

# PARKWAYS



## SKATING RETURNS

RiverScape MetroPark's outdoor ice rink is bigger and better than ever!

See full story on pages 20-23.

FIGHTING THE EMERALD ASH BORER  
SEE PAGES 8-11

ACTION-PACKED SPEAKER SERIES LINED UP  
SEE PAGES 16-17

FIVE RIVERS  
METROPARKS



TM



# REMEMBER TO SAVE THE DATE

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



**Nov. 24**

**STOCK-UP  
WEDNESDAY**

PNC 2nd Street Market



**Nov. 26-28**

**ICE RINK GRAND  
OPENING WEEKEND**

RiverScape MetroPark



**Dec. 3**

**SHOP THE MARKET**

PNC 2nd Street Market



**Dec. 24**

**CHRISTMAS  
EVE SKATE**

RiverScape MetroPark



**Dec. 25**

**CHRISTMAS  
DAY SKATE**

RiverScape MetroPark



**Dec. 31**

**NEW YEAR'S  
EVE SKATE**

RiverScape MetroPark



**Jan. 1**

**NEW YEAR'S  
DAY SKATE**

RiverScape MetroPark



**Jan. 15**

**WINTER FAMILY  
FUN DAY**

PNC 2nd Street Market



**Feb. 8**

**ADVENTURE SPEAKER  
SERIES: GLOBAL COOLING  
ADVENTURE SHOW**

Wright State University



**Feb. 19-20**

**ORCHID SHOW**

Cox Arboretum 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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### WINTER IS WONDERFUL AT METROPARKS!

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Discover everything the new, larger outdoor ice skating rink has to offer.

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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](http://www.facebook.com/fiveriversmetroparks). You can also get updates by following us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/metroparkstweet](http://www.twitter.com/metroparkstweet).

#### ONLINE EXTRA

Imagining yourself at the new outdoor ice skating rink? Make it a reality this winter! Learn about activities and lessons taking place at the rink and even register to win a season pass to the rink! Visit [metroparks.org/IceRink](http://metroparks.org/IceRink) to learn more. Hurry! Free pass registration ends November 25!

**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!*





1

**#1 HAPPENIN' HABITATS:** Learn about the homes of Ohio's native wildlife at Germantown MetroPark's Nature Center.

**#2 HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS:** Make your holidays fun, unique and local by getting your cooling supplies and gifts at the PNC 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Market.



2

Photo by RA Makley



3

**#3 NICE ICE:** Hike over to Martin Falls in Englewood MetroPark on a cold day and check out the beautiful ice formations.

# TOP TEN THINGS

## TO DO IN YOUR FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS THIS WINTER

Photo by Elzora.com Photography



4

**#4 CAMPY FUN:** Enjoy the peacefulness of a winter campsite. Choose between backcountry options on the TVT or frontcountry offerings.

### #8 SNOWY SNAPSHOT:

Winter is a great time to try your hand at taking stark black-and-white images in the parks.



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**#5 WINTER WONDERLAND:** Take a brisk hike through Wesleyan MetroPark. There are 1.5 miles of trails and the Wolf Creek Bikeway.



5

### #6 CHILLY CREATURES:

Not all animals hibernate or migrate when the temperatures drop. What winter-loving animals can you spot?



6



Photo by Ryan Hyde

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### #9 PAGE-TURNER:

Too chilly to venture out? Why not curl up with a book about nature? Visit your local library for suggestions.



7

**#7 THINK 'RINK':** Host your next family get-together or office party at the MetroParks Ice Rink at RiverScape MetroPark. Call (937) 274-0126 for details.



10

**#10 STAMP OUT BOREDOM:** Smash cabin fever by participating in Passport to Nature. Visit [metroparks.org/passport](http://metroparks.org/passport) for details!

Dear Friends,

Wow! Does time pass quickly or what? Here we are heading into winter and the holiday season, yet it seems I just put that snow shovel away. Well anyway, here is wishing you the best over the holidays and the start to a great new year in 2011.

Speaking of the passage of time, it has been over 33 years since I first became an employee of Five Rivers MetroParks in June 1977. Jimmy Carter was president, the first Apple computer went on sale, you could buy a BMW320i for \$7,990, and the average income was \$15,000. So I have just taken the preemptive strike to basically tell you I am getting old, OK?

But in that span of time, I have witnessed MetroParks blossom from a teen (only 14 years old in 1977) into adulthood as a full contributor to our way of life in the region today. Along the way, the number of influences that have made an impression on my life personally and professionally is a “who’s who” of community leaders and activists. I have had the extreme pleasure of working with and knowing every commissioner but one (Charles Bridge) who has ever served on the Board of Park Commissioners—and let me tell you, they have always coveted their volunteer responsibility and championed the mission of MetroParks. People like Harry Price, William Patterson, Si Burick, Ruth Mead, Jeff Leland, Jean Woodhull, and Bob Siebenthaler have served as mentors and models of commitment. And the current board of Alan Pippenger, Karen Davis and Irv Bieser continues that service of dedication today and

into the future. I have also had the honor of following two other executive directors prior to my term: Don Schmidt and Marvin Olinsky. Both have left imprints on this agency as leaders and protectors of MetroParks, its reason for being, and public service.

I think it goes without saying that anyone who has the privilege of occupying the office of MetroParks Executive Director is only as effective as his or her staff. In that regard, I have been blessed over the past nine-plus years as executive director with the type of staff a boss can only dream of. The dedication and belief in their roles as public servants has produced the facilities, programs and public safety the community enjoys throughout the MetroParks system. They, too, had mentors and role models in previous staff over the years (too numerous to mention) that guided them and set standards for excellence. Add in the volunteers who contribute their time, energy and talents to give back and supplement staff efforts, and the recipe is there for continued high-quality results and experiences for years to come.

So why all the reflection and nostalgia? Well for those of you who are not aware, I have announced that I will be retiring from MetroParks at the end of February 2011. A bittersweet decision for sure, but the time is right. So this is my final director’s letter (I think I hear some faint applause?) and I wanted to make sure I acknowledged the individuals and groups who have made my career at MetroParks enjoyable and gratifying beyond my wildest dreams. It has been



an honor and pleasure to serve the cause of MetroParks and the citizens of Montgomery County. And certainly, while I am thanking and recognizing people for their support, I want to especially thank all of you MetroParks’ supporters and users who have time and time again expressed your faith and trust in MetroPark—and in me, personally. It has been truly appreciated and humbling. I am sure my successor will enjoy that same level of support because the agency will continue to flourish for generations to come.

So with that, I will say goodbye, but only from the perspective of executive director of MetroParks. I am staying in the area and intend to use MetroParks more fully and let my grandson, Max, show me the way.

Thanks again for everything, and get outside—time is fleeting!





## FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS



City Beets, a gardening and leadership program for 12- to 15-year-olds, is accepting applications for the 2011 growing season. Participants grow food at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark Community Garden while learning leadership skills. Produce is sold at the PNC 2nd Street Market, donated to the Foodbank, and used in nutrition and cooking lessons. For more information, call (937) 277-6545 or visit [metroparks.org/CityBeets](http://metroparks.org/CityBeets). Hurry! Applications available February 1, 2011; due March 1, 2011.

# Learn Skills and Help Make Your MetroParks a Better Place

Five Rivers MetroParks' service learning programs are designed to give volunteers training and hands-on learning in a variety of topics. These courses are taught by MetroParks Staff and local professionals. They are designed to provide specific information, giving volunteers marketable skills in a specific topic. After the classroom learning is complete, volunteers practice their new skills in the parks, donating between 25 to 50 hours, depending on the class.

"Volunteers completing these courses come away with serious expertise they can use independently," says Volunteer Services Manager Kevin Kepler. "The real value of the programs' high-quality training is that it allows volunteers to obtain the kinds of skills specific to tasks that MetroParks employees do on a day-to-day basis and may need assistance with."

Marketa Anderson is a true veteran of the MetroParks service learning programs, having completed Master Organic Gardener, Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist and Master Recycler courses. Her passion and dedication took her from one service learning program to the next, enhancing and expanding her talents. "Thirty-six years in the corporate world left me unfulfilled," Marketa explains. "My passion was, and still is, stewardship of the environment and respect for all living things. I felt the need to learn more and to spread the word."

Marketa became involved with Five Rivers MetroParks through educational programs, but it wasn't until she retired that she had the time to devote to volunteering. "I had always been into organic gardening, recycling and I've been a nature lover all my life," she says. "The service learning programs allowed me to take my interests one step further, sharing experiences with like-minded people and getting credentials to help others."

After she completed her service



learning programs, Marketa was able to lend her expertise to influence and assist others in her community. "After I took the master organic gardening program, I worked with the Springboro historical society. I started doing organic flower gardening and installed landscaping around the historic Null House. Being in the middle of a golf course made it a challenge." Marketa used her skills to influence other community organizations. "I'm a long-time member and supporter of Cityfolk, and they put me in charge of recycling for Cityfolk Festival." Her effect as a certified naturalist was more for the sake of posterity. "I always loved nature, and I wanted to get my granddaughter involved with the parks. I talked her into getting both of her parents to recycle and she just completed her fourth year as a docent in the Butterfly House at Cox Arboretum MetroPark."

"That's the best part about these service learning programs," Kevin says. "Once you get the skills and the know-how, there's no limit to the positive change you can make in your own home, neighborhood or community. Certainly, we appreciate the specialized work that improves our parks, but beyond that, you now have the tools to make your world a better place."

"I would encourage everyone to take advantage of the amazing breadth of learning opportunities that are available," Marketa says. "You might be amazed at where it will lead you. I thank MetroParks for allowing me to follow my heart. Finally I'm fulfilled. Exhausted, but fulfilled!" 🌿

## SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAMS OFFERED IN 2011

### ORGANIC MASTER GARDENER COURSE

Thursdays, January 6 to May 5, from 6-9:30 pm at Cox Arboretum MetroPark, 6733 Springboro Pike, Dayton OH 45449. Students will be exposed to a variety of environmentally safe concepts in gardening and traditional concepts in horticulture. This 18-week in-depth horticulture program includes quizzes, exams, a project, and 50 hours of volunteer service. For more information, contact Yvonne Dunphe at (937) 277-4147 for interview times by December 16.

### MASTER RECYCLER COURSE

Thursdays, February 3-March 3, from 6-8:30 pm at the Montgomery County Solid Waste District, 2550 Sandridge Drive, Moraine OH 45439. Classes will help you reduce, recycle and renew. Master Recycler candidates must complete the course and provide 25 hours of volunteer time to the Montgomery County Solid Waste District or Five Rivers MetroParks. Litter prevention will also be covered. Master Recycler candidates must complete the course and provide 25 hours of volunteer time to the Montgomery County Solid Waste District or Five River MetroParks. Potential applicants should contact Kevin Kepler at (937) 275-PARK to obtain an application and schedule an interview by January 21. Check for details on page 34.



### YOUR BEST VEGETABLE COURSE

Tuesdays, March 1-29 from 6-9 pm at Possum Creek Farm Education Building, 4790 Frytown Road, Dayton OH 45418. This five-session course in basic vegetable gardening covers composting and soils, planning, planting, pests, and preserving your harvest. Each class includes a lecture and hands-on activity. Participants will share pertinent gardening tips for the final session. A field trip and work days are included. Participants are requested to complete 25 hours of volunteer service to Five Rivers MetroParks. Contact Kevin Kepler at (937) 275-7275 ext. 1212 by February 18 to register.

### VOLUNTEER DRAFT HORSE DRIVING CLASS

Sunday, March 13, from 9 am - 3 pm at Carriage Hill Farm, 7800 Shull Rd, Dayton OH 45424. Students will learn the basics of harnessing and driving draft horses, while gaining experience working with Percheron draft horses. Twenty-five hours of solo driving are required to receive certification. Volunteers must be over 18 years and must have previous experience with horses.



### BECOME A VOLUNTEER

Express your care and concern for the environment, learn new skills and meet people with similar interests as a volunteer for Five Rivers MetroParks. Volunteer opportunities are as varied as the MetroParks themselves. All you need to become a volunteer is enthusiasm for our natural or cultural history, a willingness to learn and a desire to share with others. Your time commitment depends on you and your chosen assignment. No previous experience is required; training is provided.

As a volunteer, you will make things happen and provide a valuable contribution to the preservation and enjoyment of our natural areas. You will also receive benefits including an annual recognition party and training. Volunteers are fingerprinted and given a simple background check to ensure the safety and well-being of volunteers and park patrons alike.

It's fun, rewarding and easy to get involved! Visit [metroparks.org/Volunteer](http://metroparks.org/Volunteer) to learn more about volunteer opportunities. You can search for topics that interest you, or search for available opportunities at your favorite MetroPark. Contact the volunteer services manager at (937) 275-PARK for assistance or to apply. You can also download and print the volunteer application packet from the website [metroparks.org/Volunteer](http://metroparks.org/Volunteer), or click on the "Get Involved" tab on the home page.



# LITTLE BEETLE BIG PROBLEM

## INVASIVE SPECIES BRINGING HUGE CHANGES TO YOUR METROPARKS

Humans can be great stewards of the environment; they can also be nature's worst enemy. Every ecosystem around the globe is unique, and different species of plants and animals adapt to their environment, taking advantage of opportunities presented and managing threats in order to survive and thrive. This process takes time, but the world's most mobile species sometimes throw a wrench into the system. If a plant, animal or other life form is transported by humans across an ocean or other natural barrier, it will enter a world where its unique adaptations allow it to spread far faster than it did back home, and at the expense of a defenseless host.

The forests of the eastern United States have been repeatedly hit by these introduced pests. They have devastated American Chestnuts, American Elms, Eastern Hemlocks, and Butternuts, and they threaten many others. The latest one is on our doorstep and looks to be one of the worst so far. It's the Emerald Ash Borer.

By now, you may be familiar with this insect and its destructive life cycle. The entire state of Ohio has been quarantined, and all ash species are at risk. The borer has been discovered in several MetroParks, and an action plan is in place to deal with the borer's effects. Read on to familiarize yourself with this enemy of ash trees, learn about potential treatment options, and find out what Five Rivers MetroParks is doing to combat this beetle and how it will change the 15,000 acres the parks manage—and



ways you can help save the forests.

## MEET THE BORERS

According to information from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the emerald ash borer (EAB) is an insect from Asia that is attacking the Midwest's ash trees. EAB is a member of the metallic wood-boring beetle family. It attacks all native, North American ash trees regardless of the tree's health. Once an EAB infestation occurs, it kills the tree in three to five years.

The EAB is believed to have arrived in the United States in shipping pallets or cargo from eastern Asia approximately 10 years before it was discovered. It was first identified in the Detroit, Michigan, area in July 2002, and then in Lucas County, Ohio, in February 2003. EABs have since been discovered in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Ontario, Canada.

"The EAB is a slightly illusive insect because

CONSERVATION



it spends the majority of its life under the bark,” says Wendi Van Buren, regional urban forester with ODNR. “The larvae develop beneath the bark of ash trees and are flat, creamy white, with bell-shaped segments, and are about an inch long. Adult EABs are dark metallic green and a half-inch long.”

From late spring through autumn, adult beetles mate, and the female lays 60 to 90 individual eggs on ash tree bark. The eggs hatch seven to 10 days later, and the larvae tunnel into the tree just beneath the bark where they feed on the live tissue of the tree. “The larvae’s S-shaped feeding pattern, called galleries, disrupts the transport of water and nutrients, eventually killing the tree,” Van Buren says. Over the winter, the larvae remain under the bark. When warmer weather arrives, larvae enter the pupal stage and then transform into adults. The beetles emerge

through the bark, leaving behind eighth-inch, distinctive D-shaped exit holes. The adults feed on leaves before mating and laying eggs, starting the cycle over again.

The EAB attacks an ash tree starting from the top, and it can be difficult to diagnose at first. By the time you see the D holes at the base the tree is likely to have been infested for a while. Once an ash tree dies (from any cause), it doesn’t stay standing very long. After only a few years, it will be easily toppled by high winds.

### SPREADING THE INFESTATION

Adult EABs can fly only a few miles in their short lives, so they should be spreading very slowly. Unfortunately, they have been very successful at hitchhiking on firewood and nursery trees and have spread quickly along major highways, despite laws forbidding moving ash wood from a quarantined municipality. Already they have spread from Detroit to Wisconsin, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and Missouri. By the time Ohio started using the phrase “Don’t move firewood—it BUGS me,” it was already too late.

### DO YOU HAVE AN ASH TREE?

According to a fact sheet released by the Ohio State University Extension School of Natural Resources, ash trees are common throughout Ohio’s rural and urban landscape. “They are an important component of forests throughout the state, with estimates suggesting that there may be as many as 3.8 billion ash trees growing naturally throughout Ohio’s forests,” says Kathy Smith, a forestry extension associate. “Ash trees are also one of our most frequently planted ornamental trees and are found planted in yards and along streets throughout most Ohio communities.”



Epicormic shoots can be another sign of infestation.

Three species of ash are relatively common in MetroParks forests – white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), and blue ash (*Fraxinus quadrangulata*). Two other species, black ash (*Fraxinus nigra*) and pumpkin ash (*Fraxinus profunda*), are very rare in the MetroParks, usually found in wet, swampy woods. There are also a couple of other woody plants that have “ash” in their name, such as wafer ash and prickly ash, but are not true ash and are not susceptible to EABs.

The first step to determining whether your tree is ash is to look for opposite-branched limbs. Next, check the leaves. True ash leaves have a pinnately (feather-like) compound leaf, usually with more than seven leaflets.



White Ash Leaf





If you have identified a tree as an ash, look for these signs of EAB infestation:

- Dead branches
- Vertical splits in the bark
- Distinctive eighth-inch, D-shaped exit holes
- S-shaped, sawdust-packed galleries under the bark
- Fresh shoots of new leaves coming from the bottom part of the tree

### PLAN FOR ACTION

There's no getting around it: Ash trees that have been infected by the EAB will die. Tree owners have essentially two options for dealing with the aftermath of the pest. Trees can be removed (preferably before they completely die and become brittle, making them more unpredictable to take down). Another option is to use a chemical treatment to inoculate the ash tree, making it resistant to the insect.



There are several methods for chemical treatment; visit [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info) to learn more about your options.

Five Rivers MetroParks is in the process of determining how many and which ash trees it can afford to treat, and which trees need to be removed. "Ash trees are very common, and it is a big job to count all the trees around park buildings, roads and borders," says MetroParks Conservation Director Dave Nolin. "While most of these trees will have to be removed by park staff or contractors, some trees will be treated. These include groupings of each of our five native ash species. This will allow some ash trees to survive the incoming wave of EAB in the hope that there will come a time when they can survive on their own. In the meantime, they will continue to live and produce seeds."

