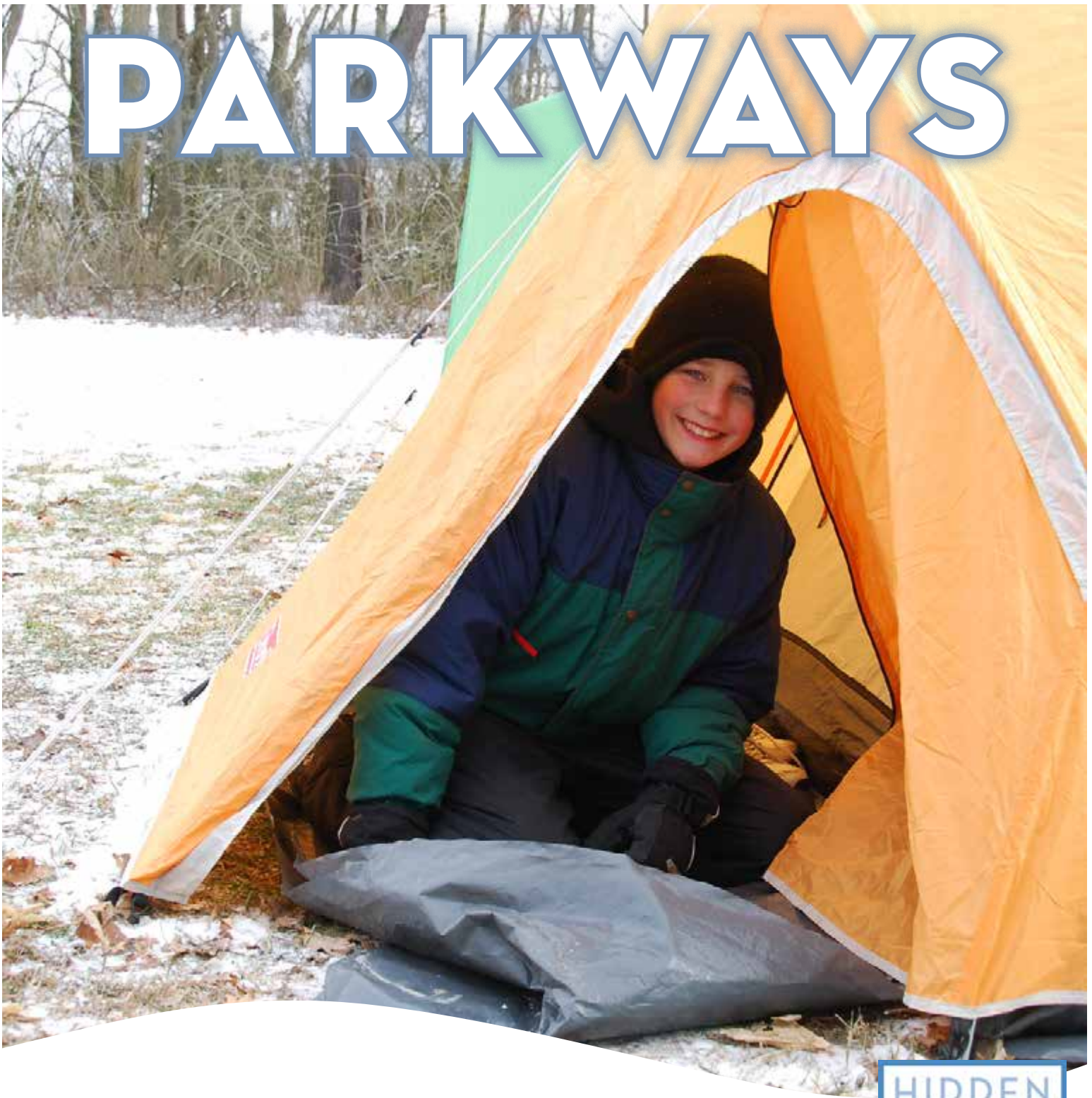


# PARKWAYS



## BUNDLE UP! AND HEAD OUT FOR ADVENTURE

DISCOVER THE BIGGEST METROPARK TREES  
SEE PAGES 6-7

DON'T LET WINTER KEEP YOU FROM THE WILDLIFE  
SEE PAGES 8-9





# REMEMBER TO SAVE THE DATE

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



**Nov. 27**

**STOCK-UP  
WEDNESDAY**

2nd Street Market



**Nov. 29-Dec. 1**

**ICE RINK GRAND  
OPENING WEEKEND**

RiverScape MetroPark

Photo by Leah Stahl



**Dec. 1**

**CHRISTMAS ON  
THE FARM**

Carriage Hill MetroPark

Photo by Robin Juliana



**Dec. 24-25**

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY  
SKATING**

RiverScape MetroPark



**Dec. 31-Jan. 1**

**NEW YEAR'S  
HOLIDAY SKATING**

RiverScape MetroPark

Photo by Leah Stahl



**Jan. 20**

**MARTIN LUTHER  
KING, JR. DAY  
HOLIDAY SKATING**

RiverScape MetroPark



**Feb 14-15**

**THE ADVENTURE  
SUMMIT**

Wright State University



**Feb. 17**

**PRESIDENT'S DAY  
SKATE**

RiverScape MetroPark



**Feb. 22**

**LEAVE NO CHILD  
INSIDE SUMMIT**

Cox Arboretum MetroPark



**March 1**

**MIAMI VALLEY  
GARDENING  
CONFERENCE**

Sinclair Community College



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 Benná**  
Executive Director

## Dear MetroParks Friends,

As the days get shorter and the temperatures cool, there is still plenty to do during the fall and winter seasons at your MetroParks.

We continue to celebrate the creation of MetroParks that began 50 years ago. Don't miss the "10 Hidden Nature in Winter" article, part of our Hidden Nature series.

We know that you will be spending part of this season celebrating the holidays with your family. Why not introduce your out-of-town guests to your favorite Five Rivers MetroParks? Part of our celebration is to share with you the many treasures that are found throughout the park system. Whether skating, sledding, camping, cross-country skiing, hiking or watching winter wildlife, there's always a great way to work off your holiday feasts and connect with nature while you connect with your loved ones.

