 PM Night Fishing at Eastwood MetroPark, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 40)
10:00 PM Night Fishing at Possum Creek, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 40)

**SUN, SEP 12, 2010**
2:00 PM Hawks On the Move, Germantown MetroPark (see page 35)
2:00 PM Monarch Tagging, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 35)

**MON, SEP 13, 2010**
6:00 PM Family Camp, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 41)
6:30 PM Fly Tying for Steelhead Trout, Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 40)

**TUE, SEP 14, 2010**
9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 33)
1:30 PM Parent and Preschooler: Who Invented the Scarecrow? Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27)
4:00 PM Try Mountain Biking! Huffman MetroPark (see page 41)

**TUE, SEP 7, 2010**
9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 41)
6:00 PM Mad River Trail Time Trial, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 40)

**WED, SEP 10, 2010**
10:00 PM Night Fishing at Possum Creek, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 40)

**MON, SEP 6, 2010**
6:00 PM Horse Camps for Adults, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 41)

**TUE, SEP 7, 2010**
9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 33)
6:00 PM Mad River Trail Time Trial, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 40)
**GUIDE TO EVENT BY DATE**

**WED, SEP 15, 2010**
9:00 AM Bike for the Health of it, Germantown MetroPark (see page 35)
10:00 AM Mother Nature Story Time, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 35)
10:00 AM Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 33)
11:30 AM Lunch and Learn: All About Bees, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 29)
1:30 PM Tike Hike: Discover Nature, Germantown MetroPark (see page 34)
4:00 PM Pollinator Protectors, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 28)
6:00 PM Garden Primer: Design Essentials, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28)
6:30 PM Fly Tying for Steelhead Trout, Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 40)

**THU, SEP 16, 2010**
11:00 AM Awesome Apples, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 32)
6:00 PM MoMBA Women’s Ride, Huffman MetroPark (see page 41)
6:30 PM Compost Kitchen: Building Better Soil, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 29)

**FRI, SEP 17, 2010**
9:00 AM Garden Sojourn: Mind, Body & Spirit, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 40)
10:00 AM Tike Hike: A Seed’s Journey, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 34)
11:30 AM Market Meals, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 32)
1:00 PM Home Schooler: From North to South, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 33)
5:00 PM Taste of Miami Valley, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)
10:00 PM Night Fishing at Eastwood MetroPark, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 40)
10:00 PM Night Fishing at Possum Creek, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 40)

**SAT, SEP 18, 2010**
8:00 AM Twin Valley Trail Backpacking Trip, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 39)
8:30 AM Family Farm Chores, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27)
8:30 AM Morning Chores on the Farm, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 27)
9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Great Miami River Rec. Trail (N), Recreational Trails (see page 39)
10:00 AM 10 Perfect Perennials, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 29)
10:00 AM Shooting Outdoor Portraits, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 38)
1:00 PM Eureka Lab! To See a Seed, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 36)
1:00 PM Scarecrow Building Workshop, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Englewood MetroPark (see page 41)
2:00 PM Taste of Miami Valley, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)
10:00 PM Night Fishing at Eastwood MetroPark, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 40)
10:00 PM Night Fishing at Possum Creek, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 40)

**SUN, SEP 19, 2010**
1:00 PM All About Trees, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 29)

**MON, SEP 20, 2010**
6:00 PM Horse Camps for Adults, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 41)

**TUE, SEP 21, 2010**
9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 33)
10:00 AM Tike Hike: Spider Kid, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 34)

**WED, SEP 22, 2010**
10:00 AM Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 33)
1:00 PM Home Schooler Pond: Up Close and Personal, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 33)
4:00 PM Pollinator Protectors, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 28)
6:00 PM Garden Primer: Soil Health, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28)
6:00 PM Gear Fest Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 38)

**THU, SEP 23, 2010**
6:00 PM Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days, Huffman MetroPark (see page 41)
6:30 PM Compost Kitchen: Backyard Composting, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 29)
7:00 PM Cafe Sci: Sustainability in Practice, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 36)

**FRI, SEP 24, 2010**
11:00 AM Parent and Preschooler: Tea with the Trees Tea Party, Wegerzyn Gardens

**METROPAK.ORG**
THU, SEP 30, 2010
6:30 PM Compost Kitchen: All About Worms, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 29)

FRI, OCT 1, 2010
5:00 PM Courteous Mass Ride, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 39)
6:00 PM GearFest presented by Subaru, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 42)

SAT, OCT 2, 2010
9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Stillwater River Rec. Trail (C), Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 39)
10:00 AM Garden Structures, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 29)
10:00 AM GearFest presented by Subaru, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 42)
8:30 AM Family Farm Chores, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27)
10:00 AM Soup’s On, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 32)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 41)

