

# PARKWAYS



Photo by Elzora.com Photography

## TAKE BACK YOUR RIVERS!

RECONNECT WITH ONE OF OUR REGION'S GREATEST ASSETS

See full story on pages 21-23

LEARN ABOUT WATERSHEDS AND AQUIFERS  
SEE PAGES 14-15

GET PADDLING! WE'LL SHOW YOU HOW  
SEE PAGES 18-20





# REMEMBER TO SAVE THE DATE

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



**June 1, July 6,  
and Aug 3**

**FIRST FRIDAYS @ 5**  
RiverScape MetroPark  
Photo by Leah Stahl



**June 29-July 1**

**CITYFOLK FESTIVAL**  
RiverScape MetroPark

Photo by Dayton Daily News



**July 1**

**A GRAND OLD  
INDEPENDENCE DAY**  
Carriage Hill MetroPark



**July 14**

**PRAIRIE SERENADE**  
Carriage Hill MetroPark

Photo by United RA Makley



**July 16-20**

**TEEN ADVENTURE  
CAMP**

Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark



**July 27-29**

**DAYTON CELTIC  
FESTIVAL**

RiverScape MetroPark  
Photo by United Irish of Dayton



**July 28**

**KIDS DAY AT  
THE MARKET**

PNC 2nd Street Market



**Aug 19**

**WYSO CONCERT**  
RiverScape MetroPark

Photo by Leah Stahl



**Aug 25**

**DAYTON AFRICAN  
AMERICAN CULTURAL  
FESTIVAL**

RiverScape MetroPark  
Photo by Joe Long



**Aug 31**

**TEEN MUSIC SLAM**  
RiverScape MetroPark

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

**WWW.METROPARKS.ORG**



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### PARKWAYS IS YOUR GUIDE

to all the great activities and programs MetroParks offers every month. Check out the Activity Guide beginning on page 27 and get outside!



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).

### MetroParks Commissioners



Alan F. Pippenger



Karen L. Davis



Irvin G. Bieser, Jr.

*Five Rivers MetroParks is dedicated to protecting the region's natural heritage and providing outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature.*

Commissioner photos ©Easterling Studios



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**#1 RIDE THE RIVER:** Ride the River Rentals at RiverScape MetroPark let you cruise the Great Miami River.

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

Photo by Tim Gaffney



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**#3 PADDLE 'N' PLAY:** Paddle along the Mad River and hit the play areas near Eastwood MetroPark.

# TOP TEN THINGS

## TO ENJOY IN YOUR FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS THIS SUMMER



Photo by Brendan Connelly

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**#4 THE CLAW GAME:** Catch a crawdad in Wolf Creek at Wesleyan MetroPark during a program.

**#8 MUCK AMOK:** Bring the kids to learn about wetlands in the Children's Discovery Garden at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.



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**#5 SCENIC TRAILS:** Camp along Twin Creek while you backpack on the 22-mile Twin Valley Trail.

Photo by Elzora.com Photography



5

Photo by Amanda Barbosa



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7

Photo by Harold Watson

**#7 FLIGHT OF FANCY:** Watch for birds near Stillwater River or Lake at Englewood MetroPark.



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**#10 CASTING CALL:** Try your luck fishing in the ponds at Possum Creek, Carriage Hill, or Englewood MetroParks.





**Becky Benná**  
Executive Director

## Dear MetroParks Friends,

Five Rivers MetroParks believes that partnering with other organizations in the community is a great opportunity for pooling resources and maximizing services and benefits to our region. One recent example is the renewal of agreements between MetroParks and the Miami Conservancy District (MCD) that began in partnership approximately 45 years ago.

Through the wisdom and vision of MetroParks and MCD leaders in 1967, our two organizations joined together in entering into agreements that continue to protect our rivers and green space and provide access to our natural resources located throughout the region. MetroParks' mission is to protect the region's natural heritage and provide outdoor experiences that inspire personal connections to nature. The long-lasting partnership between our organizations helps us to meet that mission.

After the Great Flood of 1913, Arthur Morgan, chief engineer of MCD's flood protection system, envisioned more than Great Miami River cities free of devastating floods. He was a conservationist who valued the dual purpose each dam's retarding basin would have by holding back floodwaters and providing permanent places for residents to enjoy nature and a family picnic.

By embracing Mr. Morgan's philosophy, Five Rivers MetroParks developed conservation principles that continue to guide us in accomplishing our mission. Those principles include:

- Protect significant natural areas, particularly adjacent to existing MetroParks and river corridors in the Miami Valley.
- Protect and connect significant tracts of forest.
- Link forests and parklands along river corridors.
- Establish buffer areas where needed to maintain open space and protect watersheds.

The recent renewal of four agreements with MCD includes approximately 2,950 acres of property at Germantown and Twin Creek, Englewood, Pigeye, Taylorsville, and Huffman. These agreements will allow for MetroParks to continue providing nature and conservation-based programs, access to trails, picnicking, camping, fishing, kayaking and canoeing, bird-watching, or just enjoying a quiet moment in nature.

MCD is such a valued partner in helping us continue to jointly provide these outstanding amenities to the residents in our region. We look forward to continuing to work together for many years to come.

## We've Moved!

Five Rivers MetroParks has consolidated four of its offices into one location in downtown Dayton. You'll find access to brochures and park information, plus shelter and campsite permit registration available on the third floor at 409 E. Monument Ave. adjacent to RiverScape MetroPark and Fifth Third Field. For more information, call visitor's services at (937) 275-PARK (7275).

# TRY SOMETHING NEW

## THERE'S A WAY FOR EVERYONE TO GIVE BACK TO THE PARKS THEY LOVE

Five Rivers MetroParks is always looking for volunteers to pitch in to share the joy of nature with others. There are opportunities available for people of all ages, skill levels, and abilities. Do you have a hobby or expertise that you'd like to share with others? Become a volunteer and Five Rivers MetroParks will match your talents to the task that's right for you. Want to learn something new? Service learning programs like the Master Silviculturist will give you specialized training, and then you can put your new knowledge to the test, working alongside MetroParks staff and develop your leadership skills by heading up smaller groups of other volunteers.

There are many benefits that stem from volunteering. Volunteers work with park guests, helping every visitor to make a personal connection to nature. Volunteers help Five Rivers MetroParks stretch resources so even during times of financial crisis, local residents can count on enjoying a high-quality experience in their parks. Not to mention that a study

conducted by the University of Michigan found that people who volunteer are happier and live longer! Each year, Five Rivers MetroParks honors our dedicated volunteers with an awards banquet. Learn about these and more opportunities waiting for you at [metroparks.org/volunteer](http://metroparks.org/volunteer).



### RIVERSCAPE METROPARK GARDENERS

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

### EDIBLE LANDSCAPE GARDENERS

Learn how to grow your own vegetables and herbs. This hands-on learning

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

### BUTTERFLY HOUSE DOCENTS

Cox Arboretum MetroPark is looking for volunteers to staff the Butterfly House from June 25 through September 5. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. Volunteers receive specialized training for work as guides or gardeners. Guides work two-hour shifts during open hours, sharing their knowledge about butterfly and moth identification, life cycle information, and ecological gardening. Gardeners learn and use the best horticultural practices to maintain the host and nectar gardens. Gardening sessions are Thursdays from 4-6 p.m. For more information or to apply, contact Janet Metter at (937) 277-4133 or email [janet.metter@metroparks.org](mailto:janet.metter@metroparks.org).

### BUTTERFLY HOUSE GARDENERS

Learn about butterflies and moths and the plants they depend on to complete their life cycles. Discover and follow the best horticultural practices to maintain the host and nectar gardens that are experienced by thousands of visitors each summer at Cox Arboretum MetroPark's Butterfly House. This volunteer group meets from 4-6:30 p.m. Thursdays. Contact Janet Metter at (937) 277-4133 or email [janet.metter@metroparks.org](mailto:janet.metter@metroparks.org).





## NATURE CENTER HOST

Do you like nature and want to help educate the public about all of the great resources in the Germantown MetroPark Nature Center? Nature Center hosts are needed on weekends to help families connect with nature. To learn more about this opportunity or to sign up, call (937) 855-7717.

## CARRIAGE HILL COUNTRY STORE

Volunteers are needed to assist in the Country Store, located inside the Visitor Center at Carriage Hill MetroPark. Shifts are from 12- 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday throughout the year. Volunteers assist with penny candy and gift sales in the store. Basic training in sales and register use will be provided. All potential volunteers must pass a background check. For more information, contact Bambi Shafer at [bambi.shafer@metroparks.org](mailto:bambi.shafer@metroparks.org) or (937) 275-5006.

## CARRIAGE HILL CONCESSION STAND

Volunteers are needed to assist visitors in the concession stand located in the Carriage Hill Visitor Center. Friendly, outgoing volunteers will be trained to assist with setup of food equipment as well as food preparation and selling. For more information, contact Bambi Shafer at [bambi.shafer@metroparks.org](mailto:bambi.shafer@metroparks.org) or call her at (937) 275-5006.

## CRAFTERS WANTED!

If you love creating something crafty, or if your Pinterest boards are overflowing with ideas for handmade gifts, this volunteer opportunity is for you! Five Rivers MetroParks seeks volunteers to make ornaments out of natural items, such as pine cones, milkweed pods, nuts, tassels, and anything else that inspires you. Crafting sites will take place over the summer at Carriage Hill, Cox Arboretum, Possum Creek, and Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks. For more information, or to sign up, contact Janelle Leonard at [janelle.leonard@metroparks.org](mailto:janelle.leonard@metroparks.org) or (937) 275-PARK (7275).



## MASTER SILVICULTURIST

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

## POLLINATOR GARDEN

Become part of a team of conservation advocates that is helping Cox Arboretum MetroPark manage its land for pollinators as well as increase pollinator habitat. Learn about pollinator habitats and ecosystems overlaid in a designed landscape from 9-11:30 a.m. on Wednesdays. Volunteers propagate, plant and maintain native plants found in this garden that has been developed to sustain complete life cycles of many pollinators, including butterflies and bees. For details, contact Janet Metter at (937) 277-4133 or email [janet.metter@metroparks.org](mailto:janet.metter@metroparks.org).

## CONSERVATION CARETAKERS

Five Rivers MetroParks protects over 15,000 acres, which includes the

MetroParks you visit and love, as well as areas of dedicated wildlife habitat known as “conservation areas.” These spaces are important because they protect significant natural areas, particularly adjacent to existing MetroParks and river corridors in the Miami Valley. Conservation areas protect and connect significant tracts of forest, link forests and parklands along river corridors, or establish “buffer” areas to maintain open space and protect watersheds. These spaces also need maintenance, and Five Rivers MetroParks is looking for a corps of volunteers to help out! Conservation Caretakers will hike the boundaries of the conservation area, make careful notes about the surroundings, and report back to the conservation team. This volunteer opportunity can be done during the weekday, weekend, or early evening, depending on one’s availability. Want to learn more about this new opportunity, or are you ready to dive in? Attend the Conservation Caretaker orientation at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 19, in the park office at Taylorsville MetroPark (8300 Brown School Road, Vandalia). Anyone may attend the orientation; volunteers are not committed until they sign up for a shift. To learn more, contact Yvonne Dunphe at [Yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org](mailto:Yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org) or (937) 275-PARK(7275). 🌿

# WET N' WILD

## WATER TAKES LEADING ROLE IN NATIVE HABITATS

Water plays an important role in forming some of Ohio's native habitats. "Water is a vital resource for all living things, and plants and animals adapt based on availability," explains Conservation Biologist Michael Enright. "In southwest Ohio, we have plenty of freshwater sources, and the native habitats reflect that."



### Wetlands

Approximately 90% of the wetlands that existed in Ohio prior to European settlement have been destroyed. Many of these were drained to create agricultural fields. Five Rivers MetroParks has diligently worked to preserve remnants of original wetlands and to restore and create wetland habitat. While wetlands come in many forms, all wetlands are incredibly important. They are home to unique and beautiful communities of plants that are found nowhere else. They are breeding places and nurseries for many species of birds and animals. And by acting as giant sponges, they prevent flooding and filter our water, contributing to clean, pure water.

**Swamp:** A swamp is a type of wetland that contains mature trees or shrubs. The water table in a swamp is close to the surface and the land is often covered with up to 6 inches of standing water. Swamps support species that like having "wet feet" such as swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*) and buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*). Examples of this habitat can be seen from the boardwalk at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark or in the pumpkin ash and swamp forest at Englewood MetroPark.

**Marsh:** Marshes are covered in water and do not contain trees or shrubs. Among the plants found in marshes are cattails and rushes, which are grass-like plants with round hollow stems. Marshes provide aquatic habitat and food for many duck species, such as mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*), blue-winged teals (*Anas discors*), and lesser scaups (*Aythya affinis*). Marshes can be found along the edge of the lake at Carriage Hill MetroPark or seen from the silver trail in Germantown MetroPark. During your visit, look for turtles that may be feeding on aquatic insects.

**Fen:** Groundwater from springs and/or surface water keeps fens wet. In the Miami Valley, the groundwater contains calcium carbonate from limestone deposits that underlay the soil. This produces an alkaline environment (pH >7) that supports rare and unusual plants. Over time, fens accumulate layers of peat formed by plant



material that can only partially decay in the wet environment. A beautiful example of a restored fen can be seen at the Woodman Fen located near the Belmont neighborhood. Despite attempts over the years to drain and farm this land, it remained too wet. The fen has recently

# CONSERVATION



Photo by Jim Miller

been planted with over 10,000 wetland plants. Look for the grass-like plants called sedges. Sedges are very characteristic of alkaline fens. Touch their stems and you will notice that “sedges have edges”; that is, their stems are triangular in shape, rather than round.

🍃 **Seeps:** Seeps are small wetlands found on sloping ground. A seep is formed by water from a spring that saturates the soil over a broad area. The water often flows throughout the year and reaches the surface at a temperature between 50-60 degrees. Seeps support plants that are more commonly found along a river's edge, such as horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*). A great example of a seep wetland can be seen at Hills & Dales MetroPark from the boardwalk along the Adirondack Trail.

🍃 **Vernal Pools:** These form where there is a shallow depression in the land that does not have an above-ground outlet for water to drain away. Water fills these depressions through increases in the level of the water table during fall and winter or from melting snow and spring rains. Water slowly drains through the ground during the spring season, leaving the pool completely dry by early to mid-summer. Interesting creatures, such as spotted salamanders (*Ambystoma maculatum*) use these pools to breed during the spring. For the remainder of the year, spotted salamanders live in underground burrows or rotting logs in nearby forest. The vernal pool helps protect the eggs and young salamanders, because fish species, who would feed on them, are not able to survive in the pool. You can visit a vernal pool by walking along the orange or green trail at Sugarcreek MetroPark. The pool is located just past the prairie, between the two trails.

## Water

Larger bodies of water are an important source of food and shelter for a variety of plant and animal species. Take note of the abundance of life found in and around these sources on your next visit to a MetroPark or river.

### 🍃 Lakes and Ponds:

The small ponds and lakes of Five Rivers MetroParks are not only great places to fish but important habitats for many creatures. Ponds and lakes support species that live their entire lives in the water, ones that use the water during part of their life cycles, and many that live along the perimeter or find their food at the water's edge. Pond ecology differs from lake ecology because ponds are not as large or deep as lakes. In contrast to a pond, sunlight penetrates only the top layer of a lake, resulting in cooler temperatures at lower depths. Ponds and lakes are found in many MetroParks, including Possum Creek and Carriage Hill. During your visit, look for the great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*) that flies in to feast on fish and insects. Or listen for the green frog (*Lithobates clamitans melanota*), an amphibian that is 2 to 3 inches long and sounds like the plucking of a bass string on a banjo.

🍃 **Rivers and Streams:** Forested riverbanks and floodplains with natural vegetation contribute to clean water by preventing soil erosion, shading the water, and slowing water flow during heavy rains. Clean water supports a wider variety of aquatic species. Some species of fish, such as the river herring (*Moxostoma carinatum*)



survive only where there is good water quality. Many trails in our MetroParks meander along the rivers and streams, providing excellent views of these peaceful places.

🍃 **Mudflats:** These are created and maintained by temporary flooding from nearby lakes and rivers. The soil in mudflats remains wet throughout the year. Due to frequent flooding, mudflats support only limited vegetation. Yet they are a favorite place of many species. Beaver, muskrat, and raccoons visit mudflats to find food. Many birds, such as sandpipers and lesser yellowlegs, feast on the worms, crayfish, and other animals that live in the mud. Englewood MetroPark has a large mudflat that was formed after the shallow lake filled with silt from the Stillwater River. After the low dam was removed from the Stillwater River, flood control devices were installed on this shallow lake to maintain water levels. Migrating birds can be seen feeding there during the spring or fall. 🍃

# WATER PROTECTION PARTNERS



Photos courtesy Miami Conservancy District



## STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES WORK TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR RIVERS SAFE

Five Rivers MetroParks isn't alone in the fight to protect our water. Other organizations exist on the regional and state levels to help preserve this natural resource. Here's a look at two such organizations and what they contribute to watershed protection efforts.

### Miami Conservancy District

In March of 1913, the Miami Valley witnessed a natural disaster unparalleled in the region's history. Steady rains and the spring thaw caused the Great Miami River and its tributary streams to overflow. Every city along the river was inundated with floodwaters.

In the wake of this tragedy, Miami Valley citizens rallied to initiate plans to prevent future flooding. The result was an unflinching flood protection system of five dry dams—Germantown, Englewood, Lockington, Taylorsville, and Huffman—and levees that has protected the Miami Valley from flooding by the Great Miami River since 1922.

Today, the system protects tens of thousands of people in 40 municipalities, and 48,000-plus

properties in five counties totaling more than \$5.1 billion worth of buildings and land.

MCD also has been instrumental in protecting the Miami Valley's water resources, providing city and county officials with extensive water monitoring and water analysis, and educating and involving citizens.

MCD's Aquifer Preservation Subdistrict was created in 1997 to develop and maintain an ongoing, watershed-wide program to support comprehensive protection and management of the Great Miami River Watershed's groundwater resources. The goals and projects of the Aquifer Preservation Subdistrict are guided by a Liaison Committee of stakeholders to ensure that local and regional needs are addressed throughout the watershed. This subdistrict includes all or portions of nine counties, including Butler, Clark, Greene, Hamilton, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, and Warren counties.

Partnering with a variety of federal, state, and local governments, the Aquifer Preservation Subdistrict helps communities develop and implement source water protection plans; provides

educational programs; and monitors, analyzes, and reports on the conditions of the aquifer. The subdistrict also conducts quality and quantity studies of the buried valley aquifer, helps fund community projects to protect drinking water sources, and helps citizens collect data on their own private wells.

MCD has been actively involved for many years in promoting recreation along our rivers and streams. MCD owns or maintains 35 miles of paved bikeways and manages the state-designated Great Miami River Watershed Water Trail, consisting of more than 265 miles of waterway on three rivers, accessible for boating, fishing, and wildlife watching.

MCD also plays a leadership role throughout the region. Bringing together state and federal funds to leverage local dollars, MCD has been a key partner in projects like the development of RiverScape MetroPark.

You can get involved with MCD projects. Monitor your local creek or sign-up for a river cleanup.

👉 Join a group, such as the Great Miami River Watershed Network, a local watershed group, or the Greater Dayton Partners for the Environment, which is a coalition of



## ONLINE EXTRA

To learn more about the Miami Conservancy District, visit [miamiconservancy.org](http://miamiconservancy.org) where you can get further details about the flood protection program, sign up for volunteer activities to help protect our rivers and waterways, and download maps of our region's water trails. Use the interactive map to help you plan your next paddle sport trip! Learn more about the ODNR's Division of Soil and Water Resources at:

**[www.dnr.state.oh.us/tabid/21817/Default.aspx](http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/tabid/21817/Default.aspx)**

Download brochures for water-related programs, find educational resources, and check out the interactive watershed map and discover our region's diverse water systems!

organizations who share the common goal of protecting, restoring, preserving, and promoting the environmental and agricultural resources of the Great Miami River and Little Miami River watersheds.



- ✦ Volunteer with a group. Join the Miami Valley Stream Team and learn how to monitor stream water quality.
- ✦ Participate in annual river clean-ups.

levees; governs the sale or lease of state-owned waters; maintains the canal systems; administers the state floodplain management program; and supports education through outreach programs such as Project WET.

