

PARKWAYS

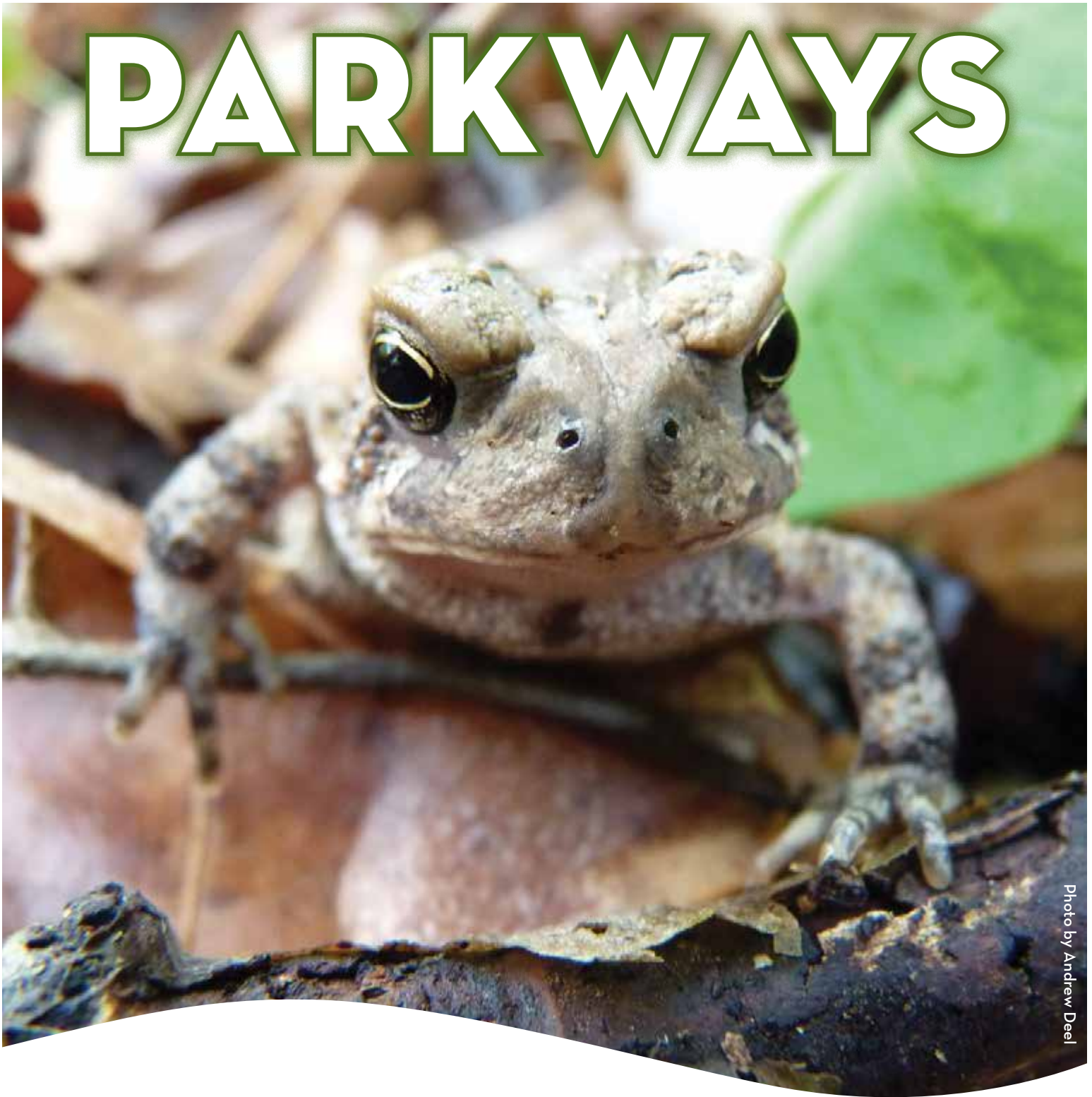


Photo by Andrew Deel

NEXT-DOOR NATURE

EXPLORE YOUR LOCAL WILDLIFE

WILD TURKEYS FEATHER THEIR NESTS
SEE PAGE 6

IT'S SPRING! TIME TO GET OUTSIDE WITH THE KIDS
SEE PAGES 8-9





REMEMBER TO SAVE THE DATE

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



March 1

**MIAMI VALLEY
GARDENING
CONFERENCE**

Sinclair Community College



March 15

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY
AT THE MARKET**

2nd Street Market



April 17-19

**EASTER MEAL
SHOPPING**

2nd Street Market



April 19

ADOPT-A-PARK

Various MetroPark
Locations



April 26

**WILDFLOWER AND
NATIVE PLANT SALE**

Cox Arboretum MetroPark



May 3-4

**ANNUAL MAYFAIR
PLANT SALE**

Wegerzyn Gardens
MetroPark



May 8-10

**MOTHER'S DAY
AT THE MARKET**

2nd Street Market



May 9

**URBAN NIGHTS AND
SILVER FERN CAFÉ
OPENS**

RiverScape MetroPark



May 16

**NATIONAL
BIKE TO WORK DAY
PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

RiverScape MetroPark



May 24

**RIDE-THE-RIVER
RENTALS OPENS**

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



Becky Benna
Executive Director

It's Spring, MetroParks Friends,

Everything is "greening up" around us – roots strengthening, shoots sprouting, branches extending. Nature's activity serves as a perfect metaphor to remind me to keep identifying opportunities that will strengthen our resources and engage our community. This allows us to continue to protect our region's natural heritage and provide outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature.

In recent years, we have increased our focus on reaching out to our community to help make your MetroParks the best they can be. We've strived to strengthen and establish stronger ties with a number of local organizations that have provided new or additional funding, such as The DP&L Foundation, Virginia W. Kettering Foundation, James M. Cox Jr. Arboretum Foundation, Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation and the Friends of Carriage Hill. We also have partnered with organizations to collectively leverage each others' resources to enhance amenities and services provided to you. For example, a partnership with the Rotary Club of Dayton helped fund the construction of the first river run on the Mad River at Eastwood Lake MetroPark. We also worked with various organizations and communities to complete two major bikeway connectors: one located at the Medlar Conservation Area in Miami Township, just south of Miamisburg, and the Mad River Bikeway connector between Wright Patterson Air Force Base and Eastwood MetroPark.

As you peruse this *ParkWays* issue, you'll read additional articles that speak to our partnership efforts and what we've been able to achieve: the Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside program, the impressive number of hours volunteers donated in 2013, a Recreation Trails Program grant, community events coordinated with Bike Month, funding for the Mad River Run and Bonbright Distributors' contributions to MetroParks. We have received so very much in the way of resources that have helped us thus far. But we still have much more to accomplish.

You helped us celebrate MetroParks' 50th anniversary in 2013. Now, let 2014 begin our second half-century of great things to come for your Five Rivers MetroParks!

Best regards,

HOLD ON TO YOUR *PARKWAYS*!

This issue covers programs from March through May. We will publish two additional issues in 2014, June-September and October-January.

Remember you can find the current issue of *ParkWays* online at metroparks.org/parkways, or you can easily search for activities and programs using metroparks.org.

Click the "Find a Program" button on the left-hand navigation pane to search for program by date, topic or park. Use the "Get Outside" drop-down menu to find programs related to a specific activity, or click on "Things to See and Do" to browse all activities and parks.

MetroParks Commissioners



Alan F. Pippenger



Karen L. Davis



Irvin G. Bieser, Jr.

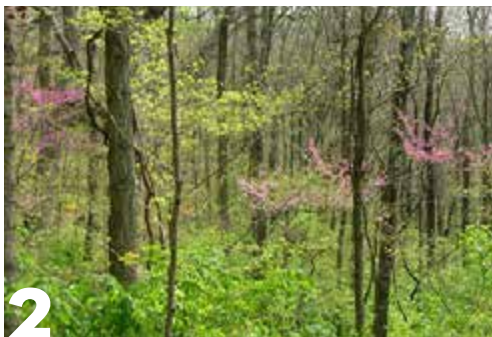
Five Rivers MetroParks is dedicated to protecting the region's natural heritage and to providing outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature.

Commissioner photos ©Easterling Studios



#1 DAY TRIPPIN: Check out the new Medlar Bikeway in southern Montgomery County. The scenic 2.25 mile bikeway winds through a beautiful prairie and meadow, past a thicket and old growth woods. Rolling on, cyclists pass wetland areas and an expansive river valley vista atop Eagle Hill.

#2 ARGONNE GONE: Can you find traces of the old Argonne Forest Park along the purple or orange trail at Possum Creek MetroPark?



#3 WHAT'S BITING: Your MetroParks have many great locations to catch anything from smallmouth bass to catfish and more, some of which do not require a fishing license. Check metroparks.org/fishing for a complete listing.

TOP TEN WAYS

to enjoy your Five Rivers MetroParks

THIS SPRING



#4 WILD THING: Spring means beautiful blooms! Watch for tulips, bluebells, trillium, wildflowers and more while hiking in your MetroParks.



#5 SPRING FLING: Get out and try the new Mad River Run at Eastwood MetroPark.



#6 RECESS IN NATURE: Visit the Nature Play areas at Englewood, Hills & Dales and Sugarcreek MetroParks for fun, unstructured playtime!

#7 RIDE & SHINE: Take a bicycle ride on Saturday morning to check out what's "cropping up" on area farms at the 2nd Street Market. Refuel with brunch and bring a backpack to transport items home.



#8 GROW YOUR OWN: Rent a plot in one of our community gardens and have home-grown tomatoes in time for your summer cookouts.



Photo by Roger Garber

#9 EAGLE EYE: Look for bald eagles as you hike the trails near the Mad River at Eastwood MetroPark.



#10 HOPEWELL REMNANTS: Hike the pink trail at Twin Creek MetroPark to see remnants of earthen walls built around 2,000 years ago by the Hopewell Culture.

INTRODUCING ALL-AROUND VOLUNTEER

MIKE SHADE

MIKE CAN'T PICK A FAVORITE VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY, BECAUSE HE "REALLY ENJOYS IT ALL!"



Following retirement from a busy professional life, Mike Shade said he "wanted something I could do to contribute to my community." After reading an article in *ParkWays* about the Tree Corps sessions at Cox Arboretum and MetroParks' reforestation efforts, Mike discovered his way to give back.

Since becoming a volunteer, Mike can't pinpoint what he likes the most. The breeding bird survey in June and the ongoing bird surveys at the Mitigation Bank are special to him. Plus, he likes cover mapping, as well as working with the Tree Corps. Mike also cites working with Yvonne Dunphe, MetroParks Staff Volunteer Coordinator, as being "an eye-opener" because she is "the catalyst for making so many things happen in our volunteer community in conservation."

With great enthusiasm for each volunteer activity, Mike sums up his experience as being "immensely rewarding and something I wish I had in my life a long time ago."

Thanks, Mike, for all your work. You may feel lucky to have found Five Rivers MetroParks, but we're equally fortunate to have you as one of our volunteers!

JOIN US AS A VOLUNTEER, WON'T YOU?

We welcome your skills and interests!

Learn about volunteering at one of these volunteer orientation sessions:

March 4, 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Conservation Volunteers

March 18, 11 a.m.: Conservation Ambassadors

March 19, 9:30-11:30 a.m.: Conservation Volunteers

April 5, 9 a.m. to noon: Sustainable Trail Building Volunteers

April 15, 9:30-11:30 a.m.: Conservation Volunteers

April 30, 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Conservation Volunteers

Call us at **937-275-PARK** or visit metroparks.org/volunteer for more information.



THANKS TO 2013 VOLUNTEERS ROOTED IN COMMITMENT TO REFORESTATION

An appreciative shout-out to year-round conservation volunteers whose tally of volunteer time in 2013 was more than **15,000 hours**! Efforts included:

- **14,000 trees** produced by the Tree Corps propagation team led by Meredith Cobb, which also led fall plantings: 875 seedlings at Carriage Hill and 250 at Germantown MetroParks.
- **225 foster families** cared for **10,000 tree seedlings**, with special thanks to Cindi Tucci and Brookville schools.
- Spring plantings included **4,600 trees** at the Great Miami Mitigation Bank, as well as **4,534 seedlings** at Carriage Hill and **500 seedlings** at Sugarcreek.
- **600 shrubs**, planted at Carriage Hill MetroPark and the Great Miami Mitigation Bank, grown from locally collected seeds by the Marianist Environmental Education Center.
- **15,000-plus seedlings** from previous plantings monitored by Tree TLC volunteers.
- Approximately **2,000 acorns and nuts** planted in the spring and the fall at Carriage Hill MetroPark, Singer Road.
- Approximately **2,096 hours** from leadership volunteers for two plant-oriented conservation Service Learning Programs.

WILD TURKEYS

FEATHER THEIR NESTS IN METROPARKS

Photo by Hays Cummins,
Miami University

Wild turkeys could well be considered the comeback kid of wildlife here in Ohio. By 1904, wild turkeys were extinct in our state. Then, almost 50 years later, the Ohio Division of Wildlife brought some wild turkeys into Ohio. Because the area lacked forest, a critical habitat need for turkeys, many doubted the turkeys could survive. But those feisty birds proved the naysayers wrong, and the rest is history.

SPRING IS JUST THE TIME FOR LOCAL TURKEY SPOTTING

What to know before you go:

Look for scratched-up dirt in leaves.

This is a sign of turkeys digging for acorns.

Listen for gobbling, the vocal choice of mating males. Turkeys also cluck and chirp to keep track of each other.

Spy a male turkey displaying fanned tail plumage? They do this during mating season to impress the females.

Be alert for signs of aggression. Turkeys are not dangerous to people, but they will be territorial about nests and mating sites. Just back away, and the turkey will retreat.

Check for poults (turkey babies).

These small puff balls with legs like to eat bugs in the fields, so be watchful of the little guys in the tall grass at Germantown MetroPark and the hay field at Englewood.

A TURKEY TIMELINE

1950s & 1960s: Wild turkeys brought to southeastern Ohio by the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

1970s: The Ohio Division of Wildlife stocked turkeys at two state parks, Hueston Woods and Sycamore, and the Rush River Wildlife Area. The turkeys became established there and spread out.

1980s: MetroParks' maturing forests attracted turkeys, with sightings in the Twin Valley, the largest area of connected forest land in the MetroParks (comprised of Germantown and Twin Creek MetroParks and Upper Twin Conservation Area).

1990s: Once established in the Twin Valley, turkeys settled in other parks, including Englewood, Taylorsville and Carriage Hill MetroParks.

TODAY: Wild turkeys often are sighted on our parks and conservation areas, including Englewood, Carriage Hill, Taylorsville, Shiloh Woods, Shoup Mill, Sugarcreek, Possum Creek, Germantown, Twin Creek and Upper Twin. With approximately 30 to 50 turkeys in residence, the Twin Valley boasts the largest breeding population.

Thanks in part to lands protected by Five Rivers MetroParks, wild turkeys are a great example of wildlife recovery. MetroParks' reforestation campaign should help turkeys, too. Tree plantings include many oak and hickory trees, which produce an abundance of acorns and nuts that are dietary essentials for turkeys. 🍂

METROPARKS TO HOST NATURAL AREAS CONFERENCE

Autumnal activity is on the books now with MetroParks hosting the 41st Annual Natural Areas Conference at the Dayton Convention Center on Oct. 15-17.

MetroParks will work closely with the Natural Areas Association, an organization that provides support and resources to individuals and agencies concerned with the protection and stewardship of natural areas.