### HELP SAVE OUR FORESTS

So, it appears inevitable that MetroParks forest lands will lose most of their ash trees. The good news is that most of our forests are well "stocked" with a large variety of other trees. Other trees will quickly fill the gaps, and after a few years, the impact of EAB will not be as obvious. "However, in some areas, ash is almost the only tree in the forest canopy, and recovery there will be difficult," Nolin says.

To restore these heavy-ash forests, Five Rivers MetroParks will need your help!

This fall, nature provided a huge crop of tree seeds, and staff and volunteers made a big effort to collect and store them. These seeds will be stored for the winter and grown into seedlings at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. "This coming spring we will be up to our ankles in tree seedlings!" Nolin says. In



One method of chemical injection to protect the tree against the borer.



## ONLINE EXTRA

To learn more about the emerald ash borer and how it will affect your neighborhood, visit these websites:

**[emeraldashborer.info](http://emeraldashborer.info)**

**[ohiodnr.com/tabid/5066/Default.aspx](http://ohiodnr.com/tabid/5066/Default.aspx)**



Fully-grown adult EAB.




EAB larvae in the fall.

an effort to educate people about trees and forests, MetroParks is introducing the MetroParks Tree Corp volunteer project. The Tree Corp will help Miami Valley residents and their families learn about the life cycle of trees while they help MetroParks restore our forests. One early leg of this effort includes the Forest Foster Family program.

"To be a Forest Foster Family, you just need a backyard and a love of nature," says Volunteer Services Manager Kevin Kepler. "We supply you with tree seedlings and thorough instructions, you provide a home for the seedlings for one year."

The Forest Foster Family is a great educational opportunity for local families as well as schools, clubs or groups, church organizations or anyone interested in preserving Dayton's green spaces. "We don't have nearly enough greenhouses or space to keep these little trees safe, so we're reaching out to friends of the MetroParks, anyone with a little extra space in their yards and in their hearts," Kepler says.

Forest Foster Families promise to care for the trees as instructed and keep it safe from deer, rabbits and other herbivores. In the spring of 2012, Forest Foster Families will be contacted to bring their seedlings to a designated location to restore a MetroPark forest.

Forest Foster Families may keep one or more seedling for their own yard. "A side effect of the EAB is this new awareness we've been able to generate about the importance of native species," Nolin says. "We've been fighting for a long time to get rid of the honeysuckle that has invaded the parks. Once we get rid of it and allow native species to grow, you'd be surprised at the difference it makes in letting you see the beauty of Ohio's native plants. I get lots of comments about the areas we've cleared. People say there are so many wildflowers, and those would have never had a chance to grow with the invasive species around. Now with the Forest Foster Family program, we can reintroduce native trees to woodlands devastated by the EAB." 



**Interested in learning more about the Forest Foster Family program? Want to become a Forest Foster Family? Contact Kevin Kepler at (937) 275-7275 weekdays.**

# WINTERIZE YOUR GARDEN

## A LITTLE PREP WORK CAN SET YOU UP FOR A FANTASTIC YEAR IN THE SPRING

Once the last blooms have been plucked or the final gourd pulled from the vine, it can be tempting to forget about your snow-covered patch until the seed catalogs arrive, but if you have plants that need attention year-round, or if you really want to get a jump start on next year's growing season, follow these tips to make your garden its best!

### DECEMBER

- ✦ Prune evergreens carefully for holiday decorations.
- ✦ Explore the gardens for interesting seeds, vines, berries, and ground covers to add to holiday decorations.
- ✦ Mulch bulb beds to protect from thawing and freezing and to conserve moisture. Check all hardy bulbs potted earlier; move indoors into good light when roots develop and 2-3 inches of new growth are visible.
- ✦ Inventory leftover supplies. Store remaining insecticides or herbicides safely and protect from freezing.
- ✦ Keep houseplants away from drafty windows and cold glass.



### JANUARY

- ✦ Visit Conservation Corner at the Arboretum after a snowfall for a magical experience.
- ✦ Prune plants while dormant; including fruit trees, summer and fall blooming shrubs, and vines.
- ✦ Call an arborist to prune and thin major trees to avoid winter storm damage.
- ✦ Check shrubs and trees for rodent damage. Protect trees and shrubs with wire mesh or tree wrap.
- ✦ Use boughs of discarded Christmas trees to protect tender broadleaf evergreens from sunscald and small plants from frost heave.
- ✦ Use sand or ashes on icy walks and drives instead of salt. It can be toxic to plants and create poor conditions in the soil.
- ✦ Sow bibb, buttercrunch, black seeded Simpson, and oakleaf lettuces; arugula; chervil; corn-salad; basil; and Italian parsley under fluorescent light.
- ✦ Plan spring and summer landscape changes. Consider adding some edible plants into your landscape.
- ✦ Groom houseplants each time you water and pinch back houseplants to maintain shape.

# EDUCATION





## FEBRUARY

- Limit pruning of spring bloomers to removal of sucker growth and rubbing, overgrown or broken branches.
- Check protective screening and mulches; loosen if matted by snow.
- Water broadleaf and needle evergreens during thaw.
- Open and ventilate cold frames if temperature is above 45 degrees.
- Wash and scrub pots and flats used for seedlings.
- Clean and sharpen tools.
- Watch your mailbox for the arrival of seed catalogs! ➤



## MIAMI VALLEY GARDENING CONFERENCE: THE FUTURE OF GARDENING

**Saturday, March 5, 7:30 am - 4:30 pm**

**Sinclair Community College, 444 West Third St., Dayton**

Keynote speakers include Peter Del Tredici of Harvard's Arnold Arboretum and Jeff Lowenfels, noted soil and garden expert. Enjoy four break-out sessions with sections for new, experienced and vegetable gardeners; hands-on demonstrations; and optional cooking sessions by The Culinary Arts Department of Sinclair. Price includes breakfast snack, full lunch, breaks and parking. Pre-registration cost is \$50 or \$25 for full-time students, due February 18. Visit [metroparks.org/Conference](http://metroparks.org/Conference) or call (937) 277-6545 to register or for information.







**CHILDHOOD DREAMS (2007)**  
Willow saplings and creosote, 12' high x 47' wide.  
Desert Botanic Gardens, Phoenix, AZ  
Photo by Adam Rodriguez

# TWIGGYTALENT



**TOAD HALL (2005)**  
Willow saplings, 27' high.  
Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, Santa Barbara, CA  
Photo by Nell Campbell

## ARTIST "BRANCHES OUT" TO CREATE SPECIAL EXHIBIT AT WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK

Visitors to Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark are no stranger to the beauty of nature. This facility features formal gardens, the Stillwater River and the adjacent bikeway as well as the popular Children's Discovery Garden. Soon, this MetroPark also will be home to a unique art exhibit that combines the beauty of nature and the drama of sculpture. World-renowned artist Patrick Dougherty will weave one of his extraordinary branch sculptures in the North Plaza area, starting this coming spring. "We're thrilled to have this kind of opportunity to demonstrate the crossover between nature and art in such a theatrical way," says Wegerzyn's Volunteer Coordinator Bob Butts. This project was made possible through contributions from the Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation. "We are really excited by this project, and are most gratified with the response of our

donors, who raised over \$50,000 within weeks of our announcement of the project," says Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation president Dick Amann. "We're very thankful that the Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation was able to use their resources once again to enhance our park-goers' experience," Butts says. The sculpture will be constructed with invasive willows harvested at Englewood MetroPark. This art installation is different because of its "organic" nature. At the end of its "life," the sculpture will be dismantled, chipped and returned to the earth as compost. "It's a lesson in sustainability from beginning to end," Amann says.

The installation is slated for completion by summer 2011 and will be on display until spring of 2013. "What makes Patrick's artwork unique is the enormous size," Butts says. "We're not talking a half dozen little baskets or a few wicker rockers—these are huge collections featuring flowing, woven wonders, some of which are two stories tall!"





**SUMMER PALACE (2009)**  
Morris Arboretum, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.  
Photo by Rob Cardillo

Dougherty began his path as an artist in the 1980s. After discovering primitive folk art techniques, Dougherty was able to combine his carpentry skills and love of nature to create something truly special. His exhibits quickly grew from single pieces to huge installations, sometimes requiring truckloads of sticks delivered on-site. During the past two decades, he has built more than 150 works throughout the United States, Europe and Asia.

Another unique aspect of this project will be community involvement. Unlike traveling artists' exhibits or conventional installations, Dougherty's exhibit will engage volunteers to help assist the artist. "We love that our volunteers already have a sense of pride and ownership in the parks, and here is a clever way to showcase both art and volunteerism," Butts says. "There's no way you can not notice these displays! Volunteers will be able to bring their family and friends back to Wegerzyn and show them these huge installations and say 'I helped build this; I helped take something ordinary and turn it into something amazing.'" 🌿



**BE IT EVER SO HUMBLE (1999)**  
Maple saplings, 24' high.  
College of Art, Savannah GA  
Photo by Star Kotowski

## ONLINE EXTRA

Visit **[stickwork.net](http://stickwork.net)** to view more of Patrick Dougherty's work or order one of his books.

## PUTTING TWO AND TWO TOGETHER (2004)

Willow and Maple saplings, 30' high.  
Woodson Art Museum, Wausau, WI  
Photo by Richard Wunsch



## "STICK" WITH THIS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Volunteers will be needed to harvest, sort, bundle and tie branches during March. Volunteers also will assist with transporting the branches directly to the sculpture site, additional stripping and preparation as necessary, and handing the branches to Patrick Dougherty and his assistants as they need them. The volunteers will also assist with the bending and weaving of the branches as the sculpture progresses. The entire time, volunteers will work directly beside the artist to construct the sculpture. Weekday April volunteer shifts will be 8 AM to noon, and 1-5 PM from April 3-23. Weekend volunteer shifts will be available April 9-10. For more information on this unique volunteer opportunity, contact Bob Butts at (937) 276-7055 or e-mail him at [bbutts@metroparks.org](mailto:bbutts@metroparks.org).



# CRUSH CABIN FEVER!

## TIPS FOR "THINKING OUTDOORS" DURING COLD MONTHS

It can be easy to go a little stir-crazy after long winter months staying cooped up in the house. Nothing beats boredom and cabin fever like a little inspiration to motivate you to get outside post-thaw. Five Rivers MetroParks Outdoor Recreation Department has a few outdoor-inspiring tips for folks looking to beat the winter blahs:

- If you're close to climbing the walls at home, why not do so, literally, indoors at Urban Krag Climbing Center, 125 Clay St., Dayton (in the Oregon District). Get schedules, prices and other information at [urbankrag.com](http://urbankrag.com).
- Love to fish? In addition to hitting several MetroParks ponds for ice fishing, why not cozy up indoors and learn how to build your own fly rod, or make your own lures? The website [flyfisherman.com](http://flyfisherman.com) offers helpful how-to guides. You can also get fly fishing tips at [metroparks.org/fishing](http://metroparks.org/fishing) so you can be prepared for the season.
- Running outdoors can present slick hazards in the winter. Consider investing in a treadmill or find a gym with an indoor running track. You'll lose the scenery, but gain in footing.



- Too cold for biking? Attend a spinning class or work on bike maintenance to keep your equipment in top shape. Turn to page 41 for details on programs about bike maintenance, and even a trip to tour the bicycle museum.
- Expand your backcountry skills by taking an elective course, such as Backcountry Gourmet Cooking or Intro to Alcohol Stoves (see page 41) and take your backpacking experience to new levels come spring.
- Build your kayaking skills by taking a roll lesson in the YMCA's indoor pool. Flip to page 42 for information on this program.
- Even indoor mountain biking facilities are available. Join us as we travel to Ray's Mountain Bike facility in Cleveland (see page 42).
- There are lots of media options featuring outdoor activities that you can enjoy from the comfort of your own home. Watch ESPN's Winter X Games, read a skill-building outdoor book, or subscribe to an outdoor magazine.

One good way to get out of the house and into inspiration is to attend one of the free Adventure Speaker Series programs. Turn to page 40 for complete information about these upcoming speaking events:

- ***Making of an Olympic Champion***, featuring Lou Vito, 7:00 PM, December 6, 2010, at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. At an early age, Lou knew his son had huge potential to be one of the world's elite snowboarders. Lou Vito will share the blueprint for making his son Louie's Olympic dream a reality.
- ***7,200 Miles on the Appalachian Trail***, featuring long-distance backpacker Andy Niekamp, 7:00 PM, January 12, 2011, at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. Niekamp will share his experiences and lessons learned while completing multiple section hikes of the Appalachian Trail. He is also the founder of the Dayton Backpackers and Hikers group.

# RECREATION





ANDY NIEKAMP

### 👉 **Aconcagua: Two Brothers' Quest for the Summit,**

featuring mountaineers Bob and John Spinks, 7:00 PM, January 24, 2011, in the Endeavor Room at Wright State University's Student Union Center. Climbing and ultimately summiting Argentina's 22,841-foot-high Cerro Aconcagua was an exhilarating and fulfilling experience for these brothers, but not without some apprehensions.

### 👉 **48 States in 48 Days on a Bike,**

featuring long-distance cyclist Philip Nagle, 7:00 PM, February 3, 2011, in the Endeavor Room at Wright State University's Student Union Center. Live the adventure of traveling over 8,000 miles around the country on a bicycle in less than two months! Tipp City native Phil Nagle will share his experiences and the lessons learned along his journey. In the summer of 2009, Phil completed an 8,170-mile solo ride through all of the 48 contiguous U.S. states in just 56 days, 10 hours – setting a world record for the fastest to complete such a journey.



### 👉 **Global Cooling Adventure Show,**

featuring award-winning climate consultant and world champion extreme skier Alison Gannett, 7:00 PM, February 8, 2011, in the Apollo Room at the Wright State University Student Union. Gannett, the keynote for the 2011 Speaker Series, is sponsored by the Presidential Lecture Series at Wright State University. Gannett has dedicated her life to saving our snow, water, and ecosystems from the devastating effects of climate change. Along with designing and building a straw house and converting the world's first solar-powered 100 MPG SUV, she has led ski expeditions to document glacial recession around the world. 🍃



ALISON GANNETT



# SNOW BUSINESS

## THERE'S PLENTY TO ENJOY IN THE PARKS WHEN THE MERCURY DIPS

When the world is blanketed in snow, it's easy to forget your MetroParks are still open. In addition to paved bikeways and indoor facilities such as the PNC 2nd Street Market, there are plenty of opportunities to explore your Five Rivers MetroParks and experience all the winter outdoor fun with your family.

### SLEDDING

What better way to spend a crisp winter day than zooming down a slope on a saucer or huddled on a sled with a loved one? Please be cautious and look out for other park visitors before you coast downhill, and once you're at the bottom, know that other sledders are on their way down, and try to get to either side quickly. If everyone is vigilant and sleds carefully, everyone will have an enjoyable time on the hills! Grab your hats, mittens and Rosebuds and head out to one of these MetroParks that features great sledding hills:

- **Carriage Hill MetroPark:** Sledding hill is located in the pasture next to the visitor center at East Shull Road near State Route 201 in Huber Heights.
- **Englewood MetroPark:** Sledding hill is in the west park. Use the 100 E. National Road entrance (U.S. Route 40 at State Route 48) and follow the park road to the right for parking.
- **Germantown MetroPark:** Sledding hill is located at 6206 Boomershine Road, just north of Manning Road.



Photo by Mark Alfson

- **Taylorsville MetroPark:** Sledding hill's entrance is on the east side of Brown School Road, south of U.S. Route 40.

### CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Cross country skiing doesn't require hills and can be enjoyed on almost any snow-covered location. It's also easy to learn and offers an entire body aerobic workout. Five Rivers MetroParks embraces the sport and encourages residents to get out on their skis and use our existing hiking trails or blaze your own trails across snow-covered public spaces. Check out the map in this issue of **ParkWays** to find a MetroPark near you!

### HIKING TRAILS

Hiking trails are open all winter long in most MetroParks. Some trails are plowed and others are packed snow. There are nearly 80 miles of hiking trails and 25 miles of horseback riding trails. Take home a map of one

of our parks from any park's visitor center, or stop by the MetroParks' main office at 1375 E. Siebenthaler Ave. in Dayton. Better yet, download a copy of any publication (including **ParkWays**) from the MetroParks' website: [www.metroparks.org](http://www.metroparks.org).

### CAMPING

Just picture it - the fresh-fallen snow; the clean-smelling, brisk air; the complete serenity of a hushed forest, devoid of pestering insects and chatty woodland creatures. Take advantage of backcountry camping options on the Twin Valley Trail.



Photo by RA Makley



## ONLINE EXTRA

Visit **metroparks.org/Winter** to find for more ideas on snowy fun this season.

Twenty-two miles of trail connecting Twin Creek and Germantown MetroParks are open all year, with backcountry hiking and camping for individual and group campers. If you're looking for frontcountry camping, there are 16 sites located in seven different MetroParks. All that's required to camp is a permit (and maybe a few heavy blankets), and you're set for your winter outdoor adventure. Call the Outdoor Recreation Department at (937) 277-4374, and they'll be happy to help you kick off your winter camping experience.



Photo by Abby Batchelder

## ICE FISHING

Anglers don't have to pack away their hooks and lures when it gets nippy outside. A few MetroParks offer opportunities for ice fishing on ponds and lakes. In addition, fishing can also be good in deeper sections of our local rivers and near warm water discharges. A note to anglers: Before you shimmy onto frozen lakes and ponds, be aware that ice conditions are NOT monitored by staff; please use safety precautions when heading out on the ice.

🍂 **Carriage Hill MetroPark:** Ice fishing is permitted, but ice conditions are not monitored. Fish without a license and free-of-charge from the banks of both Cedar Lake and North Woods Pond.

🍂 **Englewood MetroPark:** Ice fishing is permitted off Old Springfield Road, but ice conditions are not monitored. An Ohio fishing license is required.

🍂 **Possum Creek MetroPark:** Ice fishing is permitted, but ice conditions are not monitored. Fish free-of-charge and without a license in ponds and Argonne Lake. There is a 10-inch minimum size on bass and a six-fish limit per day. Trout is introduced to the ponds during cold months (typically December through February or March). 🍂



# FROZEN FUN

## ICE SKATING RETURNS TO RIVERSCAPE METROPARK

Repair those broken laces and sharpen your blades—with the completion of RiverScape Phase III, ice skating has returned to RiverScape MetroPark! Sheltered under the covered pavilion, the new rink is nearly 50 percent larger than its predecessor and offers more skate rentals with an extended skating season. Grab your mittens and the kids, your sweetheart, your coworkers and your friends and hit the ice!

