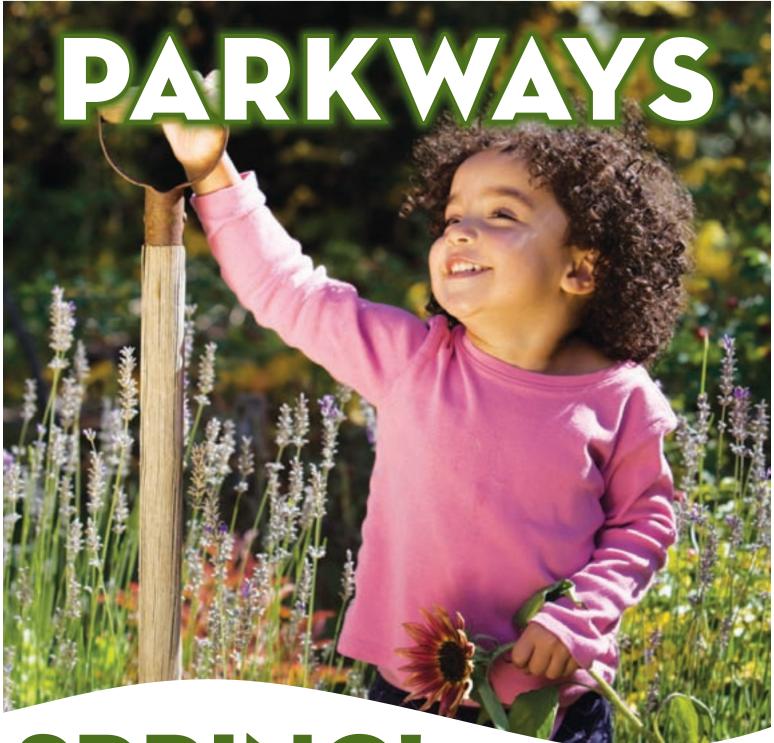
SPRING 2010 FREE



SPRING!
CAN YOU DIG IT?

Check out the special gardening section in this issue.

See full story on pages 20-23.

CYCLING TAKES DAYTON BY STORM SEE PAGES 18 - 19

DISCOVER BABY ANIMALS ON THE FARM SEE PAGES 14 - 15





# REMEMBER TO SAVE THE DATE

Be sure to mark your calendars for these upcoming Five Rivers MetroParks Events!



March 5 - 6
THE ADVENTURE
SUMMIT
Wright State University



March 6
MIAMI VALLEY
GARDENING
CONFERENCE
Sinclair Community College



April 4 - 25

AULLWOOD PHOTO
CONTEST OPEN HOUSE

Aullwood Gardens
MetroPark



April 17
ADOPT-A-PARK
Various MetroPark
Locations



April 25
WILDFLOWER AND
NATIVE PLANT SALE
Cox Arboretum MetroPark



April 30
ARBOR DAY
Cox Arboretum MetroPark



May 2
MAYFAIR PLANT SALE
Wegerzyn Gardens
MetroPark



May 14
URBAN NIGHTS
National City 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Market



May 21

NATIONAL BIKE TO
WORK PANCAKE
BREAKFAST

National City 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Market



June 5

PADDLE IN THE PARK

Eastwood MetroPark,

Lake Side

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

# IN THIS ISSUE

Spring 2010



### SPRING FLING

#### **FEATURE PROFILE**



SPRING IN THE PARKS
What's in bloom in your
MetroParks?
BONUS: Get great
gardening tips.
See pages 20 - 23

#### **SPECIAL FEATURES**



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



THINGS TO DO
Scan for ways to maximize your enjoyment of the season in your MetroParks!
See page 4

#### CONSERVATION



WETLANDS: MORE THAN MUCK Find out how these areas help the region's water and economy. See pages 8 - 10



FROM JUGS
TO TABLES
Recycled milk jugs make
fantastic furniture. Skeptical?
Read more.
See page 11

#### **EDUCATION**



IN A BOX
Discover why the best
childcare facilities will want
to get in on the Natural
Adventures Box.
See pages 12 - 13

**NATURE PLAY** 



NEW ARRIVALS
Read all about mommies and babies on the farm at Possum Creek MetroPark.
See pages 14 - 15

#### RECREATION



ADVENTURE SUMMIT There's something for everyone at this outdoor recreation experience. See pages 16 - 17



FOR CYCLING
Recreation, commuting, even social cycling has wheeled into Dayton.

See pages 18 - 19

**GEARED UP** 

# 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



Irvin G. Bieser, Jr.



Alan F. Pippenger



Karen L. Davis

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!



#1 BODACIOUS BLUEBELLS: It's spring!
Time for the annual blanket of Virginia
bluebells at Aullwood Gardens MetroPark.

**#2 COLOR EXPLOSION:** Feast your eyes on the array of colorful tulips at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.





#3 WILD THING: Visit Cox Arboretum MetroPark to see what's growing in the Woodland Wildflowers Garden.

# TOP TEN THINGS

### TO DO IN YOUR FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS



**#4 QUITE WHITE:** April showers bring a sea of trillium at Germantown MetroPark.



GROW:
Grow With Your
Neighbors
is a great
way to cultivate
vegetables
as well as
friendships.

#8 GOOD TO

### THIS SPRING

#5 BLOOMIN' BUSH: Check out the blossoming red dogwood and hydrangea shrubs at Island MetroPark.



#6 **SPRING FLING:** Get out and play at the 18-hole disc golf course at Englewood MetroPark.



#9 RIDE THE TRAILS: MetroParks' Mountain Biking Area at Huffman MetroPark is open for riders of all skill levels.



#7 **SWEET TWEETS:** Head to
Taylorsville MetroPark and see if you can
spot migrating Kentucky and
hooded warblers.





#10 EDUCATIONAL FUN: Kids love learning when they go to the Children's Discovery Garden at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.

Dear Friends.

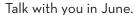
While winter maintains its hold, this issue of *ParkWays* will usher you into the spring season with all of the color, sound and vibrancy that accompanies the emergence of plant and animal life.

Here at MetroParks, spring signals not only the start of a new program schedule, but also the ramp up to another busy season of park management and enhancement. As is probably the case in most park agencies, it is the high-profile new programs, events or projects that seem to capture most of the public attention and comment. But I want to talk to you briefly about an agency initiative that MetroParks is committed to undertaking over the next few years involving a staple group of MetroParks' facilities: hiking trails.

Since the inception of MetroParks 47 years ago, hiking trails have served many a guest with an introduction to our local natural environment. The ability to immerse visitors deep into the plant and animal diversity of our parks is truly a connection to nature in its simplest yet most personal and powerful form. Utilization doesn't require training and enjoyment is what you make it. Outcomes range from peaceful solitude and observation to vigorous exercise of the body. So it is imperative that these foundational facilities of MetroParks be the best they can.

As in other constructed facilities, with trails it becomes necessary to make sure they are functioning as desired, meeting the needs of the park user and delivering the ultimate experience in support of the agency mission. Another really important aspect of this undertaking is making certain the MetroParks' staff, who are responsible for and interact with these facilities on a daily basis, are empowered with a leadership role in order to guarantee success. So MetroParks' staff from our Park Services, Conservation, Education and Recreation departments have been going through extensive training that will assist them in the trail inventory, peer evaluation and design as well as implementing required physical changes to the multitude of trails throughout our agency. When I mentioned up front that this will be an evolutionary improvement process over the next few years, please keep in mind that we are talking about miles of trail where a lot of the work is very labor-intensive from layout through the construction phase. I think it is clear to the staff involved that while some trail is working, some is not and needs to be dealt with. Coming to this conclusion is not an indictment on past efforts but merely a recognition that design and construction approaches do evolve for the better and cannot be ignored. Therefore, MetroParks will embark on this facelift for hiking trails to open new views, better orient and match the user to expectation, ensure protection of critical natural systems and enhance educational value to our outdoor classrooms. While this endeavor may not be as visibly apparent as some of our high-profile projects of the past, let me assure you there is no project we can undertake for the future of this park system with greater impact potential.

hack Thousele





## **PRODUCE POWER**

# GWYN VOLUNTEER FORTIFIES HIS VILLAGE WITH VEGETABLES

For Dennis Marsh, the benefits of being the volunteer coordinator for the Founders Community Gardens reach beyond simply encouraging friends and neighbors to be more healthy and self-sufficient. For Marsh, it's downright therapeutic. "When I'm working with the soil, I feel like I'm being healed," the Dayton resident says. "I believe this is what the creator intended for us—growing our own food and putting just the goodness that comes out of the Farth into our bodies."

Marsh is part of Five Rivers MetroParks' community gardening program called Grow With Your Neighbors (GWYN). Since 1986, GWYN has been helping low- to moderate-income residents in Montgomery County develop and maintain community gardens and green projects, transforming vacant lots into productive open spaces. "Community gardeners cultivate vegetable gardens, care for community-managed parks and beautify their neighborhoods with flowers and trees," says MetroParks GWYN Manager Luci Beachdell. "The gardens are owned, managed and maintained by neighborhood residents, providing many benefits, such as reduced crime rates, improved mental and physical health, and a greater sense of community."

GWYN provides many forms of ongoing support to groups who want to start a community garden. It also provides land acquisition assistance, leadership development, community organization, soil amendments and tilling, community building events, training and consulting, seeds and plants, educational materials and

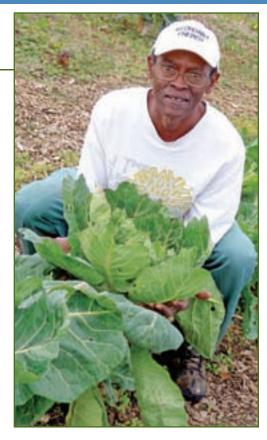
workshops. "Plot size and (seasonal) rental fee vary by garden, as do opening and closing dates," says Beachdell. "The majority of the gardens charge a small plot rental fee for the growing season, about \$5 to \$15. This fee typically covers the cost of the water bill. All of the older gardens and many of the newer ones have running water on site."

Marsh's goal for the Founders plot is to make his gardeners more self-sufficient. "I want this to be a sustainable garden, a place where the community can grow food for themselves and maybe even sell their produce for extra income," he says. "We also help improve our community by donating food grown here." Last year, Marsh's group gave away garden-fresh vegetables to the Dayton Urban Ministry Center and plans to include the Founders Family Community Center food pantry in next year's crop donation.

Donating food to charitable organizations isn't the only way Marsh says the GWYN program is helping to heal urban communities in Dayton. "It's a place to socialize, it's a kind of neighborhood watch, it teaches people to be self-sufficient, it brings people together," he explains. "When you invest time and love into something, you care about it. These gardens are a source of pride."

Marsh also believes in the power of produce. "It's amazing, all the health benefits that come from these plants," he says. "Obesity, vitamin deficiency—there are lots of common illnesses that we can treat just by putting good food in our bodies. We don't need to depend on these big companies to do for us what we can do for ourselves. It's a good economical decision, and everyone could benefit from saving a little money."

Teaching people to be self-reliant is



empowering for participants, as Beachdell can demonstrate. "I worked with a number of elderly gardeners at Village Park Apartments in Huber Heights. We built several 'lasagna' raised beds. The residents were so delighted to be growing food that they moved out of the lasagna beds and into the perennial landscaping beds," she says. "One of the gardeners, whose next-door neighbor was confined to her apartment, put a tomato plant right outside the neighbor's window so she could look at it from her apartment."

New gardeners are welcome to participate in GWYN. Marsh says he is often surprised by newcomers to the Founders plot who say they have never gardened before. "We give them all the tools and instruction they need, and then by the end of summer, they're carrying out basket after basket of vegetables. I find it very hard to believe some of them are first-timers."

But gardeners should exercise caution; Marsh warns of the potential addiction to gardening. "It's like paradise here. Once I start gardening, I don't ever want to leave. I guess I know I have a problem when I even dream about gardening," Marsh laughs.

### ONLINE EXTRA

To learn more about GWYN and review maps of community gardens in your area, visit **WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/GWYN** 

#### PARTICIPATE IN GWYN

This program is always looking for people to join existing gardens or start new ones. If you would like to get involved in your neighborhood, call GWYN at (937) 276-7053.



# **ADOPT-A-PARK**

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 17**

Attention volunteers, local businesses and service clubs:
Join us for a day of regional cleanup of Five Rivers
MetroParks and waterways throughout the county.
Volunteers of all ages, from young children to seniors,
are invited to help us make our parks and river corridors
healthier and friendlier places to visit. Each volunteer will
receive a free lunch. MetroParks will also
provide gloves, trash bags and drinking water.

For more information or to sign up, contact the volunteer service manager at (937) 275-PARK or visit **WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/ADOPT**.



# **VOLUNTEER**OPPORTUNITIES

- Would you like to develop desirable professional skills while enjoying and promoting Five Rivers MetroParks' top-notch facilities? Then the MetroParks brand ambassador service learning program is for you. Learn important public relations and marketing techniques and get handson training, while sharing your passion for the parks. Applicants need working knowledge of computers and how to use the Internet. A background in writing and/or sales is preferred. Brand ambassadors must have an engaging personality, desire to work with the public and enthusiasm for the MetroParks. Cost for training is \$50; to apply, contact the volunteer services coordinator at (937) 275-PARK.
- Help students discover the natural world at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. Tour guide training will take place on Mondays, March 15, 22 and 29, from 9:30 11:30 AM. School tours run from April through the first week in June. No experience is necessary. Contact Janet Metter at (937) 434-9005, ext. 1309 or janet. metter@metroparks.org.
- Volunteers with horticultural interests and knowledge may assist Wegerzyn Gardens and RiverScape MetroParks with a variety of tasks, ranging from helping in the gardens, assisting at the annual MayFair Plant Sale, and greeting visitors to the garden. Hours are flexible and include both weekday and weekend opportunities. Contact Ed Lehman at (937) 277-6545, ext. 1604 or elehman@metroparks.org.
- Greet visitors and direct callers for Five Rivers MetroParks administrative office. Receive calls pertaining to the whole park district. Must be courteous and able to follow directions well. Weekdays. Contact Bernadette Harawa at (937) 275-7275, ext. 1218 or bharawa@metroparks.org.

# WETLANDS

# TAKE IT TO THE BANK: GREAT MIAMI WETLAND MITIGATION BANK GOOD FOR PLANET, ECONOMY

As the sun rose over the field, bright colors streaked across the sky. The morning dew sparkled, the birds chirped, and the foul odor of trash permeated the morning air. "This was almost the scene for some residents of Trotwood," explains Conservation Director Dave Nolin. "Back in fall of 2007, the city of Trotwood nearly lost 364 beautiful acres of land to a landfill. However, Five Rivers MetroParks was able to purchase the land in 2008, and that land is now The Great Miami Wetland Mitigation Bank."

Recognizing the potential for this land, the Conservation Department at Five Rivers MetroParks plans to create more than 70 acres of new wetland and 200 acres of forest and prairie to enhance the ecosystem and create a new conservation area, as well as stimulate development and the local economy. How? The answer is in the bank.

The Clean Water Act of 1977 requires developers to restore a wetland in order to receive a permit allowing the developer to damage an existing wetland. High-quality wetlands are protected in Ohio, but low-quality wetlands can be impacted. "A wetland mitigation bank essentially is a large wetland that has been created, restored, enhanced or preserved in order to offset the costs of future conversions of wetland

habitat for development," Nolan explains. "Wetland banking allows for 'credits' to be sold to qualified developers who have permits to develop land containing wetlands." Because the location of wetland banks can be predetermined and often are larger than other wetland mitigation projects, wetland banks are more effective mitigation projects.



The Great Miami Wetland Mitigation Bank is nestled at the southeastern end of Sycamore State Park in Trotwood. While The Great Miami Wetland Mitigation Bank is currently leased to farmers and managed as agricultural land, the funds received from selling credits will allow for the construction of the wetland, which is expected to kick off later this year. The Great Miami Wetland Mitigation Bank will consist of a wetland

For more information about the Great Miami Wetland Mitigation Bank, contract Michael Enright, conservation biologist, at (937) 277-4109 or michael.enright@metroparks.org.

### ONLINE EXTRA

Learn more about the Five Rivers MetroParks Conservation Department, including information about native species, wildlife preservation measures, volunteer opportunities and more **WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/CONSERVATION**.



area, a forested wetland area and a prairie. "The Great Miami Wetland Mitigation Bank will also function as a future recreational area, which means it will become a beautiful park for you and your family to enjoy," Nolan says.

Future plans involve the creation of hiking and walking trails. Construction of The Great Miami Wetland Mitigation Bank will not be completed for several years; nevertheless, federal and state laws are already protecting the land, which means the land is prohibited from being anything other than a wetland.

Why are wetlands protected? "Wetlands are an important ecosystem that provides many key functions, such as biodiversity support, water quality improvement, flood abatement and carbon dioxide management. With the expansion of human populations, less than half of the world's wetlands remain today,"

Nolan says. According to a recent article in the scholarly journal "Annual Reviews of Environmental and Resources," even though wetlands make up less than 3 percent of the planet, their contribution to the global annual renewable ecosystem services is as high as 40 percent. "As the area of wetlands decreases, so do wetlands' ability to provide renewable ecosystem services," says Wildlife Biologist Michael Enright. "This makes the restoration of wetlands all the more important. Because wetlands have nutrient-rich soil and offer a constant water source, plant species are highly productive and numerous animal species find refuge in wetlands. In fact, many species of birds, including ducks, woodpeckers, hawks, wading birds, and many songbirds can be found feeding and nesting in wetlands."

Enright says wetlands are the

"kidneys" of our ecosystem, able to hold enormous amounts of water that minimizing floods, and filter and cleanse the water that passes through them. improving local water quality. Wetlands are so efficient at removing contaminates and pollutants from water that some wetlands have even been used for waste-water treatment.

Currently, the Conservation Department at Five Rivers MetroParks is in the process of removing invasive plant species in The Great Miami Wetland Mitigation Bank. Invasive plants (such as amur honeysuckle) are plants that are not native to Ohio. These plants often spread aggressively and choke out native species, thereby decreasing biodiversity and altering the habitat. Honeysuckle removal took place from October through November last year, and soon removal of other invasive plant species will take place.

Once the invasive plant species are removed, the Great Miami Wetland Mitigation Bank can obtain approval to sell credits. When funding is acquired, phase I of the construction will begin. Phase I, which is expected to begin in late 2010, will consist of the construction of a forested wetland, a controlled succession area and a prairie area with small pothole wetlands. While the construction is likely to occur in late 2010, the wetland and prairie areas (phase II) will not be planted until 2011. Phase II will commence after phase I is complete and sufficient funds are received for the construction of Phase II. Until then. Phase II will continue to be used as agricultural land.

# 'FEN' NOMINAL

#### **WOODMAN FEN HELPS MAINTAIN DAYTON'S HEALTHY WATERS**



Located near the Belmont neighborhood, passers-by can observe the Woodman Fen Conservation Area, a 33-acre wetland restoration area owned and managed by Five Rivers MetroParks. What makes this wetland unique is its particular kind of muck. "A fen is a type of groundwater-fed wetland that remains wet year round," explains Five Rivers MetroParks Wildlife Biologist Michael Enright. "Alkaline wetlands, like Woodman Fen, were once very common throughout southwestern Ohio; however, due to increases in development, relatively few remain today."

In 2003, Five Rivers MetroParks purchased the Woodman Fen site, which was once converted into a vegetable farm, and began to restore the wetland. "The restoration process at Woodman Fen has been incredibly successful, and finally this fall, the restoration was completed," Enright says. Montgomery County's lone fen site has come a long way, and it took a lot of hard work to restore it to its natural state.

During spring 2009, more than 10,000 wetland plants were planted in Woodman Fen. All of the wetland plants here are native species that are unique to fens in southwest Ohio. "The results of these plantings were astonishing. Woodman Fen increased dramatically in its diversity of wetland plant species with only 30 species

identified in 2007 to over 100 species currently identified," Enright says. "Then during this past summer, we planted more than 6,000 prairie plants obtained from Cox Arboretum MetroPark in the prairie areas located between the forest and adjacent neighbors on the west side of the Fen. In the coming years, you will see lush fields of wildflowers as the prairie plants continue to grow."

Public access to these conservation areas is another mission of the Conservation Department. But the Woodman Fen's saturated alkaline soils make access difficult. "The majority of Woodman Fen is covered by up to six feet of black muck and peat," Enright explains. Because peat is a soft and easily compressible substrate, dirt or gravel walking trails are not practical access routes through the wetland. Boardwalks on the other hand, offer a safe trail surface, allowing individuals to experience this rare ecosystem. The downside to boardwalks is they can be costly to build. Fortunately, the Conservation Department at Five Rivers MetroParks won funding to construct the boardwalk through the Walmart Foundation. "This money will help create a 1,200 linear foot boardwalk to be built through Woodman Fen," Enright says. "Construction of the boardwalk is scheduled to begin soon, and a grand-opening ceremony will take place in April. The boardwalk will include

three small observation decks were visitors will be able to view this stunning wetland. The boardwalk will also include a signage system that will mark points of interest and provide educational information regarding the plant and animal species that can be observed, and because the boardwalk will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, everyone will have the opportunity to experience this rare ecosystem."

### IF YOU GO

The Woodman Fen is located at 4820 Amesborough Road in Dayton. To get there, take Woodman Drive to Woodbine Avenue, turning west onto Woodbine. Then turn south onto Russet Avenue and east on Deborah Avenue. Finally, turn south on to Amesborough Road and continue until it dead ends into Newcastle Drive. There is no parking lot, but on-street parking is available. The entrance is at the north end of Newcastle Drive.

## **FANTASTIC PLASTIC!**

#### GERMANTOWN METROPARK SHOWS OFF RECYCLED FURNISHINGS

Each year, millions of people visit Five Rivers MetroParks facilities, and after a day spent hiking, jogging, cycling, exploring or playing, those millions of visitors take a break by plopping down into a chair, bench or table. But after many years of hosting millions of picnics or comforting millions of tuckered patrons, the furniture becomes worn out and needs replaced. Quality furniture can be pricey, but by using various resources wisely, you can get the goods you need for less.

"We needed to replace some items, but with our budgets shrinking for the last five years, I had to find other ways to support the needs of Germantown MetroPark and the Nature Center," says Assistant Park Manager Edgar Gerdeman, who landed grant money to replace some of the old, worn-out furniture. The grant, which was from the Montgomery County Solid Waste District (MCSWD), was used to purchase the amenities with an eco-friendly bonus: The furniture is made of recycled materials. "We're glad we found a way to update our amenities that saves money and the environment," he says.

#### **RECYCLED ITEMS INCLUDE:**

- One 6-foot picnic table, of which 98 percent of the material used is recycled and post-consumer content. It will be used in the parking island associated with the Nature Center.
- One 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-foot ADA-approved picnic table made of approximately 4,400 milk jugs. This will be placed in a new overlook and ADA-approved picnic area along the accessible path leading to the Nature Center.
- Four chairs made from recycled milk containers. Two will be used indoors at the Nature Center wildlife observation area, and two will be used on the boardwalk overlook area near the Nature Center.