This year's conference theme is "Deeply Rooted in Restoration," with a three-day program of events that will offer attendees expert insight from speakers, concurrent sessions and informative posters. Additionally, there will be field trips to a number of varied western Ohio habitats that promise to be valuable learning experiences.



For more info visit naturalareas.org/conference

Look for an update on this conference in a future issue of *Parkways*. 🍂

NEW GRANTS GIVE GREEN LIGHT FOR LAND PROTECTION PROJECTS

In September 2013, the Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Fund awarded Five Rivers MetroParks three grants for land protection projects.

This fund was last approved by Ohio voters in 2008, and has awarded 25 Clean Ohio Green Space Grants to MetroParks to date. The grants have brought in an impressive \$4,524,514 and funded the purchase of 846 acres of irreplaceable forests, meadows and streams.

The three recently approved projects are:

1 **Twin Creek Wetland and Woods Preservation:** purchasing and improving a 13.51-acre wooded tract at Twin Creek MetroPark;

2 **Possum Creek MetroPark Prairie Addition:** purchasing and improving a 8.45-acre tract at Possum Creek MetroPark; and

3 **Shiloh Woods Headwater Stream Protection:** purchasing a 20.33-acre tract adjacent to the Shiloh Woods Conservation Area, with improvements to include honeysuckle removal, property cleanup and the planting of several hundred trees.



IT'S SPRING...

TIME TO GET OUTSIDE WITH KIDS!

Kids are healthier, happier and more confident when they can be in nature. To make the most of your outside family time, here are a few ideas to help everyone enjoy the great outdoors.

- **BIKE RIDING:** Six bikeways pass through Montgomery County and through MetroParks' land.



- **SPOTTING SPRING'S FIRST SIGNS:** On a calendar, track such "firsts" as a budding/greening tree, bird nest, and a violet or forsythia's pop of color.
- **FLOWER PLANTING:** Kids pick and plant a personal favorite. For a terrific selection, visit the plant sales at Wegerzyn and Cox Arboretum.
- **CAMPING:** Camp in your own yard or at some of your MetroParks.
- **STARGAZING:** Apps for smart phones help identify what you're seeing in a clear night sky.
- **CREEKING:** Just wear can-get-wet shoes. Sugarcreek and Englewood offer lots of soggy fun.



- **BUG SAFARI-ING:** A magnifying glass and an insect guide will help discover and identify creepers and crawlers.

- **FORT BUILDING:** Go to the nature play areas at Sugarcreek, Wesleyan, Englewood, or Hills and Dales MetroParks to build your own hiding place.
- **TRACKING:** Visit a favorite park after a rain shower to search for animals' tracks near a pond or stream.
- **COMPOSTING:** Compost to go green and to nourish growing greens in this year's garden.



- **PHOTOGRAPHY:** A kid-friendly digital camera makes it a snap to capture nature.
- **ROCK DECORATING:** Color hot rocks with crayons, then add them to your garden.
- **METEOR SHOWER WATCHING:** After midnight on April 21 and 22, look for the Lyrids Meteor Shower. It usually peaks on those days, sometimes with an extended display April 16-25.
- **FISHING:** Wet a line, catch and then release once hooked. No license needed at Possum Creek Farm's great pond. 🌿

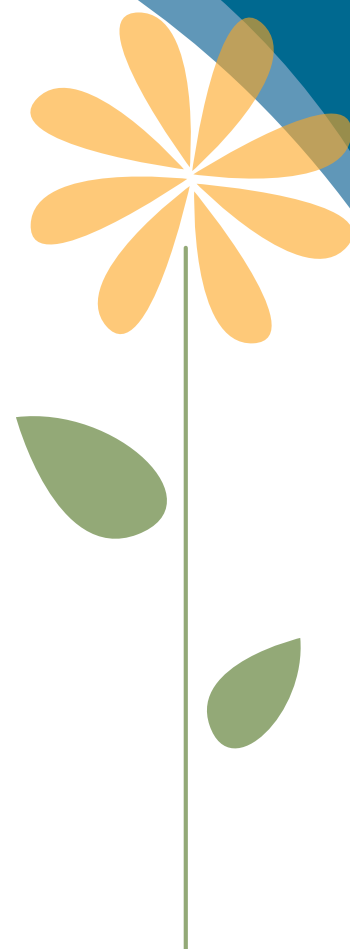


EDUCATION

NATURE IN THE GARDEN

Spring in the garden is a fantastic time to observe nature and celebrate the changing season. Five Rivers MetroParks' Education Supervisor Betty Hoevel suggests the following ways to make the most of the warmer weather and the sensory beauty it brings.

- **Just get out there!** Take 15 minutes each day and do what you can do. If you are present in your garden, you are observing and understanding nature. Time in the garden doesn't have to be all work. Be sure to explore the textures of spring. New plant growth is soft to the touch, spring soil is warm and wet, and blooming flowers are velvety soft.
- **Breathe!** The season has some trademark fragrances. Warming soil, springtime rains and aromatic blooms beckon people and wildlife.
- **Slow down and see the sights.** Springtime's warm sunshine gives a special cue that wakens insects and blooms. There's nothing like a morning stroll through the garden to catch the first flutter of a bee or the way the gentle light highlights the pastel colors of spring. Evenings are lovely as well, as colors last long into sunset and the day's bird and insect activity winds down.
- **Spring is the time to begin reaping the benefits of the gardener's early hard work.** Greens, peas and garlic are among the early crops Ohio gardeners look forward to seeing. What is better than the taste of sweet peas fresh from the garden or market?
- **Listen for the bustle of spring.** The noisy and noticeable rituals that are the work of the wild are a welcome contrast to the silence of winter. Attracting mates, nest building, foraging and socializing are the hallmarks of the season. 🌿



IN THE COMMUNITY

GREEN SCHOOLYARDS PROGRAM

Since September 2013, Jim Latham and Sarah Albrecht, the Five Rivers MetroParks Green Schoolyards AmeriCorps team, have been visiting local schools to help staff explore the idea of creating vegetable and habitat gardens. School gardens are great ecological teaching tools and provide a setting for children to connect with nature.

When a school expresses interest in the Green Schoolyards program, Jim and Sarah go onsite to help schools select garden sites and to meet with staff to get school-wide buy-in, including teachers, administrators, maintenance staff and interested volunteers.

In addition, two schools each year have the opportunity to contract with Five Rivers MetroParks for more assistance with design and installation, as well as post-installation programming and training for staff and students.

If your school is interested in scheduling an initial site visit with a Five Rivers MetroParks representative, call (937) 277-7275 or email Jim at james.latham@metroparks.org or Sarah at sarah.albrecht@metroparks.org. 🌿

LEAVE NO CHILD INSIDE: THE YOUTH ACCESS TO NATURE TOUR ON JUNE 7

The Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Chapter (MVLNCI) of the Ohio Leave No Child Inside Collaborative has been active since 2008, with Five Rivers MetroParks as a founding and driving member.

The group strives to get children playing independently outdoors, which ultimately leads to better health and a respect for nature.

MVLNCI is planning the "Traveling Symposium: Youth Access to Nature Tour" on June 7 (see program J29 on page 32 for details.) This tour will take child advocates to youth-accessible nature places, such as schools, neighborhoods and parks. Both the summit and the tour give participants tools to make it easier to get kids outdoors. Those interested in joining the tour should contact (937) 277-4178 for details or visit www.ohiolnci.org/ohio-regions/miami-valleydayton/. 🌿

MAY IS NATIONAL BIKE MONTH

NATIONAL BIKE TO WORK DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

CELEBRATES BIKE TO WORK
MIAMI VALLEY

Join fellow cyclists at the Five Rivers MetroParks' breakfast served from 7 to 9 a.m. Friday, May 16, at the RiverScape MetroPark Bike Hub, 237 E. Monument Ave. in downtown Dayton. Enjoy lots of free flapjacks, live music, cycling exhibits and team challenges – all before your work day starts. Visit metroparks.org/biketowork or call (937) 567-4478. 🍃



BIKE BUCKS AT 2ND STREET MARKET: CELEBRATE BIKE MONTH

Roll in for a chance to win!

Any Saturday in May, ride your bike to the 2nd Street Market to enter a drawing to win \$50 in Market Money. Volunteers will be on hand to help with entries, and you're encouraged to enter every Saturday to increase your chances to win. While you're at the Market, a snapshot will be taken of you with your cool bike, and you can pick up practical information about bicycling in the Miami Valley. The winner of the drawing will be announced June 7, and you don't need to be present to redeem the prize. 🍃

JOIN US FOR THESE MIAMI VALLEY BIKE MONTH EVENTS:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--|---------------|---|
| May 2 | Courteous Mass ride, meet in front of Fifth Third Field | May 17 | Women's Cycling Fundamentals |
| May 3 | Bike for the Health of It, Ride to Kyle Park | May 17 | Bike for the Health of It, Ride to Verona |
| May 5-16 | LexisNexis Bike to Work Week | May 24 | Bike for the Health of It, Ride to Fifth Third Gateway Park |
| May 5 | Go with the Flow, Bike Edition | May 31 | Bike for the Health of It, Ride to Island MetroPark |
| May 8 | Intro to Bicycle Touring, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark | | |
| May 9 | Urban Bikes @ Urban Nights | | |
| May 10 | MetroParks Bike Rodeo at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark | | |
| May 10 | Bike for the Health of It, Ride to Radvansky Lane Bridge | | |
| May 16 | National Bike to Work Pancake Breakfast | | |

DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED

Check metroparks.org/biketowork for updates:

- University of Dayton Fly Ride
- MVH Bike Awareness Event
- Bike to Work Miamisburg
- Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (base personnel only)
- Wright State University Bike to Campus Breakfast

RECREATION



THE MEDLAR BIKEWAY: SOUTHERN CROSSOVER TO MILES OF TRAILS

Open since October 2013, the 2.4-mile Medlar Bikeway runs from the Great Miami River Bikeway through the Medlar Conservation Area near the Austin Pike interchange. With help from numerous partners, it eventually will connect with the Little Miami Bikeway – and serve as the southwestern connection between this region's two main trails. Already, the Medlar Bikeway is a gateway to more than 300 miles of bikeways trails – the largest network in the country – running throughout Southwest Ohio.

The scenic Medlar Bikeway also is a connection with nature, providing a landscape of prairies, wetlands, woodlands and mature forests well-populated with wildlife and birds. While on this bikeway, stop to take in the magnificent view from Eagle Hill. With its incomparable vista, you'll know when you're there. 🍃



T-shirts available at RiverScape MetroPark's Ride-the-River Rentals and at Dayton Urban Green in the 2nd Street Market.

GRANT MEANS EVEN BETTER METROPARKS MOUNTAIN BIKE AREA

As the recipient of a Recreation Trails Program grant, plans to enhance the MetroParks Mountain Bike Area (MoMBA) at Huffman MetroPark now can be put in motion. Plans call for these additions:

- **1.5-mile beginner mountain bike loop** introduces toddlers, younger children and novices of any age to mountain biking
- **Challenging mountain bike skills park** where the more experienced can gain proficiency
- **Bike wash** area to leave the dirt behind before going home
- **Vault toilet** added as an on-site amenity
- **Entrance improvements** to the park



With these changes to MoMBA, riders can spend more time at the park – riding up from the Mad River Bikeway, staying longer to work on skills, and hanging out with friends or making new ones while exchanging how-to tips. 🍃

A BIKE HUB MEMBERSHIP HAS ADVANTAGES

Enjoy the benefits of more hassle-free cycling by purchasing a membership to the RiverScape MetroPark Bike Hub. Membership is designed to support the alternate transportation choice of cycling.

Whatever the reason for your bike commute to the downtown area – work, school, a social or civic engagement – a Hub membership provides a lot of conveniences. It's a safe, indoor facility that includes lockers, restrooms and showers so you can change from your riding clothes and freshen up before any appointment. Plus, with the facility's secure bike storage, you never have to worry about where to keep your bike.

For a membership application or more information about a membership, call (937) 277-4374, email outdoors@metroparks.org or visit www.metroparks.org/bikehub. 🍃

REMEMBER SOMEONE WITH A LASTING GIFT

*Honor that special person who's meant so much to you with a gift available through the **Five Rivers MetroParks' Tribute Program**.*



BENCHES, SWINGS AND TREES: \$2,500 each — with a 10-year endowment

A commemorative plaque, engraved according to the donor's specifications, is included with each bench, swing or tree. Donors may select one of the designated tribute locations in the MetroPark of their choice.

All tribute items are maintained by MetroParks staff during the endowment period. After 10 years, the donor will

be notified about re-endowment. If not renewed, the plaque will be removed and given to the donor.

ADDITIONAL TRIBUTE OPTIONS

Memorial Funds may be created to allow others to honor an individual. Donation envelopes, which donors can distribute at a service or commemorative event, can be provided.

General Honor and Tribute Gifts are a donation to Five Rivers MetroParks.

As a thoughtful way to lovingly celebrate a special occasion, we'll send an acknowledgment of your gift to you and the honoree(s) or designated contact.

For more information about the Five Rivers MetroParks Tribute Program, contact Brenda Cox at (937) 277-4839 or brenda.cox@metroparks.org.

Other Ways to Support Your MetroParks

The following organizations also provide important financial and volunteer support to Five Rivers MetroParks. Please contact them or visit their websites for information on how you can get involved and make a donation.

Friends of Carriage Hill Farm:
www.metroparks.org/Parks/CarriageHill/Support

James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation:
www.coxarboretumfoundation.org or (937) 434-9005

Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation:
www.wegerz yngardensfoundation.org or (937) 277-6545



BONBRIGHT DISTRIBUTORS STRENGTHENS RELATIONSHIP WITH METROPARKS

Bonbright Distributors will be making a substantial donation to your Five Rivers MetroParks in 2014 to help build the culture of outdoor recreation and environmental stewardship in the Dayton community. MetroParks will be able to use the donated funds in support of its mission to protect the region's natural heritage and provide outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature.


This donation is made possible through the positive relationship between Five Rivers MetroParks and Bonbright, which has supported such events as the Mid-

west Outdoor Experience, the Dayton Celtic Festival and The Adventure Summit. It also is made possible because of Bonbright's partnership with New Belgium Brewing Company, which has a long history of supporting outdoor lifestyles, environmental stewardship and sustainable practices — making it a perfect fit with MetroParks' mission.

Indeed, New Belgium believes it gets the most environmental traction out of community partnerships, such as this one with Bonbright Distributing. This sponsorship enhances the existing relationship between MetroParks and Bon-



bright, offering a great funding resource for Five Rivers MetroParks.

"We are thrilled with this relationship and the philanthropic generosity of Bonbright Distributors," said Beth Redden, MetroParks' Director of Development. "We appreciate how the company is giving back to Dayton's favorite park district." 

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC *LIVE!*

SPONSORED BY FIFTH THIRD BANK

**GET YOUR
TICKETS NOW!**



Photo: Reel Water Productions

BRYAN SMITH *THE LENS OF ADVENTURE*

Monday, March 24
Victoria Theatre

Bryan Smith, an award-winning filmmaker for the National Geographic Channel, shares gripping, behind-the-scenes moments from his assignments to document extreme feats and high adventure in the world's most challenging environments. Smith has built on his adventure film roots and developed a strong reputation in both TV documentary and commercial cinematography. With a knack for storytelling and an insane work ethic his client list has grown to include National Geographic Channel, Discovery Network, Disney, Red Bull, Patagonia, New Belgium Brewing, Arcteryx, and more.



