

PARKWAYS



INVASIVE MANEUVERS

CONSERVATION METHODS PROTECT NATIVE HABITATS

See full story on pages 20-23.

FIGHTING INVASIVE SPECIES NATIONWIDE
SEE PAGES 12-14

THE "NATURAL" SIDE OF OUTDOOR RECREATION
SEE PAGES 16-19





REMEMBER TO SAVE THE DATE

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



June 4

PADDLE IN THE PARK
Eastwood MetroPark (Lake)



June 11

**CONTEMPORARY
CHRISTIAN CONCERT**
Island MetroPark



June 18

**BIKE RODEO
FOR KIDS**
Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark



July 1-3

CITYFOLK FESTIVAL
RiverScape MetroPark



July 16

PRAIRIE SERENADE
Carriage Hill MetroPark



July 29-31

**DAYTON
CELTIC FESTIVAL**
RiverScape MetroPark



July 30

**KIDS DAY
AT THE MARKET**
PNC 2nd Street Market



August 13

AN EVENING OF R&B
Island MetroPark



August 26

**WOMEN'S WELLNESS
NIGHT**
Cox Arboretum MetroPark



August 27

**DAYTON AFRICAN
AMERICAN CULTURAL
FESTIVAL**
RiverScape MetroPark

For more information about these upcoming events or any of the programs and events offered by MetroParks each month, check the back section of this issue of *ParkWays* or visit

WWW.METROPARKS.ORG

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Summer 2011



SUMMER IS SUNNIER IN A METROPARK!

FEATURE PROFILE



A HEALTHY CYCLE

Conservation practices help maintain and protect Ohio's habitats.

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SPECIAL FEATURES



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DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Meet Becky Benná, the new executive director for Five Rivers MetroParks.

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CONSERVATION



FIGHTING INVADERS

Read about Five Rivers MetroParks' conservation team's plan to win the fight for native habitats.

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BEST LOCAL BETS

Discover the best spots to see native plants thrive after invasive removal.

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EDUCATION



THE NEXT LEVEL

State and national officials also participate in the fight against invasive species.

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NATURAL PLAYGROUNDS

Invasive plant removal is a boon to special Nature Play areas for children.

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RECREATION



RECREATIONAL HABITATS

Find out why conservation principles and recreational opportunities are a complementary duo.

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facebook



Get the lowdown on activities going on in your MetroParks! Connect with us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fiveriversmetroparks. You can also get updates by following us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/metroparkstweet.

ONLINE EXTRA

Looking for all the details on Five Rivers MetroParks conservation strategy? Log on to metroparks.org/conservation and find out how your MetroParks maintain healthy, native habitats and manage local wildlife.

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



Alan F. Pippenger



Karen L. Davis



Irvin G. Bieser, Jr.

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!

Commissioner photos ©Easterling Studios



1

#1 Rent a bike, kiddie trailer or tandem from Ride the River Rentals at RiverScape MetroPark.

#2 Explore the Nature Play facilities at Englewood, Hills & Dales and Sugarcreek MetroParks.



2



3

#3 Paddle along the Mad River and hit the play areas near Eastwood MetroPark.

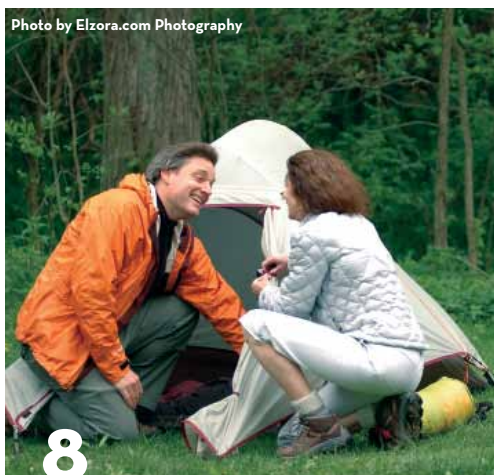
TOP TEN THINGS TO ENJOY IN YOUR FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS THIS SUMMER



4

#4 Explore the variety of local produce offered at the PNC 2nd Street Market.

#8 Spend a night under the stars backpacking along the Twin Valley Trail.



8

Photo by Elzora.com Photography

#5 Check out the new sustainable hiking trails at Taylorsville MetroPark.



5



6

#6 Learn how plants and animals depend on one another at the Butterfly House at Cox Arboretum MetroPark.



9

#9 Introduce your kids to the joy of gardening at the Children's Discovery Garden at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.



7

#7 Make a splash at the interactive fountains at Island, RiverScape or Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks.



10

#10 Take in some tunes Thursday evenings for Big Band Nights or Saturday nights for the Free Summer Concert Series at RiverScape MetroPark.



Becky Benná
Executive Director

Dear MetroParks Friends,

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Becky Benná and I'm very happy to be returning to the Miami Valley as the new executive director of Five Rivers MetroParks. Most recently, I served as the City of Glendale (Arizona) Parks and Recreation Director. However, as a native Ohioan, former director of the Miamisburg Parks and Recreation Department, and user of the Five Rivers MetroParks system, I am very familiar with the organization's outstanding legacy. When the opportunity to serve as the executive director became available, I jumped on it. My decision was based on the following factors:

- The organization's major areas of focus, which include conserving natural heritage that will forever strengthen the protection of critical forests, grasslands, rivers, streams and native wildlife; discovering and growing new ways to personally connect with nature and create enduring active lifestyles; recognition as a community partner in strengthening economic and social vitality as well as recruiting and retaining business and young talent; and serving as a model of public fiscal responsibility, integrity and return on tax dollar investment.
- Five Rivers MetroParks is a very well-respected organization, as demonstrated by the community's outstanding support of the levy passed in November 2009.
- The Greater Downtown Dayton Plan that identifies the Five Rivers MetroParks organization as one of the catalysts to help revitalize the region.

➤ The opportunity to work with a variety of community partners and leaders to provide excellent conservation, recreation and educational experiences to our residents and visitors.

As I continue to familiarize myself with this organization and its fantastic staff and volunteers, I understand the important roles parks and conservation play in helping make the Miami Valley a healthy and viable place to live, work and play. I plan to continue the momentum established by Charlie Shoemaker, the park commissioners, staff, volunteers and community partners. I look forward to working with other local agencies to continue to enrich the lives of Montgomery County residents, all the while honoring the respect and trust the community has placed in our park district.

I envision that every visit to a MetroPark is just as special—if not more so—than the visit before. Most importantly, I want families to return to the parks for generations to enjoy the beauty of nature. Thank you for the warm welcome back to the Miami Valley and to the MetroParks family. I am honored to serve as your executive director and I look forward to getting to know you, because Five Rivers MetroParks not only fosters an appreciation of nature but creates lifelong memories and connects us to each other.

SUPERHEROES SAVE THE WORLD ONE WILDFLOWER AT A TIME

Can a gardener be a superhero? OK, maybe gardeners can't fly, bend steel with the power of their minds or get away with wearing their underpants on the outside of their clothes, but if you ask the right person, or the right thing, you might get a different response.

Miami Township resident and avid gardener Kathy Dulaney is a superhero; just ask any of the wildflowers she rescues. Kathy volunteers with the Cox Arboretum Woodland Wildflower Group. (Think of them like the Justice League for native plants!) This dedicated group of volunteers rescues plants from woodland sites where the native plants will be destroyed. "We use these plants on the grounds at the arboretum or as 'mother' plants to propagate new plants for the grounds and the annual sale held the last Saturday of April each year," Kathy says. "We also have written a manual of woodland wildflower use and propagation specifically for the Miami Valley gardener, which is sold at our sale and in the Cox Garden Store."

Kathy says she had always loved gardening, a hobby she shared with her father growing up. Once she and her husband moved to the Dayton area in 1990, she became acquainted



with Cox Arboretum MetroPark and its myriad gardens captivated her interest. "When I learned that the Arb had a wildflower group, that piqued my interest," Kathy says. "I had been a gardener all of my life, but these woodland wildflowers were new to me, and I wanted to learn more about them." Kathy has been with the wildflower group for 20 years, 17 of those as chairwoman and once as a co-chair.

In addition to saving innocent wildflowers from the wrath of development, Kathy says another rewarding aspect of volunteering is the company of her fellow superheroes. "The wildflower group tends to share many character quirks. We are undaunted by weather or terrain when there is

a task to be performed. We are independent and not too concerned about social pressures," Kathy says. "In other words, we are fairly 'wild ones' ourselves!"

Kathy and her crew like to spread the word about why native plants rock. "I have lectured and given slide shows to encourage the use of native plants in the home garden," she says. "I make contacts through the arboretum and other people want to know more about what we do." There's no Fortress of Solitude or swanky Batmobile waiting for these volunteers, but the knowledge of a job well done lies before these individuals as reward for their tireless efforts in protecting wildlife. "I guess the most rewarding part of volunteering is seeing the green sprouts each spring and the many colors of the plants we have tended as they return again to enchant everyone with their beauty," Kathy says.

She may not be your typical superhero, but if you ask a wildflower, this super steward really is a Wonder Woman! 🌿



To learn more about the Woodland Wildflower Group, contact Volunteer Coordinator Janet Metter at (937) 434-9005.

You can visit **[metroparks.org/volunteer](https://www.metroparks.org/volunteer)** to find all available MetroParks volunteer opportunities.



SUMMER BIRDATHON



Photo by Roger Garber

Montgomery County is home to many different types of birds! Learn more about them by taking part in the summer Birdathon. Grab a brochure from our main offices located at 1375 E. Siebenthaler Ave. or download the brochure from metroparks.org/birdathon. Find 15 different birds and draw a picture or write a description of each bird. Be sure to include the date and the location you spotted them. Try to give the species name of the birds if you are able. Once you have collected all 15 drawings, fill out the form and send your drawing and descriptions to Five Rivers MetroParks by September 15. Children who complete Birdathon will receive a Five Rivers MetroParks Birdathon patch and be added into a drawing to win a birding kit! For more information, call (937) 855-7717 weekdays.

PROGRAMS TO GET YOU STARTED

FEATHERED FRIENDS

Saturday, June 4, 1:00pm–4:00pm, at Germantown MetroPark.
Meet at the Nature Center.

ALL ABOUT OWLS

Saturday July 2, 8pm–10pm, at Englewood MetroPark.
Meet at Patty Shelter.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Five Rivers MetroParks is always looking for volunteers to pitch in to share the joy of nature with others. Learn about these and more opportunities waiting for you at metroparks.org/volunteer.

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK GARDENERS

Get expert instruction on how to plant, prune and care for a wide variety of plants—and make friends, too! We are looking for volunteers to assist with gardening tasks at RiverScape MetroPark on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9–11 a.m. We provide free parking downtown for all volunteers. For more information, contact Bob Butts at (937) 276-7055 or email bbutts@metroparks.org.

EDIBLE LANDSCAPE GARDENERS

This hands-on learning experience teaches volunteers to propagate, grow, maintain and harvest assorted edible plants in an ornamental kitchen-style garden at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. Hours are from 9–11:30 a.m. Wednesdays. Contact Janet Metter at (937) 277-4133 or email janet.metter@metroparks.org.

BUTTERFLY HOUSE DOCENTS

Cox Arboretum MetroPark is looking for volunteers to staff the Butterfly House from June 25 through September 5. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. Volunteers receive specialized training for work as guides or gardeners. Guides work two-hour shifts during open hours, sharing their knowledge about

butterfly and moth identification, life cycle information and ecological gardening. Gardeners learn and use best horticultural practices to maintain the host and nectar gardens. Gardening sessions are Thursdays from 4–6 p.m. For more information or to apply, contact Janet Metter at (937) 277-4133 or email janet.metter@metroparks.org.

NATURE CENTER HOST

Do you like nature and want to help educate the public about all of the great resources in the Nature Center? Come to an informational session at the Germantown MetroPark Nature Center (6910 Boomershine Rd.) Sunday, June 5, starting at noon, and we will show you what is involved in being a Nature Center host. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.

THE PLAN TO WIN

METROPARKS CONSERVATION TEAM HAS A PLAN TO FIGHT INVASIVES AND RESTORE NATURAL HABITAT

Sometimes, plants and animals wind up someplace they don't belong. Invasive species are exotic wildlife that pose a threat to native plants and animals. Invasives out-compete their native neighbors and take over a particular habitat. When that happens, it's the job of the conservation department to protect our natural habitats from these "space invaders."

Land stewardship is both a science and an art. It involves understanding the land and the life on it. Its goal is to maintain or increase "biodiversity"—the variety of plant and animal life that live in the natural areas. On much of the land, little or no management takes place. The natural process of succession is allowed to happen, which will in time convert what was once farmland into forests. In other areas, MetroParks promotes other habitats for animals and plants that are native to the area but do not live in a forest. On these areas, you can encounter prairies, wetlands, meadows and brush lands and the wonderful variety of life that inhabit these areas.

Individual land stewardship plans are based on a thorough inventory of the soils, plants, animals and topography of the land. The plans employ a combination of science and aesthetics to ensure that the results are pleasing to plants and animals as well as people.



Photo by RA Makley



Japanese Honeysuckle overtaking a path.

THE "PLAN TO WIN"

Amur and Japanese honeysuckle are two common invasive species. "These plants really take off because this environment is perfect for them to thrive," explains Conservation Director Dave Nolin. "The problem is, the honeysuckle hogs all the resources—which means native species are crowded out and can't survive—and threatens biodiversity." Combating honeysuckle has been an ongoing battle for the conservation team, but Nolin says he has a plan to win. Five Rivers MetroParks conservation team mapped the plant communities at all MetroPark facilities, including invasive honeysuckle. "After years of perfecting our control methods of the invasive plant, we felt this 'plan to win' could reduce the honeysuckle population in the Twin Valley to manageable levels on park land by combining efforts of staff and contractors," Nolin says.

Starting in 2008, the team tackled honeysuckle, autumn olive and other invasives by spraying targeted areas with a diluted herbicide, hand-pulling and using a machine called a Fecon. "This machine eats at thick growth, which has allowed us to access parks, such as Possum Creek, in areas where invasive plants like bush honeysuckle, autumn olive and buckthorn have become the dominant vegetation," Nolin says. "By using the Fecon, we have reclaimed the habitat. We have also purchased a bucket for the Fecon, and it has been used on a number of projects, including the installation of a rock bridge to provide fisherman access to a fishing lake island at Possum Creek MetroPark."

The team also has won the battle against invasives on other fronts. The team has

CONSERVATION

been spraying patches of lesser celandine, and has been conducting research plots to study the effectiveness of different treatments. They also introduced beetles to help control purple loosestrife on the Mad River near RiverScape MetroPark. Another use of chemical treatment has been applied to a variety of ash tree species to protect them against the invasive emerald ash borer, which has been destroying all sizes and species of ash in its wake since it was first discovered in the Detroit area in 2003.

PROMOTING NATIVE HABITAT


Removing invasives is important, but protecting and maintaining Ohio's natural habitats are equally important tasks. The conservation team tackles prairie plantings and annual burns. "Fire—whether the result of lightning strikes or other accidental means—is actually a natural occurrence on a prairie," says Conservation Manager Mary Klunk. "Prairies can hold a lot of dead plant matter, which can affect future growth. They also can hide lots of invasives that blew in over the years. Native prairie plants have special adaptations to withstand fire, since it was a typical occurrence before European settlement, so after a burn, prairie plants grow back quickly and with a greater biodiversity."

Reforestation is another way the conservation team maintains our natural areas. Trees have been planted in Medlar Conservation

ONLINE EXTRA

Visit metroparks.org/conservation to find out more about the conservation team's stewardship efforts, habitat restoration, wildlife management and air, energy and water conservation efforts.

Area to restore farmland to natural space, and at Eastwood MetroPark to replace stands of ash trees destroyed by the invasive emerald ash borer. "The Great Miami Wetland Mitigation Bank is one of our most outstanding success stories of restoring habitat," Nolin says. "We turned an area slated for a dump site into a viable wetland. The unique twist here is this wetland is a mitigation bank, meaning developers can purchase necessary wetland credits to build shopping center or residential complexes, so this is actually a way habitat is directly spurring business growth."

Land acquisition is another important aspect of Five Rivers MetroParks' conservation strategy. In 2010, MetroParks became one of very few conservation agencies to impose a 90-10 ratio. "This means 90 percent of our protected acreage is undisturbed habitat, and just 10 percent is available for public use," Nolin explains. "This is important because wildlife needs this kind of undisturbed habitat to thrive, which will increase the odds you'll encounter deer or birds or other creatures while you hike, bike or paddle." 



HELP US WIN THE FIGHT FOR NATIVE HABITAT

Applications are being accepted for volunteers interested in contributing to conservation efforts. Visit metroparks.org/ volunteer for a list of available opportunities, or call (937) 275-PARK (7275) weekdays to speak with the conservation volunteer coordinator.



HABITAT HIKES



CHECK OUT THESE BEST BETS FOR SCOPING OUT OHIO'S HABITATS

Five Rivers MetroParks has been aggressive with invasive plant removal. Conservation staff members work hard year round to maintain and nurture native habitats and manage wildlife. "You might see us out running the Fecon machine to remove honeysuckle or conducting a controlled burn on the prairies," says Conservation Director Dave Nolin. "We've got skilled, knowledgeable staff members who specialize in important conservation principles that keep our natural areas wild and healthy. One thing we are going to do is recruit, train, and utilize volunteers to help with this rewarding conservation work." Controlling the spread of invasive

species allows native wildlife to thrive. You can find examples of this everywhere, but here are our staff's best bets for exploring Ohio's native plant life:

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS FAVORITE NATIVE HABITAT HIKES

POSSUM CREEK PRAIRIE

Head to Possum Creek MetroPark and follow the entrance road off Frytown Road. As you travel toward the shelters, lake and sustainable farm, you'll notice large expanses of native prairie grasses and flowers. "This high-quality prairie sits on what used to be land that was stripped of soil, dumped on, and allowed to grow into invasive shrubs and vegetation," Nolin says. "Now we've got this large prairie habitat. Mid to late summer is a good time to see the blooms." To walk through this prairie, enter the reserveable picnic area off of Frytown Road. Park near the Prairie Dock Shelter and walk to the trailhead. The red loop (0.5 mile) or yellow loop (1.3 miles) will go through the prairie and return you to the starting point.

SUGARCREEK WOODLANDS

Park at the main entrance off Conference Road and hit the main trailhead at Sugarcreek MetroPark. Stick to the green trail where wildflowers of all kinds can be seen growing under dead honeysuckle. You can also enjoy the views into the steep ravines because the honeysuckle is gone. "The honeysuckle was killed by applying a very diluted solution of an herbicide in November," Nolin says.

HILLS & DALES WETLAND

Once the playground for NCR employees at the turn of the century, this park has been restored in all its original Adirondack-style glory. Check out the restored wetland by accessing the park entrance and parking lot off Park Road, or enter at Deep Hollow Road and hike the trail toward Dogwood Pond. "Previous owners had partially drained this wetland with drain tiles, creating an opportunity for invasive honeysuckle and privet to move in," Nolin says. Over the last several years the drain tiles have been removed, invasive





shrubs removed, and some native plants restored. “Now it’s a great place to spot rare plant species that only grow in wetland habitats, such as skunk cabbage and marsh marigolds.”

WOODMAN FEN

If you’ve never been to this recently opened conservation area, you’re missing out on a gem of a habitat exhibit. This 37-acre natural area is located west of Woodman Drive adjacent in the Belmont neighborhood. Unfortunately, this spring-fed wetland was used for agriculture and dumping for many years. “The site was mostly drained with drain tiles, and then invasive honeysuckle and Buckthorn moved in and covered the place. Thanks to grants from the State of Ohio and Walmart, the tiles have been plugged, invasive shrubs removed and native plants reestablished. Look for cattails, reeds, buttercups and more native plants. A boardwalk allows access for walkers, wheelchairs and strollers to complete your up-close look.



COX ARBORETUM CONSERVATION CORNER

Access this special place from the trailhead near the Butterfly House (which opens June 25 through Labor Day) and walk the red trail. “Fifteen years ago, this was a 12-acre honeysuckle-infested field!” Nolin says. “Now it has been converted to an interpretive hiking area where visitors can view many of the native habitats of the region: prairie, wetland, pond, thicket and woodland. It’s a great example of how people can restore the land to the benefit of native plants and wildlife.”

CHILDREN’S DISCOVERY GARDEN

This one’s just for the kids! Visit this special children’s exhibit at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark where interactive

fun and learning awaits! The Ohio Habitats area features woods, prairie and wetland gardens as well as a limestone grotto complete with fossils found at Germantown MetroPark. As visitors stroll through the collection of native plants, they will be sure to notice the limestone grotto waterfall, leaf and animal prints in the sidewalks, a giant tree that is home to insects, and a pond full of native fish, such as bass and bluegill.



Photo by Tim Gaffney

FIGHTING INVASION ACROSS THE STATE AND NATION

Fighting invasive species is not a problem faced by Montgomery County alone. There are initiatives under way at the state and national levels to increase awareness of the importance of native habitat and discourage transporting non-native plants and animals that may damage the environment.

"Invasive plants are usually characterized by fast growth rates, high fruit production, rapid vegetative spread and efficient seed dispersal and germination," says Ohio Department of Natural Resources Urban Forester Wendi Van Buren. "Since these plants are not native to Ohio, they lack the natural predators and diseases that would naturally control them in their native habitats."

Not all non-native plants are considered invasive. "Tulips, for instance, are not native to this region, but when you plant tulips, they don't spread out of control or out-compete other native plants for space or sunlight," she says. "When we say 'invasive,' we're talking plants (or animals) that just consume all the resources in their new environment, whether that's sunlight and soil nutrients in plants, or food sources for animals."

Invasives are undesirable because they can cause millions of dollars worth of damage to natural habitats that need to be restored or protected. According to USDA Forest Service, thousands of invasive exotic plants, insects, fish, mollusks, crustaceans, diseases, mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians have infested hundreds of millions of acres of lands and waters across the nation, causing massive disruption in ecosystem function, reducing biodiversity, and degrading ecosystem health. About 50,000 non-native species have been introduced in the United States. "In Ohio, fewer than 100 of the 700 known invasives truly 'invade' their natural settings," Van Buren says.