"These chairs are earth-friendly in lots of ways," explains Crystal Oksis, a sales representative and marketing specialist for Tailwind Furniture, the company that



manufactured the Adirondack chairs. "We don't cut down trees to make the chairs and, unlike wooden seating, these chairs do not need to be finished to painted, which cuts down on emissions. Plus recycled chairs won't rot or splinter, reducing the need for maintenance. Finally, recycled furniture is easier for us to manufacture, so it's costeffective for all parties." Oksis says about 10 milk jugs are recycled for every pound of a finished piece of furniture. The chairs at Germantown MetroPark and Nature Center equal roughly 1,800 milk containers saved from going in a landfill.

Organizations that support recycled product manufacturers not only save waste from taking up landfill space, they can send a message to the rest of the consumer world. "The benefit of a closed-loop system is that it guarantees a market for recyclable materials by maintaining a constant demand for the recycled products," according Joe Fitzpatrick, MSCWD business program specialist, who says in the 10 years the grant program has been in existence, the MCSWD has helped supply recycled furniture to

#### ONLINE EXTRA

Find out more about the grant program and other recycling initiatives from the Montgomery County Solid Waste District.

www.mcswd.org



other local organizations, as well as outfitting local schools with recycled items, including playground equipment, tire mulch and even an outdoor science lab.

This isn't the first time Five Rivers MetroParks and MCSWD have joined forces. Past partnerships include Twin Creek clean-ups, a voucher program for dumped tires in the parks, recycle containers placed in park facilities, the State Roadway Clean-up that also included Ohio Department of Transportation and Keep Ohio Beautiful, and programs such as Master Recycler Compost Kitchen.

Germantown MetroPark has submitted an additional grant for more recycled park amenities. Long-range consideration has been given to instituting a special area at the park only for recycled park amenities. "This area will highlight the longevity and durability of recycled goods," Gerdeman says. 🗲

### THINKING INSIDE THE BOX:

# NATURAL ADVENTURE BOXES FACILITATE OUTDOOR PLAY FOR CHILDCARE CENTERS

In an age of digital entertainment and virtual reality, it can be easy to overlook the value of unstructured play in a natural environment. In many ways, a video game cannot compare to the imaginative experience a child can have while digging in the dirt, holding a fuzzy caterpillar, splashing in a creek, or building a fort. "Over the years, research has shown that children are spending less time outside engaging in unstructured nature play than they have in the past," says Five Rivers MetroParks Naturalist Joshua York. "Many studies attribute this to the increased availability of electronic entertainment and the increase in organized activities through 'competitive parenting.'" These studies reveal children who spend their lives indoors are unable to cope with stressful situations. But there is good news: Research indicates children who play outdoors are more creative, confident and brave. "Unstructured outdoor play, or 'nature play' as we call it, is important for child development," York says.

Two of the major road blocks to kids getting healthy portions of nature play in their activity diets are resources and facilities. With 18 MetroParks open year-round, solving the latter dilemma was simple, but how can childcare providers get the resources they need? The solution: Five Rivers MetroParks created the Natural Adventures Box Program to help childcare facilities provide this type of learning experience. "This program allows for easier access to the outdoors and proper training for childcare providers on the subject of outdoor engagement," York explains. Each lock box contains items children can use to explore the natural world around them, such as nets, containers to hold what was caught, a map of the park showing good spots for nature play, basic guides for facilitators to identify what the children catch in the nets, and surveys to be filled out each time a box was used.

Creative World of Childcare was selected for the Natural Adventures Box's beta testing. "Their interest in child development and the provision of outdoor play experiences made them a wonderful group to work with," York says. "Now that they have completed their Natural Adventures Box Program training, Creative World of Childcare is recognized by MetroParks as a center dedicated to providing their children with nature exploration experiences."

The childcare instructors' training session included information that will allow them to make the most of the children's time at the parks. Once training was complete, the instructors obtained directions for reserving a box. Training sessions cover a variety of topics, such as:

- The location of the play boxes within the parks.
- The proper way to use all equipment provided in the box.
- How to engage the children in nature play and exploration.
- Tips for those who may not feel comfortable around some creatures. Important bits of advice include ways instructors won't pass on their fears to children and teach them to handle the animals properly.
- What types of creatures they might encounter in creek environments.
- How to register to use the Natural Adventures Boxes.
- Games to play with children on trails.



#### NATURAL ADVENTURE BOXES

#### What's inside?

- ~ Nets (for creek and prairies).
- ~ Containers to hold captured items.
- ~ A map of the park showing good spots for nature play.
- ~ Basic guides to identify creatures that were caught.
- ~ Surveys.

#### Where are they?

Germantown, Sugarcreek and Englewood MetroParks



Once the instructors were prepped, they got the code to the lock box and unleashed the children on the goods. The Nature Adventure Boxes found overwhelming approval from the childcare instructors. "The children responded to the boxes as if they were getting a gift just for them each time we went to a MetroPark and opened up the box," one instructor wrote in a survey upon completing the program. "They would get excited to complete the park activity." The children also expressed their mutual regards for the program. "We like the creek study the best because we got to catch stuff and play in the water," according to the program survey. And one child's most memorable moment? "While at the creek study I fell in the water when I saw a snake under a rock," the survey stated. "I caught a crawfish, and when I touched it, I screamed and the teacher screamed, too,"

Silly remarks from the children aside, York says the beta test was a success. "Our goals for the Natural Adventures Boxes were to allow increased access to outdoor opportunities for childcare centers interested in promoting nature play and engagement with the outdoors, as well as provide a way for childcare centers to have access to the training and tools they would need to independently lead their own classes on a nature program in the MetroParks. This program also served to create awareness among childcare professionals about the importance of nature play," he explains.

The next step for the Natural Adventures Box program is expansion. Plans this year call for opening the program to all Montgomery County childcare centers that wish to participate. "Parents should encourage their current childcare centers to participate in this program, or at least, provide more opportunities for nature engagement in general," York suggests. Any childcare facility interested in participating in the program must attend a free training session to gain access to the boxes. Upcoming training dates include: 9 a.m. to noon May 22 at Sugarcreek MetroPark, 1 - 4 p.m. May 23 at the Germantown MetroPark Nature Center, and 9 a.m. to noon June 5 at Patty Shelter in Englewood MetroPark. "The only way to participate in this program is to complete one of these training sessions," York says. "Only those present at the training will be authorized to reserve one of our Natural Adventures Box. That means a director cannot attend the meeting and then assign staff to use the boxes. This is to ensure each person who borrows a Natural Adventures Box will know how to use the materials safely and effectively, as well as make certain the children will get the most out of their experience."

York says he hopes more childcare centers will participate in this program, but to a greater effect, he hopes the children who use the



### **GET INVOLVED!**

### NATURE ADVENTURE BOX TRAINING SESSIONS

Saturday, May 22, 9AM - NOON Sugarcreek MetroPark Call (937) 277-4178 to register.

Sunday, May 23, 1PM - 4PM Germantown MetroPark Nature Center Call (937) 855-7717 to register.

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 9AM - NOON Englewood MetroPark

Patty Shelter Call (937) 278-2623 to register.

#### COST

Training and access to the boxes are free.

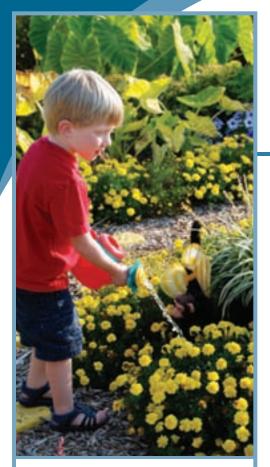
#### **DETAILS**

Completing one training gives the participant access to all three Natural Adventures Box for ONE SEASON (June 1-August 31). Participants must attend one training session annually to continue using the Natural Adventures Boxes.

#### CONTACT

For more information, contact Joshua York at (937) 277-4178, or e-mail jyork@metroparks.org.

materials will encourage the rest of their family members to get outside and enjoy the MetroParks. "Kids love showing off what they've learned. They want to share this amazing experience they had in the park with people they love," York says. "Maybe these Natural Adventures Boxes will be a sort of catalyst to get families outside and enjoy the MetroParks together."



### CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY GARDEN

### AT WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK

Designed as a child-friendly place to discover, experience and love our world through gardening, this special area contains habitats and whimsically themed gardens for children and their adult companions to explore together. Visitors are encouraged to attend frequently to see the gardens grow and change. Highlights include a limestone grotto and waterfall, music maze, wetland, pond and sensory garden. Be sure to visit Skeeter's Garden, designed and cared for by local children and families during public programs. For more information, visit

WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/ CHILDRENSGARDEN

# BARNYARD BABIES POSSUM CREEK METROPARK'S LITTLEST ATTRACTION

Spring has arrived, and with it comes green grass and trees, flowers in bloom – and baby animals! Spring is the typical season for baby animals born in the wild, and the farm at Possum Creek MetroPark also welcomes barnyard newborns. "May is a particularly good time to visit Possum Creek's farm to see our new spring arrivals," says Education Supervisor Vickie Benson. "Everyone is invited to visit the farm to see lambs, goat kids, chicks and bunnies as some of our newest farm residents."

Animals can be viewed and petted anytime during the month, but the weekends offer a special opportunity. "The Kids' Corral is a guaranteed way to see animals in the barn or holding pens for up-close viewing and petting purposes," Benson says. "Kids' Corral takes place every Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. You can actually go into the holding area and interact with some of the farm animals." Kids' Corral is a self-guided experience, but farm staff members will be on hand to answer any questions about the animals.

So who takes care of all these baby animals? "First and foremost, the farm baby's mother is the number-one caretaker," Benson explains. "The Possum Creek MetroPark farm staff - Jason Combs and Megan Weidner - makes sure the mothers get the proper care through nourishment, water, hay

and any additional supplements they may need." The mother animals pass nourishment to their babies through the mother's milk. Baby mammals need their mother's milk to get important antibodies (proteins that fight infections and build the immune system), which are passed to the baby through the milk. At about a couple of weeks of age, the babies begin to explore what the mature animals eat by nibbling on hay, grass and grain.

At Possum Creek MetroPark Farm, the only babies whose mothers are not the primary caretakers are the chicks. "Our chicks are hatched through the use of an incubator. Eggs are collected, and for 21 days, the eggs are kept warm, turned and have just the right humidity for a successful hatching," Benson says. "Once the chicks hatch, they will dry off inside the incubator. They are then removed to an area set up as a brooder,



#### **KIDS' CORRAL**

#### Saturdays & Sundays from 1PM - 4PM

Children can get up close with the farm animals. They can even pet them and perhaps assist farm staff with feedings. Introduce your children to the life cycle in nature.

#### ONLINE EXTRA

Learn more at **WWW.METROPARKS.ORG** and click the link to Possum Creek MetroPark on the right-hand side.

which is an environment where heat, light, food and water are carefully controlled. The chicks must be kept warm at temperatures as high as 95 degrees for the first week, 90 degrees the following week and a drop of 5 degrees each following week until the chicks are fully feathered. Newly hatched chicks are fully capable of fending for themselves as far as getting food and water."

All the animals at Possum Creek MetroPark Farm - babies and adults alike - have a very special diet to make sure they are happy and healthy. "Farm animals should never be fed 'people' food, nor should they be fed by hand," Benson warns. "Food meant for human consumption is just that - for people, not for farm animals. We make sure that all the animals are getting the proper feeds and in the proper amounts. If you are interested in feeding, the animals ask the farm staff. Most of the time, we will let you have a chance to give the animals their food in the right amount and in the proper way. It is best not to feed animals by hand as the animals can pick up bad habits. Because farm animals can't see under their noses, they have to use their lips and teeth to feel. Food being held in hands increases the risk of being accidentally bitten, so just



let the staff members help you." One such opportunity to feed the farm animals is during the "Family Farm Chores" program (see page 27).

Baby animals are interesting to observe. Watch how they interact with each other and with the other farm animals. "Baby animals do not have specific playtimes. They are spontaneous," says Benson. "They become playful whenever and wherever the urge strikes - kind of like children. When they are in the Kids' Corral, you might be able to catch them in a 'game' of 'king/queen of the rock' or sometimes they get what we call 'happy feet' where they run and spring around with all four feet off the ground at one time." Play is an important learning process for the babies, just as it is for human children. Through play young animals develop coordination and learn social interactions and behaviors that prepare them for adult life.

But don't think the only time you can see the babies is in May; the Kids' Corral is year 'round. "You can visit anytime throughout the year to see how the animals are growing and progressing and track what is going on with the animals," Benson says.

Plus, there are lots of other great activities to do at Possum Creek MetroPark. Try exploring a variety of habitats found along the park's 5 miles of wooded trails. Children also can enjoy the playground located next to the farm area, and have fun learning arithmetic skills at Polly Possum's Math Farm. Another Possum Creek MetroPark activity is fishing. Visitors can fish without a license and free of charge at the ponds and Argonne Lake. There is a 10-inch minimum size on bass and a six-fish limit per day. The ponds are stocked on the first Friday of each month. During warm months, the ponds are stocked with catfish. There is also a first come-first served picnic shelter and covered porch area for small groups as well as a few individual picnic tables scattered around the farm grounds where snacks, lunch or a picnic can be enjoyed, in addition to the option of bringing a blanket to spread on the ground. Visit the barnyard babies and plan a whole day of family fun at Possum Creek MetroPark.





# GET INSPIRED TO GET OUTSIDE

### THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT OFFERS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

If you're looking for a reason to get off the sofa and get outside, you're sure to discover a source of inspiration at The Adventure Summit. This annual event takes place at Wright State University's Student Union, where the Summit blossomed out of WSU's intramural sports day. "The Outdoor Recreation Department at Five Rivers MetroParks and Wright State University wanted to create an event that would inspire new enthusiasts and invigorate the growing local outdoor community," explains MetroParks Outdoor Recreation Manager Brent Anslinger. "It was named 'The Adventure Summit' to reflect the event's goal of celebrating the spirit of outdoor adventure by showcasing the vibrant lifestyle and culture of human-powered endeavors through inspiration, education and experience."

This year's Adventure Summit opens at 4 p.m. Friday, March 5, and concludes around 5 p.m. Saturday, March 6. Highlights include participatory activities, demonstrations, competitions, cultural activities and a litany of presentations and guest speakers. This year's featured speaker is Charlie Engle, who turned from a life of addiction to one of fitness and adventure. Engle is best known for his historic run across 4,500 miles of the Sahara Desert.

The speaker lineup also includes Andy Skurka, who has racked up 30,000 miles of hiking, and Miami Valley native Jon Dorn, editor in chief of Backpacker magazine. Local adventurers also

#### THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT

FRIDAY, MARCH 5 - SATURDAY, MARCH 6

Wright State University Student Union ADMISSION IS FREE

WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/ADVENTURESUMMIT



will host presentations, sharing their outdoor experiences. "This Summit is a chance for folks right here in Dayton to showcase their adventures," Anslinger says. "It's amazing to learn what our friends and neighbors have seen and done. We hope those in attendance will be inspired and reflect on that fact that it's not just people you see on TV or eccentric millionaires who are having these great adventures, it's people who live down the street, or one of the parents you might know from PTA, or one of your coworkers. Anyone can experience adventures, so why not you, too?"

The Adventure Summit bills itself as the area's premier outdoor adventure exposition that provides something for everyone from the armchair adventurer to the hard-core enthusiast. True to word, not only can participants take part in outdoor adventures through exciting presentations, but for those who are up for a challenge, competitions are scheduled during the two-day event. Details and registration for the competitions can be found at www.metroparks.org/adventuresummit.

Individual and partner contests include:

#### Kayak Challenge Pool Slalom Obstacle

**Course:** Competitors will battle through a series of gates hanging in an "obstacle course" fashion. They will maneuver through five to six gates trying to go through them in the correct directions and without touching poles



suspended from the ceiling as fast as possible.

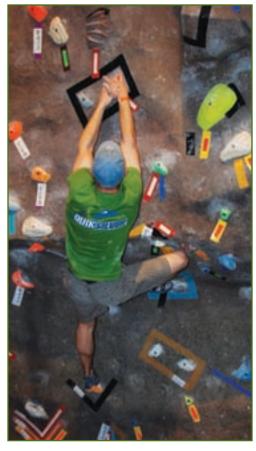
#### Bouldering Competition:

Competitors will test their bouldering skills in a variety of categories: youth, men's and women's in beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. This event draws participants from all over the Midwest and should be exciting to watch.

Indoor Triathlon: This event includes a 250-yard swim, a 6-mile bike and a 2-mile run/walk. There is a half hour for each category. Participants may register at local fitness retailer Up and Running or by phone at (937) 432-9210.

The expo area is another way Summit participants can engage in an active lifestyle. The expo is designed to provide the visitor a chance to mingle with local, regional and national outdoor-related exhibitors. A variety of outdoor clubs, specialty retail shops, outfitters and resorts are regular exhibitors at the Summit. Once you've been inspired about an activity in the presentations, check out the associated exhibitor in the expo.

Other features of The Adventure Summit include an outdoor art gallery, live music, beer tastings and "Party with the Pros," where you can hang out with other outdoor enthusiasts as well as the stars of The Adventure Summit in a casual atmosphere while watching adventure videos. And the price of this weekend packed with inspiration,



recreation and active lifestyles? It's free. There are no fees for admission or parking. Learn more about the event by visiting the Web site

www.metroparks.org/adventuresummit.

"If you got a bad case of cabin fever, be sure to stop by The Adventure Summit. You've got nothing to lose and everything to gain," Anslinger says. "Come out and see why people are calling Dayton, Ohio, the 'Outdoor Adventure Capital of the Midwest!"



### OUTDOOR RECREATION TEEN ADVENTURE CAMPS

Hey teens, are you looking for something adventurous to do this summer? Parents, would you like your kids ages 12-18 to learn a recreational pursuit that will keep them healthy and active for the rest of their lives? The Outdoor Recreation Department at Five Rivers MetroParks offers awesome summer day camps. Cost for the camps is \$20 and includes all equipment.

Registration is required and limited; call (937) 277-4374.

#### MOUNTAIN BIKING CAMP THURSDAY, JUNE 17 12:00PM - 6:00PM

Join local experts for a day of skill learning and fun at the challenging trails of our local mountain biking facility, MoMBA. Must be able to ride a bike.

#### WILDERNESS CAMP WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30 12:00PM - 6:00PM

Learn outdoor living skills from our competent MetroParks staff at the rugged Twin Creek MetroPark. No experience required.

#### PADDLING CAMP WEDNESDAY, JULY 14 12:00PM - 6:00PM

Join local paddling experts to learn basic kayaking skills and have fun at the beautiful Eastwood MetroPark Blue Lake. No experience required.

# PEDAL POWER BIKES AREN'T JUST FOR RECREATION

From the historical significance of the Wright Brothers to the upcoming downtown hub, cycling has always played a prominent role in the Miami Valley. "By now, most residents in this region either have ridden the recreational trails or greenway paths, or at least know where one is in their neighborhood," says Andy Williamson, assistant outdoor recreation manager for Five Rivers MetroParks Outdoor Recreation Department. "But many are not aware of the plethora of organizations, group rides, infrastructural development and activities devoted to cycling that are going on in the region."

For the last 25 years, the region has invested much to create one of the most extensive greenway/recreation trail systems in the country. Many organizations, communities and clubs are working hard to connect this bicycle highway to local and regional destinations. "This will incorporate cycling into the culture of the Miami Valley, as well as broaden access to transportation and foster active, healthy lifestyles," Williamson says.

Southwest Ohio has more than 325 miles of paved trail; 238 of those miles are connected trail, according to the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC), another organization that helped develop the vast greenway. The connected trails link Dayton with Xenia, Springfield, London, Franklin, Urbana, Lebanon and eastern Cincinnati, which helps stimulate small businesses, as most trails pass through downtown areas and historic districts rather than the retail and hospitality chains that sprawl along interstates and highways. "A recent trail user survey found that trail use is directly related to over \$13 million of economic activity in



the Miami Valley," explains Matthew Lindsay, environmental planning manager for MVRPC. "That includes equipment purchases, food and beverage sales and overnight accommodations for those coming from out of town to experience our trails. Williamson concurs with the economic findings: "Cycling is infiltrating all ends of the region and may become, along with other outdoor recreation activities. a key to the revitalization of our community." Future trail developments are planned to connect Dayton with Troy, Piqua, Jamestown, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and Middletown.

But cycling in this region has grown to become more than a recreational activity. More and more people are using the greenway to commute. "If you haven't been downtown lately and seen the Phase III RiverScape project, be sure to check it out," Williamson says. "One component of the project is a Bike Hub, which will provide showers and storage, making commuting to work more accessible for cyclists." In addition to the hub, slated for completion in 2010, the city of Dayton has incorporated the first phase of the on-road bike lanes on Jefferson Street. "This is part of the two-way conversion project in which many of Dayton's downtown streets will be converted from one-way to two-way," says Joe Weinel, a senior engineer with Dayton's public works department. More lanes will be installed on St. Clair Street going southbound from Monument Avenue to 5th Street, and a shared-lane marking, or "sharrow," will be installed on 4th and 5th streets going from St. Clair to the river. "We're trying to develop a livable city. That means accessibility for cars as well as bikes and pedestrians," Weinel says. "We want to make it as easy as possible to get around downtown."

Bridge construction that closed sections of the Great Miami River Trail has been completed, making downtown Dayton further accessible by bike. "Currently, less than half a percent of Miami Valley residents bike to work, but that number has real potential to grow as the trail system grows and as our streets and roads get more bike-friendly," Lindsay says. "Individuals can pocket real savings from using their cars less, and they'll become healthier at the same time."

### ONLINE EXTRA

For more information regarding MetroParks cycling programs and facilities, visit **WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/RECREATION** 

Learn more about Courteous Mass Dayton, get updates and meet other cyclists in the region by becoming a fan on Facebook.

Find out other ways MVRPC helps improve the quality of life: www.mvrpc.org

### TIPS FOR SHARING THE ROAD

Motorists and bicyclists each have rights and responsibilities on the road. Bikes should be treated as vehicles when in traffic, that means cars should pass on the left, leaving a safe clearance.

Cyclists should ride with traffic never against - and signal all turns and lane changes. After dusk, all vehicles - cars and bikes alike must have lights: white in front, red in back.

When on the recreation trails, cyclists need to remember that they are sharing space with walkers, runners and families with small children and strollers. On the trails, bikes are the speed hazard, and cyclists should slow down when passing slower trail users. It is best to always call out, "passing on the left" to other trail users to avoid startling them.

Anyone who has ever been interested in commuting by bike will have the opportunity to join other cyclists on Friday, May 21. "To celebrate National Bike to Work Month, Five Rivers MetroParks and the Drive Less, Live More campaign will host the Bike to Work Day Pancake Breakfast," Williamson says. "Head to the National City 2nd Street Market at the corner of Second and Webster streets and enjoy a hearty breakfast while mingling with fellow cycling enthusiasts. We want to show people how easy and fun it can be to commute to work via bike."

The MVRPC also offers a program to encourage cycling as a form of transportation. The "Pedal Pals" program matches commuters who want to bike together to work or class. Cycling enthusiasts can also hone their skills by participating in MetroParks Smart Cycling programs throughout the year.