Photo: JODI COBB

JODI COBB *UNCOVERING HIDDEN WORLDS*

Monday, April 21
Victoria Theatre

Jodi Cobb has worked in more than 60 countries and had the distinction of being the first female photographer almost everywhere she worked early in her career, including National Geographic. Instead of being thwarted by the adversity she encountered—including gender bias and the dangers of traveling as a single woman, Cobb found ingenious ways to turn these situations to her advantage. She was the first woman to win the White House News Photographer of the Year award (1985), one of the first photographers to travel across China when it reopened to the West in the '70s, and the first photographer allowed inside the hidden world of the geisha in Japan.

Visit www.victoriatheatre.com/natgeolive for details!

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FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS IS PLEASED TO PRESENT **YOUR GUIDE TO UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

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

BY TOPIC

Interested in paddle sports, photography, gardening or hiking? Looking to volunteer or maybe just want to find all the seasonal happenings in the MetroParks? Check out the TOPIC section. Each program lists the date, name, time, place and description. You can register online at **www.metroparks.org** or by phone.

BY DATE

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

ONLINE

You can make a comprehensive search for programs using tools online. Search for programs listed by date, topic or park when you visit **www.metroparks.org** and click on the “Find a Program” link found on the left-hand navigation bar. You also can find suggestions by clicking the “Get Outside” link at the top of the page. **Metroparks.org** helps you get connected to park information, program guides, videos, nature play 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.

ALERTS AND CLOSURES

Weather conditions and construction can affect hiking trails, bikeways and access to certain park entrances. All construction information, including detours, and any weather-related notices, are posted online at **metroparks.org/alerts**.

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. As always, if it is an emergency, please call 9-1-1.

LOST SOMETHING?

If you lost something valuable in a MetroPark, contact the Rangers to identify and retrieve your belongings. Contact Administrative Assistant Robert Makley at (937) 567-4265 for details.

SAT, MAR 1, 2014

7:30 AM Miami Valley Gardening Conference, Offsite (see page 23, 122)

SUN, MAR 2, 2014

1:30 PM Taylorsville Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 21, 110)

TUE, MAR 4, 2014

10:00 AM Animal Homes, Englewood MetroPark (see page 29, 148)
6:30 PM Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 29, 152)

WED, MAR 5, 2014

6:00 PM Plant a Community Garden, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 23, 113)
6:30 PM Monarch Way Stations, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, 133)
6:30 PM Intro to Backpacking, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 19, 11)

THU, MAR 6, 2014

10:00 AM Bird Study, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 29, 126)
6:30 PM Intro to Bicycle Maintenance, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 19, 117)

SAT, MAR 8, 2014

8:00 AM Wilderness First Responder, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 33, 1148)
9:00 AM Fly Fishing Basics for Trout, Offsite (see page 21, 1122)
10:00 AM Soaring Eagles and Quacking Ducks Along the Mad River, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 30, 146)
1:00 PM The Water Wise Household, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 26, 130)

MON, MAR 10, 2014

4:00 PM Competitive Youth Rowing, Island MetroPark (see page 34, 128)
7:00 PM A Walk from Mexico to Canada on the Pacific Crest Trail, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32, 1149)

TUE, MAR 11, 2014

1:00 PM Maple Sugar Moon, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, 19)
6:30 PM Bicycle Maintenance Basics, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 19, 116)
7:00 PM Book Discussion; Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33, 1154)

THU, MAR 13, 2014

10:00 AM Volunteer: Five Rivers MetroPark Volunteer Orientation, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 23, 1158)

FRI, MAR 14, 2014

6:00 PM Wilderness First Aid, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 33, 121)

SAT, MAR 15, 2014

8:30 AM Family Farm Chores, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 21, 15)
10:00 AM Try It: Planting Potatoes, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 23, 114)
10:00 AM Picturing Beasts and Birds, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33, 143)
10:00 AM How Nature Works: Trees and Water, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 23, 123)
10:00 AM St. Patrick's Day at the Market, 2nd Street Market (see page 26, 137)

SUN, MAR 16, 2014

12:00 PM Steam on the Farm, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 26, 127)
1:30 PM Englewood Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Englewood MetroPark (see page 21, 111)

MON, MAR 17, 2014

9:30 AM Children's Tour Guide: Spring Orientation and Welcome, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 30, 141)

TUE, MAR 18, 2014

9:00 AM Volunteer: Conservation Ambassadors, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 30, 151)

WED, MAR 19, 2014

9:30 AM Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 29, 153)
10:00 AM Wednesday Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 30, 1201)
12:00 PM Is it Spring yet?, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 23, 125)
7:00 PM Book Discussion; Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33, 1155)

THU, MAR 20, 2014

4:00 PM Try Backpacking, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 19, 12)

FRI, MAR 21, 2014

10:00 AM Winter Birds, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 29, 147)

SAT, MAR 22, 2014

9:00 AM Volunteer: World of Gardening, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 23, 1161)
9:00 AM Waterfowl Field Trip, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 30, 198)
11:00 AM How to Drive Less, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 26, 132)
7:00 PM Woodcock Watch, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 30, 1184)

MON, MAR 24, 2014

9:30 AM Children's Tour Guide: Out in the Garden, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 30, 142)

WED, MAR 26, 2014

10:00 AM Bluebird Trails, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 29, 145)
6:30 PM Bicycle Maintenance Basics, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 19, 118)

THU, MAR 27, 2014

11:00 AM Demo Days, 2nd Street Market (see page 27, 1146)
12:00 PM Book Discussion; Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail, 2nd Street Market (see page 33, 1153)

SAT, MAR 29, 2014

10:00 AM How Nature Works: Hormone Triggers and Habitats, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 24, 124)
11:30 AM Introduction To Homesteading, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27, 16)
12:00 PM Backpacking Basics for Women, Germantown MetroPark (see page 19, 14)

SUN, MAR 30, 2014

1:30 PM Huffman Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Huffman MetroPark (see page 21, 112)

MON, MAR 31, 2014

9:00 AM Children's Tour Guide: Wonderful Wegerzyn, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 30, 144)

WED, APR 2, 2014

6:00 PM Fly Fishing For Bass And Bluegill, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, 157)
6:30 PM The Perception and Meaning of Science, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, 1103)

THU, APR 3, 2014

10:00 AM A Plant's Life, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 29, 1181)
10:00 AM Buds and Bugs, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 29, 1141)

SAT, APR 5, 2014

9:00 AM Ride to Verona, Bikeway: Wolf Creek (see page 19, l69)

10:00 AM First Time Gardeners, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 24, l74)

12:00 PM Backpacking Basics, Germantown MetroPark (see page 19, l3)

1:00 PM Planting your Garden for Pollinators, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 24, l117)

SUN, APR 6, 2014

1:30 PM Twin Creek Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 21, l109)

TUE, APR 8, 2014

9:00 AM Tuesday Adult Nature Walk, Englewood MetroPark (see page 30, l192)

5:30 PM Introduction to Fly Fishing, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, l56)

6:30 PM Volunteer: Conservation Caretaker Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 30, l39)

WED, APR 9, 2014

10:00 AM Compost Kitchen: Building Better Soil, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 26, l171)

THU, APR 10, 2014

11:00 AM Sourcing Local Food, 2nd Street Market (see page 26, l108)

FRI, APR 11, 2014

11:00 AM Tree Seedling Giveaway, 2nd Street Market (see page 24, l35)

8:00 PM Nocturnal Amphibian Search, Sugar-creek MetroPark (see page 29, l142)

SAT, APR 12, 2014

8:00 AM Beginning Birding, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 30, l96)

8:00 AM Tree Seedling Giveaway, 2nd Street Market (see page 24, l221)

8:00 AM 5k/10k Run for the Health of It, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 22, l185)

9:00 AM Ride to Trotwood, Bikeway: Wolf Creek (see page 19, l70)

9:00 AM Seedling Saturdays, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 30, l40)

10:00 AM Creating a Garden, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 24, l73)

11:00 AM Our Pollinator Heroes!, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 24, l20)

12:00 PM From Sheep to Shawls, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 27, l80)

1:00 PM Bird Song Study, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 30, l97)

8:30 PM Nighttime Amphibian Search, Sugar-creek MetroPark (see page 31, l214)

8:30 PM Nocturnal Amphibian Quest, Sugar-creek MetroPark (see page 31, l176)

SUN, APR 13, 2014

12:00 PM From Sheep to Shawls, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 27, l80)

2:00 PM Salamander Search, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 31, l216)

2:00 PM Woodland Salamander Search, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 31, l177)

2:00 PM Aullwood Spring Walk, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 24, l76)

TUE, APR 15, 2014

9:30 AM Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 29, l54)

1:00 PM From Egg to Egg, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, l99)

WED, APR 16, 2014

10:00 AM Compost Kitchen: Backyard Composting, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 26, l105)

THU, APR 17, 2014

9:30 AM Sheep Shearing, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, l118)

6:00 PM Intro to Smart Cycling, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 20, l126)

SAT, APR 19, 2014

9:00 AM Ride to Fifth Third Gateway Park, Bikeway: Creekside (see page 19, l71)

9:00 AM Adopt-a-Park, (see page 26, l15)

9:00 AM Wegerzyn Gardens Walkfest, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 22, l49)

11:00 AM Be a Bunny Day, 2nd Street Market (see page 27, l147)

TUE, APR 22, 2014

4:00 PM Try Slacklining, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 33, l93)

WED, APR 23, 2014

10:00 AM Leave a Legacy, Sugar-creek MetroPark (see page 29, l180)

10:00 AM Compost Kitchen: Managing Organic Waste, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 26, l106)

THU, APR 24, 2014

11:00 AM Demo Days, 2nd Street Market (see page 27, l219)

SAT, APR 26, 2014

8:30 AM Let's Explore for Nature in Our Downtown Home, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32, l131)

MIAMI VALLEY GARDENING CONFERENCE



SAT., MARCH 1, 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. - Sinclair Community College

Gardening for the Next Decade is this year's theme for the Miami Valley Gardening Conference which promises to be an information-packed day.

Keynote speakers are Jeff Lowenfels (*Teaming with Nutrients: The Organic Gardener's Guide to Optimizing Plant Nutrition*) and Thomas Rainer (*Sustainable Garden Design*).

REGISTER ONLINE - Space is limited!

Call (937) 276-7053 or visit metroparks.org/conference

9:00 AM Ride to Wegerzyn MetroPark, Bike-way: Mad River (see page 19, 172)
9:00 AM Smart Cycling Basics, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 20, 1127)
9:00 AM Fly Fishing Basics for Smallies, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 21, 1123)
10:00 AM Nature Up Close, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33, 194)
10:00 AM All about Landscaping for Beginners, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 24, 175)
10:00 AM Wildflower and Native Plant Sale, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 24, 1150)
11:30 AM Seed Starting, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27, 17)
2:00 PM Wildflower and Wildlife Relationships, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32, 1170)
8:30 PM Amphibian Survey, Germantown MetroPark (see page 31, 1164)
8:30 PM Spring Frog Survey, Germantown MetroPark (see page 31, 1162)

SUN, APR 27, 2014

12:00 PM Smoked, Dried & Pickled: 19th Century Preservation Methods, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 27, 181)
1:00 PM Volunteer: Forest Foster Family, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32, 1172)
1:30 PM Eastwood Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 22, 1111)

TUE, APR 29, 2014

6:00 PM Walking For Fitness, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 22, 1136)

WED, APR 30, 2014

10:00 AM Worm Composting Workshop, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 26, 1107)
6:30 PM Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 29, 155)

THU, MAY 1, 2014

10:00 AM Flower Colors, Sugar Creek MetroPark (see page 29, 1182)
11:00 AM How to Drive Less Continued: Walkability, 2nd Street Market (see page 26, 1173)
4:00 PM Try Fly Fishing, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 21, 1125)

FRI, MAY 2, 2014

5:00 PM Annual MayFair Members Only Pre-Sale, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 24, 1217)

SAT, MAY 3, 2014

8:00 AM Derby Day Dash, Island MetroPark (see page 22, 1116)
8:00 AM Bike Bucks, 2nd Street Market (see page 20, 1145)

9:00 AM Fish with a Ranger, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, 1121)
9:00 AM Ride to Kyle Park, Bikeway: Great Miami River (see page 19, 186)
10:00 AM Canning Club: Asparagus, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 27, 182)
10:00 AM Annual MayFair Plant Sale, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 24, 1151)
12:00 PM Backpacking Basics, Germantown MetroPark (see page 19, 167)
2:00 PM Insects in Your Backyard, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31, 1179)
2:00 PM Insects in Your Yard, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31, 1213)

SUN, MAY 4, 2014

12:00 PM Annual MayFair Plant Sale, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 24, 1151)
1:30 PM Hills & Dales Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 22, 1112)

MON, MAY 5, 2014

10:00 AM Little Sprouts, Germantown MetroPark (see page 29, 1143)

TUE, MAY 6, 2014

11:30 AM Sources For Heirloom Crops and Vegetables, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 23, 192)
6:00 PM Volunteer: Bike to Work Day Orientation, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 20, 1113)

WED, MAY 7, 2014

10:00 AM Wednesday Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 30, 1208)
6:00 PM Intro to Paddlesports, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33, 1137)
6:30 PM Volunteer: RiverScape Events, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 20, 1151)
6:30 PM 3D Printing, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, 1104)

THU, MAY 8, 2014

6:00 PM Intro to Bicycle Touring, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 20, 1129)

FRI, MAY 9, 2014

5:00 PM Great Dayton Adventure, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, 1155)
5:00 PM Urban Nights, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 20, 1198)

SAT, MAY 10, 2014

8:00 AM Birding Workshop: Warblers, Germantown MetroPark (see page 32, 1168)
8:00 AM Bike Bucks, 2nd Street Market (see page 20, 1222)
9:00 AM Ride to Radvansky Ln. Bridge, Bike-

way: Stillwater River (see page 19, 187)

9:00 AM Seedling Saturdays, Sugar Creek MetroPark (see page 30, 1163)

9:00 AM Volunteer: Backpacking Trail Work Days, Germantown MetroPark (see page 19, 1152)

9:00 AM Eastwood Walkfest, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 22, 150)

9:30 AM Wegerzyn Bike Rodeo For Kids, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 20, 1120)

10:00 AM Fitness in the Park, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 23, 1157)

10:00 AM Let's Bug Out!, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 31, 1178)

10:00 AM The Great Bug Hunt, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 31, 1215)

10:00 AM Native Plants for Your Landscape, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 24, 177)

11:00 AM Container Gardens for the Family, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 25, 1101)

1:00 PM Planting for Pollinators, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31, 1174)

1:00 PM Pollinator Planting, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 32, 1175)

SUN, MAY 11, 2014

12:00 PM All Things Fermented: Kraut, Vinegar and Yeast, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 27, 183)

MON, MAY 12, 2014

6:00 PM Adult Learn to Row, Island MetroPark (see page 34, 134)

TUE, MAY 13, 2014

10:00 AM Volunteer: Become a Garden Experience Mentor, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 25, 1124)
1:00 PM Goats!, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, 1102)
4:00 PM Try Mountain Biking, MoMBA (see page 27, 1128)
4:30 PM Spring Greens and Early Planting, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 25, 1110)
6:00 PM Garden Design: Spring Color Burst Plants, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, 1212)

WED, MAY 14, 2014

6:30 PM Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 29, 1156)

FRI, MAY 16, 2014

7:00 AM National Bike To Work Day Pancake Breakfast, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 20, 1115)

9:00 PM Forests at Night, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 29, 1144)

SAT, MAY 17, 2014

8:00 AM Warbler Walk, Englewood MetroPark (see page 32, l169)