Invasives arrived through a number of



Autumn Olive
Photo by Ohio Department of Natural Resources

channels. Many non-native species have been deliberately introduced for erosion control (kudzu), food animals and fish (brown trout), agricultural crops (Johnson grass), and ornamental trees and landscape plants (purple loosestrife). Some insects and diseases have been introduced in ignorance, like the gypsy moth, or as the unintentional result of a global economy, as with the West Nile virus, zebra mussels and emerald ash borer.

Ornamentals, such as purple loosestrife, introduced in the early 19th century, often present a different challenge because they are sold commercially, and the public may not perceive or understand the potential environmental hazard these plants pose. "Loosestrife has made its way to riverbanks throughout the continental United States, and control costs are an estimated \$45 million per year, according to the US Forest Service. Riverbanks, or riparian areas, are extremely valuable to native plants and animals, and the wholesale invasion by loosestrife poses a serious threat of eventual extinction to numerous riparian-dependent species. Invasive species cost the public approximately \$137 billion per year in damage, loss, and control. The economic losses are significant but the ecological and cultural losses of native

EDUCATION

Photo by Chuck Barger, Bugwood.com

OHIO'S MOST WANTED INVASIVE SPECIES

Autumn olive, *Elaeagnus umbellata*

Autumn-olive is a fast-growing shrub or small tree reaching up to 20 feet tall. Its leaves are small and oval, dark green on the upper surface and silvery below. Small coppery dots occur on stems and leaves. This shrub has light yellow, aromatic flowers and produces large quantities of small, round red fruits that are readily eaten and spread by birds.



Buckthorn, *Rhamnus frangula*, *Rhamnus cathartica*. Known in some parts as *Glossy* (or *Shining*), *Common* (or *European*)

Buckthorns are tall shrubs or small trees that grow up to 20 feet tall. The smooth, gray-to-brown bark is distinctively spotted. Glossy buckthorn has shiny leaves with smooth edges. It has solitary red-to-purple, berry-like fruits. Common buckthorn has black fruits and dull green, smooth leaves. Both species are abundant seed producers.



Multiflora rose, *Rosa multiflora*

Multiflora rose is a dense, spreading shrub with widely arching canes and stiff, curved thorns. This shrub grows up to 15 feet tall with alternate, compound leaves of seven to nine oval leaflets. Multiflora rose has numerous white flowers that produce clusters of small, red fruits. The fruits (called hips) are eaten by birds and mammals, which help disperse the seeds. An individual plant can produce up to 500,000 seeds per year!



Amur honeysuckle, *Lonicera maackii*, *Lonicera tatarica*, *Lonicera morrowii*, *Tatarian*, or *Morrow's honeysuckle*

These upright shrubs can grow 6-15 feet in height with dark green, egg-shaped leaves. The tubular flowers are white on the Amur and the Morrow's (changing to yellow with age), and pink on the Tatarian. Berries range from red to orange, occasionally yellow, and are eaten and dispersed by birds.



Japanese knotweed, *Polygonum cuspidatum*

This shrub-like herb grows up to 10 feet tall. Stems are smooth and the pointed leaves vary from broadly oval to almost triangular. Flowers are greenish-white and very small. The seeds are dispersed by wind. Once established, the plants spread by a system of underground stems reaching 60 feet.

Reed canarygrass, *Phalaris arundinacea*

This large, coarse grass reaches 2-5 feet tall. The hairless stems gradually taper to flat and rough leaf blades 3-10 inches long. The flowers occur in dense clusters and are green to purple, changing to beige and becoming more open over time. The plant spreads aggressively both by seed and by forming a thick system of underground stems (rhizomes).



Reed Canary Grass



Common Reed

Alliaria petiolata

Garlic mustard is a biennial herb. It begins as a rosette of leaves in the first year, overwinters as a green rosette of leaves, flowers and fruits in the second year, and then dies. First-year rosettes consist of kidney-shaped, garlic-smelling leaves. The second-year plant grows a stem up to 4 feet tall with triangular, sharply-toothed leaves. The small, four-petal flowers are white and grow in clusters at the top of the stem. Garlic mustard produces large quantities of seeds which can remain viable for seven years or more.



Garlic Mustard

Purple Loosestrife

Photo by Linda Wilson, Bugwood.com



Purple loosestrife, *Lythrum salicaria*

Commonly found in garden store stock, this plant grows 3-7 feet tall and has a dense bushy growth of 1-50 stems. Long spikes of flowers are purple to magenta; linear-shaped leaves grow opposite along the square stems. Purple loosestrife spreads aggressively by underground stems (rhizomes) and can produce as many as a million seeds per plant.



Japanese Honeysuckle

Japanese honeysuckle, *Lonicera japonica*

Japanese honeysuckle is a woody, semi-evergreen vine with opposite, oval leaves. The flowers grow in pairs, are white to yellow, and very fragrant. Fruits, also in pairs, are purple to black berries. This vine climbs and drapes over native vegetation, forming dense patches.



Multiflora Rose Flower

Photo by Ohio Department of Natural Resources

ONLINE EXTRA

Visit metroparks.org/ conservation for resources and links to the US Forest Service as well as ODNR brochures that will help you fight invasives and suggestions for creating a beautiful, local landscape for your home.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

Spread the word about the threats of invasive plants in Ohio and the benefits provided by native plant communities.

Familiarize yourself with the invasive plants in your area and report infestations to the nearest land-managing agency or extension service.

Be careful not to gather and transport unidentified seeds which may spread invasive plants.

Avoid disturbance to natural areas, including clearing of native plants and dumping of yard wastes.

Start early! Early detection and control makes eradication efforts much easier!

Volunteer with your local land-managing agency (parks, nature preserves, hiking trails) to help control invasive plants.

Plant native or non-invasive plants in your yard and garden; eradicate invasive plants on your property.

Encourage nurseries to avoid invasive non-native plants and stock alternative native or non-invasive plant species.


~ Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves

flora and fauna are equally important.

One example the US Forest Service provides demonstrating how invasives negatively impact a native ecosystem is European cheatgrass, which has almost entirely displaced sagebrush-grassland plants and associated animals. Those native plants and animals adapted to depend on sagebrush-grassland plants for food or shelter. Cheatgrass has also seriously altered the pattern, frequency and intensity of the bushfires and wildfires from an average once every 60-110 years to 0-3 years. In California, the non-native bullfrog has almost completely replaced the native California red-legged frog—the famed “jumping frog of Calaveras County.” Another introduced plant, the giant reed, eliminates native streamside vegetation and dries up creeks that provide habitat for four endangered species: least bell’s vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, California red-legged frog, and unarmored three-spine stickleback. Approximately 46 percent of the plants and animals federally listed

as endangered species have been negatively impacted by invasive species, according to data provided by the US Forest Service.

Eradication and control of these invasive pests is under way across the state and country. While the fight to protect native habitats and fragile ecosystems continues in state parks, national preserves and other protected lands, homeowners often hurt the cause by accidentally introducing aggressive non-natives. Many plants considered non-native, alien, or exotic are popular, aesthetically pleasing species. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources admonishes citizens to look beyond these traits and consider how these plants “act” in the landscape. “Sometimes we plant invasive non-native plants for landscaping or wildlife habitat without realizing the problems they may cause when they escape into natural areas,” Van Buren says.

Without natural controls, invasive non-native plants are able to spread quickly. In some Ohio wetlands, large plots of a single invasive plant species have crowded out areas that were once filled with a wide variety of important native plants. In Ohio’s woods, native spring wildflowers are quickly replaced by garlic mustard and invasive bush honeysuckle species. “A diverse, healthy ecosystem is important for clean air and water, soil stability, buffer, and food and shelter for wildlife,” Van Buren says. 



Garlic Mustard Rosettes

Photo by Ohio Department of Natural Resources

MAKE WAY FOR PLAY

INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL FREES SPACE FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS

Clearing out invasive species typically is performed to create space for native plants to thrive, but sometimes, the additional space creates further opportunities for making personal connections with nature. The latter is the case in several of Five Rivers MetroParks' latest additions to park amenities—nature play areas.

"Many kids today are lacking in the skills needed for unstructured play," says Education Supervisor Josh York. "Fortunately, the solution is easy, and we created these special places for children to climb, crawl, dig, build, swing, roll, slide—any way to play!"

NATURE PLAY AREAS CAN BE FOUND AT:

ENGLEWOOD METROPARK

Patty's Shelter area

HILLS & DALES METROPARK

White Oak Camp

SUGARCREEK METROPARK

near the main entrance trailhead



Massive growths of invasive plants, such as honeysuckle, were removed to make way for these play areas. Some of the plants got a second life as part of the fun! "We used honeysuckle limbs to make frames available at the Hills & Dales MetroPark nature play site," York says. "Kids use them to build forts, houses or other make-believe structures."

Each park's nature play site is different, but all offer opportunities for children to interact with the world around them. "Recent studies show that children are smarter, more cooperative, happier and healthier when they have frequent and varied opportunities for free and unstructured play outdoors," York

says. "Over the past few decades, however, research has shown that children are spending less time engaging in unstructured outdoor play than they have in the past."

Unstructured nature play is supervised but is not an adult-led activity. Time is spent outdoors in which the child is leading his or her own discoveries. Examples of nature play include creek walking, playing in mud or dirt, fort building, hide and seek, lifting up rocks, making leaf piles, rock skipping, or catching insects. "It's as simple as sharing your reactions to the sliminess of a salamander, the perfection of a tiny blossom or the unexpected rainbow in a mud puddle," York explains. 🌿



NATURALLY RECREATIONAL

CONSERVATION IS IN ACTION EVERYWHERE—INCLUDING RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

When you're hiking along the TVT, ripping through Hawk's Lair at MoMBA, or splashing around a fast current on the Mad River, you might not consider the effects of Five Rivers MetroParks conservation strategies on your recreational experience, but the truth is, conservation and recreation are very much intertwined.

REMOVING BARRIERS

One of the benefits of outdoor recreation is the ability to enjoy activities surrounded by nature. But the presence of invasive species can hinder that experience. "When you've got plants encroaching on the trails or just choking out native plants, it's a completely different experience," says Conservation Director Dave Nolin. "Over the past 30 years, we've been trying to eradicate invasive honeysuckle, which is a beast of an invasive because it spreads quickly and easily in this environment." Through combined attacks involving chemical pesticides, mechanical removal and good old-fashioned hand pulling, much of this invasive plant cover has been removed from heavily infested areas, such as Eastwood and Taylorsville MetroParks.



"Trails look very different today," Nolin says. "Because native plants don't dominate the landscape like honeysuckle, you can see a wide variety of native wildflowers and shrubs as you walk, hike, paddle or bike."

With the return of native plants also comes native wildlife. Insects, reptiles, amphibians and mammals that depend on native plants for food or shelter were forced out with the presence of honeysuckle and other invasives, but when these native habitats are encouraged to thrive, those native creatures also re-emerge.

Honeysuckle's not the only plant pest the conservation team has to deal with. (Flip to page 13 for Ohio's Top Ten "most wanted" invasive species!) Some invasives are sold commercially, facilitating their quick spread. Purple loosestrife is one such plant that loves growing in moist areas. "This plant was taking over some of our waterways, preventing native species from thriving, which affects the health of the river because now those animals dependent on native riverbed habitats don't have their preferred food or shelter," Nolin says. "You can see the difference in landscape as you paddle along the Mad River. There are growing populations of native plants, and because of their return, paddle sport enthusiasts might have a better chance at spotting some of these creatures on their next visit." Another good spot to view improved riverbed habitat is along the Twin Creek.

ENJOY THE VIEW

Invasive plants have a tendency to grow in thick and dense. So when they're removed, beautiful vistas open up. "You can get a great view of the Sugar Creek when you hike the green trail at Sugarcreek MetroPark, and there are amazing sights of woods and wetlands at Hills & Dales MetroPark when you hike the Adirondack boardwalk. Visit North Park along the Mad River at Huffman MetroPark to experience the river habitat better than you ever have before," Nolin suggests.

Safety is an additional feature of native plant revival. "Honeysuckle would grow in so thick, it can be intimidating to use certain trails,"

RECREATION



Nolin points out. “Native plants make it a little easier to maintain the trails since they are less aggressive. This gives us a little more time between cutting back branches, roots and other trail maintenance issues.”

SUSTAINABLE TRAIL BUILDING

Last year, the first park hiking trails received sustainable upgrades. Taylorsville MetroPark’s East Park location (near the CCC Shelter) was the site of extensive, cross-departmental training. Staff learned the importance of sustainable trails for decreased environmental impact, studied proper trail building techniques and trained on equipment operation. So far, the southernmost half of this MetroPark has been revamped to incorporate this state-of-the-art design.

Among the many benefits of sustainable trail design, the most important—from a conservation agency’s perspective—is the lessened environmental impact. “What people might not realize is that when you’re hiking, you’re making an impact, whether it’s introducing new soil and non-native seeds via your clothes or shoes or something more harmful, like littering, you are impacting the environment in some way. Sustainable trail design gives us the opportunity to decrease the likelihood of potentially harmful activity,” Nolin says. Cutting trails so they are longer with a less

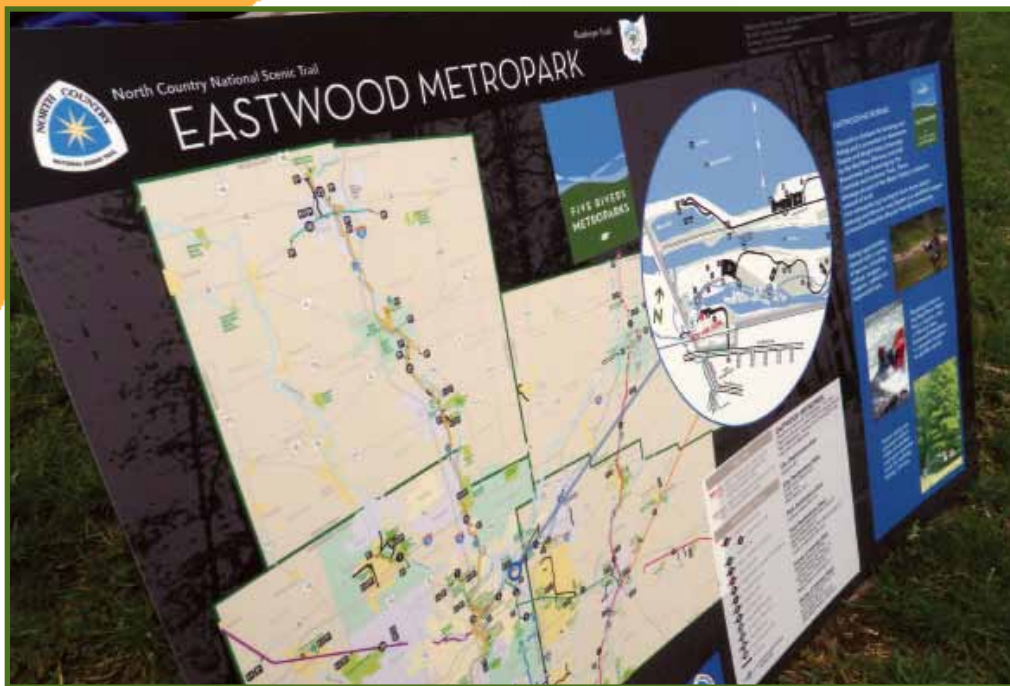
steep grade is one way to do this. “Steep trails create erosion, and while that does make a trail slick and muddy, the worse effect happens in the rivers.” Most aquatic life in native Ohio rivers and streams needs gravel or sand—larger soil particles—to thrive. Trail runoff is typically composed mostly of silt, a smaller soil particle. “These additional silt deposits from trail runoff can literally choke off wildlife,” Nolin explains. “Macroinvertebrates are extremely sensitive to silt-laden water and they can’t survive, which means the fish that feed on those macroinvertebrates can’t live there, and the larger fish and reptiles that feed on those fish are affected, and so on.” Creating sustainable trails to decrease erosion and runoff is a great way to protect healthy streams or increase the viability of unstable waterways.

Another important conservational benefit from utilizing sustainable trail design: decreasing “edge effect.”



“In nature, we find large sections of forest bordered by grasslands or meadows or riverbeds. Those are naturally occurring border,” Nolin says. “But when we carve a trail or a road through a forest, we create ‘edges’ and add more borders, reducing the amount of undisturbed habitat.” Many different species of wildlife typically require large swaths of forest land as part of its “territory.” Building trails, roads or anything else that might cut through that habitat decreases the size and makes that section of forest unappealing or uninhabitable to certain creatures. “How we designed these new sustainable trails at Taylorsville MetroPark, we were able to create two large, undisturbed chunks of habitat, which will, once again, decrease the impact of park users while increasing opportunities to encounter wildlife. It’s a win-win for animals and park users,” Nolin says.

Other features of sustainable trail design include reduced conflict between user groups, lessened frequency of required trail maintenance, and an increase in the overall user experience. “I don’t



think it's apparent unless you hike these new trails yourself," Nolin says. "Before, those steep trails can be tricky to navigate, which means you have to watch your feet and plan your next step. When the trails are built correctly and work with nature rather than against it, it results in a more natural flow and a path that is easy to anticipate. It's funny to watch someone who remembers the old trail as they hike the new one. I hear comments all the time about how those folks are amazed at how much more they see on the trail. They think we must have cleared out trees or something to create these amazing views, but nope, we just cut the trail so hikers can look around instead of watching their feet. That was the whole point of hiking in nature, wasn't it?" Nolin laughs.

NORTH COUNTRY SCENIC TRAIL

If you're looking for a challenging hike and an exhibition of invasive eradication, consider a stroll down the North Country National Scenic Trail. This 4,600-mile-long trail stretches across seven states. "This is the Great Lakes, the Northwoods, the path of westward expansion – a footpath linking communities from New York to North Dakota," says Outdoor

Connections Program Operations Manager Brent Anslinger. One of 11 national scenic trails in the U.S., the North Country National Scenic Trail passes through the largest town on the trail, Dayton, near the southernmost point of its route.

The trail passes through Eastwood and Taylorsville MetroParks, where conservation staff members have been diligently removing nearly all traces of honeysuckle. "The result is amazing, the view shed has really been opened up and it is exciting to see the native wildflowers again!" Anslinger exclaims. Without the invasive honeysuckle monopolizing sunlight and soil nutrients, other native plants now thrive. Visitors can find large shrubs

such as paw paw, wildflowers like white trillium, and May apples, for example.

New interpretive panels have recently been installed along the trail, orienting users to the regional trail network and educating trail users about the North Country National Scenic Trail. Details about the trail include information about local public lands, including the multiple sites of the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park. These panels were funded by the National Park Service through their Connect Trails to Parks effort. For more information on Dayton's National Park, visit nps.gov/daav.

If you haven't taken advantage of the North Country National Scenic Trail, this summer presents the best opportunity to get acquainted with this recreational amenity. "Dayton is hosting the North Country Trail Annual Conference in August," Anslinger explains. "We'll have active hiking, biking and paddling outings, education sessions on a variety of topics, and exciting guest speakers."

This year's conference speakers will be Andrew Skurka (last seen in Dayton at The Adventure Summit the week he left on his Alaska Expedition) and Bart Smith, both of whom have hiked the entire length of the North Country National Scenic Trail. This conference is a must-see for local outdoor enthusiasts, and it's a great occasion to host and mingle with out-of-state guests in the Adventure Capital of the Midwest! 🍃





Photo by Bart Smith

NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

DAYTON, OH

August 11-14

Pre-register for programs at
www.northcountrytrail.org

ANDREW SKURKA PRESENTATIONS 4,700 miles Around Alaska and Yukon

Thursday, Aug. 11, 7-8:30pm
Memorial Hall, 125 E. First St.,
Dayton

Open to the public, walk-ins
welcome, pre-registration available
\$5 donation to North Country Trail
Association

Hiking Across America on the 7,775-mile Sea-to-Sea Route

Friday, Aug. 12, 10:30am-11:20pm

Lightweight Backpacking Gear & Skills Clinic

Friday, Aug. 12, 12:45-3pm
Wright State University Student
Union

\$25 Pre-registration required for
Friday day pass (includes both
programs)

BART SMITH PRESENTATIONS Walking Down a Dream: A Photographic Journey along America's National Scenic Trails

Saturday, Aug. 13, 8:30-9:30pm
Wright State University Student
Union

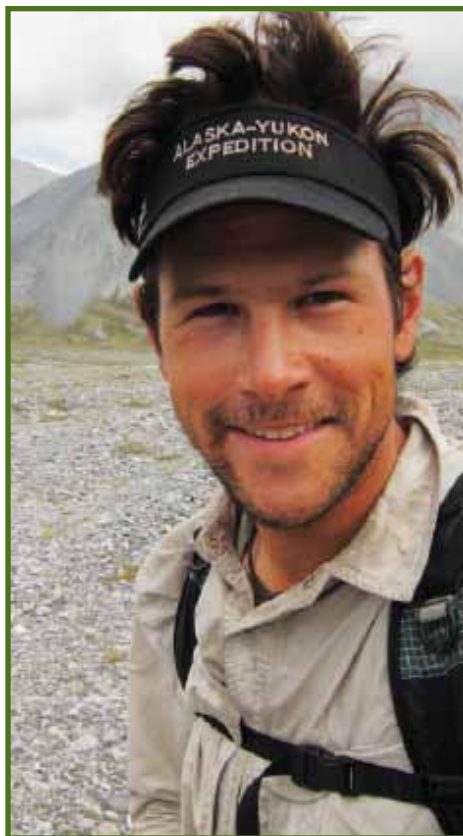
\$35 pre-registration required
(includes dinner 6:30-8:30pm)

Outdoor Photography Workshop

Saturday, Aug. 13, 8-11:30am
Meet at WSU Student Union

\$25 pre-registration required for
Saturday day pass

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



ANDREW SKURKA

Andrew Skurka is a distinguished adventure athlete, speaker, guide and writer. Skurka's recognitions include "Adventurer of the Year" by *National Geographic* and "Person of the Year" by *Backpacker* magazine. Skurka is most well-known for his solo long-distance trips, the most recent being his 4,700-mile, six-month Alaska-to-Yukon expedition featured in the March 2011 *National Geographic*. In total, Skurka has backpacked, skied and packrafted 30,000-plus miles through many of the world's most prized backcountry and wilderness areas—the equivalent of traveling 1.2 times around Earth's equator! For more on Andrew, check out www.andrewskurka.com.