### THE FROSTY DETAILS

Officially open on Black Friday (Nov. 26, the day after Thanksgiving), the ice rink will host outdoor skating through March 13, 2011. Patrons may skate daily. Monday through Thursdays, there is no admission charge, so if you have your own skates, you can practice your figure-eights for free. Don't have a pair? No problem; skate rentals are just \$3 on weekdays. Everyone gets into the rink for \$5 on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, and this cost includes rentals if you need them.

Skate rental sizes range from preschool size 8 through women's size 11 and men's size 15 in whole sizes. While the rink is open, you can

also take advantage of delicious treats from Skyline at the Hub, including a cozy cup of hot chocolate.

### RENT THE RINK

Want to host the "coolest" party in town? You can rent the MetroParks Ice Rink Sunday and Thursday evenings from 6-8 p.m. The \$200 rental fee includes 50 pairs of skates and 50 cups of hot chocolate. Host your next birthday bash, youth group outing, office holiday party or family get-together at this unique venue. Call the Urban Events office at (937) 274-0126 ext. 1769 for further details or to reserve your date.

### LESSONS, ACTIVITIES AND MORE

If you've never skated before and would like to learn, or if you've skated a few times and are still a bit wobbly, consider attending a Fundamentals of Skating lesson. These drop-in programs cost just \$5, and that covers your skate rentals. A skating veteran will lead your hour-long lesson and teach you how to skate forward and backward, how to stop and even the proper way to fall! This program is a must for people of all ages who want to learn the basics of skating in order to enjoy the whole season. Attend as many programs as you'd like until you've reached

GET OUT & LIVE!





a comfortable skill level. Adults-only skating lessons also are available, as well as four-week progressive course series. Children's lessons include Ice Princesses and Ice Pirates programs. Got your basics covered? Take your toe pick to the next level with So You Think You Can Skate programs. Learn more advanced techniques in this four-week, instructor-led series.

In addition to lessons, special themed nights, dance parties and holiday events are scheduled throughout the season. Basic Ice



BROOMBALL

## ICE RINK HOURS OF OPERATION

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
11 AM		Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	All skate	All skate
12 NOON		Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	All skate	All skate
1 PM	All skate	Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	All skate	All skate
2 PM	All skate	Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	All skate	All skate
3 PM	All skate	Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	All skate	All skate
4 PM	All skate	Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	All skate	All skate
5 PM	All skate	Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	Free skate	All skate	All skate
5:30 PM	BREAK					All skate	All skate
6 PM		Free skate	Free skate	Free skate		All skate	All skate
6:30 PM		Free skate	Free skate	Free skate		BREAK	
7 PM		Free skate	Free skate	Free skate		All skate	All skate
8 PM		Free skate	Free skate	Free skate		All skate	All skate
9 PM						All skate	All skate
10 PM						All skate	All skate

**FREE SKATE:** No admission, rentals \$3

**ALL SKATE:** Admission \$5, includes cost of rentals

**Special hours December 20 through January 2** (winter break)

**Broomball League games** - No Free Skate 6-8 p.m. Mondays between January 3 and March 13

**SPECIAL DAYS:** Christmas Eve Skate (Dec. 24), rink closes at 6:30 p.m.  
 Christmas Day Stake (Dec. 25), rink open 1-8 p.m.  
 New Year's Eve Skate (Dec. 31), rink open from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and from 8 p.m. to midnight  
 New Year's Day Skate (Jan. 1), rink open 1-8 p.m.





a “broom” (a stick shaped like a broom) to move the ball around the ice and score goals. Rules and strategies are similar to those of ice hockey. “Broomball does not require expensive equipment or special skills, just an open mind and a positive attitude!” says Jeff Downs, president of the Dayton Broomball Association.

Gather your co-ed team together and register at [www.daytonbroomball.org](http://www.daytonbroomball.org). The \$200 team cost covers your eight-game season and includes sticks, helmets and balls. The 30-minute games are played Monday nights between 6 and 8 p.m. “The league is open to the first 12 teams that register and pay,” Downs says. “So get your friends, co-workers, church group, Air Force flight—whoever, and sign up today.” In addition to the season at RiverScape MetroPark, the Dayton Broomball Association hosts fall, winter and spring leagues at South Metro Sports in Centerville. This location also offers free drop-in broomball orientation lessons, so you can get comfortable with the sport and are prepared when your team hits the ice.



Dance will introduce skaters to fundamental concepts that will let you release your inner Michelle Kwan or Brian Boitano. Move on to master dance techniques for a variety of styles, such as swing, salsa or rock. Holidays are also a hit at the rink. The rink will be open Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year’s Eve, New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Valentine’s Day and President’s Day. Admission on these special days is \$5 and includes rentals.

Those who are into friendly backyard-style sports should check out broomball. Broomball is a team sport played on ice. Players wear shoes rather than skates, and use

Get the scoop  
on lessons,  
dance nights and  
more on page 42.





The rink will be open Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Valentine's Day and President's Day. Admission on these special days is \$5 and includes rentals.




If you don't have a team but are still interested in playing, you can sign up as a "free agent." Individuals on this list are sent out to team captains so they can fill their roster if they're short, or if one of their team members can't make it to a game and they need a substitute.

"We can't guarantee free agents will be asked to join a team, but we do what we can to provide them with an opportunity to play," Downs says.

Spectators are encouraged to attend. "We hope to have announcers for all games to announce goals, penalties and other commentary, as well as provide fun facts about players," Downs says. "We want this to be an enjoyable experience for players and viewers alike!"

Mark your calendar  
for the  
**GRAND OPENING**  
Friday, November 26

For more information, call the Urban Events office at (937) 274-0126 or contact the Dayton Broomball League at [info@daytonbroomball.org](mailto:info@daytonbroomball.org). Downs emphasizes that newcomers are always welcome and that the only tools you need to play are a sense of balance and an open mind. "Most people are skeptical about the idea of running on ice wearing shoes, but once you've played, you'll be hooked!" 

## SEASON PASSES

Season passes are available for \$25 per person and \$60 per family of five. Skate anytime the rink is open to the public November 26, 2010, through March 13, 2011. Skate rentals and rink admission are included.

## WIN A FREE SKATING PASS!

Five Rivers MetroParks is kicking off the new skating season by giving away a skating pass. Register to win by visiting [metroparks.org/IceRink](http://metroparks.org/IceRink) and clicking the link, or click on the ice rink link on the amenities tab at RiverScape MetroPark's home page ([metroparks.org/RiverScape](http://metroparks.org/RiverScape)). Fill out the short survey and enter to win before the season starts November 26.

## MAD RIVER MADNESS

For every five MetroParks Ice Rink rentals purchased in 2011, you'll get a free weekday Avalanche Tubing ticket courtesy Mad River Mountain.



Offer available while supplies last.  
For details, call (937) 278-2607.

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES OFFICE HOURS 8 AM-5 PM, MON.-FRI. (AS OF NOV. 1)

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

## ADVENTURE CENTRAL AT WESLEYAN METROPARK

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

## AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK

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

## CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK

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

### Carriage Hill Riding Center

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

## COX ARBORETUM METROPARK

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

### Butterfly House

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

## DEEDS POINT METROPARK

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

## EASTWOOD METROPARK

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

## ENGLEWOOD METROPARK

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

### Englewood MetroPark Disc Golf Course

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

## GERMANTOWN METROPARK

7101 Conservancy Rd., Germantown. Follow St. Rt. 725 west through Germantown. Turn right onto Creek Rd. Take right on Conservancy Rd.; entrance will be on left. To Nature Center (6910 Boomershine Rd.): Pass Creek & Conservancy roads; turn right onto Boomershine Rd., park entrance will be on right. (937) 855-7717

### Nature Center

**HOURS:** Fridays, NOON-5PM;

Saturdays 10AM-5PM; Sundays NOON-5PM.

The center will also be open for scheduled public programs and tours by appointment.

### Twin Valley Backpacking Trail

Overnight parking available by permit (937) 277-4374 at Boomershine trail head, 6206 Boomershine Rd.

## HILLS & DALES METROPARK

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

## HUFFMAN METROPARK

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

### MoMBA-MetroPark Mountain Bike Area

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

## ISLAND METROPARK

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

## 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 Risdege 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 [WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/DETOURS](http://WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/DETOURS)

## TRAIL CONDITIONS

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

MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA) Trail Conditions:

**(937) 277-4374**

Twin Valley Backpacking Trail (TVT) Conditions: **(937) 274-3163**

## BIKEWAY CLOSURES

### GREAT MIAMI TRAIL

Due to the current I-75 construction, the bikeway on both sides of the Great Miami River just south of Island MetroPark will be re-routed for the next two seasons. The west side (when traveling north) will detour across the Riverside Bridge to the pedestrian bridge, taking patrons to the east side at Deeds Point MetroPark. The east side will be rerouted along North Bend Boulevard and remain open unless there is active construction that endangers motorists and cyclists. When traveling south, the west side will detour over the Helena Street bridge to the east side.

### CREEKSIDE AND IRON HORSE TRAILS

The Creekside Bikeway and Iron Horse Bikeway from Eastwood MetroPark to the county line will be under construction in October in order to make repairs. Users must walk around the areas as they are being repaired. The work being performed will disrupt only small sections at a time (8 to 40 feet).

## ROAD CLOSED

The intersection at Chamberlin Road and Morning Star will be closed for 12 weeks, which began Sept. 13, 2010. The closure is due to roadwork being performed by Franklin Township and Warren County. They will be replacing a culvert under the intersection and rebuilding the ditchlines. Access to the Chamberlin Road trailhead and Twin Creek camping and horse lot will be blocked. Access is available to these areas via Route 4 to Eby Road to Chamberlin road for trails; to Morning Star Road for camp and horse trails.

## SUBFACILITY HOURS

### CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY GARDEN WINTER HOURS

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

### GERMANTOWN NATURE CENTER HOURS

Beginning Jan. 1, 2011, the Nature Center will be open from 1-4 PM Saturdays and Sundays, or for programs.

## WATER SHUT-OFF

Attention: Some water features in the MetroParks may be shut off during the winter months to prevent pipe bursts. This includes all water playgrounds, some restrooms (pit toilets will still be available), and some drinking fountains. Call the park at (937) 275-PARK weekdays if this will affect your trip, such as a shelter reservation or camping experience. Water will be turned off close to the date of the first frost, typically late October to early November.

## 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. Currently, some sections of the orange trail at Taylorsville MetroPark have been closed for upgrades. Visit [metroparks.org/detours](http://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](http://www.metroparks.org).*





# FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS IS PLEASED TO PRESENT **YOUR GUIDE TO WINTER 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](http://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](http://www.metroparks.org)**. You can register online or by phone.

## **ONLINE**

You can also search for events online at **[www.metroparks.org](http://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.

FRESHLY FALLEN SNOW AT WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK





**THU, DEC 2, 2010**

**10:00 AM Backpacking Babies: Winter Beginnings**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 36)

**FRI, DEC 3, 2010**

**10:30 AM Azra's Favorite Xmas Cookies**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)  
**12:30 PM Project Feeder Watch**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)  
**3:00 PM Shop the Market**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 44)  
**7:00 PM Holiday and Top 40**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**SAT, DEC 4, 2010**

**9:00 AM Christmas Walk in Downtown Dayton**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 45)  
**9:00 AM Winter Bird Search**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)  
**10:00 AM Annual Holiday Tea Party**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 35)  
**10:00 AM Pet Pictures with Santa**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 45)  
**10:30 AM Project Feeder Watch**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)  
**1:00 PM Homemade Pasta**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 35)  
**1:00 PM Animal Tracking and Behavior**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 36)  
**2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It!** Eastwood MetroPark (see page 41)  
**7:00 PM Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)  
**7:00 PM Star-late Skates**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)  
**9:00 PM Barred Owl Prowl**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 36)

**SUN, DEC 5, 2010**

**12:00 PM Christmas on the Farm**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 34)  
**1:00 PM Little Elf Workshop**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)  
**2:00 PM FUNDamentals of Skating**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**MON, DEC 6, 2010**

**7:00 PM Making of an Olympic Snowboard Champion**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 40)

**TUE, DEC 7, 2010**

**9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 36)  
**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Winter Mysteries**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 36)

**WED, DEC 8, 2010**

**1:00 PM Tike Hike: Discover Nature**, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 36)

**THU, DEC 9, 2010**

**9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)  
**10:00 AM Parent and Preschooler: Plant Band**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 37)  
**10:30 AM Ladies Day at the Market**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)  
**1:00 PM Tike Hike: Discover Nature**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 37)  
**6:00 PM Backcountry Gourmet Cooking**, Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 41)

**FRI, DEC 10, 2010**

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Animal Homes**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)  
**10:30 AM December Centerpieces**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)  
**1:00 PM Kids Flower Arranging**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)  
**5:00 PM Early Evening Stroll**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 37)  
**6:30 PM Holiday Evening in the Garden - For the Birds**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 37)  
**7:00 PM Star-late Skates**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**SAT, DEC 11, 2010**

**1:00 PM The Gingerbread Man**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 35)  
**2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It!** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 41)  
**6:00 PM Evening Christmas Lantern Tour**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 34)  
**7:00 PM Silent Night Luminary Walk**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 37)  
**7:00 PM Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)  
**7:00 PM Star-late Skates**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**SUN, DEC 12, 2010**

**2:00 PM FUNDamentals of Skating**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**TUE, DEC 14, 2010**

**8:00 AM Audubon Christmas Bird Count**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 38)  
**9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 36)  
**1:30 PM Parent & Preschooler: Storytime on the Farm**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)

**WED, DEC 15, 2010**

**10:00 AM Alphabet Safari for Twos: Letters G-L**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 37)

**THU, DEC 16, 2010**

**11:30 AM Santa Visits the Market**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 44)

**FRI, DEC 17, 2010**

**11:30 AM Santa Visits the Market**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 44)  
**12:30 PM Project Feeder Watch**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)  
**7:00 PM Holiday and Top 40**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**SAT, DEC 18, 2010**

**7:00 AM Ray's Mountain Bike Trip**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 42)  
**8:30 AM Morning Farm Chores**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 31)  
**10:30 AM Project Feeder Watch**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)  
**11:30 AM Santa Visits the Market**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 44)  
**1:00 PM Winter Nature Walk**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 38)  
**1:00 PM Wintery Fun on the Farm**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)  
**2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It!** Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 41)  
**7:00 PM Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)  
**7:00 PM Star-late Skates**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**SUN, DEC 19, 2010**

**2:00 PM FUNDamentals of Skating**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)  
**4:00 PM Kayak Roll Lessons**, Off Site (see page 42)

**TUE, DEC 21, 2010**

**9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 36)  
**10:00 AM Stroller Studies: Snowflakes**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 38)  
**6:00 PM Aullwood Winter Moonlight Walk**, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 34)

**FRI, DEC 24, 2010**

**11:00 AM Christmas Eve Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**SAT, DEC 25, 2010**

**1:00 PM Christmas Day Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**TUE, DEC 28, 2010**

**9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 36)

**FRI, DEC 31, 2010**

**12:30 PM Project Feeder Watch**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)  
**8:00 PM New Year's Eve Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**SAT, JAN 1, 2011**

**1:00 PM New Year's Day Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

**MON, JAN 3, 2011**

**6:00 PM Broomball at the Rink**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

**6:00 PM Outdoor Broomball**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

**TUE, JAN 4, 2011**

**9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 36)

**WED, JAN 5, 2011**

**6:00 PM Volunteer: Street Team Training**, Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 40)

**7:00 PM Environmental Film Series: End of the Line**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

**THU, JAN 6, 2011**

**10:00 AM Backpacking Babies: Nature in Winter**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 36)

**4:00 PM Outdoor Explorers Club**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 39)

**6:00 PM Organic Methods Gardener Course**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 31)

**FRI, JAN 7, 2011**

**7:00 PM King of Pop Skate: Michael Jackson**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**SAT, JAN 8, 2011**

**10:00 AM Herb Program: Herbs For Colds and Flu**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 35)

**10:00 AM Possibilities Series: The Silent Garden**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

**1:00 PM Try Winter Backpacking**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 41)

**1:00 PM Winter Game Fun**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 39)

**1:00 PM Wondrous Wool**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)

**2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It!** Englewood MetroPark (see page 41)

**7:00 PM Star-late Skates**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**SUN, JAN 9, 2011**

**1:00 PM Winter Discovery Hike**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 38)

**2:00 PM FUNDamentals of Skating**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**2:00 PM Pruning for Health and Beauty**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 31)

**MON, JAN 10, 2011**

**6:00 PM Broomball at the Rink**, RiverScape

MetroPark (see page 43)

**TUE, JAN 11, 2011**

**9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 36)

**10:00 AM Parent and Preschooler: Insects, A Plants Helper**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 37)

**1:30 PM Parent and Preschooler: Sheepish Fun**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)

**4:30 PM 4x The Fun: Section 1**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

**7:00 PM Basic Ice Skating for Adults**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

**WED, JAN 12, 2011**

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Hibernating Bugs**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 37)

**11:30 AM Lunch and Learn: Fool Proof Plants**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

**1:00 PM Tike Hike: Nature Play**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 37)

**7:00 PM 7,200 Miles on the Appalachian Trail**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 40)

**THU, JAN 13, 2011**

**9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)

**10:30 AM Winter Flower Arranging**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)

**11:00 AM Customer Appreciation Days**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 44)

**4:30 PM So You Think You Can Skate? Section 1**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

**FRI, JAN 14, 2011**

**10:30 AM Winter Flower Arranging**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)

**11:00 AM Customer Appreciation Days**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 44)

**12:30 PM Project Feeder Watch**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)

**7:00 PM Star-late Skates**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**SAT, JAN 15, 2011**

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

**10:00 AM Winter Family Fun Day**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 44)

**10:30 AM Project Feeder Watch**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)

**1:00 PM Homemade Soft Cheese**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 35)

**1:00 PM Winter Tree ID Workshop**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)

**2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It!** Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 41)

**6:00 PM Birding Workshop: Owls**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 38)

**7:00 PM Star-late Skates**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**SUN, JAN 16, 2011**

**12:00 PM Ice Harvesting**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 34)

**2:00 PM FUNDamentals of Skating**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**2:00 PM Pruning for Health and Beauty**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 31)

**2:00 PM Family Bird Hike**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 38)

**MON, JAN 17, 2011**

**11:00 AM Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

**6:00 PM Broomball at the Rink**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

**TUE, JAN 18, 2011**

**9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 36)

**4:30 PM 4x The Fun: Section 1**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

**6:00 PM Ice Princesses**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

**7:00 PM Basic Ice Dance**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

**7:00 PM Urban Agriculture Conversation & Potluck**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 31)

**WED, JAN 19, 2011**

**9:00 AM Morning Bird Walk**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 38)

**10:00 AM Alphabet Safari for Twos: Letters M-R**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 38)

**THU, JAN 20, 2011**

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Animal Tracking**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)