Two main sections govern the division's activities: water resources and water management. The Water Resources Section collects, quantifies, and disseminates data on the state's water resources. Data is used to assist the drilling industry, consultants, planners, the public, and local, state, and federal agencies with water development and protection activities. Data from well logs, pump tests, and a network of lake, stream, well, and precipitation gauging stations are maintained to support mapping, conflict investigations, water supply management, delineation of ground water stress areas, and regulatory



programs. Programs and functions of this section include cartography and publishing; groundwater mapping and technical services; water inventory; water planning; water withdrawal registration; and a community water assistance program that lends support to public water supply sources and executes contracts for the sale or lease of state-owned water supplies in federal, state, and local reservoirs, and in the Miami and Erie and Ohio and Erie canal systems.

The Water Management Section collects, evaluates, and disseminates information on development associated with the state's water resources to protect life, health, property, and habitat from damages related to structural failure or flood. This includes programs covering canal/hydraulic operations, dam safety engineering, and floodplain management. ✦

## Ohio Department of Natural Resources: Division of Soil and Water Resources

After the 2009 merger of the Division of Water and the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, the newly formed Division of Soil and Water Resources conducts groundwater mapping and research; develops water supply studies; ensures the safety of existing dams; regulates construction of new dams and



# CREEK CRITTERS

## GET TO KNOW THE CREATURES OF THE CREEKS

Creeks, rivers, streams, and other waterways are full of different types of animals from the very small to ones we can see swimming and darting through the waters.

Ohio creeks and rivers have some very colorful fish! Keep an eye out for rainbow darters, greenside darters, and creek chubs. Turn over some rocks to find wriggly nymphs. Another common creek dweller is the crawdad; they are great fun to catch and hold; just be sure to grasp them behind their head to avoid getting pinched. They are fun to watch in the water as they will shoot backwards when startled. Salamanders are also occasionally found in creeks.

Next time you're near a creek, be on the lookout for these riverbed denizens:



**Rainbow darters:** There are fish in Dayton's rivers that can rival the beauty of tropical fish. Male rainbow darters are adorned with red, orange, and bluish green stripes and bands on the body and fins. These fish are usually found in more shallow, faster-moving water, and are only a few inches long.



**Greenside darters:** Similar to rainbow darters, the males of these small fish are

beautifully colored with dark green bands up and down the body. They are also recognized by their frog-like face. Like rainbow darters, greensides are indicators of good water quality.



**Creek chubs:** These fish are usually 4-6 inches in length, with typically a dark stripe from nose to tailfin. Males can be distinguished from females during late spring and early summer, their breeding season, by having multiple bumps on their forehead.



**Macroinvertebrates:** Insects like water bugs, dragonfly larvae, mayfly larvae, caddisfly larvae, and water pennies can be found submerged, living in plant material or attached to rocks. They are very important to the food chain, and also serve as indicators to water quality.

**Fishing spider:** Often confused with wolf spiders because of their size, fishing spiders spend most of their time hiding under rocks and crevices, but venturing out for food when hungry. Sometimes, these spiders feast on animals like tadpoles, macroinvertebrates, and even small fish.

# EDUCATION





➤ **Water snake:** Often found basking on sunny rocks, these harmless snakes are identified by light and dark alternating irregular banding from head to tail, and get to about 4 feet in length. Many will misidentify them as cottonmouths. Although sometimes aggressive, water snakes are non-venomous.



➤ **Cricket frog:** Found along the banks of streams and ponds, these tiny frogs are easy to find. They are identified by a black triangle between the eyes, and are only about 1 inch long when fully grown. They love to feast on mosquito larvae.



➤ **Northern two-lined salamander:** This is the most common creek-dwelling salamander. Salamanders are amphibians, which means they spend part of their lives as aquatic larvae with gills.



## GET AN UP-CLOSE LOOK AT CREEK LIFE

Want to learn more about creatures living in the creeks? Register for these programs and learn more about creeks and their inhabitants with your family:

### STREAM APPRECIATION

10:30 a.m. June 9, Englewood MetroPark (see page 39)

### WETLAND EXPLORATION

1 p.m. June 9, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 39)

### STROLLER STRUT: TURTLES, FROGS, AND DOG

9 and 11:30 a.m. June 26, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 40)

### BACKPACKING BABIES: CREEK ROMP

10 a.m. July 5, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 38)

### TIKE HIKE: FOLLOW THE WATER

10 a.m. July 13, Englewood MetroPark (see page 37)

### TWIN CREEK HABITAT ADVENTURE

10 a.m. July 14, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 41)

### TIKE HIKE: STREAMOLOGY

10 a.m. July 17, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)

### KNEE DEEP IN WOLF CREEK

4 p.m. July 17, Wesleyan MetroPark (see page 41)

### TIKE HIKE: LOOK TO THE WATER

10 a.m. July 30, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 37)

### TIKE HIKE: PONDOLOGY

10 a.m. Aug. 21, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 38)



# RIVERS, WATERSHEDS, AND AQUIFERS

## HOW WATER CONNECTS US ALL

We are all connected through nature. We depend on trees to supplement our atmosphere with life-giving oxygen. We rely on animals for food and to maintain a balance in the food chain. And both plants and animals require water for survival. One of the most apparent demonstrations of this interdependence with our rivers is observing our watersheds.

A watershed is an area of land in which all the water drains into a specific body of water. "Watersheds can be many different sizes depending on how our land is shaped," explains Naturalist Joshua York. "Originating upstream from Indian Lake, the Great Miami River flows 170 miles to the Ohio River. The Great Miami River Watershed drains all or parts of 15 counties and also includes the Stillwater and Mad rivers and Twin, Wolf, and Seven Mile creeks."

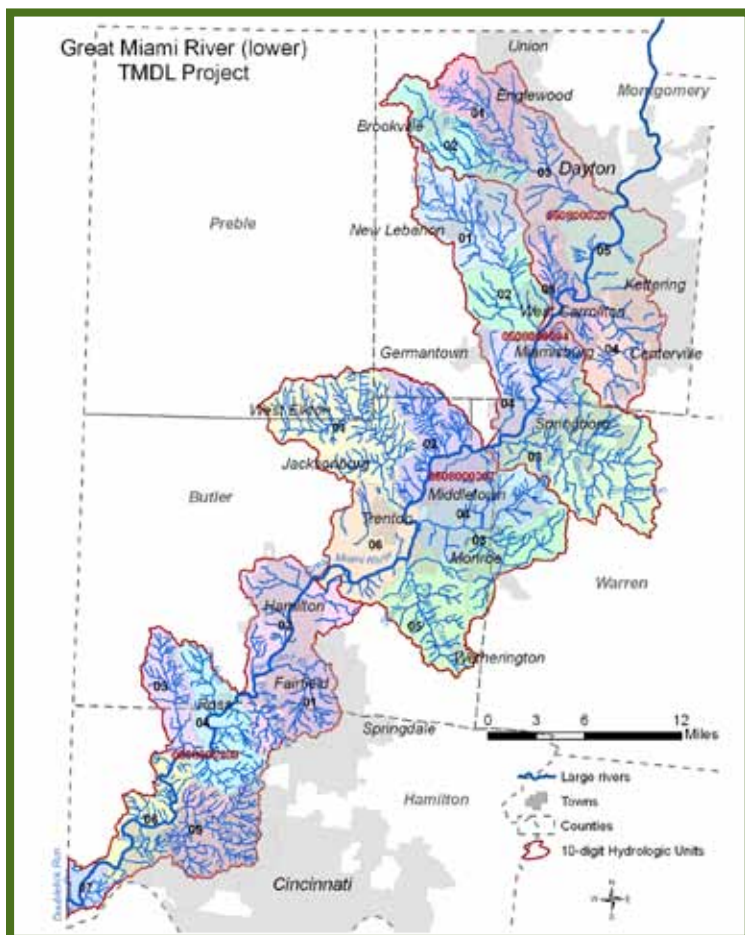
Water is always moving; thus the shape of the land determines how and where water can flow. When it rains,

water is absorbed by trees and other plants. Some of it is absorbed by soil or evaporates back into the air. The rest flows through the ground's natural drainage into creeks and streams. The shape of the land determines how and where this flow is channeled. This larger network of interconnected water flow and river systems is known as a watershed. The total drainage area of the watershed in Ohio is 3,946 square miles; the entire watershed, including the Whitewater River in Indiana, drains 5,702 square miles.

You may have heard of the term "watershed" and now have a better understanding of what it means to be part of a watershed, but what about an "aquifer"? You may have heard Dayton and Montgomery County officials tout our region's high-quality aquifer, but what does that really mean? "Water that isn't absorbed by plants or soil, or evaporates or flows into the watershed flows even further," York explains. "Below the soil is a layer of rocks, boulders and sediment. Once the water fills in the spaces between these rocks, boulders, and sediments, this structure is known as an aquifer. The water is filtered through these media and cleaned of any impurities. Water in an aquifer can be there for hundreds of years, or a few days!"

Another kind of aquifer is when the water fills in cracks in the bedrock, which is below the soil, rocks, boulders, and sediment. When you dig a well, you are digging into an aquifer to extract the groundwater that resides there. Dayton sits atop one of the largest and cleanest water aquifers in the country, storing 1.5 trillion gallons of water. This sole-source freshwater supply provides a significant competitive advantage for Dayton when other communities are experiencing water shortages and drought. Watch the aquifer in action eight minutes before and after the top of the hour this summer as the Five Rivers Fountains of Light shoot jets of water as high as 200 feet in the air, pumping water up from Dayton's vast aquifer.

According to the Miami Conservancy District, an estimated 97% of the population in the Great Miami River Watershed relies on groundwater for its drinking water supply. As a result of the watershed's glacial deposits, the Great Miami River and many of its tributaries flow over this buried valley aquifer consisting of thick deposits of sand, gravel, cobble, and boulders. Such porous material allows some wells to





produce up to 3,000 gallons per minute. With access to such vast quantities of freshwater, it's easy to see why many look to the aquifer for the future success of regional development.

## KEEPING OUR WATERSHED AND AQUIFER HEALTHY



Photos courtesy JB Curio

Everyone can contribute to keeping our rivers, watershed, and aquifer healthy and viable. "Sometimes when you think about river pollution, you might think about companies that dumped vats of chemicals straight into the river, particularly before the Clean Water Act of 1972," York says. "Today, pollution like that might not happen on such a large scale from a single source, but the truth is our rivers are still being polluted by harmful runoff." As the rainwater moves through your yard, down your driveway or street into the storm drains, it picks up chemicals along the way. These chemicals can end up in the river. If your grass is treated with a chemical to make it grow better, that chemical makes its way into the rivers, either through runoff or seeping through the ground. When you wash your car in the driveway, those chemicals can make their way into storm drains. Storm drains, which are separate from sewage drains, are marked with a symbol to remind residents not to dispose of chemicals down them. Storm drains are put in place to move water safely to the nearest river or creek so rain doesn't collect on roads and become a hazard. "Anything that is poured into the storm drains goes right into the nearest waterway," York says.

"This could be the creek in your yard or in a nearby park. So remember the next time you want to clean your vehicle or want a greener lawn to use organic or natural products that have less of an impact on our rivers."

Another way rivers can become polluted is through erosion. When soil does not have plant roots to keep it in place, it will be picked up by water runoff and carried to the rivers and streams. Soil in the water is not good for many stream creatures. "The food chain is built upon the tiniest creatures," York explains. "Erosion dumps more soil into the river, which can raise the temperature or pH levels in the water, which can kill microbes, single-celled organisms, and other microscopic creatures. These tiny animals are part of a food chain, so if they are not around, larger creatures also will die without their food source, and the larger animals also will be forced to move without food." Think of it this way: Microscopic animals are eaten by tiny fish, which are eaten by larger fish, which are a source of food for predators like bald eagles. So erosion, in time, can affect the presence of bald eagles in the Miami Valley. Five Rivers MetroParks works to reduce erosion and control habitat so all park visitors can enjoy encounters with nature and the chance to see amazing animals like bald eagles.

"Many insects, such as dragonflies, damselflies, and mayflies start their life cycle in the water. These stages are called nymphs. All of these animals need clean water to survive. If you find them in a river or creek, then the water is clean," York says.

The sustainable trail program—which has overhauled trails in Taylorsville MetroPark and will rework trails in Sugarcreek MetroPark—lessens the negative impact of hiking trails on the environment. Sustainable trails are constructed to decrease water runoff and thus reduce erosion, which can make trails unstable and can make our rivers unhealthy. 🌿



## YOU CAN HELP

- 🌿 Don't pour chemicals or any trash into a storm drain.
- 🌿 Don't throw trash like cigarettes on the ground or out your car window. They can easily find their way into the rivers, especially when it floods.
- 🌿 Pick up litter that you find on the ground. Throw it away in the nearest receptacle (bonus points for recycling items) so it doesn't end up in the rivers or ingested by wildlife.
- 🌿 Tell your family and friends about the importance of rivers, watersheds, and aquifers. Knowledge is power!

# BANKING IT

## RIVER ACCESS PROVIDES AMPLE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Rivers provide important habitat for aquatic wildlife and the plants and animals living near them. But opportunities abound for nature lovers to connect with our region's waterways for recreational activities. "There are lots of ways to enjoy recreating on or near our rivers," explains Paddle Sports Recreation Coordinator Amy Dingle. "Whether you're into fishing, kayaking, bird-watching, skipping stones, or people-watching, there's an activity for you, and this region is long overdue for a total reconnection with our rivers."

### EASY ACCESS

You can find access points across the region. Look for put in/take out icons on MetroPark maps, or visit [metroparks.org/paddle](http://metroparks.org/paddle) for links to the interactive map feature, courtesy of the Miami Conservancy District. These maps can help you plan your trip and offer suggestions for points of interest, restrooms, dining, and other experiences to help plan your next regional paddling adventure. Here are a few suggestions for simple river access:

**Island MetroPark:** This location offers parking and restrooms, plus amenities like picnic shelters and a playground. Incorporate fun on the Great Miami River as part of your family's next weekend outing. Find Island MetroPark near downtown Dayton at 101 E. Helena St.



## ONLINE EXTRA

Find links to interactive water trail maps and printable PDFs of our region's rivers and water trails. Visit [metroparks.org](http://metroparks.org) and click on the "water trails" link listed on the fly-out menu from "Regional Trails" under "Get Outside," or scroll down and click on "water trails" from the left-hand navigation pane (found under all park facility listings).

**RiverScape MetroPark:** Home to the bike hub, Ride the River Rentals, and the plaza where Dayton enjoys annual cultural festivals, this location at 111 E. Monument Ave. downtown features on-street parking, food concessions, bikeways, and access to the Great Miami River. Rent bikes and roller blades and cruise along the river, or rent kayaks on Saturdays during the summer. Cool off in the Five Rivers Fountains, which shoot jets of water up to 200 feet in the air!

**Englewood MetroPark:** Since the removal of the low dam along the Stillwater River, the river's health has significantly improved, increasing the variety of fish species. Visit this park at 4361 National Road near Englewood to enjoy paddle sports, fishing, and bird-watching.

**River Road (Birchbark Canoe Livery):** Head northeast to Champaign County, and just outside Urbana is an access point for the Mad River. Parking, picnic tables, and restrooms are available, as well as a canoe livery. From the Dayton area, take US Route 36 east through Saint Paris then drive north on State Route 560. Turn right on Millerstown Road and left onto River Road.

**Eastwood MetroPark:** Access the Mad River from this MetroPark, or check out the fishing, boating, and nature-watching opportunities at Eastwood Lake, Blue Lake, and the lagoon. A swift-moving rapid offers a fun play area for experienced kayakers. Find this MetroPark at 1385 Harshman Road, near Wright-Patterson Air Force Base off State Route 4.

# RECREATION



**Buck Creek State Park:** This state park located in Springfield has lots of fishing, camping, picnicking, bird-watching, and paddling opportunities—particularly the whitewater feature that attracts experienced kayakers from across the region. Use State Route 4 to visit Buck Creek State Park and Springfield.

**Twin Arch Reserve:** Drive just past Troy in Miami County to find a great spot to access the Great Miami River and take advantage of picnic areas, historical remnants, restrooms, parking, and access to the bike path. The Reserve is located at 3147 County Road 25A, directly across from Upper Valley Medical Center.

**Germantown MetroPark:** Access Twin Creek from this MetroPark, located at 7101 Conservancy Road, off of State Route 725 near Germantown. Here you'll find parking, restrooms, potable water, bikeway access, and picnic sites, as well as facilities like the Nature Center (open from 1-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays).

**Joyce Park:** Located off St. Clair Avenue in Fairfield, this park features Great Miami River access with parking, restrooms, potable water, picnic sites, and access to the bikeway. Take I-75 or State Route 4 south to State Route 129 (High Street/Butler County Veterans Highway), then go south on Central Avenue/Pleasant Avenue and turn right on St. Clair.

## FISHING

Thanks in part to Five Rivers MetroParks' conservation efforts, our region's healthy rivers and streams have become a viable habitat for a wide variety of fish species. Anglers can enjoy great fishing locations throughout the MetroParks system and along our region's river banks.

**Smallmouth bass:** Find the best bass fishing in pools below riffles. The best baits are lures that mimic crayfish or minnows, the natural prey of bass. Of course, live crayfish and minnows are also very effective. For fly fishing: Use an 8.5 to 9-foot, 5/6 weight rod, and a floating or sink-tip line. Flies: Pick from clouser minnows, wooly buggers, zonkers, crawfish patterns, white flies, or Sneaky Petes. The Stillwater River is your best bet for finding smallmouth bass.

**Largemouth bass:** The best fishing areas are in slow-water areas, near structures like logs. Check out the Great Miami River for good spots. The best baits are plastic bait that look like bait fish, such as shiners. For fly fishing: Use an 8.5 to 9-foot, 5/6 weight rod, and a floating or sink-tip line. Flies: Try large, 3-inch clouser minnows, wooly buggers, zonkers, bass bug poppers, Sneaky Petes, decievers, or mouse patterns.


## ONLINE EXTRA

Visit [metroparks.org/fishing](https://www.metro-parks.org/fishing) for upcoming fishing programs and important links to fishing clubs, locations, and other resources.

Terrestrial patterns are a good bet in summer; choose from grasshoppers, spiders, or beetles. You may need an 8-weight rod to cast the larger flies.

**Bluegill/rock bass:** These fish can be found in deeper pool areas in slower water. Try your luck in Twin Creek or Eastwood Lake. The best artificial baits are small spinners or flies, and the best live baits are worms below a bobber. For fly fishing: 8.5 to 9-foot, 5/6 weight rod, use a floating or sink-tip line. Flies: Nymphs are best; use stonefly and mayfly patterns, attractor dry flies, minibuggers, small crawfish, and clouser minnow patterns. Terrestrial patterns are a good bet in summer, including grasshoppers, spiders, beetles, lady bugs, bees, or ants.

**Channel catfish:** You'll find these in the deeper pools, and they are best caught at night. Eastwood Lake is stocked with saugeyes and channel catfish fingerlings from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife, and you can find them in the Great Miami. Sure-fire bait to nab these are night crawlers or chicken livers. For fly fishing: 8.5 to 9-foot, 5/6 weight rod, use your sink-tip line. Flies: Use nymphs – stonefly and mayfly patterns, minibuggers, small crawfish, and clouser minnow patterns. Dark brown and black patterns are good options.

**Sucker species:** These fish are found throughout the rivers, but most easily caught in spring and fall when the water is cooler. Depend on a small live worm fished on the bottom of the river for your bait. For fly fishing: 8.5 to 9-foot, 5/6 weight rod with sink-tip line. Flies: Stick with nymphs – stonefly and mayfly patterns, minibuggers, small crawfish, and clouser minnow patterns. Dark brown and black patterns are good options for suckers, too. 

## Fishing Programs

These programs are created especially for kids and their parent or guardian to learn more about fishing.