BART SMITH

Bart Smith "That Trail Guy" has been "Walking Down a Dream" to hike and photograph all of the nation's National Scenic Trails. Smith has accomplished his dream—the first to hike and photograph all 11 of the National Scenic Trails for over 18,000 miles, with the added challenge of three new National Scenic Trails being designated as he was coming to the end of the first eight. Smith has completed the largest photographic endeavor ever undertaken by an individual and will be sharing it in Dayton. For more on Smith, visit www.walkingdownadream.com.

SPACE INVADERS

EXOTIC PLANTS AND ANIMALS CAN THREATEN NATIVE WILDLIFE

You are part of a delicate balancing act. You might not realize it, but from the moment you wake up, to the minute you send the kids off to school and head to work, until the second your head hits the pillow, you are making an impact on the environment. What kind of impact you make and whether those effects are helpful or harmful to the environment rely on the kinds of choices you make. At Five Rivers MetroParks, one of the ways we strive to protect the environment and promote good stewardship is through habitat management, and one of the biggest challenges the conservation staff faces is the constant damage incurred by invasive species.

WHAT IS INVASIVE? HOW DID THEY GET HERE?

The National Invasive Species Council defines an invasive species as one that is “both non-native (or alien) to the ecosystem under consideration and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm, or harm to human health.” In other words, there are two conditions applied to a plant or

animal for it to be considered “invasive”: 1. Is it originally from Ohio? and 2. Is it hurting anything? Some non-native plants, such as tulips or daffodils, are no on the first test, but not the second. These plants will not spread into natural areas and prevent native plants from growing. Other plants, like Japanese honeysuckle, are a no on both tests; thus, they are considered invasive.

Invasives arrive through myriad portals—on ships, planes or other means of cross-continental shipping; via seeds stuck in between the grooves on your sneakers or affixed to your flannel shirt; or introduced commercially and sold in stores. Fortunately, the conservation staff members have some helpful information to share on what you can do to be a good steward of the environment.

KNOW THE ENEMY

Invasive species, especially plants, can actually be attractive. The bright yellow blooms of Lesser Celandine that cover many of our streambanks might make you question whether it’s really all that harmful. “What’s important to realize is that while it may look pretty it has choked out native plants as well as the many



Lesser Celandine
Photo by Jouko Lehmuskallio

GET OUT & LIVE!

creatures, from tiny insects to large mammals and birds that rely on those native plants as a food source or home.” Homeowners can help in the choices they make for landscaping. “Choosing native plants over exotic, invasive species not only prevents the spread of invasives to nearby natural areas, it allows residents to learn about and appreciate the beauty of our native plants,” Nolin says.

INVASIVE ANIMALS

It’s not just plants that can wreak havoc on native habitat; exotic animals introduced to the area can make a big impact on the environment. “We’ve heard stories throughout history about what happens when animals are transported—either accidentally or purposefully as a pet that escaped or was released—and take over an environment,” Nolin says. One historic example is the introduction of rabbits to the continent of Australia. British transplants brought rabbits to the continent in the 1840s for sport hunting, but the animals quickly reproduced and have been decimating crops and other plant life ever since. In Ohio, animal species that threaten native wildlife include Asian carp, Norway



Asian Carp
Photo by Jason Lindsey

rat, zebra mussels, English sparrow, sea lamprey, Asian longhorn beetle, round goby, European gypsy moth and emerald ash borer. “Emerald ash borer has presented some devastating effects lately. These little metallic, wood-boring beetles are small but they have been destroying all species of ash trees from the possible site of their introduction at Detroit in 2003 and have spread as far as Tennessee, Minnesota and New York,” Nolin says.

Five Rivers MetroParks has taken a proactive stance when it comes to battling the beetle. The bugs eat the tree from the top down, larvae munching away at the living tissue under the bark. Once you start to see the top of the tree die, or spot the D-shaped exit holes from which the adult beetle emerges, it’s already too late for the ash tree. Once an ash is fully dead, it becomes brittle and can topple easily. “We are removing what could be hazardous trees if we wait for them to die,” Nolin explains. “We’re taking them out of picnic areas, near parking lots, on our borders and any other public-facing areas.” The conservation

team also is attempting something new to help preserve native ash trees. Six hundred forest ash trees are going to be treated to prevent or kill the Emerald Ash Borer. “If you catch the infestation early enough, it is possible to treat a tree with an insecticide that will destroy those little larvae eating the living tissue,” Nolin says. “Lots of other Ohio cities and municipalities have used chemical treatments for boulevards and other ash tree-lined streets, but to my knowledge, we’re the first to treat forest trees for conservation purposes.”

The gamble is the swarms of emerald ash borer will sweep through the region like a prairie fire, consuming all untreated ash trees in its path. With severely diminished food supplies, it is hoped that the borer population will drop to manageable levels. “Right now, the buffet is open, and there are more bugs than predators can handle,” Nolin says. “What we hope is that this huge population will peak, then crash as they eat themselves out of food. Of course, there is no guarantee this will happen; we just have to wait and see.”



European Gypsy Moth
Photo by GardenSafari.net



BECOME A GOOD STEWARD

Invasives are out there and they're threatening our native habitats, but the future has a bright spot—you! As much damage as humans can potentially inflict on the environment, they are the only animals capable of doing something to protect it. Being a good environmental steward can be simple. Taking the time to find native plants for your landscape is one way to make a positive impact. You can take it a step further and volunteer to help Five Rivers MetroParks continue its conservation mission. Check out

our list of suggestions for “going local” and helping to keep our world native:

FOREST FOSTER FAMILY

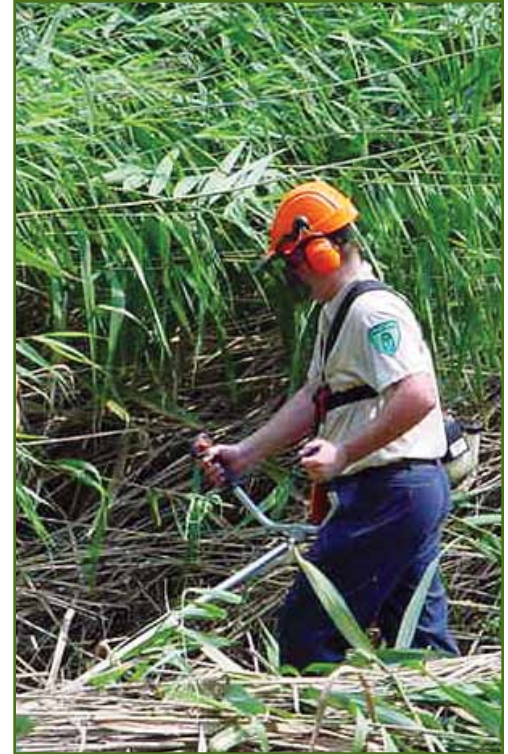
Reforestation efforts to replace trees destroyed by the emerald ash borer have begun. Local residents are needed to care for a flat of tree seedlings. Forest Foster Families will care for the trees for up to a year, then return seedlings to the designated location for planting in the MetroParks. Slots fill quickly; if no immediate openings are available, you may request to be placed on our wait list for future distribution. Visit metroparks.org/ash for a volunteer form.

MASTER SILVICULTURIST

This service learning program trains volunteers the art of creating and maintaining a forest. Participants will acquire horticultural and leadership skills, with a required 25-hour minimum of service hours to fulfill. Master Silviculturists will be called upon to lead teams of volunteers to plant cultivated seedlings during the reforestation efforts. Turn to page 34 for details. Classes start August 2.

CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

Additional opportunities to help Five Rivers MetroParks conservation team further their



efforts in land stewardship and wildlife management are ongoing. Visit metroparks.org/volunteer for information about available opportunities, or call (937) 275-PARK (7275) weekdays to speak with the conservation volunteer coordinator.

GARDEN FOR WILDLIFE

Discover how creating a wildlife garden can open a whole new world of beauty in your own backyard. The National Wildlife Federation has created a Garden for Wildlife program for landowners to get certified as having a backyard “wildlife habitat.” Visit nwf.org/backyard for details. Some local governments also are becoming proactive about this important issue. The City of Miamisburg has established an application procedure for homeowners’ native landscaping plans so they can avoid lawn maintenance violations. Five Rivers MetroParks is looking for city residents to apply. Contact Doug Horvath at (937) 277-4178 for a copy of the handbook or for more information. 🌿



ONLINE EXTRA

Visit these sites for more information about conservation. You can also sign up at metroparks.org/conservation to receive the MetroParks Conservation e-mail newsletter.

metroparks.org/conservation

nwf.org/backyard

meec.udayton.edu

beavercreekwetlands.org

oipc.info

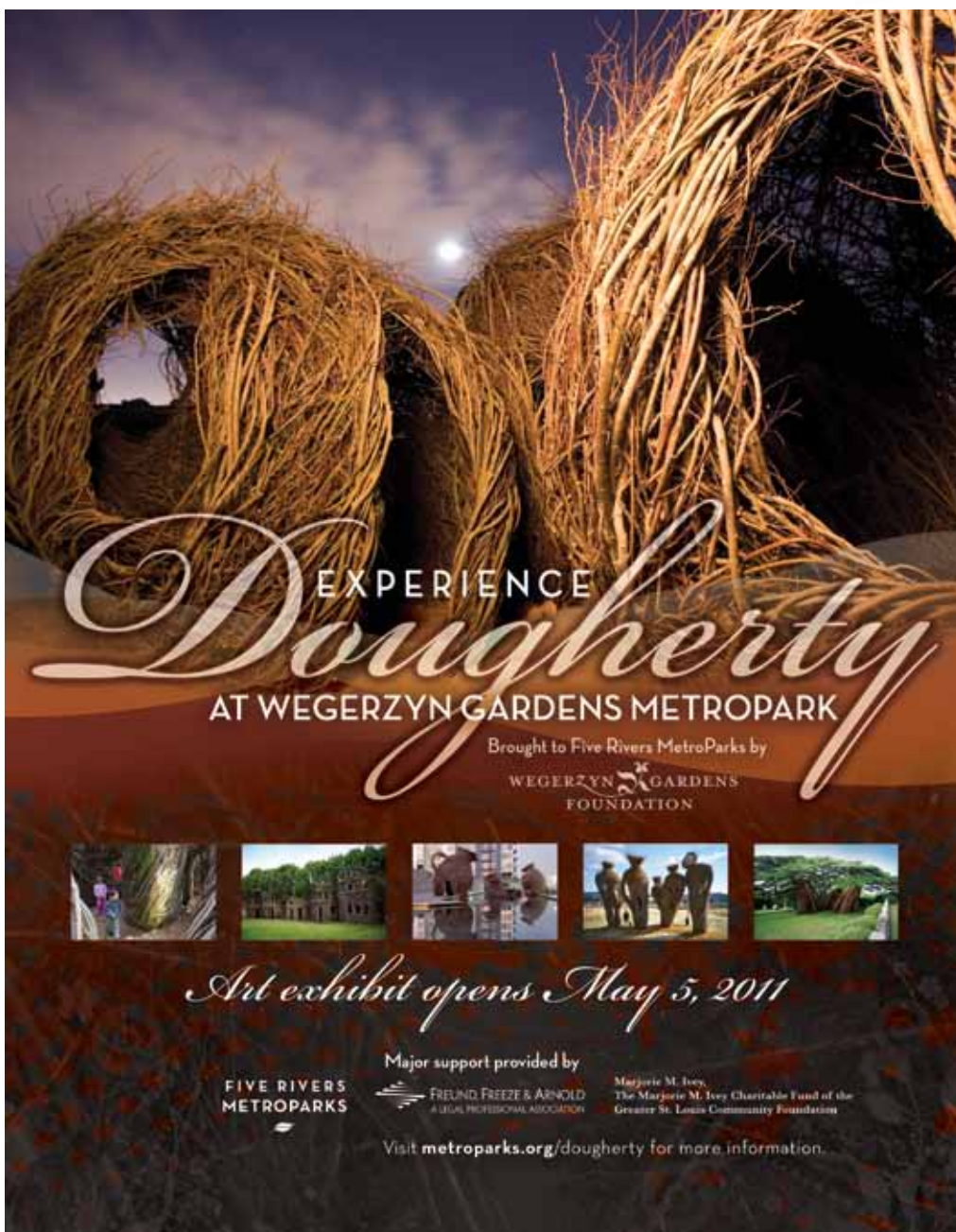


LITTLE BEETLE, BIG PROBLEM

Emerald ash borer, an invasive insect from Asia, is wreaking havoc on North American ash tree populations—including the canopy in your MetroParks! Five Rivers MetroParks is launching an aggressive strategy to combat this insect. Learn more about this beetle, including information about how it got here, what MetroParks is doing, what homeowners can do if they have ash trees, and how area residents can help with reforestation efforts when you visit:


metroparks.org/ash

Read the rest of this issue of *ParkWays* to learn more about invasive species and how you can protect Ohio's natural habitats.



EXPERIENCE
Dougherty
AT WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK

Brought to Five Rivers MetroParks by
WEGERZYN GARDENS
FOUNDATION



Art exhibit opens May 5, 2011

FIVE RIVERS
METROPARKS

Major support provided by
FRELING, FREEZE & ARNOLD
A LEGAL PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Marjorie M. Ivey,
The Marjorie M. Ivey Charitable Fund of the
Greater St. Louis Community Foundation

Visit metroparks.org/dougherty for more information.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS

8 AM-5 PM, MON.-FRI.

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 road 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: Saturdays 1:00pm-4:00pm

Sundays 1:00pm-4:00pm.

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 through S. Dixie Hwy. intersection. A few streets east of there is Hilton Dr. Turn left. Go 5 blocks north through residential area. Turn right onto Stockton Ave. then right onto S. Patterson Blvd. Twin Oak Shelter: 1/4 mile past Stockton on Patterson Blvd.; north of Patterson Monument. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

HUFFMAN METROPARK

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

MoMBA-MetroPark Mountain Bike Area

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

ISLAND METROPARK

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

PNC 2ND STREET MARKET

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

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK

4790 Frytown Road, Dayton. From 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 Ridge 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



DETOURS & CLOSINGS

GET UP-TO-DATE ALERTS AT **METROPARKS.ORG /DETOURS**

TRAIL CONDITIONS

For up-to-date conditions and closures at the following trails, call the number listed:

MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA) Trail Conditions:

(937) 277-4374

Twin Valley Backpacking Trail

(TVT) Conditions: **(937) 274-3163**

BIKEWAY CONSTRUCTION

GREAT MIAMI BIKEWAY

Montgomery County Engineer's Office will be working on a project on the Third Street Bridge this spring. The Great Miami River Bikeway goes below the bridge on both sides of the river, and officials will be making repairs to the bridge decking through July. Workers will hang netting below the bridge to catch any debris from the project, and it is their goal to keep the bikeway open during construction.

SUBFACILITY HOURS

CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY GARDEN SUMMER HOURS

10AM to 8PM June, July and August

Visit **metroparks.org/**

childrensgarden for a link to the summer activities calendar.

BUTTERFLY HOUSE HOURS

10AM to 4PM Mondays through Saturdays. Noon to 4PM Sundays.

Opens June 25, 2011, through Labor Day. Visit **metroparks.org/butterflyhouse** or call (937) 434-9005 for more information.

WATER

Potable water taps, fountains and interactive spraygrounds will be turned back on after the last frost, approximately early to mid May. Hours for interactive spraygrounds at Island, RiverScape and Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks will vary depending on sunset time and interference from other programming taking place at the facility. Call (937) 275-PARK (7275) for details or if this will somehow affect your next visit.

SUSTAINABLE TRAIL PROJECT

Some of your favorite MetroPark hiking trails are about to get even better! Five Rivers MetroParks is undertaking a huge effort to make park hiking trails sustainable. This will improve hiking conditions, reduce harmful water runoff and accommodate more trail users. As of last fall, the southern trails at Taylorsville MetroPark have received upgrades, and work on the northern half is under way. Take a hike and try out the new trails! Visit **metroparks.org/detours** and click on the link for the sustainable trail project to learn more about this initiative.



*Other detours may be in effect or the schedule of a project may have changed by the time ParkWays has been published. For more information, visit the Alerts, Closures and Construction page at **www.metroparks.org**.*



FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS IS PLEASED TO PRESENT **YOUR GUIDE TO SUMMER ACTIVITIES**

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

BY ACTIVITY

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

BY DATE

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

ONLINE

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

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

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

PTN PASSPORT TO NATURE!

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

HOW TO CONTACT A RANGER IN A METROPARK:

Emergency contact: **9-1-1**

Non-emergency contact: **(937) 535-2580**

Inform the Montgomery County Sheriff Office dispatcher you are in a MetroParks facility. A MetroParks Law Enforcement Ranger will be notified and respond to the situation as soon as possible.

EVENTS BY DATE, TIME

WED, JUN 1, 2011

9:00 AM Compost Kitchen: Soil & Soil Health, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 31)
10:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)
10:00 AM Family Arboretum Adventure: Ash CSI, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 36)
2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

THU, JUN 2, 2011

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
10:00 AM Backpacking Babies: Magnificent Trees, Sugar-creek MetroPark (see page 37)
9:00 AM Green Garden Q&A, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)
9:00 AM Volunteer: RiverScape Gardeners, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32)

FRI, JUN 3, 2011

10:00 AM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)
10:00 AM Tike Hike: Nature Play, Englewood MetroPark (see page 37)
5:00 PM Spungewurthy, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

SAT, JUN 4, 2011

8:00 AM 10th Annual African American Wellness Walk, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 48)
8:00 AM Another Dam 50K, Englewood MetroPark (see page 48)
8:30 AM Family Farm Chores, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)
9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Great Miami River Bikeway (N), Recreational Trails (see page 42)
9:00 AM Possum Creek Walkfest, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 48)
9:00 AM Breeding Bird Walk, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 37)
10:00 AM Paddle in the Park, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 46)
10:00 AM Picturing Puddles and Ponds, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 41)
10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)
10:00 AM Summer in the Garden: Best Tomatoes, Peppers, and Beans, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)
11:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)
12:00 PM Leaves Through the Seasons, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)
1:00 PM Feathered Friends, Germantown MetroPark (see page 38)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 44)
8:00 PM Bats at Night, Huffman MetroPark (see page 37)
8:00 PM Hoe Down Square Dance, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 34)

SUN, JUN 5, 2011

8:00 AM Sugarcreek Weekly Trails Runs, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 48)
10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)
12:00 PM While the Sun Shines: Haymaking, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 34)
1:30 PM Possum Creek Hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 44)
7:00 PM Evenings of Inspiration at Aullwood, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 34)

MON, JUN 6, 2011

10:00 AM Butterfly Basics, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 38)
8:00 AM Horse Camps for Teens, Carriage Hill MetroPark

(see page 45)
8:00 AM Horse Camps for Youth, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 45)
2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
10:00 AM Tike Hike: The Beech Forest, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)

TUE, JUN 7, 2011

9:00 AM Construct A Rain Garden, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)
10:00 AM Tuesday Tales: Story Time with Mother Earth, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 40)
4:00 PM Try Mountain Biking! Huffman MetroPark (see page 45)
5:00 PM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

WED, JUN 8, 2011

7:30 AM Bus Tour: Cedar Bog, Westcott House, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)
9:00 AM Compost Kitchen: Backyard Compost, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 31)
10:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)
2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
6:30 PM Sugarcreek 5 Miler, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 48)

THU, JUN 9, 2011

9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 38)
10:00 AM Parent and Preschooler: Green Submarines, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 38)
10:00 AM Tike Hike: Survivor, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 37)
2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
6:00 PM Kayak Basics, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 46)

FRI, JUN 10, 2011

10:00 AM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)
11:30 AM Cookout For Scouting, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)
11:30 AM Grill Cooking, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)
11:30 AM Lunch and Learn: Pest, Plant, and Problem Solving, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)
9:00 PM Fireflies Light up the Night, Englewood MetroPark (see page 38)

SAT, JUN 11, 2011

9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Great Miami Bikeway (S), Recreational Trails (see page 42)
9:00 AM Volunteer: Backpacking Trail Work Days, Germantown MetroPark (see page 42)
9:00 AM Green Garden Q&A, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)
10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)
10:00 AM Summer in the Garden Series: Growing Up, Saving Space, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)
10:00 AM Zumba in the Park, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)
11:00 AM Insect Investigation, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 38)
12:00 PM Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days, Huffman MetroPark (see page 45)
1:00 PM Alternative Horse Power Demo, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)
1:00 PM Nature Fun Kick-Off! Wesleyan MetroPark (see page 38)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 44)
6:00 PM Contemporary Christian Concert, Island MetroPark (see page 47)

SUN, JUN 12, 2011

8:00 AM Sugarcreek Weekly Trails Runs, Sugarcreek

MetroPark (see page 48)
10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)

MON, JUN 13, 2011

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
4:00 PM Try Fly Fishing! Germantown MetroPark (see page 43)

TUE, JUN 14, 2011

9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Englewood MetroPark (see page 38)
1:00 PM Parent and Preschooler: Little Red Hen, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)
5:00 PM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)
6:00 PM Kayak Basics, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 46)

WED, JUN 15, 2011

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Germantown MetroPark (see page 38)
9:00 AM Compost Kitchen: All About the Worms, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 31)
10:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)
3:30 PM Who Will Take Care of the Park? Wesleyan MetroPark (see page 38)

THU, JUN 16, 2011

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

FRI, JUN 17, 2011

10:00 AM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)
8:00 PM An Evening in the Garden: Practical Plants, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33)