**4:30 PM So You Think You Can Skate?**

**Section 1**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

**6:30 PM Intro to Alcohol Stoves**, Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 41)

**FRI, JAN 21, 2011**

**10:00 AM Bread Baking**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)

**7:00 PM Fox's Hit TV Series: GLEE**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**9:00 AM Garden Primer: The Fundamentals**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

**SAT, JAN 22, 2011**

**9:30 AM Bicycle Museum Trip**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 41)

**10:00 AM Possibilities Series: New Ways to Compost**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)



**10:00 AM Photography at MetroParks,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 40)  
**1:00 PM The Super Soybean,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)  
**1:00 PM Winter Flower Arranging,** PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)  
**1:00 PM Mammals,** Huffman MetroPark (see page 39)  
**2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It!** Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 41)  
**7:00 PM Star-late Skates,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

### SUN, JAN 23, 2011

**2:00 PM FUNDamentals of Skating,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)  
**4:00 PM Kayak Roll Lessons,** Off Site (see page 42)

### MON, JAN 24, 2011

**6:00 PM Broomball at the Rink,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)  
**7:00 PM Aconcagua: Two Brothers' Quest for the Summit,** Off Site (see page 40)

### TUE, JAN 25, 2011

**9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,** Englewood MetroPark (see page 36)  
**10:00 AM Stroller Studies: Nature Puppets,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 38)  
**4:30 PM 4x The Fun: Section 1,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)  
**6:00 PM Ice Pirates,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)  
**7:00 PM Continuing Ice Dance: Swing and Retro,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

### THU, JAN 27, 2011

**11:30 AM Lunch and Learn: Incredible Edibles,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)  
**11:30 AM Soup Sampling and Recipes,** PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)  
**4:30 PM So You Think You Can Skate? Section 1,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)  
**7:00 PM Cafe Sci: 2011 Kick Off Celebration,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 39)

### FRI, JAN 28, 2011

**9:00 AM Garden Primer: Design Essentials,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)  
**12:30 PM Project Feeder Watch,** Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)  
**7:00 PM Star-late Skates,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

### SAT, JAN 29, 2011

**8:00 AM Hawk & Owl Field Trip,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 39)  
**8:00 AM Volunteer: MVP Training,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 41)  
**10:00 AM Possibilities Series: Urban Farming,**

Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)  
**10:30 AM Project Feeder Watch,** Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)  
**12:30 PM Hobby Maple Syrup Production,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 35)  
**2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It!** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 42)  
**7:00 PM Star-late Skates,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

### SUN, JAN 30, 2011

**2:00 PM FUNDamentals of Skating,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)  
**2:00 PM Shade Gardening,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

### MON, JAN 31, 2011

**6:00 PM Broomball at the Rink,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

### TUE, FEB 1, 2011

**9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,** Eastwood MetroPark (see page 36)  
**4:30 PM 4x The Fun : Section 1,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)  
**6:00 PM Intro to Synchronized Skating,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)  
**7:00 PM Continuing Ice Dance: Salsa and Top 40,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

### WED, FEB 2, 2011

**7:00 PM Environmental Film Series: Tapped,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 34)

### THU, FEB 3, 2011

**10:00 AM Backpacking Babies: Winter Sounds,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 36)  
**4:30 PM So You Think You Can Skate? Section 1,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)  
**6:00 PM Volunteer: Master Recycler,** Off Site (see page 34)  
**7:00 PM 48 States in 48 Days on a Bike,** Off Site (see page 40)

### FRI, FEB 4, 2011

**7:00 PM Peace, Love and Skate: 60's and 70's,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)  
**9:00 AM Garden Primer: Soil Health,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

### SAT, FEB 5, 2011

**10:00 AM Herb Program: Herbs Used in Making Sausage,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 35)  
**10:00 AM Possibilities Series: Ways with Water,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)  
**10:00 AM Nature Photography Step by Step,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 40)  
**12:00 PM Traditional Butchering,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 34)  
**1:00 PM Try Winter Backpacking,** Sugarcreek

MetroPark (see page 41)

**1:00 PM Whistle Pig Farm Weather Report,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)  
**2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It!** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 42)  
**7:00 PM Star-late Skates,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

### SUN, FEB 6, 2011

**12:00 PM Traditional Butchering,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 34)  
**2:00 PM FUNDamentals of Skating,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

### MON, FEB 7, 2011

**6:00 PM Broomball at the Rink,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 43)

### TUE, FEB 8, 2011

**9:00 Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,** Eastwood MetroPark (see page 36)  
**11:30 AM Lunch and Learn: Greenscaping your landscape,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)  
**1:30 Parent and Preschooler - Potato Hugs and Kisses,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31)  
**4:30 PM 4x The Fun Basic Building Blocks of Ice Skating: Section 2,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)  
**6:00 PM Continuing Synchronized Skating,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)  
**7:00 PM Global Cooling Adventure Show,** Off Site (see page 40)

### WED, FEB 9, 2011

**1:00 PM Homemade Soft Cheese,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 35)

### THU, FEB 10, 2011

**9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)  
**10:00 AM Parent and Preschooler: Plant Art,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 37)  
**4:30 PM So You Think You Can Skate? Section 2,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)

### FRI, FEB 11, 2011

**9:00 AM Garden Primer: Plants for Pennies,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)  
**12:30 PM Project Feeder Watch,** Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)  
**6:30 PM Evening in the Garden: Herbal Valentine,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32)  
**7:00 PM Star-late Skates,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

### SAT, FEB 12, 2011

**9:00 AM Valentine's Celebration,** PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 45)  
**10:00 AM Trees as Art,** Wegerzyn Gardens

MetroPark (see page 39)

**10:30 AM Project Feeder Watch,**

Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)

**2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Huffman**

MetroPark (see page 42)

**7:00 PM Saturday Night Sweetheart Skate,**

RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)

### SUN, FEB 13, 2011

**2:00 PM FUNDamentals of Skating,**

RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**2:00 PM Woodpecker Ramble, Englewood**

MetroPark (see page 39)

### MON, FEB 14, 2011

**6:00 PM Broomball at the Rink, RiverScape**

MetroPark (see page 43)

### TUE, FEB 15, 2011

**9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,**

Eastwood MetroPark (see page 36)

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Animal Homes, Hills &**

Dales MetroPark (see page 37)

**4:30 PM 4x The Fun Basic Building Blocks of**

**Ice Skating: Section 2, RiverScape MetroPark**  
(see page 44)

**6:00 PM Continuing Synchronized Skating,**

RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)

### WED, FEB 16, 2011

**9:00 AM Morning Bird Walk, Germantown**

MetroPark (see page 38)

**10:00 AM Alphabet Safari for Twos: Letters**

**S-Z, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 38)**

**1:00 PM Tike Hike: Log Hotel, Eastwood**

MetroPark (see page 37)

**6:00 PM Introduction to Bicycle**

**Maintenance, Five Rivers St. Clair Building**

(see page 41)

### THU, FEB 17, 2011

**10:30 AM February Flowers, PNC 2nd Street**

**Market (see page 36)**

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Hibernating Bugs,**

Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)

**4:30 PM So You Think You Can Skate?**

**Section 2, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)**

### FRI, FEB 18, 2011

**9:00 AM Garden Primer: Plants for Ohio,**

Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

**10:30 AM February Flowers, PNC 2nd Street**

**Market (see page 36)**

**7:00 PM Gone Country, RiverScape**

MetroPark (see page 42)

### SAT, FEB 19, 2011

**8:30 AM Morning Farm Chores, Carriage Hill**

MetroPark (see page 31)

**10:00 AM Morning Bird Walk, Germantown**

**and Hills & Dales MetroParks (see page 38)**

**10:00 AM Orchid Show, Cox Arboretum**

MetroPark (see page 45)

**11:00 AM Seed Swap, Off Site (see page 32)**

**1:00 PM The Potato - More than French**

**Fries! Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 36)**

**1:00 PM Eureka Lab! Wetlands at Work, Cox**

Arboretum MetroPark (see page 39)

**1:00 PM Winter Nature Excursion, Wesleyan**

MetroPark (see page 39)

**2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Sugarcreek**

MetroPark (see page 42)

**6:00 PM Beaver Fever, Possum Creek**

MetroPark (see page 39)

**7:00 PM Star-late Skates, RiverScape**

MetroPark (see page 42)

### SUN, FEB 20, 2011

**10:00 AM Orchid Show, Cox Arboretum**

MetroPark (see page 45)

**1:00 PM Winter Discovery Hike, Germantown**

MetroPark (see page 38)

**2:00 PM FUNDamentals of Skating,**

RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

**2:00 PM Scales and Feathers, Carriage Hill**

MetroPark (see page 39)

### MON, FEB 21, 2011

**11:00 AM President's Day Skate, RiverScape**

MetroPark (see page 44)

**6:00 PM Broomball at the Rink, RiverScape**

MetroPark (see page 43)

### TUE, FEB 22, 2011

**9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Adult Walks,**

Eastwood MetroPark (see page 36)

**10:00 AM Stroller Studies: To Be A Tree, Cox**

Arboretum MetroPark (see page 38)

**4:30 PM 4x The Fun Basic Building Blocks of**

**Ice Skating: Section 2, RiverScape MetroPark**  
(see page 44)

**6:00 PM Continuing Synchronized Skating,**

RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)

### WED, FEB 23, 2011

**6:00 PM Bicycle Maintenance Basics, Five**

Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 41)

**11:30 AM Lunch and Learn: Best Annuals, Cox**

Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)

### THU, FEB 24, 2011

**4:00 PM Tike Hike: Discover Nature,**

Germantown MetroPark (see page 37)

**4:30 PM So You Think You Can Skate?**

**Section 2, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)**

**6:30 PM Fundamentals of Family Camping,**

Five Rivers St. Clair Building (see page 41)

**7:00 PM Cafe Sci, Cox Arboretum MetroPark**

(see page 39)

### FRI, FEB 25, 2011

**9:00 AM Plants for Ohio, Cox Arboretum**

MetroPark (see page 32)

**12:30 PM Project Feeder Watch, Germantown**

MetroPark (see page 36)

**7:00 PM Star-late Skates, RiverScape**

MetroPark (see page 42)

### SAT, FEB 26, 2011

**7:00 AM Ray's Mountain Bike Trip, Cox**

Arboretum MetroPark (see page 42)

**9:00 AM Maple Syrup Time, Possum Creek**

MetroPark (see page 31)

**9:00 AM Black History Day at the Market,**

PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 45)

**10:00 AM Seed Starting, Wegerzyn Gardens**

MetroPark (see page 33)

**10:30 AM Project Feeder Watch,**

Germantown MetroPark (see page 36)

**1:00 PM Winter Games and Forts, Englewood**

MetroPark (see page 40)

**2:00 PM Hike for the Health of It! Eastwood**

MetroPark (see page 42)

**7:00 PM Star-late Skates, RiverScape**

MetroPark (see page 42)

### SUN, FEB 27, 2011

**2:00 PM Companion Planting, Cox**

Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

**2:00 PM FUNDamentals of Skating,**

RiverScape MetroPark (see page 42)

### MON, FEB 28, 2011

**6:00 PM Broomball at the Rink, RiverScape**

MetroPark (see page 43)

### TUE, MAR 1, 2011

**9:00 AM City Beets 2011 - Call for**

**Applications, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark**  
(see page 33)

**6:00 PM Volunteer: Your Best Vegetable**

**Garden Series, Possum Creek MetroPark (see**  
**page 33)**

### FRI, MAR 4, 2011

**9:00 AM Garden Primer: Garden**

**Maintenance & Care, Cox Arboretum**

MetroPark (see page 32)

### SAT, MAR 5, 2011

**7:30 AM Miami Valley Gardening**

**Conference, Off Site (see page 33)**

### FRI, MAR 11, 2011

**9:00 AM Garden Primer: Garden**

**Maintenance & Care, Cox Arboretum**

MetroPark (see page 32)

### FRI, MAR 18, 2011

**9:00 AM Garden Primer: Pest, Plant, and**

**Problem Solving, Cox Arboretum MetroPark**

(see page 32)

### FRI, MAR 25, 2011

**9:00 AM Garden Primer: Simple Garden**

**Layouts, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32)**



## EDUCATION FARMING

### (FREE) WINTERY FUN ON THE FARM

**SAT, DEC 18, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM**

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

Learn how farmers prepare for the cold. Learn how the animals at Possum Creek Farm prepare themselves for winter as well. Make a cool wintery craft. Reservations required and limited, beginning November 15. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 3Y and up. **5800**

### (FREE) MORNING FARM CHORES

**SAT, DEC 18, 8:30 AM- 9:15 AM** 4771

**SAT, JAN 15, 8:30 AM- 9:15 AM** 4772

**SAT, FEB 19, 8:30 AM- 9:15 AM** 4773

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 front gate to the historic farm. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 278-2609. Age: 6Y - 18Y. 🍷

### (FREE) WONDROUS WOOL

**SAT, JAN 8, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM**

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

Learn cool facts about our Icelandic sheep. Check out the different stages of wool processing and then do some cool wool activities. Reservations required and limited, beginning December 10. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 5Y and up. **5808**

### (FREE) PARENT & PRESCHOOLER SUSTAINABLE FARM PROGRAMS:

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

### STORYTIME ON THE FARM

**TUE, DEC 14, 1:30 PM- 3:00 PM**

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

Become actors on the farm. You will become the characters from the book "Stranger in the Woods" by Carl L. Sams II and Jean Stoick. Make a deer craft. Warm up with hot chocolate and some cookies. Reservations required and limited, beginning November 15. **5801**

### SHEEPISH FUN

**TUE, JAN 11, 1:30 PM- 3:00 PM**

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

Come join us for some sheepish fun on the farm. Listen to a story, learn about wool, and you will do a sheepish craft. Reservations required and limited, beginning December 15. **5814**

### POTATO HUGS AND KISSES

**TUE, FEB 8, 1:30 PM- 3:00 PM**

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

Have fun making cool valentines from carved potatoes and edible paint! Be prepared to bring out your artistic skills. Try snacks made using potatoes. Reservations required and limited, beginning January 15. **5812**

### (FREE) URBAN AGRICULTURE CONVERSATION & POTLUCK

**TUE, JAN 18, 7:00 PM- 8:00 PM**

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

An opportunity for people who are starting and working on urban agriculture projects to meet and share ideas. This conversation is a forum for sharing ideas and revolves around the themes of cooperating, collaborating, and resources and skills needed to make the various projects work in concert with one another. Please bring a dish to share. Call (937) 277-6545 for details. **5858**

### (FREE) THE SUPER SOYBEAN

**SAT, JAN 22, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM**

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

Learn about the super soybean. Find out all the cool products that come from this amazing bean. There will be soybeans to eat, some to color with, and you will make a candle to take home. Reservations required and limited, beginning December 20. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 5Y and up. **5807**

### (FREE) WHISTLE PIG FARM WEATHER REPORT

**SAT, FEB 5, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM**

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

Learn about the silly whistle pig and all the different names he goes by. Can he really predict the weather? You be the judge. You will also do a whistle pig craft. Reservations required and limited, beginning January 5. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 3Y and up. **5810**

### (FREE) MAPLE SYRUP TIME

**SAT, FEB 26, 9:00 AM- 3:30 PM**

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Sugar Maple Shelter/Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

It's prime "sugaring" time in Ohio. Come out and help the farmers collect sap from the grove of maple trees and watch as a roaring fire boils the sap down into maple syrup. Ongoing demonstrations will be given, and a review of proper tree selection, tapping and harvesting techniques will be discussed throughout the day. Follow signs to the Sugar Maple Shelter. Age: 5Y and up. **5806**

## GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

### VOLUNTEER: ORGANIC

### METHODS GARDENER COURSE

**THU, JAN 6 - THU, MAY 5, 6:00 PM- 9:30 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Five Rivers MetroPark's Organic Methods Gardener Course is a training program. Its purpose is to train volunteers and utilize their expertise to teach the public about the nature and culture of plants and their importance to our quality of life. It is an 18-week, in-depth horticulture program that includes quizzes, exams, a project and 50 hours of volunteer service. For more information, contact Yvonne Dunphe at (937) 277-4147. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$140 **5862**

### (FREE) PRUNING FOR HEALTH AND BEAUTY

**SUN, JAN 9, 2:00 PM- 4:30 PM**

**SUN, JAN 16, 2:00 PM- 4:30 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Learn the best way to manage overgrown shrubs and trees, along with pruning best practices. This two-part class (theory on day one, hands-on practicum on day two) is an introduction to all aspects of pruning. This is the prerequisite for the upcoming plant-specific pruning classes. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. **5856** 🍷

### (FREE) LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES:

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

**FOOL PROOF PLANTS****WED, JAN 12, 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn about plants that are spectacular and require minimal effort. We will introduce you to plants, from perennials to tough trees and shrubs, as well as those plants to avoid. **5850** 🍷

**INCREDIBLE EDIBLES****THU, JAN 27, 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
You can grow more than tomatoes this year by learning the basics of creating a high-yield vegetable garden. Timing, techniques, pre-planting practices, and variety selection will be discussed. **5849** 🍷

**GREENSCAPING YOUR LANDSCAPE****TUE, FEB 8, 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Greenscaping is a way to improve your lawn and garden using environmentally friendly practices. Discover some simple guidelines and learn how to put nature to work in your yard. **5851** 🍷

**BEST ANNUALS****WED, FEB 23, 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Benefit from the horticulture knowledge, extensive experience and garden savvy of Pam Bennett, OSU Extension. Create impact, long season interest and less work using best annuals in the 2009 garden trials. **5848** 🍷

**(FREE) GARDEN PRIMER SERIES:**

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

**THE FUNDAMENTALS****FRI, JAN 21, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn how to evaluate your site, decide where to place plants and visualize the change. Then, learn a few simple techniques to create a plan that reflects your ideas. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. **5840** 🍷

**DESIGN ESSENTIALS****FRI, JAN 28, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
What information is essential in creating a good garden design? Bring at least one picture of your garden to share for discussion. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. **5841** 🍷

**SOIL HEALTH****FRI, FEB 4, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn what plants need to flourish, how to create healthy soil, and how to develop a good foundation for your garden. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. **5842** 🍷

**PLANTS FOR PENNIES****FRI, FEB 11, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Vegetative propagation is an easy and economical way to grow more plants. Learn how and when to divide, take cuttings and other techniques. Participants will also learn how to interpret seed catalogs correctly and grow plants successfully at home. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. **5846** 🍷

**PLANTS FOR OHIO****FRI, FEB 18, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM**

**FRI, FEB 25, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn which plants are must haves for your landscape. We will vouch for the all-stars and demonstrate how to incorporate them into your garden for spectacular seasonal interest. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. **5843** 🍷

**GARDEN MAINTENANCE & CARE****FRI, MAR 4, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM**

**FRI, MAR 11, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn some basic maintenance tips to keep your plants looking their best all season. Planting, maintenance, and basic pruning techniques will be presented. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. **5844** 🍷