Because of the increased bike usage in the region, a variety of interest groups sprouted to fill the social aspect of cycling, lending a true sense of community to riders. "It's so great to be a cyclist in this region because of the variety of activities, events and programs held throughout the year," Williamson says. "Organizations such as the Dayton Cycling Club, Major Taylor Cycling Club, Miami Valley Mountain Bike Association and Five Rivers MetroParks provide rides all over the area, nearly every day of the week."

One such group is Courteous Mass
Dayton, a group designed to get riders
on the streets of downtown Dayton.
"The goal of Courteous Mass is to
educate and inform cyclists and
motorist that cyclists have the right to
the road, and cyclists should follow all
traffic laws just as if driving their car,"
Williamson explains. "The Courteous
Mass Dayton rides are typically held the
first Friday of every month at 5:30 p.m."

Another unique cycling-oriented group is bike polo. That's right – a modified version of hockey on bicycles. "The local Hard Court Bike Polo Team is nationally recognized as being one of the top groups in the country," Williamson says. "Check them out sometime. Matches take place at the former roller hockey rink at Walnut Hill Park in Dayton."

For whatever the reason, transportation or recreation, be sure to capitalize on the vast network of trails, greenways and bike paths stretched across the region. They are all great ways to "get out and live."



## BIKE TO WORK PANCAKE BREAKFAST

DITCH THE DRIVE AND CELEBRATE CYCLING

#### FRIDAY, MAY 21

**National City 2nd Street Market** 600 E. Second St., Dayton

Join Five Rivers MetroParks and the area's cycling community for a celebration of National Bike to Work Day on Friday, May 21, and ride into the National City 2nd Street Market on the way to work. Refuel with a free pancake breakfast and browse cycling-related exhibits. Participants can ride in on their own, join a group ride led by MetroParks Volunteer Patrols or ride with a team from their place of business, organization or special group as part of the Team Challenge. For a schedule, group listings and more, visit

WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/ BIKETOWORK

# IT'S A SPRING THING

### CHECK OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR METROPARKS THIS SEASON

Spring in the MetroParks is a time of renewal. After enduring a harsh winter, life returns to the Miami Valley. Once-bare tree branches are fuzzy with new leaves. Flowers reach up from the soil to receive the sun. Hibernating animals emerge from their dark burrows and migrating birds resume their favorite Ohio roosts. Local residents also imitate their wildlife neighbors. "You can almost taste the excitement as cabin fever culminates in February and then that first peek at warm temperatures in March people are ready to get outside," says Five Rivers MetroParks Executive Director Charlie Shoemaker. "To me, there's nothing like that first spring walk you can take through the parks when it's warm enough outside that you don't have to bundle up. The air has a sweet smell and it's not so brisk. Those are some of the best parts about the MetroParks in the spring."

There are lots of great ways to get outside and enjoy the spring. Read on for highlights throughout the all Five Rivers MetroParks. And if your thumbs are green or if those first pops of color across the landscape raise your pulse a few beats, chances are you can't wait for your first chance to plunge your spade into the ground. You won't want to miss our special gardening bonus in this feature.

#### PARKS IN THE SPRINGTIME

From the barren beauty of winter, new spring blossoms bloom. Read on to find out what's sprouting across a MetroPark near you.

#### **AULLWOOD GARDENS METROPARK**

Feast your eyes on a spectacular display of winter aconite, bulbs and bluebells on the hillsides. Tens of thousands of Virginia bluebells cover the hillsides in April. They are accompanied with a profusion of blue-eyed Marys. Peak springtime bloom is mid-April. In May, the lilacs are at their best, flowering shortly after the Korean spice Viburnum. The peonies flower at the end of May. A carpet of pansies throughout April and May becomes a rose garden in June.

#### CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK

Watch as the tall grass prairie will be burned by our conservation crew in March. Deep-rooted prairie grasses can withstand the burning, meanwhile non-native plants are exterminated, leaving the prairie plants to flourish.

#### COX ARBORETUM METROPARK

Visit the Woodland Wildflower Garden filled with beautiful native and non-native wildflower species at their peak. The annual bulb display is always a special spring highlight. See beautiful flowers like tulips, hyacinths and daffodils in full bloom. The bulb display will be located in the Edible Landscape Garden and various other locations throughout the park.

### **DEEDS POINT** and **SUNRISE METROPARKS**

Spring bulbs and prairie plants line the walking paths through Deeds Point MetroPark, and mixed flower pots and baskets will delight visitors to Sunrise MetroPark. In spring, these areas overlooking the Great Miami River are excellent places to view the river corridor coming back to life with a backdrop of



downtown Dayton. Watch as flocks of water fowl return to the region.

#### **EASTWOOD METROPARK**

Clean off those boats and get out to Eastwood MetroPark to tune them up, wet a line or warm up those paddling skills this spring on Eastwood Lake or the Mad River. Budding trees and wildflowers throughout the park welcome visitors.

#### ENGLEWOOD METROPARK

Many species of migrating birds and waterfowl return to this nature preserve in the springtime. Expect to find a carpet of wildflowers scattered along the hiking and walking trails. Be on the lookout for our visiting bald eagle, recently spotted in various parts of the park.

#### GERMANTOWN METROPARK

Prairies and meadows can also be found full of spring wildlife, such as blankets of white trillium, and can be visited via the trails located around park.

#### **HILLS & DALES METROPARK**

Feast your eyes on a spectacular display of bulbs at the Patterson Monument. Also, enjoy the redbud and dogwood trees as they bloom.

#### **HUFFMAN METROPARK**

Migrating song birds add to the beauty of the budding trees, shrubs and wildflowers that surround the serene lake.

#### ISLAND METROPARK

View blooming shrubs such as red dogwood and hydrangea are abundant as well as perennial plantings that include day lilies and hostas. In May, the arrival of mixed flower pots and baskets will delight the palate of all with horticultural interest.

### POSSUM CREEK METROPARK

Take a hike through the Argonne Forest and see the spring wildflowers that have returned after extensive honeysuckle removal. Hike the farm trail in search of skunk cabbage.

#### RIVERSCAPE METROPARK

Starting the early part of May, signature mix pots and baskets signal spring at this urban sanctuary. Enjoy the magnificent



perennial garden areas that include boxwood, hydrangea and butterfly. Be sure to check out the tropical half moon areas as well.

#### NATIONAL CITY 2<sup>nd</sup> STREET MARKET

Fair weather brings a more interesting selection of produce and flowers to pick from. In mid-April, color arrives with bouquets and flower baskets available for Mother's Day (turn to page 46). In May, local farmers begin to set up their outside stands featuring early season produce, some of which are organic. Bedding plants, potted plants, and seedlings for planting, such as tomatoes, are also available in mid-spring.

#### SUGARCREEK METROPARK

Take a hike on the Green Trail and see the beautiful spring wildflowers as they bloom across the forest floor. Find Dutchman's breeches among the beautiful bluebells and the trilliums.

#### TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK

Catch glimpses of migratory songbirds, including Kentucky and hooded warblers, as they return to Taylorsville MetroPark amidst the emerging spring wildflowers.

#### TWIN CREEK METROPARK

Enjoy the vistas of the Twin Valley from the overlook located by High View

Shelter off Eby Road. From this vantage, you can observe carpets of wildflowers in the prairies and meadows.

#### WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK

Stroll through exquisite formal gardens as the butterflies, insects and hummingbirds return to colorful beds of blossoms. Almost 75 varieties of witch hazel bloom into spring, accompanied by hellebores, early bulbs like daffodil and tulips and flowering crab apples, lilacs, dogwoods and tree peonies.

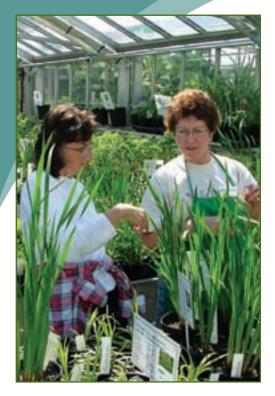
#### **WESLEYAN METROPARK**

Take a spring trek through this urban green space for a close look at native Ohio wildflowers, trees and shrubs.

# MIAMI VALLEY GARDENING CONFERENCE

SAT, MAR 6, 7:30AM - 4:00PM

SINCLAIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE Garden experts lead beginning and advanced courses on gardening practices. For a schedule, guest speaker list and more, visit the website www.metroparks.org/conference.



### **GET GROWING**

Warmer days signal the start of the growing season for flowers and some vegetables. This bonus gardening section will help you get your yard in gear for the growing season. Can't get enough? Flip to page 28 for upcoming gardening programs. Whether you're looking for expert advice to take your skills to the next level, or are just in search of a social experience where you can pick up a few techniques in the company of good friends, there's a MetroParks gardening program for you.

### SELECTING THE RIGHT PLANT:

Before you buy plants, you should make a sun map of your property. Find out how many hours of sun you get for each part of your yard and whether it's morning or afternoon sun. Make the map in early spring (before leaves are on the trees) and again in summer when the leaves are full. Next, look at the plants you want to buy and find out what its light requirements are: "FULL SUN" means eight or more hours a day, "PART SUN" is four to six hours, "PART SHADE" means two

- to four hours of sun, and "FULL SHADE" plants need less than two hours or sunlight.
- Determine whether your planting area has wet or dry soil. You will probably have at least some of both types in your yard. Look for low-lying areas that might collect water versus locations that dry out easily to find out whether your soil is wet or dry. Select appropriate plants for each soil type/location. If you have that information, you'll find the perfect place for the plant you want.

#### PREPARING THE SOIL:

- Most plants do best in rich, well-drained soil. What we have in Dayton is neither rich nor well-drained, but rocky and full of clay. Healthy soil has spaces for water, air, roots and worms.
- Add organic matter—compost, leaves—to the soil to keep it light and make it full of nutrients so plants will grow well. Check your city offices to see whether they have a compost program, as many communities that collect yard debris convert it into healthy compost.
- Over-tilling will destroy the structure of soil, so go easy with the roto-tiller and rely more on incorporating organic matter.
- Healthy plants generally do not attract disease or insects.
- Once you have your plants in the ground, fertilize them with organic fertilizer when planting and during the growing season.

# BEST PRACTICES FOR DEVELOPING YOUR GARDEN OR LANDSCAPE:

- Read and research before you plant anything. You want to know the specific needs of the plant, whether you are growing it from seed, planting a flat from the garden center, or putting in a large tree or shrub.
- If you are starting seeds indoors,

- follow directions as to depth and planting medium (type of soil). Pay careful attention to how many days the plant will take to go from germination to maturity. You don't want to start the seed too early or too late. Generally, seeds should go into the ground by May 15, or the last day that frost threatens.
- If you are planting seed outdoors, follow instructions as to depth and planting method.
- Most plants, from seedlings all the way to trees and shrubs, want to be planted so the juncture of the plant and the roots is just below the soil line. Putting them too deep or too shallow will give the plants problems.
- When planting, add a bit of compost to the soil you removed from the hole and backfill after your plant is in. Be sure to water it well.
- Spring flowering bulbs should be planted at the recommended depth in late fall/early winter. Plant them too deeply and they won't come up until late in the season, if at all.

#### **PRUNING TIPS:**

- Most plants, whether annuals, perennials, shrubs or trees can benefit from correct pruning. Just snipping off dead and sickly blossoms or leaves can make your plant healthier and allow you to enjoy it all season.
- You can prune shrubs and bushes for correct shape and



- height and to create fuller foliage and more blooms.
- Pruning can help rid plants of disease and some insects.
- When trimming a few fresh flowers to brighten up your home, don't take away more than a third of the plant at any one time.
- Don't over-prune. Trying to make a plant smaller than its natural size. Most plants need to attain a specific height before they will mature. Over-pruning could deprive you of your plant's full beauty.

These basic tips will help get your garden growing. To develop your skills, consider attending some upcoming programs and events, such as the Miami Valley Gardening Conference that's set for March 6. Whether you're a novice or a Master Gardener, you'll get great tips and information at this event. This year's featured guest is Roger Swain, the personality behind Public Broadcast Service's popular "Victory Garden."

Looking for interesting plants to purchase? There are several plant sales coming soon to a MetroPark near you. The Wildflower and Native Plant sale is set for 10 AM to 2 PM Saturday, April 24, at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. The annual Mayfair at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark is from 10 AM - 4 PM Saturday, May 1, and noon to 3 PM Sunday, May 2. Pick up a sapling for your landscape during the Tree Seedling Giveaway from 11 AM - 3 PM Friday, April 16, and 8 AM - 3 PM Saturday, April 17, at the National City 2nd Street Market.

Now that you have the know-how and all the items for your garden, it's time to **GET OUT AND GROW!** 



### WILDFLOWER & NATIVE PLANT SALE

SAT, APR 24, 10:00AM- 2:00PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Browse the selection of unique wildflowers and native plants and get advice from the Wildflower Volunteer Group to find the plants most suitable for your garden. All plants offered in this sale are propagated or rescued from local areas slated for development. Call (937) 434-9005 for more information or visit

WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/PLANSALES.



### **MAYFAIR 2010**

SAT, MAY 1, 10:00AM - 4:00PM SUN. MAY 2, 12:00PM - 3:00PM

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

Lovely plant offerings include stunning perennials, annuals and herb for companion planting, or simply to enhance your landscape. Don't forget to pick up vegetables for your kitchen. Also featured are beautiful hanging baskets just in time for Mother's Day.

WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/PLANSALES



#### **(FREE) YOUTH GARDEN CLUB**

THURSDAY, APRIL 8 THRU THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 4:00PM - 5:30PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK,

Skeeter's Garden, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Children ages 6 to 11 are invited to join us from April to September to design, care for, and harvest from our special garden while learning about gardening topics through fun games and activities. Participants are expected to make a commitment to attending the full club season. Reservations required and limited: Call (937) 277-6545 or register online. Please note: Due to the popularity of this program, a random drawing will be used to fill the club this year. Children can be entered by registering them online or by phone from March 1 to March 15. One ticket per family will be created and entered into a pool. The first 18 children whose names are chosen will be admitted into the club. All registered families will be notified of their spot in the club or on the waiting list by March 23.

### ONLINE EXTRA

MIAMI VALLEY GARDENING CONFERENCE: WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/CONFERENCE

**GARDENER'S PAGE** 

Go to **WWW.METROPARKS.ORG** and select "**Gardeners**" from the drop-down menu under the "**Special Interest**" tab. Here you'll find great resources, programs, social events and more!

#### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES OFFICE HOURS 8 AM - 6 PM. MON. - FRI. (STARTING APRIL 1)

1375 E. Siebenthaler Ave., Dayton. Take I-75 to Wagner Ford Rd./Siebenthaler Ave. Turn left onto Siebenthaler Ave. off N. Dixie. The entrance is on the right past Ridge Ave. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

#### ADVENTURE CENTRAL AT WESLEYAN METROPARK

2222 James H. McGee Blvd., Dayton. Take St. Rt. 35 to the James H. McGee Blvd exit. Travel north over 2 miles. Adventure Central is a barn-red brick building with a small parking lot in front. Call to ask about overflow parking. (937) 278-2601

#### AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK

955 Aullwood Rd., Englewood. From I-70 take St. Rt. 48 (Englewood) north to east on National Rd. (U.S. 40). Cross Englewood Dam; just after it, turn south onto Aullwood Rd. Drive past the Aullwood Audubon Center and continue to the sign which says "Garden Parking" entrance on the right. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

#### CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK

7800 E. Shull Rd. From I-70 take St. Rt. 201 Exit (Brandt Pike). Turn north on 201 and drive one mile to East Shull Rd. Turn right at park entrance. (937) 278-2609

#### Carriage Hill Riding Center

The Riding Center is on Shull Rd. past the farm. (937) 274-3120

#### COX ARBORETUM METROPARK

6733 Springboro Pike, Dayton. From I-75 take St. Rt. 725 (Miamisburg-Centerville Rd.) east to St. Rt. 741 (Springboro Pike). Turn north on St. Rt. 741. Cox Arboretum is on the left approx. 2 miles. (937) 434-9005

#### **Butterfly House**

Open late June through Labor Day, the Butterfly House is located on the west side of the park behind the Crab Apple Allée.

#### **DEEDS POINT METROPARK**

510 Webster St., Dayton. From I-75 take Stanley Ave. west until it dead ends at Helena St. and turn right. At North Bend Blvd. turn left; pass the Kettering Field diamonds until rd. forks to the right. Area to the right is Deeds Point. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

#### EASTWOOD METROPARK

1385 Harshman Rd., Dayton. Take Route 4 to the Harshman Rd. Exit and head south on Harshman. The first entrance to the right is to the lake; the second right is to the park. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

#### **ENGLEWOOD METROPARK**

4361 National Rd., Butler Twp. From I-70 take St. Rt. 48 (Englewood) north to east on National Rd. (U.S. 40). Cross Englewood Dam; the main entrance is just after it, east of the dam. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

#### **Englewood MetroPark Disc Golf Course**

Located at the south end of East Park next to the lake.

#### 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 left. To Nature Center (6910 Boomershine Rd.): Pass Creek & Conservancy roads; turn right onto Boomershine Rd., park entrance will be on right. (937) 855-7717

#### **Nature Center**

HOURS: Fridays, NOON to 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 Boomershine trail head, 6206 Boomershine 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)

#### NATIONAL CITY 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 Gettysburg Ave.: Turn west onto Germantown St. Route 4. Go about 1.5 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 take Wilmington 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. Pass Risdge Ave. and the administrative offices. Turn right into drive at bottom of the hill before bridge. Wegerzyn 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





**METROPARKS.ORG** 

# DETOURS CLOSINGS

#### DOWNLOAD A DETOUR MAP AT **WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/DETOURS**



#### **NATURE CENTER**

**New hours**: Fridays, noon to 5:00 PM; Saturdays, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM; Sundays, noon to 5:00 PM. The center will also be open for scheduled public programs and tours by appointment.

#### RIVERSCAPE METROPARK

The upper trail adjacent to the RiverScape Phase III construction site west of Patterson Boulevard that connects with the Patterson Boulevard sidewalk will be temporarily closed to allow for adjacent site construction work. Public sidewalks along Monument Avenue and Patterson Boulevard adjacent to the project area will remain open. Please stay on the lower trail along the Great Miami River if you are continuing on towards points east or west of RiverScape. RiverScape MetroPark can be accessed by westbound upper trail riders by proceeding to Monument Avenue or accessing the lower trail at the Deeds Point pedestrian bridge.

### ENGLEWOOD METROPARK TRAILS

The orange and green trail between markers 8 and 11 will be closed until the completion of the dam removal project.

#### TRAIL CONDITIONS

### MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA) Trail Conditions

For up-to-date trail conditions and closures at MoMBA, call (937) 277-4374.

### Twin Valley Backpacking Trail (TVT) Conditions

For up-to-date trail conditions and closures at TVT, call (937) 274-3163. Check current weather conditions and short-term forecasts immediately before entering the backcountry.

### Unpaved Hiking and Horse Trail Conditions

Spring is a great time to get outside and enjoy the trail, but be aware that heavy rains can saturate unpaved trails, making conditions slippery and potentially dangerous. Plan your trips accordingly with the weather, and bring the right equipment to travel safely in this type of environment.



Due to the publication date of ParkWays, other detours may be in effect or the schedule of a project may change. For more information, visit the Alerts, Closures and Construction page at metroparks.org.



#### FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS IS PLEASED TO PRESENT

### YOUR GUIDE TO SPRING ACTIVITIES

Finding your interests is quick and easy. You can find them in this ParkWays by ACTIVITY or by DATE. Follow the simple instruction 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? Then check out the ACTIVITY section. Each program lists the date, name, time, place and description. For more details on programs, check 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 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 that are limited 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 Sheriff Department's 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) PARENT & PRESCHOOLER: LADYBUG

#### TUE, MAR 9, 1:30 PM- 3:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Come learn about how this little red beetle is a farmer's friend. Enjoy a story and afterwards you will make your own ladybird beetle to take home. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 276-7062. **PTN** Age: 3Y - 6Y. **4509** 

#### (FREE) FAMILY FARM CHORES SAT, MAR 13, 8:30 AM-10:30 AM 4510 SAT, APR 17, 8:30 AM-10:30 AM 4511 SAT, MAY 15, 8:30 AM-10:30 AM 4512

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, 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; call (937) 276-7062. Age: 6Y and up.

#### (FREE) JUNIOR FARMER SERIES

Participants will learn interesting facts about farm animals and participate in some hands-on activities. Each session will focus on a different animal. The series runs to July. Participants completing four sessions are eligible for a certificate and a special memento. Homeschoolers are welcome.

#### **RABBITS**

#### SAT, MAR 13, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd. In this part of the series, you will learn basic care and some important facts about different breeds of rabbits. Age: 8Y - 12Y. **4577** 

#### **PIGS**

#### SAT, APR 10, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd. In this session you will become familiar with the pig's history. You will also learn about the different breeds and products. Age: 8Y - 12Y. 4578

#### **POULTRY**

#### SAT, MAY 1, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd. In the session you will learn about the different types of poultry that are raised on farms. You will also learn basic care for these birds. This will be important because you will take home a chick to raise for 1 month and return the next session. Food and container provided. Age: 8Y - 12Y. **4586** 

### (FREE) MORNING CHORES ON THE FARM

**SAT, MAR 2O, 8:30 AM-10:00 AM** 4728 **SAT, APR 17, 8:30 AM-10:00 AM** 4729 **SAT, MAY 15, 8:30 AM-10:00 AM** 4730 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, 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 big red barn. Reservations required and limited: call (937) 278-2609. Age: 6Y - 18Y.

### (FREE) SUSTAINABLE FARM SOIL PREP

#### SUN, APR 25, 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Learn about the benefits of cover crops and compost, and how conventional tillage may harm your soil. Then watch as the farmers use a variety of conservation tillage implements to prepare the soil for spring planting. Ongoing demonstrations and information in the crop fields from 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Weather permitting: call (937) 276-7062. Age: 5Y and up. **4616** 

### (FREE) ECO-FRIENDLY NO-TILL PLANTING

#### SUN, MAY 30, 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn about a cutting edge approach to No-Till crops which uses no conventional herbicides or fertilizers, and actually improves soil health. An lecture will cover the methods, equipment, and startup costs associated with this method, followed with a hands-on demonstration planting corn into a weed barrier mat of rye and vetch. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 276-7062. Weather and crop dependent. Rain date is the first Sunday in June. Age: 18Y and up. **4522** 

#### **FISHING**

### (FREE) HOOKED ON FISHING, NOT ON DRUGS SERIES

A Five Rivers MetroParks ranger will teach children and young adults the fundamentals of fishing and good decision-making skills. This is a five-week class, Saturdays May 15 through June 12. Receive free gear for attending all classes. Sponsored by Safe Kids of Dayton. No tobacco use during class. Students must stay with an adult during the program, five students per adult. Fishing poles and bait are provided. For more information or reservations, call Officer Zimmerman at (937) 277-4823, walk-ins welcome.