8:00 AM Bike Bucks, 2nd Street Market (see page 20, l223)

8:30 AM Let's Explore for Nature in Our Downtown Home, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32, l132)

9:00 AM Women's Cycling Fundamentals, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 20, l135)

9:00 AM Ride to Verona, Bikeway: Wolf Creek (see page 19, l88)

9:00 AM Race for Rwanda 5K, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 23, l134)

9:00 AM Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days, MoMBA (see page 27, E225)

9:00 AM Tab-a-pull-ooza, 2nd Street Market (see page 20, l36)

10:00 AM Fitness in the Park, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 23, l236)

10:00 AM Caring and Gardening for Caterpillars, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 31, l159)

10:00 AM Aullwood in Bloom, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 34, l95)

10:00 AM Planting for a Continuous Harvest, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 25, l119)

10:00 AM Habitat Building at Aullwood, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 24, l78)

2:00 PM Moth Party, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 32, l160)

SUN, MAY 18, 2014

10:00 AM Twin Valley Trail Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Germantown MetroPark (see page 23, l114)

12:00 PM Great Strides Dayton Walk, Island MetroPark (see page 23, l186)

12:00 PM Corn 101: Corn and Its Uses, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 27, l84)

1:00 PM Growing Up Wild Training, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 32, l183)

2:00 PM May Beauty at Aullwood, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 25, l79)

MON, MAY 19, 2014

10:00 AM Milkweed for Monarchs, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 29, l165)

6:00 PM Fundamentals of Geocaching, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 33, l68)

TUE, MAY 20, 2014

8:00 AM Bus Trip: Ohio Governor's Residence and Heritage Gardens, meet at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 25, l91)

9:00 AM Tuesday Adult Nature Walk, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 30, l197)

WED, MAY 21, 2014

6:00 PM Kayak Basics, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 33, l138)

SAT, MAY 24, 2014

8:00 AM Bike Bucks, 2nd Street Market (see page 20, l224)

9:00 AM Ride to Fifth Third Gateway Park, Bikeway: Creekside (see page 19, l89)

10:00 AM Fitness in the Park, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 23, l237)

11:30 AM Planting and Transplanting, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27, l8)

1:00 PM Ohio's Stream Fishes, Wesleyan MetroPark (see page 32, l166)

WED, MAY 28, 2014

6:00 PM Walking For Fitness, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 22, l167)

THU, MAY 29, 2014

8:00 AM ACA Canoe Instructor Certification, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33, l139)

8:00 AM ACA Kayak Instructor Certification, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 33, l140)

11:00 AM Demo Days, 2nd Street Market (see page 27, l220)

SAT, MAY 31, 2014

8:00 AM Bike Bucks, 2nd Street Market (see page 20, l225)

9:00 AM Ride to Island MetroPark, Bikeway: Great Miami River (see page 19, l90)

10:00 AM Fitness in the Park, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 23, l238)

10:00 AM Compost Meat, Dairy, Veggies and Starch with Bokashi, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 26, l133)

Cox Arboretum MetroPark
March & April 2014
6733 Springboro Pike
(937) 434-9005

Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark
May & June 2014
1301 E. Siebenthaler Avenue
(937) 277-6545

Carriage Hill MetroPark
July & August
7800 E. Shull Road
(937) 278-2609

Five Rivers MetroParks:
MAGIC IN FABRIC
MIAMI VALLEY ART QUILT NETWORK

BACKPACKING

INTRO TO BACKPACKING

WED. MAR 5, 6:30-9:00 PM I1

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Get an introduction to backpacking and find your comfort zone in terms of trips and gear selection. This class will introduce you to trip planning, trail techniques and nutrition, physical fitness, and Leave No Trace concepts. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 📱

(FREE) TRY BACKPACKING

THU. MAR 20, 4:00-7:00 PM I2

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Trailside, 4178 Conference Rd.

Have you ever tried backpacking? Are you even slightly curious? Then come anytime between 4 and 7 PM to this hands-on program. Try on a backpack, talk with local experts and experiment with some of the gear. Backpacks are available on a first-come first-served basis. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 📱 ⚙️

BACKPACKING BASICS FOR WOMEN

SAT. MAR 29, 12:00 PM - SUN. MAR 30, 12:00 PM I4

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Campsite: Shimps Hollow, 7350 Boomershire Rd.

This women's-specific overnight program hits the trail for a trip into the wilds of Germantown MetroPark. Spend a night under the stars utilizing the techniques covered during Intro to Backpacking. Join local female experts to learn about women's-specific backpacking topics. Gear is available at no additional charge with reservation. Prerequisites: Intro to Backpacking. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$15

BACKPACKING BASICS

SAT. APR 5, 12:00 PM - SUN. APR 6, 12:00 PM I3

SAT. MAY 3, 12:00 PM - SUN. MAY 4, 12:00 PM I67

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Campsite: Shimps Hollow, 7350 Boomershire Rd.

This overnight field based program hits the trail for a trip into the wilds of Germantown MetroPark on the Twin Valley Trail. Spend a night out under the stars utilizing Leave No Trace principles and practice the techniques covered during Intro to Backpacking. Gear is available at no additional charge with reservation. Prerequisites: Intro to Backpacking. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$15

(FREE) VOLUNTEER:

BACKPACKING TRAIL WORK DAYS

SAT. MAY 10, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM I152

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) 277-4147 or yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 📱 ⚙️

CYCLING

INTRO TO BICYCLE MAINTENANCE

THU. MAR 6, 6:30-9:00 PM I17

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

This lecture-style class with some hands-on instruction will help you diagnose and fix minor mechanical issues. Participants will be introduced to basic repairs and adjustments, as well as the tools needed to do so. Topics will include bike inspection and terminology, fixing a flat tire, and basic brake and gear adjustment. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$10 📱

BICYCLE MAINTENANCE BASICS

TUE. MAR 11, 6:30-8:30 PM I16

WED. MAR 26, 6:30-8:30 PM I18

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

This next step in the bike maintenance progression will give riders a more comprehensive understanding of what makes the wheels go round. This hands-on class will cover bike fitting, tune-ups, advanced brake and drive-train maintenance, as well as wheel truing. You can bring your bike if you want. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$10 📱

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. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4823 for details. www.metroparks.org/bikehealth. Age: All ages 📱

(FREE) RIDE TO VERONA

SAT. APR 5, 9:00-11:00 AM I69

SAT. MAY 17, 9:00-11:00 AM I88

BIKEWAY: WOLF CREEK, Ohio Bike Route 38
Join us for a bike ride 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).

(FREE) RIDE TO TROTWOOD

SAT. APR 12, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM I70

BIKEWAY: WOLF CREEK, Ohio Bike Route 38
Join us for a bike ride on the Wolf Creek Bikeway. Meet in the parking lot behind Rob's Restaurant, 705 Arlington Rd. in Brookville. We will ride toward Trotwood (14 miles).

(FREE) RIDE TO FIFTH THIRD GATEWAY PARK

SAT. APR 19, 9:00-11:00 AM I71

SAT. MAY 24, 9:00-11:00 AM I89

BIKEWAY: CREEKSIDE, Ohio Bike Route 2
Join us for a bike ride on the Creekside Bikeway. We will ride to Fifth Third Gateway Park (12 miles).

(FREE) RIDE TO WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK

SAT. APR 26, 9:00-11:00 AM I72

BIKEWAY: MAD RIVER, Ohio Bike Route 8
Join us for a bike ride on the Mad River Bikeway. We will ride to Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (13 miles).

(FREE) RIDE TO KYLE PARK

SAT. MAY 3, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM I86

BIKEWAY: GREAT MIAMI RIVER, Ohio Bike Route 25
Join us on a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Great Miami River Bikeway (north). Meet in the parking lot at Rip Rap Park, at the intersections of Little York, Rip Rap and Taylorsville roads. We will ride to Kyle Park (15 miles).

(FREE) RIDE TO RADVANSKY LN. BRIDGE

SAT. MAY 10, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM I87

BIKEWAY: STILLWATER RIVER, Ohio Bike Route 7
Join us on a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Stillwater River Bikeway (north). Meet in the Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark parking lot. We will ride to the Radvansky Ln. Bridge (16 miles).

(FREE) RIDE TO ISLAND METROPARK

SAT. MAY 31, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM I90

BIKEWAY: GREAT MIAMI RIVER, Ohio Bike Route 25
Join us on a bike ride, rain or shine, on the Great Miami River Bikeway (north). Meet in the parking lot at Rip Rap Park, at the intersections of Little York, Rip Rap and Taylorsville roads. We will ride to Island MetroPark (16 miles).

INTRO TO SMART CYCLING

THU. APR 17, 6:00-8:30 PM I126

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Step one in the Smart Cycling Series is a class-room 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 their bicycles 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. APR 26, 9:00 AM-2:30 PM I127

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Children's Classroom, 1301 E. 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

(FREE) BIKE BUCKS

SAT. MAY 3, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM I145**SAT. MAY 10, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM** I222**SAT. MAY 17, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM** I223**SAT. MAY 24, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM** I224**SAT. MAY 31, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM** I225

2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. Second St.

To celebrate National Bike Month, the 2nd Street Market is offering Bike Bucks again! Ride your bike to the Market on any Saturday in May and enter a drawing to win \$50 in Market Money. Volunteers will be on hand to help you enter, snap a photo of you (with your awesome bike) and supply you with valuable information on cycling in the Miami Valley. No registration required. Contact bramsey@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: BIKE TO WORK DAY ORIENTATION

TUE. MAY 6, 6:00-7:15 PM I113

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Promote cycling and enjoy good company while volunteering for the Bike to Work Day Pancake Breakfast. Attend this orientation where you can sign up for volunteer shifts that are available either Thursday, May 16, or Friday, May 17. Refreshments will be served! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4374 or outdoors@metroparks.org for details. Age: 14Y and up 📄

INTRO TO BICYCLE TOURING

THU. MAY 8, 6:00-8:30 PM I129

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Intro to Bicycle Touring gives you the knowledge needed to get started with bicycle touring. This lecture-style class will cover touring equipment for your bike, clothing options, types of tours and tour planning. Join us as we discover the joy of bicycle touring while on the trail, path or road. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$10 📄

(FREE) WEGERZYN BIKE RODEO FOR KIDS

SAT. MAY 10, 9:30 AM-1:00 PM I120

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Join the MetroParks Ranger Division on a ride through a safety course, and have your bikes checked out by a technician. Before riding, students are encouraged to have their helmets properly fitted to their heads. New helmets will be available on an as-needed basis (no beads in hair please). Allow one hour to complete the activities. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4823 for details. Age: 3Y-15Y 📄

(FREE) NATIONAL BIKE TO WORK DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

FRI. MAY 16, 7:00-9:00 AM I115

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Leave your car in the garage and support National Bike to Work Day. Ride in on your own or with a group to RiverScape for a free pancake breakfast, then head to work. Live music, cycling related exhibitors and a team challenge also are part of the fun. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. www.metroparks.org/biketowork. Age: All ages

WOMEN'S CYCLING FUNDAMENTALS

SAT. MAY 17, 9:00-10:30 AM I135

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Ladies, grab your bike and join us for some all-women's bike rides. Prior to rides, we'll talk about safety, proper body positioning, cycling etiquette on bikeways and bike lanes. Rides will begin with a shorter distance and progress to longer distances improving cardio-respiratory endurance. Bikes need to be in good condition. Helmets required. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 ⚙️

BICYCLE TOURING BASICS

SAT. JUN 7, 12:00 PM - SUN. JUN 8, 2:30 PM I130

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

After completing Intro to Bicycle Touring, join us

for an actual bicycle tour! By utilizing the vast network of bikeways in the Miami Valley, we will ride out to a campsite, camp, and then return the next day. Lessons will be taught during bike preparation, on the trail and in camp. Bikes and helmets are required. Camping gear is provided. Prerequisites: Intro to Bicycle Touring. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$25

ENTERTAINMENT

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: RIVERSCAPE EVENTS

WED. MAY 7, 6:30-7:30 PM E151

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

The RiverScape Events Volunteer supports MetroParks' RiverScape activities on a flexible, seasonal schedule. Volunteers can support events by greeting park visitors, facilitating set-up and working with outside organizers. You can help for one day or many. Come and learn more, get energized and excited about helping with activities at RiverScape! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 275-5016 or sidney.gnann@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 📄

(FREE) URBAN NIGHTS

FRI. MAY 9, 5:00-10:00 PM E98

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Come see RiverScape MetroPark come alive during Urban Nights! Spring is here, and there's no better way to get outside and celebrate it than by enjoying all the sights and sounds of this citywide party! RiverScape MetroPark is sure to add excitement to an already thrilling event with food by Silver Fern Café and fun activities. No registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 for details. Age: All ages ⚙️

(FREE) TAB-A-PULL-OOZA

SAT. MAY 17, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM I36

2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.

Bring your aluminum can pull-tabs to the 2nd Street Market to help raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Miami Valley. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 or bramsey@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages



FARMING


FARM TO PRESCHOOL

Farm to preschool is designed to help children understand what they are eating and where their food comes from. Healthy food means healthy children, which starts at the farm.

(FREE) MAPLE SUGAR MOON

TUE. MAR 11, 1:00-2:30 PM I9


POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

It's the time of year to be thinking about maple syrup, that wonderful sweet gift from maple trees. Enjoy an American Indian story about how maple syrup was discovered, followed by sweet samples and a cool activity. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 3Y-6Y  **PTN**

(FREE) FROM EGG TO EGG

TUE. APR 15, 1:00-2:30 PM I99


POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Learn how an egg becomes a chick, who in turn becomes a hen, who then lays an egg. You will see how chicks grow in their eggs, touch a real chicken and do a chicken-related activity to take home. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 3Y-6Y  **PTN**

(FREE) GOATS!

TUE. MAY 13, 1:00-2:30 PM I102


POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Enjoy the book *"There's a Goat in My Rug"*. We will learn about different kinds of goats and all the good things they provide for us. There will be goat cheese, milk and yogurt to try and a craft to take home. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 3Y-6Y  **PTN**

(FREE) FAMILY FARM CHORES

SAT. MAR 15, 8:30-10:00 AM I5



CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

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

(FREE) SHEEP SHEARING

THU. APR 17, 9:30-11:30 AM I118

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Drop in for a demonstration of sheep shearing at the Farm. Watch staff shearing in the barn, then step upstairs to learn more about how wool is used. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: All ages  

FISHING

FLY FISHING BASICS FOR TROUT

SAT. MAR 8, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM I122


OFFSITE, Contact Us for Location

Have you always wanted to fly fish for trout? Join us for a day of fly fishing on the Mad River for brown trout. Students will learn tips on reading water, casting techniques, flies to use and gear needed to catch these beautiful fish. Lunch and gear provided. Location determined based on fishing conditions. Fishing license required. Prerequisites: Introduction to Fly Fishing. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$30

FLY FISHING FOR BASS AND BLUEGILL

WED. APR 2, 6:00-8:30 PM I57


POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

The Miami Valley is loaded with great bass and bluegill fishing opportunities in our local streams, ponds and lakes. Learn about the techniques, gear and flies needed to catch these fun sport fish on a fly rod. Fly Fishing experience is recommended, but not required. This is a classroom session. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$5 

INTRODUCTION TO FLY FISHING

TUE. APR 8, 5:30-8:30 PM I56

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Get an overview of fly fishing. The session will include a classroom overview of gear, local opportunities and techniques needed to get started. Casting techniques are covered through a variety of fun drills teaching basic fundamentals. Participants should dress for outdoor activity. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 12Y and up Fee: \$5 

FLY FISHING BASICS FOR SMALLIES

SAT. APR 26, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM I123


AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Garden Parking Lot, 955 Aullwood Rd.