### (FREE) FISH WITH A RANGER

Sat. Jun 2, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **B1204**

Sat. Jul 7, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **B1210**

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building  
Officer Zimmerman will speak about a safety topic, then all students that participated will be able to utilize poles and free bait in a stocked fishing pond. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4823 or [lzimmerman@metroparks.org](mailto:lzimmerman@metroparks.org) for details. Online registration available. Age: 4Y-15Y

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

Wed. Jun. 6-27, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **B1344**

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building  
A Ranger will discuss good decision-making skills, and students will be shown the basic skills of fishing. When class work is completed, each student will get to fish with a provided pole and bait in a stocked pond. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4823 or [lzimmerman@metroparks.org](mailto:lzimmerman@metroparks.org) for details. Online registration available. Age: 5Y-15Y

# MAKE A SPLASH

Photo by Leah Stahl



## GETTING STARTED IN PADDLE SPORTS IS EASIER THAN YOU MIGHT THINK

Ever see a brightly colored kayak twisting along in the river, or strapped to a mud-spattered roof rack? Think paddle sports are “out of your league” just because you’ve never tried it? Think again! Canoeing and kayaking are just as accessible for those new to outdoor sports as they are for the hard-core recreation enthusiast. With a little know-how, people of all ages can enjoy one of our region’s most spectacular assets: our rivers and lakes.

## GET YOUR FEET WET

If you’re just starting out in paddle sports, there are a couple key definitions you should know. Kayaks are small, typically one-person boats that are favored for their ease of navigation. Canoes, on the other hand, can handle more than one person and even some light cargo, like a picnic basket or your pooch. Both boat types come in a

variety of styles, like any sporting-good materials, and models vary depending on how you intend to use your boat. Local retailer Bernie Farley from Whitewater Warehouse suggests a recreational style of boat for beginners. “They’re the easiest to learn with because they have a very high stability,” he says. Getting started will require some up front investments, but by choosing the correct tools and keeping up proper maintenance, you can ensure years of enjoyment on our region’s waterways. Entry-level pricing for a recreational kayak measures in the neighborhood of \$300. Other necessary items include paddles (ranging around \$90) and a life jacket, also called a personal flotation device (PFD). Don’t skimp on the life jacket, Farley says. “Get something that’s comfortable and high-quality because you typically don’t spend the money to upgrade a life jacket, and this is important safety equipment. It’s easier to remember to wear your life jacket if it’s comfortable.”

## MAINTENANCE TIPS

Caring for your boat can keep it working properly for a long time. Be sure to follow the manufacturer’s care instructions and always properly secure your boat to any rig or rack when transporting. “I see a lot of damage to boats when they’re not secured to the car,” Farley says.



Photo by Leah Stahl



"If it falls off your vehicle, there's no telling what might happen to it." Farley offers free repairs for minor issues, such as cracks in the hull or deck. Other small parts, like the drain plug, can be easily and affordably replaced on your own.

## GET PADDLING

Once you have a boat, it's a good idea to take a few classes to learn how to enjoy it properly. Five Rivers MetroParks offers a series of progressive paddle-sport courses designed to take someone from knowing nothing about the activity and making baby steps toward skilled independent use—even trips to swiftwater areas, if that's your goal. Visit [metroparks.org/paddle](http://metroparks.org/paddle) to learn more about the courses:

👉 **Try Kayaking!** introduces people to paddle sports. MetroParks staff gives you basic instructions, safety gear, and a boat to test on the water for free. It's a great way to see if it's something you'd like to learn more about before investing any resources.

👉 **Intro to Kayaking** is the first step in our paddle sports progression. You will be introduced to various equipment selection, ranges for equipment, categories of paddle-sports, trip planning, navigation, and general locations of where to paddle locally and regionally. It is a good way to ease into learning in a systematic way.

👉 **Kayak Basics** teaches students about equipment, paddle strokes, and concepts, along with safety topics for beginners in recreational kayaking. After this program, most will be prepared to get on the water and comfortably use our region's waterways for fun and recreation.

## ONLINE EXTRA

Visit [metroparks.org/paddle](http://metroparks.org/paddle) for upcoming paddle-sport programs as well as links to clubs, safety information, and other important paddle-sport resources.

Visit [kayakdayton.com](http://kayakdayton.com) for the complete list of events and lessons offered through Whitewater Warehouse, located at 104 Valley St., Dayton. Reach them by phone at (937) 222-7020.

Visit [greatmiamioutfitters.com](http://greatmiamioutfitters.com) to learn more about events and programs at Great Miami Outfitters, located at 80 S. Main St., Miamisburg. Reach them by phone at (937) 847-8704.

Visit [cincinnatikayaks.org](http://cincinnatikayaks.org) for information about the Sierra Club, Miami Group, and register for programs, or call (513) 321-3187.

👉 **Fundamentals of Moving Water** is the next step for those who want to push their skills further. Learn moving-water instruction that deals with controlling your kayak on the river. You will learn to perform a variety of maneuvers that will improve your paddling ability, promote confidence, and help you avoid hazards frequently encountered on the river.

👉 **Kayak Roll Lessons** is another elective course for enthusiasts ready to take their skills to the next level. Get one-on-one instruction on how to properly roll a kayak. It is a great way to advance into kayaking and gain confidence in self-rescue technique.

👉 **Rescue Clinics** is an elective to help you gain understanding on

how to self-rescue or rescue others in the middle of the lake, ocean, or on rivers with moving water. If you don't want to learn to roll a kayak, having an understanding of rescuing yourself is an important safety element and can give you a lot of confidence in paddling.

You got the boat, you got the skills, now you're ready to hit the trails—water trails, that is. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources named the Great Miami, Stillwater, and Mad rivers as Ohio Water Trails in 2010. The three rivers are part of the new Great Miami River Watershed Water Trail – the largest water trail system in Ohio. The trail collectively offers 265 miles of waterway accessible to recreational boaters, fishermen, and wildlife-watchers. 🍃



Photo by Leah Stahl

## SUMMER OF FUN: PADDLING PROGRAMS

Looking for more summer fun? Check out the full summer lineup provided through the local retailers. Paddle in the Park turned out to be too much fun for just one day, so in order to maintain safety levels and ensure all participants have a fun and engaging experience, Paddle in the Park will be replaced with paddling programs all season long (instead of just one afternoon):

- **Whitewater Warehouse Kayak Demo**  
May 15, Eastwood MetroPark, \$5
- **Whitewater Warehouse "On the Water"**  
Whitewater Kayak Demo, May 17,  
Eastwood MetroPark, \$10
- **Wednesday Night Paddle by Whitewater Warehouse, June 9-August 15, 104 Valley St., Dayton, \$20**
- **Women's River Kayak School** by Sierra Club (Miami Group), June 2-3  
(Call for location) \$150
- **Whitewater Warehouse "On the Water"**  
Stand-up Paddleboard Demo, June 3,  
Eastwood MetroPark, \$10
- **Whitewater Warehouse "On the Water"**  
Recreational Kayak Demo, June 5,  
Eastwood MetroPark, \$10
- **Introduction to Kayaking Class** by Great Miami Outfitters, June 6  
(Call for price and location)
- **Whitewater Warehouse "On the Water"**  
Touring and Fishing Kayak Demo, June 7,  
Eastwood MetroPark, \$10
- **RiverScape Fountain Floats** by Whitewater Warehouse, June 9, 104 Valley St., Dayton, \$20
- **Saturday Morning Paddle Float with Great Miami Outfitters, June 9 & 23, July 7 & 21, August 4 & 18 (Call for price and location)**
- **Recreational Kayak School (Lakes)** by Sierra Club (Miami Group), June 9  
(Call for location) \$75
- **Recreational Kayak School (Rivers)** by Sierra Club (Miami Group), June 10  
(Call for location) \$75
- **Guided Stand-Up Paddleboard Tour** by Whitewater Warehouse, June 12,  
104 Valley St., Dayton, \$30
- **Kayak Demo Night** with Great Miami Outfitters, June 12 (location varies), \$5

- **Guided Stand-Up Paddleboard Tour** by Whitewater Warehouse, June 19,  
104 Valley St., Dayton, \$30
- **Introduction to Kayaking Class** by Great Miami Outfitters, June 20  
(Call for price and location)
- **Whitewater Warehouse Kayak Demo**  
June 21, Eastwood MetroPark, \$5
- **RiverScape Fountain Floats** by Whitewater Warehouse, June 9, 104 Valley St., Dayton, \$20
- **Guided Stand-Up Paddleboard Tour** by Whitewater Warehouse, June 26,  
104 Valley St., Dayton, \$30
- **Kayak Demo Night** with Great Miami Outfitters, June 26 (location varies), \$5
- **Basic River Safety and Rescue** by Sierra Club (Miami Group), June 30  
(Call for location) \$75
- **Recreational Kayaking on Lakes** by Sierra Club (Miami Group), July 7  
(Call for location) \$75
- **Guided Stand-Up Paddleboard Tour** by Whitewater Warehouse, July 10,  
104 Valley St., Dayton, \$30
- **Kayak Demo Night** with Great Miami Outfitters, July 10 (location varies), \$5
- **RiverScape Fountain Floats** by Whitewater Warehouse, July 14, 104 Valley St., Dayton, \$20
- **Guided Stand-Up Paddleboard Tour** by Whitewater Warehouse, July 17,  
104 Valley St., Dayton, \$30
- **Introduction to Kayaking Class** by Great Miami Outfitters, July 18  
(Call for price and location)



Photo by Leah Stahl

- **River Clean-Up** with Whitewater Warehouse, July 18, 104 Valley St., Dayton
- **Whitewater Warehouse Kayak Demo**  
July 19, Eastwood MetroPark, \$5
- **Guided Stand-Up Paddleboard Tour** by Whitewater Warehouse, July 24,  
104 Valley St., Dayton, \$30
- **Kayak Demo Night** with Great Miami Outfitters, July 24 (location varies), \$5
- **RiverScape Fountain Floats** by Whitewater Warehouse, July 28,  
104 Valley St., Dayton, \$20
- **Introduction to Kayaking Class** by Great Miami Outfitters, August 1  
(Call for price and location)
- **Kayak Demo Night** with Great Miami Outfitters, August 7 (location varies), \$5
- **Whitewater Warehouse Kayak Demo**  
August 9, Eastwood MetroPark, \$5
- **RiverScape Fountain Floats** by Whitewater Warehouse, August 11,  
104 Valley St., Dayton, \$20
- **Introduction to Kayaking Class** by Great Miami Outfitters, August 15  
(Call for price and location)
- **Kayak Demo Night** with Great Miami Outfitters, August 21 (location varies), \$5
- **Whitewater Warehouse Kayak Demo**  
August 23, Eastwood MetroPark, \$5
- **ACA Touring Kayaking** by Sierra Club (Miami Group), August 25-26  
(Call for location) \$150



Photo Courtesy UD River Stewards

**WEBSITE AND PHONE  
NUMBERS ON PAGE 19.**



# LIVE “STREAMING”

## FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS’ CONSERVATION EFFORTS SUPPORT HEALTHY RIVERS



Five Rivers MetroParks is named for the five principal waterways that flow through Montgomery County: Wolf Creek, win Creek, Stillwater River, Great Miami River, and Mad River. (OK, we fudged a little on the “rivers” part, but “Three Rivers and Two Creeks MetroParks” didn’t fit as nicely on business cards!) Protecting these waterways and many smaller streams is essential to the mission of the MetroParks. Catch up on what Five Rivers MetroParks has done so far and get a peek into what will make a splash in the Miami Valley during the coming years!

Before European settlement, southwestern Ohio was mostly covered with mature forests, and the rivers and streams wound through them. When heavy rains came, the rivers would widen and cover the low areas adjacent to them in what we now call the floodplain. The forests in the floodplain held in the soil and could withstand periodic flooding.

Settlers began clear-cutting forests to make way for farms and villages. Cities and farm fields sprang up in the floodplains, and the rivers were used for transportation and power sources. But the price of development soon caught up with Ohioans. The loss of the floodplains meant the water could not spread out, and flooding of built areas became serious. The forests no longer held in the soil, and erosion caused the clear, gravelly streams to become muddy. Perhaps worst of all, sewage from cities and towns was sent straight to the river. The resulting pollution was catastrophic to fish and other aquatic life. The biggest wedge that divided local residents from the river, however, was the 1913 flood. Three storms dumped 9 to 11 inches of rain, and a 90% runoff rate caused the Great Miami River and its tributary streams to overflow. About half a trillion gallons of water flowed down the Great Miami River during the flood, more than flows over the Niagara Falls in a month. Dayton-area residents worked together to ensure a tragedy of this magnitude would never happen again, and the Miami Conservancy District was formed. To this day, it governs the five large earthen dams and system of levees that has protected the region since 1922.

Good news came for the rivers of the United States and southwest Ohio in 1972 with the passage of the Clean Water Act. This significant legislation for the first time regulated the dumping of untreated urban and industrial waste into the rivers. The results have been tremendous. The Great Miami River, a severely polluted stream only 40 years ago, is now an exceptional warm water habitat for much of its length. Fish and other wildlife have returned, but many people have not yet realized that the rivers have become healthier.

After years of distancing ourselves from the rivers, a large grassroots movement is under way to reconnect with one of our region’s best assets. “Our rivers are healthy and viable, offering opportunities for nature-watching and recreation,” says Deputy

## ONLINE EXTRA

**RIVER PARTNERS** Five Rivers MetroParks thanks our “current” comrades who encourage Miami Valley residents to discover our diverse waterways and help you learn more about paddle sports.


- **Flatwater Kayak Club:** [www.flatwater-kayak.com](http://www.flatwater-kayak.com)
- **Outdoor Adventure Club:** [www.daytonoac.com](http://www.daytonoac.com)
- **Sierra Club:** <http://ohiosierraclub.org>
- **Dayton Canoe Club:** [www.daytoncanoeclub.org](http://www.daytoncanoeclub.org)
- **University of Dayton Rivers Institute:** <http://rivers.udayton.edu>
- **Wright State University Outdoor Resource Center:** [www.wright.edu/students/rec/index.html](http://www.wright.edu/students/rec/index.html)

Director Carrie Scarff. “It’s time to get back in the water!”

### Riverbank Improvements

Five Rivers MetroParks has done much work restoring our rivers and creating a rich habitat along the shorelines. Some of these projects include:

#### **Englewood low dam removal:**

 The low dam on the Stillwater River, which is not part of the flood control system, was removed about two years ago. “Low dams provided mostly aesthetic benefits but didn’t really contribute to wildlife,” says Conservation Director Dave Nolin. “In fact, this pool caused the water to slow down, which increased the temperature and decreased the oxygen in the water. Before the low dam was removed, a total of seven fish species were observed, and 67 percent of the biomass was common carp, an indicator of poor water quality. Just one year after the low dam was partially removed, 20 species were observed, and common carp made up only 33 percent of the biomass—a significant decrease. Earlier this year, the Environmental Protection Agency released findings from its study

conducted in 2011 and found 28 species of fish and a significant rebound in the macroinvertebrate population. Macroinvertebrates are tiny creatures that are very sensitive to water quality; thus their abundance is an indication of a healthy waterway.”

#### **Wolf Creek Restoration:**

Construction started on this bank stabilization project in 2010 to slow erosion. Native plants have been installed and are starting to take root, which will help with storm water runoff. Up next are trail improvements to the nearby Wesleyan MetroPark, offering new ways for park visitors to connect with the creek.

 **Mad River Run:** Now in the final design stages, this plan includes bank stabilization and a flow control structure that will do double duty as a kayak play feature. “We don’t have a firm

construction schedule yet (as of this printing), but tentatively, work should begin late summer or early fall of this year,” Scarff says. Once completed, the Mad River Run and bank restoration will make Eastwood MetroPark a true recreation enthusiast’s playground, particularly during the annual Midwest Outdoor Experience (formerly known as GearFest).

 **RiverScape River Run:** Removing the downtown low dam from the Great Miami River (situated near the Dayton Art Institute) has been in the works for about 10 years. Thanks in part to a \$1 million challenge grant from the Cox Foundation, the vision of a 7-mile water trail and subsequent vibrant urban recreational scene surrounding it is almost a reality. “It’s in the design and permitting stages for 2012, and fundraising for the construction is ongoing as part of the Greater Downtown



Photo by Leah Stahl

Dayton Plan,” Scarff explains. Plans are to remove the low head dam on the Great Miami River in downtown Dayton and install natural stone river grade control structures with safe paddling chutes to eliminate a dangerous impediment for boating on the river. “These ‘drops’ will be installed to control flow and have



the added benefit of being a fun play feature for kayakers,” Scarff says. One opening will be “easy,” allowing paddlers of all skill levels clear passage through downtown. The other opening will create a wave where experienced kayakers can turn cartwheels and flips. “It will be a real spectator attraction. There are typically 15-20 people watching from shore for every kayaker in the water,” Scarff says. The low-dam removal project not only will increase on-river safety, but it is also predicted that river health and fish habitats will improve. “The river will be attractive to novice canoeists, experienced whitewater kayakers, anglers, as well as anyone who wants to be among all that activity on cascading water—a real ‘scene’ at the river’s edge,” Scarff says. Improved access to the river on both banks at multiple points downtown is also part of the RiverScape River Run project.

## Habitat Restoration

Five Rivers MetroParks is dedicated to preserving and maintaining southwest Ohio’s natural spaces. Restoring habitat is important because it creates an environment that encourages the growth and dispersion of native wildlife. Having native plants that provide food and shelter for animals in turn increases the likelihood of a wildlife encounter when park guests visit. Take a peek at recent habitat restoration projects and see what’s in store for the years ahead.

### Wetland Mitigation Bank:

When developers look to build something new and they displace a wetland in the process, they are required by law to replace or otherwise compensate for the wetland displacement. Five Rivers MetroParks found a way to satisfy developers and protect the environment while finding

an alternative source of funding. The Great Miami River Wetland Mitigation Bank, located outside of Trotwood, finished the second phase of construction in 2011 and (as of this publication) began accepting applications from builders for wetland credits. Buying credits from a mitigation bank managed by a conservation agency like Five Rivers MetroParks also benefits developers because they aren’t charged with responsibility of maintaining the wetland. “If you displace a wetland and have to replace it, you can’t just dig a hole, fill it with water, and dust your hands,” Nolin says. “The Great Miami River Wetland Mitigation Bank relieves developers of the responsibility of maintaining the wetland; our staff has the skills required to create and maintain a high-quality habitat. It’s a win-win.”

### Shepard’s Run Reforestation, Medlar Conservation Area:

This 400-acre property near the new Austin Rd. interchange has mature forests, a scenic hilltop vista, wetlands, and prairies. The long-term goal is to convert this property into a new MetroPark. In the meantime, reforestation efforts are under way. One hundred acres of farmland have been planted with 20,000 native trees and shrubs.

### Sustainable Trail Program:

When trails were first cut through the MetroParks, not much consideration was given to sustainability or the impact of the trails on the surrounding



environment. Today, Five Rivers MetroParks stands on the leading edge of this marriage of recreation and environmental stewardship. Taylorsville MetroPark has had its trails upgraded to become more sustainable, and improvements are underway for Sugarcreek MetroPark. “The primary reason to build sustainable trails is to protect the environment,” Nolin explains. “Trails that are not cut sustainably cause erosion and soil runoff, which deposits into the rivers and streams below. This runoff has a big negative impact on water quality; heavy deposits of soil can decrease a stream’s depth, which alters the current and water temperature. This can harm aquatic life, thereby impacting the food chain.” Sugarcreek MetroPark is the next facility to receive sustainable trail upgrades, and further upgrades are slated for other parks over the next several years. Watch [metroparks.org/alerts](http://metroparks.org/alerts) for updates on trail closures in conjunction with the sustainable trail project. Links to trail user surveys will be available on this page, too. Surveys help trail designers understand habits and common practices between the variety of guests who visit the parks in an effort to meet these needs while maintaining sustainability. 🌿

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS

**8 AM-5 PM, MON.-FRI.**

409 E. Monument Ave., Third Floor, Dayton  
I-75 to First Street and head east. Left on  
Patterson Blvd. and right onto Monument. The  
main office is located next to Requarth Lumbar  
and across the street from Fifth Third Field. Public  
parking is available. (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 con-  
tinue to the sign which says "Garden Parking"  
entrance on the right. (937) 275-PARK (7275)

## CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK

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

### Carriage Hill Riding Center

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

## COX ARBORETUM METROPARK

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

### Butterfly House

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

## DEEDS POINT METROPARK

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

## EASTWOOD METROPARK

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

## ENGLEWOOD METROPARK

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

## Englewood MetroPark Disc Golf Course

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

## GERMANTOWN METROPARK

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

### Nature Center

**HOURS:** Saturdays 1:00p.m.-4:00p.m.

Sundays 1:00p.m.-4:00p.m.