### INTRODUCTION TO FISHING

#### SAT, MAY 15 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Officer Zimmerman will teach children and young adults the fundamentals of fishing and good decision-making skills. This course will give participants an overview of the skills necessary for learning how to fish, including demonstrations and safety recommendations. Age: 5Y - 15Y. **4280** 

### INTRODUCTION TO CASTING

#### SAT, MAY 22, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Officer Zimmerman will teach children and young adults the fundamentals of fishing and good decision-making skills. This course will give participants an overview of the skills necessary to cast the line correctly, including demonstrations and safety recommendations. Age: 5Y - 15Y. 4282

### INTRODUCTION TO KNOT TYING

#### SAT, MAY 29, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Officer Zimmerman will teach children and young adults the fundamentals of fishing and good decision-making skills. This course will give participants an overview of the skills necessary for learning how to tie proper knots, including demonstrations and safety recommendations. Age: 5Y - 15Y. **4283** 

#### FITNESS & HEALTH

### (FREE) GARDEN SOJOURN: MIND, BODY & SPIRIT

FRI, MAY 7, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM 4076 FRI, MAY 21, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM 4077 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Water Garden Terrace, 6733 Springboro Pk. This outdoor nature and horticultural experience is for a 55+ audience. The Water Garden Terrace will be the starting point for all activities. Choose from a leisurely walk, a tram tour, Tai Chi and light refreshments

walk-ins welcome. Program will be available first and third Fridays, May through September. Call (937) 434-9005 for more information or to register. Age: 55Y and up.

with enjoyable company. Organized groups

are asked to register in advance; individual

# GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

### (FREE) CITY BEETS: A CALL FOR APPLICATIONS!

MON, FEB 1 - MON, MAR 15, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK,
Wegerzyn Park, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
City Beets is a summer leadership and
gardening program for teens, 12-15 years old.
Participants grow food at Wegerzyn
Gardens MetroPark and sell it at the 2nd
Street Market. Teens also cook and eat
harvested produce, go on volunteer field
trips, and donate to the Food Bank. Teens
receive a gift card stipend. Call (937) 2776545 or visit our web site www.metroparks.
org/citybeets. Applications due March 15,
2010. Age: 12Y - 15Y. 4636

#### (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 3 classes will receive a certificate for a free composter. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005.

#### BUILDING BETTER SOIL TUE. MAR 9. 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Plants needs soil for nutrients. Gardeners will learn how to determine their soil type and how to enhance the soil to ensure gardening success. Call (937) 434-9005 to register. Age: 18Y and up. **4073** 

#### BACKYARD COMPOSTING TUE. MAR 16. 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Marvin Duren, owner of Marvin's Organic Gardens, will discuss the process involved in creating compost, the characteristics of good compost, and problem-solve typical concerns of the home gardener. Call (937) 434-9005 to register. Age: 18Y and up. **4074** 

### ALL ABOUT WORMS TUE, MAR 23, 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Worms can make fast work of turning trash into green gold for your garden. Discover if the wigglers are your preferred type of composting. Call (937) 434-9005 to register. Age: 18Y and up. **4075** 

#### (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.

#### HEALTHY ORGANIC LAWNS TUE, MAR 9, 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Beautiful lawns can be yours without wasting resources, polluting the environment, and spending a lot of money on services. Learn how some basic changes in cultural practices and product choices for turf management, together with a beginner's understanding of soil biology, can produce a lush, healthy, green lawn without pesticides. Information on transitioning from a chemical lawn care program to an organic approach. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. 4147

### RAIN GARDENS FOR THE HOME GARDENER

FRI, MAR 26, 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Learn the basics of a rain garden, care required; and decide whether this might be a good addition for your landscape. Reservations required; call (937) 434-9005 for details or to register. Age: 18Y and up. 4146

#### NATIVE WILDFLOWERS WED, APR 14, 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Native wildflowers are often overlooked for the shade garden. Bring your lunch and discover with Brian Jorg, Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, some of the plants that will be on your must-have list. Reservations required; call (937) 434-9005 for more details or to register. Age: 18Y and up. 4148

#### **WEEDS**

#### TUE, APR 27, 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Friend or Foe? Learn to identify common weeds, learn some of their beneficial qualities, discover ways to rid your garden of a nuisance or appreciate what they can bring to your garden. Reservations required; call (937) 434-9005 for more information or to register. Age: 18Y and up. 4144

#### CONTAIN YOURSELF WED, MAY 5, 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Container Gardens are a great way to bring beautiful plants to your doorstep. Bring your lunch and learn how to create a dramatic container garden. Get a sneak peek at the accent plants that can be purchased through our Garden Store. Reservations required; call (937) 434-9005 for more information or to register. Age: 18Y and up. 4149

### PLANTING FOR BENEFICIAL BIRDS AND BUGS

TUE, MAY 25, 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third

Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Great gardens have more than beautiful plants. Mirror a healthy natural ecosystem and learn how to bring nature's best helpers into your garden. Reservations required; call (937) 434-9005 for more information or to register. Age: 18Y and up. 4145

### (FREE) LIVING WITH MOTHER EARTH SERIES:

#### COMMON GARDEN MISTAKES SAT. MAR 13. 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. We'll talk about mistakes, remedies, and general ways to goof-proof your gardening experience. Registration requested and walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online. **4456** 

### SPRING BLOOMING SHRUBS SAT. APR 10. 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Join us as Wegerzyn horticulturists show their favorite spring bloomers. You'll have a hands-on lesson on how to prune and keep these shrubs looking great year after year! Reservations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online. 4463 ~

#### ADVANCED GARDENING WITH JANET MACUNOVICH MON, MAR 15 - MON, APR 5, 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Garden designer and author Janet
Macunovich is bringing a series of classes
designed to help make a new garden or
improve one you already have. Attend one,
two or all the classes. Those who attend the
series are given the special offer of a personal
review by the instructor of the garden plan
you develop following the "Renovation" class.
This is not a beginner series. Fees: \$40 **4819** 

### (FREE) LEARNING FROM THE LANDSCAPE SERIES:

### EARLY COLOR AND INTEREST SAT. MAR 27, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Get a closer look at the early signs of new life springing up at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. Enjoy the colors and sounds that surround you, while learning about ways to enhance your garden early in the season. Age: 18Y and up. 4078

### WOODLAND WILDFLOWERS WALK

#### SAT, APR 24, 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.

The spotlight is on the beauty of Ohio's wildflowers as you learn about identification characteristics, habitat and cultural requirements. Each walk will last about 30 minutes. Dress appropriately for walking. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome: Call (937) 434-9005. Age: 18Y and up. 4079

### RENOVATE & REJUVENATE SAT. MAY 1. 9:00 AM-10:30 AM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Give your existing landscape a face-lift without removing it entirely. During this relaxing walk and talk program, participants will learn techniques to rejuvenate existing landscapes as well as care for many popular garden plants. Dress appropriately.
Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome.
Age: 18Y and up. **4080** <sup>1</sup>

### (FREE) CELEBRATING THE GREEN SAT, MAR 27, 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Calling all children with green thumbs!
Spring starts in March. Come spring into some planting of the green. Bring a small container from home to decorate. Seeds and soil provided. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 276-7062. **PTN** Age: 3Y - 13Y. **4523** 

### (FREE) GARDENING FOR HABITAT SUN, MAR 28, 2:00 PM- 5:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Learn to convert traditional landscapes into spaces that attract and support native birds, bees, butterflies, and other wildlife. Basic gardening knowledge is required. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. 4789

### (FREE) PRUNING FOR HEALTH AND BEAUTY

TUE, APR 6 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM WED, APR 7, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Learn the best way to manage overgrown shrubs and trees, along with pruning best practices. This two-part class (theory on day one, hands-on practicum on day two) is an introduction to all aspects of pruning. This is the prerequisite for the upcoming plant specific pruning classes. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. 4719

## (FREE) YOUTH GARDEN CLUB! THU, APR 8 - THU, SEP 23, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Create vegetable gardens in Skeeter's Garden! Games, cooking and art activities are part of the fun. Participants are expected to commit to attending the full season.
Reservations required and limited; call (937) (937) 277-6545 or register online. A random drawing will be used to fill club spaces.

**Drawing registration is open until March 15.** Registrations received after this date will be added to the waiting list in the order they are received. Age: 6Y - 11Y. **4639** \*\*

#### **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

Owen Michael Adkins
Dillan Brown
Chloe Costello
Josh Costello
Vail Farst
Avery Frazee
Jack Horvath
Monika Jasek
Nathaniel Rudd
Emily Rue
Lila Sauer

SECOND PASSPORT John Joseph Clagnaz



## (FREE) INVASIVES IDENTIFICATION WALK SAT. APR 10. 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM

AULLWOOD METROPARK, Garden Parking lot, 955 Aullwood Road

Get some exercise as we identify some exotic plants that are taking over the woodlands. Have fun as we go exploring! We'll meet in the Aullwood Garden Parking Lot, 955 Aullwood Road. Let's discuss how we can solve our dilemma. Reservations requested. Call (937) 277-6545 to register. **4475** 

### (FREE) DAFFODILS FOR EVERY GARDEN

SUN, APR 11, 2:00 PM- 4:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Daffodils are a popular spring bulb because they are fragrant, colorful and animal-resistant. Discover which varieties naturalize into your landscape, how to create seasonal focal points, and what conditions are needed for successful growth. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. 4336

### (FREE) PARENT & PRESCHOOLER: LITTLE SEED

TUE, APR 13, 1:30 PM- 3:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd. Have fun getting your hands dirty. During this program we will learn about growing plants from seeds. Afterwards we will plant some seeds into clear cups, so that you can watch roots develop as well as the leaves. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 276-7062. **PTN** Age: 3Y - 6Y. **4587** 

### ECOLOGICAL GARDENING SERIES

Join us for this five-part series and learn to garden so you will improve not only your flowers and vegetables, but the soil and the planet as well. Take one or all five courses.

#### (FREE) COMPOSTING SAT, APR 17, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Learn how to start composting or to improve your skills. We will discuss various methods of composting, including vermiculture.
You'll have fantastic, chemical-free fertilizer for your garden at minimal cost to you.
Registration is requested and walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online. 4464

#### **RAIN BARRELS**

**SAT, APR 24, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** 4465 **SAT, APR 24, 2:00 PM- 4:00 PM** 4864

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Learn how rain barrels conserve eater and save you money on your water bill. Participants will also construct a rain barrel to take home using a 55-gallon barrel and common hardware (kit provided).

Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-6545 or register online by April 16. Payments must be made to the Wegerzyn Garden Foundation and not charged online. Fees: \$20 4465

### (FREE) PLANNING THE VEGETABLE AND FLOWER GARDEN

SAT, MAY 8, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
The best gardens and landscapes are well planned. The best plans are based in knowledge of the site and plants to be installed. After today's class you can plan the best garden for beauty and yield. Registration is requested and walk-ins welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545 or register online. 4466

### (FREE) PLANTING THE VEGETABLE AND FLOWER GARDEN

SAT, MAY 15, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Now that you've planned your garden or landscape, we'll discuss all the methods of planting you need to know -- from single seeds to trees, we'll give you the knowledge and skills for successful installation. Registration is requested and walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online. 4467

### (FREE) PERENNIALS: SELECTION, CARE AND DIVISION

SAT, MAY 22, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Perennials are some of the hardest working plants in the landscape. Today we'll discuss how to chose, buy, plant, divide, and care for perennials. Whether you're a new or life-long gardener, this is a class you won't want to miss. Registration requested and walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online. 4468

#### GARDENING IN OHIO SUN. APR 18. 8:00 AM- 5:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

A great design makes an ordinary garden inspiring. This full-day workshop features speakers and information highlighting plants for Ohio and ideas for maximum impact in the landscape. Lunch and book signing is included in this program. 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 our web site www.metroparks.org Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$40 4712 🖑

### (FREE) VERMICULTURE FOR KIDS SAT, APR 24, 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Center, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn about the important role worms play in the garden, in the fields, the woods or the prairie. You will make your own worm container, learn how to manage it, and how and what to feed the worms. The worms will produce what gardeners call "black gold" that can be added to the garden. Containers and worms will be provided. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 276-7062. Meet at Education Building. 4849

### (FREE) GARDENING FOR SMALL SPACES

SUN. APR 25. 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn some unique garden methods for the kitchen gardener with little time, little space and no tools. See three simple seasonal techniques for any age and experience.
Displays ongoing in the Ed Building from 1:00 - 4:00 PM. Age: 6Y and up. **4590** 

#### (FREE) POLLINATOR

**PROTECTORS: INSECTS** 

WED, MAY 5, 4:00 PM- 5:30 PM WED, MAY 12, 4:00 PM- 5:30 PM WED, MAY 19, 4:00 PM- 5:30 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Learn about bees and butterflies, the flowers they like and what they need to live in a garden. Then help design and plant special gardens for insects. Meet at Skeeter's Garden. Reservations required and limited; beginning April 1. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online.
Age: 8Y - 11Y. **4516** 

#### (FREE) GOLDEN GARDENERS WED, MAY 12 - WED, AUG 11, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK,
Wegerzyn Center, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Seniors with limited mobility are invited
to garden in a wheelchair- and walkeraccessible area with raised containers.
Gloves, tools, and refreshments are
provided. Meet Wednesdays through
August 18. Every week learn something new
about plant and root growth, mulching and
weeding. Taste and take home vegetables
and flowers, enjoy cooking demonstrations
and impromptu parties. You may join us at
any time during the planting and growing
season. Registration required and limited; call
(937) 277-6545. 4469

#### (FREE) SILVER GARDENERS THU, MAY 13 - THU, AUG 19, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK,
Community Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Active seniors who garden meet each week
the Wegerzyn Community Gardens. Grow
flowers, herbs and vegetables and learn
organic techniques for pest and weed
control, mulching and fertilizing. Take home
or donate produce and flowers. Gloves,
tools, and refreshments are provided. Meet
Thursdays through August 19. Join us any
time during the planting and growing season.
A minimum of seven participants is required.
Reservations are requested and walk-ins
welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 or register
online. 4470

#### (FREE) SMALL SPACE GARDENING SUN, MAY 16, 2:00 PM- 5:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Limited space doesn't mean you can't have a garden. Learn tips, techniques, and plants that will enhance the space you have. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. 4790

### (FREE) CONTAINER GARDENS FOR KIDS

#### SAT, MAY 22, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd. Bring an old boot, a cool bowl, or an old toy that will hold soil and water. Be creative! Learn how a small space can still be a garden. Soil, plants and seeds provided. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 276-7062. **PTN** Age: 5Y - 12Y. **4613** 

#### **GREEN LIVING**

### (FREE) LIVING WITH MOTHER EARTH SERIES:

### WATER -- WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW

SAT, MAR 20, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK. Adult

Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.
Representatives from The Miami
Conservancy District will be here to talk
about area water sources, safety of our
water supply, conservation, and what you
can do to help. Registration requested and
walk-ins welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545
for information or register online. 4457

#### **HERITAGE & HISTORY**

#### (FREE) CORN SHELLING

#### AND GRINDING SUN. MAR 7. 12:00 PM- 5:00 PM

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

Try your hand at one of the most common 19th century mid-west farm chores. Visitors of all ages can stop by the barn to help shell the kernels from the cob for feed. Also, watch as the kernels are then ground for feed using our steam engine. 4722

#### (FREE) BOIL THE SUGAR DOWN: SWEETENERS ON THE FARM SUN, MAR 14, 12:00 PM- 5:00 PM

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

During the 1880s, farmers had a variety of natural sweeteners that they collected. Spring-time meant the boiling down of maple sugar into sweet syrup. Come visit an 1880's sugar camp and learn how maple sugar was collected on the farm. **4723** 

#### (FREE) APPRENTICE DAY SUN, MAR 28, 12:00 PM- 5:00 PM

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

Want to learn an 1880s occupation? Children ages 8 and older are invited to come to the farm to learn about vital period skills such as blacksmithing, woodworking, baking, cooking and domestic arts. Come learn about the time period by lending a hand. 4724

#### (FREE) TOUR OF AULLWOOD HOUSE AND GARDEN

**SAT, APR 10, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM** 4862 **SUN, MAY 16, 2:00 PM-4:00 PM** 4863

AULLWOOD METROPARK, Garden Parking lot, 955 Aullwood Road

Join us for one of two weekend tours of Aullwood MetroPark's garden, where we'll identify plants as we walk along. We'll also visit the Aull home, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. We will meet rain or shine. Reservations are required and limited. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online.

#### (FREE) FROM SHEEP TO SHAWLS SAT, APR 17, 10:00 AM- 5:00 PM SUN, APR 18, 10:00 AM- 5:00 PM

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

The role that sheep played on the farm will be discussed for this comprehensive program. Watch as the sheep are sheared for the spring at 2:00 PM. Help card wool and watch as fabric is dyed using traditional methods. Come hear about the spinning process and factory production of wool. Watch spinners and weavers process the wool into yarn. **4725** 

#### (FREE) POWER ON THE FARM SUN, MAY 2, 12:00 PM- 5:00 PM

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

In the 1880s, farmers used a variety of methods to power their equipment. Watch as several unique pieces of farm equipment are powered by animals. An antique steam engine will be used to saw wood. At 2:00 PM, learn about the purpose and construction of period windmills. Finally, you can use foot power to see a pedal-powered lathe in action. 4727

### (FREE) CORN PLANTING ON THE FARM

SUN, MAY 16, 12:00 PM- 5:00 PM

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

Watch as the farmer rides the corn planter and plants the corn in check rows. See a corn field laid out before your very eyes. Afterward, stop by the farmhouse to learn a little more about heirloom corn. **4726** 

#### **HOME & HOBBIES**

#### (FREE) CATNIP TOYS

SAT, MAR 6, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

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

Make a toy for your cat and take it home. Also learn how to grow and use garlic **4731** 

### (FREE) FISH COOKING DEMONSTRATION

FRI, MAR 12, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

NATIONAL CITY 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.

Nathaniel Young from Oceanwide Seafood will demonstrate several ways to season and cook delicious fresh fish. Reservations requested, call (937) 228-2088, or register online. Age: 18Y and up. 4780

#### (FREE) ALL ABOUT FISH FRI. MAR 19. 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

NATIONAL CITY 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.

Discover how to identify various types of fish and learn how they make their way to the Market during this class geared towards school-aged children. Reservations requested, call (937) 228-2088, or register online. Age: 6Y and up. 4797

### (FREE) A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF A BEEHIVE

SAT. MAR 20. 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Have you ever had an interest in beekeeping? Come out to learn what role bees play in our environment and what the average homeowner can do to promote bees, all while learning what the prospective beekeeper would be doing throughout the year. Basic beekeeping tools and methods will be displayed and discussed so you can see whether beekeeping is for you.
Reservations required and limited; call (937) 276-7062. Age: 16Y and up. **4507** 

### (FREE) DYEING EGGS WITH HERBS SAT, APR 3, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

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

Observe a demonstration of how eggs were dyed many years ago -- long before kits with colored tablets debuted in stores. Sweet woodruff will be the featured herb this month. Information about this fast-growing, fragrant herb will be available. **4732** 

### (FREE) HOMEMADE SOFT CHEESE SERIES:

Learn how to make a variety of soft cheeses (not aged) that are tasty and easy to make. These will be demonstrations with occasional hands-on experiences. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 276-7062.

#### **CREAM CHEESE**

SUN, APR 11, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd. There are good reasons for making cream cheese at home -- it tastes better and contains only the essentials for good flavor. Learn the steps to make your own homemade cream cheese. Age: 18Y and up. 4593

#### RICOTTA CHEESE SUN. APR 18. 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd. Ricotta cheese is a soft, low-fat cheese that is actually a by-product of cheese making. Making ricotta is a simple process with very few steps and you can have fresh ricotta anytime! Learn the process of how to make your own ricotta cheese. Age: 18Y and up. **4596** 

#### COTTAGE CHEESE SUN, MAY 2, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd. Cottage cheese is probably the easiest of all the cheeses to make at home. It is very healthy and nutritious. Explore the technique for making this healthful cheese and then try it at home. Age: 18Y and up. **4594** 

#### **MOZZARELLA CHEESE**

SUN, MAY 9, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd. Mozzarella is one of the most versatile cheeses to make at home. It freezes well, can be used like an aged cheese in cooking, and tastes delicious the same day it's made. Learn the steps to becoming an artisan of making mozzarella cheese. Age: 18Y and up. **4595** 

#### (FREE) A GREENER HOME THU, APR 22, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

NATIONAL CITY 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.

Karen from A Greener You will share information about different types of environmentally friendly products that you can use to clean your home. Learn how these products help create a greener, safer environment. Reservations requested, call (937) 228-2088, or register online. Age: 18Y and up. 4783 \*\*

### (FREE) TOTALLY GREEN CRAFT PROJECT

FRI, APR 23, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

NATIONAL CITY 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.

Karen from A Greener You will guide you and your child in a fun craft project using only environmentally friendly materials. This activity is geared toward school-aged children, but open to anyone. Reservations requested; call (937) 228-2088 or register online. 4784

#### (FREE) ALL ABOUT DILL SAT. MAY 1, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

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

Participate in a roundtable discussion on a favorite herb (dill) and receive special information about fennel. **4733** 

### (FREE) HOMEMADE SOAP FOR ADULTS

SAT, MAY 8, 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn how to make soap at home. This will be a hands-on program. Most supplies and utensils are provided. Participants will need to bring a shoe box-sized plastic container with a lid, and a bath towel. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 276-7062.
Age: 18Y and up. **4521** 

#### **NATURE**

### (FREE) SALAMANDER MATING PROGRAM

**LATE MARCH - EARLY APRIL** 

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Come celebrate the life of MetroPark's only spotted salamander population! These mole salamanders spend most of their lives living in the soil and leaf litter, searching for food. Each spring, many of these salamanders venture to fishless waters and mate, often in large numbers. If you would like to join us to watch them mate, call (937) 277-4178 or e-mail jyork@metroparks.org (preferred), and ask to be put on the e-mail notification list.

### (FREE) TUESDAY MORNING ADULT WALK SERIES

Join us every Tuesday morning for a nature walk in the park. Bring binoculars for wildlife viewing. For details, call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday. No reservations required. TUE, MAR 2, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4347 TUE, MAR 9, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4348 TUE, MAR 16, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4349 TUE, MAR 23, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4350 TUE, MAR 30, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4351 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Redwing Shelter/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.

TUE, APR 6, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4352 TUE, APR 13, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4353 TUE, APR 20, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4354 TUE, APR 27, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4355 TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, CCC Shelter, 2101 U.S. 40

TUE, MAY 4, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4356 TUE, MAY 11, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4357 TUE, MAY 18, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4358 TUE, MAY 25, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM 4359 ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.

### (FREE) DR. SEUSS ANNUAL STORY DAY HIKE

TUE, MAR 2, 3:30 PM-5:00 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday in a unique way. Listen to some of his stories this day. Come on our hike and you will see Where friends of the LORAX would love to be. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.