**PEST, PLANT, AND PROBLEM SOLVING****FRI, MAR 18, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Friend, Foe or Nuisance is a fuzzy line gardeners must draw to help manage their garden tasks. This class will use organic

methods to control garden pests, weeds, and diseases. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. **5845** 🍷

**SIMPLE GARDEN LAYOUTS****FRI, MAR 25, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
We will create some simple designs for your home garden, using your garden photographs and favorite garden pictures from magazines or garden books  
**Prerequisite: Participants must have attended the entire series, the Spring Garden Primer series, or be a current Master Gardener for this last session.** Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. **5847** 🍷

**(FREE) SHADE GARDENING****SUN, JAN 30, 2:00 PM- 5:00 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn the many aspects of shade and about the array of plants that can thrive in these areas. Add interest to your shade garden with texture, stature, and color by broadening your gardening palette. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. **5857** 🍷

**(FREE) EVENING IN THE GARDEN: HERBAL VALENTINE****FRI, FEB 11, 6:30 PM- 8:00 PM**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Garden Green, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Join us as we create valentine crafts and treats using the many gifts of the garden. Enjoy lights in the peaceful winter garden setting then chase away the winter chill with herbal tea, s'mores, and a crackling fire. Volunteers with fun activities will be stationed throughout the gardens. **6149**

**(FREE) SEED SWAP****SAT, FEB 19, 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM**

OFF SITE, Edgemont Solar Gardens Community Garden, 919 Miami Chapel Rd, Dayton  
Bring saved vegetable and flower seeds to trade or give away. Please sort and separate seed types, with a minimum of 10-20 seeds per type (i.e., Brandywine tomato, marigold). People do not need to have seeds to participate; please bring non-hybridized seeds to trade if you do have them. Hosted by Edgemont Solar Gardens Community Garden, 919 Miami Chapel Rd, Dayton. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. For details, call (937) 277-6545. **5855** 🍷



**(FREE) SEED STARTING****SAT, FEB 26, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

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

Shake off the winter blues and get ready for spring! Join farmer Doug Christen as he talks about seeds, catalogs, and spring projects. This is a wonderful class, one you won't want to miss, so sign up early and bring your friends. Reservations are requested and walk-ins are welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545 to register or register online. We'll meet in the Adult Classroom. **5833** 📞

**(FREE) COMPANION PLANTING****SUN, FEB 27, 2:00 PM- 5:00 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Many plants have natural substances in their roots, flowers and leaves that can alternately repel and/or attract insects. Learn how companion planting throughout the landscape is an important part of integrated pest management and reduces dependency on chemicals. **5863**

**VOLUNTEER: YOUR BEST****VEGETABLE GARDEN SERIES****TUE, MAR 1 - TUE, MAR 29, 6:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Education Center Classroom, 4790 Frytown Rd. The sessions will consist of a guest presenter from the horticultural or commercial field. The topics of Composting and Soils, Planning, Planting, Pests, and Preserving will include a lecture and hands-on activity. The sixth session, Tips or Projects, will be class participation. Participants are requested to complete 25 hours of volunteer service to Five Rivers MetroParks. Call Kevin Kepler **prior to March 10** at (937) 275-7275 ext. 1212 to register and schedule an interview. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$20 **6125**

**(FREE) CITY BEETS 2011 - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS****TUE, MAR 1, 9:00 AM- 5:00 PM**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Park, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. City Beets is a gardening and leadership program for 12- to 15-year-olds. Participants grow food at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark Community Garden while learning leadership skills. Produce is sold at the PNC 2nd Street Market, donated to the

Foodbank, and used in nutrition and cooking lessons. Teens receive a gift card stipend. For more information, call (937) 277-6545 or visit [metroparks.org/CityBeets](http://metroparks.org/CityBeets). **Applications available February 1, 2011; due March 1, 2011.** Age: 12Y - 15Y. **5861**

**MIAMI VALLEY GARDENING CONFERENCE: THE FUTURE OF GARDENING****SAT, MAR 5, 7:30 AM- 4:30 PM**

OFF SITE, Sinclair Community College, 444 West Third St., Dayton

Keynote speakers include Peter Del Tredici of Harvard's Arnold Arboretum and Jeff Lowenfels, noted soil and garden expert. Enjoy four break-out sessions with sections for new, experienced and vegetable gardeners; hands-on demonstrations; and optional cooking sessions by The Culinary Arts Department of Sinclair. Price includes breakfast snack, full lunch, breaks and parking. Pre-registration cost is \$50 or \$25 for full-time students, **due February 18**. Visit [metroparks.org/Conference](http://metroparks.org/Conference) or call (937) 277-6545 or for information. Fees: \$50 **6008** 📞

**GREEN LIVING****(FREE) ENVIRONMENTAL FILM SERIES:**

Join us for our fifth anniversary season of film and discussion during the 2011 Environmental Film Series. Films are shown on the first Wednesday of the month, January-March, July and August. Enjoy free popcorn and refreshments during the film and stay afterward to share your insight with others during open discussion. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 14Y and up.

**END OF THE LINE****WED, JAN 5, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

This film delves beyond the surface of the seas to reveal a troubling truth beneath: an ocean increasingly empty of fish, destroyed by decades of over-exploitation. The film argues that unless we demand action from policy makers, responsible menu items from restaurants, and changes in our own consumption habits, we could see the end of wild fish by midcentury. Discussion follows film. Free popcorn and refreshments. Film length: 82 minutes. **6006** 📞

**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](http://METROPARKS.ORG/PASSPORT).

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE NATURE TRAVELERS!****FIRST PASSPORT**

**Bella Contreras**  
**Sofia Contreras**  
**Ella Corbitt**  
**Dominique Foreman**  
**Byron Griffin**  
**Jeremy David Hamill**  
**Adam Henry**  
**Jonathon Holtz**  
**Carlito Karns**  
**Isaac Karns**  
**Mathew Karns**  
**Paul Michael Karns**  
**Sarah Karns**  
**Stephen Karns**  
**Haileigh Kemp**  
**Emily Lee**  
**Shayla Myer**  
**Grayson Martin**  
**Jia Sundell-Turner**

**SECOND PASSPORT**

**Annika Paton**  
**Bridget Paton**  
**Roxanne Slone**  
**Isabel Slone**  
**Logan Tinney**  
**Noah Tinney**

**TAPPED****WED, FEB 2, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK,  
MeadWestvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Is access to clean water a basic human right,  
or a commodity that should be bought and  
sold like any other article of commerce?  
Tapped captures the lives affected by the  
bottled water industry and those caught at  
the intersection of big business and public  
water rights. Discussion follows film. Free  
popcorn and refreshments. Film length: 82  
minutes. **6007** 📞

**(FREE) LIVING WITH MOTHER EARTH POSSIBILITIES SERIES**

To begin 2011, Living With Mother Earth  
invites you to look at new methods to  
improve the environment as well as new  
ways to grow food, exploring positive and  
innovative ways to use our earth. Attend  
one, two, three, or all four!

**PART 1: THE SILENT GARDEN****SAT, JAN 8, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult  
Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Join us for the first class of the new year as  
Don Geiger from the Marianist Environmental  
Education Center talks about what happens  
in the garden and our landscapes in winter.  
A fascinating presentation you won't want to  
miss! Registrations are requested and walk-  
ins are welcome. Please call (937) 277-6545  
or register online. We'll meet in the Adult  
Classroom. **5827** 📞

**PART 2: NEW WAYS TO COMPOST****SAT, JAN 22, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult  
Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Each year, Americans throw out tons of  
food scraps. Certain cities and companies,  
including Marvin's Organic Gardens, are  
turning those food scraps into compost.  
Normally, over 30% of what goes to the  
landfills is food and paper waste. Learn how  
we can all make a difference by composting  
more than we do now. Registrations are  
requested, but walk-ins are welcome. Call  
(937) 277-6545 or register online. We'll meet  
in the Adult Classroom. **5830** 📞

**PART 3: URBAN FARMING****SAT, JAN 29, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult  
Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Dayton has thousands of vacant lots that  
are ripe for urban farming. This panel  
discussion by local farm and garden experts

discusses methods for turning used land  
and space into environmentally sustainable  
food-producing areas. We'll talk about urban  
and suburban land use and how we can  
all be part of this revolution of gardening.  
Registrations are requested, but walk-ins  
are welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 or register  
online. Meet in the Adult Classroom. **5828** 📞

**PART 4: WAYS WITH WATER****SAT, FEB 5, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult  
Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Donna Winchester, of the Dayton  
Department of Water, will lead a program  
about our local water and how we protect  
and use it, followed by Wes Duren, who  
will talk about water collection and use in  
the garden, including rain barrels and rain  
gardens. Reservations are requested, but  
walk-ins are welcome. Please call (937) 277-  
6545 or register online. We'll meet in the  
Adult Classroom. **5829** 📞

**VOLUNTEER: MASTER RECYCLER**  
**THU, FEB 3 - THU, MAR 3, 6:00 PM- 8:30 PM**

OFF SITE, Montgomery County Solid Waste,  
2550 Sandridge Drive Moraine, OH 45439  
Classes will help you reduce, recycle  
and renew. Litter prevention will also be  
covered. Master Recycler candidates must  
complete the course and provide 25 hours  
of volunteer time to the Montgomery  
County Solid Waste District or Five River  
MetroParks. Potential applicants should  
contact Kevin Kepler at (937) 275-PARK  
to obtain an application and schedule an  
interview. Age: 15Y and up. Fees: \$10 **6138**

**HERITAGE & HISTORY****(FREE) CHRISTMAS ON THE FARM****SUN, DEC 5, 12:00 PM- 5:00 PM**

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Farm, 7891 E.  
Shull Rd.  
String cranberries and popcorn for the  
farm-grown cedar tree just like families did a  
century ago. Enjoy fresh-baked gingerbread  
and sample chestnuts hot from the fireplace.  
Play some period parlor games. At our  
Visitor Center, you can make a Victorian  
Christmas decoration to take home. If  
the weather is right, the bobsled, sleigh  
bells and draft team will make the holiday  
complete. Call (937) 278-2609 for more  
information. **4769**

**(FREE) EVENING CHRISTMAS LANTERN TOUR****SAT, DEC 11, 6:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

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

The feeling of a Victorian Christmas will be  
brought to life for this evening lantern tour.  
Tour various candle-lit stops around the  
farm while merrily singing carols. Then, join a  
period Christmas party and enjoy a hot cup  
of wassail while visiting the farmhouse. Call  
(937) 278-2609 for more information. **4770**

**(FREE) AULLWOOD WINTER MOONLIGHT WALK****TUE, DEC 21, 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM**

AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Garden  
Parking lot, 955 Aullwood Road

Join us for a wonderful winter moonlight  
walkthrough Marie Aull's garden! Please  
bring a flashlight and wear appropriate  
clothing. Your guides will meet you in the  
parking lot. Please call (937) 277-6545 x1609  
for information and registration or register  
online. **6042** 📞

**(FREE) ICE HARVESTING****SUN, JAN 16, 12:00 PM- 5:00 PM**

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

Watch the farm hands use ice saws, pike  
poles and tongs to cut blocks of ice from the  
farm pond and load them onto the bobsled  
for storage in the farm's ice house. Ice can  
then be used year-round to make ice cream,  
and keep certain foods cool. Depending on  
the weather, date may change. Call (937)  
278-2609 for more information. **6128**

**(FREE) TRADITIONAL BUTCHERING****SAT, FEB 5, 12:00 PM- 3:00 PM****SUN, FEB 6, 12:00 PM- 3:00 PM**

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

Watch the age-old activity of processing  
the meat that was the staple in the 19th  
century farmer's diet. On Saturday, the hog  
is scraped, cleaned and cooled. On Sunday,  
the meat is prepared into the various cuts  
such as ribs, roasts, and hams. Also, watch  
as meat is then salted, cured, and also made  
into sausage. Call (937) 278-2609 for more  
information. **6127**



## HOME & HOBBIES

### AZRA'S FAVORITE CHRISTMAS COOKIES

**FRI, DEC 3, 10:30 AM-11:30 AM**

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

Azra will share her favorite Christmas cookie recipes, which have been passed on for many years. Parents and children should be prepared to participate as you learn from the best, and of course, there will be cookies to take home. There is a \$10 materials fee payable the day of the activity. Registration required and limited. Call (937) 228-2088 to register, or register online. Fees: \$10 **6082**

### (FREE) HOMEMADE PASTA

**SAT, DEC 4, 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM**

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

Learn how to make several kinds of pasta by hand, discuss techniques, and learn about the types of flours, including gluten-free. You will make samples of pastas and some simple sauces to try with the fresh pasta. Reservations required and limited, beginning November 5. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 18Y and up. **5802**

### (FREE) CARRIAGE HILL HERB GROUP SERIES

Join the Carriage Hill Herb Group for an informative class every month. Call (937) 278-2609 for more information.

### ANNUAL HOLIDAY TEA PARTY

**SAT, DEC 4, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

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

Come celebrate with us as we remember all of the special moments of 2010 at our annual herb tea party. Please bring an unwrapped gift for a child. **4774**

### HERBS FOR COLDS AND FLU

**SAT, JAN 8, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

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

We'll explore some of the long-standing recipes for easing those winter ills. **6159**

### HERBS USED IN MAKING

#### SAUSAGE

**SAT, FEB 5, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

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

See a demonstration of sausage making and hear information about herbs that can be used in the process. **6160**

### LADIES DAY AT THE MARKET

**THU, DEC 9, 10:30 AM- 1:00 PM**

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

Take time from your busy holiday schedule and pamper yourself at the Market.

Activities will include flower arranging, make-up hints, healthy eating tips and more. The \$15 fee, due the day of the event, covers materials and lunch. Reservations are required and limited. For more information, call (937) 228-2088. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$15 **5949**

### DECEMBER CENTERPIECES

**FRI, DEC 10, 10:30 AM-11:30 AM**

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

Learn to create your own holiday centerpiece. Wendy Poli from The Flowerman will guide you through the steps of arranging flowers skillfully and creatively. The \$10 materials fee is due the day of the class. Registration is required and limited; call (937) 228-2088 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$10 **6077**

### KIDS FLOWER ARRANGING

**FRI, DEC 10, 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM**

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

Kids will get some helpful hints from Wendy Poli with The Flowerman as she takes them through the steps of arranging flowers. This class, just in time for the holidays, is for ages 6 -12. There is a \$6 materials fee due the day of the class. Registration required and limited. Call (937) 228-2088 to register or register online. Age: 6Y - 12Y. Fees: \$6 **6081**

### (FREE) THE GINGERBREAD MAN

**SAT, DEC 11, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM**

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

Gingerbread has been around for centuries. It is as much a part of the holidays as the Christmas tree. Learn about the key ingredient, MOLASSES! Join us on the farm as we bake and decorate "The Gingerbread Man." Reservations required and limited, beginning November 15. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 3Y and up. **5799**

### WINTER FLOWER ARRANGING

**THU, JAN 13, 10:30 AM-11:30 AM** 6084

**FRI, JAN 14, 10:30 AM-11:30 AM** 6085

**SAT, JAN 22, 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM** 6086

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

Chase away the winter "blahs" by joining Wendy Poli from The Flowerman for her popular flower arranging class. The \$10

materials fee is due the day of the activity. Registration is required and limited. Call (937) 228-2088 to register or register online. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$10

### (FREE) HOMEMADE SOFT CHEESE

**SAT, JAN 15, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 5803

**WED, FEB 9, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 5804

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

Learn the basics of how to make soft cheese through observing a demonstration of the preparation of mozzarella cheese. Equipment, supplies, and sources will be covered. Prepared samples of homemade cottage, ricotta and cream cheese will be available to try. A handout of recipes will be available. Reservations required and limited, beginning December 15. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 18Y and up.

### (FREE) BREAD BAKING

**FRI, JAN 21, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**

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

Learn how bread gets to the Market fresh every day from the person who bakes it, Rahn Keucher. Be ready to get involved in this hands-on activity. Registration requested for this class geared toward home schoolers. Call (937) 228-2088 to register or register online. Age: 5Y - 13Y. **6080**

### (FREE) SOUP SAMPLING AND RECIPES

**THU, JAN 27, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM**

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

Try samples of Market soups and pick up recipes for your favorites. Get helpful hints on how to make great-tasting homemade soups and learn what ingredients are available at the Market. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. For more information, call (937) 228-2088. **5946**

### (FREE) HOBBY MAPLE SYRUP PRODUCTION

**SAT, JAN 29, 12:30 PM- 4:00 PM**

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

Learn to be a hobby syrup producer. Covered: selecting trees, equipment, tapping procedures, collection, storage, and finishing the sap. Participants will have an opportunity to make their own "taps" and walk to locate suitable trees. You are encouraged to practice your sugaring skills during our daily sap harvest the next two months, culminating with "It's Maple

Syrup Time" in February, when we will be producing maple syrup. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 276-7062. Age: 16Y and up. **5805**

## FEBRUARY FLOWERS

**THU, FEB 17, 10:30 AM-11:30 AM** 6087

**FRI, FEB 18, 10:30 AM-11:30 AM** 6088

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

Once again you can get creative flower arranging ideas from Wendy Poli with The Flowerman. This month, the class participants will choose the focus. A \$10 materials fee is due the day of the activity. Registration is required and limited. Call (937) 228-2088 to register, or register online. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$10

## (FREE) THE POTATO - MORE THAN FRENCH FRIES!

**SAT, FEB 19, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM**

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

During this program you will learn to bake potato bread and rolls, and try your hand at making potato candy. Reservations required and limited, beginning January 20. Call (937) 276-7062. Age: 5Y and up. **5811**

## NATURE

### (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. Weather Permitting: Call (937) 277-4178. Age: 1M - 2Y.

### WINTER BEGINNINGS

**THU, DEC 2, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

Treat your baby to some fresh air as we travel through the park searching for signs of winter. **5979**

### NATURE IN WINTER

**THU, JAN 6, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

Take a walk with a naturalist and look for signs that life goes on, even during winter! **5980**

### WINTER SOUNDS

**THU, FEB 3, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

Take a walk with a naturalist and let your baby listen to the sounds of winter. **5981**

### (FREE) PROJECT FEEDER WATCH

**FRI, DEC 3, 12:30 PM- 2:30 PM** 5894

**SAT, DEC 4, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM** 5895

**FRI, DEC 17, 12:30 PM- 2:30 PM** 5896

**SAT, DEC 18, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM** 5897

**FRI, DEC 31, 12:30 PM- 2:30 PM** 5899

**FRI, JAN 14, 12:30 PM- 2:30 PM** 5901

**SAT, JAN 15, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM** 5902

**FRI, JAN 28, 12:30 PM- 2:30 PM** 5903

**SAT, JAN 29, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM** 5904

**FRI, FEB 11, 12:30 PM- 2:30 PM** 5905

**SAT, FEB 12, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM** 5906

**FRI, FEB 25, 12:30 PM- 2:30 PM** 5907

**SAT, FEB 26, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM** 5908

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

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

### (FREE) BARRED OWL PROWL

**SAT, DEC 4, 9:00 PM-10:30 PM**

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

Venture into the woods and search for this vocal predator, as a naturalist attempts to lure in an owl for an up-close experience. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN 5987** 📞

### (FREE) WINTER BIRD SEARCH

**SAT, DEC 4, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM**

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

Search for birds that call Ohio their tropical paradise. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited supply will be available. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **5985** 📞

### (FREE) ANIMAL TRACKING AND BEHAVIOR

**SAT, DEC 4, 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM**

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

Turn your child into an animal tracker! We will first study the various tracks and other signs we need to look for. Then we will hike through the park in search of clues to the lives these animals experience in winter. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. No reservations required. **PTN 6003** 📞

### (FREE) LITTLE ELF WORKSHOP

**SUN, DEC 5, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM**

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Attention all little crafters! Bring a grownup and ring in the holidays with crafts inspired by nature. Stop by the Nature Center between 1 PM and 3:30 PM. There will be several projects you can create, such as a pine cone tree or wreath or natural collage. Afterward, everyone will can enjoy the winter views from our boardwalk. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information. **PTN 5909**

### (FREE) TUESDAY MORNING ADULT WALKS

Join us every Tuesday morning for a nature walk in the park. Bring binoculars for wildlife viewing. For more information, call (937) 278-2623 Monday through Friday. No reservations required.