If you have not had the chance to check out some of some of our new treasures, let me introduce you to a few new ones that will help you to stay active and enjoy the outdoors this winter.

Thanks to the new 3.6 mile extension, the Mad River Bikeway now connects downtown Dayton with Wright Patterson Air Force Base, the Air Force Museum, Huffman MetroPark and the Wright Brothers - Huffman Prairie Trail which extends to Wright State University and Fairborn. But don't feel like you have to wait until spring to start using the new trail. Plan a winter hike or cross-country ski day on the bikeway segment that is also part of the multi state, 4,600-mile North Country Trail, as well as Ohio's Buckeye Trail.

Look for the completion of a new trail in the southern part of Montgomery County in late 2013. A result of a unique partnership between MetroParks and several other organizations, the Medlar Bikeway will serve as a key piece to connecting major business and population centers to the regional bikeway system. And it's a great location for a brisk winter walk in a spectacular setting. For more information on how to enjoy your MetroParks treasures during the fall and winter months, please also check out our website at [www.metroarks.org](http://www.metroarks.org).

Five Rivers MetroParks enjoys tremendous support from the residents in our community. When you are making plans for end-of-the-year giving or for your charitable giving in 2014, consider Five Rivers MetroParks. Your generous support allows us to continue to protect and preserve our park lands and provide the opportunities for future generations to experience and appreciate nature.

Finally, don't forget to make a resolution to include Five Rivers MetroParks in your New Year's fitness regime!