SUN, OCT 3, 2010
8:30 AM Ohio Gardening, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 29)
9:00 AM MoMBA Cross-Country Classic, Huffman MetroPark (see page 41)

TUE, OCT 5, 2010
9:00 AM Southwest Ohio Urban Forestry Conference, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 30)
9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks, Englewood MetroPark (see page 33)

WED, OCT 6, 2010
10:00 AM Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 33)
6:00 PM Garden Primer: Plants for Ohio, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28)

THU, OCT 7, 2010
10:00 AM Backpacking Babies: Sounds of Nature, Sugar Creek MetroPark (see page 33)
11:30 AM Cooking with Garlic, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 32)

SAT, OCT 9, 2010
9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Creekside Rec. Trail, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 39)
9:00 AM Learning from the Landscape: Four Seasons of Interest, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28)
9:00 AM Fall Tree ID Workshop, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)
9:00 AM Volunteer: Backpacking Trail Work Days, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 39)
10:00 AM Canning Club: End of Season Harvest, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 32)
10:00 AM Adult nature Walk, Taylorville MetroPark (see page 36)
11:00 AM Voyage on the Parkway, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 43)
12:00 PM Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days, Huffman MetroPark (see page 41)
1:00 PM Nature Center Discovery Hikes, Germantown MetroPark (see page 33)
1:00 PM Up Close and Personal with Pumpkins, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27)
1:30 PM Family Spider Search, Sugar Creek MetroPark (see page 36)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Sugar Creek MetroPark (see page 41)
7:00 PM Owl and Beaver Search, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 37)
7:00 PM Silly and Scary Tales, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 38)

SUN, OCT 10, 2010
1:00 PM Puffs, Drops and Brittle: Candy in the 1880s, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 30)

TUE, OCT 12, 2010
9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks, Englewood MetroPark (see page 33)
1:30 PM Parent and Preschooler: Pumpkin Fun, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27)

WED, OCT 13, 2010
7:15 AM Bus Trip: Louisville, KY, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 30)
10:00 AM Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 33)
1:00 PM Tike Hike: Discover Nature, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 34)
6:00 PM Garden Primer: Plants for Ohio, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28)

THU, OCT 14, 2010
9:00 AM Adult nature Walk, Sugar Creek MetroPark (see page 34)
10:00 AM Parent and Preschooler: Root Zone, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 35)
11:30 AM Gourmet Garlic Recipes, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 32)
4:00 PM Pumpkin Carving, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 37)
4:00 PM Outdoor Explorers Club, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 38)
4:00 PM Try Backpacking! Englewood MetroPark (see page 38)
7:00 PM Pumpkin Carving, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 37)

FRI, OCT 15, 2010
11:30 AM Lunch and Learn: Garden Photography, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 29)

SAT, OCT 16, 2010
8:30 AM Morning Chores on the Farm, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 27)
9:00 AM Fall Bird Hike, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 37)
9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Stillwater River Recreation Trail, Englewood MetroPark (see page 39)
10:00 AM Fall Family Fun Day, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 43)
10:00 AM Autumn Photography, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 38)
10:00 AM Wegerzyn Trees, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 30)
12:00 PM Possum Creek Harvest Jamboree, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 43)
1:00 PM Last Chance Creek Fun, Sugar Creek MetroPark (see page 37)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Taylorville MetroPark (see page 41)
7:00 PM Halloween Tales and Night Hike, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 37)

SUN, OCT 17, 2010
1:00 PM Corn Husking, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 30)

TUE, OCT 19, 2010
9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks, Englewood MetroPark (see page 33)

WED, OCT 20, 2010
9:00 AM Morning Bird Walk, Germantown MetroPark (see page 35)
10:00 AM Mother Nature Story Time, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 35)
10:00 AM Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 33)
10:00 AM Tike Hike: Animal Homes, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 34)
1:30 PM Tike Hike: Discover Nature, Germantown MetroPark (see page 34)
6:00 PM Garden Primer: Garden Maintenance & Care, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28)

THU, OCT 21, 2010
10:00 AM Horse-Drawn Plowing, Off Site (see page 27)
10:30 AM Pumpkin Flower Arrangements, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 32)
**GUIDE TO EVENT BY DATE**

**THU, OCT 28, 2010**
4:00 PM Outdoor Explorers Club, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 38)

**FRI, OCT 22, 2010**
8:00 AM Big South Fork Backpacking Trip, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 39)
10:00 AM Tike Hike: Leaf Safari, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 34)
10:30 AM Pumpkin Flower Arrangements, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 32)
1:00 PM Home Schooler: Hide & Seek, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 34)