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

### Twin Valley Backpacking Trail

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

## HILLS & DALES METROPARK

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

## HUFFMAN METROPARK

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

### MoMBA-MetroPark Mountain Bike Area

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

## ISLAND METROPARK

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

## PNC 2ND STREET MARKET

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

## POSSUM CREEK METROPARK

4790 Frytown Road, Dayton. From  
Gettysburg Ave.: Turn west onto German-  
town St. Rt. 4. Go about 1.5 miles to Frytown  
Rd. and turn left. Head to main entrance or  
to reservable shelter area. (937) 276-7062

## RIVERSCAPE METROPARK

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

## SUGARCREEK METROPARK

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

## SUNRISE METROPARK

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

## TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK

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

## TWIN CREEK METROPARK

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

### Twin Valley Backpacking Trail

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

## WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK

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

### Children's Discovery Garden

Directly to the right of the parking  
lot behind the walled area.

## WESLEYAN METROPARK

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





# DETOURS & CLOSINGS

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

## TRAIL CONDITIONS

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

MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA) Trail Conditions:

**(937) 277-4374**

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

## BIKEWAY CONSTRUCTION GREAT MIAMI RIVER BIKEWAY

Due to current I-75 construction, the Great Miami River Bikeway will be closed at four points near the interstate construction sites.

The closures are on both sides of the Great Miami River. For detour information and maps, visit **metroparks.org/alerts**.

An area along the Great Miami

River Bikeway just south of Kitty Hawk Golf Course is currently under construction by the city of Dayton. This area will be impacted through 2013. When entering this area, use caution. Detour available at **metroparks.org/alerts**.

## MAD RIVER BIKEWAY

Construction on the Mad River Bikeway extension is under way. This trail will connect the existing Mad River Bikeway in Eastwood MetroPark to the Wright Brothers-Huffman Prairie Trail in Huffman MetroPark. The project is expected to take one year to complete.

Construction activities will cause restricted access to some areas of Eastwood MetroPark. Visit **metroparks.org/alerts** for updates.

## TRAIL CLOSURES, PARK CONSTRUCTION WESLEYAN METROPARK

Unmarked gravel trail along Wolf Creek is closed for bank restoration.

## SUGARCREEK METROPARK:

Due to the effects of the emerald ash borer, tree felling is taking place along roadways. In an effort to keep park patrons safe, sporadic closures of the horse trail may also occur. Portions of Wilmington Pike, Conference Road, and Ferry Road will have crews working nearby. To

help with reforestation efforts, visit **metroparks.org/forests**.

Road work along Wilmington Dayton Road will require a two-week closure that will block access to the main entrance off of Conference Road via Wilmington Dayton Road. The park will remain open during construction, but visitors must access the main parking lot via Ferry Road. Construction is slated for late August; watch **metroparks.org/alerts** for exact dates and detour information.

## COX ARBORETUM METROPARK

Tree Tower construction will restrict access to parts of the Conifer Collection.

## SUBFACILITY HOURS

### CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY GARDEN SUMMER HOURS

(June, July, August) 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

### GERMANTOWN NATURE CENTER

The Germantown MetroPark Nature Center host open hours from 1-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, or for programs or by appointment. Call (937) 855-7717 for more information.



Cycle safely! Always wear a helmet.  
Photo by Elzora.com Photography



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

# FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS IS PLEASED TO PRESENT **YOUR GUIDE TO SUMMER PROGRAMS**

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

## **BY TOPIC**

Interested in art, mountain biking, gardening or hiking? Looking to volunteer or maybe just want to find all the seasonal happening in the MetroParks? Check out the TOPIC 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 a program 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)**. Programs listed by park, activity or topic can be found under the Get Outside tab. Using the website makes it easy to find and register for programs. Click the “Find a Program” link to get started. **Metroparks.org** helps you get connected to park information, program guides, videos, nature playinformation 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’s 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.

SWING OVERLOOKING THE RIVER AT RIVERSCAPE METROPARK



# GUIDE TO PROGRAMS LISTED BY DATE, TIME

## FRI, JUN 1, 2012

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Live Like a Bee,** Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 37)  
**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)  
**5:00 PM First Fridays @ 5: This Side Up,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 46)

## SAT, JUN 2, 2012

**8:00 AM Another Dam 50K,** Englewood MetroPark (see page 48)  
**9:00 AM Bike For The Health Of It: Stillwater River Bikeway (Central),** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 43)  
**9:00 AM Fish with a Ranger,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 33)  
**9:00 AM It's Instrumental,** PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 48)  
**9:00 AM Volunteer: Paddle Sport Assistant Training,** Eastwood MetroPark (see page 45)  
**9:00 AM Possum Creek Walkfest,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 48)  
**10:00 AM Try Bugproofing your Garden,** Off-site (see page 33)  
**10:00 AM Forest Construction Workers,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)  
**10:00 AM The Best of the Best: Vegetables,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33)  
**10:00 AM The Johnsons,** PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 46)  
**10:00 AM Artemis 5K Stampede,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 48)  
**12:00 PM Pony Rides,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)  
**7:30 PM Jazz Series: Eddie Brookshire Quintet,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 46)

## SUN, JUN 3, 2012

**2:00 PM Spring Beauty Walk,** Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 33)

## MON, JUN 4, 2012

**8:00 AM Youth Horse Camp,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)  
**10:00 AM Try Kayaking,** Off-site (see page 45)  
**1:00 PM Youth Horse Camp,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

## TUE, JUN 5, 2012

**9:00 AM Discovery Stroll,** Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 38)  
**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Nature Play,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)  
**10:00 AM Your Other Neighbors,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32)  
**11:30 AM Historic Pest Management,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 33)

**4:00 PM Seedling Series: Understanding the Garden,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)  
**4:00 PM Youth Naturalists Club,** Germantown MetroPark (see page 38)  
**5:00 PM Tree Tram Tours,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)  
**6:00 PM Intro to Kayak,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 45)

## WED, JUN 6, 2012

**9:00 AM Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 44)  
**10:00 AM Discovery Stroll,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)  
**11:00 AM The Best Vegetables,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

## THU, JUN 7, 2012

**10:00 AM Backpacking Babies: Forest Frenzy,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 38)  
**2:00 PM Garden Play,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 34)  
**6:00 PM Discover Our Waterways - Naturalist Cycling Tour,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)

## FRI, JUN 8, 2012

**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)  
**11:30 AM Cookout for Scouting,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 46)

## SAT, JUN 9, 2012

**7:30 AM African American Wellness Walk,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 48)  
**8:30 AM Downtown Garden Walk,** PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 48)  
**9:00 AM Bike For The Health Of It: Great Miami River Bikeway (North),** Bikeway: Great Miami River (see page 43)  
**9:00 AM Volunteer: Backpacking Trail Work Days,** Germantown MetroPark (see page 43)  
**10:00 AM Photographing Aullwood in Bloom,** Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 42)  
**10:00 AM The Best of the Best: Flowers,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)  
**10:00 AM Barbara and Brian,** PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 46)  
**10:30 AM Stream Appreciation,** Englewood MetroPark (see page 39)  
**12:00 PM Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days,** Huffman MetroPark (see page 45)  
**1:00 PM Wetland Exploration,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 39)  
**7:30 PM Salsa Series: Cla've Son,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 46)  
**8:00 PM Hoedown Square Dance,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 46)

## MON, JUN 11, 2012

**8:00 AM Youth Horse Camp,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)  
**10:00 AM Butterfly Basics: Identification,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 39)  
**1:00 PM Youth Horse Camp,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

## TUE, JUN 12, 2012

**9:00 AM Behind the Scenes of the Children's Garden,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)  
**9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk: Insects,** Englewood MetroPark (see page 39)  
**1:00 PM Parent & Preschooler: Bees and Butterflies,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 40)  
**5:00 PM Tree Tram Tours,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)  
**6:00 PM Kayak Basics,** Eastwood MetroPark (see page 45)

## WED, JUN 13, 2012

**10:00 AM Discovery Stroll,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)  
**2:00 PM What's New @ 2,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)  
**6:00 PM Compost Kitchen: Building Better Soil,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

## THU, JUN 14, 2012

**7:15 AM Bus Trip: Richmond, Indiana,** Off-site (see page 35)  
**9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk: Insects,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 39)  
**10:00 AM Parent & Preschooler: Garden Grocery,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 40)  
**2:00 PM Bookmobile,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)

## FRI, JUN 15, 2012

**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

## SAT, JUN 16, 2012

**8:00 AM Mark Twain's Feast: Breakfast,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 36)  
**8:30 AM Family Farm Chores,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 32)  
**8:30 AM Family Farm Chores,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 32)  
**8:30 AM Volunteer: Forest Foster Family,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 49)  
**9:00 AM Garden Station Mosaic Workshop,** Off-site (see page 35)  
**9:00 AM Bike For The Health Of It: Great Miami River Bikeway (South),** Bikeway: Great Miami River (see page 43)  
**9:00 AM Volunteer: Forest Foster Family,**

Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 49)

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

**10:00 AM Corndaddy's**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 46)

**10:00 AM City Beets at the Market**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 35)

**1:00 PM Jams, Jellies, and Preserves**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 36)

**7:30 PM 92.1 Summer Nights**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 46)

### MON, JUN 18, 2012

**8:00 AM Youth Horse Camp**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

**10:00 AM Butterfly Basics: Caterpillars**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 39)

**1:00 PM Youth Horse Camp**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

### TUE, JUN 19, 2012

**9:00 AM Behind the Scenes of the Children's Garden**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

**9:00 AM Discovery Stroll**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 38)

**10:00 AM Animals Alive!** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32)

**5:00 PM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

**5:30 PM Fundamentals of Moving Water**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 45)

### WED, JUN 20, 2012

**10:00 AM Discovery Stroll**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)

**2:00 PM What's New @ 2**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

**6:00 PM Compost Kitchen: Backyard Composting**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

### THU, JUN 21, 2012

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

**2:00 PM Bookmobile**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)

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

### FRI, JUN 22, 2012

**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

### SAT, JUN 23, 2012

**9:00 AM Bike For The Health Of It: Stillwater River Bikeway (North)**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 43)

**9:00 AM Try Hiking @...**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 44)

**10:00 AM Photography: Just the Basics**,

Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 42)

**10:00 AM Danny Voris**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 46)

**11:00 AM At Home with Chickens**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 32)

### MON, JUN 25, 2012

**8:00 AM Youth Horse Camp**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Winged Things**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 37)

**10:00 AM Butterfly Basics: Plants**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 39)

**1:00 PM Youth Horse Camp**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

### TUE, JUN 26, 2012

**9:00 AM Behind the Scenes of the Children's Garden**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

**9:00 AM Stroller Strut**Turtles, Frogs, and Dog, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 40)

**9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk: Insects**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 39)

**11:30 AM Turtles, Frogs and Dog**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 40)

**5:00 PM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

### WED, JUN 27, 2012

**10:00 AM Discovery Stroll**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)

**2:00 PM What's New @ 2**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

**6:00 PM Compost Kitchen: All About Worms**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)

### THU, JUN 28, 2012

**2:00 PM Bookmobile**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)

**7:00 PM Warriors for Wildflowers**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 40)

### FRI, JUN 29, 2012

**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

**5:30 PM Cityfolk Festival**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 48)

### SAT, JUN 30, 2012

**9:00 AM Bike For The Health Of It: Mad River Bikeway to Market**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 43)

**1:00 PM Frogs in a Pond**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 41)

**1:00 PM All about Wool**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 32)

**1:00 PM Cityfolk Festival**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 48)

### SUN, JUL 1, 2012

**12:00 PM A Grand Old Independence Day**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 49)

**1:00 PM Cityfolk Festival**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 48)

### TUE, JUL 3, 2012

**9:00 AM Behind the Scenes of the Children's Garden**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

**9:00 AM Discovery Stroll**, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 38)

**10:00 AM Zoot Tales**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32)

**11:30 AM Historic Ways to Beat the Heat**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 36)

**4:00 PM Seedling Series: Gardening Friends and Foes**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

### WED, JUL 4, 2012

**10:00 AM Discovery Stroll**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)

### THU, JUL 5, 2012

**10:00 AM Backpacking Babies: Creek Romp**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 38)

**2:00 PM Bookmobile**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)

**2:00 PM Farm Science**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 32)

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

### FRI, JUL 6, 2012

**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

**5:00 PM First Fridays @ 5: Hey There Morgan**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 46)

### SAT, JUL 7, 2012

**9:00 AM Fish with a Ranger**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 33)

**9:00 AM Bike For The Health Of It: Great Miami River Bikeway (South)**, Bikeway: Great Miami River (see page 43)

**10:00 AM Shooting Outdoor Portraits**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 42)

**10:00 AM Making Water Count**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)

**10:00 AM Mike Sedmak**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 47)

**7:30 PM Jazz Series: Dave Greer's Classic Jazz Stompers**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 46)

### SUN, JUL 8, 2012

**12:00 PM Grain Threshing**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 32)

**2:00 PM Butterfly Safari**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 41)



**6:00 PM Summer Evening on the Lawn,**  
Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 47)

### **MON, JUL 9, 2012**

**8:00 AM Youth Horse Camp,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)  
**1:00 PM Youth Horse Camp,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

### **TUE, JUL 10, 2012**

**9:00 AM Behind the Scenes of the Children's Garden,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)  
**9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk: Water Ecology,** Englewood MetroPark (see page 40)  
**1:00 PM Parent & Preschooler: Creepy Crawlies on the Farm,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 40)  
**5:00 PM Tree Tram Tours,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

### **WED, JUL 11, 2012**

**10:00 AM Discovery Stroll,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)  
**11:00 AM Making Water Count,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 34)  
**2:00 PM What's New @ 2,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)  
**4:00 PM Try Mountain Biking,** Huffman MetroPark (see page 45)  
**6:00 PM Greens All Summer Long,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)  
**7:00 PM Gasland,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 36)

### **THU, JUL 12, 2012**

**9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk: Water Ecology,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 40)  
**2:00 PM Bookmobile,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)  
**7:30 PM Big Band Nights: Dayton Jazz Orchestra,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

### **FRI, JUL 13, 2012**

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Follow the Water,** Englewood MetroPark (see page 37)  
**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

### **SAT, JUL 14, 2012**

**9:00 AM Bike For The Health Of It: Creekside Bikeway,** Eastwood MetroPark (see page 44)  
**9:00 AM Volunteer: Backpacking Trail Work Days,** Germantown MetroPark (see page 43)  
**10:00 AM From Prairie to the Landscape,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 41)  
**10:00 AM Butterfly Walk,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 41)  
**10:00 AM Twin Creek Habitat Adventure,** Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 41)

**10:00 AM Native American Flute,** PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 47)  
**12:00 PM From Prairie to the Landscape,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 41)  
**12:00 PM Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days,** Huffman MetroPark (see page 45)  
**5:00 PM Prairie Serenade,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 47)  
**7:30 PM Salsa Series: Tropicoso,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 46)

### **SUN, JUL 15, 2012**

**1:30 PM Possum Creek Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 44)  
**2:00 PM Butterfly Safari,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 41)

### **MON, JUL 16, 2012**

**8:00 AM Youth Horse Camp,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)  
**9:00 AM Teen Adventure Camp,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 45)  
**1:00 PM Youth Horse Camp,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

### **TUE, JUL 17, 2012**

**9:00 AM Behind the Scenes of the Children's Garden,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)  
**9:00 AM Discovery Stroll,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 38)  
**10:00 AM Farmin' Fever,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32)  
**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Streamology,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 37)  
**4:00 PM Knee Deep in Wolf Creek,** Wesleyan MetroPark (see page 41)  
**5:00 PM Tree Tram Tours,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

### **WED, JUL 18, 2012**

**10:00 AM Discovery Stroll,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)  
**2:00 PM What's New @ 2,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)  
**3:00 PM Taylorsville Walkfest,** Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 48)

### **THU, JUL 19, 2012**

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Bugs are Our Friends,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 37)  
**2:00 PM Bookmobile,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)  
**7:30 PM Big Band Nights: Tom Daugherty and the Tommy Dorsey Tribute,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

### **FRI, JUL 20, 2012**

**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

### **SAT, JUL 21, 2012**

**8:00 AM Iris Sale,** PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 48)  
**8:30 AM Family Farm Chores,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 32)  
**8:30 AM Family Farm Chores,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 32)  
**9:00 AM Garden Station Mosaic Workshop,** Off-site (see page 35)  
**9:00 AM Bike For The Health Of It: Stillwater River Bikeway (Central),** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 43)  
**9:00 AM Try Hiking @...,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 44)  
**9:00 AM Community Garden Tour,** Off-site (see page 35)  
**10:00 AM A Forest Full of Trees,** Huffman MetroPark (see page 41)  
**10:00 AM Zumba in the Park,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 44)  
**10:00 AM Put the Pieces into Place,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 42)  
**10:00 AM Looking at Natives: Wegerzyn's Treasure Trove,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)  
**10:00 AM Tom Fortener,** PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 47)  
**1:00 PM Freezing Your Harvest,** Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 36)  
**7:30 PM 92.1 Summer Nights,** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 46)

### **SUN, JUL 22, 2012**

**2:00 PM Butterfly Safari,** Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 41)

### **MON, JUL 23, 2012**

**8:00 AM Youth Horse Camp,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)  
**1:00 PM Youth Horse Camp,** Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

### **TUE, JUL 24, 2012**

**7:15 AM Bus Trip: Cincinnati,** Off-site (see page 35)  
**9:00 AM Behind the Scenes of the Children's Garden,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)  
**9:00 AM Stroller Strut: Pretty Petals,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 40)  
**9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk: Water Ecology,** Eastwood MetroPark (see page 40)  
**11:30 AM Stroller Strut: Pretty Petals,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 40)  
**5:00 PM Tree Tram Tours,** Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

### **WED, JUL 25, 2012**

**10:00 AM Discovery Stroll,** Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)  
**2:00 PM What's New @ 2,** Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

**THU, JUL 26, 2012**

**2:00 PM Bookmobile**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)

**7:00 PM How Are Our Honey Bees?**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 40)

**7:30 PM Big Band Nights: Swing Era Big Band**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

**FRI, JUL 27, 2012**

**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

**6:00 PM Dayton Celtic Festival**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 49)

**SAT, JUL 28, 2012**

**9:00 AM Bike For The Health Of It: Great Miami River Bikeway (South)**, Bikeway: Great Miami River (see page 43)

**9:00 AM Kids Day at the Market**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 47)

**10:00 AM Rum River Blend**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 47)

**12:00 PM Dayton Celtic Festival**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 49)

**SUN, JUL 29, 2012**

**10:00 AM Dayton Celtic Festival**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 49)

**1:30 PM Englewood Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 44)

**MON, JUL 30, 2012**

**8:00 AM Youth Horse Camp**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Look to the Water**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 37)

**1:00 PM Youth Horse Camp**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

**TUE, JUL 31, 2012**

**9:00 AM Behind the Scenes of the Children's Garden**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

**10:00 AM Try Kayaking**, Off-site (see page 45)

**5:00 PM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

**WED, AUG 1, 2012**

**10:00 AM Discovery Stroll**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)

**11:00 AM Summer Shade Trees**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 34)

**2:00 PM What's New @ 2**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

**7:00 PM Sense of Wonder**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 36)

**THU, AUG 2, 2012**

**10:00 AM Backpacking Babies: Flutter by Butterfly**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 39)

**2:00 PM Bookmobile**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)

**7:30 PM Big Band Nights: Joe Aceto and His Orchestra**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

**FRI, AUG 3, 2012**

**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

**5:00 PM First Fridays @ 5: Stranger**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 46)

**SAT, AUG 4, 2012**

**8:00 AM Tadmor 10K**, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 48)

**9:00 AM Bike For The Health Of It: Wolf Creek Bikeway (West)**, Bikeway: Wolf Creek (see Cycling B1183)

**9:00 AM British Car Day**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 47)

**10:00 AM Hammered Dulcimer**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 47)

**12:00 PM Make Your Own Salsa**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 36)

**7:30 PM Jazz Series: Deron Bell Jazz Band**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 46)

**SUN, AUG 5, 2012**

**1:30 PM Carriage Hill Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 44)

**2:00 PM Down by the Riverside**, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 36)

**MON, AUG 6, 2012**

**8:00 AM Youth Horse Camp**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

**1:00 PM Youth Horse Camp**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

**6:00 PM Intro to Kayak**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 45)

**TUE, AUG 7, 2012**

**9:00 AM Behind the Scenes of the Children's Garden**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

**9:00 AM Discovery Stroll**, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 38)

**9:00 AM Master Silviculturist**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 41)

**10:00 AM Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!** RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32)