**PTN** 4634

#### (FREE) ADVANCED BUTTERFLY CLASS: CATERPILLAR CSI TUE. MAR 2. 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Do you know what killed your caterpillar? Besides birds, spiders or larger insects caterpillars can fall victim to disease as well. Discover ways to tell if caterpillars are infected by a disease or parasitoid. This is a great class for anyone who is interested in butterfly gardening and has a basic knowledge of butterfly life cycle. Reservations required. Call (937) 434-9005 Age: 14Y and up. **4503** 

#### (FREE) STROLL AT HILLS & DALES

WED, MAR 3, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4540 WED, MAR 10, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4541 WED, MAR 17, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4547 WED, MAR 24, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4542 WED, MAR 31, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4539 WED, APR 7, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4543 WED, APR 14, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4544 WED, APR 21, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4545

WED, APR 28, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4546 WED, MAY 5, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4548 WED, MAY 12, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4549 WED, MAY 19, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4550 WED, MAY 26, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4551 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. Weather permitting: Call (937) 277-4178 Age: 16Y and up.

### (FREE) ENVIRONMENT AND ADVENTURE FILM SERIES:

Be inspired by the stories of individuals passionate for protecting and enjoying nature. Discover how high ideals and high adrenaline can go hand-in-hand during the 2010 Environment and Adventure Film Series. Co-presented by members of the Outdoor Recreation and Education departments, films are shown on the first Wednesday of the month, March through September. Enjoy free popcorn and refreshments during the film and stay afterward to share your thoughts with others during open discussion.

#### A SEA CHANGE WED. MAR 3. 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Follow the filmed journey of retired history teacher Sven Huseby on his quest to discover what is happening to the world's oceans. His quest takes him to Alaska, California, Washington and Norway. Speaking with oceanographers, marine biologists, climatologists and artists, Sven discovers global warming is only half the story of the environmental catastrophe that awaits us. 83 min. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. 4669

#### THIS IS THE SEA 4 WED, APR 7, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. A gritty portrayal of a couple's struggles while kayaking 1,491 miles around the South Island of New Zealand. They struggle in 40-knot headwinds, battle crashing surf and cope with illness and a helicopter evacuation in remote Fiordland. Close encounters with albatrosses, dolphins and whales and the kindness of strangers keep them going for 67 days. Film length: 48 min. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. 4667

### A LIFE AMONG WHALES WED. MAY 5. 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
This film traces Payne's scientific research beginning with his early work in Patagonia studying Southern Right Whales, along with Payne's fight to ban whaling. We also see his present day study of ocean pollution and his work with The Ocean Alliance. Film length: 57 min. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. 4689

#### (FREE) WHERE DID THE STARS GO WED. MAR 3, 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

The evening will begin with a discussion on how we can help reduce light pollution. We will train on how to evaluate local light pollution using the Globe at Night online tool including an outside session on common constellation identification. Weather permitting call (937) 855-7717. For more information, see detailed web listing. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. **4661** 

### (FREE) BACKPACKING BABIES: NATURE'S TEXTURES

THU, MAR 4, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Explore nature with your baby as we feel different textures in our natural environment. A baby backpack or carrier is required for this program as trails are not stroller-friendly. Weather permitting: Call (937) 277-4178. Age: 1M - 2Y. **4608** 

### (FREE) SKUNK CABBAGE AND BIRD HIKE

SAT, MAR 6, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.

Explore the large skunk cabbage patch from the boardwalk, then search for bird life. Bring binoculars if you have them. Meet at parking lot. Call (937) 277-4178 for details.

PTN 4562 4

#### (FREE) MAPLE SUGARING IN YOUR BACKYARD

SAT, MAR 6, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Hike along the white trail to learn how the Native Americans began maple sugaring, how the pioneers adapted the process,

#### **GUIDE TO EVENT ACTIVITY**

and how it can be done today in your own backyard. Sample a taste of real maple syrup made right here at the Nature Center kitchen. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information. **PTN 4627** 

#### (FREE) WOODCOCK DANCE SAT, MAR 6, 6:00 PM- 7:00 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Join us at dusk in our quest to witness the dance of the American woodcock, an aerial courtship flight of the timber doodle. Call (937) 855-7717 for details. **PTN 4685** 

#### (FREE) BEAVER FEVER SAT, MAR 6, 6:30 PM- 7:30 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. For details, call (937) 277-4178. **PTN 4573** <sup>1</sup>

#### (FREE) ADULT NATURE WALK

THU, MAR 11, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 4524 THU, APR 8, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 4525 THU, MAY 13, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 4526 SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Explore nature while meeting new friends on this slow-paced journey. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited supply will be available. Call (937) 277-4178 for details.

#### (FREE) PARENT & PRESCHOOLER: ONE POTATO, TWO POTATO THU, MAR 11, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Let's discover how spring time and potatoes go together. We'll dig into to some fun potato experiments and unearth some little know potato facts. Are there really blue potatoes? Reservations required. Call (937) 454-9005 or register online. Age: 3Y - 6Y. 4481

### (FREE) TIKE HIKE: HIBERNATING INSECTS

#### FRI, MAR 12, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.

Enjoy an expedition with your preschooler in search of hibernating insects. Once they are found, your child will warm them up with body heat, and watch them wake up! Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **PTN** Age: 2Y - 5Y. **4528** 

#### (FREE) PROJECT FEEDER WATCH

FRI, MAR 12, 12:30 PM- 2:30 PM 4671 SAT, MAR 13, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM 4672 FRI, MAR 26, 12:30 PM- 2:30 PM 4673 SAT, MAR 27, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM 4674 GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Enjoy our Window on Wildlife from the warmth of indoors. Help count the visitors to our bird feeders for a citizen's science report to be sent to Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Bird watchers of all skill levels are welcome. Meet at the Window on Wildlife in the Nature Center. Weather permitting. Call (937) 855-7717.

### (FREE) WOODCOCK DANCE FRI, MAR 12, 6:00 PM-7:00 PM

TWIN CREEK METROPARK, High View Shelter, 9688 Eby Rd

Join us at dusk in our quest to witness the dance of the American woodcock, an aerial courtship flight of the timber doodle. Meet at 9688 Eby Rd. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information. **PTN 4684** 

#### (FREE) DANCING WOODCOCKS SAT, MAR 13, 6:30 PM- 7:30 PM

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Redwing Shelter/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd. Watch for this odd little bird as he performs his courtship dance at dusk. Bring binoculars if you have them. No reservations required. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more information. **PTN 4557** 

# (FREE) AMERICA'S WONDERLANDS: WASHINGTON, BEACHES TO THE VOLCANOS

SUN, MAR 14, 1:30 PM- 3:00 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Classroom, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Explore Olympic National Park's coastal area, and later inland to the rainforest and into the Olympic mountains. Travel south to Mt. St. Helens stark beauty and the spectacular beauty of Mount Rainier National Park. Enjoy shade-grown coffee or other beverages and discussion at the end of the program. Call (937) 855-7717 for more

### (FREE) CHILDREN'S TOUR GUIDE WORKSHOP SERIES:

information. 4686

Join us at Cox Arboretum MetroPark and volunteer as a children's tour guide. No experience is necessary; however, potential guides should be 16 years or older and able to walk/hike the Arboretum grounds comfortably. Find out more by attending our training workshops or call (937) 275-5059.

#### PLANT PRIMER MON, MAR 15, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
All Children's tour guides from Cox
Arboretum MetroPark, whether new,
seasoned, or alumni, are invited to our first
workshop as we kick-off the spring season.
We'll discuss our spring tour themes that
focus on plants and pick up a few tips
and tricks to use with our young visitors.
Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome.
Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age:
16Y and up. 4707

#### SOIL SAVVY

#### MON, MAR 22, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Discover more about two new tour offerings for schools and get a little soil science under your belt as we discuss our Compost and Soils tours respectively. Reservations are requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 16Y and up. 4708

### INTO CONSERVATION CORNER MON. MAR 29. 9:30 AM-11:30 AM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
We'll take a field trip of our own into
Conservation Corner with Mary Klunk,
Conservation Manager and Michael
Enright, Wildlife biologist discovering more
fascinating facts and animal insights to share
with our young visitors. Sturdy shoes
suggested. Meet in Mead Theatre.
Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome.
Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age:
16Y and up. 4709

### (FREE) TIKE HIKE: LITTLE SPROUTS

#### TUE, MAR 16, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Learn what a plant needs to grow and search for baby plants in the park. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN** Age: 2Y - 5Y. **4618** 

### (FREE) HOME SCHOOLER: JUNIOR BOTANY

#### TUE, MAR 16, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Students will learn basic botany principles,

and will study plant diversity in the park. A science experiment involving plant growth will be started at the program for your child to continue at home. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. **PTN** Grade: 1 - 3. **4560** 

### (FREE) DABBLERS AND DIVERS DUCK SEARCH

WED, MAR 17, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Parking Lot by Building, 1401 Harshman Rd.

Bring binoculars and a spotting scope (if you have them) and look for ducks and other waterfowl at Eastwood and Huffman MetroParks. Both of these lakes are great places to view migrating waterfowl! If the lakes are frozen over, this program will be cancelled. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more information. **4527** 

### (FREE) ALPHABET SAFARI FOR TWOS SERIES:

Caregivers and 2-year-olds will have fun and surprises as they explore the world of letters. Nature-inspired activities at each station. Attend at least two of these programs to receive a special patch.

#### LETTERS M-R WED. MAR 17. 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. We'll continue our journey through the alphabet filling our passport as we go. We'll have lots of fun exploring nature, science and letters. Reservations are required; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 2Y - 2Y. 4493

#### LETTERS S-Z WED, APR 21, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Our journey comes to an end as we gather the final stamps for our passports. Two-year-olds and their caregivers will explore nature and science based stations as they discover the last letters of our safari. Reservations requested. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 2Y - 2Y.

# (FREE) MORNING BIRD WALK WED, MAR 17, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 4619 WED, APR 14, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 4620 GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Cente

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Search through mixed habitats for local birds and signs of spring. Bring binoculars

if you have them. Beginners welcome. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.

### (FREE) TIKE HIKE: SIGNS OF SPRING

#### THU, MAR 18, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

TWIN CREEK METROPARK, High View Shelter, 9688 Eby Rd

Discover the signs of spring! Come join us as we search for animal homes in the ground and look for food in the mud like American Woodcocks. Together we will explore early signs of spring on a fun-filled scavenger hunt. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information. **PTN** Age: 2Y - 5Y. **4659** 

#### (FREE) WOODCOCK WATCH FRI, MAR 19, 8:00 PM- 9:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Lake Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Be a witness to the woodcock's extravagant mating display of circles, spirals, and dives while enjoying the crisp night. Weather permitting: Call (937) 277-4178. **PTN 4574** 

#### (FREE) WELCOME SPRING HIKE! SAT. MAR 20. 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, CCC Shelter, 2101 U.S. 40

Welcome the first day of spring with a walk in scenic Taylorsville MetroPark. Some hills are steep. No reservations required. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more information. **PTN 4537** 

### (FREE) STROLLER STRUT: WAKE UP SPRING!

TUE, MAR 23, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM 4495 TUE, MAR 23, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM 4496 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

It's time to think of spring blooms. We'll explore Cox Arboretum MetroPark for tiny signs of spring from buds on the trees to tiny flowers pushing up to see the sun. Dress for the weather. Reservations are requested, but walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 434-9005. Age: 1M - 3Y.

### (FREE) TIKE HIKE: DISCOVER NATURE

#### WED, MAR 24, 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Discover the treasures of nature with your little ones! Join us for a short walk as we explore the great outdoors. Walk will be held rain or shine. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for details. **PTN 4395** 

#### (FREE) CAFE SCIENTIFIQUE

Join us for this month's cafe and discover science in a relaxed atmosphere with friends and neighbors from the Miami Valley. Increase your science savvy and share your opinion in our open discussion following the topic introduction. Light refreshments provided. Call (937) 275-5059 or see detailed web listing for final topic details.

# THE WHITE-TAILED DEER AS AN ECOLOGICAL FORCE THU. MAR 25. 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Signs of spring at the Arboretum include trees in bud, wildflowers in bloom and white-tailed deer. For our March Cafe Sci, join Dr. Thomas Rooney from Wright State University's Department of Biological Sciences to discuss the white-tailed deer: an all pervasive ecological force and his research findings on their impact on biodiversity. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. 4791

### FROM NATURE TO ENGINEERING INSIGHT

#### THU, APR 22, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Join staff scientists from the Air Force Institute of Technology as we discuss how butterflies are providing insight for engineering flight research. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. 4792

### TOPIC TO BE DETERMINED THU. MAY 27. 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Call (937) 275-5059 or see detailed web listing for final topic details. Age: 14Y and up. **4793** 

### BIRDING WORKSHOP: WATERFOWL

#### SAT. MAR 27. 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Enjoy a one-hour presentation on the history and behavior of Ohio's waterfowl, then travel in vans to different birding hotspots throughout the Dayton area. Later, travel to Spring Valley Wildlife Area and look for bird activity around the lake. Bring binoculars and a spotting scope if you have one. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online.
Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$10 4601

#### (FREE) SCREECH OWL HUNT SAT. MAR 27. 8:30 PM- 9:30 PM

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.

Join a naturalist on a night walk in search of the screech owl, the smallest owl of the park. We will use their song to lure them in for a good, close look. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN 4563** 

### (FREE) BACKPACKING BABIES: SIGNS OF SPRING

THU, APR 1, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Get your baby outside and search for signs of spring! A baby backpack or carrier is required for this program as trails are not stroller-friendly. Weather permitting: Call (937) 277-4178. Age: 1M - 2Y. **4609** 

#### (FREE) ADVANCED BUTTERFLY CLASS: HOST WITH THE MOST TUE. APR 6. 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Explore the importance of the host plant and butterfly connection. Discover why it takes more than a butterfly bush to attract butterflies. Basic knowledge of butterflies and plants recommended. Reservations required. Call (937) 435-9005 or register on line. Age: 14Y and up. **4504** 

# (FREE) HOME SCHOOLER: WOLVES AND BEARS, 300 YEARS AGO

What were the parks like 300 years ago? We'll look at some of the predators that would have been prowling the MetroParks back then, particularly wolves and bears. After learning about them in the classroom, we'll hunt the woods for signs of these predators. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 855-7717 or register online. PTN Age: 6Y and up.

**THU, APR 8, 2:00 PM- 4:00 PM** 4695 HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.

FRI, APR 9, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM 4637 GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Classroom, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

**TUE, APR 13, 2:00 PM- 4:00 PM** 4696 ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter/East Park, 4361 National Road

### (FREE) WELCOME TO WILDFLOWERS

SAT, APR 10, 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Learn ways to identify spring wildflowers using a simple wildflower key. Later, use your knowledge to identify wildflowers on a walk through a rich woodland habitat. A naturalist will locate other prime sites within the park to view these spring jewels. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information. **4711** 

### (FREE) TIKE HIKE: BACKYARD EXPEDITION

TUE, APR 13, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.

Does your preschooler like exploring the backyard with bug boxes, net, or a magnifying glass? Grab your preschooler's nature study tools and discover the park with other little explorers! We'll learn to use these tools more effectively, connect your child with nature, and make sure your little explorer knows how to be safe in your backyard. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN** Age: 2Y - 5Y. **4529** 

### (FREE) TIKE HIKE: DISCOVER NATURE

WED. APR 14. 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM

ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.

Discover the treasures of nature with your little ones! Join us for a short walk as we explore the great outdoors. Walk will be held rain or shine. Call 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more information. **PTN 4396** 

#### (FREE) PARENT & PRESCHOOLER: HOW IS THAT RELATED? THU. APR 15. 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Could lettuce and sunflowers really be cousins? Just like any large family you may have members you have never met. The plant family is just the same. Explore some unusual and unexpected connections between plants. Reservations required; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 3Y - 6Y. 4483

#### (FREE) TIKE HIKE: BUDS AND BUGS FRI, APR 16, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Use face paint to transform your preschooler into a bee, bug, or butterfly. We will pretend to be nature's pollinators, exploring flowers, and discovering the relationships that flowers have with bugs. Call (937) 277-4178 for details.

PTN Age: 2Y - 5Y. 4530

#### (FREE) HSP: SALAMANDER STUDY FRI, APR 16, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Study the biology and behavior of these tiny, beautiful creatures and search for them in the park. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. **PTN** Grade: 1 - 3. **4558** 

#### (FREE) DUSK NATURE WALK FRI, APR 16, 7:30 PM- 9:00 PM

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Enjoy the park at this special time of evening and learn about some of the animals that are just getting active. Bring binoculars if you have them. No reservations required. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more information. **PTN 4561** 

#### (FREE) OWL PROWL FRI, APR 16, 8:30 PM-10:30 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. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN 4572** 

#### (FREE) TEAM UP FOR BIRDS, FOCUS ON FEATHERS SAT, APR 17, 9:30 AM-11:00 AM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Classroom, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

A guardian and their student(s) are encouraged to team up and improve their bird watching skills. A short discussion on plumage and flight will precede the bird walk. Binoculars provided if you don't have your own to bring. Weather permitting: Call (937) 855-7717. Reservations required and limited: call (937) 855-7717 or register online.

**PTN** Grade: 3 - 7. **4666** <sup>1</sup>

# (FREE) EUREKA LAB! MAGNIFICENT MAGNIFIED TREES SAT, APR 17, 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.

We'll use magnifiers of all kinds to look close -- really close -- at different parts of trees. From leaves to bark, buds to blooms see trees in a whole new light. Children must be accompanied by an adult and can drop in between 1 and 2:30 PM. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 6Y - 12Y. 4795

### (FREE) WILDFLOWER WALK SAT, APR 17, 2:00 PM- 4:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Enjoy a leisurely walk in the Argonne Forest and bask in the beauty of ephemeral wildflowers as naturalists ID them and share stories of folklore. Weather permitting: Call (937) 277-4178. **PTN 4649** 

# (FREE) HOME SCHOOL: ALL ABOUT OWLS

### THU, APR 22, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM

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

Learn some amazing facts about these silent night fliers and meet an owl that is native to Ohio. Reservations are required and limited. Call (937) 278-2623 for details or to register. **PTN** Age: 10Y and up. **4564** 

# (FREE) TIKE HIKE: AMPHIBIAN SEARCH

### THU, APR 22, 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Frogs, toads, and salamanders, oh my! Spring is a wonderful time of year to find lots of interesting creatures waking up from their winter slumber. Together, we will search for these creatures hiding underneath logs and rocks. Join us as we venture out on a hike to explore the world of amphibians. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information. **PTN** Age: 2Y - 5Y. **4664** 

# (FREE) DAFFODIL PRINCE AND TULIP PRINCESS TEA PARTY FRI. APR 23. 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 spring bulbs with us. We'll provide the tea and plenty of activities to make the afternoon special. Weather permitting. Reservations required; call (937) 277-6545 or register online. Age: 2Y - 6Y. **4538** 

# BEGINNING BIRDING WORKSHOP SAT, APR 24, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Classroom, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

This workshop starts with the basics of birding, including bird identification, field guide and binocular use, bird song, biology, and behavior. The two-hour indoor session will be followed by a two-hour field study in the prairie and forest. Participants are encouraged to attend the afternoon Bird Song Study. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited supply will be available. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$5 4602

### (FREE) BIRD SONG STUDY SAT. APR 24. 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Classroom, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Study 20 common Dayton birds and their vocalizations with this relaxed study session.
After studying, we will play games and tell stories to help us remember these songs.
Then we will hike through different habitats in search of birds and test our new skill. Each participant will be given an ODNR Ohio Bird Song CD. Meet at nature center. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. 4603

### (FREE) SPRING BEAUTIES SAT, APR 24, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM

ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, West Park Parking Lot, 100 East National Rd.

Join us for a leisurely walk through this special area where spring wild flowers abound. Reservations are not necessary. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more information. **4565** 

# (FREE) NOCTURNAL AMPHIBIAN SEARCH

### SAT, APR 24, 9:00 PM-10:30 PM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Search for Spring Peepers and Spotted Salamanders in Sugarcreek's vernal pool, only 1/4 mile away from the parking lot. If time allows, we may go for a night hike and try to call in Barred Owls! Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN 4584** 

### (FREE) WILDFLOWER WALK SUN, APR 25, 2:00 PM- 4:00 PM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Enjoy a leisurely walk along Sugar Creek and

bask in the beauty of ephemeral wildflowers as naturalists ID them and share stories of folklore. Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **PTN 4650** 

# (FREE) STROLLER STRUT:

### **WEATHER WATCH**

TUE, APR 27, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM 4498 TUE, APR 27, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM 4497 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

The weather is always changing and with those changes comes spring. Today we'll look to see what the weather has brought to us. Reservations requested walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 for more information. Age: 1M - 3Y.

# (FREE) ARBOR DAY

### FRI, APR 30, 8:00 AM- 5:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Come celebrate Arbor Day! Take a stroll along a paved pathway or on one of three trails to view the collections of trees that fill the Arboretum. Blossom Buggy will also be available for a guided tour. To learn more about our trees, stop in the Visitor's Center and pick up a copy of the "Guide to the Trees of Cox Arboretum," or drop in on a tree demonstration. Call (937) 434-9005 for more information. **4718** 

### (FREE) EARLY WARBLER WALK SAT. MAY 1. 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Enjoy this slow-paced walk searching for warblers and other migrating birds while enjoying a carpet of wildflowers. Bring binoculars if you have them. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **4585** \*\*

## (FREE) TEAM UP FOR BIRDS, FOCUS ON SONGS AND CARE SAT, MAY 1, 9:30 AM-11:00 AM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Classroom, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

A guardian and their student(s) are encouraged to team up and improve their bird watching skills. A short discussion on bird songs and care of young will precede the bird walk. Binoculars provided if you don't have your own to bring. Weather permitting; call (937) 855-7717 for more

information. Reservations are required and limited; so please call (937) 855-7717 or register online. **PTN** Grade: 3 - 7. **4668** \*\*

### (FREE) FAMILY NATURE WALK SAT. MAY 1. 2:00 PM- 4:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Venture out into a magnificent beech forest to study winter's last hold on nature. We will explore migrating birds, budding trees, search for salamanders, and discover spring's first wildflowers. Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **PTN 4571** 

# (FREE) ADVANCED BUTTERFLY CLASS: ID

TUE, MAY 4, 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Go beyond the swallowtail to learn more in-depth identification. Discover more about the family groups and how to classify various butterflies. Basic knowledge of butterflies recommended. Reservations required. Call (937) 434-9005 or register on line. Age: 14Y and up. **4505** 

# (FREE) BACKPACKING BABIES: CARPET OF COLOR

THU, MAY 6, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Treat your baby with some fresh air while you both enjoy nature's show of beautiful wildflowers. Hike with us along a babbling brook. We will stop for a break and snack time in a woodland glade. A baby backpack or carrier is required for this program as trails are not stroller-friendly. Weather permitting: call (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 1M - 2Y. **4610** 

# (FREE) HOME SCHOOLER: THE 1913 FLOOD AND THE GERMANTOWN DAM FRI. MAY 7. 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Classroom, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Explore the history of the Flood of 1913 and the building of the dams, particularly Germantown Dam. We'll look at old photographs and first- hand accounts from the time period. Afterwards we will go down to the dam itself and observe it in action. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 855-7717 or register online. **PTN** Age:

# (FREE) BIRDING WORKSHOP: WARBLERS

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center

SAT. MAY 8. 9:00 AM-12:30 PM

Classroom, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Prepare for the migrating rush of incredibly colorful warblers! Inside we will closely examine each species' identification marks and songs, and discuss what makes them important to our ecosystems. Later, we will hike to see what warblers are already here. Participants are encouraged to attend the Spring Birding Field trip on May 9. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited supply will be available. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online.