SAT, JUN 18, 2011

8:00 AM Friends of Aiden 5K Walk Run, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 48)
8:30 AM Morning Chores on the Farm, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 31)
9:00 AM Wegerzyn Bike Rodeo - For Kids, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 43)
9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Stillwater River Bikeway, Englewood MetroPark (see page 42)
10:00 AM Dougherty Through the Lens, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 41)
10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)
10:00 AM Healthy Picnic Foods, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)
10:00 AM Appreciating Great Gardens Series: Wander Wegerzyn, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33)
10:00 AM Summer in the Garden Series: Looking Down: Mulch and Compost, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)
1:00 PM Jellies, Jams and Preserves, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 35)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Germantown MetroPark (see page 44)
7:00 PM North Country National Scenic Trail Sunset Hike, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 42)
7:30 PM Bonneville (indie rock), RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

SUN, JUN 19, 2011

8:00 AM Sugarcreek Weekly Trails Runs, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 48)
10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)
1:30 PM Learning from the Landscape: Plants for Ohio, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)
7:00 PM Summer Sundays at Aullwood: Drawing the Garden, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 34)

MON, JUN 20, 2011

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens

MetroPark (see page 31)

5:30 PM Youth MTB Race Series, Huffman MetroPark (see page 46)

TUE, JUN 21, 2011

10:00 AM Tuesday Tales: Animals Alive! RiverScape MetroPark (see page 41)

4:00 PM Try Kayaking! Eastwood MetroPark (see page 46)

5:00 PM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

WED, JUN 22, 2011

10:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)

10:00 AM Tike Hike: Live Like a Bee, Germantown MetroPark (see page 37)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

3:30 PM Talk with YOUR Ranger, Wesleyan MetroPark (see page 38)

6:00 PM Green Garden Q&A, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)

THU, JUN 23, 2011

10:00 AM Butterfly Basics, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 38)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

6:00 PM Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days, Huffman MetroPark (see page 45)

7:00 PM Cafe Sci: Stewardship: Motivations and Effective Approaches, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 38)

FRI, JUN 24, 2011

10:00 AM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

5:00 PM 5 For The Kids 5K, Recreational Trails (see pg 48)

SAT, JUN 25, 2011

10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)

9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Mad River Bikeway, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 42)

8:00 AM Dayton Dash for Cash 1 Miller, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 49)

11:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 36)

9:00 PM Fireflies Light up the Night, Sugar creek MetroPark (see page 38)

7:30 PM Kick-n-Flava (R&B), RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 44)

10:00 AM Summer in the Garden Series: More Produce Through the Season, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)

SUN, JUN 26, 2011

8:00 AM Sugarcreek Weekly Trails Runs, Sugar creek MetroPark (see page 48)

10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)

1:00 PM Herpetology, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 39)

MON, JUN 27, 2011

10:00 AM Try Kayaking (WPAFB), Off Site (see page 46)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

TUE, JUN 28, 2011

9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 38)

9:00 AM, 11:30 AM Stroller Strut: Bugaboo Bug, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 39)

10:00 AM Tike Hike: Woodpecker Watch, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 37)

5:00 PM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

6:00 PM Gardening for Wildlife, Off Site (see page 34)

WED, JUN 29, 2011

10:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see

page 36)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

3:30 PM Exploring Nature, Wesleyan MetroPark (see page 39)

THU, JUN 30, 2011

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

5:30 PM Fundamentals of Moving Water, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 46)

FRI, JUL 1, 2011

10:00 AM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

10:00 AM Family Arboretum Adventure: ELG Journal, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 36)

5:30 PM Cityfolk Festival, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 49)

6:00 PM MoMBA Freedom Ride, Huffman MetroPark (see page 46)

SAT, JUL 2, 2011

8:30 AM Family Farm Chores, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)

9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Great Miami River Bikeway (S), Recreational Trails (see page 42)

10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)

11:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)

1:00 PM Family Creek Fun, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 39)

1:30 PM Cityfolk Festival, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 49)

2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 44)

8:00 PM All About Owls, Englewood MetroPark (see pg 39)

SUN, JUL 3, 2011

8:00 AM Sugarcreek Weekly Trails Runs, Sugar creek MetroPark (see page 48)

10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)

12:00 PM A Grand Old Independence Day, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 34)

1:00 PM Cityfolk Festival, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 49)

TUE, JUL 5, 2011

5:00 PM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

10:00 AM Tuesday Tales: ABC Animals of American Sign Language, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 41)

WED, JUL 6, 2011

10:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

3:30 PM Camping in YOUR MetroParks, Wesleyan MetroPark (see page 42)

7:00 PM Environmental Film Series: The Suzuki Diaries, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 34)

THU, JUL 7, 2011

10:00 AM Backpacking Babies: Mini Creatures, Sugar creek MetroPark (see page 37)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

4:00 PM Try Fly Fishing! Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 43)

6:00 PM Green Garden Q&A, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)

7:30 PM Big Band Nights: Pam Noah and Her Big Band, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

FRI, JUL 8, 2011

10:00 AM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

10:00 AM Teen Adventure Wilderness Camp, Twin Creek

MetroPark (see page 46)

SAT, JUL 9, 2011

9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Creekside Bikeway, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 43)

9:00 AM Volunteer: Backpacking Trail Work Days, Germantown MetroPark (see page 42)

10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)

10:00 AM An Herbal Picnic, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 35)

10:00 AM The Importance of Grains, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)

12:00 PM Make Your Own Salsa, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)

12:00 PM Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days, Huffman MetroPark (see page 45)

2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Englewood MetroPark (see page 44)

7:30 PM The Fries Band (oldies), RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

SUN, JUL 10, 2011

8:00 AM Sugarcreek Weekly Trails Runs, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 48)

10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)

12:00 PM Grain Threshing, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 35)

2:00 PM Butterfly Safari, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 39)

MON, JUL 11, 2011

10:00 AM Tike Hike: Nature Play, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 37)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

TUE, JUL 12, 2011

9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Englewood MetroPark (see page 38)

9:00 AM Green Garden Q&A, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)

11:30 AM Lunch and Learn: Flower Power, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

1:00 PM Parent & Preschooler: Ernest the Donkey, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)

5:00 PM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

WED, JUL 13, 2011

7:00 AM Bus Tour: Adena and Franklin Conservatory, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33)

10:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)

10:00 AM Teen Adventure Mountain Bike Camp, Huffman MetroPark (see page 46)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

3:30 PM Safe Bike Riding at YOUR MetroParks, Wesleyan MetroPark (see page 43)

4:00 PM Try Mountain Biking! Huffman MetroPark (see page 45)

7:00 PM Carriage Hill 5K, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 49)

THU, JUL 14, 2011

9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 38)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

6:00 PM In the Garden: Pest ID & Control, Off Site (see page 34)

7:30 PM Big Band Nights: Eddie Brookshire Orchestra, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

FRI, JUL 15, 2011

10:00 AM Teen Adventure Kayaking Camp, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 46)

10:00 AM Tike Hike: Butterflies and Moths, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 37)

10:00 AM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)
11:30 AM Pasta Making for Kids, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)

SAT, JUL 16, 2011

8:30 AM Morning Chores on the Farm, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 31)
9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Stillwater River Bikeway (C), Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 43)
10:00 AM Dougherty Up Close, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 41)
10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)
10:00 AM Zumba in the Park, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)
12:00 PM Trees as an Art Medium, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)
1:00 PM Ordovician Beach Party, Germantown MetroPark (see page 39)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 44)
5:00 PM Prairie Serenade: Old Time Country Music, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 49)
7:30 PM Son del Caribe (salsa/latin), RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

SUN, JUL 17, 2011

8:00 AM Sugarcreek Weekly Trails Runs, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 48)
10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)
1:30 PM Learning from the Landscape: Great Garden Practices, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)
1:30 PM Taylorsville Hike with Metro Dayton Hikers, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 44)
3:00 PM Drawing in the Garden, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 35)

MON, JUL 18, 2011

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
5:30 PM Youth MTB Race Series, Huffman MetroPark (see page 46)

TUE, JUL 19, 2011

10:00 AM Tuesday Tales: Tales of Flight with the Brothers Wright, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 41)
5:00 PM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)
6:00 PM Intro to Kayaking, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 46)

WED, JUL 20, 2011

9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Germantown MetroPark (see page 38)
10:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)
10:00 AM Tike Hike: Streamology, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)
1:00 PM Eureka Lab! Moth Detectives, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 39)
2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
3:30 PM Giant Kickball Game, Wesleyan MetroPark (see page 41)
3:00 PM Taylorsville Walkfest, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 49)
4:00 PM Englewood 5K, Englewood MetroPark (see pg 49)

THU, JUL 21, 2011

10:00 AM Tike Hike: Fascinating Feathers, Germantown MetroPark (see page 37)
2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
7:30 PM Big Band Nights: Tom Daugherty Orchestra, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

FRI, JUL 22, 2011

10:00 AM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

SAT, JUL 23, 2011

9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Great Miami River Bikeway (S), Recreational Trails (see page 42)
9:00 AM Green Garden Q&A, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)
10:00 AM Appreciating Great Gardens Series: Small, Great Getaways, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33)
10:00 AM Creative Use of Flash, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 41)
10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)
11:00 AM Nature Play, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see pg 39)
11:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 36)
1:00 PM Freezing Your Harvest, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 35)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 44)
2:00 PM Microscope Madness, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 39)
7:30 PM The Ark Band (reggae), RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

SUN, JUL 24, 2011

8:00 AM Sugarcreek Weekly Trails Runs, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 48)
10:00 AM Weekend Horseback/Pony Riding, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)
7:00 PM Evening of Inspiration, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 34)
2:00 PM Butterfly Safari, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 39)

MON, JUL 25, 2011

10:00 AM Try Kayaking (WPAFB), Off Site (see page 46)
2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

TUE, JUL 26, 2011

9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 38)
9:00 AM, 11:30 AM Stroller Strut: Everything Grows, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 39)
10:00 AM Tike Hike: Tree Houses, Englewood MetroPark (see page 37)
5:00 PM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

WED, JUL 27, 2011

10:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)
10:00 AM Teen Adventure Kayaking Camp, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 46)
2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
3:30 PM Knee Deep in Wolf Creek, Wesleyan MetroPark (see page 40)

THU, JUL 28, 2011

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
7:00 PM Cafe Sci: Working toward a Greater Ohio, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 38)
7:30 PM Big Band Nights: Dayton Jazz Orchestra, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

FRI, JUL 29, 2011

10:00 AM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)
6:00 PM Dayton Celtic Festival, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 49)
7:00 PM Free Shakespeare! Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 47)
8:30 PM Discover Bats and Moths, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 40)

SAT, JUL 30, 2011

8:00 AM Cowan Lake Kayak Touring Trip, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 47)
9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Wolf Creek Bikeway

(West), Recreational Trails (see page 43)

9:00 AM In the Garden: Community Garden Bike/Walk-Tour, Off Site (see page 34)
9:00 AM Kids Day at the Market, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 48)
10:00 AM Appreciating Great Gardens Series: Possum Creek Prairie, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33)
12:00 PM Dayton Celtic Festival, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 49)
4:00 PM Dayton Celtic Festival 5K Run/Walk, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 49)
2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)

SUN, JUL 31, 2011

8:00 AM Sugarcreek Weekly Trails Runs, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 48)
9:00 AM Dayton Celtic Festival, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 49)
10:30 AM Dayton Celtic Festival Bike Ride, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)
9:00 AM Dayton Celtic Festival Breakfast, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 48)
1:00 PM Free Shakespeare, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 47)
2:00 PM Butterfly Safari, Germantown MetroPark (see page 39)

MON, AUG 1, 2011

10:00 AM Family Arboretum Adventure: Sundial Science, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 36)
2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
6:30 PM Intro to Fly Fishing, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 43)

TUE, AUG 2, 2011

10:00 AM Tuesday Tales: Animals Alive! RiverScape MetroPark (see page 41)
5:00 PM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)
6:00 PM Volunteer: Master Silviculturist Course, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 34)
7:00 PM Possum Creek 5K Trail Run, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 49)

WED, AUG 3, 2011

10:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)
2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
7:00 PM Environmental Film Series: Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 34)

THU, AUG 4, 2011

10:00 AM Backpacking Babies: Babbling Brook, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)
10:00 AM Try Kayaking (WPAFB), Off Site (see page 46)
2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)
6:00 PM Green Garden Q&A, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)
7:30 PM Big Band Nights: Swing Era Big Band, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

FRI, AUG 5, 2011

10:00 AM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)
5:00 PM Blind Karma, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)
8:00 PM An Evening in the Garden: Plan Bee, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33)
8:00 PM Stars and Meteors, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 40)

SAT, AUG 6, 2011

9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Stillwater River Bikeway (C), Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 43)
9:00 AM British Car Day 2010, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 48)
11:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)

8:30 AM Family Farm Chores, Possum Creek MetroPark

(see page 31)

10:00 AM Harvesting and Storing Herbs, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 35)

2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 44)

1:00 PM Pickling, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 35)

1:00 PM Family Birding Fun, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 40)

10:00 AM Twig Furniture Building Demo, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)

SUN, AUG 7, 2011

8:00 AM Sugarcreek Weekly Trails Runs, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 48)

1:30 PM Carriage Hill Hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)

2:00 PM Butterfly Safari, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 39)

MON, AUG 8, 2011

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

4:00 PM Try Mountain Biking! Huffman MetroPark (see page 45)

TUE, AUG 9, 2011

8:30 AM Market Farm Visits, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 31)

9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Englewood MetroPark (see page 36)

10:00 AM Tike Hike: Pondology, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 37)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

5:00 PM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

WED, AUG 10, 2011

8:00 AM Wilderness First Aid, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 46)

9:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)

4:00 PM Try Kayaking! Eastwood MetroPark (see page 46)

THU, AUG 11, 2011

8:00 AM Wilderness First Aid, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 46)

9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 38)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

5:00 PM North Country Trail Conference, Off Site (see page 42)

7:00 PM 4,700 miles around Alaska and Yukon, Off Site (see page 42)

7:30 PM Big Band Nights: Hal Harris Orchestra, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

FRI, AUG 12, 2011

10:00 AM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

10:00 AM Tike Hike: Silent Fliers, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 37)

SAT, AUG 13, 2011

9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Stillwater River Bikeway, Recreational Trails (see page 42)

9:00 AM Volunteer: Backpacking Trail Work Days, Germantown MetroPark (see page 42)

10:00 AM In the Garden: Simple Season Extension Techniques, Off Site (see page 34)

12:00 PM Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days, Huffman MetroPark (see page 45)

1:00 PM Nature Play, Englewood MetroPark (see page 39)

2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Huffman MetroPark (see page 44)

6:00 PM An Evening of R&B at the Island, Island MetroPark (see page 48)

8:00 PM Dougherty Under the Moon, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 41)

SUN, AUG 14, 2011

8:00 AM Sugarcreek Weekly Trails Runs, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 48)

3:00 PM Drawing in the Garden: August, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 35)

12:00 PM Grain Threshing, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 35)

MON, AUG 15, 2011

9:30 AM Children's Tour Guide Workshop Series: Fall is Fabulous! Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 40)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

5:30 PM Youth MTB Race Series, Huffman MetroPark (see page 46)

TUE, AUG 16, 2011

5:00 PM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

1:00 PM Parent and Preschooler: Walk Like a Duck, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)

10:00 AM Tuesday Tales: The Goods on the Woods, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 41)

WED, AUG 17, 2011

9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Germantown MetroPark (see page 38)

10:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)

10:00 AM Tike Hike: Salamander Search, Englewood MetroPark (see page 37)

11:30 AM Lunch and Learn: Fresh From the Garden, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

THU, AUG 18, 2011

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

6:00 PM Volunteer: Street Team Training, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 42)

7:30 PM Big Band Nights: Bob Gray Orchestra, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

FRI, AUG 19, 2011

10:00 AM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

6:00 PM Teen Music Slam, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 48)

SAT, AUG 20, 2011

8:30 AM Morning Chores on the Farm, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 31)

9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Great Miami River Bikeway (S), Recreational Trails (see page 42)

9:00 AM Green Garden Q&A, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)

9:00 AM Fly Fishing Basics, Germantown MetroPark (see page 44)

10:00 AM Giddy Up, Possum Creek MetroPark (see pg 31)

10:00 AM Shooting Outdoor Portraits, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 41)

10:00 AM Zumba in the Park, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)

1:00 PM Eureka Lab! Herbalicious, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 39)

2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 44)

8:00 PM Night Hike, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 40)

8:00 PM Hoe Down Square Dance, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 34)

SUN, AUG 21, 2011

8:00 AM Sugarcreek Weekly Trails Runs, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 48)

1:30 PM Eastwood Hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 44)

1:30 PM Learning from the Landscape: Habitat Gardens, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

2:00 PM Woodpecker Safari, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 40)

7:00 PM Evening of Inspiration, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 34)

MON, AUG 22, 2011

9:30 AM Children's Tour Guide Workshop Series: Tree Trek to Englewood, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 40)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

6:00 PM Kayak Basics, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 46)

TUE, AUG 23, 2011

9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 38)

5:00 PM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

9:00 AM, 11:00 AM Stroller Strut: Great and Glorious Grasses, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 39)

WED, AUG 24, 2011

9:00 AM Green Garden Q&A, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)

10:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

THU, AUG 25, 2011

10:00 AM Tike Hike: Super Cedars, Germantown MetroPark (see page 37)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

6:00 PM Intro to Smart Cycling, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 43)

7:00 PM Cafe Sci, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see pg 38)

7:30 PM Big Band Nights: Kim Kelly Orchestra, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

FRI, AUG 26, 2011

10:00 AM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

6:00 PM Women's Wellness Night, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 49)

SAT, AUG 27, 2011

9:00 AM Bike for the Health of It: Great Miami River Bikeway (N), Recreational Trails (see page 42)

9:00 AM Smart Cycling Basics, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 43)

11:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 36)

12:00 PM Dayton African American Cultural Festival, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 49)

2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Eastwood MetroPark (see page 44)

2:00 PM Habitrekking, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see pg 40)

8:00 PM Beaver Search, Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 40)

SUN, AUG 28, 2011

8:00 AM Sugarcreek Weekly Trails Runs, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 48)

12:00 PM 7th Annual Antioch Shrine Custom Car & Bike Show, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 48)

2:00 PM Fossil Hunt, Germantown MetroPark (see pg 40)

MON, AUG 29, 2011

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

10:00 AM Tike Hike: Prairie Safari, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)

TUE, AUG 30, 2011

5:00 PM Blossom Buggy Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

6:00 PM Kay Roll Lessons, Eastwood MetroPark (see pg 47)

WED, AUG 31, 2011

10:00 AM Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)

2:00 PM Ongoing: What's New at 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)



EDUCATION

FARMING

(FREE) FAMILY FARM CHORES

SAT, JUN 4, 8:30 AM-10:30 AM 6886

SAT, JUL 2, 8:30 AM-10:30 AM 6887

SAT, AUG 6, 8:30 AM-10:30 AM 6888

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. Meet at farmhouse. Reservations required and limited starting three weeks prior. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 6Y and up.

(FREE) ALTERNATIVE HORSE POWER DEMO

SAT, JUN 11, 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Rediscover real horsepower and learn why animal power still has a place on modern sustainable farms. Try your hand at cultivating with a draft horse and the farmers as we cultivate our pumpkin field. Ongoing hands-on demonstration. Weather dependent. Meet at demonstration fields. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 6Y and up. **6880**

(FREE) PARENT & PRESCHOOLER: SUSTAINABLE FARM PROGRAMS

LITTLE RED HEN

TUE, JUN 14, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Have fun learning about the chickens at Possum Creek MetroPark. We will read "The Little Red Hen," do a craft, have a tasty treat made from our very own chickens' eggs, and we will visit our chickens at the coop. Reservations required and limited, beginning June 1; call (937) 276-7062. Age: 3Y - 6Y. **6862**

ERNEST THE DONKEY

TUE, JUL 12, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.

We will learn about what donkeys do for farmers. There will be a book about Ernest the donkey, a craft and a trip to the barn to meet Possum Creek MetroPark's little donkey! Reservations required and limited, beginning July 1; call (937) 276-7062. Age: 3Y - 6Y. **6863**

WALK LIKE A DUCK

TUE, AUG 16, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education

Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd. Enjoy learning about the ducks on the farm. We will read a book, do a cool duck craft, and then visit Possum Creek MetroPark's ducks at the pond. Reservations required and limited, beginning August 1; call (937) 276-7062. Age: 3Y - 6Y. **6864**


(FREE) MORNING CHORES ON THE FARM

SAT, JUN 18, 8:30 AM-10:00 AM 6983

SAT, JUL 16, 8:30 AM-10:00 AM 6984

SAT, AUG 20, 8:30 AM-10:00 AM 6985

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 or register online. Age: 6Y - 18Y. 

(FREE) THE IMPORTANCE OF GRAINS

SAT, JUL 9, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Learn about "cereal grains" and how they play an important part in the world-wide relief of hunger. Try your hand at making homemade pasta. Enjoy samples of the different grains. If you enjoyed this program, make your way to Carriage Hill MetroPark, Sunday, July 10, for "Grain Threshing" from noon to 5:00 PM. Reservations required and limited, beginning July 1; call (937) 276-7062. Age: 6Y - 16Y. **6878**

(FREE) MARKET FARM VISITS

TUE, AUG 9, 8:30 AM-12:00 PM

PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.

Visit two organic farms where Market products are grown. Registrants will meet at the Market and caravan to Centerville to visit Michael Malone at Hungry Toad Farm. Then it is on to Mile Creek Farm in New Lebanon to visit Ben and Emily Jackle. A great opportunity to visit the farm where your food is grown and meet the farmers. Registration required; call (937) 228-2088 or register online. **6925** 

(FREE) GIDDY UP

SAT, AUG 20, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Learn about the different kinds of horses, what kinds of jobs they do and what it takes to own your own horse. Meet Rosie, Possum Creek MetroPark's draft horse, and learn about some of the chores she does on the

sustainable farm. Reservations required and limited, beginning August 1; call (937) 276-7062. Want to learn more? Visit Carriage Hill MetroPark August 27-28 for Draft Horse Days to see these big horses in action! Age: 7Y - 16Y. **6879**

GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

(FREE) ONGOING: WHAT'S NEW AT 2

MONDAYS, JUN 6 - AUG 29 6682

WEDNESDAYS, JUN 1 - AUG 31 6684

THURSDAYS, JUN 9 - AUG 25 6685

2:00 PM- 2:45 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Childrens Discovery Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Explore the Children's Discovery Garden with our staff and volunteers to learn about plants and nature through games, stories and hands-on experiences. This program is offered Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays June 1 through Aug. 31. The garden changes throughout the summer and so do the fun-filled activities. Visit the website metroparks.org/ChildrensGarden and click the link to the Summer Activity Schedule for the daily listings. No reservations required. Activities are weather dependent.