*Becky Benná*

## HOLD ON TO YOUR PARKWAYS!

This issue covers programs from November through March. In April, we will kick off thrice-yearly publishing frequency. Remember you can find the current issue of ParkWays online at [metroarks.org/parkways](http://metroarks.org/parkways), or you can easily search for activities and programs using [metroarks.org](http://metroarks.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



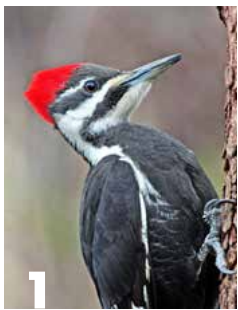
Irvin G. Bieser, Jr.

*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

# HIDDEN NATURE IN EVERY SEASON

## TEN THINGS TO SEE & DO IN YOUR METROPARKS THIS WINTER.



**1. ENGLEWOOD PURPLE TRAIL:** This half a mile hike takes you through the woods and over top of the falls that you will hear before you see. Take your time and relax at this tranquil location. Be on the look out for a pair of pileated woodpeckers.



**2. WITCH HAZEL AT WEGERZYN:** Wegerzyn's Witch Hazel is in full bloom the last week of January and first week of February. This woody shrub with smooth zig-zagging twigs has hairy leaf buds. It is sometimes called "snapping hazel" for its seed pods ability to snap open, flinging two to four dark glossy seeds as far as 50 feet. Look closely for spiny black galls, or woody swellings, along the branch, caused by an aphid.



**3. REDBUDS IN BLOOM AT GERMANTOWN:** Take the main park loop in late March for a show of hundreds of these bright magenta flowered native trees. These short trees have a dark twisted trunk with spreading branches. A common member of our Eastern Deciduous Forests and important food source for winter birds, moth caterpillars and early pollinators.



**4. WOODCOCK DANCE AT COX ARBORETUM:** Visit Conservation Corner in early March at sundown to see the male American Woodcocks. They will find a short grassy area within larger fields with some cover and nearby wet areas to conduct a short dance and series of "Meep" calls before launching into a spiral flight accompanied by warbling sounds as they return to their dancing spot just at dawn and dusk in spring.



**5. WINTER ACONITE AND SKUNK CABBAGE AT HILLS AND DALES:** Walk the boardwalk off S. Patterson Blvd. between the Stone Tower and Dogwood Pond to find the small, yellow six-petal blossoms of the winter aconite. The skunk cabbage in the wetland bloom can be seen from the boardwalk. Skunk cabbage releases heat, watch for melted rings of snow around the base of this fly pollinated plant.

**6. CARRIAGE HILL PRAIRIES:** Enjoy the golden landscape of the large prairies at Carriage Hill. In the winter you can see the remnants of prairie plants, such as big bluestem, while taking a nice hike on the green or yellow trails.



**7. WINTER'S DAY AT AULLWOOD GARDEN:** The sycamore lawn at Aullwood Gardens captures the beauty of winter. Look up in to the smooth white branches of these ancient sycamores, listen to the gentle creak and stillness.



**8. EASTWOOD FULL BEAVER MOON:** The full moon for November, called the Beaver Moon, is November 14. Called the Beaver moon because November was the time to set beaver traps before the swamps froze, to ensure a supply of warm winter furs. Journey along the Buckeye trail to see signs of beaver.



**9. TWIN CREEK LICHEN:** Winter is the best time to explore these tiny ecosystems found on trees and rocks. Their plant like appearance is misleading. Lichen aren't actually a species of their own but a combination of kingdoms that come together. Fungus, algae and sometimes cyanobacteria live together in a relationship biologists call mutualistic symbiosis. Lichen come in many colors that are most vibrant in the winter when the algae is actively producing food from sunlight.



**10. CCC BRIDGE AT TAYLORSVILLE:** The bridge is quick stroll north of the CCC shelter and rock outcrop on Taylorsville MetroPark's orange trail. Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s, and reconstructed over the years, this 2010 rebuild took the bridge back to its original design. Bridge foundations are the original stone laid by the CCC, and all upright posts and rails were harvested at Taylorsville and cut to fit on site.