**TUE, DEC 7, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM** 4389

**TUE, DEC 14, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM** 4390

**TUE, DEC 21, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM** 4391

**TUE, DEC 28, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM** 4392

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

**TUE, JAN 4, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM** 5782

**TUE, JAN 11, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM** 5783

**TUE, JAN 18, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM** 5784

**TUE, JAN 25, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM** 5785

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

**TUE, FEB 1, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM** 5786

**TUE, FEB 8, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM** 5787

**TUE, FEB 15, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM** 5788

**TUE, FEB 22, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM** 5789

EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

### (FREE) TIKE HIKE PROGRAMS:

Explore nature with your little ones! Attend one or more. Reservations are not required for these programs.

### WINTER MYSTERIES

**TUE, DEC 7, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**

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

Discover the treasures of nature with your little ones! Join us for a short walk as we explore the great outdoors. Walk will be held rain or shine. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN 5963**

### DISCOVER NATURE

Registration is not required to attend these fun, outdoor adventures. **PTN**



**WED, DEC 8, 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM** 4404  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, CCC Shelter,  
2101 U.S. 40  
Call (937) 278-2623 for more information.

**THU, DEC 9, 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM** 5922  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center,  
6910 Boomershire Rd.  
Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.

**THU, FEB 24, 4:00 PM- 5:00 PM** 5925  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center,  
6910 Boomershire Rd.  
Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.

## ANIMAL HOMES

Discover the treasures of nature with your little ones! Join us for a short walk as we explore the great outdoors. Walk will be held rain or shine. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN**

**FRI, DEC 10, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM** 5996  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178  
Conference Rd.

**TUE, FEB 15, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM** 5965  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter,  
100 Deep Hollow Rd.

## HIBERNATING BUGS

Discover the treasures of nature with your little ones! Join us for a short walk as we explore the great outdoors. Walk will be held rain or shine. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN**

**WED, JAN 12, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM** 5964  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter,  
100 Deep Hollow Rd.

**THU, FEB 17, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM** 5998  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178  
Conference Rd.

## NATURE PLAY

**WED, JAN 12, 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM**  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter/East  
Park, 4361 National Road

Bundle up and have some fun at the new Englewood Nature Play area! We will build forts, play games and investigate hibernating insects. Reservations not required. Call (937) 277-3413 Monday through Friday for more information. **PTN 5780**

## ANIMAL TRACKING

**THU, JAN 20, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178  
Conference Rd.  
Bring your preschooler out for a fun-filled animal tracking experience! We will explore trails for animal tracks during a hike, as well as examine molds, scat replicas, and mammal furs. Call (937) 277-4178 for details. **PTN 5997**

## LOG HOTEL

**WED, FEB 16, 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM**  
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot,  
1385 Harshman Rd.

Join us as we look under logs to find hibernating creatures! Before our search, we will talk about what it means to hibernate. Reservations are not required. Call (937) 277-3413 Monday through Friday for more details. **PTN 5781**

## (FREE) ADULT NATURE WALK

**THU, DEC 9, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM** 5966  
**THU, JAN 13, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM** 5967  
**THU, FEB 10, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM** 5968  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178  
Conference Rd.

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

## (FREE) PARENT & PRESCHOOLER NATURE PROGRAMS

Parent and Preschool programs will engage children ages 3-6 years old and their caregiver in nature discoveries. Children and their caregivers will explore station-based activities with topics related to plants, science and the world around them. Reservations are required; call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Registrants may arrive between 10:00 and 10:30 AM. Age: 3Y -6Y.

## PLANT BAND

**THU, DEC 9, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third  
Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Discover the music plants can make. Find out how instruments can be made from plants. Make some of your own and we'll put on a concert. Registrants may arrive between 10:00 and 10:30AM. **5951** 🍷

## INSECTS: A PLANT'S HELPER

**TUE, JAN 11, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third  
Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Insects have an important role to play in the plant world. Whether they are helping the plant bloom, taking part in pollination or dispersing seeds, some plants couldn't do without them. Discover how insects can be a plant's best friend. Registrants may arrive between 10:00 and 10:30 AM. **5953** 🍷

## PLANT ART

**THU, FEB 10, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third  
Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Get creative with plants as we explore the different ways to use plants in art. Participants will have fun painting with

pine needles or making a collage with things found in nature. Dress to get messy! Registrants may arrive between 10:00 and 10:30 AM. **5952** 🍷

## (FREE) EARLY EVENING STROLL

**FRI, DEC 10, 5:00 PM- 6:30 PM**  
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot,  
1385 Harshman Rd.

When the sun goes down, the woods come alive! Join us in a search for nocturnal critters as we walk along the lagoon. Reservations are not required for this drop-in program. Call (937) 277-3413 Monday through Friday for further information. **PTN 5790**

## (FREE) HOLIDAY EVENING IN THE GARDEN - FOR THE BIRDS

**FRI, DEC 10, 6:30 PM- 8:00 PM**  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK,  
Wegerzyn Park, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
It's a holiday for the birds! Enjoy twinkling lights while creating some ornament treats to help our feathered friends get through the cold winter days. Warm up with hot chocolate, s'mores, and roasted chestnuts around a roaring fire. Volunteers with fun activities will be stationed throughout the gardens. **5867** 🍷

## (FREE) SILENT NIGHT LUMINARY WALK

**SAT, DEC 11, 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM**  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center,  
6910 Boomershire Rd.  
Enjoy this traditional peaceful luminary-lit trail for an evening stroll with friends. Follow it up with some live seasonal music by artist Eric Loy, along with holiday snacks and friendship tea by the wood stove in the Nature Center. You may begin the self-guided walk between 7:00 and 8:30 PM. Meet at the Nature Center. Weather permitting; call (937) 855-7717. **5880**

## (FREE) ALPHABET SAFARI FOR TWOS SERIES:

Caregivers and 2-year-olds will have fun and surprises as they explore the world of letters. Nature-inspired activities are at each station. Attend at least two "Alphabet Safari for Twos" programs and receive a special patch. Reservations are required. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 2Y - 2Y.

## LETTERS G-L

**WED, DEC 15, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education

Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

The alphabet adventure continues. Have fun exploring nature, science and letters. **6015** 📞

### LETTERS M-R

**WED, JAN 19, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**

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

We'll continue our journey through the alphabet filling our passport as we go. We'll have lots of fun exploring nature, science and letters. **5954** 📞

### LETTERS S-Z

**WED, FEB 16, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Our journey comes to an end as we gather the final stamps for our passports. Two-year-olds and their caregivers will explore nature and science-based stations as they discover the last letters of our safari. **5955** 📞

### (FREE) AUDUBON CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

**TUE, DEC 14, 8:00 AM- 1:00 PM**

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, TVT Overnight Parking Lot, 6206 Boomershine Road

Visit a MetroParks Conservation Area and hike cross-country through a rugged landscape to participate in the Preble County Plus Audubon Christmas Bird Count. There is a \$5 fee for those wanting their name in the official Audubon report. Unofficial counters and youth under age 18 may participate for free. Bring binoculars. Beginners welcome. Meet at sledding hill parking lot, 6206 Boomershine Rd. Registration required and limited; call (937) 855-7717 or register online. Weather permitting. **5911** 📞

### (FREE) WINTER NATURE WALK

**SAT, DEC 18, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM**

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

Explore nature on this exciting walk for the whole family! Enjoy an afternoon on the trail as we look for critters and plants and play a game! Reservations not required. Call (937) 277-3413 Monday through Friday for more information. **PTN 5792**

### (FREE) STROLLER STUDIES SERIES

Stroller Studies is the indoor version of the popular Stroller Strut. Caregivers and children ages 0-3 years will enjoy nature-inspired play as well as a theme-based activity. Children and caregivers discover more about plants and nature. Reservations

required. Call (937) 434-9005 or register online. Age: 1M - 3Y.

### SNOWFLAKES

**TUE, DEC 21, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**

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

With a chill in the air, could snow be far away? Take a closer look at those flakes of snow and make some special ones that won't melt away. There will be plenty of time to play with nature friends. **5956** 📞

### NATURE PUPPETS

**TUE, JAN 25, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**

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

What's more fun than playing with puppets? Making your own puppet! We'll use cool things found in nature to construct puppets of our own. There will be plenty of nature friends to play with and fun nature books to explore. Reservations required call (937) 434-9005. **6013** 📞

### TO BE A TREE

**TUE, FEB 22, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**

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

Little ones will experience an up-close look at trees. We'll also play some fun tree games. **5957** 📞

### (FREE) WINTER DISCOVERY HIKE

**SUN, JAN 9, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM** 5910

**SUN, FEB 20, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM** 5921

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Winter is an excellent time to explore outdoors for signs of life. Bring your sharp eyes and ears and take a walk with a naturalist on a nearby trail. Afterwards, we will discuss our adventure over a cup of hot chocolate. Meet at Nature Center. Weather permitting; call (937) 855-7717. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. **PTN**

### (FREE) BIRDING WORKSHOP: OWLS

**SAT, JAN 15, 6:00 PM- 9:00 PM**

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Classroom, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Explore Ohio's eight owls with a relaxing hour-long presentation on their courtship rituals, feeding behaviors, identification characteristics, songs, and their interactions with people. We will then take a slow-paced night hike into the forest in search of owls. Each participant will get an ODNR field guide to Ohio owls and a CD of their sounds. Meet at the Nature Center. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. **6000** 📞

### (FREE) WINTER TREE ID WORKSHOP

**SAT, JAN 15, 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM**

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

Learn how to identify more than 30 native trees by their twig, bark and other winter characteristics. Discover pioneer, wildlife and commercial uses for each tree while sharing stories of folklore. Each participant will receive a winter tree identification notebook with everything needed to get started identifying trees. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 277-4178 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. **5999** 📞

### (FREE) FAMILY BIRD HIKE

**SUN, JAN 16, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM**

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Enjoy the sights and sounds of Ohio's winter birds on this walk for the whole family. Bring binoculars if you have them. Reservations not required. Call (937) 277-3413 Monday through Friday for more details. **PTN 5791**

### (FREE) MORNING BIRD WALK

Five Rivers MetroParks boast many great bird habitats. Search a variety of habitats as you discover why these parks are such great places for birds. Bring binoculars if you have them; there is a limited supply to borrow. Beginners and experienced bird watchers welcome. Reservations requested, call the indicated number or register online. 📞

**WED, JAN 19, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM** 5918

**WED, FEB 16, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM** 5919

**SAT, FEB 19, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM** 5984

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Call (937) 855-7717 for details or to register.





**SAT, FEB 19, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM** 5984  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Shelter,  
100 Deep Hollow Rd.  
Call (937) 277-4178 for details or to register.

### (FREE) MAMMALS

**SAT, JAN 22, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM**  
HUFFMAN METROPARK, Redtail Shelter/  
Parking Lot, 4439 Lower Valley Pk.  
Find out which local mammals hibernate  
and which ones do not! We will begin with  
a discussion on hibernation followed by a  
hike to find mammal tracks. Reservations  
not required. Call (937) 277-3413 Monday  
through Friday for details. **PTN 5798**

### (FREE) CAFE SCIENTIFIQUE

Join us for each month's cafe and discover  
science in a relaxed atmosphere. Increase  
your science savvy and share your opinion  
in our open discussion. Light refreshments  
provided. Reservations are requested and  
walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 434-9005 or  
register online. Age: 14Y and up.

### 2011 KICK OFF CELEBRATION

**THU, JAN 27, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third  
Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
It's time to begin a new season of Café  
Sci at the Arboretum. Join fellow science  
enthusiasts as we explore the latest topics  
in conservation and environmental science.  
A curious mind is the only requirement!  
Light refreshments provided. Reservations  
requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 275-  
5059 for final session details. **5868** 📞

### CAFE SCI

**THU, FEB 24, 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 with friends  
and neighbors from the Miami Valley. Call  
(937) 275-5059 or see detailed web listing  
for final topic details. **5869** 📞

### HAWK & OWL FIELD TRIP

**SAT, JAN 29, 8:00 AM- 8:00 PM**  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790  
Frytown Rd.  
Search for saw-whet owls, rough-legged  
hawks, bald eagles, and other rare winter  
birds at Ohio's winter birding hot spot,  
Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area, near Kenton,  
Ohio. This nearly 9,000-acre bird haven is  
an excellent place to study birds of prey.  
Once there, we will travel throughout the  
area hitting various habitats, birding from

the vans, and taking short hikes. Weather  
permitting. Reservations required and  
limited; Call (937) 277-4178 or register online.  
Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$15 **6001** 📞

### (FREE) TREES AS ART

**SAT, FEB 12, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult  
Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
We're preparing for a natural sculpture  
installation this spring by artist Patrick  
Dougherty. Join us as David Leach, Dayton  
artist and professor emeritus of art and art  
history at Wright State University, leads a  
discussion of trees in art and why trees are  
so fascinating. A great winter day's class,  
so bring your friends. Reservations are  
requested, but walk-ins are welcome. Please  
call (937) 277-6545 or register online. We'll  
meet in the Adult Classroom. **6123** 📞

### (FREE) WOODPECKER RAMBLE

**SUN, FEB 13, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM**  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter/East  
Park, 4361 National Road  
Bare trunks and branches make this the best  
time of the year to watch these fascinating  
birds. We'll discuss woodpecker ecology as  
we search for five species common to this  
area. Reservations are not required. Call  
(937) 277-3413 Monday through Friday for  
more details. **PTN 5796**

### (FREE) WINTER NATURE EXCURSION

**SAT, FEB 19, 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM**  
WESLEYAN METROPARK, Pavilion Shelter, 1441  
Wesleyan Rd.  
Come explore mammals in this hidden gem  
of Dayton! We will explore mammal furs,  
then go on a search for their tracks and  
other signs. Call (937) 277-4178 for more  
information. **PTN 5973**

### (FREE) EUREKA LAB! WETLANDS AT WORK

**SAT, FEB 19, 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering  
Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Wetlands are constantly working hard for  
people and animals, no matter what the  
season. Join us for today's lab and discover  
more about how wetlands work: from  
filtering our water to cleaning up pollution  
naturally and providing important habitat  
for lots of amazing animals. Participants  
must be accompanied by an adult while in  
the lab and can drop in anytime between  
1:00 PM and 2:30 PM. Registration

requested; walk-ins welcome. Call (937)  
434-9005 or register online. Age: 6Y - 12Y.  
**5931** 📞

### (FREE) BEAVER FEVER

**SAT, FEB 19, 6:00 PM- 7:00 PM**  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds  
Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Learn the life history of the largest rodent  
in North America while searching for them  
and the clues they leave behind. Call (937)  
277-4178 for details. **PTN 5969**

### (FREE) SCALES AND FEATHERS

**SUN, FEB 20, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM**  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center  
Meeting Room, 7800 E. Shull Rd.  
Come take a close look at some wild animals  
found in Ohio. What do they like to eat  
and where do they live? Reservations are  
not required. Call (937) 277-3413 Monday  
through Friday for more details. **PTN 5793**

## OUTDOOR PLAY

### (FREE) OUTDOOR EXPLORERS CLUB

**THU, JAN 6 - THU, MAR 3, 4:00 PM- 5:30  
PM**  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, South  
Picnic Area, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Each week, Club members have fun getting  
to know the natural world through play and  
planned activities such as rock skipping,  
following animal tracks, turning over rocks  
and logs, building forts, and digging holes.  
Reservations are required and limited; call  
(937) 277-6545 or register online. Age: 8Y -  
12Y. **5875** 📞

### (FREE) WINTER GAME FUN

**SAT, JAN 8, 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM**  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK,  
Wegerzyn Park, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Get out into the fresh winter air for some  
active, fun, family games! We will head to the  
natural areas of our park to play, then share  
some hot cocoa around the fire. All ages are  
welcome, but games will be best for youth  
older than 6. Dress to be outside. Adverse  
weather cancels this activity. Reservations  
requested, walk-ins welcome. Call (937)  
277-6545 for more information, cancellation  
details, or to register. Registration also  
available online. **PTN 4043** 📞

**(FREE) WINTER GAMES AND FORTS****SAT, FEB 26, 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM**

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

Bundle up and join us at Englewood's new nature play area for a winter adventure as we build forts and play some nature games. Reservations are not required. Call (937) 277-3413 weekdays for more details. **5797**

**PHOTOGRAPHY****(FREE) PHOTOGRAPHY AT METROPARKS****SAT, JAN 22, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM**

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

Photographers tend to favor certain MetroParks, but each park has its own picturesque features. Join photographer Adam Alonzo for a virtual visit to several MetroParks and discover the treasures waiting there for your camera. Reservations requested and walk-ins welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online. **5836**

**(FREE) NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY STEP BY STEP****SAT, FEB 5, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM**

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

In this workshop, photographer Adam Alonzo will describe the important steps you should consider as you take nature photos. This procedure addresses factors that impact the quality of your pictures, such as distance from the subject, camera angle, and direction of the light. A great and informative class you won't want to miss! Registration is requested, but walk-ins are welcome. Call (937) 277-6545 or register online. **5835**



photo by Mark Branham

**RECREATION  
ALL OUTDOOR  
ADVENTURE****(FREE) THE ADVENTURE SPEAKER SERIES**

Five Rivers MetroParks and Wright State University present a speaker series sure to excite armchair adventurers and hardcore outdoor enthusiasts. Visit the website [metroparks.org/AdventureSummit](http://metroparks.org/AdventureSummit) to learn more about the speaker series that will inspire adventurers of all ages. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. For details or to reserve your spot, call (937) 277-4374 or register online.