Are you ready to take the next step in Fly Fishing? Join us for a day of fly fishing for smallmouth. Students will learn tips on reading water, casting techniques, flies to use and gear needed to fish our local rivers. Lunch and gear provided. Location determined based on fishing conditions. Fishing license required. Prerequisites: Introduction to Fly Fishing. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$30

(FREE) TRY FLY FISHING

THU. MAY 1, 4:00-7:00 PM I125


CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

Join us to see if you can entice a fish to bite and catch a fish on a fly. Instructor is available for questions and will teach basic fly fishing techniques in a controlled and safe environment. No fishing license required. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 6Y and up 

FISH WITH A RANGER

SAT. MAY 3, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM I121

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Officer Zimmerman will speak about a safety topic, and then all students who participated will be able to utilize poles and bait in a stocked fishing pond. Sponsored by Safe Kids of Greater Dayton. No more than 5 students per adult, no adults will be permitted to fish. Scholarships available upon request. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4823 or lzimmerman@metroparks.org for details. Age: 4Y-15Y Fee: \$3 

FITNESS & HEALTH

(FREE) TAYLORSVILLE HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS

SUN. MAR 2, 1:30-4:00 PM I10

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Blue Heron / Parking Lot, 2000 U.S. 40

Enjoy a 5-mile, two-and-a-half hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered moderate, some hills. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 for details. Age: All ages

(FREE) ENGLEWOOD HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS

SUN. MAR 16, 1:30-4:00 PM I11

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

Enjoy a 5-6 mile, two-and-a-half hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered moderate, some hills. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 for details. Age: All ages

(FREE) HUFFMAN HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS

SUN. MAR 30, 1:30-3:30 PM I12

HUFFMAN METROPARK, Huffman North Park, 4095 Lower Valley Pk.

Enjoy a 4-5 mile, two-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

(FREE) TWIN CREEK HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS

SUN. APR 6, 1:30-4:30 PM I109

TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: High View/Parking Lot, 9688 Eby Rd.

Enjoy a 7-mile, three-hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered rugged, for

experienced hikers only. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

5K/10K RUN FOR THE HEALTH OF IT

SAT. APR 12, 8:00 AM-2:00 PM I185
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by the Junior League of Dayton. Additional information on the Junior League of Dayton's website. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 222-5541 for details. www.jl Dayton.org. Age: All ages Fee: 5K early registration: \$25, 5K day of race: \$30, 10K early registration: \$35, 10K day of race: \$40

(FREE) WEGERZYN GARDENS WALKFEST

SAT. APR 19, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM I49
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by Purple Penguins Walking Club. 5/10KM walk through Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark and Stillwater River Bikeway to Island MetroPark. Start between 9 AM and 1 PM, finish by 4 PM. Contact Helga Slade. No registration required. Contact (937) 429-3946 or hslade@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

(FREE) EASTWOOD HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS

SUN. APR 27, 1:30-3:30 PM I111
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385

Harshman Rd.

Enjoy a 4-5 mile, two-hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered easy, no hills. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

WALKING FOR FITNESS

TUE. APR 29, 6:00-7:30 PM I136
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

WED. MAY 28, 6:00-7:30 PM I167
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Parking Lot by restrooms, 1401 Harshman Rd.

Walk your way back to a healthier lifestyle and prepare for future fitness programs. We will begin with instructing proper technique, the different levels of walking workouts for speed and longer distances. We'll train on the importance of stretch and tone, proper gear and, most importantly, improve cardio-respiratory and cardiovascular endurance. Registration required. Contact (937) 274-4374 for details. www.metro parks.org/fitness. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 ☀

DERBY DAY DASH

SAT. MAY 3, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM I116
ISLAND METROPARK, Parking Lot, 101 E. Helena St. This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by Life Essentials, Inc., a nonprofit organization that provides services to older adults and persons with mental illness. This 5K race is fun for all ages. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 586-0545 or lifessentials.org for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$25

(FREE) HILLS & DALES HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS

SUN. MAY 4, 1:30-3:30 PM I112
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Olmsted/Nature Play/Parking Lot, 2606 Hilton Dr. Enjoy a 5-mile, two-hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered easy, no hills. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

(FREE) EASTWOOD WALKFEST

SAT. MAY 10, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM I50
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd. This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by Purple Penguins Walking Club. 5/10KM walk through Eastwood MetroPark and Mad River Bikeway. Start between 9 AM and 1 PM, finish by 4 PM. Contact Helga Slade. No registration required. Contact (937) 429-3946 or hslade@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

SATURDAY ESCAPE

Hang out at the crossroads of the community. Get your heartbeat up with a morning fitness program and then relax with a snack at Silver Fern Café while enjoying acoustic music during lunch with your tablet or friends. Enjoy Ohio's Great Corridor along the Great Miami. Ride in, walk in, paddle in, run in - just get on in and be a part of the Saturday scene at RiverScape. Silver Fern Café opens for the season May 9, and Ride the River Rentals opens Memorial Day Weekend. Enjoy beautiful spring Saturdays at RiverScape. In addition to acoustic music from 11 AM to 1 PM, see below for other program list-



SPRING PLANT SALES

METROPARKS.ORG/PLANTSALLES

SAT., APRIL 26, 10 A.M. - 2 P.M. WILDFLOWER AND NATIVE PLANT SALE

Cox Arboretum MetroPark

Find unique and hard-to-find wildflowers and native plants, locally sourced plants ethically propagated by Cox volunteers, and outstanding varieties of plants and trees for sunny or shady areas at this sale.

SAT. MAY 3, 9 A.M. - 3 P.M. SUN., MAY 4, 11 A.M. - 3 P.M. MAYFAIR PLANT SALE

Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark

Find spectacular annuals, vegetables, hanging baskets and perennials, as well as good deals in the "pass along plants" area, stocked with a variety of high-performing plants from Wegerzyn Gardens and the gardens of our volunteers.

ings. Between the live music, fitness programs or learning about the natural world, come eScape downtown.

(FREE) FITNESS IN THE PARK

SAT. MAY 10, 10:00-11:00 AM I157

SAT. MAY 17, 10:00-11:00 AM I236

SAT. MAY 24, 10:00-11:00 AM I237

SAT. MAY 31, 10:00-11:00 AM I238

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Instructors will motivate you to move your way to wellness at this exercise party! Come down to RiverScape to move your workout outdoors. Classes vary so check www.metro-parks.org for the specific class schedule. Please bring your own water bottle and towel or mat. No registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 for details. Age: All ages 🌞

RACE FOR RWANDA 5K

SAT. MAY 17, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM I134

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, 4178 Conference Rd.

This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by Southminster Presbyterian Church to raise money for building a school for orphans in Rwanda. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 479-0270 or megan@sminster.com for details. Age: All ages Fee: Adults: \$25, Children: \$15

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

SUN. MAY 18, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM I114

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Sledding Hill/TVT/ Parking Lot, 6206 Boomershire Rd.

Enjoy a 14-mile, four-hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered rugged, for experienced hikers only. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

(FREE) GREAT STRIDES DAYTON WALK

SUN. MAY 18, 12:00-4:00 PM I186

ISLAND METROPARK, Shelter: Willow Wood, 101 E. Helena St.

This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Greater Cincinnati Chapter to help raise awareness for those with cystic fibrosis. See contact info to register. Contact (513) 533-9300 or jsikora@cff.org for details. www.cff.org. Age: All ages



GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

MIAMI VALLEY GARDENING CONFERENCE

SAT. MAR 1, 8:00 AM-4:30 PM I22

OFFSITE, Sinclair Community College, 444 W. Third St.

Join us for MetroParks' annual kick-off to the spring gardening season. Our keynote speakers are Jeff Lowenfels and Thomas Rainer. Enjoy breakout sessions led by local garden experts, as well as a teacher track with three sessions. Fee includes breakfast snack, full lunch (vegetarian options available), breaks and covered parking. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$50 🌞

(FREE) PLANT A COMMUNITY GARDEN

WED. MAR 5, 6:00-8:00 PM I13

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

How can you start a community vegetable garden in your neighborhood, school, church? Although fall is the best time for planning your new garden, spring is when green thumbs start itching! Learn the essential steps to a successful project, and decide whether your project is ready for this year or needs more planning for next spring! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 18Y and up 🌞

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: FIVE RIVERS METROPARK VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

THU. MAR 13, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM I158

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

Five Rivers MetroParks has volunteer opportunities year-round, and at virtually every one of our parks. Orientation provides history, an overview of location-specific opportunities and an introduction to opportunities this season. Coming to orientation and training does not obligate you to anything, but you may discover an opportunity for you. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4154 for details. Age: 18Y and up 🌞

(FREE) TRY IT: PLANTING POTATOES

SAT. MAR 15, 10:00-11:00 AM I14

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.

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 plant potatoes and other cool-weather crops, including what you can plant now! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 18Y and up 🌞 🌞

(FREE) HOW NATURE WORKS: TREES AND WATER

SAT. MAR 15, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM I23

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

This session will look at how trees and water work with each other to make the environment a cooler, cleaner place. Prepare to be amazed by what happens to plants, soil and water on a bright sunny day or in a rain storm, and how knowing this can make you a better gardener. 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) IS IT SPRING YET?

WED. MAR 19, 12:00-1:30 PM I25

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Ever wonder what makes spring come? Why autumn arrives? Why plants bloom and grow? This class will talk about all these activities and more and how the plant kingdom is so dependent on hormones to make changes! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: All ages 🌞

(FREE) SOURCES FOR HEIR-LOOM CROPS AND VEGETABLES

TUE. MAY 6, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM I92

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

Heirloom varieties have grown in popularity through the years. However, where can you find these plants? Information will be provided on the many different resources for locating heirloom vegetables, fruits and even crops. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: 18Y and up 🌞

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: WORLD OF GARDENING

SAT. MAR 22, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM I161

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Enjoy working amidst the beauty of the gardens, love plants and getting your hands in the dirt? Volunteers will learn the basics of gardening, the use of native and exotic plants in the landscape, and discover the various opportunities available at the garden parks of Five Rivers MetroParks. Coming to orientation does not obligate you to anything. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4154 or kevin.kepler@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 🌞

(FREE) HOW NATURE WORKS: HORMONE TRIGGERS AND HABITATS

SAT. MAR 29, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM I24
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
This class will talk about how plants germinate, develop, grow and die or go into dormancy. We'll also look at the ways plants and the soil provide habitats for a huge array of creatures, microscopic to quite large, and how to attract and balance the beneficial guests in your garden. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📅

(FREE) FIRST-TIME GARDENERS

SAT. APR 5, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM I74
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
If you've never gardened before and want to learn, this class is for you! We'll discuss site and plant selections, soil conditions and how to plant and maintain the garden. Whether you want a full vegetable or flower garden or just a few pots on the deck, you'll get the knowledge and skills you need! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

(FREE) PLANTING YOUR GARDEN FOR POLLINATORS

SAT. APR 5, 1:00-3:00 PM I117
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Planting a garden to eat from this spring? Learn what to add to make your garden as appetizing to pollinators as it is to you. Designed for beginning and experienced gardeners, this lecture will prepare you to increase insect diversity while growing food. Learn the many benefits a variety of pollinators brings to your garden - and the region. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

(FREE) TREE SEEDLING GIVEAWAY

FRI. APR 11, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM I35
SAT. APR 12, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM I221
2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. Second St.
Celebrate Earth Day early and pick up free tree seedlings while supplies last! This project is brought to you with the support of the Montgomery and Miami County Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Rush Creek Gardens. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 or bramsey@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages

GARDEN BOOT CAMP

Need to know how to garden fast? Join us for seasonal three-hour sessions on practical gardening skills, presented during the gardening season. You'll learn the techniques you need at the right time of year. Bring your lunch and all your questions for a great gardening year.

CREATING A GARDEN

SAT. APR 12, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM I73
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Outdoor Venues, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Learn how to plan, measure and build a regular garden, a lasagna garden, raised beds and a container garden. Bring work gloves and be ready to get dirty! Bring a sack lunch as well. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 21Y and up Fee: \$15 📅 ⚙️

HABITAT BUILDING AT AULLWOOD

SAT. MAY 17, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM I78
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Gardens, 930 Aullwood Rd.
Learn how gardens are habitats for many animals and help restore the butterfly garden at Aullwood! We'll pre-dig the plants and you will learn division and transplant, spacing and design, and how to make a butterfly garden. Bring your gloves and lunch, and be ready for fun and learning. We'll meet in the Aullwood Garden MetroPark parking lot. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 📅 ⚙️

(FREE) OUR POLLINATOR HEROES!

SAT. APR 12, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM I20
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
You will learn about how important pollinators are to the foods we eat. Learn about the different kinds of pollinators and how to attract them to your garden. We will do a walk through the farm to see some things you can do at home to welcome pollinators. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: All ages 📅 PTN

(FREE) AULLWOOD SPRING WALK

SUN. APR 13, 2:00-4:00 PM I76
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 900 Aullwood Rd.
Join us for a walk through beautiful Aullwood Gardens as the spring display of wildflowers and garden plants alike begins. Dress for the weather and for walking. We'll meet in the parking lot of Aullwood Garden MetroPark. Don't forget your camera! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📅 ⚙️

(FREE) ALL ABOUT LANDSCAPING FOR BEGINNERS

SAT. APR 26, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM I75
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Take the mystery out of getting a beautiful landscape. Whether you're in a new home with minimal plants or an older one with overgrown unknowns, this class will show you how to select the correct plants and how to make sure your yard will be beautiful for years to come with

minimal work. Come with questions and go home ready to start! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

(FREE) WILDFLOWER AND NATIVE PLANT SALE

SAT. APR 26, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM I150
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Huffman Gallery, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Find unique, hard-to-find wildflowers and native plants for your garden. Cox volunteers have propagated a variety of plants and trees for sunny or shady areas. If you haven't grown wildflowers or native plants before, our garden staff and volunteers will be on hand to answer questions and help you choose plants that will work in your garden. No registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. www.metroparks.org/PlantSales. Age: All ages

(FREE) ANNUAL MAYFAIR MEMBERS ONLY PRE-SALE

FRI. MAY 2, 5:00-7:00 PM I217
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation members can get a jump on their spring plant shopping on this special members-only night. In addition to early sale entry, members receive 10% off their total purchase. Anyone can become a member, memberships start at \$40. Call (937) 277-6545 or stop by the Wegerzyn Center for more information. No registration required. Age: All ages

(FREE) ANNUAL MAYFAIR PLANT SALE

SAT. MAY 3, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM I151
SUN. MAY 4, 12:00-3:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Get a jump on spring and purchase unusual perennials, annuals and herbs for companion planting or simply to enhance your landscape at our annual plant sale. Purchase organic vegetable plants for your home garden. Pass-along plants are locally grown and dug plants, perfect for local gardens. Enjoy hanging baskets, just in time for Mothers Day. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. www.metroparks.org/PlantSales. Age: All ages

(FREE) NATIVE PLANTS FOR YOUR LANDSCAPE

SAT. MAY 10, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM I77
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Native plants bring beauty, wonderful butterflies and birds and beneficial insects to your garden! Learn what varieties you already have, what is new on the market, and how native plants help not only the insects, but enrich the soil and make the environment healthier. Registration required. Contact

(937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

(FREE) CONTAINER GARDENS FOR THE FAMILY

SAT. MAY 10, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM I101

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Live in an apartment? Have very little yard space, but wish to grow fresh food? Then bring anything that will hold soil and water: a bucket, a child's toy wheel barrel, a pair of old boots. We will provide seed and soil for them. Plus, you will learn clever ways to plant in small spaces. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: All ages 📅 **PTN**

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: BECOME A GARDEN EXPERIENCE MENTOR

TUE. MAY 13, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM I124

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

Garden Experience Mentor (GEM) volunteers are needed to welcome visitors to the cool plants and habitats of the Children's Discovery Garden at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. GEMs can volunteer two-hour shifts during the weekdays, weekends or evenings. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 📅

YOUTH GARDEN CLUB

Youth ages 8 through 12 work together to plant, tend and harvest Skeeter's Garden while acquiring skills and learning about sustainable gardening. Three classes are held each month, May through August, and participants may register for any or all months out of the series.