# MEET VOLUNTEER COURIER CHIP BOYER

## EVER WONDER HOW ALL THE INTERNAL MAIL GETS PICKED UP AND DELIVERED THROUGHOUT THE METROPARKS FACILITIES?

Chip is Five Rivers MetroPark's very own volunteer mailman. He has faithfully driven 130 miles every week for the past two years to complete a route that makes stops at 16 different facilities.

For many years the park district's managers and other staff routinely delivered and picked up packages, uniforms, mail and other items on separate runs to the various facilities. Thanks to an ad in this very publication, Chip, a former professional courier, accepted the challenge of developing a more efficient way to conduct park business.

Part of MetroParks' ongoing obligations to our community is to identify and practice cost effectiveness. Weekly courier service has been a huge step in creating a more efficient, reliable and timely way to move parcels throughout our internal network of parks.

There is a lot of behind-the-scenes prep to making Chip's weekly route work. Each Tuesday evening the volunteer services staff labels and identifies the non-mail items to be delivered thus creating a seamless process for distribution. Staff assures that Chip's vehicle is reserved, fueled and ready for use.

When Chip reports for duty every Wednesday morning at the Five Rivers MetroParks headquarters in downtown Dayton, his typical six hour route will trace all over Montgomery County visiting various park facilities.

Chip is committed. In 2012, he gave 241 volunteer hours to his work as the MetroParks courier. But his service goes beyond just driving the route. Chip has obligated himself to not only learning the delivery process, but to also operate

a 2-way radio to correspond with the Ranger department as well as maintain a safe driving record.

Please join us in recognizing a valuable member of our volunteer team, volunteer courier Chip Boyer!

Learn how you can get involved at [metroparks.org/volunteer](http://metroparks.org/volunteer).



Chip is committed. In 2012, he gave 241 volunteer hours to his work as the MetroParks courier.

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM APPLICATION DEADLINES

- Dec. 16** OSU Extension Master Gardener Service Learning Program
- Dec. 25** Master Outdoor Educator Service Learning Program
- Jan. 1** MetroParks Volunteer Patrols
- Jan. 31** Master Recycling Service Learning Program
- Mar. 1** City Beets
- Apr. 1** Adopt-a-Park Volunteers





Big Sister at Sugarcreek MetroPark

# BIG AND TALL OF METROPARKS

**WINTER IS A GREAT TIME TO LOOK AT AND MEASURE TREES. THEY MAY NOT BE DECKED OUT WITH LEAVES AND FLOWERS, BUT THEIR FORM AND TEXTURE ARE EASIER TO DISCERN.**

Five Rivers MetroParks protects many of the largest and impressive trees in the Miami Valley. Over the years most of the big ones have been found, and some have been measured. Still, periodically a really big one is found on newly protected land, or from a remote location on existing park district land.

Champion trees are ranked by their total points scored. This number is a combination of the trees circumference, crown spread and height.

Learning how to properly measure and rank trees can be fun and challenging. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources provides instructions on how to measure trees at on their site at <http://ohiodnr.com/forestry/bigtrees/tabid/4808/Default.aspx>.

The largest tree in MetroParks is the Big Sister at Sugarcreek MetroPark. This huge white oak has a whopping 378 points and is estimated to be over 550 years old. The tree is found in a grove called the Three Sisters that until a few years ago was home to three large white oaks. Only two are left now. The Little Sister of the group is the 15th largest measured tree in Five Rivers MetroParks.

The tallest measured tree in MetroParks is a Yellow Poplar at Germantown MetroPark dubbed Tulip Tower. While not particularly large at the base, Tulip Tower reaches 144 feet! This tree grows in the rich loamy soil of Shimps hollow sheltered from winds and storms by the steep ravine it grows in.