(FREE) COMPOST KITCHEN SERIES:

Compost can be the winning ingredient for a successful garden. Classes can be taken individually or as a series. Those completing all three classes will receive a certificate for a free composter from Montgomery County Solid Waste District. **Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005.**

SOIL & SOIL HEALTH

WED, JUN 1, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Learn about soil health, and what nutrients are essential for growing plants. Age: 18Y and up. **6799**

BACKYARD COMPOST

WED, JUN 8, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Learn how to monitor your compost pile with Marvin Duren, owner of Marvin's Organic Gardens, Age: 18Y and up. **6800**

ALL ABOUT THE WORMS

WED, JUN 15, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,

MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn about worm composting and how to set up a system for your home. Age: 18Y and up. **6801**

(FREE) GREEN GARDEN Q&A

THU, JUN 2, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM 7011
SAT, JUN 11, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM 7014
WED, JUN 22, 6:00 PM- 7:00 PM 7013
THU, JUL 7, 6:00 PM- 7:00 PM 7017
TUE, JUL 12, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM 7016
SAT, JUL 23, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM 7015
THU, AUG 4, 6:00 PM- 7:00 PM 7018
SAT, AUG 20, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM 7019
WED, AUG 24, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM 7020
7020 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Community Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Green gardening is about growing your own food—fresh, flavorful and pesticide-free. Green Gardener volunteers at the Sustainable Garden Classroom share their knowledge and experience with you and answer your gardening questions. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. For details, call (937) 277-6545. 📞

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: RIVERSCAPE GARDENERS

THU, JUN 2 - TUE, JUL 26, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave. We are looking for volunteers to assist with gardening tasks at RiverScape MetroParks' spectacular gardens on Mondays, Tuesdays Thursdays and Fridays from 9-11 am. Learn how to plant, prune and care for a wide variety of plants from experts and make friends too! For more information contact Bob Butts at (937) 276-7055 or email bbutts@metroparks.org. Age: 18Y and up. **6991**

(FREE) BLOSSOM BUGGY TOURS

FRI, JUN 3, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6819
TUE, JUN 7, 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6793
FRI, JUN 10, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6820
TUE, JUN 14, 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6794
FRI, JUN 17, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6821
TUE, JUN 21, 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6795
FRI, JUN 24, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6822
TUE, JUN 28, 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6796
FRI, JUL 1, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6824
TUE, JUL 5, 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6797
FRI, JUL 8, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6825
TUE, JUL 12, 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6817
FRI, JUL 15, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6826
TUE, JUL 19, 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6810
FRI, JUL 22, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6827
TUE, JUL 26, 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6811

FRI, JUL 29, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6828
TUE, AUG 2, 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6813
FRI, AUG 5, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6829
TUE, AUG 9, 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6814
FRI, AUG 12, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6832
TUE, AUG 16, 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6815
FRI, AUG 19, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6830
TUE, AUG 23, 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6816
FRI, AUG 26, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6833
TUE, AUG 30, 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6798
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk. Join us for guided tram tours of the Arboretum on Friday mornings starting at 10 am or Tuesday evenings starting at 5 p.m. These tours will last approximately half an hour. Organized groups are asked to register in advance; individual walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 for more information or to register your group.

(FREE) LEAVES THROUGH THE SEASONS

SAT, JUN 4, 12:00 PM- 1:30 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. As Dougherty has built his sculpture from willow saplings, we will examine how leaves grow on trees, their functions, and they look in the early summer. A fun, new way to see the wonderful leaves of Wegerzyn. We'll meet in the parking lot. Registration is requested and walk-ins welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545 or register online. **6837** 📞

(FREE) SUMMER IN THE GARDEN SERIES:

This series is designed to make your time in the garden more productive, your harvest bigger, and your garden experience the best ever! Attend one or all four classes. Reservations are requested, walk-ins welcome; call (937) 277-6545 or register online.

BEST TOMATOES, PEPPERS, AND BEANS

SAT, JUN 4, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Learn to make the best choices of these backbone plants of every vegetable garden. We'll talk about old and new varieties, how to choose plants for your garden, and ones that will keep producing successfully throughout the seasons. **6791** 📞

GROWING UP, SAVING SPACE
SAT, JUN 11 - SUN, JUN 12, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Want to garden but don't have lots of space? This class is for you! Learn to grow crops vertically to maximize time and space. We'll also talk about interplanting and other innovative ways to grow vegetables. **6792** 📞

LOOKING DOWN: MULCH AND COMPOST

SAT, JUN 18, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Park, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Plants love good soil, good food and the right amount of water. Learn about mulches, compost and the best way to keep your plants healthy through the season. **6809** 📞

MORE PRODUCE THROUGH THE SEASON

SAT, JUN 25, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Learn how to make your garden work for you from spring through fall! Succession and seasonal planting will combine maturing plants with new ones to keep your garden going and growing. **6812** 📞

CONSTRUCT A RAIN GARDEN

TUE, JUN 7, 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM
TUE, JUN 14, 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Eric Sauer of CYP Studios will lead this two-day workshop. The first session examines various techniques of low impact design including green roofs, rain gardens and permeable pavements. It will include developing a final design for the proposed rain garden and permeable paver area. Minimum 10 participants required. Fee: \$25/Foundation member; \$35/non-member; required with registration. Make checks payable to Five Rivers MetroParks. Lunch is included. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$35 **6857** 📞

WEGERZYN BUS TOURS:

Join your friends from Wegerzyn Garden MetroPark for a tour of flora throughout the region. Reservations are required for all trips. Make checks payable to Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation. For more information or to register, please call (937) 277-6545.

CEDAR BOG, WESTCOTT HOUSE

WED, JUN 8, 7:30 AM- 4:30 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium Front (joint facility), 1301 East

Siebenthaler Ave.

Today, we'll take a walking tour of Cedar Bog Nature Preserve, a unique geological fen created 10,000-15,000 years ago. We'll have lunch at Catfish Jones in Urbana, then continue to Springfield for a guided tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright/Westcott House.

Reservations are required and due by May 6. Fees: \$56 **6850**

ADENA AND FRANKLIN CONSERVATORY

WED, JUL 13, 7:00 AM- 6:00 PM

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

Join us as we travel to Chillicothe for a tour of the Adena Mansion and Gardens, home of the sixth governor of Ohio. We'll stop at the Hirsch Fruit Farm Market to shop for local produce, and then lunch in Columbus at the Black Creek Bistro, which uses locally grown produce.

Next we'll tour the Community Garden Campus at the Franklin Conservatory.

Reservations are due by June 10. Fees: \$58 **6854**

TOLEDO

FRI, SEP 9, 6:30 AM- 6:30 PM

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

Docents will lead us through several of the gardens at the Toledo Botanical Garden, including one of the best hosta collections in the US. Next we'll go to Providence Metropark where we'll enjoy a picnic lunch on the grounds followed by a ride on a mule-drawn canal boat down the Miami & Erie Canal. **Reservations are required and due by August 9.** Fees: \$79 **6855**

(FREE) LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES:

Enjoy speakers who will give new meaning to the term "power gardening" during this popular brown bag lunch series.

Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005 or register online.

PEST, PLANT, AND PROBLEM SOLVING

FRI, JUN 10, 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. "Friend, foe or nuisance" is sometimes a fuzzy line gardeners must draw to help manage their garden tasks. This class will take an organic approach to pest, weed, and disease problems sometimes found in your garden. Age: 18Y and up. **6805** 🍷

FLOWER POWER

TUE, JUL 12, 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Edible Landscape Pavilion, 6733 Springboro Pk. Selecting, creating continued interest, when & how to prune, and a more organic way to gardening will be discussed. Dress comfortably and bring your pruners, because part of this class will be hands on. Age: 18Y and up. **6806** 🍷

FRESH FROM THE GARDEN

WED, AUG 17, 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Learn how to make things from the garden, including garden-fresh foods, and take home some of the ingredients harvested from our Edible Landscape Garden. Program is free, but please bring a dish to share. Age: 18Y and up. **6807** 🍷

(FREE) AN EVENING IN THE

GARDEN SERIES:

Bring the whole family for this opportunity to see the gardens after hours. Volunteers will be stationed throughout the garden with activities. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Reservations requested, drop-ins welcome. Weather permitting; call (937) 277-6545 ext. 1611.

PRACTICAL PLANTS

FRI, JUN 17, 8:00 PM- 9:30 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Childrens Discovery Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Learn about local flora at this special event. Volunteers will have stations to teach you all about plants and their uses. **PTN 6671** 🍷

PLAN BEE

FRI, AUG 5, 8:00 PM- 9:30 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Childrens Discovery Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Did you know bees play an important role in helping flowers, fruits and vegetables grow? Learn about these pollinators at various activity stations. **PTN 6672** 🍷

(FREE) APPRECIATING GREAT

GARDENS SERIES:

Whether looking at formal gardens, natural settings, or creating your own back yard getaway, this series will provide fun and inspiration! Reservations are requested and walk-ins welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545 for information or register online.

WANDER WEGERZYN

SAT, JUN 18, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Summer is always beautiful at Wegerzyn, so join us for a tour of the formal and children's gardens, as well as a look at the new Sustainable Garden Classroom in the community gardens. Get great ideas and inspiration for your own landscape. **6818** 🍷

SMALL, GREAT GETAWAYS

SAT, JUL 23, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Finding a perfect place to relax can be as close as your own back yard. Dick Amann, Siebenthaler landscape designer, will talk about creating a beautiful, easy to maintain spot, season to season, year to year. **6823** 🍷

POSSUM CREEK PRAIRIE

SAT, JUL 30, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Parking Lot, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Join us for a wonderful summer's morning as MetroParks' Conservation Director Dave Nolin leads us on an information-filled tour of the Possum Creek Prairie. We'll meet at Wegerzyn and go in vans to the site. **6831**

(FREE) LEARNING FROM THE LANDSCAPE SERIES:

This is a "walk and talk" program on the third Sunday through September. Seasonal topics will be discussed within the Arboretum's landscape. Dress appropriately for the weather as these will be outdoor walking tours. Reservations requested; call (937) 434-9005 or register online.

PLANTS FOR OHIO

SUN, JUN 19, 1:30 PM- 3:30 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Learn about plants that adapt well to our Ohio soils and seasons. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y & up. **6802** 🍷

GREAT GARDEN PRACTICES

SUN, JUL 17, 1:30 PM- 3:30 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Novice and veteran gardeners will learn how to use design, seasonal maintenance practices and proven plants for maximum impact. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up. **6803** 🍷

HABITAT GARDENS

SUN, AUG 21, 1:30 PM- 3:30 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Learn basic concepts in attracting wildlife to

your garden. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up. **6804** 📞

(FREE) GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE **TUE, JUN 28, 6:00 PM- 7:00 PM**

OFF SITE, CountyCorp Model Home, 5870 Beth Road, Huber Heights

How can you support wildlife through landscaping? Experienced gardeners and MetroParkers walk you through the basics. Also explore the rain garden—which incorporates native plants in order to attract and sustain wildlife—at CountyCorp's green rebuilt model home. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 for details or register online. **6856** 📞

(FREE) IN THE GARDEN SERIES:

Get hands-on experience and gardening tips with seasoned gardeners and MetroParks staff at one of the Grow With Your Neighbors community gardens. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. For more information or to register, call (937) 277-6545 or register online.

PEST ID & CONTROL

THU, JUL 14, 6:00 PM- 7:00 PM

OFF SITE, Trotwood Community Gardens, Contact Us for Map

Learn to identify common vegetable garden pests, how to fight them off organically, and basics of attracting the good bugs. Trotwood CG located just south of 118 S. Broadway, 45426. Age: 18Y and up. **6773** 📞

COMMUNITY GARDEN BIKE/ WALK TOUR

SAT, JUL 30, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

OFF SITE, Community Gardens, Contact Us for Map

Tour guides will lead you to Dayton-area community gardens on foot or bike. Concurrent tours will run through Dayton. Join a tour or drive the circuit yourself. Reservations requested, walk (and bike)-ins welcome. For details, starting locations, or a route map, call (937) 277-6545. Age: 18Y and up. **6779** 📞

SIMPLE SEASON EXTENSION TECHNIQUES

SAT, AUG 13, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

OFF SITE, Manhattan Community Gardens, Contact Us for Map

Learn some simple (and cheap) methods you can use to grow fresh vegetables past the frost date. Manhattan CG, 900 Manhattan Ave, 45406. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up. **6774** 📞

VOLUNTEER: MASTER SILVICULTURIST COURSE

TUE, AUG 2 - TUE, SEP 13, 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Learn about the forest types of the Miami Valley, invasive species impacting our forests, propagation of native trees and shrubs and techniques for successful reforestation. Students will gain hands-on experience through volunteer service projects, including propagating seedlings to restore damaged woods, planting native trees and shrubs and leading other volunteers propagation and planting projects. Requires 25 hours of volunteer service. Contact Kevin Kepler at (937) 275-PARK (7275) Ext. 1212 for more information. Fees: \$25 **7060**

GREEN LIVING

(FREE) ENVIRONMENTAL FILM SERIES:

Join us for our fifth season of film and discussion: the 2011 Environmental Film Series. Films are shown on the first Wednesday of the month. Enjoy free popcorn and refreshments during the film. Stay afterward to share your insight and observations with others during open discussion. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online.

THE SUZUKI DIARIES

WED, JUL 6, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Geneticist and science broadcaster, David Suzuki, host of CBC's *The Nature of Things*, has been warning television audiences around the world about the dangers of taking nature for granted. This film takes a different path following Suzuki and his youngest daughter, Sarika, as they travel to Europe to explore what a sustainable future might look like, and to see if two different generations can find reason for hope. Film length: 45 minutes. Age: 14Y and up. **6881** 📞

WILD PARROTS OF TELEGRAPH HILL

WED, AUG 3, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. This remarkable movie is the true story of a Bohemian St. Francis and his remarkable relationship with a flock of wild red-and-green parrots. Mark Bittner, a former street

musician in San Francisco, falls in with the flock as he searches for meaning in his life, unaware that the wild parrots will bring him everything he needs. Film length: 83 minutes. Age: 14Y and up. **6882** 📞

HERITAGE & HISTORY

(FREE) HOE DOWN SQUARE DANCE

SAT, JUN 4, 8:00 PM-10:30 PM 6976

SAT, AUG 20, 8:00 PM-10:30 PM 6977
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

Join us for a square dance in our historic barn. Listen to the sounds of The Corndrinkers as they walk you through the steps. Admission is free. For more information, call (937) 278-2609.

(FREE) WHILE THE SUN SHINES: HAYMAKING

SUN, JUN 5, 12:00 PM- 5:00 PM

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

The farmer makes hay 19th Century style when loose hay is loaded on the wagon and taken to the barn. The hay fork slides along its track, drops to the wagon and carries great loads to the loft. Demonstrations will be ongoing throughout the day. For more information, call (937) 278-2609. **6978**

(FREE) EVENINGS OF INSPIRATION AT AULLWOOD

SUN, JUN 5, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM 6967

SUN, JUL 24, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM 6968

SUN, AUG 21, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM 6969
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Garden Parking lot, 955 Aullwood Road

Join us for a series of evening house and garden tours at Aullwood Garden MetroPark. Learn about the house and its history, as well as the Aull family, but also learn the environmental significance of the property and its continuing contribution to the environmental stability of the area. Registrations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. We'll meet at the parking lot. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online. 📞

(FREE) A GRAND OLD INDEPENDENCE DAY

SUN, JUL 3, 12:00 PM- 5:00 PM

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

Visit Carriage Hill Farm for a community celebration of our country's independence.

Enjoy some period games and contests and step back in time as we celebrate the holiday. Cool off by partaking in our ice cream social. Come celebrate Independence Day with us. For more information, call (937) 278-2609. **6979**

(FREE) GRAIN THRESHING

SUN, JUL 10, 12:00 PM- 5:00 PM 6980

SUN, AUG 14, 12:00 PM- 1:00 PM 6981
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Farm, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

Absorb the sights, sounds and aromas as the whistle blows and the steam engine powers the separator, while the crew feeds in the yellow bundles of grain. Watch the straw pile grow higher as the box bed wagon fills with grain. Also, watch as the homemakers bake and cook to provide the farmhands with a sumptuous threshermen's dinner. For more information, call (937) 278-2609.

HOME & HOBBIES

(FREE) GRILL COOKING

FRI, JUN 10, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St. Chef Gabe Gardner with the Culinary Arts Department at Sinclair Community College is back to demonstrate how to cook a whole meal on the grill. Learn helpful hints for outdoor cooking and of course sample some of Chef Garner's fine grilling. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 228-2088 or register online. **6922** 📞

(FREE) SUMMER SUNDAYS AT AULLWOOD: DRAWING THE GARDEN

SUN, JUN 19, 3:00 PM- 6:00 PM 6964

SUN, JUL 17, 3:00 PM- 6:00 PM 6965

SUN, AUG 14, 3:00 PM- 6:00 PM 6966

AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Gardens, 930 Aullwood Rd.

Join us on Sunday afternoons for an artist-led *plein air* drawing session in the gardens at Aullwood Garden MetroPark. These will be informal, and you can come for part of or all of the time. Registration is requested and walk-ins are welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545 for further information, or register online. We will meet at the house. 📞

(FREE) HEALTHY PICNIC FOODS

SAT, JUN 18, 10:00 AM-10:45 AM

PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St. Get hints from Chris Olinsky with the OSU Extension on how to prepare a healthy picnic meal. She will point out Market products that are suited for picnics and go over how to keep items

at their proper and safe temperature. Happy picnicking the rest of the summer. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 228-2088, or register online. **6921** 📞

(FREE) HOME FOOD PRESERVATION SERIES:

Learn about a variety of ways of preserving or "putting up" your garden harvest or produce bought from local growers. Get the satisfaction of knowing where your food was grown, how it was grown, and how to keep it without the addition of unwanted chemical preservatives. Meet at Education Building. Reservations required and limited beginning June 1; call (937) 276-7062.

JELLIES, JAMS AND PRESERVES

SAT, JUN 18, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.

This session will focus on the processes to make your own jellies, jams, and preserves. Age: 18Y and up. **6883**

FREEZING YOUR HARVEST

SAT, JUL 23, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.

This session focuses on freezing the first items that can be harvested from the garden. Age: 18Y and up. **6884**

PICKLING

SAT, AUG 6, 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Learn all about the pickling process. Age: 18Y and up. **6885**

(FREE) MAKE YOUR OWN SALSA

SAT, JUL 9, 12:00 PM- 1:30 PM

PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.

Try your hand at making salsa under the direction of Betty Hovel and Tim Pritchard from Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks. Pick your favorite ingredients, fresh from the Market, to make your own salsa creation. You will definitely want to try this at home. Registration required and limited. Call (937) 228-2088 or register online. **6924** 📞

(FREE) CARRIAGE HILL HERB GARDENING GROUP:

Join the Carriage Hill Herb Group on the first Saturday of each month, from 10:00 AM to noon for a free program discussing the merits and uses for herbs. Refreshments provided. For more information, call (937) 278-2609.

AN HERBAL PICNIC

SAT, JUL 9, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

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

Join us for a sampling of herbal fare that can be included in your picnic basket. **6987**

HARVESTING AND STORING HERBS

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

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

Hear some basic information on how to harvest and then preserve your herbs afterwards. **6988**

(FREE) PASTA MAKING FOR KIDS

FRI, JUL 15, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.

Kids will have their chance at a cooking class presented by Chef Gardner from the Sinclair Community College Culinary Arts Department. He will teach them to roll their own pasta, make a sauce and suggest other dishes to go with the meal. Parents are welcome to join in. Registration required, call (937) 228-2088 or register online. Age: 6Y and up. **6923** 📞

(FREE) TREES AS AN ART MEDIUM

SAT, JUL 16, 12:00 PM- 1:30 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Trees have long been the subject of art, but this class will illustrate the many and fantastic ways people have used trees and tree parts in art, as Dougherty has done with his sculpture. We'll explore decorative as well as structural uses of trees. A fascinating class you won't want to miss! Registration is requested and walk-ins welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545 or register online. **6838** 📞

(FREE) TWIG FURNITURE BUILDING DEMO

SAT, AUG 6, 10:00 AM- 1:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Memory Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Twig furniture has been a favorite on American porches and patios for generations. Join us today as local artists present a three hour, on-going demonstration of how to build twig furniture. Learn to select the right materials and how you can start on your own works at home. We'll meet on the Meditation Lawn. Registration is requested and walk-ins are welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545 or register online. **6839** 📞

PASSPORT TO NATURE



This program gives incentives for families to complete eight visits to our designated passport programs. 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 information and mail your passport to Five Rivers MetroParks. Every child who completes a passport will become an official Nature Traveler and will receive a special traveler gift along with recognition in this publication.

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 **(937) 275-PARK** or visit us at **METROPARKS.ORG/PASSPORT**.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE NATURE TRAVELERS!

FIRST PASSPORT

Zane Roberts
Cade Roberts
Sharon and Kenny Hey
Gabriella Fitch

THIRD PASSPORT

Theodore Horvath

FOURTH PASSPORT

Noah Tinney
Logan Tinney



NATURE

(FREE) DISCOVERY STROLL

Escape on this relaxed-paced adventure through the park while learning about nature and discovering this park's history. Reservations are not required. Weather permitting: Call (937) 277-4178 for details.
WED, JUN 1, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 6993
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

SAT, JUN 4, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM 6744
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

WED, JUN 8, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 6994
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

WED, JUN 15, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 6995
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

WED, JUN 22, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 6996
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

SAT, JUN 25, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM 6745
TWIN CREEK METROPARK, High View Shelter, 9688 Eby Rd

WED, JUN 29, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 6997
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

SAT, JUL 2, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM 6746
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

WED, JUL 6, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 6998
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

WED, JUL 13, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 6999
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

WED, JUL 20, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 7000
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

SAT, JUL 23, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM 6747
TWIN CREEK METROPARK, High View Shelter, 9688 Eby Rd

WED, JUL 27, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 7001
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

WED, AUG 3, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 7002
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

SAT, AUG 6, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM 6748
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

WED, AUG 10, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 7003
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

WED, AUG 17, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 7004
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

WED, AUG 24, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 7005
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

SAT, AUG 27, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM 6749
TWIN CREEK METROPARK, High View Shelter, 9688 Eby Rd

WED, AUG 31, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM 7006
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Shelter, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.