**4:00 PM Seedling Series: Making the Most of Harvest Season**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

**5:00 PM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

**WED, AUG 8, 2012**

**10:00 AM Discovery Stroll**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)

**2:00 PM What's New @ 2**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

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

**THU, AUG 9, 2012**

**9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk: Prairie Plantings**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 40)

**2:00 PM Bookmobile**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)

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

**FRI, AUG 10, 2012**

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

**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

**SAT, AUG 11, 2012**

**9:00 AM Bike For The Health Of It: Stillwater River Bikeway (Central)**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 43)

**9:00 AM Volunteer: Backpacking Trail Work Days**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 43)

**10:00 AM Make the Moment Last**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 42)

**10:00 AM Kayak Basics**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 45)

**10:00 AM Dan Rivers**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 47)

**1:00 PM Hoop House on a Budget**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 33)

**1:30 PM Kayak Basics**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 45)

**7:30 PM Salsa Series: Son del Caribe**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 46)

**SUN, AUG 12, 2012**

**12:00 PM Grain Threshing**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 32)

**2:00 PM Butterfly Safari**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 41)

**MON, AUG 13, 2012**

**8:00 AM Youth Horse Camp**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

**9:30 AM Fanatics for Fall**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 41)

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Pollinator Party**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 38)

**1:00 PM Youth Horse Camp**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

**TUE, AUG 14, 2012**

**9:00 AM Behind the Scenes of the Children's Garden**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

**9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk: Prairie Plantings**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 40)

**1:00 PM Easy Breezy Wind Fun**, Possum Creek



MetroPark (see page 42)

**5:00 PM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum

MetroPark (see page 33)

### WED, AUG 15, 2012

**10:00 AM Discovery Stroll**, Hills & Dales

MetroPark (see page 38)

**2:00 PM What's New @ 2**, Wegerzyn Gardens

MetroPark (see page 34)

### THU, AUG 16, 2012

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Prairie Safari**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 38)

**2:00 PM Bookmobile**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 35)

**6:00 PM Intro to Smart Cycling**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 44)

**7:30 PM Big Band Nights: Jack Garrett and the Syndicate Orchestra**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 47)

### FRI, AUG 17, 2012

**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

### SAT, AUG 18, 2012

**8:30 AM Family Farm Chores**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 32)

**8:30 AM Family Farm Chores**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 32)

**9:00 AM Garden Station Mosaic Workshop**, Off-site (see page 35)

**9:00 AM Try Hiking @...**, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 44)

**9:00 AM Bike For The Health Of It: Great Miami River Bikeway (South)**, Bikeway: Great Miami River (see page 43)

**9:00 AM Swing Your Partner**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 47)

**9:00 AM Smart Cycling Basics**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 44)

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

**1:00 PM Pickling**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 37)

**7:30 PM 92.1 Summer Nights**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 46)

**8:00 PM Hoe Down Square Dance**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 46)

### SUN, AUG 19, 2012

**1:00 PM Woodpecker Walk**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 42)

**6:00 PM 91.3 WYSO Concert**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 48)

### MON, AUG 20, 2012

**8:00 AM Youth Horse Camp**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

**9:30 AM Bark around the Park**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 41)

**1:00 PM Youth Horse Camp**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 37)

### TUE, AUG 21, 2012

**9:00 AM Behind the Scenes of the Children's Garden**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

**9:00 AM Discovery Stroll**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 38)

**10:00 AM Fairy Tales, Fables, and Follies**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32)

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Pondology**, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 38)

**5:00 PM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

### WED, AUG 22, 2012

**10:00 AM Discovery Stroll**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)

**2:00 PM What's New @ 2**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 34)

### THU, AUG 23, 2012

**6:00 PM Volunteer: Street Team**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 45)

**7:00 PM Greening the Farm**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 41)

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

### FRI, AUG 24, 2012

**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 35)

### SAT, AUG 25, 2012

**9:00 AM Bike For The Health Of It: Great Miami River Bikeway (South)**, Bikeway: Great Miami River (see page 43)

**9:00 AM Combined Project Wild and Project Aquatic Workshop**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 42)

**10:00 AM Try Extending the Garden Season**, Off-site (see page 35)

**10:00 AM String Quintet**, PNC 2nd Street Market (see page 48)

**11:00 AM Dayton African American Cultural Festival**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 49)

**8:00 PM Pollinators at Night**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 42)

**8:00 PM Night Photography in the Garden**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 43)

### SUN, AUG 26, 2012

**2:00 PM Fossil Hunt**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 42)

### MON, AUG 27, 2012

**9:30 AM Monarchs and Migration**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 42)

### TUE, AUG 28, 2012

**9:00 AM Stroller Strut: Butterflies and Dragonflies**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 40)

**9:00 AM Adult Nature Walk: Prairie Plantings**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 40)

**11:30 AM Stroller Strut: Butterflies and Dragonflies**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 40)

**5:00 PM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

### WED, AUG 29, 2012

**10:00 AM Discovery Stroll**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 38)

**10:00 AM Tike Hike: Give the Forest a Helping Hand**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 38)

### THU, AUG 30, 2012

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

### FRI, AUG 31, 2012

**10:00 AM A-MAZE-ing Stories in the Garden**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 42)

**10:00 AM Tree Tram Tours**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33)

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



Photo by Leah Stahl

## EDUCATION ENTERTAINMENT

### TUESDAY TALES

Join us for a series of free cultural and educational entertainment programs designed for preschoolers. Held outdoors under the pavilion, sessions are held twice per month in June, July and August.

#### (FREE) YOUR OTHER NEIGHBORS

**TUE JUN 5, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1329  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Did you know that you have neighbors you may have never met? Five Rivers MetroParks interpreter Doug Horvath will teach children about the ecosystem in the Miami Valley and introduce them to the animals that live here, like a red tailed hawk, eastern box turtle and black rat snake. No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: 2Y-7Y ☼

#### (FREE) ANIMALS ALIVE!

**TUE JUN 19, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1305  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Come meet some warm- and cold-blooded friends from the Boonshoft Museum's Live Animals Department! Learn more about the habitats and behaviors of animals from Ohio and beyond during this engaging presentation. Participants will also have an opportunity to get a closer look at some of the animal visitors after the program. No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: 2Y-7Y ☼

#### (FREE) ZOOT TALES

**TUE JUL 3, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1331  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

The Zoot Theatre Company presents "The Tortoise and the Hare," a show composed of several short vignettes, each performed by actors with puppets and masks. This much-loved and often retold story of an impatient hare and a long-suffering tortoise who race to see who is the fastest, is given a fresh and dynamic makeover by Zoot Tales. No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: 2Y-7Y ☼

#### (FREE) FARMIN' FEVER

**TUE JUL 17, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1326  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

For those who wonder what it's like to be Old McDonald on his farm, Chris Rowlands and his farmyard puppet pals will lead participants in a bee-bopping good time with songs and dancing. Who knew hanging with the cows could be so much fun? No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: 2Y-7Y ☼

#### (FREE) REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!

**TUE AUG 7, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1327  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Storytime with Trashilla and the spirit of the environment, Mother Nature! Join them as they tell funny and interactive stories encouraging children to "reduce, reuse, recycle" and help them learn their role in environmental stewardship. No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: 2Y-7Y ☼

#### (FREE) FAIRY TALES, FABLES AND FOLLIES

**TUE AUG 21, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1328  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

The SMAG Dance Collective presents an interactive production of stories from all over the world and some familiar tales. Participants will move right along with the dancers for stories like "Tlou" (pronounced Klou) and "The Cat in the Hat." No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: 2Y-7Y ☼

## FARMING

#### (FREE) FAMILY FARM CHORES

**SAT JUN 16, 8:30-9:30 AM** B1062  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

**SAT JUN 16, 8:30-10:30 AM** B1160  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

**SAT JUL 21, 8:30-9:30 AM** B1063  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

**SAT JUL 21, 8:30-10:30 AM** B1161  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790

Frytown Rd.

**SAT AUG 18, 8:30-9:30 AM** B1064  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

**SAT AUG 18, 8:30-10:30 AM** B1162  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Join a farm staff person to feed animals, gather eggs, and clean stalls. Get to know some of the farm animals up close and personal. Meet at the farm. Registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: 6Y-18Y ☼

#### (FREE) AT HOME WITH CHICKENS

**SAT JUN 23, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM** B1134  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Learn about raising chickens in your own backyard. We will cover topics on breeds, housing care and zoning. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: 18Y and up ☼

#### (FREE) ALL ABOUT WOOL

**SAT JUN 30, 1:00-3:30 PM** B1159  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Humans have been using wool to keep them warm for over 2000 years. Come learn all about wool and how it goes from the sheep to your sweater. Then use roving from our own Icelandic sheep to make felt beads. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: 18Y and up ☼

#### (FREE) FARM SCIENCE

**THU JUL 5-26, 2:00-3:00 PM** B1184  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Join us every Thursday in July from 2 PM to 3 PM to learn about science on the farm. There is lots of science going on at the farm. Each week we will be doing a different experiment that covers one part of farm science. Meet us under the farm picnic shelter. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: All ages ☼

#### (FREE) GRAIN THRESHING

**SUN JUL 8, 12:00-5:00 PM** B1073  
**SUN AUG 12, 12:00-5:00 PM** B1079  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

The steam engine, separator, farm hands and shocks of grain re-create the farm scene of a century ago. Watch as the last threshing of the season is done. Also, sample some



homemade switchel, and other period drinks that were made during harvest time. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) HOOP HOUSE ON A BUDGET

**SAT AUG 11, 1:00-4:00 PM** B1133  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Learn how to make a hoop house on a small budget. As a team we will work together to construct an easy-to-make hoop house to help prolong the harvest. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📱

## FISHING

### (FREE) FISH WITH A RANGER

**SAT JUN 2, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1204  
**SAT JUL 7, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1210  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Officer Zimmerman will speak about a safety topic, then all students that participated will be able to utilize poles and free bait in a stocked fishing pond. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4823 or lzimmerman@metroparks.org for details. Age: 4Y-15Y 📱

## GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

### (FREE) GOLDEN GARDENERS

**WED MAY 23-AUG 1, 10:00-11:30 AM** 7911  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Formal Gardens, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Nursing home residents and adults with physical limitations will enjoy fun, interactive garden activities. The program is in a wheelchair accessible area and can be adapted to the needs of your group. During their visit participants learn about plants, share memories, and watch the garden grow. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 Ext. 1609 for details. Age: 55Y & up ⚙️

### (FREE) GIVING GARDENERS

**THU MAY 24-AUG 2, 9:00-10:30 AM** 7879  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Community Gardens Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
We invite organizations and churches to have a plot in the Wegerzyn Sustainable Garden Classroom and donate the produce

to the Dayton Food Bank. A member of the education staff will be available weekly through the second week of August to help guide you to a successful year! There are five 15x10 plots available on a first-come basis. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 Ext. 1609 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) TREE TRAM TOURS

**FRI JUN 1, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1266  
**TUE JUN 5, 5:00-7:00 PM** B1280  
**FRI JUN 8, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1267  
**TUE JUN 12, 5:00-7:00 PM** B1281  
**FRI JUN 15, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1268  
**TUE JUN 19, 5:00-7:00 PM** B1282  
**FRI JUN 22, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1269  
**TUE JUN 26, 5:00-7:00 PM** B1283  
**FRI JUN 29, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1270  
**FRI JUL 6, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1271  
**TUE JUL 10, 5:00-7:00 PM** B1284  
**FRI JUL 13, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1272  
**TUE JUL 17, 5:00-7:00 PM** B1285  
**FRI JUL 20, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1273  
**TUE JUL 24, 5:00-7:00 PM** B1370  
**FRI JUL 27, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1274  
**TUE JUL 31, 5:00-7:00 PM** B1286  
**FRI AUG 3, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1275  
**TUE AUG 7, 5:00-7:00 PM** B1371  
**FRI AUG 10, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1276  
**TUE AUG 14, 5:00-7:00 PM** B1287  
**FRI AUG 17, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1277  
**TUE AUG 21, 5:00-7:00 PM** B1288  
**FRI AUG 24, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1278  
**TUE AUG 28, 5:00-7:00 PM** B1289  
**FRI AUG 31, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1279  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Join us for guided tram tours of the Arboretum on Friday mornings starting at 10 a.m. or Tuesday evenings starting at 5 p.m. These tours will take approximately 1/2 hour. Organized groups are asked to register in advance; individual walk-ins welcome. No registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) TRY BUGPROOFING YOUR GARDEN

**SAT JUN 2, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1057  
OFF-SITE, Community Gardens, Contact Us for Map  
Desperate to get out in the garden, but not sure what to do once you're there? Get your hands dirty and learn how to keep the bad bugs at bay - organically. Also try concocting your own "bug spray"! Hosted by Mountain Top Ministries Community Garden, 3842 Delphos Ave, Dayton. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📱 ⚙️

### (FREE) THE BEST OF THE BEST: VEGETABLES

**SAT JUN 2, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1049  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
There are always choices in planting a vegetable garden, and this class is designed to help you make sense of all the offerings and what will work for your particular garden and make this year's crop wonderful! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📱

### (FREE) SPRING BEAUTY WALK

**SUN JUN 3, 2:00-4:00 PM** B1104  
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Gardens, 930 Aullwood Rd.  
Join us for a great walk through beautiful Aullwood Gardens. Learn about the wonderful plants and the great history of this fascinating place and how you too can create a garden which will inspire others! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📱

## LUNCH AND LEARN

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

### (FREE) HISTORIC PEST MANAGEMENT

**TUE JUN 5, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM** B1070  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.  
All sorts of insects and animals can wreak havoc on one's garden. Come learn about some simple period, yet natural, ways to prevent critters from taking over your garden. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📱

### (FREE) THE BEST VEGETABLES

**WED JUN 6, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1114  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
There are always choices in planting a vegetable garden, and this class is designed to help you make sense of all the offerings and what will work for your particular garden and bring mouth-watering produce to your table. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📱

**(FREE) HISTORIC WAYS TO BEAT THE HEAT**

**TUE JUL 3, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM** B1075  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.  
Did you ever wonder how they stayed cool in the 1880s? Join us as we talk about the various natural ways to stay cool and try some out. Also, help make some period drinks that were used to cool down. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

**(FREE) MAKING WATER COUNT**

**WED JUL 11, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1123  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn why how you treat the top layer of soil is crucial to producing top quality fruits, vegetables, and flowers as well as preventing or controlling weeds. An important class for all gardeners! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📅

**(FREE) SUMMER SHADE TREES**

**WED AUG 1, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1128  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Join us for a great walk through Cox Arboretum with a special look at shade trees and how to select the best ones for your yard. We'll talk about growth patterns, seasonal interest, planting techniques and maintenance. A great class for anyone who loves summer! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

**(FREE) SEEDLING SERIES**

**TUE JUN 5-19, 4:00-5:30 PM** B1013  
**TUE JUL 3-17, 4:00-5:30 PM** B1017  
**TUE AUG 7-21, 4:00-5:30 PM** B1019  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
During each month of the summer growing season, kids ages 6 through 9 meet on Tuesday afternoons for 3 weeks to learn about gardening! Activities include hands-on garden work, fun crafts, cooking, and harvesting vegetables to take home. Participants are expected to make a three-week commitment for each month they are registered. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 6Y-9Y 📅 ⚙️

**(FREE) GARDEN PLAY**

**THU JUN 7-28, 2:00-3:00 PM** B1180  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Join us every Thursday in June from 2 PM to 3 PM to learn about the plants in our garden. Each week children will have the opportunity to learn about a new vegetable in the garden and plant their very own seeds to take home. Then pretend to be a farmer with our farm toys. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 276-2076 for details. Age: All ages 📅

**(FREE) THE BEST OF THE BEST: FLOWERS**

**SAT JUN 9, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1050  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Have you always wanted a cutting garden and don't know where to start? Do you want to have great flowering annuals and perennials all summer long? This class will help you look at what's beautiful, trendy, and available and what grows best in specific areas. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📅

**(FREE) BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE CHILDREN'S GARDEN**

**TUE JUN 12, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1102  
**TUE JUN 19, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1103  
**TUE JUN 26, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1105  
**TUE JUL 3, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1106  
**TUE JUL 10, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1107  
**TUE JUL 17, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1108  
**TUE JUL 24, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1109  
**TUE JUL 31, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1110  
**TUE AUG 7, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1111  
**TUE AUG 14, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1112  
**TUE AUG 21, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1113  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Children's Discovery Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Have you ever wondered what it is like in the children's garden before the gates open? Take this rare opportunity to experience the garden behind closed doors as you help MetroParks staff get ready for the busy day. Activities may include feeding fish and wildlife, followed by free time in the garden before other visitors arrive. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 5Y-12Y 📅

**(FREE) WHAT'S NEW @ 2**

**WED JUN 13, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1076  
**WED JUN 20, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1077  
**WED JUN 27, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1081  
**WED JUL 11, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1082  
**WED JUL 18, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1095  
**WED JUL 25, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1096  
**WED AUG 1, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1097  
**WED AUG 8, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1098  
**WED AUG 15, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1099  
**WED AUG 22, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1100  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Children's Discovery Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Explore the Children's Discovery Garden with staff and volunteers to learn about plants through crafts, recipes, and other hands-on experiences. The garden changes throughout the summer and so do the fun activities. Visit the website for daily listings. Participation is limited to the first 50 drop-in visitors. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. [metroparks.org/ChildrensGarden](http://metroparks.org/ChildrensGarden). Age: 3Y and up ⚙️

**COMPOST KITCHEN**

Composting is a sound and effective way to improve garden soil and recycle waste materials. Classes may be taken separately or as a series. Participants attending all three sessions will receive a free composter from Montgomery County Solid Waste.