Many of these trees are older than the United States, and looking at them can instill a sense of wonder and appreciation of how time moves slowly in an old forest. If you know of a large tree that might make the list send the information to [dave.nolin@metroparks.org](mailto:dave.nolin@metroparks.org). 🌿

## 10 LARGEST TREES IN METROPARKS + FIVE HONORABLE MENTIONS:

Size Rank in parks	Nickname	Common Name	Scientific Name	Facility	Circumference (Inches)	Height (feet)	Crown Points	Total Points	LATLONG
TOP 10									
1	Big Sister	White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	Sugarcreek MetroPark	231	119	29	378	84°5'9.567"W 39°37'0.234"N
2	Bea's Tree	Cottonwood	<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Englewood MetroPark	210	137	27	374	84°16'16.695"W 39°52'11.674"N
3	Elmer	American Elm	<i>Ulmus americana</i>	Shoup Mill Con. Area	227	115	23	365	84°12'56.555"W 39°48'53.825"N
4	Champion Oak	Shumard Oak	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>	Taylorville MetroPark	240	94	23	357	84°9'39.952"W 39°52'16.526"N
5	Ralph's Oak	Shumard Oak	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>	Dull Woods Con. Area	209	122	19	350	84°27'9.957"W 39°51'30.955"N
6	Soaring Sycamore	Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Sugarcreek MetroPark	176	127	21	324	84°5'48.108"W 39°37'23.107"N
7	Big Macrocarpa	Burr Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Wegerzyn MetroPark	186	138	17	341	84°16'42.218"W 39°52'8.02"N
8	Pedistel Oak	Burr Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Wegerzyn MetroPark	201	102	16	319	84°12'21.479"W 39°47'58.234"N
9	Cloudbuster	White Ash	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	Englewood MetroPark	156	139	22	317	84°17'46.377"W 39°52'41.482"N
10	Charlie Creek Sycamore	Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Shiloh Woods Con. Area	200	109	7	316	84°15'9.981"W 39°50'52.641"N
HONORABLE MENTION									
11	Marie's Sycamore	Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Aullwood Garden MP	197	102	17	315	84°16'32.087"W 39°52'9.132"N
12	Big Brother	White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	Sugarcreek MetroPark	171	117	22	310	84°6'6.128"W 39°37'39.945"N
13	Aaron Burr	Burr Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Wegerzyn MetroPark	177	110	22	309	84°12'19.223"W 39°47'49.508"N
14	Ashzilla	White Ash	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	Island MetroPark	154	131	15	300	84°11'53.713"W 39°46'44.51"N
15	Little Sister	White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	Sugarcreek MetroPark	166	109	25	300	84°5'10.278"W 39°37'9.246"N



# CARE FOR TREES IN WINTER

Storms, ice and rapid temperature fluctuations are typical of winter weather in Ohio. And it can take its toll on the trees in your backyard. According to **TreeHelp.com**, there are some things you can do to minimize the damage caused by the stresses of winter.



## COLD STRESS

Cold stresses are caused by the rapid change between daytime heat and nighttime freezing leading to stresses within the tree between the outer bark and inner wood leading to cracks called frost cracking. Many times the tree is able to repair itself. In the case of young trees, consider wrapping the bark as part of the fall maintenance procedure.

Cold stress can also result from the impact of sudden early frosts on late growth. Ice crystals can rupture the cell walls on the new tips of branches leading to die off the following season. To avoid late growth cold stress, avoid pruning until after the tree has gone into dormancy in the fall.

## WINTER DROUGHT

Winter drought occurs when a tree loses more water than it can absorb from frozen ground. It is especially acute during the early spring when the ground remains frozen while the spring sun begins warming the rest of the tree. Laying down a thick layer of mulch around the base of the tree in late fall before winter's onset can help prevent winter drought. The mulch can help slow moisture loss and runoff while acting as a temperature buffer for the roots.

## BRANCH BREAKAGE

Deciduous trees typical in this part of Ohio are particularly susceptible to branch breakage. Hardened, brittle wood becomes susceptible to wind damage and the weight of accumulating ice and snow, which is also damaging to evergreens.

Pruning weak and vulnerable branches during fall maintenance can minimize branch breakage. For larger evergreens, consider using rope to tie up and reinforce branches.