(FREE) FAMILY ARBORETUM ADVENTURES:

Families can explore Cox Arboretum MetroPark together as they complete our bi-monthly Arboretum Adventure. Complete the challenge and leave at the front desk with your name and phone number to be entered for a chance to win a \$25 Cox Arboretum Garden Store gift certificate. Visit metroparks.org/challenge for details.

ASH CSI

WED, JUN 1 - TUE, JUN 28, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Little beetle; big problem. Explore the arboretum for clues on how to identify ash trees, look for beetle suspects and see if you can solve some of these STEM challenges. For more information, visit metroparks.org/challenge or call (937) 434-9005. **6874**

ELG JOURNAL

FRI, JUL 1 - THU, JUL 28, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Summer is a great time to see what's growing in the garden. Come out and explore the Edible Landscape Garden and discover some of the ways to use measurements in gardening. Lots of fun STEM activities to enjoy. For details, visit metroparks.org/challenge or call (937) 434-9005. **6876**

SUNDIAL SCIENCE

MON, AUG 1 - SUN, SEP 25, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Spend some time in our sunny Maimon Memorial Garden and discover more about an ancient way of marking time...sundials. Don't miss the fun STEM activities that you can try at home! For details, visit metroparks.org/challenge or call (937) 434-9005. **6875**

(FREE) BACKPACKING BABIES:

Backpacking Babies programs are just for parents and their babies, where they can share stories, enjoy fresh air, and learn about nature. Babies are exposed to new sights, sounds, textures, and smells on each journey. A baby backpack or snugli is required as trails are not stroller-friendly.

MAGNIFICENT TREES

THU, JUN 2, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

Enjoy a healthy walk and allow your baby to explore the beautiful sights, puzzling sounds, and fresh air of the forest. Weather permitting: Call (937) 277-4178 for details.

Age: 1M - 2Y. **6752**

MINI CREATURES

THU, JUL 7, 10:00 AM-11:00 PM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

Babies love insects! Bring your baby out to a prairie for sun and fresh air as naturalists catch harmless insects for your baby to observe. Weather permitting: Call (937) 277-4178 Age: 1M - 2Y. **6754**

BABBLING BROOK

THU, AUG 4, 10:00 AM-11:00 PM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

Get your baby's feet wet in the stream, while naturalists search for water creatures to share with you and your baby. Weather permitting: Call (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 1M - 2Y. **6753**

(FREE) TIKE HIKE PROGRAMS:

Take your little one outside for a fun, one-of-a-kind experience with nature. Enjoy bonding with your child as you explore the outdoors and gain the confidence to return to your favorite parks for an independent excursion! No registration required for these drop-in programs. For details, call (937) 277-4178.

NATURE PLAY

FRI, JUN 3, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM 6873

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

MON, JUL 11, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM 6870

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, White Oak Shelter/Parking, 2606 Hilton Dr.

Treat your preschooler to dirty hands & fresh air as we build forts, play in water, turn over logs, and explore! **PTN**

THE BEECH FOREST

MON, JUN 6, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

Breathe the fresh air and listen to the leaves crunching beneath your feet as you journey to the tall beech forest and explore the animals that live there. **PTN 6897**

SURVIVOR

THU, JUN 9, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

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

Explore the many ways creatures survive and escape predators in nature! **PTN 6895**

LIVE LIKE A BEE

WED, JUN 22, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Outside Amphitheater, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Learn what it would be like to be a bee and explore the flowers they pollinate! **PTN 6896**

WOODPECKER WATCH

TUE, JUN 28, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.

Go on a hike in search of these insect eaters, and watch them forage on the trees. A naturalist will also try to lure one in close for the children to see. **PTN 6871**

BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS

FRI, JUL 15, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Hilltop Shelter, 1200 Brown School Rd.

Discover the world of these colorful insects by transforming your child into a butterfly or moth. From caterpillar to adult, your child will experience the joys and hardships of these tiny creatures. **PTN 6899**

STREAMOLOGY

WED, JUL 20, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

Come explore the creek and find creatures like crawdads, salamanders, and rainbow darters! Kids and parents should wear clothes that can get wet and muddy. **PTN 6869**

FASCINATING FEATHERS

THU, JUL 21, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Outside Amphitheater, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Feathers distinguish birds from all other animals. Join us for a closeup look at feathers, hear a story, and take a short walk to look for our feathered friends. **PTN 6898**

TREE HOUSES

TUE, JUL 26, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

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

Come discover all the ways wildlife use trees: as homes, as kitchens, as highways,

and as hangouts! **PTN 6894**

PONDOLOGY

TUE, AUG 9, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Hilltop Shelter, 1200 Brown School Rd.

Get wet and muddy as we explore the pond and what lives in and around it. **PTN 6866**

SILENT FLIERS

FRI, AUG 12, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.

Learn about Ohio's owls by listening to their sounds, exploring study skins, and taking a hike to explore their home. **PTN 6868**

SALAMANDER SEARCH

WED, AUG 17, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

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

Bring your little tike out to get dirty as we explore the park for salamanders! **PTN 6872**

SUPER CEDARS

THU, AUG 25, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Outside Amphitheater, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Come explore the cedar glade at Germantown MetroPark, a unique forest habitat! **PTN 6867**

PRAIRIE SAFARI

MON, AUG 29, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

Explore enormous wildflowers and towering grasses while searching for butterflies and other insects in the prairie. Insect nets and containers will be provided. **PTN 6865**

(FREE) BREEDING BIRD WALK

SAT, JUN 4, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM


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

This is a great time to catch male birds singing their love songs. Come join us on a hike and listen to these pretty sounds. No reservations required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for more information **6716**

(FREE) BATS AT NIGHT

SAT, JUN 4, 8:00 PM- 9:30 PM

HUFFMAN METROPARK, Redtail Shelter/Parking Lot, 4439 Lower Valley Pk.

Learn the fun facts about this awesome night flier! Join a naturalist as we search for bats in the park. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **PTN 6725** 

(FREE) FEATHERED FRIENDS**SAT, JUN 4, 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM**

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Join us for an afternoon of feathered fun as we welcome Betty Ross from Glen Helen Raptor Center for an hour-long program entitled Hunters of the Sky. Following the presentation, join Nature Center staff for a bird hike to begin your Birdathon Adventure! Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **PTN 6727** 📞

(FREE) BUTTERFLY BASICS**MON, JUN 6, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6606****THU, JUN 23, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM 6607**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Butterfly natural history, life cycle and basic identification are the topics of discussion. This is a great introduction to the world of butterflies. Reservations required. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 18Y & up. 📞

(FREE) ADULT NATURE WALK

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.

THU, JUN 9, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6732

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

TUE, JUN 14, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6733

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

WED, JUN 15, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6734

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

TUE, JUN 28, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6741

EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

TUE, JUL 12, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6739

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

THU, JUL 14, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6737

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

WED, JUL 20, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6735

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

TUE, JUL 26, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6742

EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

TUE, AUG 9, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6740

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

THU, AUG 11, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6738

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

WED, AUG 17, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6736

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

TUE, AUG 23, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6743

EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

(FREE) PARENT & PRESCHOOLER: GREEN SUBMARINES**THU, JUN 9, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Water is one of the many places where plants grow. We'll look at the special features plants need to grow under water, on the water's edge or on top of the water. Also take a walk to the ponds to see what water plants are growing. Reservations required, call (937) 434-9005 or register on line. Age: 3Y - 6Y. **6608** 📞

(FREE) FIREFLIES LIGHT UP THE NIGHT**FRI, JUN 10, 9:00 PM-10:00 PM 6723**

ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter/East Park, 4361 National Rd.

SAT, JUN 25, 9:00 PM-10:00 PM 6750

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailside Shelter, 4178 Conference Rd.

Join naturalists for a chat about different kinds of fireflies and then hunt for these amazing insects. All fireflies will be released at the end of the program. Bring nets and jars if you have them; a limited supply will be available. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN** 📞

(FREE) INSECT INVESTIGATION**SAT, JUN 11, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM**

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Come search for insects all around Eastwood! Some nets will be provided, and all insects will be released after we all get a good look. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-4178 for more. **PTN 6700** 📞

(FREE) NATURE FUN KICK-OFF!**SAT, JUN 11, 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM**

WESLEYAN METROPARK, Pavilion Shelter, 1441 Wesleyan Rd.

Play games, explore a stream, catch fish, build a fort, and study nature and more as we celebrate outdoor fun and summer adventures at Wesleyan MetroPark! **6902** 📞

(FREE) WHO WILL TAKE CARE OF THE PARK?**WED, JUN 15, 3:30 PM- 4:30 PM**

WESLEYAN METROPARK, Pavilion Shelter, 1441 Wesleyan Rd.

Meet the Wesleyan MetroPark staff who take care of the park and see the cool tools they use. Join the park staff for a fun introduction to working at MetroParks. You may find you want to work with us taking care of the park starting today. For more information, call (937) 277-4178. **6942** 📞

(FREE) TALK WITH YOUR RANGER**WED, JUN 22, 3:30 PM- 4:30 PM**

WESLEYAN METROPARK, Pavilion Shelter, 1441 Wesleyan Rd.

Come and speak with YOUR Rangers about their job and how they keep YOUR Five Rivers MetroParks safe. For more information, call (937) 277-4178. **6780** 📞

(FREE) CAFE SCI:

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. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 275-5059 for details on the final program listing.

STEWARDSHIP: MOTIVATIONS AND EFFECTIVE APPROACHES**THU, JUN 23, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Dr. John Silvius from Cedarville University will lead tonight's discussion to explore reasons why we should care for the environment and to learn new approaches toward implementing care. Age: 14Y and up. **6788** 📞

WORKING TOWARD A GREATER OHIO**THU, JUL 28, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Greater Ohio works to advance policies and programs that revitalize Ohio's urban cores, strengthen regional cooperation and protect Ohio's open space, natural resources and farmland. Gene Krebs, senior director of government affairs and policy, will share more about the organization and the work that is happening here in the Dayton region. Age: 14Y and up. **6789** 📞

CAFE SCI**THU, AUG 25, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Join us for this month's cafe and discover science in a relaxed atmosphere. Call (937) 275-5059 or see detailed web listing for final topic details. Age: 14Y and up. **7046** 🍷

(FREE) HERPETOLOGY**SUN, JUN 26, 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM**

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Redwing Shelter/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.

Study reptiles and amphibians and learn about their biology and behavior. We will search for these creatures in various areas in the park, including aquatic habitats. Wear clothes that can get wet and muddy. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN 6712**

(FREE) STROLLER STRUT SERIES:

Stroller Strut is a casual stroll on the arboretum grounds for caregivers and children ages 0-3 years old. Each strut has a nature theme and encourages interaction between the caregiver and child as they discover new plants and their surroundings. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online.

BUGABOO BUG**TUE, JUN 28, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM** 6612

TUE, JUN 28, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM 6613
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Enjoy a walk on the grounds as we find out more about insects. Lift a log or rock to see what's underneath. Age: 1M - 3Y. 🍷

EVERYTHING GROWS**TUE, JUL 26, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM** 6614

TUE, JUL 26, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM 6615
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Join us as we take a look at how plants grow. They may start out as tiny seed but we'll find out how big they can grow. We'll even measure some plants and trees. Age: 1M - 3Y. 🍷

GREAT AND GLORIOUS GRASSES**TUE, AUG 23, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM** 6616

TUE, AUG 23, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM 6617
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Grass isn't always just under our feet. Some can grow very tall. Join us as we walk among the tall grass in the prairie. We'll also take a look at the different ornamental grasses growing at the arboretum. Age: 1M - 3Y. 🍷

(FREE) EXPLORING NATURE**WED, JUN 29, 3:30 PM- 4:30 PM**

WESLEYAN METROPARK, Pavilion Shelter, 1441 Wesleyan Rd.

Experience the essence of nature as we feel animal pelts, make track molds, view bird study skins, play nature games and hike! Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **6903** 🍷

(FREE) FAMILY CREEK FUN**SAT, JUL 2, 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM**

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

Search for all kinds of critters and fossils while exploring Sugar Creek! We will also be discussing water quality and what you can do to keep water clean. Bring shoes that can be worn in the creek; no sandals please. Fossil collectors must follow collection guidelines. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. For more information, call (937) 277-4178. **PTN 6728** 🍷

(FREE) ALL ABOUT OWLS**SAT, JUL 2, 8:00 PM-10:00 PM**

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

Come out to Englewood MetroPark to find out how these nocturnal birds of prey survive! We will dissect owl pellets and then search for owls on a hike through the park. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-4178 for more information.

PTN 6726 🍷**(FREE) BUTTERFLY SAFARI****SUN, JUL 10, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM** 6945

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

SUN, JUL 24, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM 6943

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Redwing Shelter/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.

SUN, JUL 31, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM 6946

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

SUN, AUG 7, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM 6944

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

Grab a net and test your catching skills with large butterflies like Swallowtails and Monarchs, while enjoying the beginning of the prairie flower season. Nets and containers will be provided. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN**

(FREE) ORDVICIAN BEACH PARTY**SAT, JUL 16, 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM**

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Celebrate Ohio's ancient oceans at our beach party! The party includes hourly fossil hunts, and other fun activities. Families are

encouraged to wear brightly colored beach clothes. For more information, call (937) 277-4178. **PTN 6729** 🍷

(FREE) EUREKA LAB! PROGRAMS

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

MOTH DETECTIVES**WED, JUL 20, 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM**

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

Do you know there are moths that fly during the day, or how to attract moths at night? Join us for a special weekday session of the lab and find out the answers to these questions along with activities and tools to help you be a "moth detective" at home. 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. **7041**

HERBALICIOUS**SAT, AUG 20, 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM**

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

Discover more about these fabulous plants that have hundreds of uses in today's lab. Create your own small herb garden to take home and enjoy fresh herbs into the winter. Please bring a container 6 inches deep with drainage holes suitable for plants. 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. **6889**

(FREE) NATURE PLAY**SAT, JUL 23, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM** 6715

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, White Oak Shelter/Parking, 2606 Hilton Dr.

SAT, AUG 13, 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM 6714

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

Come out and play in our Nature Play area with a naturalist! We'll play games, build structures and discovery the nearby creek. Call (937) 277- 4178 for details. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. **PTN** 🍷

(FREE) MICROSCOPE MADNESS**SAT, JUL 23, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM**

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Hilltop Shelter, 1200 Brown School Rd.

Come look at nature on a smaller scale, while we find items on a hike we want to see up close! Microscopes and magnifying glasses will be provided. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN 6703**

(FREE) KNEE DEEP IN WOLF CREEK**WED, JUL 27, 3:30 PM- 4:30 PM**

WESLEYAN METROPARK, Pavilion Shelter, 1441 Wesleyan 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; call (937) 277-4178. **PTN 6905**

(FREE) DISCOVER BATS & MOTHS**FRI, JUL 29, 8:30 PM-10:00 PM**

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Explore the world of very different nocturnal creatures as we try to locate bats and moths at night. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. Weather permitting; Call (937) 277-4178 with any questions. **6989**

(FREE) STARS AND METEORS**FRI, AUG 5, 8:00 PM-10:00 PM**

TWIN CREEK METROPARK, High View Shelter, 9688 Eby Rd

Bring a lawn chair and/or blankets and join us at sundown for a view of the night sky. The evening will begin with fun stories and discussions on meteors and common constellations. Campfire program ends at 10 PM but the parking lot will remain open for self-guided stargazing until morning. Participants who have portable telescopes are encouraged to bring them and let others peek through. Weather permitting, call (937) 277-4178. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. **PTN 6992**

(FREE) FAMILY BIRDING FUN**SAT, AUG 6, 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM**

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

Come out and learn the basics to birding then head out on a hike to put your new skills to work. Bring your binoculars if you have them; a limited supply will be available. For more information, call (937) 277-4178. **6717**

(FREE) CHILDREN'S TOUR GUIDE WORKSHOP SERIES:

Do you like to share nature with children? Join us at Cox Arboretum MetroPark and discover the joy of sharing nature with children as a volunteer children's tour guide. No experience is necessary. Potential guides should be at least 16 years old and able to walk/hike the grounds comfortably. Find out more by attending our training workshops.

FALL IS FABULOUS!**MON, AUG 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 for fellowship and to learn more about our fall tour offerings. Bring your calendar to sign up for scheduled tours. Refreshments provided. Reservations requested. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 16Y and up. **6834**

TREE TREK TO ENGLEWOOD**MON, AUG 22, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Take a trip to Englewood MetroPark with other tour guides to uncover more about the different species of native Ash trees and discover the park. Today's activities are entirely outside; please dress for the weather. Meet in the Cox Arboretum front parking lot at 8:45 AM. **Reservations required by 5 PM on Friday, August 19.** Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 16Y and up. **6835**

TOUR GUIDE TOP TEN**MON, AUG 29, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

We'll do our own version of The Tonight Show countdown and share knowledge about the best tour stops and activities for fall tours from our resident experts...YOU! New or returning guides will also have the opportunity to create a great resource for your tours. Reservations requested. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 16Y and up. **6836**

(FREE) NIGHT HIKE**SAT, AUG 20, 8:00 PM- 9:30 PM**

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.

Let's find out what is up and about after the sun goes down! Join a naturalist as we

look for screech owls and other nighttime critters. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **PTN 6731**

(FREE) WOODPECKER SAFARI**SUN, AUG 21, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM**

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

Come discover more about Ohio's six woodpeckers as we search for them in the park! Bring binoculars if you have them. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN 6948**

(FREE) BEAVER SEARCH**SAT, AUG 27, 8:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Search for beavers while learning about the life history of North America's largest rodent. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **PTN 6699**

(FREE) HABITREKKING**SAT, AUG 27, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM**

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Redwing Shelter/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.

Spend the afternoon trekking through various habitats and look for similarities and differences in the land, trees, and wildlife. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN 6702**

(FREE) FOSSIL HUNT**SUN, AUG 28, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM**

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Parking Lot & Put-in Below The Dam, 7481 Creek Road

Journey 500 million years into the past and examine life on earth through your very own hands-on fossil record! You'll also get to find salamanders and other creek dwelling creatures. Fossil collectors must follow collecting guidelines. Wear shoes and clothes that can get wet and muddy. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN 6947**

OUTDOOR PLAY**(FREE) TUESDAY TALES:**

Join us for this series of free cultural and educational entertainment programs designed for preschoolers. Sessions held twice per month in June, July and August. All programs held outdoors under the RiverScape MetroPark pavilion, weather permitting. Bring blanket or towel for seating. Call (937) 274-0126 weekdays for more information.



STORY TIME WITH MOTHER EARTH

TUE, JUN 7, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Story time with the spirit of nature, the protector of the environment—Mother Earth! Join her as she tells funny and interactive stories, encourages children to “reduce, reuse, recycle” and helps them learn about putting trash in its proper place. **6597**

ANIMALS ALIVE!

TUE, JUN 21, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Get us close and personal with cute, cuddly, creepy, and crawly cold-blooded friends from the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery's Live Animals Department. Learn about their habits and behaviors during both of these fascinating presentations. Learn, see and touch some amphibians and reptiles from Ohio as well as other countries! Bring blanket or towel for seating. **6598**

ABC ANIMALS OF AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

TUE, JUL 5, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Animals will dance through the air on the fingers of your preschooler as Tina Gonzalez leads them in a program designed to teach the ABC's of American Sign Language. Bring blanket or towel for seating. All programs held outdoors under the pavilion are weather permitting. **6599**

TALES OF FLIGHT WITH THE BROTHERS WRIGHT

TUE, JUL 19, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Let your imagination soar with the amazing Wright Brothers! Orville and Wilbur may have been the first to fly, but Madcap's giant puppets will take you to new heights filled with wings, dreams, and flying machines! Bring blanket or towel for seating. **6600**

ANIMALS ALIVE!

TUE, AUG 2, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Get up close and personal with cute, cuddly, furry and feathered warm-blooded friends from the Boonshoft Museum's Live Animals Department. Learn about their habits and behaviors during this fascinating presentation. Learn, see and touch some mammals and birds from Ohio as well as other countries! All programs held outdoors under the pavilion are weather permitting. Bring blanket or towel for seating. **6601**

THE GOODS ON THE WOODS

TUE, AUG 16, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Discover the habitats found in the woods around us in this fun-filled program! Through songs and puppets, Chris Rowlands will teach you and your preschooler about producers, consumers and decomposers. All programs held outdoors under the pavilion are weather permitting. Bring blanket or towel for seating. **6602**

(FREE) GIANT KICKBALL GAME

WED, JUL 20, 3:30 PM- 4:30 PM

WESLEYAN METROPARK, Pavilion Shelter, 1441 Wesleyan Rd.