**SAT, OCT 23, 2010**
9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Wolf Creek Recreation Trail, Recreational Trails (see page 40)
9:30 AM Fall Bird Hike, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)
10:00 AM The Best in Fruit Trees, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 30)
1:00 PM Pumpkin Flower Arrangements, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 32)
2:00 PM Owls in the Woods, Germantown MetroPark (see page 37)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 41)
8:00 PM Aullwood Moonlight Walk, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 31)

**SUN, OCT 24, 2010**
1:00 PM Nature Center Discovery Hikes, Germantown MetroPark (see page 33)
1:00 PM Leaf Collection, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 36)

**TUE, OCT 26, 2010**
9:00 AM Stroller Strut: What Do Leaves Do? Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 36)
9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks, Englewood MetroPark (see page 33)
11:30 AM Stroller Strut: What Do Leaves Do? Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 36)
6:30 PM Ghost N Goblins 5K, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)
6:30 PM Fly Fishing for Trout, Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 40)

**WED, OCT 27, 2010**
10:00 AM Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 33)
11:30 AM Lunch and Learn: Growing Mushrooms, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 29)
1:00 PM Tike Hike: Piles of Leaves, Huffman MetroPark (see page 34)
6:00 PM Garden Primer: Garden Maintenance & Care, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28)

**THU, OCT 28, 2010**
4:00 PM Outdoor Explorers Club, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 38)
6:00 PM Intro to Land Navigation, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 42)
6:30 PM Fly Tying for Trout, Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 40)
7:00 PM Cafe Sci: 2010 Wrap-Up Celebration, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 36)

**SAT, OCT 30, 2010**
9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Wolf Creek Recreation Trail, Recreational Trails (see page 40)
10:00 AM Fort Fun! Englewood MetroPark (see page 37)
1:00 PM Sharing the Harvest with Our Feathered Friends, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Englewood MetroPark (see page 41)

**TUE, NOV 2, 2010**
9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 33)

**WED, NOV 3, 2010**
6:00 PM Garden Primer: Pest, Plant, and Problem Solving, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28)

**THU, NOV 4, 2010**
10:00 AM Backpacking Babies: Leaves of Color, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 33)
1:00 PM Home Schooler: What is an Insect? Eastwood MetroPark (see page 34)
4:00 PM Outdoor Explorers Club, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 38)

**FRI, NOV 5, 2010**
11:30 AM Herbal Holiday, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 32)
5:00 PM Courteous Mass Ride, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 39)

**SAT, NOV 6, 2010**
8:30 AM Family Farm Chores, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27)
9:00 AM Fall Bird Hike, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)
10:00 AM Foods on the Farm, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 31)
10:00 AM Pasta Seasoning and Thanksgiving Recipes, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 32)
10:00 AM Eating Seasonally, Eating Local, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
10:00 AM Fossil Fun, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 37)
1:00 PM Land Navigation Basics, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 42)
1:00 PM Nature Center Discovery Hikes, Germantown MetroPark (see page 33)
1:00 PM Pumpkins - More than Just Decorations, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 32)
1:00 PM Putting the Garden to Bed, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 30)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 41)

**SUN, NOV 7, 2010**
10:00 AM Foods on the Farm, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 31)

**TUE, NOV 9, 2010**
9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 33)
11:30 AM Lunch and Learn: Herbal Holiday Gifts, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 29)
1:30 PM Parent and Preschooler: Bread, the Staple of Life, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27)
6:00 PM Fundamentals of Outdoor Adventure Trip Planning, Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 42)

**WED, NOV 10, 2010**
10:00 AM Alphabet Safari for Twos: Letters A-F, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 37)
1:00 PM Tike Hike: Discover Nature, Englewood MetroPark (see page 34)
6:00 PM Garden Primer: Simple Garden Layouts, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28)

**THU, NOV 11, 2010**
9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 34)
4:00 PM Outdoor Explorers Club, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 38)