## RODENTS

Winter trees can become a target for mice, squirrels and rabbits foraging for scarce food. They can chew bark and girdle trees. To protect against mice, leave a space between the mulch and the trunk of the tree. Rabbits can be deterred by wire mesh enclosures. 🌿



## PREP FOR WINTER

*Here are some tips from TreeHelp.com to help you protect your trees from the harsh Ohio weather.*

1. Add only those species native to your area's hardiness zone, which for most of Ohio is Zone 5b. Trees even one zone milder might experience significant stresses during winter.
2. Maintain good tree upkeep throughout the year.
3. Do a post spring inspection of your trees every year. Promptly treat any damage that you find.
4. Remember to prune only after your trees have entered dormancy after the risk of new growth.
5. Apply a good fall fertilizer that promotes root growth over leaf growth.
6. Lay a layer of mulch down around the bases of your trees to moderate temperature fluctuations and moisture loss. Don't forget to leave a space between the mulch and the trunk of the tree to discourage mice.



## MEET THE STAFF: **TIM PRITCHARD:** OUR NEW GREEN PRACTICES PROGRAM COORDINATOR

### TELL US ABOUT YOUR NEW ROLE AT FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS.

**TIM:** My job is to deliver programming that demonstrates how visitors can take the park district's conservation practices and apply them at home. The choices we make in our daily lives have an impact on the health of our natural areas and community as a whole. Our homes, schools, community centers, and neighborhoods are connected to the green space that Five Rivers MetroParks is charged with protecting. Simple acts of stewardship such as recycling, composting, and reducing chemical use can make our personal and communal areas greener.

Another facet of my job will be to assist Five Rivers MetroParks in becoming a greener agency. I am working with a sustainability team across various departments to reduce our agency's carbon footprint and make our operations more earth-friendly.

### WHAT'S THE PERSONAL BENEFIT OF IMPLEMENTING GREEN PRACTICES INTO YOUR LIFE?

**TIM:** Green living is empowering. It is personally gratifying to be part of a greater effort to protect the environment and these ventures ultimately lead to living more efficiently, saving money and experiencing the positive sense of self-discipline.

### HOW SHOULD SOMEONE GET STARTED IN ESTABLISHING A MORE SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE?

**TIM:** The easiest and most obvious first step to take is to begin recycling. Most communities in Montgomery County have recycling programs and the single stream system has eliminated the need to sort, making it easier than ever to

participate. Be aware of the items you could be recycling and work to reduce your household waste. The Master Recycler program, offered in partnership with the Montgomery County Solid Waste District, is a great way to build awareness of household waste. The series really goes beyond recycling and past participants have been amazed at what can be reduced, reused or recycled.

### BEYOND RECYCLING, ARE THERE OTHER EASY WAYS TO "GET GREEN"?

**TIM:** Composting is perhaps the most logical next step in waste reduction and Five Rivers MetroParks offers several programs to teach you how to get started. Compost Kitchen is a program held each season at a different park, comprised of three 2-hour courses. All participants who complete the program are awarded a free composter courtesy of Montgomery County Solid Waste District.

Once you have solid waste under control, it is time to consider water and energy conservation as well as reducing toxic chemical use

MetroParks is introducing new programming this fall and winter to help residents address these challenges. The Water Wisdom series explores the history, science and pertinent conservation issues surrounding the Great Miami Watershed and Living the Green Life examines numerous ways in which to conserve resources and reduce chemical pollution and waste.

Additionally, the long running Café Sci program will begin to focus on environmental science and related cultural discussions. 🌿

*For more information on green living programs at Five Rivers MetroParks, see page 25.*



# DON'T LET WINTER KEEP YOU FROM THE WILDLIFE

While many of us bundle up through the winter months with a warm fire and cup of cocoa, Winter is a great time to see a lot of wildlife activity in Dayton.