(FREE) SPRING GREENS AND EARLY PLANTING

TUE. MAY 13-27, 4:30-6:00 PM I110

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Garden, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

During May, gardeners will harvest leafy greens and other spring veggies, plant warm-weather crops, and learn about basic plant science. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📅

LEARNING FROM THE LANDSCAPE

"Walk and Talk" and learn from the park grounds.

(FREE) GARDEN DESIGN: SPRING COLOR BURST PLANTS

TUE. MAY 13, 6:00-7:00 PM I212

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Outdoor Venues, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Seasonal color is always wonderful and this class will look at the special plants that

make this season outstanding in the garden. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: All ages 📅 ⚙️

(FREE) PLANTING FOR A CONTINUOUS HARVEST

SAT. MAY 17, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM I119

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

You're confident you can grow vegetables, and definitely are planting a vegetable garden this year. But what should you plant - and when - so you can harvest a crop for weeks instead of days? Lecture, discussion and hands-on garden planning will help you understand the possibilities. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

(FREE) MAY BEAUTY AT AULLWOOD

SUN. MAY 18, 2:00-4:00 PM I79

AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 900 Aullwood Rd.

If you loved Aullwood Garden in April, you will be amazed by it in May! Join us for a wonderful walk through the property and learn the signs of growth and renewal in all the beautiful plants, both in the garden and in the woods. Dress for walking and bring your camera! We'll meet in the Aullwood Garden MetroPark parking lot. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📅 ⚙️

BUS TRIP: OHIO GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE AND HERITAGE GARDENS

TUE. MAY 20, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM I91

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Our visit to Columbus includes a tour of the Heritage Gardens from Hope Taft, a visit to the OSU learning perennial gardens and recently completed "green roof" at the Chadwick Arboretum, and a box lunch from Black Creek Bistro. A check payable to Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation is due April 18. More details for this trip are listed online. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$62

GREEN LIVING

CAFÉ SCI

Join us for this month's cafe and discover conservation 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) MONARCH WAY STATIONS

WED. MAR 5, 6:30-8:30 PM I33

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Monarch butterflies are beautiful creatures admired by many. They live a captivating lifestyle that involved trans-continental migration during several generations. Since this journey is significantly impacted by available habitat, the monarch has become a flagship species for the habitat gardening movement. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

(FREE) THE PERCEPTION AND MEANING OF SCIENCE

WED. APR 2, 6:30-8:30 PM I103

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

How does the public perceive science and what does this imply for society as a whole? What are the relationships between science and art, politics and philosophy? David Dominic, Wright State University Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, will examine these questions and lead an enlightening discussion. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

(FREE) 3D PRINTING

WED. MAY 7, 6:30-8:30 PM I104

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

This cutting-edge technology has surfaced during the past few years and is becoming increasingly accessible to the public. It has the potential to make manufacturing much more efficient, but as with all new technology, there are environmental benefits and concerns to consider. Join us to learn more about this fascinating industry. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

WATER WISDOM

The Great Miami Watershed is a vast network of waterways that drain to the Ohio River and ultimately the Gulf of Mexico. It includes a substantial aquifer system that supplies the region with usable water. This is a valuable resource that is sensitive to human activity and must be cared for. This series aims to explore the history, science and pertinent conservation issues surrounding the watershed and connected bodies of water.



= Online Registration Available



= Program is Weather-Dependent



(FREE) THE WATER WISE HOUSEHOLD**SAT. MAR 8, 1:00-3:00 PM** I30

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead West-vaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Many aspects of the modern lifestyle require large quantities of water, and household cleaning supplies can be detrimental to aquatic ecosystems. Learn how to save water by practicing responsible use and installing water-saving devices, make your own Earth-friendly cleaning supplies, and shop wisely for “green” chemicals. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 16Y and up 📅

LIVING THE GREEN LIFE

Responsible consumer decisions and lifestyle choices are critical to ensuring a sustainable future. Living the Green Life provides participants a variety of opportunities to adopt practical, environmentally friendly practices, reduce waste and curb their use of natural resources. Sessions will consist of brief classes, activities and discussion groups.

(FREE) HOW TO DRIVE LESS**SAT. MAR 22, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM** I32

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead West-vaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

With the cost of fuel rising and a growing awareness of the ecological impact of combustion, it is important to minimize the amount of driving we do. This session will cover biking, ride-share programs, pedestrian routes, public transportation and drive-time planning to help you save money and reduce your carbon footprint. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 16Y and up 📅

(FREE) SOURCING LOCAL FOOD**THU. APR 10, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM** I108

2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.

A local food system implies sustainability, economic prosperity, better personal health and a more vibrant community, but it requires the support of consumers. MetroParks staff and 2nd Street Market vendors will explain how to connect with local food and make wise consumer choices. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 279-6979 for details. Age: 16Y and up 📅

(FREE) HOW TO DRIVE LESS CONTINUED: WALKABILITY**THU. MAY 1, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM** I173

2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.

With the cost of fuel rising and a growing awareness of the ecological impact of combustion, it is important to minimize the amount of driving we do. This second

installment of How to Drive Less will focus on the walkability of Dayton. We'll meet at 2nd Street Market and take a walk through downtown, Riverscape MetroPark and back. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 16Y 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) COMPOST KITCHEN:**BUILDING BETTER SOIL****WED. APR 9, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** I171

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead West-vaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Gardeners learn how to evaluate their soil, manage its composition and add available nutrients without the use of synthetic fertilizer. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

(FREE) COMPOST KITCHEN:**BACKYARD COMPOSTING****WED. APR 16, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** I105

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead West-vaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

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) 434-9005 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

(FREE) COMPOST KITCHEN:**MANAGING ORGANIC WASTE****WED. APR 23, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** I106

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead West-vaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

John Woodman from Montgomery County Solid Waste District discusses composting as an important part of reducing community waste. Afterward, we'll proceed to the compost demonstration area for some first-hand experience and answer any remaining questions about getting started. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

(FREE) ADOPT-A-PARK**SAT. APR 19, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM** I15

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Come help MetroParks with a variety of Earth-friendly activities. Participants will assist staff and volunteers doing trail work, planting trees,

and cleaning our parks and water ways. This annual event is open to all people regardless of age or ability. Registration closes April 14. Register at www.metroparks.org/adopt. Registration required. Contact (937) 278-8231 for details. metroparks.org/adopt. Age: All ages 📅

WORM COMPOSTING WORKSHOP**WED. APR 30, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** I107

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

Learn the science and art of vermiculture and vermicomposting! Self-proclaimed “worm wrangler” Connie Duncan will lead you through all aspects of worm bin care and send you home with a functioning bin. We'll provide small starter bins, worms and materials to get started. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: 16Y and up Fee: \$15 📅

(FREE) COMPOST MEAT, DAIRY, VEGGIES AND STARCH WITH BOKASHI**SAT. MAY 31, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM** I133

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

No more memorizing a long list of dos and don'ts for the compost pile. With bokashi, meat, starches and dairy can all go in the compost. Bokashi, an ancient Japanese/Korean form of composting by fermentation, is new to the U.S. but is practiced worldwide. Join us for this hands-on workshop and walk through all steps to make your own bokashi set up. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

HERITAGE & HISTORY**(FREE) ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT THE MARKET****SAT. MAR 15, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** I37

2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.

Come celebrate the wearing of the green at the 2nd Street Market! This year's event features live Celtic music, followed by dancers from the Celtic Academy of Irish Dance. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 or bramsey@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages

(FREE) STEAM ON THE FARM**SUN. MAR 16, 12:00-4:00 PM** I27

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

The use of steam engines ushered in a new era of efficiency on the farm. Come watch various demonstrations of how steam was used during the time period. Chores, such as corn grinding and milling, will help illustrate the effectiveness of this agricultural marvel. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages

(FREE) FROM SHEEP TO SHAWLS SAT., SUN APR. 12-13, 12:00-5:00 PM I80
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, 7800 E. Shull Rd.
Sheep played an important role on any 19th century farm. Watch as the sheep are sheared for the spring at 2 PM. Help card wool and watch as fabric is dyed using traditional methods. Come hear about the spinning process and factory production of wool. Watch spinners and weavers process the wool into yarn. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages

(FREE) SMOKED, DRIED & PICKLED: 19TH CENTURY PRESERVATION METHODS SUN. APR 27, 12:00-5:00 PM I81
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Join us for a day of demonstrations on some of the various methods used for preserving anything from meat to vegetables. Throughout the day, ongoing demonstrations will focus on historical methods that are still used today. Watch as salted meats are smoked in our smokehouse. Learn to dry fruits and herbs and pickle seasonal items from the garden. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages

(FREE) ALL THINGS FERMENTED: KRAUT, VINEGAR AND YEAST SUN. MAY 11, 12:00-5:00 PM I83
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Come watch various ongoing demonstrations about how items found in a 1880s farmhouse pantry were fermented. Watch as sauerkraut is made, homemade vinegar is produced, and yeast is made from potatoes and hops. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages

(FREE) CORN 101: CORN AND ITS USES SUN. MAY 18, 12:00-5:00 PM I84
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Watch as the farmer rides the corn planter and plants the corn in check rows. See a corn field laid out before your very eyes. Try your hand at grinding corn into meal. Also, learn about heirloom corn and the various resources for it today. Afterward, stop by the farmhouse to try some items made from corn. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages ☀

HOME & HOBBIES

(FREE) DEMO DAYS
THU. MAR 27, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM I146
THU. APR 24, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM I219
THU. MAY 29, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM I220
2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. Second St.
Come to the Market and take some time to get

to know your vendors! Follow 2nd Street Market on Facebook and @2ndStMarket on Twitter to find out what samples, demonstrations and/or programs will be going on each day. No registration required. Contact bramsey@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages

YOUNG HOMESTEADERS

Gain hands-on experience in topics that have been carried down through the ages. Learn a variety of skills you can take home to use and share with friends and family. These include: gardening, small animal care, and food preparation and preservation.

(FREE) INTRODUCTION TO HOMESTEADING

SAT. MAR 29, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM I6
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
We will discuss what homesteading means. How can we apply those ideas to work for us today? Learn while having fun. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 11Y-14Y 📱 PTN

(FREE) SEED STARTING

SAT. APR 26, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM I7
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
We will give our garden a kick start by starting seeds in our greenhouse. Learn how to mix soil for starting seeds and understand seed packet information. Learn the basics of starting and growing your own seedlings. Plants will be used in the Young Homesteaders garden. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 11Y-14Y 📱 PTN

(FREE) PLANTING AND TRANS-PLANTING

SAT. MAY 24, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM I8
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Before we place our plants in the garden, we must choose the perfect spot to plant so they will grow healthy and strong. Learn to plant seeds and seedlings, as well as basic garden design and how to build lasagna beds. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 11Y-14Y 📱 PTN

(FREE) BE A BUNNY DAY

SAT. APR 19, 11:00 AM-2:00 PM I147
2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.
Bring your kids to the Market a day before Easter and they can craft a funny bunny mask. They're sure to hop out happy! No registration required. Age: All ages

CANNING CLUB

Learn how to preserve fruits and vegetables in an inexpensive and efficient way in our summer kitchen. Canning your own produce teaches self sufficiency and helps keep our planet green. Participants will learn how to preserve six varieties of fruits and vegetables, using seasonal produce and 19th century methods.

CANNING CLUB: ASPARAGUS

SAT. MAY 3, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM I82
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Join us in the farmhouse at Carriage Hill Farm and learn to safely preserve pickled asparagus using the hot-water-boiling method. Students will prepare the recipe and process the jars themselves, taking home 19th century and modern recipes as well as the preserved foods they have prepared. Registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 📱

MOUNTAIN BIKING

(FREE) TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING

TUE. MAY 13, 4:00-7:00 PM I128
TUE. JUN 3, 4:00-7:00 PM J23
MOMBA, 4485 Union School House Road
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 younger than 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 📱 ☀

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: MOMBA TRAIL WORK DAYS

SAT. MAY 17, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM E225
MOMBA, 4485 Union School House Road
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) 277-4147 or yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 📱 ☀



PASSPORT TO NATURE

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 become an official Nature Traveler and 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!

There are also self-guided Park Trek explorations that qualify to earn a stamp.

Due to our new **Conservation Kids** program series, the passport to nature will be retiring at the end of the year, so please finish any passports already started by Dec. 31, 2014.

FIRST PASSPORT

Grant Drusen	Peyton Spraley
Katie Wayne	Carson Brawn
Even Brawn	Ben Sebesy
Adam Gorrell	Megan Gorrell
Georgiana Griffen	Graham Glovka
Norah Glovka	Miles Glovka
Andre Lorca Bahns	Clara Griffen
David Phillips	Becket King
Joel Le	Rose Peyton
Dominic Peyton	Samuel Peyton
Annabelle Baker	Blaise Peyton
Abbigail Baker	Andrea Vecchi
Aiden Vecchi	Aspen Wyatt
Joshua Grimson	

SECOND PASSPORT

Katelin Miller	Emma Miller
Sierra Sundell-Turner	Maria Lengel
Cheyann Sundell-Turner	Gianna Lengel
Byron Griffen	Olivia Stewart
Gabriel Stewart	Futa Reeves
Tyler Pfahler	Camden Pfahler

THIRD PASSPORT

Sophia Fullenkamp

FOURTH PASSPORT

Jack Periard Leo Fullenkamp

CONSERVATION KIDS



Have you seen the changes to MetroParks' programs for children and families?

We have introduced a series of nature-based programs for three specific age groups (Tikes, Explorers and Voyagers) to help you and your child discover nature, take conservation action, share cool conservation actions with others, and ultimately help protect and promote wildlife. Your children will grow into leaders of their peers, helping them see we are all a part of nature and advocating for a sustainable future.

These age-appropriate programs give your kids clear steps to take and opportunities to see the impact they make through planting for pollinators, collecting seeds to plant a forest, creating their own wildlife habitat in their backyard, being a naturalist for their classmates at school and so much more!

Find your place at Five Rivers MetroParks, discover just how powerful your 3- to 13-year-old can be, and start on your journey today!

By completing programs in each of the three levels of this series, your child will also receive a special reward. Visit metroparks.org/conservationkids for more information. Look for color triangles (▲) in the program listings for Conservation Kids to see what level each program is designated for within the series. Participants should begin by taking Discovery Level (green) programs and build onto their knowledge with blue and orange programs after completing the green level.

For more info call (937) 275-PARK (7275) or visit us at metroparks.org/kids.