**MAKING OF AN OLYMPIC SNOWBOARD CHAMPION****MON, DEC 6, 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, Lower Level, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. Lou knew his son at an early age had huge potential to be one of the world's elite snowboarders. The Vito family began their snowboarding journey at Mad River Mountain Ski Resort in Bellefontaine, Ohio. Since turning pro, Louie has become a fixture in world-class competitions from the X-Games to the 2010 Winter Olympics. Lou Vito will share the blueprint for making his son Louie's Olympic dream a reality. **6134**

**7,200 MILES ON THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL****WED, JAN 12, 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, Lower Level, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. Local long-distance backpacker Andy Niekamp will share his experiences and lessons learned while completing multiple section hikes of the Appalachian Trail. Andy was recently featured in the *Dayton Daily News* for finishing his third section hike of the entire 2,200-mile-long AT. Andy is also the founder of the Dayton Hikers group. **6135**

**ACONCAGUA: TWO BROTHERS' QUEST FOR THE SUMMIT****MON, JAN 24, 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM**

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

Climbing and ultimately summiting Argentina's Cerro Aconcagua was an exhilarating and fulfilling experience, but not without some apprehensions. Brothers John and Bob Spinks discuss their expedition, including the training, trip coordination,

and lessons learned in this multimedia presentation. At 22,841 feet, Aconcagua is the highest mountain in the Americas, and the highest mountain in the world outside Asia. **6136**

**48 STATES IN 48 DAYS ON A BIKE****THU, FEB 3, 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM**

OFF SITE, Wright State University, 3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy., Dayton  
Live the adventure of traveling over 8,000 miles around the country on a bicycle in less than two months! Tipp City native Phil Nagle will share his experiences and the lessons learned along his journey. In the summer of 2009, Phil completed an 8,170-mile solo ride through all of the 48 contiguous U.S. states in just 56 days, 10 hours. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. **6143**

**GLOBAL COOLING ADVENTURE SHOW****TUE, FEB 8, 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM**

OFF SITE, Wright State University, 3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy., Dayton  
The WSU Presidential Lecture Series wraps up with a signature keynote by world champion extreme freeskier and actor, Alison Gannett. Alison has dedicated her life to saving our snow, water and ecosystems from the effects of climate change. Her credits include being named *Outside Magazine* Green All-Star of the Year, designing and building a straw house, converting the world's first solar-powered 100 MPG SUV, and leading ski expeditions to document glacial recession around the world. **6144**

**(FREE) VOLUNTEER: STREET TEAM TRAINING****WED, JAN 5, 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM**

FIVE RIVERS ST. CLAIR BUILDING, Outdoor Recreation Classroom, 224 N St Clair St. Just like bands have street teams to promote their music, the Outdoor Recreation Department started a fun, energetic street team to promote their events. Roles include Social Networking Gurus, Flyer Hanging Maniacs and staffing outreach booths. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Refreshments provided. For more information, please contact Rachel Brand at [Rachel.Brand@metroparks.org](mailto:Rachel.Brand@metroparks.org) or (937) 564-5431, or register online. Age: 18Y and up. **5928**





## **(FREE) VOLUNTEER: METROPARKS VOLUNTEER PATROL (MVP) TRAINING**

**SAT, JAN 29, 8:00 AM- 6:00 PM**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, Lower Level, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Volunteer while doing what you love by joining MetroParks Volunteer Patrols (MVPs)! Join one of four patrols: bike, hike, mountain bike or horse. You must provide your own equipment (bike, helmet, horse, etc.). MVPs provide trail users with information, communicate information about trail conditions, and foster positive public interactions. **Reservations required and limited by December 17.** Interviews required. For more information, please contact Rachel Brand at Rachel.Brand@metroparks.org or (937) 564-5431, or register online. Age: 18Y and up. **5926**

## **BACKPACKING**

### **BACKCOUNTRY GOURMET COOKING**

**THU, DEC 9, 6:00 PM- 8:30 PM**

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

Learn to cook in the backcountry like you do in your kitchen. Discover a variety of cooking methods that include more elaborate gourmet meals using foods common at your local grocery. Get tips on filling foods such as pizza, fajitas, steamed peppers, spaghetti, and of, course, desserts, using lightweight backpacking stoves. Ingredients provided. Bring a spork or foon. Registration is required and limited, so please call (937) 277-4374. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$12 **5958**

### **(FREE) TRY WINTER BACKPACKING**

Have you ever tried winter backpacking? Need to beat cabin fever? Then come to this afternoon, hands-on program, try on a backpack or snowshoes, talk with local experts, and experiment with different types of winter gear. Backpacks and snowshoes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. For more information and to register, please contact (937) 277-4374 or register online.

**SAT, JAN 8, 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM** 5983

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

**SAT, FEB 5, 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM** 5989

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

## **INTRO TO ALCOHOL STOVES**

**THU, JAN 20, 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM**

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

Are you interested in exploring more of the ultralight backpacking evolution? Have you tried an alcohol stove? This evening program is an introduction to alcohol stove building and use, taught by a local thru-hiking expert. Included are instructions on how to build alcohol stoves, stove demos, and tips on use. Registration is required and limited, so please call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$5 **5959**

## **CAMPING**

### **(FREE) FUNDAMENTALS OF FAMILY CAMPING**

**THU, FEB 24, 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM**

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

Do you want to get your family out camping but don't know where to start? Then come join us for this fun and informational class designed to give you an introduction to, and some resources for, what you need to take your family and "get out" into the great outdoors. Reservations required and limited, so please call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 18Y and up. **5990**

## **CYCLING**

### **BICYCLE MUSEUM TRIP**

**SAT, JAN 22, 9:30 AM- 3:30 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Take a trip with us to the Bicycle Museum of America for a guided tour through the history of bicycling. Participants will get the chance to see over 300 unique bicycles like the Velocipede and the Bonebreaker. Bring a few extra bucks for the gift shop and pack a lunch. For more information and to register, call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Fees: \$5 **5975**

### **INTRODUCTION TO BICYCLE MAINTENANCE**

**WED, FEB 16, 6:00 PM- 8:30 PM**

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

This class will help you diagnose and fix

minor mechanical hiccups when out on your ride. Participants will learn about introductory level bike maintenance and the tools needed to make it happen. Topics include how to fix a flat tire, adjust brakes and gears, and lubricate your bike. Find out what you will need to help make sure that your ride doesn't get cut short. For more information and to register, call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Fees: \$5 **6004**

## **BICYCLE MAINTENANCE BASICS**

**WED, FEB 23, 6:00 PM- 8:30 PM**

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

This next step in the bike maintenance progression will give riders a more comprehensive understanding of what makes the wheels go round, building on the fundamentals covered in the introduction class. Topics will include more advanced brake and drive-train maintenance, bike fitting, tune-ups, and wheel truing. For more information and to register, call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Fees: \$10 **6005**

## **FITNESS & HEALTH**

### **(FREE) HIKE FOR THE HEALTH OF IT!**

Hike for a healthier lifestyle in the great outdoors! Hikes will be held every Saturday year round at 2:00 PM. Each hike will be about 3 miles and will move at a comfortable, brisk pace. Terrain will vary with the site and some is rugged. Hikers who complete 10 hikes will receive a Five Rivers MetroParks Health Hike ball cap. For general questions, call (937) 278-2623, weekdays, or visit [metroparks.org/hikehealth](http://metroparks.org/hikehealth).

**SAT, DEC 4, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4447

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

**SAT, DEC 11, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4448

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178 Conference Rd.

**SAT, DEC 18, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 4449

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Blue Heron Shelter, 2000 U.S. 40

**SAT, JAN 8, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 5772

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

**SAT, JAN 15, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM**

TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Chamberlain Parking lot, 8502 Chamberlain Rd. 5773

**SAT, JAN 22, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 5774

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Blue Heron

Shelter, 2000 U.S. 40

**SAT, JAN 29, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 5775  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake  
Shelter/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

**SAT, FEB 5, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 5776  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education  
Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

**SAT, FEB 12, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 5777  
HUFFMAN METROPARK, Huffman North Park,  
4095 Lower Valley Pk

**SAT, FEB 19, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 5778  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Parking Lot - 4178  
Conference Rd.


**SAT, FEB 26, 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM** 5779  
EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking Lot,  
1385 Harshman Rd.

## MOUNTAIN BIKING

### RAY'S MOUNTAIN BIKE TRIP

**SAT, DEC 18, 7:00 AM- 9:00 PM** 5961

**SAT, FEB 26, 7:00 AM- 9:00 PM** 5962  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Cox House  
Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Ray's Mountain Bike Trip will require a risk and release form to be signed. Riders must wear a wrist band. Helmets and gloves are required. It is recommended that you wear a long-sleeve shirt with elbow pads and shin guards with knee pads or long pants. No hybrid or road bikes; BMX bikes permitted during specific hours. Bring a packed lunch and money for dinner. For more information or to register, call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Age: 14Y and up. Fees: \$30 

## PADDLING

### KAYAK ROLL LESSONS

**SUN, DEC 19, 4:00 PM- 6:00 PM** 6043

**SUN, JAN 23, 4:00 PM- 6:00 PM** 6044  
OFF SITE, Beaver Creek YMCA, 560 Grange Hall  
Rd., Beaver Creek

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 this self-rescue technique. For more information and to register, call (937) 277-4374. Age: 8Y and up. Fees: \$50



## SKATING

### DJ SKATES SERIES

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

Get your groove on while skating the rink! DJs from Action Music will be spinning hot beats live to different themes, depending on the day! Don't miss these skating parties devoted to music from Fox's hit series *Glee*, the '80s, Michael Jackson and more! Come dance, shake and skate at MetroParks Ice Rink. Admission fee includes use of ice skates. Call (937) 278-2607 for more information. Fees: \$5

### HOLIDAY AND TOP 40

**FRI, DEC 3, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6049

**FRI, DEC 17, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6050

### KING OF POP SKATE: MICHAEL JACKSON

**FRI, JAN 7, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6051

### FOX'S HIT TV SERIES: GLEE

**FRI, JAN 21, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6052

### PEACE, LOVE AND SKATE: '60s AND '70s

**FRI, FEB 4, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6053

### GONE COUNTRY

**FRI, FEB 18, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6054

### STAR-LATE SKATES

**SAT, DEC 4, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6056

**FRI, DEC 10, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6057

**SAT, DEC 11, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6058

**SAT, DEC 18, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6059

**SAT, JAN 8, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6060

**FRI, JAN 14, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6061

**SAT, JAN 15, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6062

**SAT, JAN 22, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6063

**FRI, JAN 28, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6064

**SAT, JAN 29, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6065

**SAT, FEB 5, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6066

**FRI, FEB 11, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6067

**SAT, FEB 19, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6068

**FRI, FEB 25, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6069

**SAT, FEB 26, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6070

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

What better way to spend a Friday or Saturday night than by skating near the river, under a beautifully lit canopy? Enjoy your evening drinking hot chocolate, warming up by our outdoor fireplaces and taking in the sights and sounds of downtown! Bring family, friends or just yourself to skate MetroParks Ice Rink. Admission is \$5 and includes skate

rental. Call (937) 278-2607 for details. Fees: \$5

### FUNDAMENTALS OF SKATING

**SUN, DEC 5, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM** 6017

**SUN, DEC 12, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM** 6018

**SUN, DEC 19, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM** 6019

**SUN, JAN 9, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM** 6020

**SUN, JAN 16, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM** 6021

**SUN, JAN 23, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM** 6022

**SUN, JAN 30, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM** 6023

**SUN, FEB 6, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM** 6024

**SUN, FEB 13, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM** 6025

**SUN, FEB 20, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM** 6026

**SUN, FEB 27, 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM** 6027

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, Ice Rink Lesson  
Area, Seasonal ice rink under covered pavilion  
Drop in for one lesson or attend each week.  
One-hour lessons are taught by a seasoned  
professional. You or your child will learn  
the correct way to fall, skate forward, stop  
forward, skate backwards and glide on two  
feet. \$5 for lesson, which includes the use  
of ice skates. Call (937) 278-2607 for more  
information. Weather permitting. Fees: \$5

### CHRISTMAS EVE SKATE

**FRI, DEC 24, 11:00 AM- 6:30 PM**

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

Continue or start a holiday tradition by  
skating with your friends and family at  
RiverScape MetroPark. Enjoy splendid  
scenery, warm fireplaces and hot chocolate.  
Admission is \$5 and includes the use of  
ice skates. Call (937) 278-2607 for more  
information. Fees: \$5 **6071**

### CHRISTMAS DAY SKATE

**SAT, DEC 25, 1:00 PM- 8:00 PM**

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

Have an old-fashioned family Christmas and  
skate on Christmas Day! Sip hot chocolate  
by the fireplace and admire the festive  
lighting display. Admission is \$5 and includes  
the use of ice skates. Call (937) 278-2607 for  
more information. Fees: \$5 **6072**

### NEW YEAR'S EVE SKATE

**FRI, DEC 31, 8:00 PM-12:00 AM**

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

Skate into the new year with MetroParks!  
Listen to fun family music, get your picture  
taken by a photographer and wear party  
favors all while skating! Admission is \$5 and  
includes the use of ice skates. Call (937) 278-  
2607 for more information. Fees: \$5 **6073**





**NEW YEAR'S DAY SKATE****SAT, JAN 1, 1:00 PM- 8:00 PM**

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

Start your New Year off right on the MetroParks Ice Rink and be the first to skate in 2011! Admission is \$5 and includes the use of ice skates. Call (937) 278-2607 for more information. Fees: \$5 **6074**

**OUTDOOR BROOMBALL****MON, JAN 3 - MON, MAR 7, 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM**

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

Looking for a fun recreational activity this winter? Get your friends together and sign up for the Dayton Broomball Association's coed league at MetroParks Ice Rink! Broomball is an exciting team sport played on ice where players wear shoes instead of skates and use broom-shaped sticks to pass and score goals. No experience necessary. Ages 18 and up. Visit [daytonbroomball.org/riverscape](http://daytonbroomball.org/riverscape) to register your team or to find out more information. Will take first 12 teams. Age: 18Y and up. Fees: \$200 **6031**

**BASIC ICE SKATING FOR ADULTS****TUE, JAN 11, 7:00 PM- 8:00 PM**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, Ice Rink Lesson Area, Seasonal ice rink under covered pavilion

Drop in for a one-hour lesson taught by a seasoned professional in this exciting course for adults only. Participants will learn the correct way to fall, skate forward, stop forward, skate backwards and glide on two feet. Minimum four participants required. Fee of \$5 for lesson includes the use of ice skates. Call (937) 278-2607. Weather permitting. Fees: \$5 **6116**

**4X THE FUN: SECTION 1****TUE, JAN 11, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6045**TUE, JAN 18, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6046**TUE, JAN 25, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6047**TUE, FEB 1, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6048

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, Ice Rink Lesson Area, seasonal ice rink under covered pavilion

Why take only one lesson when you can have four times the fun? In this four-week course, students will gain a solid foundation of ice skating skills. Learn basic skating techniques, safety rules and stops, maneuverability skills and more! Can't make the first section? Join us for our second round starting on February 8, 2011. Minimum four participants required. Fee includes

use of ice skates. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 278-2607. Weather permitting. Fees: \$20

**SO YOU THINK YOU CAN SKATE? SECTION 1****THU, JAN 13, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6094**THU, JAN 20, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6095**THU, JAN 27, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6096**THU, FEB 3, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6097

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, Ice Rink Lesson Area, Seasonal ice rink under covered pavilion

Get ready to show what you got in SYTYCS! This course will take your abilities to new heights! Students who have already mastered the basic skills of skating can learn more advanced fundamentals in this series of lessons. Can't make the first section? Join us for our second round starting on February 10, 2011. Minimum four participants required. Fee includes use of ice skates. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 278-2607. Weather permitting. Fees: \$20

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY SKATE****MON, JAN 17, 11:00 AM- 5:30 PM**

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

Special holiday hours! Admission is \$5 and includes the use of ice skates. Call (937) 278-2607 for more information. Fees: \$5 **6075**

**ICE PRINCESSES****TUE, JAN 18, 6:00 PM- 6:30 PM**

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

Calling all princesses! This princess in training course will include basic skating instruction and fun, with a "Princess Tea Time" (hot cocoa off-ice) at 6:30 PM. Costumes over warm clothes are optional. Fee of \$5 includes use of ice skates. Minimum four participants required. Reservations required and limited; call (937) 278-2607. Weather permitting. Age: 2Y - 7Y. Fees: \$5 **6103**

**ICE DANCE SERIES**

Participants with basic skating skills are invited to get down and get funky with these special ice dancing activities. Minimum four participants required. Fee of \$5 includes use of ice skates. Call (937) 278-2607 for details. Weather permitting. Age: 14Y and up.

**BASIC ICE DANCE****TUE, JAN 18, 7:00 PM- 8:00 PM**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, Ice Rink Lesson Area, Seasonal ice rink under covered pavilion Get ready to shake your skates off! This class is for adults and older children (14 and older) with some basic skating ability. Participants will learn the fundamentals of ice dancing, including simple steps and rhythms. Fees: \$5 **6104**

**SWING AND RETRO****TUE, JAN 25, 7:00 PM- 8:00 PM**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, Ice Rink Lesson Area, Seasonal ice rink under covered pavilion

Students will take the simple fundamentals learned in Basic Ice Dance to the next level! Learn new dance steps and rhythms and feel like a pro. Hockey skates are permitted. Minimum 4 participants required. Fee of \$5 includes use of ice skates. Call (937) 278-2607. Weather permitting. Fees: \$5 **6119**

**SALSA AND TOP 40****TUE, FEB 1, 7:00 PM- 8:00 PM**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, Ice Rink Lesson Area, Seasonal ice rink under covered pavilion

Students will take the simple fundamentals learned in Basic Ice Dance to the next level! Learn new dance steps and rhythms and feel like a pro. Hockey skates are permitted. Minimum 4 participants required. Fee of \$5 includes use of ice skates. Call (937) 278-2607. Weather permitting. Fees: \$5 **6120**

**ICE PIRATES****TUE, JAN 25, 6:00 PM- 6:30 PM**

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

Ahoy Mateys! This class is for little boys who are not afraid to walk the plank and take a fun-filled, basic introduction to skating course followed by a tasty treat (hot cocoa off-ice). Costumes over warm clothes are optional. Minimum four participants required. Fee of \$5 includes use of ice skates. Reservations required & limited. Call (937) 278-2607. Weather permitting. Age: 2Y - 7Y. Fees: \$5 **6102**

**SYNCHRONIZED SKATING SERIES**

Skaters with basic knowledge are invited to bring a friend and learn the ins and out of this fun wintertime activity. Minimum six participants required. Fee: \$5, includes use of ice skates. Call (937) 278-2607 for more details. Weather permitting.