# (FREE) KNEE DEEP IN WOLF CREEK

Age: 14Y and up. 4604 4

SAT, MAY 8, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM

WESLEYAN METROPARK, Pavilion Shelter, 1441 Weslevan Rd.

There are fish in Wolf Creek that can put tropical fish to shame! Come catch rainbow and greenside darters, rosefin shiners, and much more! Wear clothes that can get wet and muddy! Weather permitting, depending on river height levels: Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **PTN 4591** 

### (FREE) WILDFLOWER WALK SAT, MAY 8, 4:00 PM- 5:30 PM

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.

Enjoy a slow-paced nature walk and bask in skunk cabbage, Jack-in-the-pulpit, marsh marigold, and many other incredible wildflowers! Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **PTN 4566** \*\*

# (FREE) TIKE HIKE: NOCTURNAL ADVENTURE

SAT, MAY 8, 8:30 PM- 9:30 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. Afterward, 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 more information. **PTN** Age: 2Y - 5Y. **4531** 

# SPRING BIRDING FIELD TRIP TO MAGEE MARSH

SUN. MAY 9. 6:00 AM- 8:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

See extremely colorful birds like warblers, tanagers and orioles from just a few feet away at nationally recognized birding hotspots Crane Creek State Park and Magee Marsh Wildlife Area. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited supply will be available. Meet at farm parking lot. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$10 4605

# (FREE) WELCOME TO WILDFLOWERS

SUN. MAY 9. 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Learn ways to identify spring wildflowers using a simple wildflower key. Later, use your knowledge to identify wildflowers on a walk through a rich woodland habitat. A naturalist will locate other prime sites within the park to view these spring jewels. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information. **4691** 

# (FREE) WARBLERS IN THE GARDEN MON, MAY 10. 9:00 AM-10:30 AM

AULLWOOD METROPARK, Garden Parking lot, 955 Aullwood Road

Bring binoculars and look for the splashy color of spring warblers returning to the serenity of Aullwood Garden. These showy little birds are retuning north to stake out a spot to raise their young. Reservations are not necessary. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more information. **4576** 

# (FREE) TIKE HIKE: WILDFLOWER SNIFFIN SAFARI

TUE, MAY 11, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.

Learn what a plant needs to grow while searching for wildflowers and taking in their aromas. Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **PTN** Age: 2Y - 5Y. **4532** 

# (FREE) PARENT & PRESCHOOLER: WORMS

TUE, MAY 11, 1:30 PM- 3:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd. Worms are remarkable! They make the soil usable for our plants and they are great food for fish. Listen to a book, do a "wormy"

6Y and up. **4640** 4

craft, and for a treat have 'worms and dirt' to eat. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 276-7062. **PTN** Age: 3Y - 6Y. **4611** 

# (FREE) PARENT & PRESCHOOLER: MRS. DAY AND MR. NIGHT THU. MAY 13. 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Plants need many things to grow, discover why light is so important to that growth. Fun plant experiments at each station. Reservations required Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 3Y - 6Y. 4482

# (FREE) TIKE HIKE: NIGHT PROWLERS

FRI, MAY 14, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Explore the lives of nocturnal animals. Children will role-play different nocturnal animals to learn how they behave and survive. Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **PTN** Age: 2Y - 5Y. **4533** 

# (FREE) TEAM UP FOR BIRDS, FOCUS ON HABITAT

SAT, MAY 15, 9:30 AM-11:00 AM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Classroom, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
A guardian and their student(s) are encouraged to team up and improve their bird watching skills. A short discussion on bird habitats and feeding strategies will precede the bird walk. Binoculars provided if you don't have your own to bring. Weather permitting: Call (937) 855-7717. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 855-7717 or register online. **PTN** Grade: 3 - 7. **4670** 

### (FREE) BEAVER FEVER SAT, MAY 15, 8:30 PM- 9:30 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. Weather permitting: Call (937) 277-4178. **PTN 4579** 

# (FREE) SPRING MIGRANT BIRD SEARCH

SUN, MAY 16, 8:00 AM-10:00 AM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Enjoy this slow-paced walk searching for warblers and other migrating birds while enjoying a carpet of wildflowers. Bring binoculars if you have them. Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **4660** <sup>1</sup>

# (FREE) EARLY MORNING BIRD HIKE WED, MAY 19, 7:00 AM- 9:30 AM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Spring is the best time to enjoy migrating and nesting birds' rich color and song. Bring binoculars if you have them. A limited supply of loaner binoculars will be available. Beginners Welcome. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information. **4621** 

# (FREE) TIKE HIKE: DISCOVER NATURE

WED. MAY 19. 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, CCC Shelter, 2101 U.S. 40

Discover the treasures of nature with your little ones! Join us for a short walk as we explore the great outdoors. Walk will be held rain or shine. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more details. **PTN 4397** 

# (FREE) HOME SCHOOL: CRAZY CREEK EXPLORATION

THU, MAY 20, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM

ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter/East Park, 4361 National Road

Turn over rocks and discover creatures that live in the water! Wear shoes that can get wet. No sandals please. Reservations are not required. Call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday for more details. **PTN 4570** 

### (FREE) FROG CHORUS FRI. MAY 21. 8:00 PM- 9:30 PM

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Redwing Shelter/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd. Take an evening walk around the lake while looking and listening for frogs. How many different kinds can you hear? Reservations are not necessary. Call (937) 278-2623

Monday through Friday for more details.

**PTN** 4575

# (FREE) SINGING TOADS AND FROGS

SUN, MAY 23, 8:00 PM- 9:30 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Review some fun facts about our local toads and frogs at the nature center before heading out to the night to find them singing. Bring a flashlight, wear boots and be ready to jump around our pond on our search. Call (937) 855-7717 for details. **PTN 4700** 

# (FREE) STROLLER STRUT: KALEIDOSCOPE OF COLOR TUE, MAY 25, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM 4499 TUE, MAY 25, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM 4500

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Various hues and shades make colors so much fun to see. Walk among the trees and shrubs to enjoy the beautiful colors.

Reservation required walk-ins welcome Call (937) 434-9005 Age: 1M - 3Y. ◆↑

# (FREE) HOME SCHOOLER: ORNITHOLOGY

Join a naturalist for an in-depth look at bird behavior and identification. We will begin our birding expedition with a fifteen minute discussion on bird courtship and care of young followed by a bird hike. Bring binoculars if you have them. A limited supply will be available. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. Grade 4-6.

**WED, MAY 26, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM** 4652 ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter/East Park, 4361 National Road

**THU, MAY 27, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM** 4567 HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.

# (FREE) TIKE HIKE: FLOWERS AND POLLINATORS

THU, MAY 27, 9:30 AM-10:30 AM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Rejoice in the beauty of spring flowers! Filled with color, the woods in the springtime are a wonderful place to discover the secrets of spring. Pollinators, like bees and butterflies, can also be found working hard to find and collect food. Join us on a hike as we explore the flowers of spring and their busy pollinators. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information. **PTN** Age: 2Y - 5Y. **4665** 

# **PHOTOGRAPHY**

# (FREE) TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR CAMERA SERIES:

Your camera can take good pictures all by itself, but for really great photos, you need to take charge. This series is designed for, but not restricted to, digital cameras with some manual controls. Freelance photographer Adam Alonzo will instruct. Each session will begin with a presentation, followed by an opportunity to take photos outdoors (weather permitting). Bring your camera and its instruction booklet. You may attend any or all of the programs. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online.

## I'M BEGINNING TO SEE THE LIGHT

### SAT, MAR 6, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Learn how your camera evaluates light and dark, and how you sometimes need to overrule the camera. Registration is requested and walk-ins are welcome. 4458

### I CAN SEE CLEARLY NOW SAT. MAR 13, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

The second session will teach participants how to use blurring as a plus and not a minus to photography. Registration is requested and walk-ins are welcome. 4459

### MY CORNER OF THE SKY SAT, MAR 20, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Composition is the key to great pictures. Learn what to keep in a photo and how to arrange it for maximum effect in this third session. Registration is requested and walkins are welcome. 4460 4

### **COME SEE ABOUT ME** SAT. MAR 27, 10:00 AM-11:30 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK. Auditorium Rear South, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. In this fourth and final session, bring some of your favorite photos for discussion and insights about improving them. Registration is requested and walk-ins are welcome. 4461 4

# (FREE) AULLWOOD PHOTO **CONTEST OPEN HOUSE**

SUN, APR 4 - SUN, APR 25, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM

AULLWOOD METROPARK, Residence, 900 Aullwood Rd.

The results are in, and you can check out the top shots of Aullwood Gardens MetroPark through the seasons. Stop in from 1-4 PM on Sundays in April and view the winning photographs from the Aullwood Garden MetroPark photography contest. No reservations are necessary. 4479

## (FREE) PHOTOGRAPHING NATURE **UP CLOSE**

### SAT. APR 24. 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Photographer Adam Alonzo leads this session on nature photography. Discover techniques for photographing flowers, insects and other small treasures outdoors. If the weather permits, this session will include a demonstration in the garden. Reservations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online. **4471** <sup>^</sup>

## (FREE) PHOTOGRAPHING **WILDFLOWERS**

### SUN, APR 25, 1:30 PM- 3:30 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Classroom, 6910 Boomershine Rd. Join nature photographer Skip Layman as he teaches various ways to capture the beauty of our spring wildflowers. A brief program will be followed by a short hike to apply what you learned. Bring a camera with a macro (close-up) capability and, preferably, a tripod. Space limited to 12 participants. Weather permitting: Reservations required and limited; call (937) 855-7717 or register online. Age: 12Y and up. 4690 4

## (FREE) SPRINGTIME **PHOTOGRAPHY**

### SAT, MAY 1, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4472 SAT. MAY 22. 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 4473

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK. Wegerzyn Park, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Join photographer Adam Alonzo for two informal photography sessions in the garden. Participants can take pictures, ask questions and try new techniques. We'll meet in the parking lot. Second session meets May 22. Attend one or both classes. 4

# **RECREATION** BACKPACKING

# INTRO TO BACKPACKING

THU, MAR 18, 6:30 PM- 9:00 PM COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third

Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Get an introduction to backpacking and find your comfort zone in terms of trips and gear selection. This class will introduce you to trip planning, trail techniques and nutrition, physical fitness, and 'Leave No Trace' concepts. Introduction to Backpacking or

other demonstrable experience is a prerequisite for local Outdoor Recreation Department backpacking trips. Registration is required and limited so please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$5 **4270** <sup>1</sup>

## INTRO TO BACKPACKING **FOR WOMEN**

### THU. MAR 25. 6:30 PM- 9:00 PM

FIVE RIVERS ST. CLAIR BUILDING, Outdoor Recreation Classroom, 224 N St Clair St. Join other women interested in backpacking to get an orientation to backpacking. This class, taught by female backpacking experts, will cover trip planning, trail techniques, nutrition, physical fitness, "Leave No Trace" concepts, and female-specific techniques. Introduction to Backpacking or other demonstrable experience is a prerequisite for Five Rivers MetroParks backpacking trips. Registration is required and limited so please call (937)277-4374. Age: 12Y and up. Fees: \$5 4654 4

### **BACKPACKING BASICS** SAT, APR 10 - SUN, APR 11, 12:00 PM-12:00 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Shimps Hollow, 7350 Boomershine Rd.

This overnight field-based program hits the trail for a trip into the wilds of Germantown 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: \$10 4655

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

### SAT, APR 10, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM 4810 SAT, MAY 8, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM 4811

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Germantown Maintenance Bays, 6675 Conservancy Rd. Help maintain the Twin Valley Trail -- a backpacking trail connecting Germantown and Twin Creek MetroPark. No experience necessary. Bring your water and work gloves; tools and instruction provided. Meet at the Germantown Park Office, 6675 Conservancy Road. Individuals and groups invited. Groups are 7-15 people and should contact Rachel. Brand@metroparks.org or (937) 564-5431. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. Youth 14 - 17 must be accompanied by an

adult. For details and to register, please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. 4

### BACKPACKING THE DOLLY SODS THU, APR 29 - MON, MAY 3, 8:00 AM-8:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Cox House Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Join us as we head to West Virginia for a four-day backpacking trip in the Dolly Sods Wilderness Area in the Monongahela National Forest. This area boasts unique landscapes that resemble the northern Canadian tundra, including flat, rocky plains, upland bogs, and sweeping vistas. This is a Level 4 trip, so participants must be in good physical condition. **Pre-trip meeting on April 15 is mandatory.** Registration is

### (FREE) TRY BACKPACKING! THU, MAY 20, 4:00 PM- 7:00 PM

required and limited; please call (937)

277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$175 4798

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.

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. Walk-ins welcome, registration is not required. For more information, please call (937) 277-4374.

# LAKE VESUVIUS BACKPACKING TRIP SAT, MAY 22 - SUN, MAY 23, 8:00 AM8:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Cox House Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Join Five Rivers MetroParks for another Southern Ohio Classic backpacking trip.

Backpack for two days in the Lake Vesuvius Recreation Area, part of the Wayne National Forest. Hike through lush forests, rock outcroppings and the lake. This is a Level 2 trip with Backpacking Basics as a prerequisite. Pre-trip meeting attendance on May 6 is mandatory. Registration is required and limited; so please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$25 4816

# **CYCLING**

# (FREE) BIKE FOR THE HEALTH OF IT SERIES:

Guided rides will be held Saturdays, April through October. Participants will learn basic bicycle maintenance tips. Earn a T-shirt by reaching a goal of 125 miles. Participants completing 250 miles or more will receive an additional award. Parents/guardians must remain with their children. Wearing a helmet is strongly recommended for all participants. Children under 13 must wear a helmet. For award details and information, call Officer Zimmerman at (937) 277-4823.

# WOLF CREEK RECREATION TRAIL (W)

SAT, APR 3, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 4271 SAT, MAY 15, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 4277 RECREATIONAL TRAILS, Wolf Creek Rec Trail, Ohio Bike Route 38

Join us for a bike ride rain or shine on the Wolf Creek Recreation Trail. Meet in the parking lot behind Rob's Restaurant, 705 Arlington Rd. in Brookville. We will ride toward Verona (11 miles).

# WOLF CREEK RECREATION TRAIL (W)

SAT, APR 10, 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, on the Wolf Creek Recreation Trail. Meet in the parking lot behind Rob's Restaurant, 705 Arlington Rd. in Brookville. We will ride toward Trotwood (14 miles). 4272

# CREEKSIDE RECREATION TRAIL SAT, APR 17, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 4273 SAT, MAY 22, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 4278

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Join us for a bike ride rain or shine on the Creekside Recreation Trail; Use the entrance at 1385 Harshman Rd. at the traffic light. Meet in the last parking lot. We will ride to the Greene County Line (12 miles).

### MAD RIVER RECREATION TRAIL SAT, APR 24, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Join us for a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Mad River Recreation Trail. Use the entrance at 1385 Harshman Rd. at the traffic light. Meet in the last parking lot. We will ride to Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (13 miles). 4275

### GREAT MIAMI RIVER TRAIL SAT, MAY 1, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

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. Meet at Rip Rap Park, Located at the intersections of Little York, Rip Rap, and Taylorsville roads. Meet in the parking lot near the soccer fields. We will ride through historic Tadmor (9 miles). **4274** 

# STILLWATER RIVER RECREATION (N)

### SAT, MAY 8, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, West Park Parking Lot, 100 East National Rd.

Join us on a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Stillwater River Recreation Trail (North). Meet in the parking lot at 100 E. National Rd. (U.S. 40 and State Route 48 in Englewood, north of the dam). We will ride through Jake Grossnickle Park (9 miles). **4276** 

# STILLWATER RIVER REC. TRAIL (C)

#### SAT. MAY 29, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Parking Lot, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Join us for a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Stillwater River Recreation Trail (Central); Meet at 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. (Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.) We will ride to Eastwood MetroPark (13 miles). 4279

### INTRO TO SMART CYCLING THU. APR 22. 6:00 PM- 8:30 PM

FIVE RIVERS ST. CLAIR BUILDING, Outdoor Recreation Classroom, 224 N St Clair St.
Step One in the Smart Cycling Series is a classroom session, taught by League Certified Instructors and designed to provide cyclists of all levels better knowledge and understanding of how to operate your bicycle in various situations safely and effectively. Topics will include ride preparation, traffic laws, equipment and clothing, and more. Intro is a pre-requisite for Smart Cycling Basics. For more info and to register call (937) 277-4374. Age: 12Y and up. Fees: \$10 4646

### SMART CYCLING BASICS SAT. APR 24. 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM

FIVE RIVERS ST. CLAIR BUILDING, Outdoor Recreation Classroom, 224 N St Clair St.
Smart Cycling Basics, part two of the cycling series, takes the knowledge gained in Intro and puts it to use on the bike. This hands-on class will teach riders maneuvering, signaling and riding skills to make them more competent and comfortable riding on the streets and trails of the Miami Valley. Intro to Smart Cycling is a pre-requisite. Helmets and Bicycles required. Call (937) 277-4374 to register. Age: 12Y and up. Fees: \$20 4651

### (FREE) BIKE TO WORK DAY VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION THU. MAY 13. 6:00 PM- 7:30 PM

FIVE RIVERS ST. CLAIR BUILDING, Outdoor Recreation Classroom, 224 N St Clair St.
Refuel yourself at the 54th anniversary of National Bike to Work Day. Volunteer opportunities are available Thursday, May 20, and Friday, May 21. To learn more, attend the Bike to Work Day Volunteer Orientation. Pizza will be served. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. For more information, contact Rachel Brand at Rachel.Brand@metroparks.org or (937) 564-5431. Age: 14Y and up. 4647

# LEAGUE CYCLING INSTRUCTOR SEMINAR

FRI, MAY 14, 5:00 PM- 9:00 PM SAT, MAY 15, 8:00 AM- 8:00 PM SUN, MAY 16, 8:00 AM- 5:00 PM

FIVE RIVERS ST. CLAIR BUILDING, Outdoor Recreation Classroom, 224 N St Clair St.
Becoming a League Cycling Instructor (LCI), certified to teach BikeEd, is a great way to bring the joy of cycling to your community. Certified instructors can teach BikeEd. If you are an experienced cyclist and would like to teach others, consider taking the next step toward certification. A SMART Cycling or Road I course is a prerequisite for a certification seminar. Call (937) 277-4374 or visit www.bikeleague.org for details. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$200 **4644** 

# **FISHING**

# (FREE) NIGHT FISHING AT EASTWOOD METROPARK FRI, APR 30 - SAT, MAY 29, 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. **4311** 

### (FREE) NIGHT FISHING AT POSSUM CREEK METROPARK FRI, APR 30 - SAT, MAY 29, 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. 4312

### (FREE) TRY FLY FISHING! WED, MAY 5, 4:00 PM- 7:00 PM

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake Shelter/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
Have you ever wanted to learn how to cast a fly rod? Join us to experience casting and tying your fly. No fishing license required. You will have a chance to try it before deciding whether it is a new activity for you. Instructor is available for questions and will teach basic techniques in a controlled and safe environment. For more information or to register, please call (937) 277-4374. **4814** 

# FUNDAMENTALS OF FLY FISHING SUN, MAY 16, 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Get an overview of fly fishing equipment and techniques. The day includes classroom instruction and outdoor learning. Students will practice casting techniques and fly fish at a nearby pond with a chance to work one-on-one with instructors. Participants should dress for outdoor activity. Lunch is included. Materials supplied by Orvis Dayton, the official supplier of Five Rivers MetroParks fly fishing programs. To register or for details, call (937) 277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$70 4645

# FITNESS & HEALTH

# (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 details, call (937) 278-2623, Monday-Friday.

**SAT, MAR 6, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4405 EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

**SAT, MAR 13, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4406 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

**SAT, MAR 20, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4407 ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.

**SAT, MAR 27, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4408 GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

SAT, APR 3, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM 4409 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK.

Wegerzyn Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

**SAT, APR 10, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4410 SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

**SAT, APR 17, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4411 TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Blue Heron Shelter, 2000 U.S. 40

**SAT, APR 24, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4412 TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Chamberlain Rd Trailhead, 8502 Chamberlain Rd.

**SAT, MAY 1, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4413 ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.

**SAT, MAY 8, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4414 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake Shelter/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

**SAT, MAY 15, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4415 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

SAT, MAY 22, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM 4416 HUFFMAN METROPARK, Huffman North Park, 4095 Lower Valley Pk

**SAT, MAY 29, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4417 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

### (FREE) GERMANTOWN HIKE WITH THE DAYTON METRO HIKERS SUN. MAR 7. 1:30 PM- 4:30 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Parking Lot, 6910 Boomershine Rd. Enjoy a 7-mile, three-hour hike with the Dayton Metro Hikers. This hike is considered rugged, for experienced hikers only. Call Chris Sands at (937) 687-0114 for details.

4843

## (FREE) TWIN CREEK HIKE WITH THE DAYTON METRO HIKERS SUN, MAR 21, 1:30 PM- 4:30 PM

TWIN CREEK METROPARK, High View Shelter, 9688 Eby Rd

Hike 7 miles of trail at Twin Creek MetroPark. This hike is considered rugged, for experienced hikers only. Call Chris Sands at (937) 687-0114 for details. **4842** 

## (FREE) SUGARCREEK HIKE WITH THE DAYTON METRO HIKERS SUN, APR 18, 1:30 PM- 4:00 PM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Enjoy a 5-mile hike with the Dayton Metro Hikers. This hike is considered difficult. Call Chris Sands at (937) 687-0114 for details. **4844** 

## (FREE) HILLS & DALES HIKE WITH THE DAYTON METRO HIKERS SUN, MAY 16, 1:30 PM- 3:30 PM

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, White Oak Shelter/Parking, 2800 Patterson Blvd.
Enjoy a 5-mile hike with the Dayton Metro Hikers. This hike is considered easy, with no hills. Call Chris Sands at (937) 687-0114 for more information. **4845** 

# (FREE) TWIN VALLEY TRAIL HIKE WITH THE DAYTON METRO HIKERS

SUN, MAY 30, 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Sledding Hill, 6206 Boomershine Rd.

Enjoy a 14-mile hike with the Dayton Metro Hikers. This hike is considered rugged, for experienced hikers only. Call Chris Sands at (937) 687-0114 for more information. **4846** 

# **MOUNTAIN BIKING**

# (FREE) VOLUNTEER: MOMBA TRAIL WORK DAYS

SAT, MAR 13, 12:00 PM- 4:00 PM 4806 TUE, APR 20, 6:00 PM- 8:30 PM 4807 SAT, MAY 8, 12:00 PM- 4:00 PM 4808 THU, MAY 20, 6:00 PM- 8:30 PM 4809 HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA Facility, 4485 Union Rd.