NATURE

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

TUE. MAR 4, 6:30-8:30 PM I52


WED. MAR 19, 9:30-11:30 AM I53

TUE. APR 15, 9:30-11:30 AM I54

WED. APR 30, 6:30-8:30 PM I55

WED. MAY 14, 6:30-8:30 PM I156

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor

Five Rivers MetroParks protects more than 15,000 acres, and we need your help. Discover ways you can participate and join our conservation team in reforestation efforts, habitat restoration, wildlife management and land stewardship. Attending an orientation does not commit you to anything, so come see what we are doing at Five Rivers MetroParks. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4147 or yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages 

CONSERVATION KIDS: TIKES (AGES 3-5)


Bring your 3- to 5-year-old out for an adventure with the butterflies, wildflowers, frogs and other life within MetroParks, and watch your child grow as a leader by motivating peers toward an active, nature-based lifestyle. By completing programs in each of the three levels of this series, your child also will receive a special MetroParks Conservation Kids Backpack. Visit metroparks.org/kids for more information.

(FREE) ANIMAL HOMES

TUE. MAR 4, 10:00-11:00 AM I48

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


Who built that nest? Who's in that hole?

Find out different ways animals build their homes and discover the variety of nature's architecture. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y 

(FREE) WINTER BIRDS

FRI. MAR 21, 10:00-11:00 AM I47

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


Search for birds that stay in Ohio for winter and those that call Ohio their tropical paradise. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited supply will be available. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y 

(FREE) BLUEBIRD TRAILS

WED. MAR 26, 10:00-11:30 AM I45

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.


Come out and help set up our bluebird trail

at Carriage Hill! We will assemble bluebird boxes, hike our bluebird trail and learn how to take care of them throughout the year! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y 

(FREE) BUDS AND BUGS

THU. APR 3, 10:00-11:00 AM I141


TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Blue Heron /Parking Lot, 2000 U.S. 40

Use facepaint to transform your preschooler into a bee, bug or butterfly. We will pretend to be nature's pollinators, exploring flowers and discovering the relationships that flow-ers have with bugs. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y 

(FREE) NOCTURNAL AMPHIBIAN SEARCH

FRI. APR 11, 8:00-9:30 PM I142


SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Join us on an evening search for spring peep-ers and spotted salamanders in Sugarcreek's vernal pool, only 1/4 mile away from the parking lot. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y 

(FREE) LEAF A LEGACY

WED. APR 23, 10:00-11:30 AM I180


SUGARCREEK METROPARK, 4178 Conference Rd.

This month we will continue helping our forests by checking on the seedlings planted last spring. These trees are meant to take the place of dying ash trees, and we need to make sure they are still healthy. Come out and take part in our reforestation effort! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y 

(FREE) LITTLE SPROUTS

MON. MAY 5, 10:00-11:30 AM I143

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.


Come learn what a plant needs to grow and then we will search for baby plants in the park! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y 

(FREE) FORESTS AT NIGHT

FRI. MAY 16, 9:00-10:30 PM I144


HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw/ Parking Lot, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.

Have you wondered what happens in the forest once the sun goes down? On a night hike just for preschoolers and their families, we will discuss the differences between night and day, explore pelts of nocturnal animals, and hike to see what nocturnal animals are out! Registration requested, walk-ins wel-

come. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y 

(FREE) MILKWEED FOR MONARCHS

MON. MAY 19, 10:00-11:30 AM I165
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Prairie Dock/Parking Lot, 4730 Frytown Rd.

Milkweed is a monarch caterpillar's favorite food! Come plant milkweed for our monarchs and other plants for butterflies. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y 

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 carrier is required, as trails are not stroller-friendly.

(FREE) BIRD STUDY

THU. MAR 6, 10:00-11:30 AM I26

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Your babies are easily hypnotized by our feathered friends. Join us for a hike searching for these creatures of the air, and let your babies feel the softness of feathers. Naturalists will have a live screech owl and American kestrel, so that your babies can get a close look at these magnificent animals. A baby backpack or carrier is required. No registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 for details. Age: 0Y-2Y

(FREE) A PLANT'S LIFE

THU. APR 3, 10:00-11:00 AM I181

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Explore trees, shrubs and wildflowers as we hike through the forest celebrating plant life. Babies will feel and smell a variety of aromas from leaves while appreciating the vibrant colors and shapes of wildflowers. A baby backpack or carrier is required, as trails are not stroller-friendly. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 0Y-2Y

(FREE) FLOWER COLORS


THU. MAY 1, 10:00-11:00 AM I182

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Let your baby enjoy the beautiful colors nature has to offer on this exploration. A baby backpack or carrier is required for this program, as trails are not stroller-friendly. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 0Y-2Y

(FREE) SOARING EAGLES AND QUACKING DUCKS ALONG THE MAD RIVER**SAT. MAR 8, 10:00-11:30 AM** I46

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.


Discover the winter bird diversity along the Mad River. We will look for the Eastwood Eagles, Jim and Cindy, and also watch for the winter waterfowl at Eastwood Lake. Then, warm up in your car as we drive to Huffman together and search for more waterfowl along the Mad River and Huffman Lake. Please bring binoculars if you can. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages  **PTN**

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 trails at various MetroParks. Children's tour guides make our natural areas come alive for the students who visit each season.


(FREE) SPRING ORIENTATION AND WELCOME**MON. MAR 17, 9:30-11:30 AM** I41

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Make an impact working with students who visit MetroParks as part of our Children's Tour Guide program. We invite returning tour guides and interested adults to this workshop to learn more about leading tours and the opportunities available at multiple parks. Please bring your calendar to sign up for scheduled tours. Light refreshments provided. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 275-5059 for details. Age: 16Y and up 

(FREE) OUT IN THE GARDEN**MON. MAR 24, 9:30-11:30 AM** I42


COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

This session will focus on the changes in our favorite garden tour spots at the Arboretum. Gain insights and activity ideas to share with our student visitors. Please dress for the weather. Light refreshments provided. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 275-5059 for details. Age: 16Y and up 

(FREE) WONDERFUL WEGERZYN**MON. MAR 31, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** I44


COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Get to know wonderful Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark during this field trip. Get an insider view of the Children's garden as preparations for the growing and tour season begin. Transportation for this session will be

provided from Cox Arboretum MetroPark. Meet in the front parking lot at 9:00 AM. Registration required. Contact (937) 275-5059 for details. Age: 16Y and up 

(FREE) VOLUNTEER:**CONSERVATION AMBASSADORS****TUE. MAR 18, 9:00-11:00 AM** I51

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor



This opportunity is for those who enjoy talking to people, love to share information, and have a passion for conservation and Five Rivers MetroParks. Training will be ongoing, but this orientation will introduce you to the various topics and the role of ambassador. Coming to the orientation does not commit you to anything. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4147 for details. Age: 21Y 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 and how we can minimize our harmful impacts and get involved with conservation efforts. It's our nature!

(FREE) WEDNESDAY DISCOVERY STROLL**WED. MAR 19, 10:00-11:30 AM** I201

WED. MAY 7, 10:00-11:30 AM I208
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Program Parking, 100 Deep Hollow Road



Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 18Y and up  

(FREE) TUESDAY ADULT NATURE WALK**TUE. APR 8, 9:00-11:00 AM** I192

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


TUE. MAY 20, 9:00-11:00 AM I197

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 18Y and up  


WATERFOWL FIELD TRIP**SAT. MAR 22, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM** I98

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Learn how to identify Ohio's waterfowl while discussing their life histories as we travel in vans to different birding hotspots throughout the Dayton area, including Spring Valley Wildlife Area. Bring binoculars and a spotting scope if you have one. A limited supply will be available. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$30 


(FREE) WOODCOCK WATCH**SAT. MAR 22, 7:00-8:30 PM** I184

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

Watch this odd little bird as he performs his courtship dance at dusk. Bring binoculars if you have them. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages  **PTN**


(FREE) VOLUNTEER:**CONSERVATION CARETAKER ORIENTATION****TUE. APR 8, 6:30-8:30 PM** I39

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor

Each of the conservation areas has groups of volunteers who are more integrated in a specific site. These caretakers may be involved with boundary checks, greeting episodic volunteers to workdays, act as invasive scouts and help in giving each of the areas more TLC during the year. This opportunity can be done independently or in teams. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4147 or yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 

BEGINNING BIRDING**SAT. APR 12, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** I96

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



Explore the world of ornithology and start with the basics, including identification, field guide and binocular use, bird song, biology, and behavior. The 2-hour hands-on indoor session will be followed by a 2-hour field study in the prairie and forest. Participants are encouraged to attend the afternoon Bird Song Study. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$25 

(FREE) SEEDLING SATURDAYS**SAT. APR 12, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** I40

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Parking Lot, 7800 E. Shull Rd.

SAT. MAY 10, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM I163


SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Horse Trailer Parking Lot, 7636 Wilmington-Dayton Rd.

Join our reforestation efforts and help us plant tree seedlings. Five Rivers MetroParks and our volunteers grew these seedlings in 2013, and they are ready to find their place in our forest. Your help is needed. We will be planting more than 4,000 new tree seedlings this spring in locations throughout MetroParks. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4147 for details. Age: All ages  

BIRD SONG STUDY**SAT. APR 12, 1:00-4:00 PM** I97

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



Practice makes perfect! Study common birds and their vocalizations with this relaxed study session. After studying, we will play games and tell stories

to help us remember these songs. Later we will hike through different habitats in search of birds and test our new skill. Each participant will receive an ODNR bird guide and birdsong CD. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$25 


CONSERVATION KIDS: EXPLORERS (AGES 6-9)

Young children are full of curiosity, and love exploring nature! Bring your 6- to 9-year-old out to discover other life on this planet by being immersed in Dayton's variety of habitats. Your children will grow into leaders of their peers, helping them see we are all a part of nature and advocating for a sustainable future. By completing programs in each of the three levels of this series, your child also will receive a special MetroParks Conservation Kids Hoodie. Visit metroparks.org/kids for more information.



(FREE) NIGHTTIME AMPHIBIAN SEARCH

SAT. APR 12, 8:30-10:00 PM I214
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, 4178 Conference Rd. Join us on an evening search for spring peepers and spotted salamanders in Sugarcreek's vernal pool, only 1/4 mile away from the parking lot. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 6Y-9Y  

(FREE) WOODLAND SALAMANDER SEARCH



SUN. APR 13, 2:00-3:30 PM I177
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Hilltop / Sledding Hill/Parking Lot, 1200 Brown School Rd. Discover the predators of the leaf litter as we explore the lives of red-back salamanders while bonding with your family in nature. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 6Y-9Y 

(FREE) SPRING FROG SURVEY


SAT. APR 26, 8:30-10:00 PM I162
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Shelter: Whitetail/ Sunfish Pond/Parking Lot, 7101 Conservancy Rd. Spring is when frogs make the most noise so come out and help your MetroParks naturalists figure out what frogs are in Germantown. We will conduct frog surveys at Sunfish Pond and a small wetland to see what area has more species. By the end, your family will want to go out on its own throughout the spring! Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 6Y-9Y  

(FREE) INSECTS IN YOUR BACKYARD



SAT. MAY 3, 2:00-3:30 PM I179
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd. Come explore the prairie and wetland to

catch insects that probably live in your own backyard. We'll use nets for close-up inspection, and we'll release after identifying what we've captured. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 6Y-9Y  



(FREE) THE GREAT BUG HUNT

SAT. MAY 10, 10:00-11:30 AM I215
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk. Spend the morning in Conservation Corner on an insect scavenger hunt. Families completing the hunt will get a free ODNR butterfly guide. A limited number of nets and containers will be available. All insects collected will be released before leaving. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 6Y-9Y 

(FREE) PLANTING FOR POLLINATORS

SAT. MAY 10, 1:00-3:00 PM I174
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Prairie Dock/Parking Lot, 4730 Frytown Rd. Pollinators have an important job to do, so let's help them by planting flowers they need! Learn about pollinator-friendly plants, and get ideas to make your family habitat more pollinator friendly. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 6Y-9Y  



(FREE) CARING AND GARDEN- ING FOR CATERPILLARS

SAT. MAY 17, 10:00-11:00 AM I159
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk. Watching a caterpillar develop into a butterfly is a fun way to learn about life cycles. Earth Explorers will discover how to raise caterpillars at home: No more need to order butterfly kits! We also will learn tips for creating a garden to attract butterflies. Participants will receive butterfly garden seeds and their own digging trowel. Registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 for details. Age: 6Y-9Y  


CONSERVATION KIDS: VOYAGERS (AGES 10-13)

Today's youth have a strong drive to protect the nature that keeps them alive for years to come. This series, specially designed for families with 10- to 13-year-olds, nurtures this desire and empowers youth to speak out for the planet they will soon inherit. Come watch as your child grows closer to nature, develops leadership skills and works with peers to protect Dayton's ecology. By completing programs in each of the three levels of this series, your child also will receive a special MetroParks Conservation Kids Hoodie. Visit metroparks.org/kids for more information.



(FREE) NOCTURNAL AMPHIBIAN QUEST

SAT. APR 12, 8:30-10:00 PM I176
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, 4178 Conference Rd. Search for spring peepers, spotted salamanders, and other amphibians in Sugarcreek's vernal pool, only 1/4 mile away from the parking lot. If time allows, we may go for a night hike and try to call in barred owls. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 10Y-13Y  



(FREE) SALAMANDER SEARCH

SUN. APR 13, 2:00-3:30 PM I216
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Hilltop / Sledding Hill/Parking Lot, 1200 Brown School Rd. Discover the predators of the leaf litter as we explore the lives of red-back salamanders while bonding with your family in nature. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 10Y-13Y 


(FREE) AMPHIBIAN SURVEY

SAT. APR 26, 8:30-10:00 PM I164
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Shelter: Whitetail/ Sunfish Pond/Parking Lot, 7101 Conservancy Rd. Help your MetroPark naturalists figure out what frog species are where at Germantown. We will conduct frog surveys at Sunfish Pond and a small wetland to see what area has more species, and by the end, your family will want to go out on its own throughout the spring. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 10Y-13Y  

(FREE) INSECTS IN YOUR YARD

SAT. MAY 3, 2:00-3:30 PM I213
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd. Come explore the prairie and wetland to catch insects that probably live in your own backyard. We'll use nets for close-up inspection and we'll release after identifying what we've captured. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 10Y-13Y  

(FREE) LET'S BUG OUT!

SAT. MAY 10, 10:00-11:30 AM I178
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk. Spend the morning in Conservation Corner on an insect scavenger hunt. Families completing the hunt will get a free ODNR butterfly guide. A limited number of nets and containers will be available. All insects collected will be released before leaving. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 10Y-13Y 

(FREE) POLLINATOR PLANTING

SAT. MAY 10, 1:00-3:00 PM I175
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Prairie Dock/Parking Lot, 4730 Frytown Rd.



= Online Registration Available



= Program is Weather-Dependent

Pollinators have an important job to do, so let's help them by planting flowers they need! Learn about pollinator-friendly plants, and get ideas to make your family habitat more pollinator friendly. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 10Y-13Y 📱 **PTN** ▲

(FREE) MOTH PARTY

SAT. MAY 17, 2:00-3:30 PM I160

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

Come explore the incredible diversity of moths and how to build your own Moth Party for National Moth Week. Participants will get a nocturnal moth starter kit. Registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 for details. Age: 10Y-13Y 📱 **PTN** ▲

SATURDAY ESCAPE

Hang out at the crossroads of the community. Get your heartbeat up with a morning fitness program and then relax with a snack at Silver Fern Café while enjoying acoustic music during lunch with your tablet or friends. Enjoy Ohio's Great Corridor along the Great Miami. Ride in, walk in, paddle in, run in - just get on in and be a part of the Saturday scene at RiverScape. Silver Fern Café opens for the season May 9, and Ride the River Rentals opens Memorial Day Weekend. Enjoy beautiful spring Saturdays at RiverScape. In addition to acoustic music from 11 AM to 1 PM, see below for other program listings. Between the live music, fitness programs or learning about the natural world, come eEscape downtown.