**INTRO TO SYNCHRONIZED SKATING****TUE, FEB 1, 6:00 PM- 7:00 PM**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice

Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Students will learn the basic steps and formations of synchronized skating in this fun introductory lesson! Fees: \$5 **6108**

## CONTINUING SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

**TUE, FEB 8, 6:00 PM- 7:00 PM** 6109

**TUE, FEB 15, 6:00 PM- 7:00 PM** 6110

**TUE, FEB 22, 6:00 PM- 7:00 PM** 6111

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

Students will take the basic steps and formations learned in Intro to Synchronized Skating to the next level! Get the chance to be a star and show off your newly mastered skills in the special exhibition show just for the Synchronized Skaters! Minimum six participants required. Fee: \$5, includes use of ice skates. Call (937) 278-2607. Weather permitting. Fees: \$5

## SO YOU THINK YOU CAN SKATE?

### SECTION 2

**THU, FEB 10, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6153

**THU, FEB 17, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6154

**THU, FEB 24, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6155

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, Ice Rink Lesson Area, Seasonal ice rink under covered pavilion

Get ready to show what you got in SYTYCS! This course will take your abilities to a new height! Students who have already mastered the basic skills of skating can learn more advanced fundamentals in this series of lessons. Final day of class is March 3, 2011. Minimum four participants required. Fee includes use of ice skates. Reservations required and limited. Call (937) 278-2607. Weather permitting. Fees: \$20

## 4X THE FUN BASIC BUILDING BLOCKS OF ICE SKATING:

### SECTION 2

**TUE, FEB 8, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6156

**TUE, FEB 15, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6157

**TUE, FEB 22, 4:30 PM- 5:30 PM** 6158

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, Ice Rink Lesson Area, seasonal ice rink under covered pavilion

Why take only one lesson when you can have 4 times the fun? In this four-week course, students will gain a solid foundation of ice skating skills. Learn basic skating techniques, safety rules and stops, maneuverability skills and more! Final day of class is March 1, 2011. Minimum four participants required. Fee includes use of ice skates. Reservations required & limited. Call (937) 278-2607. Weather permitting. Fees: \$20

## SATURDAY NIGHT SWEETHEART SKATE

**SAT, FEB 12, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM**

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

Celebrate Valentine's Day, skating arm in arm with that special sweetheart in your life. There will be one flower for the first 100 couples provided by The Flowerman. This will be a fun and romantic night the two of you will not forget! Call (937) 278-2607 for more information. Fees: \$5 **6121**

## PRESIDENT'S DAY SKATE

**MON, FEB 21, 11:00 AM- 5:30 PM**

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

Special holiday hours! Admission is \$5 and includes the use of ice skates. Call (937) 278-2607 for more information. Weather permitting. Fees: \$5 **6078**

## SPECIAL EVENTS ENTERTAINMENT

### (FREE) SHOP THE MARKET

**FRI, DEC 3, 3:00 PM- 8:00 PM**

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

The Market will have extended hours for shopping, eating, wine tasting and relaxing to musical entertainment. Horse-drawn carriage rides and holiday music will be featured. Azra will demonstrate how to prepare Christmas baklava made from a European recipe over 100 years old. Food vendors will have savory offerings to satisfy your appetite. Don't miss this added opportunity to shop the Market. Call (937) 228-2088 or visit [metroparks.org/LocalFood](http://metroparks.org/LocalFood) for more information. **5938**

## HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE RIDES

**SAT, DEC 4, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6139

**SAT, DEC 11, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6140

**SAT, DEC 18, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM** 6141

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape MetroPark, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Travel downtown in a beautiful horse-drawn carriage! Tickets are available at the skate office the day of the activity. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Limited number of tickets available. Call (937) 228-2088 or visit [metroparks.org/LocalFood](http://metroparks.org/LocalFood) for more information. Fee: \$5 per person; \$8 per couple. Weather permitting. Fees: \$5

## (FREE) SANTA VISITS THE MARKET

**THU, DEC 16, 11:30 AM- 1:30 PM** 5942

**FRI, DEC 17, 11:30 AM- 1:30 PM** 5943

**SAT, DEC 18, 11:30 AM- 1:30 PM** 5944

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

Bring your cameras and snap a photo of Santa with your friends and family. It won't be too late for Santa to hear what's on your wish list—including Market goodies. He'll have a treat for everyone who stops by to see him. Call (937) 228-2088 for more information.

## (FREE) CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAYS

**THU, JAN 13, 11:00 AM- 3:00 PM** 5935

**FRI, JAN 14, 11:00 AM- 3:00 PM** 5936

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

To show appreciation, the first 50 customers of the day will receive a free gift provided by the 2nd Street Market vendors. Enjoy musical entertainment as you shop and have a relaxing lunch. Consider it a "thank you for your patronage" party! Call (937) 228-2088 or visit [metroparks.org/LocalFood](http://metroparks.org/LocalFood) for more information.

## (FREE) WINTER FAMILY FUN DAY

**SAT, JAN 15, 10:00 AM- 1:00 PM**

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

Families, come and enjoy a fun-filled day at the 2nd Street Market! Create your own art project with Meadowdale High School students, watch an ice carving demonstration by Ramon Rodriguez and listen to musical entertainment geared to all ages. Call (937) 228-2088 or visit [metroparks.org/LocalFood](http://metroparks.org/LocalFood) for details. **5937**

## (FREE) VALENTINE'S CELEBRATION

**SAT, FEB 12, 9:00 AM- 2:00 PM**

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

It's the weekend before Valentine's Day and the Market has the perfect gift for your sweetheart—choose from flowers, elaborately decorated desserts, jewelry, wine, soaps and so much more! We will be celebrating with light jazz for lovers followed by a poetry reading by Emily's Boys. Help those in need by filling the heart in the pavilion with non-perishable food items. All donations will be given to the Foodbank. Call (937) 228-2088 or visit [metroparks.org/LocalFood](http://metroparks.org/LocalFood) for more information. **5945**



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

**SAT, FEB 26, 9:00 AM- 2:00 PM**

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

You are invited to the 5th Annual Black History Day at the Market. Join us for a cultural celebration of great old school and gospel music and dance. The entertainment line-up includes, The Dianne Coble Ensemble, DC Men of God, The Chaminade Julianne Ensemble, Mary Queen of Peace Special Edition Dance Troop and Mary Anne Studio Zumba of Ohio. Call (937) 228-2088 for more information. **5932**

## **FITNESS & HEALTH**

### **(FREE) CHRISTMAS WALK IN DOWNTOWN DAYTON**

**SAT, DEC 4, 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM**

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

This outdoor community opportunity is provided by Ohio Wander Freunde Volkspart. The 10k and 5k walk routes will be through decorated streets in downtown Dayton and the Oregon District. Start between 9:00 AM and 12 noon and finish by 3:00 PM. For more information, contact Mikki White at (937) 890-0416 or e-mail mikkiw17@sbcglobal.net. **5934**



**HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE RIDES AT THE PNC 2ND STREET MARKET**

## **HOME & HOBBIES**

### **(FREE) ORCHID SHOW**

**SAT, FEB 19 - SUN, FEB 20, 10:00 AM- 4:00 PM**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Hundreds of orchids will be on display. You'll also find orchids and other items for purchase. Informal orchid talks and repotting classes will be held throughout the weekend. This event is sponsored by the Miami Valley Orchid Society. For more information, call the Arboretum at (937) 434-9005 or contact MVOS directly by visiting [www.miamivalleyorchidsociety.com](http://www.miamivalleyorchidsociety.com). Age: 18Y and up. **5852**

## **PETS**

### **PET PICTURES WITH SANTA**

**SAT, DEC 4, 10:00 AM- 1:00 PM**

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

Bring your pet for a professionally made photograph with Santa presented by Friends of the Humane Society. Only dogs and cats or other highly sociable pets, please. Animals must be on leash and under control. Sorry, pets cannot be taken elsewhere in the Market. For more information, go to [www.humanesocietydayton.org](http://www.humanesocietydayton.org). Fees: \$25 **6163**



## **THE RIDING CENTER AT CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK**

Come visit our newly renovated riding center offering seasonal trail rides, pony rides, lesson packages, clinics and much more!

Gift certificates are also available. To make a reservation and for more information, call **(937) 274-3120** or visit [www.metroparks.org/ridingcenter](http://www.metroparks.org/ridingcenter).





## Get outside and start snapping!



# KEEP YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS!

**GET HEALTHY:** Want to become more physically active in 2011? Exercise is more fun in a group! Check out Hike for the Health of It, a weekly trek through a MetroPark. Each hike takes place at 2:00 PM Saturdays and moves at a comfortable, brisk pace. Motivate yourself to achieve your fitness goals—hikers who complete 10 hikes will receive a Five Rivers MetroParks Health Hike ball cap, not to mention all the new friends you'll make while you explore your MetroParks! Find this season's Health Hikes on page 41, or for a complete list, visit [METROPARKS.ORG/HIKEHEALTH](http://METROPARKS.ORG/HIKEHEALTH). Love to bike? Bike for the Health of It returns in spring, meeting up at 9:00 AM Saturdays and riding to a different destination. Accumulate miles to earn achievement T-shirts! Learn more when you visit [METROPARKS.ORG/BIKEHEALTH](http://METROPARKS.ORG/BIKEHEALTH).

**GET EDUCATED:** Broaden your horizons with Five Rivers MetroParks. Take an educational program and discover something you never knew before. Get acquainted with Ohio's native wildlife living right in your own backyard. Take up a new hobby, like photography or gardening. Delve into the rich history of this region. Learn how to become more self-sufficient by harvesting and preparing your own food. The possibilities are endless. Browse the programs offered this quarter or visit [METROPARKS.ORG](http://METROPARKS.ORG) and click on the "Get Educated" link.

**GET GREEN:** Make this the year you pitch in to help save the planet! Replace your incandescent light bulbs with energy-efficient compact florescent bulbs. Reduce waste by purchasing products with less packaging or packaged in recyclable materials. Glass and metal can be recycled over and over again to be used for the same product. Plastic can only be recycled and made into a new product once. Pick up a few reusable bags to take to the grocery store. Find a couple bags that fold into small sizes for easy storage in your vehicle so you'll be prepared during quick or unexpected stops. Recycle aluminum, glass, steel and plastic. Montgomery County Solid Waste District offers free daily recycling services to Montgomery County residents. Motor oil, computers, televisions, telephones and plastic toys are also accepted. Visit [www.mcswd.org](http://www.mcswd.org) for more details, or visit [METROPARKS.ORG](http://METROPARKS.ORG) and click on the "Get Green" link.

**GET INVOLVED:** Pledge to "pay it forward" in 2011. Express your care and concern for the environment, learn new skills and meet people with similar interests as a volunteer for Five Rivers MetroParks. Volunteer opportunities are as varied as the MetroParks themselves. Your time commitment depends on you and your chosen assignment. No previous training or experience is required; training is provided. As a volunteer, you will make things happen and provide a valuable contribution to the preservation and enjoyment of our natural areas. You will also receive benefits including an annual recognition party and training. To get started, call the volunteer services coordinator at (937) 275-PARK or visit [METROPARKS.ORG/VOLUNTEER](http://METROPARKS.ORG/VOLUNTEER) to learn more.



STAY  
CONNECTED

facebook

## FACEBOOK

Five Rivers MetroParks recently switched to a “fan” page. If you haven’t already done so, visit [www.facebook.com/fiveriversmetroparks](http://www.facebook.com/fiveriversmetroparks) and click the “like” button to keep up to date with MetroParks programs and events, as well as connect with other MetroParks users.

## TWITTER



Follow Five Rivers MetroParks on Twitter! Check out [www.twitter.com/metroparkstweet](http://www.twitter.com/metroparkstweet) to receive updates about activities going on in your parks. Why not start your own Tweet-up for a hike in a park?

## METROPARKS.ORG

The programs and stories you’re reading in this issue of ParkWays can be found online. Visit [METROPARKS.ORG](http://METROPARKS.ORG) and click on the picture of the ParkWays cover to download the latest issue, or visit [METROPARKS.ORG/parkways](http://METROPARKS.ORG/parkways) to download the PDF or subscribe to ParkWays if you’re not a Montgomery County resident. Search for programs by date or by activity – click on “Things to See and Do” from the “Get Outside” fly-out menu and start planning your next outdoor adventure!





# MEET YOU AT THE MARKET

## The PNC 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Market is open year-round!

Get fresh produce, farm-raised meats, artisan breads, dry goods and spices, specialty cheeses, a wide variety of wines and everything you need to keep your dinner table local, unique and fun all year long. The Market is open from 11 AM to 3 PM Thursdays and Fridays and 8 AM to 3 PM Saturdays, so even though it's cold outside, we'll keep your "locavore" fires stoked at the Market!



## HOLIDAY SPECIALS

Make the Market your holiday destination. Special dates include:

- 🌿 **Stock-Up Wednesday**, Nov. 24
- 🌿 **Shop the Market**, Dec. 3
- 🌿 **Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides**, Dec. 4, 11 and 18
- 🌿 **Customer Appreciation Days**, Jan 13-14

In addition, the Market will be open for your shopping convenience Friday, Nov. 26, and bonus shopping days Wednesday, Dec. 22, and Wednesday, Dec. 29.

Visit **METROPARKS.ORG/LocalFood** to meet the vendors and find out about cooking demos and other programs.



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\* Electrical motors under 42lbs. thrust permitted

▲ Hand-powered boats on Argonne Lake only. No vehicle access.

■ Wheelchair accessible (certain trails).

\* Weddings only.

□ Seasonal - winter.

# GROW WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS

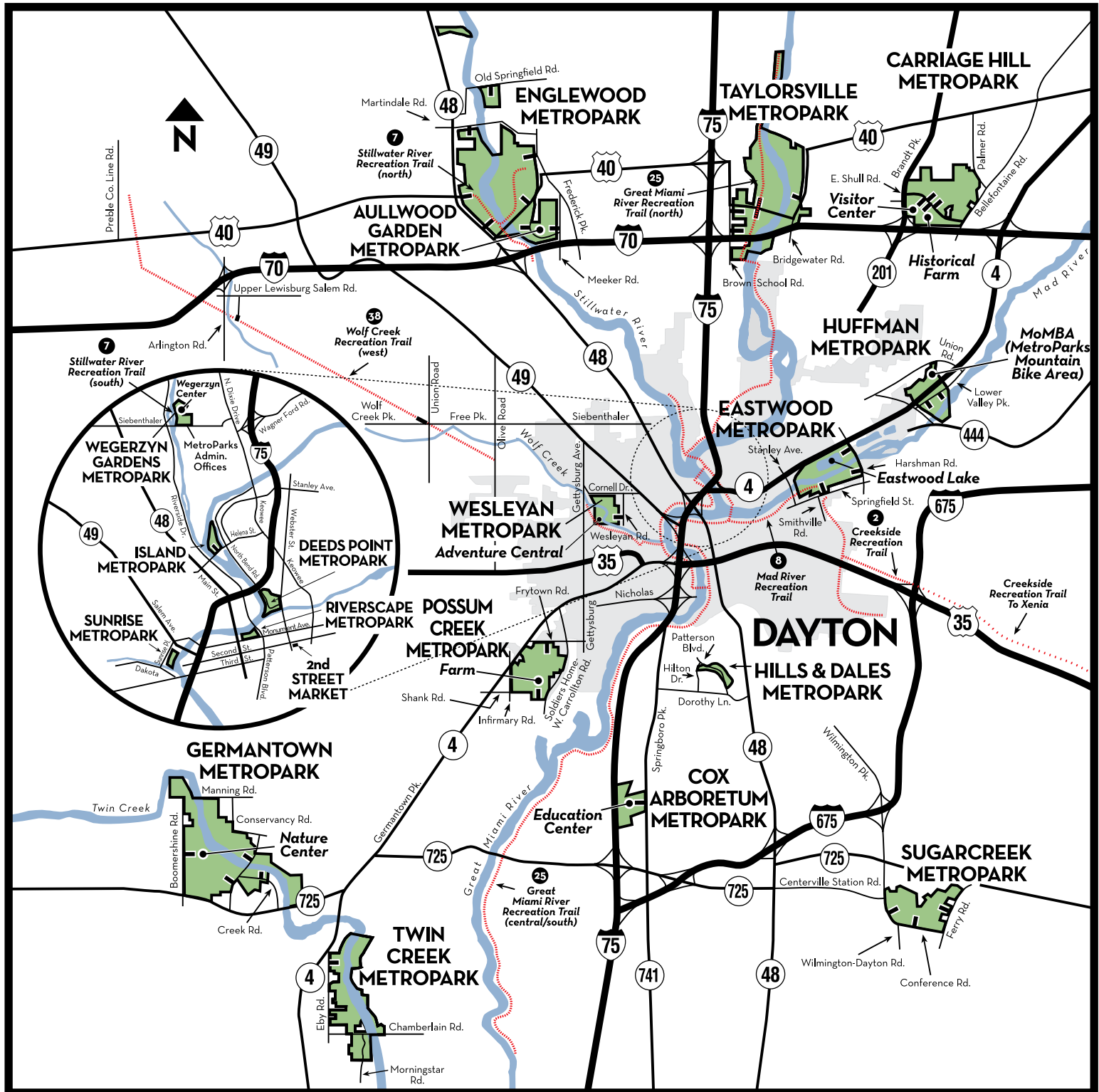


It's never too early to start thinking about growing and harvesting your own delicious vegetables and herbs! The community gardening plots around the Dayton region start taking reservations in March. Learn more about

community gardens and find out how you can start a community garden in your neighborhood when you visit **metroparks.org/GWYN** or contact Luci Beachdell at (937) 276-7053.



No matter where you are in Montgomery County,  
you're only 15 minutes away from a  
**Five Rivers MetroPark.**



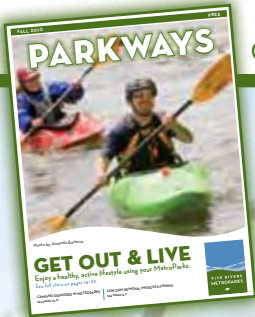


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Go to [www.metroparks.org/parkways](http://www.metroparks.org/parkways) to view this *ParkWays* publication online.

## TIME FOR YOUR CLOSE UP!

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

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

Guess the spot!



*Autlwood Garden MetroPark*

facebook



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

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