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

### (FREE) TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING! FRI, MAY 28, 4:00 PM- 7:00 PM

HUFFMAN METROPARK, Mountain Biking Trailhead, 4439 Lower Valley Pk. Is not having a mountain bike keeping you from getting out to ride MoMBA this year? Come out to MoMBA, use one of our program bikes to take a lap or two on the sweetest single track around. Bikes will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Youth under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. For details and to register, call (937) 277-4374.

### (FREE) MOMBA NIGHT RIDE FRI, MAY 28, 8:00 PM-10:00 PM

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA Facility, 4485 Union Rd.

Bring a mountain biking light and other appropriate night riding apparel and take a ride with other enthusiast after hours. All riders participating in the ride must have a light. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. For more information and to register, call (937) 277-4374. **4642** 

# OUTDOOR SKILLS & SAFETY

### WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER SAT, MAR 20 - SUN, MAR 28, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM

OFF SITE, Cricket Holler Scout Camp, 6675 Brantford Rd, Dayton

Wilderness First Responder (WFR) is the ideal medical training for outdoor educators, guides, SAR team members, and others who work or play in remote areas. This course teaches what to do with a medical emergency when help is miles away and calling 911 isn't an option. Lodging is available for an additional fee. Registration is required and limited so please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 16Y and up. Fees: \$525 **4339** 

## BACKCOUNTRY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM THU, APR 29 - MON, MAY 3, 8:00 AM-8:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Cox House Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

The Five Rivers MetroParks Backcountry Leadership Development Program (BLD) will consist of multiple evening classroom sessions and a multi-day field experience. Applicants accepted into the program will learn the fundamentals of backcountry leadership through a progression of topics ranging from group dynamics, expedition behavior, program design and site management. **Applications are due by March 1, 2010.** For more information and to apply, please contact (937) 277-4374. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$150 **4267** 

# **PADDLING**

### **KAYAK BASICS**

TUE, MAR 16, 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM

OFF SITE, Beavercreek YMCA, 560 Grange Hall Rd., Beavercreek

During this hands-on class, students will become acquainted with equipment and

learn basic paddle strokes and concepts, along with safety topics for beginners in recreational kayaking. Class will meet at Beavercreek YMCA. Equipment is provided by Five Rivers MetroParks Outdoor Recreation Department. Please dress to get wet; bring drinking water and closed-toed shoes with you. For more information and to register, please contact (937) 277-4374. Age: 12Y and up. Fees: \$40 4629

### KAYAK ROLL LESSONS TUE, APR 13, 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM

OFF SITE, Beavercreek YMCA, 560 Grange Hall Rd., Beavercreek

Have you always wanted to learn to roll a kayak? Come get personal one-on-one instruction on how to roll a kayak properly. It is a great way to advance into kayaking and gain confidence in self-rescue technique. For more information and to register, please contact (937) 277-4374. Age: 12Y and up. Fees: \$50 4643

## ADVANCED SWIFT WATER RESCUE FOR PADDLERS FRI, APR 23, 8:00 AM- 6:00 PM SAT, APR 24, 8:00 AM- 6:00 PM SUN, APR 25, 8:00 AM- 6:00 PM

OFF SITE, Rocky Fork & Paint Creek, Highland County, OH

This workshop is aimed at trip leaders, safety personnel and anyone desiring opportunities to develop rescue skills for canoeing and kayaking in moving water. Focus will be on recognition and avoidance of common river hazards, execution of self-rescue techniques, and rescue methods for paddlers in distress. For more information or to register, please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$50 4656

# ACA KAYAK INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION

FRI, MAY 7, 8:00 AM- 6:00 PM SAT, MAY 8, 8:00 AM- 6:00 PM SUN, MAY 9, 8:00 AM- 6:00 PM

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Hole, 1385 Harshman Rd.

American Canoe Association certification is meant to give you a good foundation in the skill and knowledge needed to instruct paddling a kayak on flat water. Designed as a short program emphasizing safety, enjoyment, and skill acquisition for entry level individuals. Certification requires ACA membership. For more information and to register, call (937) 277-4374. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$50 4297



# 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.



# ACA CANOE INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION

FRI, MAY 7, 8:00 AM- 6:00 PM SAT, MAY 8, 8:00 AM- 6:00 PM SUN, MAY 9, 8:00 AM- 6:00 PM

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Hole, 1385 Harshman Rd.

American Canoe Association certification is meant to give you a good foundation in the skill and knowledge needed to instruct paddling a tandem canoe on flat water.

Designed as a short program emphasizing safety, enjoyment, and skill acquisition for entry level individuals. Certification requires ACA membership. For more information and to register please contact (937) 277-4374.

Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$50 4298

# INTRO TO KAYAKING TUE. MAY 11. 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM

FIVE RIVERS ST. CLAIR BUILDING, Outdoor Recreation Classroom, 224 N. St. Clair St.

Get an introduction to paddle sports. This class takes you through all the different styles of equipment selection, how to progress through paddle sports categories, trip planning, navigation and general locations of where to go locally and regionally. Introduction to Kayaking or other demonstrable experience is a prerequisite for Five Rivers Outdoor Recreation Departments progression for paddle sports. For more information and to register, please contact (937) 277-4374. Age: 10Y and up. Fees: \$5 4626

# SPECIAL EVENTS ALL OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

(FREE) THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT FRI, MAR 5 - 5:00 PM- 9:00 PM SAT, MAR 6 - 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

OFF SITE, Wright State University, 3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy., Dayton

The Adventure Summit is a celebration of the outdoors gathering the regional outdoor community at Wright State University. The event showcases outdoor skill development, culture and experience. Featured speaker is ultra athlete and humanitarian Charlie Engle, who gained international fame for his 4,500 mile run across the Sahara Desert. Visitors can get active in a bouldering competition, kayaking sessions, triathlon and other fitness- and culture-related activities. For more information and complete schedule, visit www.theadventuresummit.com. 4825

# **ENTERTAINMENT**

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

SAT, MAR 13, 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM
NATIONAL CITY 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.
Celebrate St. Patrick's Day at National City
2nd Street Market! This year's event
features live Irish music along with
exciting dance demonstrations from the
Celtic Academy of Irish Dance. Call (937)

### (FREE) TAB-A-PULL-OOZA SAT, MAY 1, 8:00 AM- 3:00 PM

228-2088 for more information. **4805** 

NATIONAL CITY 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St. Bring your aluminum can pull-tabs to the National City 2nd Street Market to help raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Miami Valley. Call (937) 228-2088 for more information. **4804** 

# (FREE) URBAN NIGHTS FRI. MAY 14. 5:00 PM-10:00 PM

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave. RiverScape MetroPark comes alive at Urban Nights! Featuring musical entertainment and great food, RiverScape MetroPark is sure to add excitement to an already electrifying event. Explore downtown and enjoy all the sights and sounds of this citywide party! For details, call (937) 274-0126. **4747** 

### (FREE) RIVERTUNES: KICK-N-FLAVA SAT. MAY 29. 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave. Dayton-based group Kick-n-Flava features seven of the area's most talented contemporary jazz and R&B musicians. Their talents combine to produce catchy melodies that move and mesmerize crowds! Find out why Kick-n-Flava is selling out nightclubs and exciting audiences around Dayton. Chairs fill quickly; bring a lawn chair for seating. Weather dependent. For details, call (937) 274-0126. 4775

# **FISHING**

# (FREE) KIDS FISHING DERBY SAT. MAY 8, 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Free fishing program for the kids. Register on site the day of the program from 10 AM to 11 AM, fishing from 11 AM to 2 PM, prizes awarded from 2 PM to 3 PM. First, second and third-place prizes awarded for the largest catfish, bass, crappie and bluegill. Two

age categories: Minnows, 2- to 7-year-olds, and Lunkers, 8- to 15-year-olds. Hotdogs and drinks available for the kids. **4852** 

# FITNESS & HEALTH

### GERMANTOWN 7/14 TRAIL RUN SAT, MAR 13, 9:00 AM- 2:00 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Shelters, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

This outdoor community opportunity is sponsored by the Ohio River Road Runners Club. Trail running at Germantown MetroPark using the orange and yellow trails. Registration is \$3 for club members, \$9 for non-members. For details, contact Jerry Swartzel at (614) 207-4853 or visit www.orrc.org. **4834** 

# TWIN CREEK 10K TRAIL RACE SAT, MAR 27, 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM

TWIN CREEK METROPARK, High View Shelter, 9688 Eby Rd

This outdoor community opportunity is sponsored by the Ohio River Road Runners Club. Trail running at Twin Creek MetroPark. Registration is \$3 for club members, \$9 for non-members. For details, contact Mike Allen (937) 299-6712 or visit www.orrrc.org. **4851** 

# MAKE A DIFFERENCE ... SAVE A LIFE 5K RACE/WALK SAT. APR 3. 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK,
Wegerzyn Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Participate in this 5K Run/Walk to benefit
Suicide Prevention Center, Inc. Your
participation in this race, along with your
donation, will help Suicide Prevention
Center serve the crisis needs of the people
of the Miami Valley. Registration is \$10. Call
Jim Marks at (937) 226-0818 for details. 4453

### FEED DAYTON 5K SAT. APR 10. 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

RECREATIONAL TRAILS, Mad River Rec Trail, Ohio Bike Route 8

This outdoor community opportunity is sponsored by the Life Enrichment Center to increase awareness of hunger and other support and educational needs among Dayton's under-served population. For more information, contact Lisa Helm at (937) 252-5700 or e-mail lisa.helm@daytonlec.org. Fees: \$20 4823

## (FREE) WEGERZYN GARDENS WALKFEST

### SAT, APR 17, 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. This outdoor community opportunity is presented by Purple Penguins Volksmarch Walking Club for the beauty of nature and health of walking. For details, contact Helga Slade at (937) 429-3946. **4454** 

### 5K AIDS BENEFIT WALK/RUN SUN, APR 18, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, Lower Level, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. This outdoor community opportunity is sponsored by Boonshoft School of Medicine and the American Medical Student Association. All benefits from this event go to AIDS relief in the Greater Dayton area. Contact Sean Filipovitz at (330) 715-0990 or filipovitz.2@wright.edu. Fees: \$20 **4828** 

# (FREE) GREAT STRIDES WALK FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS

### SUN, MAY 16, 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM

ISLAND METROPARK, Island Band Shell, 101 E. Helena St.

Annual fundraising walk to raise funds to find a cure for Cystic Fibrosis. Food and music after the walk. This outdoor community opportunity is provided by Cystic Fibrosis Foundation For details, call (937) 298-6906 or register online at www.cff.org. 4859

# (FREE) TAKE STEPS FOR THE CROHN'S & COLITIS FOUNDATION

SUN, MAY 23, 5:00 PM- 9:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. Take Steps is CCFA's national walk dedicated to finding cures for digestive diseases. Participants will enjoy a casual 2-mile stroll and raise money for crucial research. For more information, contact Rachel Spradlin at (877) 283-7513 or rmiller@ccfa.org. www.cctakesteps.org 4455

# WALK AWAY FROM VIOLENCE MON, MAY 31, 8:30 AM-11:00 AM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, Lower Level, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. This outdoor community opportunity is sponsored by Artemis Center Dayton's Domestic Violence Resource Center as a 5K walk for awareness and fundraising. Registration \$15. For more information contact Staci Hilborn at (937) 461-5091 or visit www.artemiscenter.org. Fees: \$15 4855

# (FREE) HILLS & DALES 5K AND 10K MON, MAY 31, 9:00 AM- 5:00 PM

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 2800 Patterson Blvd.

The outdoor community opportunity is sponsored by Ohio Wander Freunde as a 5K and 10K on trails at Hills & Dales MetroPark. For details, contact Delores Connolly at (937) 291-2353 or visit www.ava.org. **4858** 

# GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

# (FREE) WILDFLOWER AND NATIVE PLANT SALE

### SAT, APR 24, 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Browse the selection of unique wildflowers and native plants and get advice from the Wildflower Volunteer Group to find the plants most suitable for your garden. All plants offered in this sale are propagated or rescued from local areas slated for development. Call (937) 434-9005 for details. **4714** 

### (FREE) MAYFAIR 2010 SAT, MAY 1, 10:00 AM- 4:00 PM SUN. MAY 2, 12:00 PM- 3:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Center, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Lovely plant offerings include stunning perennials, annuals and herb for companion planting, or simply to enhance your landscape. Don't forget to pick up vegetables for your kitchen. Also featured are beautiful hanging baskets just in time for Mother's Day. 4785

# **GREEN LIVING**

(FREE) TREE SEEDLING GIVEAWAY FRI. APR 16. 11:00 AM- 3:00 PM 4802

**SAT, APR 17, 8:00 AM- 3:00 PM** 4812 NATIONAL CITY 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St. Stop by and get your tree seedlings while supplies last. This project is brought to you with the support of the Montgomery and Miami County Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Rush Creek Gardens. Call (937) 228-2088 for more information.

# **HERITAGE & HISTORY**

# (FREE) BOY SCOUTS CAMPOREE AT TWIN CREEK

SAT. APR 24. 9:00 AM- 5:00 PM

TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Camp Hook Gardner Lodge, 8539 Morningstar Rd.

A Boy Scout memorabilia display showing the history of Camp Hook and local Boy Scouting will be set up in Gardner Lodge. For more information, contact Bill Gray at (513) 850-1321 or e-mail at: 4billg@gmail.com. 4706

# **HOME & HOBBIES**

KIDS MOTHER'S DAY PROJECT FRI, APR 30, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM 4817 SAT. MAY 1. 10:30 AM-11:30 AM 4813 NATIONAL CITY 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St. Give mom a gift from the heart this Mother's Day! Wendy Poli from The Flowerman will show you how to arrange a beautiful bouquet of flowers that will put a smile on your mother's face. There is a \$6 fee for materials. Registration is required and limited; call (937) 228-2088. Age: 6Y - 13Y.

## (FREE) 7TH ANNUAL BRITISH **CAR MEET**

Fees: \$6

SAT. MAY 15. 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM

NATIONAL CITY 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St. Come to the 7th annual British Car Meet featuring up to 100 vintage British vehicles. Browse the concourse and vote for the Best of Show! For more information, call Dick Smith at (937) 434-1750. 4800

# VOLUNTEERISM

## (FREE) NATURE CENTER HOST **OPEN HOUSE**

SUN. MAR 28. 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Want to make a difference at Germantown MetroPark while helping to educate the public about all of the great resources the Nature Center and Park have to offer? Stop by to see first hand some of the duties and fun of being a Nature Center host. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information. 4697

### (FREE) CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY **GARDEN GREETER TRAINING** TUE, APR 13 - TUE, APR 20, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK. Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. We are looking for cheerful, enthusiastic people to greet and talk with families during their visit to the Children's Discovery Garden. This training will provide an overview of the garden and unveil simple activities and talking points to share with kids of all ages throughout the season. Time for practice and sharing ideas will also be included. For details, contact Janelle Leonard at (937) 277-6545 or ileonard@ metroparks.org 4520

### (FREE) ADOPT-A-PARK SAT, APR 17, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Park, 1385

Celebrate Earth Day! Participate in Adopt-A-Park, Five Rivers MetroParks annual cleanup. Volunteers will be assigned to a crew that will work a section of the Mad River at Eastwood MetroPark. Based on paddling experience, participants will work on the river or the river bank. Gloves, trash bags and lunch are provided. For details or to register, call (937) 275-PARK. Age: 14Y and up. 4829

# **TRIPS & TRAVEL GARDENING &** LANDSCAPING

**BUS TOUR: CINCINNATI FLOWER SHOW** 

WED, APR 21, 8:00 AM- 6:30 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Take a bus trip to the Cincinnati Flower Show followed by a stop at Berns' Garden Center for plant shopping. Rain or shine. Tour includes some walking. Check-in at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark at 8 AM, departure at 8:20 AM. Return to Wegerzyn at 6:30 PM. Fee includes transportation, snacks and admission. Lunch on your own at the show.

Reservations limited and required by March **20.** Call (937) 277-6545 for more information. Fees: \$55 **4474** 

# **EVENTS BY DATE, TIME**

### **TUE, MAR 2, 2010**

9:00 am Tuesday Morning Adult Walks, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 33)

3:30 pm Dr. Seuss Annual Story Day Hike, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 33)

6:30 pm Advanced Butterfly Class: Caterpillar CSI, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 33)

#### **WED, MAR 3, 2010**

10:00 am Stroll at Hills & Dales. Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 33)

7:00 pm Environment and Adventure Film: A Sea Change, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 33) 7:00 pm Where did the Stars Go, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 33)

### **THU, MAR 4, 2010**

10:00 am Backpacking Babies: Nature's Textures, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 33)

### FRI, MAR 5, 2010

5:00 pm The Adventure Summit, Wright State University (see pg 44)

### **SAT, MAR 6, 2010**

7:30 am Miami Valley Gardening Conference,

Sinclair Community College

10:00 am Catnip Toys, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see 32) 10:00 am Skunk Cabbage & Bird Hike, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 33)

10:00 am Take Charge of Your Camera: I'm Beginning to See the Light, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 40)

2:00 pm 2:00 pm Hike for the Health of It!, Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 42)

2:00 pm Maple Sugaring in Your Backyard, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 33)

6:00 pm Woodcock Dance, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 34)

6:30 pm Beaver Fever, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 34)

### **SUN, MAR 7, 2010**

12:00 pm Corn Shelling & Grinding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 31)

1:30 pm Germantown Hike with the Dayton Metro Hikers, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 42)

### **TUE, MAR 9, 2010**

9:00 am Tuesday Morning Adult Walks, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 33)

11:30 am Lunch and Learn: Healthy Organic Lawns, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 28)

1:30 pm Parent and Preschooler: Ladybug, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 27)

6:30 pm Compost Kitchen: Building Better Soil, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 28)

#### **WED, MAR 10, 2010**

Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 33)

#### THU, MAR 11, 2010

9:00 am Adult Nature Walk, Sugarcreek MetroPark

10:00 am Parent and Preschooler: One Potato, Two Potato, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 34)

### FRI, MAR 12, 2010

10:00 am Tike Hike: Hibernating Insects, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 34)

11:30 am Fish Cooking Demonstration, National City 2nd Street Market (see pg 32)

12:30 pm Project Feeder Watch, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 34)

6:00 pm Woodcock Dance, Twin Creek MetroPark (see pg 34)

### **SAT, MAR 13, 2010**

8:30 am Family Farm Chores, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 27)

9:00 am Germantown 7/14 Trail Run, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 45)

9:00 am Jr Farmer - Rabbits, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 27)

10:00 am Living With Mother Earth: Common Garden Mistakes, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 28)

10:00 am St. Patrick's Day at the Market, National City 2nd Street Market (see pg 44)

10:00 am Take Charge of Your Camera: I Can See Clearly Now, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see 40) 10:30 am Project Feeder Watch, Germantown

MetroPark (see pg 34)

12:00 pm Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days, Huffman MetroPark (see pg 43)

2:00 pm Hike for the Health of It!, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 42)

6:30 pm Dancing Woodcocks, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 34)

#### **SUN, MAR 14, 2010**

12:00 pm Boil The Sugar Down: Sweeteners on the Farm, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 31)
1:30 pm America's Wonderlands: Washington,
Beaches to the Volcanos, Germantown MetroPark

#### **MON, MAR 15, 2010**

6:00 pm Advanced Gardening with Janet Macunovich, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 29) 9:30 am Children's Tour Guide Workshop Series: Plant Primer, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 34)

#### **TUE, MAR 16, 2010**

**9:00 am Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 33)

**10:00 am Tike Hike: Little Sprouts,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 34)

**1:00 pm Home Schooler: Junior Botany,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 34)

**6:30 pm Compost Kitchen: Backyard Composting,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (pg 28)

6:30 pm Kayak Basics, Off Site (see pg 43)

#### **WED, MAR 17, 2010**

**9:00 am Morning Bird Walk,** Germantown MetroPark (see pg 35)

**9:00 Dabblers and Divers Duck Search,** Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 35)

**9:00 Alphabet Safari for Twos: Letters M-R,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 35)

10:00 am Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 33)

#### THU, MAR 18, 2010

10:00 am Tike Hike: Signs of Spring, Twin Creek MetroPark (see pg 35)

**6:30 pm Intro to Backpacking,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 40)

#### FRI, MAR 19, 2010

11:30 am All About Fish, National City 2nd Street Market (see pg 32)

**8:00 pm Woodcock Watch,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 35)

### SAT. MAR 20, 2010

**8:00 am Wilderness First Responder,** Off Site (see pg 43)

**8:30 am Morning Chores on the Farm,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 27)

10:00 am Living With Mother Earth: Water - What You Don't Know, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 31)

10:00 am Take Charge of Your Camera Series: My Corner of the Sky, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 40)

1:00 pm A Year in the Life of a Beehive, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 32)

**1:00 pm Welcome Spring Hike!,** Taylorsville MetroPark (see pg 35)

**2:00 pm Hike for the Health of It!**, Englewood MetroPark (see pg 42)

### **SUN, MAR 21, 2010**

1:30 pm Twin Creek Hike with the Dayton Metro Hikers, Twin Creek MetroPark (see pg 42)

### MON, MAR 22, 2010

9:30 am Children's Tour Guide Workshop Series: Soil Savvy, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 34)

### **TUE, MAR 23, 2010**

9:00 am Stroller Strut: Wake Up Spring!, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 35)

9:00 am Tuesday Morning Adult Walks, Carriage Hill

MetroPark (see pg 33)

11:30 am Stroller Strut: Wake Up Spring!, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 35)

**6:30 pm Compost Kitchen: All About Worms,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 28)

#### **WED. MAR 24, 2010**

10:00 am Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 33) 1:00 pm Tike Hike: Discover Nature, Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 35)

#### **THU, MAR 25, 2010**

**6:30 pm Intro to Backpacking for Women,** Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see pg 40)

7:00 pm Cafe Sci: The White-Tailed Deer as an Ecological Force, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see 35)

#### FRI, MAR 26, 2010

11:30 am Lunch and Learn: Rain Gardens for the Home Gardener, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see 28) 12:30 pm Project Feeder Watch, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 34)

#### **SAT, MAR 27, 2010**

**9:00 am Birding Workshop: Waterfowl,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 35)

9:00 am Learning from the Landscape: Early Color and Interest, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 29) 10:00 am Take Charge of Your Camera: Come See About Me, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 40) 10:00 am Twin Creek 10K Trail Race, Twin Creek MetroPark (see pg 45)

**10:30 am Project Feeder Watch,** Germantown MetroPark (see pg 34)

**1:00 pm Celebrating the Green,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 29)

2:00 pm Hike for the Health of It!, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 42)

**8:30 pm Screech Owl Hunt,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 36)

### **SUN, MAR 28, 2010**

**12:00 pm Apprentice Day,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 31)

1:00 pm Nature Center Host Open House, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 46) 2:00 pm Gardening for Habitat, Cox Arboretum

# MetroPark (see pg 29) MON, MAR 29, 2010

9:30 am Children's Tour Guide Series: Into Conservation Corner, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 34)

#### **TUE, MAR 30, 2010**

**9:00 am Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 33)

#### **WED, MAR 31, 2010**

**10:00 am Stroll at Hills & Dales,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 33)

### **THU, APR 1, 2010**

10:00 am Backpacking Babies: Signs of Spring, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 36)