(FREE) LET'S EXPLORE FOR NATURE IN OUR DOWNTOWN HOME

SAT. APR 26, 8:30-9:00 AM I131

SAT. MAY 17, 8:30-9:30 AM I132

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, Festival Plaza, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Nature thrives and is alive downtown! Come join us as we take a leisurely naturalist guided stroll through downtown and along the river seeking out the animals and plants that have made a home in our urban environment. Bring your binoculars! Prerequisites: none. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 855-7717 or jlatham@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages 📱



(FREE) WILDFLOWER AND WILDLIFE RELATIONSHIPS

SAT. APR 26, 2:00-3:30 PM I170

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Discover our spring wildflowers while learning about the animals that depend on them for their survival. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 14Y and up ⚙️

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: FOREST FOSTER FAMILY

SUN. APR 27, 1:00-4:00 PM I172

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Volunteer Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.

The Forest Foster Family program is a different kind of volunteer opportunity for Five Rivers MetroParks, and is welcoming the 4th year of 'parents' this spring to our reforestation efforts. Volunteers take home tree seedlings to care for and monitor for the growing season. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4147 or forestfosterfamilies@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages 📱

BIRDING WORKSHOP: WARBLERS

SAT. MAY 10, 8:00-11:00 AM I168

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Get to know the most colorful birds of the forests as we study field marks, birdsong and behavior in this all-outdoor workshop. On the trail we'll practice identification and learn tips and memory tricks to enhance your future warbler experiences. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$10 📱 ⚙️

(FREE) WARBLER WALK

SAT. MAY 17, 8:00-10:00 AM I169

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

Enjoy this slow-paced walk searching for warblers and other migrating birds while enjoying a carpet of wildflowers. Bring binoculars if you have them. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 14Y and up ⚙️

(FREE) GROWING UP WILD TRAINING

SUN. MAY 18, 1:00-4:00 PM I183

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Trailside, 4178 Conference Rd.

Get certified in the nationally recognized Growing Up Wild curriculum and combine it with our Natural Adventures Box and have a fun, exciting summer with your kids. This training gives child-care providers the tools needed to give children an early foundation and a sense of wonder about nature while encouraging them to explore the world around them. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 21Y and up 📱

OHIO'S STREAM FISHES

SAT. MAY 24, 1:00-3:30 PM I166

WESLEYAN METROPARK, Wesleyan/AC Annex, 2222 N. James H. McGee Blvd.

Become familiar with the variety of Ohio's fishes and their life histories with a 1-hr presentation on their classification, feeding and mating behaviors, and identification characteristics. Later, we will dive into Wolf Creek and seine for darters, chubs, minnows and more! Wear shoes and clothes that can get muddy; no sandals permitted. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$10 📱 ⚙️

MVLNCI TRAVELING SYMPOSIUM: YOUTH ACCESS TO NATURE TOUR

SAT. JUN 7, 8:00 AM-3:30 PM J29

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

Join our tour taking child advocates to benchmark access to nature places at schools, neighborhoods and parks. Keynote Cindy Heath will discuss Safe Routes to Play, and bus trip activities and wrap up will provide tools for you to create these spaces. Bring a sack lunch. More details on the website. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. www.ohiolnci.org/ohio-regions/miami-valleydayton/. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 📱

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

THE BIG READ! WILD: FROM LOST TO FOUND ON THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL

Join the Big Read! The Big Read is a community reading project, and this year's book is *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed, which also is being turned into a movie starring Reese Witherspoon! Learn about the Pacific Crest Trail and join a book discussion with this series of programs. For a complete list of partners, events and other information, visit BigRead.org.

(FREE) A WALK FROM MEXICO TO CANADA ON THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL

MON. MAR 10, 7:00-8:30 PM I149

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

Local hikers Brent and Amy Anslinger spent five months hiking 2,650 miles from Mexico to Canada on the Pacific Crest Trail. Learn about the rewards and challenges they encountered as they walked through the arid desert of Southern California to the high mountain passes of the Sierra and into the breathtaking Cascade Range in Oregon and Washington. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 or outdoors@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages

**(FREE) BOOK DISCUSSION;
WILD: FROM LOST TO FOUND
ON THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL**

TUE. MAR 11, 7:00-8:00 PM I154
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third
Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.

WED. MAR 19, 7:00-8:00 PM I155
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult
Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

THU. MAR 27, 12:00-1:00 PM I153
2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.
A facilitator from the Dayton Metro Library
will lead a discussion on this intriguing book.
Wild is a powerful, blazingly honest, inspiring
memoir: the story of a 1,100 mile solo hike
that broke down a young woman reeling from
catastrophe - and built her back up again. For
more info on The Big Read go to BigRead.org
No registration required. Contact (937) 277-
4374 for details. Age: 14Y and up

(FREE) TRY SLACKLINING

TUE. APR 22, 4:00-7:00 PM I93

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385
Harshman Rd.

Slacklining is an emerging sport that improves
balance, core strength and flexibility. We invite
you to try this activity at our temporary slackline
park with knowledgeable staff who can assist
you in learning proper technique in a controlled
environment while sharing tips to enhance your
balance on the line. Flat shoes are recommend-
ed. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome.
Age: All ages 📄 ⚙️

GREAT DAYTON ADVENTURE

FRI. MAY 9, 5:00-9:00 PM E155

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E.
Monument Ave.

This race is an urban scavenger hunt in down-
town Dayton, starting and ending at RiverScape
MetroPark. Experience Dayton in a new way as
you weave your way through the excitement of
Urban Nights with music and fun around every
corner on a vibrant night downtown. Register
solo or with a team - sign up at the provided
website. See contact info to register. Contact
(937) 275-7275 or info@topoadventuresports.org
for details. www.topoadventuresports.org. Age:
All ages Fee: \$20

**OUTDOOR SKILLS
AND SAFETY**

WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER

**SAT., SUN, MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI.
MAR. 8-14, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM** I148

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Educa-
tion Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

This class is the ideal medical training for outdoor
educators, guides, SAR team members and oth-

ers who work or play in remote areas. Through
lectures, discussions and scenarios, you'll learn the
essential principles and skills required to assess
and manage medical problems in isolated and ex-
treme environments for days and weeks if neces-
sary. Registration required. Contact (719) 395-5358
or dstokes@rockymountains.net for details.
www.wildmed.com. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$690

WILDERNESS FIRST AID

FRI. MAR 14, 6:00-9:00 PM I21

SAT. MAR 15, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM

SUN. MAR 16, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Educa-
tion Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Wilderness First Aid prepares students for emer-
gency situations that involve prolonged patient
care in severe environments with improvised
equipment. This course teaches what to do with
a medical emergency when help is miles away.
Participants will earn a nationally recognized cer-
tificate. Optional CPR/AED certification available
Friday evening. Registration required. Contact
(937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee:
\$165, with optional CPR/AED (+\$45): \$210, with
optional lunch (+\$15): \$180, with lunch and CPR/
AED (+60): \$225

**FUNDAMENTALS OF
GEOCACHING**

MON. MAY 19, 6:00-8:00 PM I68

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco
Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Geocaching is a real-world, outdoor treasure
hunting activity using GPS-enabled devices. Join
us for this classroom session to learn the basics
of geocaching and how to get started. We will
end the class by searching for a cache in the
park. Geocaching is a great activity for all ages,
combining technology with adventure. Registra-
tion required. Age: All ages Fee: \$5 📄

PADDLING

INTRO TO PADDLESPOITS

WED. MAY 7, 6:00-8:30 PM I137

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium,
1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Intro to paddlesports is the first step in our
paddlesports progression of classes. You will
learn about different types of kayaking, stand
up paddleboarding and canoeing. Other topics
covered include a variety of equipment, trip plan-
ning, safety and where to go paddling. This is a
prerequisite for Kayaking Basics, SUP Basics and
Canoeing Basics. Registration required. Contact
(937) 277-4374 or outdoors@metroparks.org for
details. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$5 📄

KAYAK BASICS

WED. MAY 21, 6:00-8:30 PM I138

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman
Rd.

During this hands-on class, students will become
acquainted with equipment and learn basic pad-
dle 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, Intro to Paddlesports. Registration
required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age:
All ages Fee: \$40 📄 ⚙️

**ACA CANOE INSTRUCTOR
CERTIFICATION**

**THU., FRI., SAT. MAY 29-31, 8:00 AM-
6:00 PM** I139

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium,
1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

American Canoe Association Level 1 Canoe certi-
fication is meant to give you a good foundation in
the skill and knowledge needed to instruct pad-
dling a canoe on flat-water. Certification requires
ACA membership, CPR and First Aid. Course
will be a combination of classroom and on-the-
water skills, including teaching topics. Please call
for more info. Prerequisites: ACA membership
and pay SEIC dues. Prior experience preferred.
Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 or
outdoors@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y
and up Fee: \$125 📄

**ACA KAYAK INSTRUCTOR
CERTIFICATION**

**THU., FRI., SAT. MAY 29-31, 8:00 AM-
6:00 PM** I140

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium,
1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

American Canoe Association Level 1 Kayak certi-
fication is meant to give you a good foundation in
the skill and knowledge needed to instruct pad-
dling a kayak on flatwater. Certification requires
ACA membership, CPR and First Aid. Course
will be a combination of classroom and on-the-
water skills, including teaching topics. Please call
for more info. Prerequisites: ACA membership
and pay SEIC dues. Prior experience preferred.
Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for
details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$125

PHOTOGRAPHY

PICTURING BEASTS AND BIRDS

SAT. MAR 15, 10:00-11:30 AM I43

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium,
1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Part of nature photography includes pictures
of small animals and birds. Photographer Adam
Alonzo discusses wildlife photo techniques.
Due to limited class size, you receive a hands-on
photo shoot in the garden (weather permitting),



= Online Registration Available



= Program is Weather-Dependent

supervised by the instructor, who will answer questions or offer suggestions to individual participants. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$10 📄

NATURE UP CLOSE

SAT. APR 26, 10:00-11:30 AM I94

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Photographer Adam Alonzo helps you learn great techniques for photographing flowers, insects and other small treasures outdoors. If the weather permits, this session will include a demonstration in the garden. Class size is limited so that all can receive individual instruction. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 📄

(FREE) AULLWOOD IN BLOOM

SAT. MAY 17, 10:00-11:30 AM I95

AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aull Residence, 900 Aullwood Rd.

Join photographer 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. Please park in the Aullwood Garden MetroPark parking lot. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📄 ⚙️

ROWING

COMPETITIVE YOUTH ROWING

MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI., SAT. MAR.

10-JUN. 14, 4:00-6:30 PM I28

ISLAND METROPARK, S. Parking Lot, 101 E. Helena St.

Join Greater Dayton Rowing for a multi-week program and compete in regatta events. Rowing is a low-impact, power-endurance sport using 90% of the body's muscles. Athletes gain confidence through competition and hard work. Training plans are specific to age groups. Financial aid available. At Island MetroPark Boat House: M-F 4-6:30, Sat. 10am-12:30pm Prerequisites: Must know how to swim and be comfortable around water. Participants must be a student in the greater Dayton area, grades 7-12 or ages 13-18. See

contact info to register. Contact (513) 885-6251 or alex.walters@gmail.com for details. www.dayton-juniorrowing.org. Age: 13Y-18Y Fee: \$495

ADULT LEARN TO ROW

MON., TUE., WED., THU., SAT., SUN MAY

12-JUN. 8, 6:00-8:00 PM I34

ISLAND METROPARK, South Parking Lot, 101 E. Helena St.

Sessions take place May 12-June 8. Classes are either 6 PM Monday/Wednesday, 6 PM Tuesday/Thursday, or noon Saturday/Sunday. These four-week classes will cover everything needed to row a single sculling boat confidently and independently. Classes are held at the Island MetroPark Boat House. No prior experience necessary. Prerequisites: Participants should know how to swim, be comfortable around water, have good balance and overall physical mobility, and be able to carry 25lbs. over-head and comfortable doing deep knee bends. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 673-4968 or benvieth@yahoo.com for details. www.daytonrowing.org. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$275

Launch your summer at RiverScape MetroPark!



Photo by Leah Stahl

URBAN NIGHTS

FRIDAY, MAY 9: 5:00 - 10:00 P.M.

Live music • Great food from Silver Fern Café
Such activities as the **Great Dayton Adventure** urban scavenger hunt and more!



BIKE TO WORK DAY

**FRIDAY, MAY 16
7:00 - 9:00 A.M.**

Ditch the drive and bike to work. Participants will be rewarded with a delicious, free pancake breakfast!



BIKE RENTAL OPENS

**SATURDAY, MAY 24
9:00 A.M. -
6:00 P.M.**

Rent bikes on Saturdays and Sundays, Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend!

METROPARKS.ORG/RIVERSCAPE

RENT A SHELTER ONLINE!



ALL 44 METROPARK SHELTERS NOW AVAILABLE FOR YOUR EXCLUSIVE USE

Open-air shelters make an excellent setting for functions – from casual BBQs to wedding receptions, birthday parties to family reunions. Five Rivers MetroParks shelters are located in beautiful, natural settings and come with tables, grills and mowed play areas. Some include electricity, water and other amenities. Most shelters accommodate 35 people; several are much larger. All are ranger-patrolled, quiet and designed to offer a degree of privacy. By making advanced reservations, your group will be guaranteed use of the site.

A new online reservation system is now available 24/7 for your convenience. Reservation fees now apply and vary by shelter, day of week, time of year and services requested. All major credit cards are accepted.

Unreserved shelters will remain available on a first-come, first-served basis at no charge.

To ensure your group's use of a shelter on the date you want, make reservations now by:

1. Using our online reservation system – available 24/7!
2. Calling (937)-275-PARK (7275) during normal business hours or
3. Stopping by the main office at 409 E. Monument Ave., Third Floor, Dayton, OH 45402 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

METROPARKS.ORG/RESERVATIONS

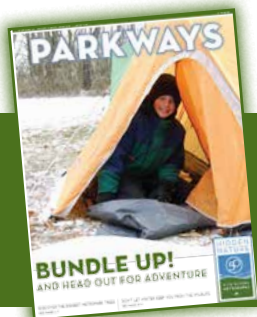


Five Rivers MetroParks
409 E. Monument Ave.
Third Floor
Dayton, OH 45402-1260

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Go to metroparks.org/parkways to view this *ParkWays* publication online.

GET A GROUP TOGETHER AND ADOPT-A-PARK!



ADOPT A PARK
FIVE RIVERS
METROPARKS

**SATURDAY, APRIL 19,
9-11:30 A.M.**

Celebrate Earth Day by participating in Five Rivers MetroParks' annual Adopt-A-Park event and enjoy lunch at RiverScape MetroPark.

Volunteers will be assigned to a crew that will work about one-mile sections of waterways or work at a MetroPark removing litter, planting trees and doing other Earth-friendly tasks.

Early registration is encouraged. Registration will close when all the sites are full. **If you are registering a club or group, only one registration is needed.**

To register, visit **metroparks.org/adopt**

Registration closes on Monday, April 7.

ParkWays is mailed to every resident of Montgomery County. Due to delivery specifications, we are unable to remove individual recipients from our mailing list at this time. If you are not interested in this publication, please pass it along to a friend or recycle the booklet.