**(FREE) BUILDING BETTER SOIL**

**WED JUN 13, 6:00-8:00 PM** B1006  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Gardeners learn how to evaluate their soil, manage its composition, and add available nutrients without the use of synthetic fertilizer. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

**(FREE) BACKYARD COMPOSTING**

**WED JUN 20, 6:00-8:00 PM** B1008  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
This class will focus on various composting methods, describe the characteristics of good compost, and address many of the typical challenges associated with getting started. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅





**(FREE) ALL ABOUT WORMS**

**WED JUN 27, 6:00-8:00 PM** B1009  
 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK,  
 Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
 Worms are very efficient composters,  
 and with their help gardeners can  
 produce quick, quality compost. Learn  
 how to manage a worm bin yourself!  
 John Woodman from Montgomery  
 County Solid Waste will also discuss  
 community composting efforts.  
 Registration required. Contact (937) 277-  
 6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📄

**BUS TRIP: RICHMOND, INDIANA**

**THU JUN 14, 7:15 AM-5:30 PM** 7925  
 OFF-SITE,  
 We'll tour the public rose garden at its  
 peak, then drive through Glen Miller  
 Park and on to Hayes Arboretum for a  
 guided tour of the grounds and museum.  
 After lunch we go to the Wayne County  
 Historical Museum. The fee of \$56, due  
 April 13, includes all admissions and lunch.  
 Checks are payable to Wegerzyn Gardens  
 Foundation. Registration required. Contact  
 (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up  
 Fee: \$56

**(FREE) BOOKMOBILE**

**THU JUN 14, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1115  
**THU JUN 21, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1116  
**THU JUN 28, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1117  
**THU JUL 5, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1118  
**THU JUL 12, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1120  
**THU JUL 19, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1121  
**THU JUL 26, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1122  
**THU AUG 2, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1124  
**THU AUG 9, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1125  
**THU AUG 16, 2:00-2:45 PM** B1126  
 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK,  
 Children's Discovery Garden, 1301 East  
 Siebenthaler Ave.  
 The bookmobile is coming to Wegerzyn  
 Gardens! Story time will be followed by  
 a short craft and then plenty of time to  
 check out materials from the bookmobile.  
 Programs presented by the Dayton Public  
 Library. No registration required. Contact  
 (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 3Y and up

**GARDEN STATION MOSAIC  
WORKSHOP**

**SAT, SUN JUN 16-17, 9:00-4:00 AM** B1058  
 OFF-SITE, Garden Station, 509 E. 4th St.  
**SAT, SUN JUL 21-22, 9:00-4:00 AM** B1060  
 OFF-SITE, Community Gardens, Contact Us for Map  
**SUN, SAT AUG 18-19, 9:00-4:00 AM** B1059

OFF-SITE, Garden Station Community Garden,  
 509 E. 4th Street  
 Garden Station Community Garden &  
 Art Park Manager teaches basic mosaic  
 techniques using the Zagar method.  
 Students plan and complete a mosaic  
 planter. Small take-home piece serves as  
 "practice." Basic bottle wall making included  
 as well. Limited to 6 students. Must pay  
 online at [daytongardenstation.org](http://daytongardenstation.org). Hosted  
 by Garden Station, 509 E. 4th St., Dayton.  
 Registration required. Contact (937) 610-  
 3845 for details. [www.daytongardenstation.org](http://www.daytongardenstation.org).  
 Age: 12Y and up Fee: \$75 📄

**(FREE) CITY BEETS AT THE  
MARKET**

**SAT JUN 16, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** B1181  
**SAT JUN 23, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** B1181  
**SAT JUN 30, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** B1181  
**SAT JUL 7, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** B1181  
**SAT JUL 14, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** B1181  
**SAT JUL 21, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** B1181  
**JUL 28, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** B1181  
 PNC 2nd STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.  
 Stop by the City Beets booth to see  
 what the program participants have been  
 growing this summer at Wegerzyn Gardens  
 MetroPark's Community Garden - and are  
 now selling. Asking the teens questions  
 about the program or organic gardening  
 methods is strongly encouraged! No  
 registration required. Contact (937) 277-  
 6545 for details. Age: All ages

**(FREE) MAKING WATER COUNT**

**SAT JUL 7, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1052  
 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult  
 Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
 Learn why how you treat the top layer of  
 soil is crucial to producing top quality fruits,  
 vegetables, and flowers as well as preventing  
 or controlling weeds. This is an important  
 class for all gardeners! Registration  
 requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937)  
 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📄

**(FREE) GREENS ALL SUMMER  
LONG**

**WED JUL 11, 6:00-7:30 PM** B1130  
 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's  
 Garden, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
 Growing leafy vegetables can provide one  
 with excellent nutrition and some delightful  
 culinary options, but the summer heat  
 makes producing quality greens a bit of  
 a challenge. We'll discuss techniques for  
 growing lettuce all season long, learn about

leafy vegetables that tolerate heat, and  
 of course, taste-test some of the summer  
 harvest! Registration required. Contact (937)  
 277-6545 for details. Age: 16Y and up 📄

**(FREE) COMMUNITY GARDEN  
TOUR**

**SAT JUL 21, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1085  
 OFF-SITE, Community Gardens, Contact Us for  
 Map  
 MetroParks staff and volunteers will lead  
 this bike tour to seven different community  
 gardens. Meet at Our Secret Garden, on  
 Fairview Ave just west of Catalpa, Dayton.  
 Bring your bike and ride with us or pick up  
 a route map and drive or walk. Registration  
 requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937)  
 276-7053 for details. Age: All ages 📄 ⚙️

**(FREE) LOOKING AT NATIVES:  
WEGERZYN'S TREASURE TROVE**

**SAT JUL 21, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1054  
 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult  
 Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
 Join us for a tour of Wegerzyn as we  
 look specifically at native plants, both in  
 our formal gardens and in the prairie. A  
 surprising and fun class for all! Registration  
 requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937)  
 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📄

**BUS TRIP: CINCINNATI**

**TUE JUL 24, 7:15 AM-5:30 PM** B1055  
 OFF-SITE,  
 Today's trip to Cincinnati stops first at the  
 beautiful Theodore M. Berry International  
 Friendship Park. Next it's on to Gorman  
 Heritage Farm, built in the 1830s. We'll enjoy  
 a box lunch here and next go plant shopping  
 at Greenfield Nursery in Maineville. The  
 fee includes lunch, tips, snacks, and is due  
 June 22 to Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation.  
 Registration required. Contact (937) 277-  
 6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$54

**(FREE) TRY EXTENDING THE  
GARDEN SEASON**

**SAT AUG 25, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1086  
 OFF-SITE, Community Gardens, Contact Us for Map  
 Desperate to garden into the winter, but  
 not sure how to do it? Get your hands dirty  
 and learn how to construct inexpensive low  
 tunnels and cold frames—and what you can  
 plant now! Hosted by South Park Community  
 Garden, south side of Burns Ave., immediately  
 east of Warren St., Dayton. Registration  
 requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937)  
 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📄 ⚙️

## GREEN LIVING

### ENVIRONMENTAL FILM SERIES

Films are shown on the first Wednesday of the month, January-April, July and August. Enjoy free refreshments during the film and stay afterward to share your insight and observations with others during open discussion.

#### (FREE) GASLAND

**WED JUL 11, 7:00-9:00 PM** B1005  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. When filmmaker Josh Fox is asked to lease his land for drilling, he embarks on a cross-country odyssey uncovering a trail of secrets, lies and contamination. *Gasland* is part vérité travelogue, part exposé, part mystery, part bluegrass banjo meltdown, part showdown. Open discussion follows. Free refreshments. Film length: 107 minutes. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 14Y & up 📱

#### (FREE) SENSE OF WONDER

**WED AUG 1, 7:00-9:00 PM** B1011  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. When pioneering environmentalist Rachel Carson published *Silent Spring* in 1962, the backlash thrust her into the center of a political maelstrom. This film depicts Carson in her final year and is a reflection on the life of America's most successful advocate for the natural world. Open

discussion follows. Free refreshments. Film length: 55 minutes Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 14Y and up 📱

## HERITAGE & HISTORY

### MARK TWAIN'S FEAST: BREAKFAST

**SAT JUN 16, 8:00-11:00 AM** B1067  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Daniel Arnold House, 7850 E. Shull Rd. Join us early on Saturday morning to prepare a few of Twain's favorites. We will use the hearth and wood cookstove to prepare buckwheat cakes with maple syrup, coffee with cream, biscuits with homemade butter, stewed apples, and fresh strawberries. And for the literary taste buds: readings from some of Twain's writings. Registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 📱

#### (FREE) DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE

**SUN AUG 5, 2:00-4:00 PM** B1101  
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Gardens, 930 Aullwood Rd. This Sunday we'll have a fascinating talk by Bro. Don Geiger on the history of the Stillwater River at Aullwood, including the flood, and how the landscape and geologic formations have been altered by the river over time. We'll meet at the parking lot next to the river and then continue on to the grounds. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📱

## HOME & HOBBIES

### (FREE) JAMS, JELLIES, AND PRESERVES

**SAT JUN 16, 1:00-4:00 PM** B1146  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd. This session focuses on the processes to make your own jellies, jams, and preserves. Bring two 4-oz. home jelly canning jars. You will have a hands-on opportunity of making two easy recipes, a jam and a jelly, to take home. Other pertinent handouts will be available. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📱

#### (FREE) FREEZING YOUR HARVEST

**SAT JUL 21, 1:00-3:00 PM** B1148  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd. This session focuses on freezing the first items that can be harvested from the garden. We will go over the necessary equipment, procedures and other pertinent information for safe and successful cold storage of your garden's bounty. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📱

#### (FREE) MAKE YOUR OWN SALSA

**SAT AUG 4, 12:00-2:30 PM** B1173  
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St. Make your own salsa under the direction of Betty Hoevel and Tim Pritchard from Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks. Pick your favorite ingredients, fresh from the Market vendors, for your salsa creation. You will

## NEW ONLINE REGISTRATION SYSTEM!



Registering for programs is now simpler than ever. Maintain your account with ease, and add register friends or family members for programs with you! For a demonstration of how to use this new system, visit [metroparks.org/registration](http://metroparks.org/registration) or call (937) 275-PARK (7275) for more information. Program registration may still be made in person or calling the number listed in the program description.



definitely want to try what you learn at home. Prerequisites: Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages 📱

### (FREE) PICKLING

**SAT AUG 18, 1:00-4:00 PM** B1149  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
This session focuses on the pickling process of preserving. We will go over the equipment, procedures, and other pertinent information for pickling items from the garden. Bring two pint home canning jars. You will have a hands-on opportunity of making two easy recipes, of a sour and a sweet type of pickle. Other pertinent handouts will be available. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📱

## HORSEBACK RIDING

**YOUTH HORSE CAMP**  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUN 4-8, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1023  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUN 4-8, 1:00-5:00 PM** B1024  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUN 11-15, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1025  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUN 11-15, 1:00-5:00 PM** B1027  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUN 18-22, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1028  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUN 18-22, 1:00-5:00 PM** B1030  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUN 25-29, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1031  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUN 25-29, 1:00-5:00 PM** B1032  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUL 9-13, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1033  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUL 9-13, 1:00-5:00 PM** B1034  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUL 16-20, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1035  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUL 16-20, 1:00-5:00 PM** B1036  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUL 23-27, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1037  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUL 23-27, 1:00-5:00 PM** B1038  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUL 30-AUG 3, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1039  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI JUL 30-AUG 3, 1:00-5:00 PM** B1046  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI AUG 6-10,**

**8:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1040  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI AUG 6-10, 1:00-5:00 PM** B1041  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI AUG 13-17, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1042  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI AUG 13-17, 1:00-5:00 PM** B1043  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI AUG 20-24, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1044  
**MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI AUG 20-24, 1:00-5:00 PM** B1045  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Riding Center, 8111 E. Shull Rd.  
Youth Horse Camp involves daily riding and fun activities for children ages 8 - 17. Camps are half-day sessions, Monday-Friday from June-August. Topics include safety, breeds, colors/markings, anatomy, grooming, tacking, riding and team building. Camp includes instruction material, photo of camper and horse and certificate. Cost is \$175 each. Registration required. Contact (937) 274-3120 for details. Age: 8Y-17Y Fee: \$175

## NATURE

### TIKE HIKES

Take a hike in the woods with your little ones as we get up close and personal with nature!

### (FREE) LIVE LIKE A BEE

**FRI JUN 1, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1234  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter:  
CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40  
Learn what it would be like to be a bee and explore the flowers they pollinate! No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y **PTN**

### (FREE) NATURE PLAY

**TUE JUN 5, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1245  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.  
**THU JUN 21, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1243  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter:  
White Oak 1/Nature Play/Parking Lot, 2606 Hilton Dr.  
Treat your preschooler to dirty hands & fresh air as we build forts, turn over logs, and explore in our Nature Play area! No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y **PTN**

### (FREE) WINGED THINGS

**MON JUN 25, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1242  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.  
Come visit MetroParks' winged wildlife

ambassadors! Learn about their behaviors, why they are living at the Nature Center, and how to spot them in the wild! No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y **PTN**

### (FREE) FOLLOW THE WATER

**FRI JUL 13, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1258  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Patty/ East Park, 4361 National Rd.  
Water takes quite a journey through our parks! Head uphill with a naturalist to see where water in the Nature Play area comes from and talk about the importance of water. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y **PTN**

### (FREE) STREAMOLOGY

**TUE JUL 17, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1247  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.  
Come explore the creek and find creatures like crawdads, salamanders, and rainbow darters! Kids and parents should wear clothes that can get wet and muddy. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y **PTN**

### (FREE) BUGS ARE OUR FRIENDS

**THU JUL 19, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1251  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter:  
White Oak 1/Nature Play/Parking Lot, 2606 Hilton Dr.  
There are many insects that help us out. Learn the names and habits of some of these creatures and learn how they benefit us. We'll learn why it's important to let the bugs be! No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y **PTN**

### (FREE) LOOK TO THE WATER

**MON JUL 30, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1255  
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.  
Come take a walk along the Mad River, and learn about the wildlife that depends on it. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y **PTN**

### (FREE) WOODPECKER WATCH

**FRI AUG 10, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1257  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw/Parking Lot, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.  
Go on a hike in search of these insect eaters, and watch them forage on the

trees. A naturalist will also try to lure one in close for the children to see. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y **PTN**

### **(FREE) POLLINATOR PARTY**

**MON AUG 13, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1262  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Shelter:  
Cottonwood, 6910 Boomershine Rd.  
Come out and celebrate our pollinators in a prairie! Get ready to boogie with the butterflies and bees and celebrate all they do for us! No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y **PTN**

### **(FREE) PRAIRIE SAFARI**

**THU AUG 16, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1260  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead  
Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.  
Explore enormous wildflowers and towering grasses while searching for butterflies and other insects in the prairie. Insect nets and containers will be provided. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y **PTN**

### **(FREE) PONDOLGY**

**TUE AUG 21, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1261  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter:  
Hilltop /Sledding Hill/Parking Lot, 1200  
Brown School Rd.  
Come get wet and muddy as we explore the pond and what lives in and around it! No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y **PTN**

### **(FREE) GIVE THE FOREST A HELPING HAND**


**WED AUG 29, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1297  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Patty/  
East Park, 4361 National Rd.  
Our forests provide so much for us, why not help them in return? Come out and help collect seeds with a naturalist, so we can help our forests recover from the Emerald Ash Borer. All seeds will be given to the conservation department to cultivate baby trees! No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y **PTN**

### **(FREE) FOREST CONSTRUCTION WORKERS**


**SAT JUN 2, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1235  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: White  
Oak 1/Nature Play/Parking Lot, 2606 Hilton Dr.  
Come out and search for nature's construction workers! Hills & Dales is home to 5 different woodpeckers; the red-bellied, flicker, downy, hairy, and pileated! Let's see how many we can find in the park! No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages **PTN**

### **(FREE) ADULT DISCOVERY STROLL**

**TUE JUN 5, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1302  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/  
East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40  
**WED JUN 6, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1233  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Pond  
and Overlook/Parking Lot, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.  
**WED JUN 13, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1232  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Pond  
and Overlook/Parking Lot, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.  
**TUE JUN 19, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1231  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter:  
Redwing/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.  
**WED JUN 20, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1230  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Pond  
and Overlook/Parking Lot, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.  
**WED JUN 27, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1229  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Pond  
and Overlook/Parking Lot, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.  
**TUE JUL 3, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1228  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/  
East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40  
**WED JUL 4, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1227  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Pond  
and Overlook/Parking Lot, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.  
**WED JUL 11, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1226  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Pond  
and Overlook/Parking Lot, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.  
**TUE JUL 17, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1225  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter:  
Redwing/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.  
**WED JUL 18, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1224  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Pond  
and Overlook/Parking Lot, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.  
**WED JUL 25, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1222  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Pond  
and Overlook/Parking Lot, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.  
**WED AUG 1, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1221  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Pond  
and Overlook/Parking Lot, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.  
**TUE AUG 7, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1220  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/  
East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40  
**WED AUG 8, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1219  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Pond  
and Overlook/Parking Lot, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.  
**WED AUG 15, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1218  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Pond

and Overlook/Parking Lot, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.  
**TUE AUG 21, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1217  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter:  
Redwing/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.  
**WED AUG 22, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1216  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Pond  
and Overlook/Parking Lot, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.  
**WED AUG 29, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1215  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Dogwood Pond  
and Overlook/Parking Lot, 2740 S. Patterson Blvd.  
Escape on this relaxed-paced, volunteer-led  
adventure through the park while learning  
about nature and discovering the park's  
history. No registration required. Contact  
(937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 18Y and up 


### **(FREE) YOUTH NATURALISTS CLUB**

**TUE JUN 5-JUL 10, 4:00-5:30 PM** 8091  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center,  
6910 Boomershine Rd.  
This special six-week series meets Tuesdays  
at Germantown MetroPark for a team  
of students 8-12 years old. Activities  
will focus on fun ways to explore the  
outdoors and support different habitats.  
Students will receive additional resources  
for animal identification and extending  
their experience to their own backyards.  
Prerequisites: Signed emergency contact  
forms. Registration required. Contact (937)  
277-4178 for details. Age: 8Y-12Y 

### **BACKPACKING BABIES**

Backpacking Babies programs are just for  
parents and their babies. 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.

### **(FREE) FOREST FRENZY**

**THU JUN 7, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1238  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead  
Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.  
Enjoy a healthy walk, and allow your  
baby to explore the beautiful sights,  
puzzling sounds, and fresh air of the  
forest. A baby backpack or carrier is  
required for this program as trails are not  
stroller friendly. Registration requested,  
walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178  
for details. Age: 0Y-2Y 

### **(FREE) CREEK ROMP**

**THU JUL 5, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1239  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead  
Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.  
Get your baby's feet wet in the stream,



## PASSPORT TO NATURE



This program gives incentives for families to complete eight visits to our designated passport programs. Here's how it works: Visit MetroParks facilities, participate in designated passport programs, and get your passport stamped. When eight of the boxes are stamped, fill in the information and mail your passport to Five Rivers MetroParks. Every child who completes a passport will become an official Nature Traveler and will receive a special traveler gift along with recognition in this publication.

Look for **PTN** in the program listing to see if it qualifies as a Passport to Nature program! For more information or directions to program sites, call **(937) 275-PARK** or visit us at **metroparks.org/passport**.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE NATURE TRAVELERS!


## FIRST PASSPORT

**Mariam Atlagh**  
**Ruqayyah Atlagh**  
**Celest Chambers**  
**Dana Haschart**  
**Baily Loyd**  
**Emma Miller**  
**Katelin Miller**  
**Tyler Morris**  
**Arabella Shell**  
**Gianna Shell**  
**Mya Violet**


## SECOND PASSPORT

**Chloe Fitch**




while naturalists search for water creatures to share with you and your infant. A baby backpack or carrier is required for this program as trails are not stroller friendly. Weather permitting Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 0Y-2Y 

**(FREE) FLUTTER BY BUTTERFLY**  
**THU AUG 2, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1240  
 SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead  
 Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

A warm summer day is a great time to look for butterflies! We'll try to catch a few to give your baby an up-close look. A baby backpack or carrier is required for this program as trails are not stroller friendly. Weather permitting Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 0Y-2Y 


**(FREE) STREAM APPRECIATION**

**SAT JUN 9, 10:30-11:30 AM** B1241  
 ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, West Park Parking  
 Lot, 100 East National Rd.

Come out and discover what creatures live in and around our local waterways and what dangers they face. Be prepared to get wet. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages  **PTN**

**(FREE) WETLAND EXPLORATION**

**SAT JUN 9, 1:00-2:00 PM** B1244  
 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790  
 Frytown Rd.


Life in a wetland can get pretty jumpy at night. Search for frogs, turtles, insects, and other creatures while sloshing through the marsh! Wear clothes that can get wet and muddy. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages  **PTN**

**BUTTERFLY BASICS**

This three-part series will cover the topics of butterfly natural history and plant relationships, life cycle and basic ID. Programs will be a great overview for anyone who would like a general understanding of butterflies. Programs can be taken as a series or individually.


**(FREE) IDENTIFICATION**

**MON JUN 11, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**  
 B1020  
 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead

Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Today we start with the basics. As we explore butterfly and moth identification discover some simple ways to tell a moth from a butterfly, the difference between the four types of dark swallowtails and how to know the difference between male and female monarchs. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 14Y and up 


**(FREE) CATERPILLARS**

**MON JUN 18, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**  
 B1021

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Touch or not to touch? Learn the proper way to handle a caterpillar and when it's not a good idea to hold one. Discover what an instar is and why a caterpillar is such a picky eater. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 15Y and up 

**(FREE) PLANTS**

**MON JUN 25, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**  
 B1022

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Today we will tour Butterfly House and the pollinator garden to check out this year's plant selections. We will focus on what makes a good host plant and why some nectar plants are better than others for butterflies. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 14Y and up 

**ADULT NATURE WALKS**

Enjoy a leisurely hike through natural areas as we explore Dayton's ecology and gain a deeper perspective for how nature works. We will also discuss our role in nature, how we can minimize our harmful impacts, and get involved with conservation efforts.

**(FREE) INSECTS**

**TUE JUN 12, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1172  
 ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter  
 Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.  
**THU JUN 14, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1171  
 SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead  
 Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.  
**TUE JUN 26, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1170  
 EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking  
 Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Enjoy exploring nature while meeting new friends on this slow-paced journey. This month we will focus on the benefits

of insects and try to catch some for identification. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited supply will be available. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

### **(FREE) WATER ECOLOGY**

**TUE JUL 10, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1178  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter  
Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.