### **SAT, APR 3, 2010**

9:00 am Make a Difference...Save a Life 5K Race/ Walk, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 45) 9:00 am Bike for the Health of It: Wolf Creek Recreation Trail (W), Recreational Trails (pg 41) 10:00 am Dyeing Eggs with Herbs, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 32)

**2:00 pm Hike for the Health of It!,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 42)

#### **SUN, APR 4, 2010**

1:00 pm Aullwood Garden Photo Contest Open House & Tours, Aullwood MetroPark (see pg 40)

#### **TUE. APR 6, 2010**

**9:00 am Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,** Taylorsville MetroPark (see pg 33)

1:00 pm Pruning for Health and Beauty, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 29)

6:30 pm Advanced Butterfly Class: Host With the Most, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (pg 35)

#### **WED, APR 7, 2010**

7:00 pm Environment and Adventure Film: This is the Sea 4, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 33)
1:00 pm Pruning for Health and Beauty, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 29)
10:00 am Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales
Me

### THU, APR 8, 2010

**9:00 am Adult Nature Walk,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 34)

2:00 pm Home Schooler: Wolves and Bears, 300 years ago, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 36) 4:00 pm Youth Garden Club!, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 29)

#### FRI, APR 9, 2010

9:30 am Home Schooler: Wolves and Bears, 300 years ago, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 36)

#### **SAT. APR 10, 2010**

9:00 am Feed Dayton 5K, Recreational Trails (see 45) 9:00 am Bike for the Health of It: Wolf Creek Recreation Trail (W), Recreational Trails (see pg 41) 9:00 am Jr Farmer - Pigs, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 27)

9:00 am Volunteer: Backpacking Trail Work Days, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 40)

9:30 am Tour of Aullwood House and Garden, Aullwood MetroPark (see pg 31)

10:00 am Living With Mother Earth: Spring Blooming Shrubs, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 28)

**12:00 pm Backpacking Basics,** Germantown MetroPark (see pg 40)

1:00 pm Welcome to Wildflowers, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 36)

**2:00 pm Hike for the Health of It!,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 42)

### **SUN, APR 11, 2010**

**1:00 pm Homemade Cream Cheese,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 32)

**2:00 pm Daffodils for Every Garden,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 22)

### **TUE, APR 13, 2010**

**9:00 am Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,** Taylorsville MetroPark (see pg 33)

10:00 am Tike Hike: Backyard Expedition, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 36)

10:00 am Children's Discovery Garden Greeter Training, Wegerzyn Gardens (see pg 46)

1:30 pm Parent and Preschooler: Little Seed, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 22)

2:00 pm Home Schooler: Wolves and Bears, 300 years ago, Englewood MetroPark (see pg 36) 6:00 pm Kayak Roll Lessons, Off Site (see pg 43)

### WED. APR 14, 2010

**9:00 am Morning Bird Walk,** Germantown MetroPark (see pg 35)

10:00 am Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales

#### GUIDE TO EVENT BY DATE

MetroPark (see pg 33)

11:30 am Lunch and Learn: Native Wildflowers, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 20)

1:00 pm Tike Hike: Discover Nature, Englewood MetroPark (see pg 35)

#### **THU. APR 15, 2010**

10:00 am Parent and Preschooler: How Is that Related?, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 36)

#### FRI, APR 16, 2010

10:00 am Tike Hike: Buds and Bugs, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 36)

11:00 am Tree Seedling Giveaway, National City 2nd Street Market (see pg 45)

1:00 pm HSP: Salamander Study, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 36)

**7:30 pm Dusk Nature Walk,** Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 36)

8:30 pm Owl Prowl, Possum Creek MetroPark (see 36)

#### **SAT, APR 17, 2010**

**8:00 am Tree Seedling Giveaway,** National City 2nd Street Market (see pg 45)

**8:30 am Morning Chores on the Farm,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 27)

**8:30 am Family Farm Chores,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 27)

**9:00 am Wegerzyn Gardens Walkfest,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 45)

9:00 am Adopt-A-Park, Eastwood MetroPark (see 39)

9:00 am Bike for the Health of It: Creekside Recreation Trail, Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 41) 9:30 am Team Up for Birds, Focus on Feathers,

Germantown MetroPark (see pg 36)

10:00 am Ecological Gardening Series: Composting,

Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 30)

**10:00 am From Sheep to Shawls,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 31)

1:00 pm Eureka Lab! Magnificent Magnified Trees, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 36)

**2:00 pm Hike for the Health of It!,** Taylorsville MetroPark (see pg 42)

**2:00 pm Wildflower Walk,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 37)

#### **SUN, APR 18, 2010**

**8:00 am 5K AIDS Benefit Walk/Run,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 45)

8:00 am Gardening in Ohio, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 30)

10:00 am From Sheep to Shawls, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 31)

1:30 pm Sugarcreek Hike with the Dayton Metro

Hikers, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 42)
1:00 pm Homemade Ricotta Cheese, Possum Creek
MetroPark (see pg 32)

#### TUE. APR 20. 2010

**9:00 am Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,** Taylorsville MetroPark (see pg 33)

**6:00 pm Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days,** Huffman MetroPark (see pg 43)

### WED, APR 21, 2010

**8:00 am Bus Tour: Cincinnati Flower Show,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 46)

10:00 am Alphabet Safari for Twos: Letters S-Z, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 36)

10:00 am Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 33)

#### THU, APR 22, 2010

11:30 am A Greener Home, National City 2nd Street Market (see pg 32) 1:00 pm Home School: All About Owls, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 37)

1:00 pm Tike Hike: Amphibian Search, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 37)

**6:00 pm Intro to Smart Cycling,** Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see pg 41)

7:00 pm Cafe Sci: From Nature to Engineering Insight, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 36)

#### FRI. APR 23, 2010

8:00 am Advanced Swift Water Rescue for Paddlers, Off Site (see pg 43)

11:00 am Daffodil Prince and Tulip Princess Tea Party, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 37) 11:30 am Totally Green Craft Project, National City

2nd Street Market (see pg 32)

#### **SAT, APR 24, 2010**

8:00 am Advanced Swift Water Rescue for

Paddlers, Off Site (see pg 43)

**8:00 am Beginning Birding Workshop,** Germantown MetroPark (see pg 37)

9:00 am Bike for the Health of It: Mad River Recreation Trail, Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 41) 9:00 am Boy Scouts Camporee at Twin Creek, Twin Creek MetroPark (see pg 45)

**9:00 am Smart Cycling Basics,** Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see pg 41)

10:00 am Learning from the Landscape: Woodland Wildflowers Walk, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see 29) 10:00 am Ecological Gardening Series: Rain Barrels,

Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 30)

10:00 am Photographing Nature Up Close,

Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 40)

10:00 am Wildflower and Native Plant Sale, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 45)

1:00 pm Spring Beauties, Englewood MetroPark (see

1:00 pm Bird Song Study, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 37)

**1:00 pm Vermiculture for Kids,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 30)

**2:00 pm Hike for the Health of It!,** Twin Creek MetroPark (see pg 42)

**9:00 pm Nocturnal Amphibian Search,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 37)

### **SUN, APR 25, 2010**

8:00 am Advanced Swift Water Rescue for Paddlers, Off Site (see pg 43)

1:00 pm Gardening for Small Spaces, Possum Creek

MetroPark (see pg 30)

2:00 pm Wildflower Walk, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 37)

1:30 pm Photographing Wildflowers, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 40)

**1:00 pm Sustainable Farm Soil Prep,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 27)

#### TUE. APR 27. 2010

**9:00 am Stroller Strut: Weather Watch,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 37)

**9:00 am Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,** Taylorsville MetroPark (see pg 33)

11:30 am Lunch and Learn: Weeds, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 28)

11:30 am Stroller Strut: Weather Watch, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 37)

#### WED. APR 28, 2010

10:00 am Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 33)

THU, APR 29, 2010

8:00 am Backcountry Leadership Development Program, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 43) 8:00 am Backpacking the Dolly Sods, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 41)

### FRI, APR 30, 2010

**8:00 am Arbor Day,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see 37) **11:00 am Kids Mother's Day Project,** National City 2nd Street Market (see pg 46)

10:00 pm Night Fishing at Eastwood MetroPark,

Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 42)

10:00 pm Night Fishing at Possum Creek MetroPark, Possum Creek (see pg 42)

#### **SAT, MAY 1, 2010**

**8:00 am TAB-A-PULL-OOZA,** National City 2nd Street Market (see pg 44)

**10:00 am MayFair 2010,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 45)

9:00 am Jr Farmer - Poultry, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 27)

9:00 am Bike for the Health of It: Great Miami

River Trail, Recreational Trails (see pg 41)

9:00 am Early Warbler Walk, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 37)

9:00 am Learning from the Landscape: Renovate & Rejuvenate, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 29)

9:30 am Team Up for Birds, Focus on Songs and Care, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 37)

10:00 am Springtime Photography, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 40)

10:30 am Kids Mother's Day Project, National City 2nd Street Market (see pg 46)

10:00 am All About Dill, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 32)

**2:00 pm Hike for the Health of It!,** Englewood MetroPark (see pg 42)

**2:00 pm Family Nature Walk,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 38)

### **SUN, MAY 2, 2010**

**12:00 pm Power on the Farm,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 31)

1:00 pm Homemade Cottage Cheese, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 32)

#### TUE, MAY 4, 2010

**9:00 am Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,** Englewood MetroPark (see pg 33)

**6:30 pm Advanced Butterfly Class: ID,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 38)

### **WED, MAY 5, 2010**

10:00 am Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 33)

11:30 am Lunch and Learn: Contain Yourself, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 28)

**4:00 pm Pollinator Protectors: Insects,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 30)

**4:00 pm Try Fly Fishing!,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 42)

7:00 pm Environment and Adventure Film: A Life Among Whales, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see 33)

### THU, MAY 6, 2010

10:00 am Backpacking Babies: Carpet of Color, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 38)

### FRI. MAY 7. 2010

8:00 am ACA Canoe Instructor Certification, Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 44)

8:00 am ACA Kayak Instructor Certification, Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 43)

9:00 am Garden Sojourn: Mind, Body & Spirit, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 28)



10:00 am Home Schooler:1913 Flood and the Germantown Dam, Germantown MetroPark (see 38)

#### **SAT. MAY 8, 2010**

**8:00 am ACA Canoe Instructor Certification,** Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 44)

**8:00 am ACA Kayak Instructor Certification,** Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 43)

9:00 am Bike for the Health of It: Stillwater River Recreation (N), Englewood MetroPark (see pg 41) 9:00 am Homemade Soap for Adults, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 32)

9:00 am Birding Workshop: Warblers, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 38)

9:00 am Volunteer: Backpacking Trail Work Days, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 40)

**10:00 am Kids Fishing Derby,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 44)

10:00 am Ecological Gardening Series: Planning the Vegetable and Flower Garden, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 30)

12:00 pm Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days, Huffman MetroPark (see pg 43)

**2:00 pm Knee Deep in Wolf Creek,** Wesleyan MetroPark (see pg 38)

**2:00 pm Hike for the Health of It!,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 42)

**4:00 Wildflower Walk,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see 38) **8:30 pm Tike Hike: Nocturnal Adventure,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 38)

#### **SUN. MAY 9. 2010**

**6:00 am Spring Birding Field Trip to Magee Marsh,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 38)

**8:00 am ACA Canoe Instructor Certification,** Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 44)

**8:00 am ACA Kayak Instructor Certification,** Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 43)

1:00 pm Homemade Mozzarella Cheese, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 32)

**2:00 pm Welcome to Wildflowers,** Germantown MetroPark (see pg 38)

### MON, MAY 10, 2010

**9:00 am Warblers in the Garden,** Aullwood MetroPark (see pg 38)

### **TUE, MAY 11, 2010**

**9:00 am Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,** Englewood MetroPark (see pg 33)

10:00 am Tike Hike: Wildflower Sniffin Safari, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 38)

1:30 pm Parent and Preschooler: Worms, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 38)

**6:00 pm Intro to Kayaking,** Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see pg 44)

#### WED, MAY 12, 2010

10:00 am Golden Gardeners, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 31)

10:00 am Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 33)

**4:00 pm Pollinator Protectors: Insects,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 30)

### THU, MAY 13, 2010

**9:00 am Adult Nature Walk,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 34)

**9:00 am Silver Gardeners,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 31)

10:00 am Parent and Preschooler: Mrs. Day and Mr. Night, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 39) 6:00 pm Bike to Work Day Volunteer Orientation,

Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see pg 42)

#### FRI, MAY 14, 2010

10:00 am Tike Hike: Night Prowlers, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see pg 39)

**5:00 pm Urban Nights,** RiverScape MetroPark (see pg 45)

**5:00 pm League Cycling Instructor Seminar,** Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see pg 42)

#### **SAT, MAY 15, 2010**

**8:30 am Morning Chores on the Farm,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 27)

**8:30 am Family Farm Chores,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 27)

9:00 am Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs: Introduction to Fishing, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 27)

9:00 am Bike for the Health of It: Wolf Creek Rec. Trail (W), Recreational Trails (see pg 41)

**9:30 am Team Up for Birds, Focus on Habitat,** Germantown MetroPark (see pg 39)

10:00 am Ecological Gardening Series: Planting the Vegetable and Flower Garden, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 30)

10:00 am 7th Annual British Car Meet, National City 2nd Street Market (see pg 46)

**2:00 pm Hike for the Health of It!,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 42)

**8:30 pm Beaver Fever,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 39)

#### **SUN, MAY 16, 2010**

**8:00 am Spring Migrant Bird Search,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 39)

**9:00 am Fundamentals of Fly Fishing,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 42)

**12:00 pm Corn Planting on the Farm,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 31)

1:00 pm Great Strides Walk for Cystic Fibrosis, Island MetroPark (see pg 45)

1:30 pm Hills & Dales Hike with the Dayton Metro Hikers, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 43) 2:00 pm Small Space Gardening, Cox Arboretum

MetroPark (see pg 31) 2:00 pm Tour of Aullwood House and Garden, Aullwood MetroPark (see pg 31)

#### **TUE, MAY 18, 2010**

**9:00 am Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,** Englewood MetroPark (see pg 33)

### **WED, MAY 19, 2010**

**7:00 am Early Morning Bird Hike,** Germantown MetroPark (see pg 39)

10:00 am Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 33)

**1:00 pm Tike Hike: Discover Nature,** Taylorsville MetroPark (see pg 39)

**4:00 pm Pollinator Protectors: Insects,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 30)

#### THU, MAY 20, 2010

1:00 pm Home School: Crazy Creek Exploration, Englewood MetroPark (see pg 39)

**4:00 pm Try Backpacking!,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 41)

6:00 pm Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days, Huffman MetroPark (see pg 43)

### FRI, MAY 21, 2010

9:00 am Garden Sojourn: Body, Mind and Spirit, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 20)

8:00 pm Frog Chorus, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see 39)

### **SAT, MAY 22, 2010**

8:00 am Lake Vesuvius Backpacking Trip, Cox

Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 41)

9:00 am Bike for the Health of It: Creekside Recreation Trail, Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 41) 9:00 am Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs: Introduction to Casting, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 27)

10:00 am Ecological Gardening Series: Perennials: Selection, Care and Division, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 30)

**10:00 am Springtime Photography,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 40)

1:00 pm Container Gardens for Kids, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 31)

**2:00 pm Hike for the Health of It!,** Huffman MetroPark (see pg 42)

### SUN, MAY 23, 2010

5:00 pm Take Steps for the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 45) 8:00 pm Singing Toads and Frogs, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 39)

#### **TUE, MAY 25, 2010**

**9:00 am Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,** Englewood MetroPark (see pg 33)

**9:00 am Stroller Strut: Kaleidoscope of Color,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 39)

11:30 am Lunch and Learn: Planting for Beneficial Birds and Bugs, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see 28) 11:30 am Stroller Strut: Kaleidoscope of Color, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 39)

#### WED, MAY 26, 2010

9:00 am Home Schooler: Ornithology, Englewood MetroPark (see pg 39) 10:00 am Stroll at Hills & Dales, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 33)

# THU, MAY 27, 2010

**9:00 am Home Schooler: Ornithology,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 39)

**9:30 am Tike Hike: Flowers and Pollinators,** Germantown MetroPark (see pg 39)

**7:00 pm Cafe Scientifique,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 36)

### FRI, MAY 28, 2010

**8:00 pm MoMBA Night Ride,** Huffman MetroPark (see pg 43)

**4:00 pm Try Mountain Biking!,** Huffman MetroPark (see pg 43)

### **SAT, MAY 29, 2010**

9:00 am Bike for the Health of It: Stillwater River
Rec. Trail (C), Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see 41)
9:00 am Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs:
Introduction to Knot Tying, Possum Creek

MetroPark (see pg 27)

2:00 pm Hike for the Health of It!, Possum Creek

MetroPark (see pg 42)

7:30 pm RiverTunes: Kick-N-Flava, RiverScape MetroPark (see pg 44)

### SUN, MAY 30, 2010

10:00 am TVT Hike with the Dayton Metro Hikers, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 43)

**1:00 pm Eco-friendly No-Till Planting,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 27)

#### MON, MAY 31, 2010

8:30 am Walk Away from Violence, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see pg 45) 9:00 am Hills & Dales 5K and 10K, Hills & Dales

MetroPark (see pg 45)

	ACRES	FISHING - PONDS/LAKES	FISHING - BIVERS	WALKING TRAILS - FAIRLY LEVEL	HIKING TRAILS - VARYING TERRAIN	BRIDLE TRAILS	RIDING CENTERS	VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	PICNICKING	PICNIC SHELTERS	RESERVABLE SHELTERS	SLEDDING	MOUNTAIN BIKING	CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING	BIRD FEEDING STATIONS	VISITOR/EDUCATION CENTERS	GIFT SHOPS	GROUP CAMPING W/PERMIT	PUBLIC WALKS	FACILITY RENTALS/WEDDINGS	CANDEING - RIVER/LAKE	BOATING	RECREATION TRAILS	DEMOS & WORKSHOPS	FARM VISITS	GROUP TOURS	HORFICULTURAL DISPLAYS	HISTORICAL FEATURES	FLOOD CONTROL DAMS	PLAYGROUND	PETS WELCOME	BACKPACKING
Aullwood Garden	31																							•			٠	•				
Carriage Hill	944	٠				٠	٠	٠	•	٠		٠				٠	٠							•	•	٠		٠				
Cox Arboretum	182			•	٠															•				•		o	•					
Eastwood	437									•													•							٠		
Englewood	1,956		•	٠		•			0	0		•		٠				•	0		80	*	8			O			•			
Germantown	1,534			•				•	•	•	•				•	•								•								
Hills & Dales	51			•					•	•	•								*									<b>3.</b>				
Huffman	283																					*										
Island	35								•	•									٠				•							•		
Possum Creek	556	٠						٠			٠											A		•	٠					٠		П
Recreation Trails	÷			•				•											•				•			•		•				
River Corridors	2,628																						٠									П
RiverScape	1.4							٠	•								•		•				•	•		۰	•	•				
Sugarcreek	597	П																														П
Taylorsville	1,312							٠	-	٠	•	7.0									13		•			٠		•				
Twin Creek	972									٠																						
Wegerzyn Gardens	46							•								•				ŵ				•		•						
Wesleyan/ Adventure Central								•	•	٠	٠				1,11	٠			•					•		•				٠		
	ACRES	FISHING - PONDS/LAKES	FISHING - RIVERS	WALKING TRAILS - FAIRLY LEVEL	HIKING TRAILS - VARYING TERRAIN	BRIDLE TRAILS	RIDING CENTERS	VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	PICNICKING	PICNIC SHELTERS	RESERVABLE SHELTERS	SLEDDING	MOUNTAIN BIKING	CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING	BIRD FEEDING STATIONS	VISITOR/EDUCATION CENTERS	GIFT SHOPS	GROUP CAMPING W/PERMIT	PUBLIC WALKS	FACILITY RENTALS/WEDDINGS	CANOEING - RIVER/LAKE	BOATING	RECREATION TRAILS	DEMOS & WORKSHOPS	FARM VISITS	GROUP TOURS	HORTICULTURAL DISPLAYS	HISTORICAL FEATURES	FLOOD CONTROL DAMS	PLAYGROUND	PETS WELCOME	BACKDACKING

# Chart Legend:

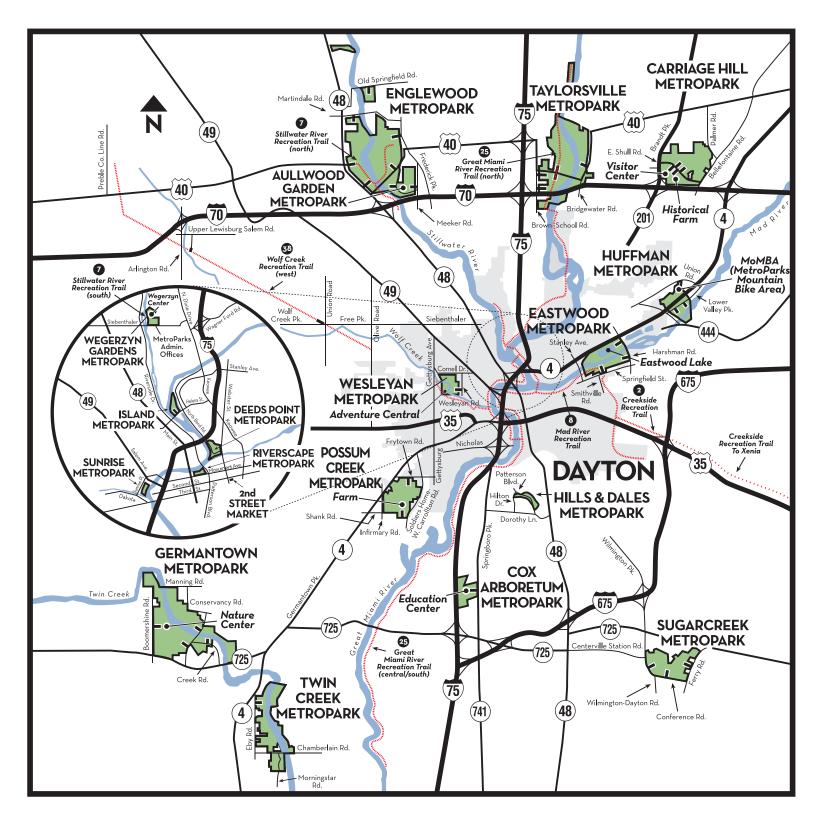
- \* Electrical motors under 42 lbs. thrust permitted.
- ▲ Hand-powered boats on Argonne Lake only. No vehicle access.
- Wheelchair accessible (some).

\* Outdoor Rink

✿ Weddings Only

# No matter where you are in Montgomery County, you're only 15 minutes away from a

# Five Rivers MetroPark.



PRSRT STD ECRWSS US POSTAGE PAID DAYTON OH PERMIT 41

POSTMASTER: TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL. PLEASE DELIVER 2/8/10 - 2/12/10

Residential Customer



ParkWays is mailed to every resident of Montgomery County. Due to delivery specifications, we are unable to remove individual recipients from our mailing list at this time. If you are not interested in this publication, please pass it along to a friend or recycle the booklet.