What's more fun than a game of kickball with your neighborhood friends? A giant game of kickball in the open field at your local MetroPark. Bring your friends and your good sportsmanship and join us for this afternoon of high-energy fun. **6906** 📍

PHOTOGRAPHY

(FREE) PICTURING PUDDLES AND PONDS

SAT, JUN 4, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

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

Discover methods for photographing bodies of water, such as controlling reflections and how to capture (or avoid) a sense of motion in flowing water. Following a presentation indoors, the class will go outside (weather permitting) to take photos in the park and alongside the Stillwater River. Reservations are requested and walk-ins welcome; call (937) 277-6545 or register online. **6843** 📍

(FREE) DOUGHERTY THROUGH THE LENS

SAT, JUN 18, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

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

Examine Patrick Dougherty's stickwork sculpture as a subject for your own photographic creativity. Following an indoor presentation, the class will go outside (weather permitting) to explore the structure from interesting perspectives. Registrations are requested and walk-ins welcome; call (937) 277-6545 or register online. **6840** 📍

(FREE) DOUGHERTY UP CLOSE

SAT, JUL 16, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

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

Explore photography using Patrick Dougherty's stickwork sculpture as a subject. Following a presentation indoors, the class will go outside (weather permitting) to examine details of the structure. The techniques learned can also be applied to taking pictures of flowers, insects and other small objects. Registrations are requested and walk-ins welcome; call (937) 277-6545 or register online. **6841** 📍

(FREE) CREATIVE USE OF FLASH

SAT, JUL 23, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

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

Taking photos outdoors is often a case of “man vs. nature,” as sunny or shady lighting conditions can make it difficult to capture good images. This session will demonstrate how to use flash (both on and off the camera) to improve the appearance of photos. Bring your camera and a detachable flash if you have one. Registrations are requested and walk-ins welcome; call (937) 277-6545 or register online. **6844** 📍

(FREE) DOUGHERTY UNDER THE MOON

SAT, AUG 13, 8:00 PM- 9:30 PM

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

Discover techniques for taking outdoor photos at night using Patrick Dougherty's stickwork sculpture as a subject. Following a presentation indoors, the class will go outside (weather permitting) to take photos using the full moon, as well as artificial light sources. Bring a tripod, a camera capable of very long exposures, and a detachable flash or flashlight. Registrations are requested and walk-ins welcome; call (937) 277-6545 or register online. **6842** 📍

(FREE) SHOOTING OUTDOOR PORTRAITS

SAT, AUG 20, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

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

Taking impressive outdoor portraits requires more than just a picturesque location and a person to pose. This session explains the importance of background and foreground

elements, depth of field, and sunlight and shadow. Following a presentation indoors, the class will go outside (weather permitting) to take pictures of a model in the garden. **6845** 📍

RECREATION ALL OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

(FREE) NORTH COUNTRY NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL SUNSET HIKE

SAT, JUN 18, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Tadmor Parking Lot, 2005 US Route 40

Celebrate National Trails Day with a casual 3.2 mile hike on the North Country National Scenic Trail and Buckeye Trail. Learn about the upcoming NCT Conference in Dayton, the possibility of a Buckeye/NCT Local Chapter, and more with the Buckeye Trail executive director and NCTA regional trail coordinator. Reservation requested, walk-ins welcome; call (937) 277-4374 or register online. **6692** 📍

(FREE) NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL CONFERENCE

THU, AUG 11 - SUN, AUG 14, 5:00 PM- 9:00 PM

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

The North Country Trail Annual Conference is coming to Dayton: the largest town on this 4,500 mile trail! Join the hiking community who will be coming from everywhere, from New York to North Dakota and throughout the seven states of this National Scenic Trail to gather in Dayton. You're invited to participate in this program. From exciting speakers, to hikes and kids' programs, the lineup has something for everyone. For details, visit www.northcountrytrail.org or (937) 277-4374. **6694**

4,700 MILES AROUND ALASKA AND YUKON

THU, AUG 11, 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM

OFF SITE, Memorial Hall, 125 East First Street, Dayton

The Alaska-Yukon Expedition was Andrew Skurka's most recent and audacious adventure yet. For six months, Skurka skied, trekked and packrafted 4,700 miles in a giant loop around Alaska and Canada's Yukon. He passed beneath Mt. McKinley, descended the Copper and Yukon Rivers, and traversed the Brooks Range. At one

point, he went 24 days without seeing another human. This program is a fundraiser for the North Country Trail. For details, call (937) 277-4374. Fees: \$5 **6697**

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: STREET TEAM TRAINING

THU, AUG 18, 6:00 PM- 8:30 PM

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

Just like bands have Street Teams to promote their music, Five Rivers MetroParks started a fun, energetic Street Team to promote their outdoor recreation events. Roles include Social Networking Guru, Flyer Hanging Maniac, Staffing Outreach Booths, Spirit Crew, and Active Outreach. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Hamburgers/hotdogs will be served. For more information, please contact Rachel Brand at Rachel.Brand@metroparks.org or (937) 564-5431, or register online. Age: 18Y and up. **6639** 📍

BACKPACKING

(FREE) VOLUNTEER:

BACKPACKING TRAIL WORK DAYS

SAT, JUN 11, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM 6631

SAT, JUL 9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM 6632

SAT, AUG 13, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM 6630

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Germantown Maintenance Bays, 6675 Conservancy Rd.

Help maintain the Twin Valley Trail—a backpacking trail connecting Germantown and Twin Creek MetroParks. No experience necessary. Bring water and work gloves; tools and instruction provided. Individuals and groups invited. Groups (7-15 people) 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 more information and to register, call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. 📍

CAMPING

(FREE) CAMPING IN YOUR METROPARKS

WED, JUL 6, 3:30 PM- 4:30 PM

WESLEYAN METROPARK, Pavilion Shelter, 1441 Wesleyan Rd.

Come join Five Rivers MetroParks to learn about where and how you can enjoy camping in YOUR MetroParks. Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **6766** 📍

CYCLING

(FREE) BIKE FOR THE HEALTH OF IT SERIES:

Join us on a guided group bike ride taking place 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 more information, call Officer Zimmerman at (937) 275-PARK ext. 1416. Get the full schedule online at metroparks.org/bikehealth.

GREAT MIAMI RIVER BIKEWAY (N)

SAT, JUN 4, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6908

SAT, AUG 27, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6914

RECREATIONAL TRAILS, Great Miami River Bikeway, Ohio Bike Route 25

Join us for a bike ride rain or shine on the Great Miami River Bikeway. Meet at Rip Rap Park at the intersection of Rip Rap, Taylorsville and Little York roads. Meet at the parking lot near the soccer fields. We'll ride through historic Tadmor (9 miles).

GREAT MIAMI RIVER BIKEWAY (S)

SAT, JUN 11, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM 6909

SAT, JUL 23, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM 6911

SAT, AUG 20, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM 6920

RECREATIONAL TRAILS, Great Miami River Bikeway, Ohio Bike Route 25

Join us for a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Great Miami River Bikeway. Take North Alex Road (beside Wendy's) to Hydraulic Road; the entrance is on the right. We'll ride to Crains Run Nature Park (20 miles).

STILLWATER RIVER BIKEWAY

SAT, JUN 18, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Morgan Shelter/ West Park, 100 E. National Road

Join us for a bike ride rain or shine on the Stillwater River Bikeway. Meet at 100 E. National Rd. at the intersection of U.S. 40 and State Route 48 in Englewood, north of the dam. Meet in the park parking lot. We'll ride to Jake Grossnickle Park and past Patty's Shelter (9 miles). **6915**

MAD RIVER BIKEWAY

SAT, JUN 25, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Join us for a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Mad River Bikeway. Meet in the last parking lot at Eastwood MetroPark. Use the



entrance at 1385 Harshman Rd. We will ride to Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (13 miles). This is a pride ride! Wear your Bike for the Health of It award T-shirt. **6916**

GREAT MIAMI RIVER BIKEWAY (S)

SAT, JUL 2, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM 6910

* Patriot Day! Wear your red, white and blue.

SAT, AUG 13, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM 6913

RECREATIONAL TRAILS, Great Miami River Bikeway, Ohio Bike Route 25

Join us for a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Great Miami River Bikeway. Meet at the West Carrollton low dam: Take North Alex Road to Hydraulic Road and use the entrance on right. We'll ride to RiverScape MetroPark (18 miles).

CREEKSIDE BIKEWAY

SAT, JUL 9, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Park, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Join us on a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Creekside Bikeway. Meet in last parking lot at Eastwood MetroPark. Use the entrance at 1385 Harshman Road. We'll ride to the Greene County Line (12 miles). **6917**

STILLWATER RIVER BIKEWAY (C)

SAT, JUL 16, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM 6918

SAT, AUG 6, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 6919

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

Join us for a bike ride rain or shine on the Stillwater River Bikeway (central). We'll meet at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark parking lot and ride to Eastwood MetroPark (13 miles). Pride Ride! Wear your BFTHOI T-shirt.

WOLF CREEK BIKEWAY (WEST)

SAT, JUL 30, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

RECREATIONAL TRAILS, Wolf Creek Bikeway, Ohio Bike Route 38

Join us for a bike ride rain or shine on the Wolf Creek Bikeway. Meet in the parking lot behind Rob's Restaurant, 705 Arlington Rd. in Brookville. We'll ride toward Verona (11 miles). **6912**

(FREE) WEGERZYN BIKE RODEO - FOR KIDS

SAT, JUN 18, 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM

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

Join MetroParks Rangers along with MVPs for a day of bicycle safety. Bring your bicycle to Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. Free bike helmet properly fitted (while quantities last) (no beads in hair, please). Course is designed for students and parents to learn the rules of the road in a safe environment. Supported

by Children's Medical Center of Dayton and Safe Kids of Greater Dayton. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. For details, call (937) 277-4823 or e-mail izimmerman@metroparks.org. Age: 3Y - 15Y. **6786** 📞

(FREE) SAFE BIKE RIDING AT YOUR METROPARKS

WED, JUL 13, 3:30 PM- 4:30 PM

WESLEYAN METROPARK, Pavilion Shelter, 1441 Wesleyan Rd.

Come out to Wesleyan MetroPark and speak with YOUR Ranger about bike safety at YOUR Five Rivers MetroParks. Call (937) 277-4178 for more information. **6781** 📞

(FREE) DAYTON CELTIC FESTIVAL BIKE RIDE

SUN, JUL 31, 10:30 AM- 1:00 PM

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave. Enthusiasts of all ages should meet at

10:15 AM in the Dayton Career Academy parking lot, 441 River Corridor Drive, just off Webster Street. The course will be 20 miles long. The Celtic Bike Ride is part of the 2011 Dayton Celtic Festival, presented by United Irish of Dayton. It is made possible in part thanks to Five Rivers MetroParks. To learn more, visit www.unitedirishofdayton.org or call (937) 372-9788. **6962**

INTRO TO SMART CYCLING

THU, AUG 25, 6:00 PM- 8:30 PM

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

Step one in the Smart Cycling Series is a classroom session, taught by League-certified instructors, provides cyclists of all levels better knowledge and understanding of how to safely and effectively operate your bicycle in various situations. Topics will include ride preparation, traffic laws, equipment and clothing, and much more. **Intro is a pre-requisite for Smart Cycling Basics.** For more information and to register, call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 12Y and up. Fees: \$10 **6679** 📞

SMART CYCLING BASICS

SAT, AUG 27, 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM

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

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. For more information and to register, call (937) 277-4374. Age: 12Y and up. Fees: \$20 **6680**

FISHING

(FREE) NIGHT FISHING AT EASTWOOD LAKE

FRI, JUN 3 - SAT, AUG 27, 10:00 PM- 2:00 AM

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.

Enjoy fishing at night every Friday and Saturday through September 30. Fishing only. Please note: occasional boat races at Eastwood MetroPark Lake may affect night fishing schedule. Bring a flashlight or lantern. Use lake entrance. No reservations required. Contact Officer Zimmerman at (937) 277-4823 with any questions. **6782**

(FREE) NIGHT FISHING AT POSSUM CREEK METROPARK

FRI, JUN 3 - SAT, AUG 27, 10:00 PM- 2:00 AM

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

Enjoy fishing at night every Friday and Saturday through September 30. For fishing only Bring a flashlight or lantern. No reservations required. Contact Officer Zimmerman at (937) 277-4823 with any questions. **6783**

(FREE) TRY FLY FISHING!

MON, JUN 13, 4:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6719

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Sunfish Shelter/ Parking Lot, 7101 Conservancy Rd.

THU, JUL 7, 4:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6721

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Outdoor Venues, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Have you ever wanted to learn how to cast a fly rod? Join us to see if you can entice a fish to bite and catch a fish on fly. No fishing license required. Instructor is available for questions and will teach basic techniques in a controlled and safe environment. Equipment is available on a first-come first-served basis. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome or register online. For more information or to register, please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. 📞

INTRO TO FLY FISHING**MON, AUG 1, 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM**AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK,
Residence, 900 Aullwood Rd.

Get an overview of fly fishing. The session will include a classroom overview of gear, local opportunities and techniques needed to get started. Casting techniques are covered through a variety of fun drills teaching basic fundamentals. Participants should dress for outdoor activity. For more information or to register, please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$5 **7039** 🍷

FLY FISHING BASICS**SAT, AUG 20, 9:00 AM- 3:30 PM**GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Sunfish Shelter/
Parking Lot, 7101 Conservancy Rd.

Are you ready to take the next step in Fly Fishing? Join us for a combination day of fly fishing on flatwater and moving water. Students will learn casting techniques, tips on reading water, flies to use and gear needed to fish our local lakes, ponds and rivers. Lunch and gear will be provided. Location will be determined based on fishing conditions. Fishing license required. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$20 **7040**

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 questions, call (937) 277-4374 weekdays. Visit metroparks.org/hikehealth for the complete schedule.

SAT, JUN 4, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM 6640SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178
Conference Rd.**SAT, JUN 11, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 6641TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Blue Heron
Shelter, 2000 U.S. 40**SAT, JUN 18, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 6642GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center,
6910 Boomershire Rd.**SAT, JUN 25, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 6643WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK,
Wegerzyn Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.**SAT, JUL 2, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 6644POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest
Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.**SAT, JUL 9, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 6645ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter
Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.**SAT, JUL 16, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 6646TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Chamberlain Road
Parking Lot, 8502 Chamberlain Road**SAT, JUL 23, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 6647TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Blue Heron
Shelter, 2000 U.S. 40**SAT, JUL 30, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 6648CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake
Shelter/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.**SAT, AUG 6, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 6649COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education
Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.**SAT, AUG 13, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 6650HUFFMAN METROPARK, Huffman North Park,
4095 Lower Valley Pk**SAT, AUG 20, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 6651SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178
Conference Rd.**SAT, AUG 27, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 6652EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot,
1385 Harshman Rd.**(FREE) POSSUM CREEK HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS****SUN, JUN 5, 1:30 PM- 3:30 PM**POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest
Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Enjoy a 5-mile, two-hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered easy with no hills. Call Chris Sands at (937) 687-0114 for more information. **7021**

(FREE) TAYLORSVILLE HIKE WITH METRO DAYTON HIKERS**SUN, JUL 17, 1:30 PM- 3:30 PM**TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Blue Heron
Shelter Parking Lot, 2000 U.S. 40

Enjoy a 5-mile, two-hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered moderate with some hills. Call Chris Sands at (937) 687-0114 for more information. **7022**

(FREE) ZUMBA IN THE PARK**SAT, JUN 11, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM** 6603**SAT, JUL 16, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM** 6604**SAT, AUG 20, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM** 6605
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Come join us for a fun and effective workout! Your instructor, Camela Douglass, a certified personal trainer and fitness instructor, will motivate and inspire you to move and shake your way to wellness. Her

energy, confidence and creativity make for a funky fresh exercise party! Sessions held outdoors and are weather dependent. Wear comfortable clothes and bring plenty of water. Call (937) 274-0126 for details.

(FREE) CARRIAGE HILL HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS**SUN, AUG 7, 1:30 PM- 3:30 PM**CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake
Shelter/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

Enjoy a 5-mile, two-hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered easy with no hills. Call Chris Sands at (937) 687-0114 for more information. **7023**

(FREE) EASTWOOD HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS**SUN, AUG 21, 1:30 PM- 3:30 PM**EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot,
1385 Harshman Rd.

Enjoy a 4- to 5-mile, two-hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered easy with no hills. Call Chris Sands at (937) 687-0114 for more information. **7024**

HORSEBACK RIDING WEEKEND PONY RIDES**SAT, APR 2 - SUN, OCT 30, 10:00 AM- 4:00 PM**CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Riding Center,
8111 E. Shull Rd.

Do you have a little wrangler too young for horse camp but can't wait to ride? Join the MetroParks Riding Center Staff Saturdays and Sundays starting April 2 through October 30 for a hand-lead pony ride for youngsters age 2 through 7. Staff members will lead youth around the MetroParks Riding Center Arena. Don't forget to bring your camera to capture this memorable riding experience! For more information and reservations, call (937) 274-3120. Age: 1Y - 7Y. Fees: \$3 **6767**

WEEKEND HORSEBACK RIDING SAT, JUN 4 - SUN, OCT 30, 10:00 AM- 2:00 PMCARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Riding Center,
8111 E. Shull Rd.

Five Rivers MetroParks weekend trail rides are a great opportunity to experience nature from horseback. Your guide will take you on a one-hour ride through Carriage Hill MetroPark. Rides run every two hours, through Oct. 30. All participants must be at least 48 inches tall to trail ride. Payment is required at time of reservation. Come on



out and don't forget your riding boots! For information and reservations, call the Riding Center at (937) 274-3120. Age: 8Y and up. Fees: \$20 **6579**

HORSE CAMPS FOR TEENS

MON, JUN 6 - FRI, SEP 2, 8:00 AM- 5:00 PM

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Riding Center, 8111 E. Shull Rd.

These half-day camps run for five days June through August and are for teens with an interest in horsemanship through equestrian education of stable management, equine nutrition and riding. Program benefits include encouraging exercise, establishing partnerships with horses, building teamwork, art projects and other activities that connect them to nature. Morning camp is 8 to noon and afternoon camp is 1-5 PM. For camp dates, availability and reservations, call the Riding Center at (937) 274-3120. Age: 13Y - 17Y. Fees: \$175 **6963**

HORSE CAMPS FOR YOUTH

MON, JUN 6 - FRI, SEP 2, 8:00 AM- 5:00 PM

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Riding Center, 8111 E. Shull Rd.

These half-day camps run for five days June through August and are for youth with an interest in horsemanship through equestrian education of stable management, equine nutrition and riding. Program benefits include encouraging exercise, establishing partnerships with horses, building teamwork, art projects and other activities that connect them to nature. Morning camp is 8 to noon and afternoon camp is 1-5 PM. For camp dates, availability and reservations, call the Riding Center at (937) 274-3120. Age: 8Y - 12Y. Fees: \$175 **7008**

MOUNTAIN BIKING

(FREE) TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING!

TUE, JUN 7, 4:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6673

WED, JUL 13, 4:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6677

MON, AUG 8, 4:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6681
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

Is not having a mountain bike keeping you from getting out to ride MoMBA? Come out to MoMBA, MetroParks Mountain Bike Area, and use one of our Airborne fleet bikes to take a lap on sweet trails. Bikes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Youth under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Helmets are mandatory and

provided with bike. For details and to register, call (937) 277-4374 or register online. 📞

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: MOMBA TRAIL WORK DAYS

SAT, JUN 11, 12:00 PM- 4:00 PM 6622

THU, JUN 23, 6:00 PM- 8:30 PM 6623

SAT, JUL 9, 12:00 PM- 4:00 PM 6624

SAT, AUG 13, 12:00 PM- 4:00 PM 6625

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd. Help maintain MoMBA, MetroParks' mountain bike trail. No experience necessary. Volunteers will have the opportunity to learn sustainable trail building techniques including corridor clearing, contour bench trail construction, creek armoring and more. Bring water and work gloves; tools and instruction provided. Meet at the picnic tables next to the parking lot. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Youth 14-17 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information and to register, call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. 📞

(FREE) YOUTH MTB RACE SERIES

MON, JUN 20, 5:30 PM- 8:00 PM 6572

MON, JUL 18, 5:30 PM- 8:00 PM 6573

MON, AUG 15, 5:30 PM- 8:00 PM 6574

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd. Join us for a great series of races for youth age 8 to 16. Come enjoy racing alongside fellow young riders as you gain skills while hitting up a loop trail at MoMBA, MetroParks Mountain Bike Area at Huffman MetroPark. Racing will be low-key with an emphasis on fun. Snacks will be provided post race. Bikes and helmets are required. For more information and to register, call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 8Y - 16Y. 📞

(FREE) MOMBA FREEDOM RIDE

FRI, JUL 1, 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

What better way to celebrate the freedom of this great nation than on your mountain bike. Wear your Red, White and Blue Gear and join Five Rivers MetroParks and the Miami Valley Mountain Bike Association (MV MBA) for a Freedom Ride after work. Prizes will be awarded for the most patriotic riders. **6676**

TEEN ADVENTURE MOUNTAIN BIKE CAMP

WED, JUL 13, 10:00 AM- 4:00 PM

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd. Head to out to MoMBA, MetroParks



THE RIDING CENTER AT CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK

Come visit our 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

metroparks.org/ridingcenter.



Mountain Bike Area, for a day of mountain biking fun. Participants will learn about the basics of trail maintenance, safety equipment and riding skills and get a chance to experience the sweetest single track in the Dayton Region. Bikes and helmets are provided on a first-come, first-served basis with reservation. Registration is required and limited so please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 13Y - 16Y. Fees: \$20 **6678**

OUTDOOR SKILLS & SAFETY

TEEN ADVENTURE WILDERNESS CAMP

FRI, JUL 8, 10:00 AM- 4:00 PM

TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Amphitheater, 8539 Morning Star Road

What do you do when you get lost in the woods? How do you avoid getting lost in the woods? Join Five Rivers MetroParks for this Teen Adventure Day Camp as we explore the basic skills needed for adventures in the backcountry including hiking safety, shelter building, safe drinking water, the 10 outdoor essentials, and more! Registration is required and limited so please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 13Y - 16Y. Fees: \$20 **6696**

WILDERNESS FIRST AID

WED, AUG 10, 8:00 AM- 6:30 PM

THU, AUG 11, 8:00 AM- 6:30 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Wilderness First Aid prepares students for emergency situations that involve prolonged patient care in severe environments with improvised equipment. This course teaches what to do with a medical emergency when help is miles away and calling 9-1-1 isn't an option. Upon successful completion, participants will earn a nationally recognized wilderness first aid certificate valid for three years. Registration required and limited; call (937) 775-5821. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$160 **6713**

PADDLING

(FREE) PADDLE IN THE PARK

SAT, JUN 4, 10:00 AM- 4:00 PM

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.