**THU JUL 12, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1176  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead  
Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

**TUE JUL 24, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1175  
EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking  
Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

In addition to our walk, we will be using tools to investigate the creatures that do not often venture above the surface. We will also be testing water quality. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited supply will be available. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages 📅

### **(FREE) PRAIRIE PLANTINGS**

**THU AUG 9, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1188  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead  
Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

**TUE AUG 14, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1187  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter  
Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.

**TUE AUG 28, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1186  
EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking  
Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

While walking through prairie habitat, participants will learn about what makes a prairie special, how Five Rivers MetroParks maintains these treasures, and how you can bring prairie magic to your own backyard. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited supply will be available. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

## **PARENT & PRESCHOOLER**

These programs will engage children ages 3-6 years old and their caregiver in nature discoveries. Participants will explore station-based activities with topics related to plants, science and the world around them.

### **(FREE) BEES AND BUTTERFLIES**

**TUE JUN 12, 1:00-2:30 PM** B1140  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum  
Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Not all insects are bad; some help us out on the farm. Learn which insects are important to making food grow. Join us for a story, craft and exploration of our new pollinator garden. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: 3Y-6Y 📅 **PTN**

### **(FREE) GARDEN GROCERY**

**THU JUN 14, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1355  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth  
Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Let's take a look at the plants that grow our food. We will take a walk to the Edible Landscape Garden to see how some of these plants grow. Taste-test a few favorite veggies and plant some seeds to watch grow. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 3Y-6Y 📅

### **(FREE) CREEPY CRAWLIES ON THE FARM**

**TUE JUL 10, 1:00-2:30 PM** B1142  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum  
Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Learn about bats, snakes, and spiders and why we love them on the farm. We will read a story, do a craft and then go on a spider web hunt in the barn. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: 3Y-6Y 📅 **PTN**

## **STROLLER STRUTS**

Stroller Strut is a casual stroll on the Arboretum ground for caregivers and children ages 0-3 years old. Each strut has a nature theme and encourages interaction between the caregiver and child as they discover new plants and their surroundings.

### **(FREE) TURTLES, FROGS, & DOG**

**TUE JUN 26, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1029  
**TUE JUN 26, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM** B1026  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman  
Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.

What do these three things have in common? They can all be found at the ponds at Cox Arboretum. We will count the turtles in the ponds, listen for the croak of frogs and of course have some fun with Zipp. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 0Y-3Y 📅

### **(FREE) PRETTY PETALS**

**TUE JUL 24, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1010

**TUE JUL 24, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM** B1012  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman  
Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Summer brings so many different blooming flowers. Come and explore today and see different shapes and colors of flowers. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 0Y-3Y 📅

### **(FREE) BUTTERFLIES AND DRAGONFLIES**

**TUE AUG 28, 9:00-10:00 AM** B1014  
**TUE AUG 28, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM** B1016  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman  
Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Join us as we discover similarities and differences between these fun flying insects. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 0Y-3Y 📅

## **CAFÉ SCI**

Join us for this month's café and discover science in a relaxed atmosphere with friends and neighbors from the Miami Valley. Increase your science savvy and share your opinion in our open discussion following the topic introduction.

### **(FREE) WARRIORS FOR WILDFLOWERS**

**THU JUN 28, 7:00-9:00 PM** B1002  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth  
Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Tonight's discussion focuses on what can be done for wildflowers when a habitat is in danger – a rescue operation. Join Kathy Dulaney, Wildflower Group chairperson at Cox Arboretum MetroPark, to discover how the process happens and how it benefits our local wildflower population. Open discussion follows the presentation. Light refreshments will be served. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 14Y and up 📅

### **(FREE) HOW ARE OUR HONEY BEES?**

**THU JUL 26, 7:00-9:00 PM** B1003  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth  
Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Honey bee populations have been in peril due to Colony Collapse Disease. Al Tuttle, local apiculturist, will give us an inside view of what is happening with Dayton area bee hives and bee



populations. Open discussion follows the presentation. Light refreshments will be served. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 14Y and up 📞

**(FREE) GREENING THE FARM**  
**THU AUG 23, 7:00-9:00 PM** B1004  
 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Dull Green Energy Center, environmental branch of the Dayton International Peace Museum, was built by Ralph Dull to provide reliable energy for the family farm. Meet Mr. Dull, recipient of "Pioneer of the Year Award" from Green Energy Ohio (GEO) and hear insights into application of green energy. Open discussion follows. Light refreshments served. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 14Y and up 📞

**(FREE) FROGS IN A POND**  
**SAT JUN 30, 1:00-2:00 PM** B1246  
 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Redwing/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd. Let's explore the life of a frog and discover where they like to live. Wear clothes that can get wet. Bring nets if you have them; a limited supply will be available. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages 📞 PTN

**(FREE) BUTTERFLY SAFARI**  
**SUN JUL 8, 2:00-3:30 PM** B1322  
 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Prairie Dock/Parking Lot, 4730 Frytown Rd.  
**SUN JUL 15, 2:00-3:30 PM** B1321  
 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Redwing/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.  
**SUN JUL 22, 2:00-3:30 PM** B1320  
 SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

**SUN AUG 12, 2:00-3:30 PM** B1312  
 GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd. Join us on a quest for these magical fairies of MetroParks! We will explore their life cycles, and discover how important these pollinators are to Dayton's ecology. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages 📞 PTN

**(FREE) FROM PRAIRIE TO THE LANDSCAPE**  
**SAT JUL 14, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1212  
**SAT JUL 14, 12:00-1:30 PM** B1174  
 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd. Most backyard vegetables are what we call "open pollinated." That means we need pollinators, such as bees and butterflies, for a great crop. So join us on a hayride through our prairies and learn about how native plants are the best way to attract those amazing pollinators to your own backyard! Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: All ages 📞 PTN

**(FREE) BUTTERFLY WALK**  
**SAT JUL 14, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1007  
**SAT AUG 18, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM** B1380  
 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Butterfly House, 6733 Springboro Pk. Join a volunteer butterfly guide for an informative walk looking for butterflies. Discover more about native butterflies and the plants that attract them. Meet at Butterfly House; the walk will take place along the red path in the prairie. No registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: All ages

**(FREE) TWIN CREEK HABITAT ADVENTURE**  
**SAT JUL 14, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1236  
 TWIN CREEK METROPARK, High View Shelter/Trailhead Parking Lot, 9688 Eby Rd. Come out for a morning adventure at Twin Creek! Get an up-close look at insects in the prairie, and test your skills at netting and carefully handling these important creatures. Then we will head into the forest to explore the habitat and ecosystem! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages 📞 PTN

**(FREE) KNEE DEEP IN WOLF CREEK**  
**TUE JUL 17, 4:00-5:30 PM** B1211  
 WESLEYAN METROPARK, Shelter: Pavilion, 1441 Wesleyan Rd. There are fish in Wolf Creek that can put tropical fish to shame! Come catch rainbow and greenside darters, rosefin shiners, and much more! Please wear closed-toed shoes and clothes that can get wet and muddy! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages 📞 ⚙️ PTN

**(FREE) A FOREST FULL OF TREES**  
**SAT JUL 21, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1248  
 HUFFMAN METROPARK, Huffman South Park/Redtail Shelter/Overlook, 4439 Lower Valley Pk. Let's go out and discover what really goes on in a forest. Put on your detective hat and come search for clues of what plants and animals call this place home. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 📞 PTN

**MASTER SILVICULTURIST**  
**TUE AUG 7-SEP. 25, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1325  
 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Local forests face unprecedented challenges due to invasive pests. Participants will be provided in-depth knowledge of the forest types of the Miami Valley, invasive species impacting our forests, collection and propagation of native trees and shrubs, and techniques for successful reforestation. 25 hours practicum required. Interviews begin June 15. Registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 or yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. [www.metroparks.org/forests](http://www.metroparks.org/forests). Age: 21Y and up Fee: \$25

## CHILDREN'S TOUR GUIDE WORKSHOP SERIES:

Discover the joy of sharing nature with children as a volunteer children's tour guide. No experience is necessary; however, potential guides should be 16 years or older and able to walk/hike the Arboretum grounds. Children's tour guides make the Arboretum come alive for the students that visit each season.

**(FREE) FANATICS FOR FALL**  
**MON AUG 13, 9:30-11:30 AM** B1015  
 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. All Children's tour guides from Cox Arboretum MetroPark, whether new, seasoned, or alumni, are invited to our first workshop for fellowship and to learn more about our fall tour offerings. Bring your calendar to sign up for scheduled tours. Refreshments provided. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 16Y and up 📞

**(FREE) BARK AROUND THE PARK**  
**MON AUG 20, 9:30-11:30 AM** B1018

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. We'll discover how much you can uncover about a tree just by looking at the bark. This session will provide a hands-on way to increase your tree ID skills and get us ready for the tour season. Free refreshments provided. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 16Y and up 📅

### (FREE) MONARCHS AND MIGRATION

**MON AUG 27, 9:30-11:30 AM** B1345  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Today we'll discover more about Monarchs and how they factor into our fall tour offerings at the Arboretum and fun ways to help student visitors understand migration. Refreshments provided. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 16Y and up 📅

### (FREE) EASY, BREEZY WIND FUN

**TUE AUG 14, 1:00-2:30 PM** B1237  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd. Join us on the farm to learn about the wonders of wind. Wind power can light up your home and can grow its own garden. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: 3Y-7Y 📅 PTN

### (FREE) WOODPECKER WALK

**SUN AUG 19, 1:00-2:30 PM** B1309  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd. Come discover Ohio's 6 woodpeckers while searching for them in the park! Bring binoculars if you have them. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages 📅 PTN

### (FREE) COMBINED PROJECT WILD AND PROJECT AQUATIC WORKSHOP

**SAT AUG 25, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM** B1298  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Open to anyone that teaches children, Project Wild is a nationally recognized curriculum designed to bring nature into the classroom. We will partner with the Montgomery Soil & Water Conservation District to do projects and activities related to water quality and exploration.

Participants get to take home Project Wild and Project Aquatic guides. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

### (FREE) POLLINATORS AT NIGHT

**SAT AUG 25, 8:00-9:00 PM** B1264  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, West Park Parking Lot, 100 East National Rd. Come out and see what secretive nocturnal creatures are actually pleasant nocturnal pollinators. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages 📅 PTN

### (FREE) FOSSIL HUNT

**SUN AUG 26, 2:00-3:30 PM** B1306  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Siebenthaler Nature Trail Parking, End of Old Mill Rd. Journey 500 million years into the past and examine life on earth through your very own hands-on fossil record! You'll also get to find salamanders and other creek-dwelling creatures. Fossil collectors must follow collecting guidelines. Wear shoes and clothes that can get wet and muddy. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages 📅 PTN

### (FREE) A-MAZE-ING STORIES IN THE GARDEN

**FRI AUG 31, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1364  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Edible Landscape Garden/Pavilion, 6733 Springboro Pk. Have fun discovering more about mazes with stories in the garden. This story time is offered in conjunction with the Miamisburg branch of The Dayton Metro Library. Share great stories with Ms Dorri and then explore the Bell Children's Maze and shrub garden with staff. We will meet at the Edible Landscape Pavilion. No registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

## PHOTOGRAPHY

### (FREE) PHOTOGRAPHING AULLWOOD IN BLOOM

**SAT JUN 9, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1092  
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Gardens, 930 Aullwood Rd. Join Adam Alonzo for an informal photography session in the garden, taking pictures of flowers, insects, trees and creeks. This is an opportunity for hobbyist photographers to ask questions and try new

techniques. Meet at the house. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

### (FREE) PHOTOGRAPHY: JUST THE BASICS

**SAT JUN 23, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1051  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. A typical camera today has so many features and settings it can be confusing. Fortunately, all a photographer needs to do is make a few simple adjustments based on environmental conditions. This presentation will introduce these techniques and give participants an opportunity to practice. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📅

### (FREE) SHOOTING OUTDOOR PORTRAITS

**SAT JUL 7, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1119  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Wallace Library, 6733 Springboro Pk. Taking impressive outdoor portraits requires more than just a picturesque location and a person willing to pose. This session explains the importance of background and foreground elements, stance and pose, and sunlight and shadow. Following a presentation indoors, participants will then go outside (weather permitting) to take pictures of a model. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

### (FREE) PUT THE PIECES INTO PLACE

**SAT JUL 21, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1053  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave. Two photographs might show the same subject, but one may be much more pleasing to the eye because of the way the elements are arranged within the picture. This session will introduce important principles of composition that can increase the impact of your photos. Following a presentation indoors, participants will go outside (weather permitting). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅





**(FREE) MAKE THE MOMENT LAST****SAT AUG 11, 10:00-11:30 AM** B1129

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

Most photographs are taken in just a fraction of a second, but it's also possible to make pictures that capture a longer period of time. A patient photographer can record the blooming of a flower or the movement of stars across the sky. This session will introduce some creative techniques to convey a sense of time in your photographs. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

**(FREE) NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE GARDEN****SAT AUG 25, 8:00-9:30 PM** B1091

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Formal Gardens, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Taking pictures at night allows us to see our familiar world in an unfamiliar way. Following a presentation indoors, participants will then go outside (weather permitting) to take photos of the garden and Patrick Dougherty's stickwork sculpture. Bring a tripod, a camera capable of long exposures, and a detachable flash or powerful flashlight. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

## RECREATION

## BACKPACKING

**(FREE) VOLUNTEER:****BACKPACKING TRAIL WORK DAYS****SAT JUN 9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1199**SAT JUL 14, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1202**SAT AUG 11, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1203

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Park Office, 6675 Conservancy Rd.

Learn about sustainable trail building while helping maintain the Twin Valley Backpacking Trail. No experience is necessary; tools are provided. Please bring water and work gloves. Youth 14-17 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 343-5748 or carolyn.wamsley@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚙️

## CYCLING

**BIKE FOR THE HEALTH OF IT!**

Join us for a bike ride on Saturdays, April through October. Earn a T-shirt by reaching a goal of 125 miles. Participants completing 250 miles or more will receive an additional award. Parents/guardians must remain with children. Wearing a helmet is strongly recommended for all participants and required for children under 13. We ride rain or shine, but may cancel due to storms or trail flooding.

**(FREE) STILLWATER RIVER BIKEWAY (CENTRAL)****SAT JUN 2, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1189

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

Join us on a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Stillwater River Bikeway (Central). Meet in the parking lot at 1301 E Siebenthaler. Ride to Radvansky Ln Bridge, near Fishburg Road (16 miles). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4823 for details. Age: All ages 📅

**(FREE) STILLWATER RIVER BIKEWAY (CENTRAL)****SAT JUL 21, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1195**SAT AUG 11, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1198

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

Join us on a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Stillwater River Bikeway (Central). Meet in the parking lot at 1301 E Siebenthaler Ave. Ride to Eastwood MetroPark (13 miles). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4823 for details. Age: All ages 📅

**(FREE) GREAT MIAMI RIVER BIKEWAY (NORTH)****SAT JUN 9, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1185

Bikeway: Great Miami River, Ohio Bike Rt. 25

Join us for a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Great Miami River Bikeway. Meet at Rip Rap Park, located at the intersections of Little York, Rip Rap, and Taylorsville roads. Meet in the parking lot near the soccer fields. We will ride through historic Tadmor (9 miles). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4823 for details. Age: All ages 📅

**(FREE) GREAT MIAMI RIVER BIKEWAY (SOUTH)****SAT JUN 16, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1190**SAT JUL 28, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1197**SAT AUG 25, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1201

Bikeway: Great Miami River, Ohio Bike Rt 25

Join us for a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Great Miami River Bikeway. Meet at West Carrollton low dam. Take North Alex Road to Hydraulic Road; use the entrance on right. We will ride to Crains Run Nature Park (20 miles). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4823 for details. Age: All ages 📅

**(FREE) STILLWATER RIVER BIKEWAY (NORTH)****SAT JUN 23, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1177

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

Join us on a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Stillwater River Bikeway (north). Meet in the parking lot at 100 E. National Rd. (U.S. 40 and State Route 48 in Englewood, north of the dam). We will ride through Jake Grossnickle Park (9 miles). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4823 for details. Age: All ages 📅 ⚙️

**(FREE) MAD RIVER BIKEWAY TO MARKET****SAT JUN 30, 9:00-11:30 AM** B1191

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Join us for a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Mad River Bikeway. Use the entrance at 1385 Harshman Rd. at the traffic light. Meet in the last parking lot. We will ride to Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (13 miles). Then ride to PNC 2nd Street Market, on the way back to Eastwood; bonus 2 miles. Bring your bike locks. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4823 for details. Age: All ages 📅 ⚙️

**(FREE) GREAT MIAMI RIVER BIKEWAY (SOUTH)****SAT JUL 7, 9:00 AM-11:00 PM** B1193**SAT AUG 18, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1200

Bikeway: Great Miami River, Ohio Bike Rt 25

Join us for a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Great Miami River Bikeway. Meet at West Carrollton low dam. Take North Alex Road to Hydraulic

Road; use the entrance on right. We will ride to RiverScape MetroPark (18 miles). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4823 for details. Age: All ages 📅 ⚙️

### (FREE) CREEKSIDE BIKEWAY

**SAT JUL 14, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1179  
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Join us for a bike ride rain or shine on the Creekside Bikeway; Use the entrance at 1385 Harshman Rd. at the traffic light. Meet in the last parking lot. We will ride to the Greene County Line (12 miles). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4826 for details. Age: All ages 📅 ⚙️

### (FREE) BIKE FOR THE HEALTH OF IT: WOLF CREEK BIKEWAY (WEST)

**SAT. AUG 4, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1183  
Bikeway: Wolf Creek, Ohio Bike Route 38  
Join us for a bike ride rain or shine on the Wolf Creek Bikeway. Meet in the parking lot behind Rob's Restaurant, 705 Arlington Rd. in Brookville. We will ride toward Verona (11 miles). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4823 for details. Age: All ages 📅 ⚙️

### DISCOVER OUR WATERWAYS - NATURALIST CYCLING TOUR

**THU JUN 7, 6:00-8:30 PM** B1213  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Enjoy a summer evening cycling along the recreation bike trail of the Stillwater River as a MetroParks naturalist takes you through a program learning more about our river's ecosystem. You will learn about the riparian corridor and the wildlife, flora, fauna and aquatic habitat that exists within it while riding up the river valley. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$10 ⚙️

### INTRO TO SMART CYCLING

**THU AUG 16, 6:00-8:30 PM** B1151  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Step one in the Smart Cycling Series is a classroom session, taught by League Certified Instructors, and designed to provide cyclists of all levels better knowledge and understanding of how to safely and effectively operate your bicycle in various situations. Topics will include

ride preparation, traffic laws, equipment, clothing, and much more. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$10 📅

### SMART CYCLING BASICS

**SAT AUG 18, 9:00 AM-3:30 PM** B1152  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Smart Cycling Basics, part two of the cycling series, takes the knowledge gained in Intro and puts it to use on the bike. This hands-on class will teach riders maneuvering, signaling and riding skills to make them more competent and comfortable riding on the streets and trails of the Miami Valley. Helmets and bicycles required. Prerequisites: Intro to Smart Cycling. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$20

## FISHING

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

**WED JUN 6-27, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1344  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
A Ranger will discuss good decision-making skills, and students will be shown the basic skills of fishing. When class work is completed each student will get to fish with a provided pole and bait in a stocked pond. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4823 or lzimmeramn@metroparks.org for details. Age: 5Y-15Y 📅

## FITNESS & HEALTH

### (FREE) ZUMBA IN THE PARK

**SAT JUN 16, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1252  
**SAT JUL 21, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1253  
**SAT AUG 18, 10:00-11:00 AM** B1254  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
Come join us for a fun and effective workout! Your instructor, Camela Douglass, a certified personal trainer and fitness instructor, will motivate you to move your way to wellness at this exercise party! Sessions are held outdoors under the pavilion. Wear comfortable clothes and bring plenty of water. No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) TRY HIKING @...

**SAT JUN 23, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1163  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Trailside, 4178 Conference Rd.

**SAT JUL 21, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1164  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: White Oak 1/Nature Play/Parking Lot, 2606 Hilton Dr.