**FRI, NOV 12, 2010**
6:00 PM Tike Hike: Nocturnal Adventure, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 34)

**SAT, NOV 13, 2010**
10:00 AM Canning Club: Butters, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 32)
10:00 AM Getting Started with Digital Photography, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 38)
10:00 AM Living With Mother Earth: Saving the Land – MetroParks Update, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 30)
12:00 PM Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days, Huffman MetroPark (see page 41)
<table>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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| Sun, Nov 14, 2010 | **1:00 PM Corn Harvesting**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 28)  
1:00 PM Colossal Hide and Seek, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)  
1:00 PM The Wonders of Wheat, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27)  
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Huffman MetroPark (see page 41)  
4:00 PM Mammal Study, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 37) |
| Sun, Nov 21, 2010 | **8:30 AM Morning Chores on the Farm**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 27)  
10:00 AM Living With Mother Earth: Trip to Shiloh Woods, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (page 30)  
1:00 PM Eureka Lab! Compost Capers, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 36)  
1:00 PM Holiday Centerpieces, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 32)  
1:00 PM Prairie Play, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)  
1:00 PM Ohio’s First Farmers, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)  
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 41) |
| Tue, Nov 16, 2010 | **9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 33)  
10:00 AM Tike Hike: My First Leaf Collection, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 34)  
6:00 PM Community Gardening, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 30)  
6:30 PM Whitewater Kayak Video Session, Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 42) |
| Wed, Nov 17, 2010 | **6:00 PM Almost Full Moon Walks**, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 37)  
10:30 AM Holiday Centerpieces, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 32) |
| Thu, Nov 18, 2010 | **10:00 AM Parent and Preschooler: Cereal Bowl**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 35)  
10:00 AM Tike Hike: Woodland Tunnel, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 34)  
10:30 AM Holiday Centerpieces, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 32)  
11:30 AM Lunch and Learn: Tool Time, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 29)  
1:00 PM Home Schooler: Campfire Stories, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 34)  
4:00 PM Outdoor Explorers Club, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 38)  
6:30 PM Fundamentals of Backcountry Knots, Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 39) |
| Fri, Nov 19, 2010 | **8:00 AM Garden Federation Holiday Gala Flower Show**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33) |
| Sat, Nov 20, 2010 | **10:00 AM Living With Mother Earth: Trip to Shiloh Woods**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 30)  
1:00 PM Eureka Lab! Compost Capers, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 36)  
1:00 PM Holiday Centerpieces, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 32)  
1:00 PM Prairie Play, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)  
1:00 PM Ohio’s First Farmers, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)  
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 41) |
| Sun, Nov 21, 2010 | **8:30 AM Morning Chores on the Farm**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 27)  
10:00 AM Living With Mother Earth: Trip to Shiloh Woods, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (page 30)  
1:00 PM Eureka Lab! Compost Capers, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 36)  
1:00 PM Holiday Centerpieces, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 32)  
1:00 PM Prairie Play, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)  
1:00 PM Ohio’s First Farmers, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)  
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 41) |
| Tue, Nov 23, 2010 | **9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 33)  
10:00 AM Stroller Studies: Pinecone Critters, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 37) |
| Wed, Nov 24, 2010 | **11:00 AM Stock-Up Wednesday**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 43) |
| Thu, Nov 25, 2010 | **4:00 PM Outdoor Explorers Club**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 38) |
| Fri, Nov 26, 2010 | **11:00 AM Ice Rink Grand Opening Weekend**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)  
7:00 PM Ice Rink Grand Opening Weekend, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43) |
| Sat, Nov 27, 2010 | **11:00 AM Ice Rink Grand Opening Weekend**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)  
1:00 PM Family Nature Walk, Englewood MetroPark (see page 38)  
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 41)  
7:00 PM Ice Rink Grand Opening Weekend, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43) |
| Sun, Nov 28, 2010 | **1:00 PM Ice Rink Grand Opening Weekend**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43) |
| Tue, Nov 30, 2010 | **9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 33) |
| Park                  | Acres | Fishing - Ponds/Lakes | Fishing - Rivers | Ice Fishing | Walking Trails - Fairly Level | Bridle Trails | Ridding Centers | Volunteer Opportunities | Picnicking | Reservable Shelters | Sledding | Ice Skating | Mountain Biking | Cross-Country Skiing | Bird Feeding Stations | Visitor/Education Centers | Gift Shops | Camping W/permit | Public Walks | Recreation Trails | Demos & Workshops | Canoeing - River/Lake | Boating | Farm Visits | Group Tours | Horticultural Displays | Historical Features | Flood Control Dams | Playground | Pets Welcome | Backpacking |
|----------------------|-------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------|------------|-------------------|----------|-------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------|--------------|-------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------|------------|---------------|
No matter where you are in Montgomery County, you’re only 15 minutes away from a
Five Rivers MetroPark.
TIME FOR YOUR CLOSE UP!

Can you figure out where this is? Maybe at Eastwood MetroPark, the Butterfly House at Cox Arboretum, or the Discovery Garden?

Take a guess and then visit the spot and see how big the world of MetroParks can be. (answer upside down below)

Guess the spot!

Get the lowdown on activities going on in your MetroParks! Be our friend on Facebook!
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You can also get updates by following us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/metroparkstweet.