Grab your friends and visit Eastwood MetroPark for the 12th annual Paddle in the Park. Paddle in the Park is a partnership between Five Rivers MetroParks,

Whitewater Warehouse and a variety of other paddling organizations. The event will allow the public to learn about paddle-sports, meet canoe and kayak manufacturers, try any style boat for free and more. All ages and skills levels are welcome! Visit metroparks.org/pip for more information and the schedule. **6718**

KAYAK BASICS

THU, JUN 9, 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM 6768

TUE, JUN 14, 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM 6769

MON, AUG 22, 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM 6770

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Road

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. Equipment is provided by Five Rivers MetroParks. Please dress to get wet, bring water and closed toed shoes with you. **Introduction to Kayaking is a prerequisite.** For more information and to register, please contact (937) 277-4374. Age: 12Y and up. Fees: \$40

(FREE) TRY KAYAKING!

Come try a kayak and see if it is something you would like to learn more about in the future. An introduction to the boat and proper safety gear will be offered and you will have the opportunity to try different styles of kayaks. It's a great way to learn about the sport in a controlled environment. For more information or to register please call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 6Y and up. 📍

TUE, JUN 21, 4:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6763

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Road

MON, JUN 27, 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM 6760

OFF SITE, (WPAFB) Prairies Swimming Pool, Building 240 Chapel Lane

MON, JUL 25, 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM 6761

OFF SITE, (WPAFB) Prairies Swimming Pool, Building 240 Chapel Lane

THU, AUG 4, 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM 6762

OFF SITE, (WPAFB) Prairies Swimming Pool, Building 240 Chapel Lane

WED, AUG 10, 4:00 PM- 7:00 PM 6764

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Road

FUNDAMENTALS OF MOVING WATER

THU, JUN 30, 5:30 PM- 8:30 PM

EASTWOOD METROPARK, River Access Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Learn moving water instruction that deals with controlling your kayak on the river. You will learn to perform a variety of maneuvers that will improve your paddling ability, promote confidence and help you avoid hazards frequently encountered on the river. Dress to get wet. For more information or to register please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$50 **6765**

TEEN ADVENTURE KAYAKING CAMP

FRI, JUL 15, 10:00 AM- 4:00 PM 6710

WED, JUL 27, 10:00 AM- 4:00 PM 6711

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Road

Get a start in kayaking in this teen daycamp! Learn kayaking safety, equipment and basic strokes while kayaking on beautiful Eastwood MetroPark's Blue Lake. The afternoon is filled with games and fun on the water to test your skills. 'Get Out and Live' this summer with Five Rivers MetroParks! Registration is required and limited. For more information and to register please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 13Y - 16Y. Fees: \$20

INTRO TO KAYAKING

TUE, JUL 19, 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM

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

Intro to Kayaking is the first step in our paddle-sports progression. We'll introduce you to various equipment selection, ranges for equipment, categories of paddle-sports, trip planning, navigation and general locations of where to paddle locally and regionally. It is a good way to ease into learning in a systematic way. For more information and to register, please call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 12Y and up. Fees: \$5 **6771** 📍

COWAN LAKE KAYAK TOURING TRIP

SAT, JUL 30 - SUN, JUL 31, 8:00 AM- 8:00 PM

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

Discover kayak touring during an overnight paddle at Cowan Lake. We will kayak



around the lake, stopping at a designated camping area and continue the next day. We will carry all of our supplies needed.

Prerequisite: You must complete the kayak progression (Intro to Kayaking and Kayak Basics) and attend the kayak rescue clinic provided before the trip. All equipment, food and transportation are included. For more information or to register, call (937) 277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$60 **6777**

KAYAK ROLL LESSONS

MON, AUG 29, 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.

Have you always wanted to learn to roll a kayak? Come get personal one on one instruction on how to properly roll a kayak. 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: \$40 **7074**

KAYAK NATURALIST FLOAT

THU, SEP 1, 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM
EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Enjoy a summer evening float with a MetroParks naturalist and learn about the wildlife that exists along the waterways in the Dayton area. Prior kayaking experience is required and the paddling progression is strongly recommended. **You must have completed kayak basics or have demonstrable experience to attend.** To register and for more information, call (937) 277-4374. Age: 12Y and up. Fees: \$5 **6775**

SPECIAL EVENTS ENTERTAINMENT

(FREE) FIRST FRIDAYS AT FIVE

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave. After work, head to RiverScape MetroPark to join in on First Friday. Grab your friends, enjoy a cold beer and listen to live music! This is the first stop before joining other downtown enthusiasts participating in First Friday downtown. MetroParks has proudly teamed up with the Downtown Dayton Partnership to bring you this exciting series! Bike parking onsite from 5-8:30 PM. Weather permitting. Bring a lawn chair for seating. Call (937) 274-0126 for more information.

SPUNGEWURTHY

FRI, JUN 3, 5:00 PM- 7:30 PM 6973

BLIND KARMA

FRI, AUG 5, 5:00 PM- 7:30 PM 6974

HUMAN CANNONBALL

FRI, SEP 2, 5:00 PM- 7:30 PM 6975

COOKOUT FOR SCOUTING

FRI, JUN 10, 11:30 AM- 1:30 PM
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Stop by and have lunch to help support the Boy Scouts of America at the 11th Annual Cookout for Scouting presented by the Miami Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America. Lunch is \$8 and supports sending youth to Scout camp. Call (937) 278-4825 for more information. Fees: \$8 **6953**

(FREE) CONTEMPORARY

CHRISTIAN CONCERT

SAT, JUN 11, 6:00 PM- 9:00 PM
ISLAND METROPARK, Island Band Shell, 101 E. Helena St.

Join 93.7 WFCJ and 100.7 WEEC for an evening of Contemporary Christian music! Food vendors will be onsite. Bring lawn chair for seating; no pets please. Call WFCJ at (937) 866-2471 or visit wfcj.com for more information. **6954**

(FREE) SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave. Free series of concerts on Saturday nights that feature a variety of genres that will have park guests up and dancing! Please bring a lawn chair for seating. All programs are held outdoors under the pavilion are weather permitting. Visit www.metroparks.org for band information, or call (937) 274-0126.

BONNEVILLE (INDIE ROCK)

SAT, JUN 18, 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM 6591

KICK-N-FLAVA (R&B)

SAT, JUN 25, 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM 6592

THE FRIES BAND (OLDIES)

SAT, JUL 9, 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM 6593

SON DEL CARIBE (SALSA/LATIN)

SAT, JUL 16, 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM 6594

THE ARK BAND (REGGAE)

SAT, JUL 23, 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM 6595

(FREE) BIG BAND NIGHTS:

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave. Imagine a romantic summer evening spent enjoying your favorite swing and big band music under a beautifully lit canopy! Five

Rivers MetroParks proudly presents this series of exciting performances featuring the area's best big bands every Thursday night in July and August. Chairs fill quickly; please bring a lawn chair for seating. There will be limited parking available July 28 due to festival set-up. Sponsored by Kettering Health Network. For more information, call (937) 274-0126.

PAM NOAH AND HER BIG BAND

THU, JUL 7, 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM 6583

EDDIE BROOKSHIRE ORCHESTRA

THU, JUL 14, 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM 6584

TOM DAUGHERTY ORCHESTRA

THU, JUL 21, 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM 6585

DAYTON JAZZ ORCHESTRA

THU, JUL 28, 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM 6586

SWING ERA BIG BAND

THU, AUG 4, 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM 6587

HAL HARRIS ORCHESTRA

THU, AUG 11, 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM 6588

BOB GRAY ORCHESTRA

THU, AUG 18, 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM 6589

KIM KELLY ORCHESTRA

THU, AUG 25, 7:30 PM- 9:30 PM 6590

(FREE) FREE SHAKESPEARE!

FRI, JUL 29, 7:00 PM- 9:30 PM

SAT, JUL 30, 7:00 PM- 9:30 PM

SUN, JUL 31, 1:00- 6:00 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Garden Green, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Free Shakespeare! is a traveling community of artists with a goal to create an event where people can rediscover the power and beauty of language and art. Enjoy a very casual evening to include an art exhibition accompanied by live music followed by a free performance of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." For additional information, contact Chris Shea at (937) 626-3794. **7061**

(FREE) KIDS DAY AT THE MARKET

SAT, JUL 30, 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM

PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.

A market for kids, by kids. The children, grandchildren and relatives of Market vendors will set up their own special kids-only market. Kids of any age can shop for fresh produce, bread, crafts, prepared foods and more. Call (937) 228-2088 for more information. **6951**

(FREE) DAYTON CELTIC FESTIVAL BREAKFAST**SUN, JUL 31, 9:00 AM-12:30 PM**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Visit "Top of the Morn'n Café" located on festival grounds and taste authentic Scottish and Irish breakfast items. Enjoy delicious fare such as pasti, Celtic fry, eccles cakes, empire biscuits and marmalade sticky buns, each for a nominal fee. The Celtic Breakfast is part of the 2011 Dayton Celtic Festival, presented by United Irish of Dayton. Visit www.unitedirishofdayton.org/festival or call (937) 372-9788 for more information. **6961**

BRITISH CAR DAY 2010**SAT, AUG 6, 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM**

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Park, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Presented by the MG Car Club, Miami Valley Triumphs and SW Ohio Centre, this car show features over 300 British cars, vendors, a swap meet and more. Registration fee: \$15/car. For details, call Skip Peterson at (937) 293-2819 or email: daytonbcd2010@aol.com. Fees: \$15 **6952**

(FREE) AN EVENING OF R&B AT THE ISLAND**SAT, AUG 13, 6:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

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

Five Rivers MetroParks, WROU 92.1 and Gilly's invite you to escape to the Island this summer for an evening of R&B music! Food vendors will be on-site. No coolers or pets, please. Bring a blanket or lawn chair for seating. Weather permitting. Call (937) 274-0126 for more information. Sponsored by WROU 92.1. **6907**

(FREE) TEEN MUSIC SLAM**FRI, AUG 19, 6:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

The Dayton Metro Library and Five Rivers MetroParks are teaming up once again to present the Teen Music Slam! This contest will bring teenaged bands and musicians from all over Montgomery County together to compete for the grand prize of eight hours of free recording studio time. For more information, including details regarding entry, call Gretchen Yonata at (937) 463-2665. **6949**

7TH ANNUAL ANTIOCH SHRINE CUSTOM CAR & BIKE SHOW**SUN, AUG 28, 12:00 PM- 6:00 PM**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Join fellow car and motorcycle enthusiasts at the 7th Annual Antioch Shrine Custom Car and Bike Show. Enjoy beverages at the Shrine Center and food provided by the Shrine Club. Registration begins at 12 PM and is \$10. Awards ceremony at 4:30 PM. Many chances to win door prizes! For more information or to register, call Rick Snider at (937) 274-1151. Fees: \$10 **6576**

FITNESS & HEALTH**ANOTHER DAM 50K****SAT, JUN 4, 8:00 AM- 5:00 PM**

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

This outdoor community opportunity, provided by the Ohio River Road Runners Club, is for a 50K run that will take place on the trails at Englewood MetroPark. For more information, visit www.orrcc.org or contact Frank Fenton at (937) 732-4627. Fees: \$25 **6541**

(FREE) 10TH ANNUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN WELLNESS WALK**SAT, JUN 4, 8:00 AM- 2:30 PM**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

A non-competitive walk that promotes heart health information to the African American Community. Sponsored by Premier Health Partners and Mahogany's Child on Miami Valley Hospital. For details, contact Frankye Herald at (937) 208-3863. **6950**

(FREE) POSSUM CREEK WALKFEST**SAT, JUN 4, 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM**

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

This outdoor community opportunity is provided by the Purple Penguins Walking Club for the beauty of nature and health of walking. Start anytime between 9 AM and 1 PM and finish by 4 PM. For more information, contact Helga Slade at (937) 429-3946. **6544**

(FREE) SUGARCREEK WEEKLY TRAILS RUNS**SUN, JUN 5 - SUN, AUG 28, 8:00 AM- 9:00 AM**

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

This outdoor community opportunity is sponsored by Up and Running. Weekly trail runs and walks at Sugarcreek

MetroPark, Sunday mornings starting at 8:00 am. Contact Up and Running for more information at (937) 432-9210. **7031**

SUGARCREEK 5 MILER**WED, JUN 8, 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM**

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

This outdoor community opportunity is provided by the Ohio River Road Runners Club. Join ORRRC for a 5 Mile run that will take place on the trails at Sugarcreek MetroPark. Fee: \$3 club members, \$9 non-members. For more information, contact Don Robinson at (937) 372-5530 or visit www.orrcc.org. Fees: \$3 **6560**

FRIENDS OF AIDEN 5K WALK RUN**SAT, JUN 18, 8:00 AM- 3:00 PM**

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Blue Heron Shelter, 2000 U.S. 40

This outdoor community opportunity is sponsored by Help Extinguish Hunter Syndrome, Inc. Hunter Syndrome is a rare genetic disorder. Join the 5K run/walk to raise money to fund research for a cure. Registration is \$15 by May 31, \$20 after May 31. For information, contact Jason Turpin at (937) 545-1317. Fees: \$15 **7025**

5 FOR THE KIDS 5K**FRI, JUN 24, 5:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

RECREATIONAL TRAILS, Great Miami River Bikeway, Ohio Bike Route 25

This outdoor community opportunity is provided by Dayton Bar Association's Young Lawyer's Division as a fundraiser for CARE House advocacy center for child victims of abuse and neglect. Contact David Warren at (740) 485-0199 for additional information. Fees: \$25 **6540**

(FREE) DAYTON DASH FOR CASH 1 MILER**SAT, JUN 25, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM**

EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

This outdoor recreational opportunity is sponsored by the Ohio River Road Runners Club. Four race categories: "Junior High and Younger," "High School and College," "Open Race," and "Elites" running under 6 minutes. \$3 for ORRRC members, \$9 non-members. For more information, contact Kenn Daily at (937) 454-9938 or visit www.orrcc.org. **7007**

(FREE) CARRIAGE HILL 5K**WED, JUL 13, 7:00 PM- 8:00 PM**

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Redwing Shelter/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.

This outdoor community opportunity is provided by the Ohio River Road Runners Club. Join ORRC for a 5K trail race using the orange trail at Carriage Hill MetroPark. \$3 club members, \$9 non-members. For more information, call Andy Helmick at (937) 974-3454 or visit www.orrrc.org. **6561**

(FREE) TAYLORSVILLE WALKFEST**WED, JUL 20, 3:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Canal Cove Shelter, 2000 National Rd.

This outdoor community opportunity is provided by the Purple Penguins Walking Club for the beauty of nature and health of walking. Start anytime between 3 PM and 6 PM and finish by 9 PM. For details, contact Helga Slade at (937) 429-3946. **6549**

ENGLEWOOD 5K**WED, JUL 20, 4:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

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

This outdoor community opportunity is provided by the Ohio River Road Runners Club. This 5K run will take place on the trails at Englewood MetroPark. For more information, contact Bob Schlosser at (937) 832-2514 or visit www.orrrc.org. Fees: \$3 **6542**

DAYTON CELTIC FESTIVAL 5K RUN/WALK**SAT, JUL 30, 4:00 PM- 6:30 PM**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Pre-registration forms are available at www.unitedirishofdayton.org/festival and must be postmarked by July 17. Advance registration cost \$15 with t-shirt, or \$12 without t-shirt. This race is open to runners and walkers of all ages. The 5K Race/Walk is part of the 2011 Dayton Celtic Festival, presented by United Irish of Dayton. It is made possible in part thanks to Kettering Health Network Sports Medicine program, and Five Rivers MetroParks. Call (937) 372-9788 for more information. Fees: \$15 **6960**

(FREE) POSSUM CREEK 5K TRAIL RUN**TUE, AUG 2, 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM**

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

This outdoor community opportunity is sponsored by the Ohio River Road Runners

Club for a 5K trail race at Possum Creek MetroPark. \$3 for members, \$9 for non-members. For more information call David Apple at (937) 298-7178 or visit their website at www.orrrc.org **6562**

(FREE) WOMEN'S WELLNESS NIGHT**FRI, AUG 26, 6:00 PM- 9:30 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Enjoy an informative evening on women's wellness. Network with other women, learn from programs related to your overall well-being and discover the many meanings of wellness. Keynote speaker and breakout sessions will explore many paths to wellness, including local food, herbal medicines and movement activities. Registration begins at 5:30 PM. This program is free, thanks to the generosity of our sponsor, Health Foods Unlimited. Registration is required. For a full program listing, call (937) 434-9005. Age: 18Y and up. **6808**

HERITAGE & HISTORY**(FREE) CITYFOLK FESTIVAL****FRI, JUL 1, 5:30 PM-11:00 PM 6666****SAT, JUL 2, 1:30 PM-11:00 PM 6667****SUN, JUL 3, 1:00 PM-10:00 PM 6668**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Cityfolk, Dayton's traditional arts organization, presents the region's largest multi-cultural festival. Enjoy three days of music from across America and around the world, food, musical instrument makers, family art-making activities and more! Watch the City of Dayton fireworks, Sunday, July 3, at 10 PM. Visit www.cityfolk.org/festival for more information, including performance schedule.

(FREE) PRAIRIE SERENADE: OLD TIME COUNTRY MUSIC**SAT, JUL 16, 5:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

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

Enjoy good music and a summer evening surrounded by prairie flowers at our Visitor Center. Bring lawn chairs and blankets for seating. Food will be available. Call (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: 1Y and up. **6982**

(FREE) DAYTON CELTIC FESTIVAL**FRI, JUL 29, 6:00 PM-11:00 PM 6957****SAT, JUL 30, 12:00 PM-11:00 PM 6958****SUN, JUL 31, 9:00 AM- 6:00 PM 6959**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave. Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the

Dayton Celtic Festival in downtown Dayton as it comes to life with the sights and sounds of Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Three stages offer live entertainment with audience seating under-cover. Enjoy Celtic arts and language, cultural demonstrations, children's activities, food, beverage, 5K run/walk, bike ride, a traditional Gaelic Mass and Celtic breakfast on Sunday, and lots more FREE family-friendly fun! Call (937) 372-9788 or visit www.unitedirishofdayton.org for more information.

(FREE) DAYTON AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL**SAT, AUG 27, 12:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

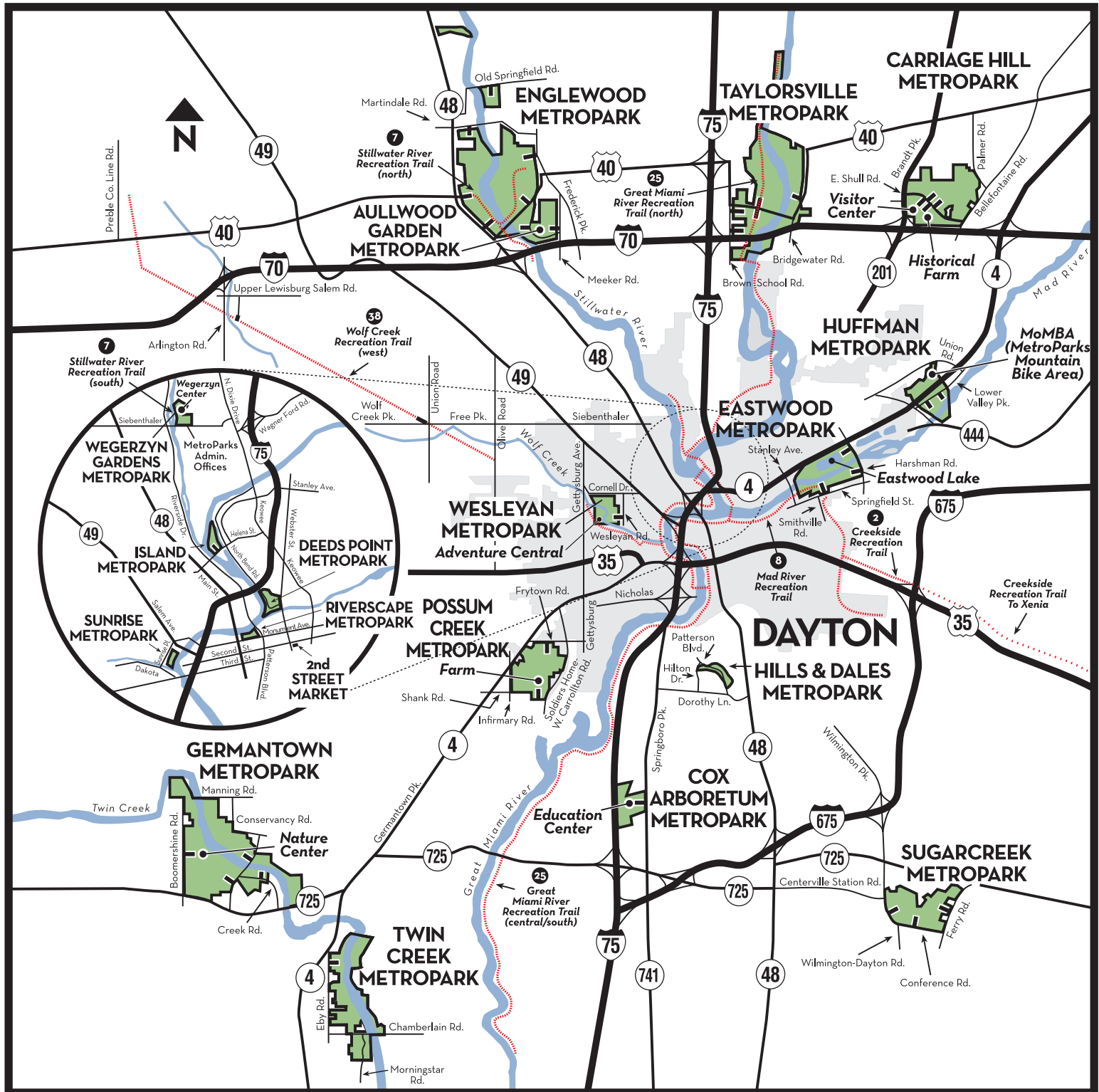
This one-day, family event brings the richness of the African American experience to Dayton and its surrounding communities through culture, arts, education and music. Come see The African Village, youth and writers pavilions, and enjoy live presentations of R&B, Gospel and Jazz performances. Merchandise and food vendors will be on site. You won't want to miss this citywide event where diverse people will be brought together in celebration! Call (937) 274-0126 for more information. **6722**

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