**SAT AUG 18, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1165  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/ East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40  
Curious about hiking in the MetroParks? This program will introduce you to a new trail experience. Volunteers and staff will be stationed at the trailhead providing park information, an orientation to the trail, and inviting you to explore a new trail on your own. If you are interested in a group-led hike please visit [www.daytonhikers.org](http://www.daytonhikers.org) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: All ages 📅 ⚙️

### (FREE) POSSUM CREEK HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS

**SUN JUL 15, 1:30-3:30 PM** B1131  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Enjoy a 5-mile, 2-hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered easy, no hills. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0111 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) ENGLEWOOD HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS

**SUN JUL 29, 1:30-4:00 PM** B1132  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.  
Enjoy a 5-mile, 2 1/2-hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered difficult, very hilly in spots. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) CARRIAGE HILL HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS

**SUN AUG 5, 1:30-3:30 PM** B1138  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake/ Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.  
Enjoy a 5-mile, 2-hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered easy, no hills. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 for details. Age: All ages





## MOUNTAIN BIKING

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: MOMBA TRAIL WORK DAYS

**SAT JUN 9, 12:00-4:00 PM** B1192

**THU JUN 21, 6:00-8:30 PM** B1194

**SAT JUL 14, 12:00-4:00 PM** B1196

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA Trailhead Parking Lot, 4485 Union Rd.

Learn about sustainable trail building while helping maintain the mountain bike trails at MoMBA! No experience is necessary; tools are provided. Volunteers bring work gloves and water. Youth 14-17 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 343-5748 or carolyn.wamsley@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚙️

### (FREE) TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING

**WED JUL 11, 4:00-7:00 PM** B1145

**WED AUG 8, 4:00-7:00 PM** B1147

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

Is not owning a mountain bike keeping you from trying mountain biking? If so, then come out to MetroParks Mountain Bike Area and borrow one of our bikes to ride for a lap or two. Bikes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Youth under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Helmets are mandatory and provided with bike. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: All ages 📅 ⚙️

## OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

### TEEN ADVENTURE CAMP

**MON JUL 16, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM** B1150

**TUE JUL 17, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM**

**WED JUL 18, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM**

**THU JUL 19, 9:00 AM-11:59 PM**

**FRI JUL 20, 12:00 AM-4:00 PM**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Join Five Rivers MetroParks staff for a weeklong day camp as we discover nature through kayaking, mountain biking, fly-fishing, and disc golf. The week culminates with an overnight backpacking trip Thursday night on FRMP's own Twin Valley Trail. Monday through Wednesday are daylong adventures and Thursday we camp out overnight until Friday at 4 p.m. Pre-trip meeting July 12 is mandatory. Registration

required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 13Y-15Y Fee: \$60 📅

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: STREET TEAM

**THU AUG 23, 6:00-7:30 PM** B1223

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

The Street Team promotes MetroParks' outdoor recreation facilities, programs, and events on a flexible, year-round schedule. Street Team volunteers help promote by wearing MetroParks gear, passing out information, posting online, or staffing outreach booths. Come and learn more and get energized and excited about recreation in the Dayton region! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 343-5748 or carolyn.wamsley@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

## PADDLING

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: PADDLE SPORT ASSISTANT TRAINING

**SAT JUN 2, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM** 7909

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.

Paddle sport volunteers needed! Our training will get you on the water and helps you become comfortable assisting others who are learning about paddle sports. There will be opportunities to use these skills as a volunteer throughout the season. Some prior experience is preferred; equipment is provided. Registration required. Contact (937) 343-5748 or carolyn.wamsley@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚙️

### (FREE) TRY KAYAKING

**MON JUN 4, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** B1208

**TUE JUL 31, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** B1209

OFF-SITE, Prairies Swimming Pool, Building 240 Chapel Lane

Come try a kayak and see if it is something you would like to learn more about. An introduction to the boat and proper safety gear will be offered and you will have the opportunity to try different styles of kayaks in Page Manor's pool—a great way to learn about the sport in a controlled and safe environment. All equipment is provided. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: All ages 📅 ⚙️

## INTRO TO KAYAK

**TUE JUN 5, 6:00-9:00 PM** B1153

**MON AUG 6, 6:00-8:00 PM** B1154

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

Intro to Kayaking is the first step in our paddle sports progression. You will be introduced to various equipment selection, price ranges for equipment, categories of paddle sports, trip planning, navigation, and general locations of where to paddle locally and regionally. It is a good way to ease into learning in a systematic way. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$5 📅

## KAYAK BASICS

**TUE JUN 12, 6:00-8:30 PM** B1155

**SAT AUG 11, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1156

**SAT AUG 11, 1:30-4:00 PM** B1157

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.

During this hands-on class, students will become acquainted with equipment and learn basic paddle strokes and concepts along with safety topics for beginners in recreational kayaking. Equipment is provided. Please dress to get wet; bring water and closed-toed shoes with you. Prerequisites: Intro to Kayak. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$40 ⚙️

## FUNDAMENTALS OF MOVING WATER

**TUE JUN 19, 5:30-8:30 PM** B1158

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Mad River Access Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Learn moving water instruction that deals with controlling your kayak on the river. You will learn to perform a variety of maneuvers that will improve your paddling ability, promote confidence and help you avoid hazards frequently encountered on the river. Dress to get wet. Prerequisites: Intro to Kayak and Kayak Basics. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$50 ⚙️

# SPECIAL EVENTS

## ENTERTAINMENT

### FIRST FRIDAYS @ 5

After work, head to RiverScape MetroPark to enjoy a cold beer and listen to live music on First Friday! Rent a bike or experience the river by trying a free kayaking session provided by the Cox Media Group. Bring a lawn chair for seating. Event sponsored by the Downtown Dayton Partnership, Clear Channel Communications and Heidelberg Distribution.

#### (FREE) THIS SIDE UP

**FRI JUN 1, 5:00-7:30 PM** B1347  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

#### (FREE) HEY THERE MORGAN

**FRI JUL 6, 5:00-7:30 PM** B1348  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

#### (FREE) STRANGER

**FRI AUG 3, 5:00-7:30 PM** B1349  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

#### (FREE) THE JOHNSONS

**SAT JUN 2, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1249  
PNC 2nd STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.  
The musical duo of Ray and Debbie Johnson play a variety of music from country to jazz. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

### JAZZ SERIES

Feel the rhythm of our free jazz series the first Saturday of every month during the summer. Featuring the Dayton area's premier jazz groups, the music is sure to lift your spirits and set the scene for a perfect evening. Please bring a lawn chair for seating.

(FREE) EDDIE BROOKSHIRE  
QUINTET  
**SAT JUN 2, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1290

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

#### (FREE) DAVE GREER'S CLASSIC JAZZ STOMPERS

**SAT JUL 7, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1291  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

#### (FREE) DERON BELL JAZZ BAND

**SAT AUG 4, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1292  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

### COOKOUT FOR SCOUTING

**FRI JUN 8, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM** B1343  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
Stop by and have lunch to help support the Boy Scouts of America at the 12th Annual Cookout for Scouting presented by the Miami Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America. Lunch is \$8 and supports sending youth to Scout camp. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-4825 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$8

#### (FREE) BARBARA AND BRIAN

**SAT JUN 9, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1303  
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. 2nd St.  
Piano/Vocals, contemporary music. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

### SALSA SERIES

Join us for a free and fun salsa summer concert series the second Saturday of every month this summer. With vibrant melodies and powerful beats, you won't be able to resist the urge to jump up and dance! Please bring a lawn chair for seating.

#### (FREE) CLA'VE SON

**SAT JUN 9, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1337  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

#### (FREE) TROPICOSO

**SAT JUL 14, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1338

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

#### (FREE) SON DEL CARIBE

**SAT AUG 11, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1339  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

#### (FREE) HOEDOWN SQUARE DANCE

**SAT JUN 9, 8:00-10:30 PM** B1065  
**SAT AUG 18, 8:00-10:30 PM** B1080  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.  
Join us for a square dance in our historic barn. Listen to the sounds of The Corndrinkers as they walk you through the steps. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages

#### (FREE) CORNDADDY'S

**SAT JUN 16, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1304  
PNC 2nd STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.  
Traditional bluegrass music. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

#### (FREE) 92.1 SUMMER NIGHTS

**SAT JUN 16, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1361  
**SAT JUL 21, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1362  
**SAT AUG 18, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1363  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
Here is an opportunity to dance and sing along to your favorite R&B music from back in the day sprinkled with some of today's current line dances. You are going to love this new series featuring DJs from 92.1 WROU playing the music that will get you up out of your seat and stepping under the pavilion at RiverScape MetroPark No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

#### (FREE) DANNY VORIS

**SAT JUN 23, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1250  
PNC 2nd STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.  
Instrumental guitar. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages



## BIG BAND NIGHTS

Spend a summer evening enjoying swing and big band music under our beautiful canopy! This series of performances features the area's best big bands every Thursday night in July and August. Please bring lawn chair for seating. Limited parking July 26 due to festival set-up.

### (FREE) HAL HARRIS

**THU JUL 5, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1308  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) DAYTON JAZZ ORCHESTRA

**THU JUL 12, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1310  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) TOM DAUGHERTY AND THE TOMMY DORSEY TRIBUTE

**THU JUL 19, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1313  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) SWING ERA BIG BAND

**THU JUL 26, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1314  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, Festival Plaza, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) JOE ACETO AND HIS ORCHESTRA

**THU AUG 2, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1315  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) PAM NOAH AND HER BIG BAND

**THU AUG 9, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1316  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) JACK GARRETT AND THE SYNDICATE ORCHESTRA

**THU AUG 16, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1317  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape

Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) BOB GRAY ORCHESTRA

**THU AUG 23, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1318  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) KIM KELLY ORCHESTRA

**THU AUG 30, 7:30-9:30 PM** B1319  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) MIKE SEDMAK

**SAT JUL 7, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1256  
PNC 2nd STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.  
Instrumental guitar—smooth jazz and classic rock music. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) SUMMER EVENING ON THE LAWN

**SUN JUL 8, 6:00-8:00 PM** B1094  
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Gardens, 930 Aullwood Rd.  
Join us for a beautiful evening in Mrs. Aull's garden with music provided by guitarist Tim Pritchard. Tours of the house and gardens are available, as are refreshments. Bring your family and friends for a wonderful time. In case of rain, we'll meet on the porch. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 🏠

### (FREE) NATIVE AMERICAN FLUTE

**SAT JUL 14, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1259  
PNC 2nd STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.  
Songs on the Native American flute performed by Robert Behringer. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) PRAIRIE SERENADE

**SAT JUL 14, 5:00-9:00 PM** B1074  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Plaza, 7800 E. Shull Rd.  
Enjoy good music and a summer evening surrounded by prairie flower gardens at our Visitors Center. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets for seating. Food available. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) TOM FORTENER

**SAT JUL 21, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1307  
PNC 2nd STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.  
Keyboard/Vocals. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) KIDS DAY AT THE MARKET

**SAT JUL 28, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1136  
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. 2nd St.

A market for kids put on by kids. The children, grandchildren and relatives of Market vendors will set up their own special kids-only market. Kids of any age can shop for fresh produce, bread, homemade crafts, prepared foods and more. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: OY-18Y

### (FREE) RUM RIVER BLEND

**SAT JUL 28, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1300  
PNC 2nd STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.  
Bluegrass/folk music. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) BRITISH CAR DAY

**SAT AUG 4, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM** B1293  
EASTWOOD METROPARK, 1385 Harshman Rd.  
Annual all British car show, displaying over 300 British cars and motorcycles. Cars are displayed in a variety of classes. Show is open to the general public for free. No registration required. Contact (937) 293-2819 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) HAMMERED DULCIMER

**SAT AUG 4, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1263  
PNC 2nd STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.  
Amanda Roberts will play the hammered dulcimer and other musicians will join her with fiddles, banjos and more. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) DAN RIVERS

**SAT AUG 11, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1311  
PNC 2nd STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.  
Guitar/Vocals. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) SWING YOUR PARTNER

**SAT AUG 18, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1265  
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. 2nd St.  
If you ever wanted to give square-dancing a try, here's your chance. Members of the

Gem City Squares will be at the Market dancing and inviting you to join them. Have fun while you learn to square dance. Everyone is invited to give it a whirl. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

**(FREE) 91.3 WYSO CONCERT**

**SUN AUG 19, 6:00-9:00 PM** B1367  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Join 91.3 WYSO for a free summer concert at RiverScape MetroPark! The concert will feature live bands, food, drink and much more. For more information, contact 91.3 WYSO Music Director Niki Dakota at (937) 767-6420. No registration required. Age: All ages

**(FREE) STRING QUINTET**

**SAT AUG 25, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1299  
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. 2nd St.

Five family members, known as Harmony, play string instrument music. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

**(FREE) TEEN MUSIC SLAM**

**FRI AUG 31, 6:00-9:00 PM** B1335  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

The Dayton Metro Library and Five Rivers MetroParks are teaming up once again to present the Teen Music Slam! In this contest, teenaged musicians will compete for the grand prize of 8 hours of free recording studio time from Babbelfish Recording Studio. Registration required. Contact (937) 463-2665 for details. Age: All ages

## FITNESS & HEALTH

**ANOTHER DAM 50K**

**SAT JUN 2, 8:00 AM-7:00 PM** B1071  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Lawwill/ West Park, 100 E. National Rd.

This outdoor community opportunity is provided by the Ohio River Road Runners Club for a 50K run. No registration required. Contact (937) 732-4627 for details. [www.orrcc.org](http://www.orrcc.org). Age: All ages Fee: \$25

**(FREE) POSSUM CREEK WALKFEST**

**SAT JUN 2, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM** B1068  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

This outdoor community opportunity is presented by Purple Penguins Volksmarch

Walking Club for the beauty of nature and health of walking. Start anytime between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. and finish by 4 p.m. No registration required. Contact (937) 429-3946 for details. Age: All ages

**ARTEMIS 5K STAMPEDE**

**SAT JUN 2, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM** B1078  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

This outdoor community opportunity is sponsored by Artemis Center Dayton's Domestic Violence Resource Center as a 5K walk for awareness and fundraising. No registration required. Contact (937) 461-5091 for details. [www.artemiscenter.org](http://www.artemiscenter.org). Age: All ages Fee: \$20

**(FREE) AFRICAN AMERICAN WELLNESS WALK**

**SAT JUN 9, 7:30-11:30 AM** B1342  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

This is a noncompetitive walk that promotes Health and Wellness information to the African American Community. Sponsored by Premier Health Partners and Mahogany's Child of Miami Valley Hospital. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Registration required. Contact (937) 208-3863 for details. Age: All ages

**(FREE) DOWNTOWN GARDEN WALK**

**SAT JUN 9, 8:30 AM-3:00 PM** B1137  
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. 2nd St.

This outdoor community opportunity is sponsored by Ohio Wander Freunde. The walk will start and finish at the Market and visit gardens in historic districts on two different 5k loops. Start between 8:30 a.m. and noon, finish by 3:00 p.m. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

**(FREE) TAYLORSVILLE WALKFEST**

**WED JUL 18, 3:00-9:00 PM** B1069  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Canal Cove/Parking Lot, 2000 U.S. 40

This outdoor community opportunity is presented by Purple Penguins Volksmarch Walking Club for the beauty of nature and health of walking. Start anytime between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. and finish by 4 p.m. No registration required. Contact (937) 429-3946 for details. Age: All ages

**TADMOR 10K**

**SAT AUG 4, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** B1087  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Blue Heron /Parking Lot, 2000 U.S. 40

This outdoor community opportunity is provided by the Ohio River Road Runners Club for a 10K run. No registration required. Contact (937) 219-5454 for details. [www.orrcc.org](http://www.orrcc.org). Age: All ages Fee: \$9

## GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

**(FREE) IRIS SALE**

**SAT JUL 21, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM** B1135  
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. 2nd St.

The American Iris Society will offer a large selection of identified iris varieties in all colors of the rainbow. The irises are freshly dug with roots and fans trimmed. The sale will take place indoors in the pavilion. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

## GREEN LIVING

**(FREE) IT'S INSTRUMENTAL**

**SAT JUN 2-16, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM** B1360  
PNC 2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.

The Dayton Philharmonic Volunteer Association, in partnership with Dayton Public Schools, is sponsoring an instrument donation drive. If you have an instrument that needs a home, please donate it at the Market. Instruments will be repaired, if needed, and used in the music education programs of the Dayton Public Schools. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

## HERITAGE & HISTORY

**(FREE) CITYFOLK FESTIVAL**

**FRI JUN 29, 5:30-11:00 PM** B1336

**SAT JUN 30, 1:00-11:00 PM**

**SUN JUL 1, 1:00-10:00 PM**  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Cityfolk, Dayton's traditional arts organization, presents the region's largest multicultural festival. Enjoy three days of music from across America and around the world, food, themed exhibits, children's education and art making activities and more! Watch the City of Dayton Fireworks, July 1 at 10 PM. No registration required. [www.cityfolk.org/festival](http://www.cityfolk.org/festival). Age: All ages



**(FREE) A GRAND OLD INDEPENDENCE DAY****SUN JUL 1, 12:00-5:00 PM** B1072

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

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

Enjoy some period games and contests and step back in time as we celebrate the holiday. Come celebrate Independence Day with us. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages

**(FREE) DAYTON CELTIC FESTIVAL****FRI JUL 27, 6:00-11:00 PM** B1341**SAT JUL 28, 12:00-11:00 PM****SUN JUL 29, 10:00 AM-6:00 PM**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Celebrate the sights and sounds of Ireland, Scotland and Wales at the eleventh Annual Dayton Celtic Festival. Three stages offer continuous live musical and dance

entertainment with seating undercover. Enjoy Celtic culture, children's activities, food, beverages, traditional Gaelic Mass, Celtic breakfast and more! Visit [unitedirishofdayton.org](http://unitedirishofdayton.org). No registration required. Contact (937) 372-9788 for details. Age: All ages**(FREE) DAYTON AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL****SAT AUG 25, 11:00 AM-8:00 PM** B1334

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

This family event brings the richness of the African American experience to the Dayton region through culture, arts, education and music. Come see The African Village, youth and writers pavilions, and enjoy live music while celebrating at this citywide event. For updates on the DAACF, including a schedule of performers, look for them on Facebook. No registration required. Contact (937) 223-8701 Ext. 12 for details. Age: All ages


**NATURE****(FREE) VOLUNTEER: FOREST FOSTER FAMILY****SAT JUN 16, 8:30 AM-1:30 PM** B1324

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Volunteer Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

**SAT JUN 16, 9:00 AM-12:30 PM** B1323

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Land Stewardship Classroom, 8300 Brown School Rd.

The Forest Foster Family program is a different kind of volunteer opportunity for Five Rivers MetroParks, and is welcoming the second year of "parents" this spring to our reforestation efforts. Volunteers take home a flat of newly propagated tree seedlings to care for and monitor for the growing season. Registration required.

Contact (937) 275-7275 for details. [www.metroparks.org/forests](http://www.metroparks.org/forests). Age: All ages **ROWING WITH GDRA****LEARN TO ROW****Begin in May, June and July**

Boat House near Island MetroPark

This four-week class for adults 18 and up will cover everything needed to row a single sculling boat confidently and independently. Classes are held at the Island park boat house and the on the Great Miami River. Visit [www.daytonrowing.org](http://www.daytonrowing.org) or call GRDA President Jim Wall at (937) 890-5368 for more information.**NATIONAL LEARN TO ROW DAY****June 2, 2012**

Boat House near Island MetroPark

Greater Dayton Rowing Association will host an open house at the Island Park Boat House for those curious to learn more about rowing and the GDRA programs. All are invited to visit and walk through the boat house. Test your skills on a rowing simulator. Visit [www.daytonrowing.org](http://www.daytonrowing.org) or call GRDA President Jim Wall at (937) 890-5368 for more information.**YOUTH ROWING CLASSES****Begin in June, July and August**

Boat House near Island MetroPark

This is a three-day introductory Learn to Row course developed to bring youth to basic levels of rowing competency. Rookies teaches rowing fundamentals in a fun environment to give a solid foundation for fitness, water safety, and team dynamics. Participation open to students grade 6 - 12. Register at [www.daytonjuniorrowing.org/](http://www.daytonjuniorrowing.org/) rookies or call GRDA President Jim Wall at (937) 890-5368 for more information.

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August 5, from 1-4 p.m. at Sugarcreek MetroPark, Conference Rd.

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