## BIRD HOT SPOTS

Wintertime birds are easier to see because much of the foliage is cleared away, and many birds will congregate in mixed flocks this time of year. Your Five Rivers MetroParks are home to some great bird hot spots. Here are some of the best in which to brave the cold and get a great view:

- **Eastwood MetroPark** –
  - Eastwood Lake: Migrating waterfowl and eagles
- **Englewood MetroPark** – Shorebirds
- **Germantown MetroPark** –
  - Cottonwood Shelter: Bluebirds
  - Yellow Trail: Eastern Towhee and multiple species of sparrow (tree, song, white throated and perhaps swamp and white crowned)
  - Nature Center Window on Wildlife: Eastern Towhee, Purple Finch
  - Red Trail Pond area: Purple Finch
  - Lower Green Trail: Pileated Woodpecker
- **Great Miami River** –
  - Carillon Park: Waterfowl including Great Blue Herons
- **Hills & Dales MetroPark** – A variety of woodpecker species
- **Possum Creek MetroPark** –
  - Argonne Lake: Rafts of ring-neck ducks
- **Twin Creek MetroPark** –
  - High View Shelter Area: Eastern Meadowlarks
- **Wesleyan MetroPark, Wolf Creek** – Kingfishers 🐟

## PREP FOR WINTER NOW

Did you know that home landscapes can provide our native wildlife with what they need to survive and thrive? Add these home habitats to the more than 15,000 acres of parkland managed by Five Rivers MetroParks and the Miami Valley becomes an attractive and healthy home for birds and other animals. Here are some great tips to prep your backyard habitat:

### FOOD

- Leave dry plant material and seed heads from native grasses and flowering plants left to overwinter.
- Plant Viburnum, holly, hackberry and sumac to provide winter fruits and seeds.
- Plant wild bergamot, smooth aster, and various types of coneflower encourage beneficial insects and provide food for wildlife.
- Avoid pesticides whenever possible.
- Hang seed and suet feeders high for birds and leave dried corn down low for squirrels and other mammals.

### WATER

- Place bird baths with a small heater to prevent freezing.
- Keep your bird bath scrubbed clean and change the water every few days.
- Locate the bath about 15 feet from cover.

### SHELTER

- Plant a mix of deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs to provide various types of cover.
- Keep compost piles active to provide heated areas.
- Resist the urge to cut dead foliage and stalks back this winter to provide shelter for butterflies. 🐛

#### HELPFUL RESOURCES FOR DESIGNING YOUR OWN BACKYARD HABITAT.

*Start now and you'll be ready to build and dig come spring!*

**National Wildlife Federation website:**  
[nwf.org/how-to-help-garden-for-wildlife/create-a-habitat.aspx](http://nwf.org/how-to-help-garden-for-wildlife/create-a-habitat.aspx)

**Book by Doug Tallamy:**  
Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants

**Five Rivers MetroParks website:**  
[metroparks.org/geteducated/naturallandscapes.aspx](http://metroparks.org/geteducated/naturallandscapes.aspx)

# GET READY FOR AN ADVENTURE

WITH MORE THAN 8,000 VISITORS,  
THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT IS THE LARGEST  
EXPOSITION OF OUTDOOR SKILL, CULTURE AND  
EXPERIENCE IN THE MIDWEST.

**AND THE 2014 EVENT WILL NOT DISAPPOINT.**

The Adventure Summit has a rich history of featuring world-class outdoor personalities from endurance runners and long-distance backpackers to the founding father of mountain biking and polar explorers. The event promises to inspire and amaze.

This year, the Adventure Summit will focus on paddling and the recent momentum of river projects and development in our region. The event will showcase local, regional and national paddling issues from public access and programming to advocacy and facility development.

With over 40 presentations, programs range from an inspirational stories to technical skills all dealing with human-powered recreation. Specific tracks will include classroom sessions, competitions, pool programming and roundtable discussions. There will also be a biathlon (running and biking), canoe battleship, a kayak challenge, several VIP events and after parties and the annual Outdoor Industry Expo.



February 14-15, 2014 • Wright State University

Five Rivers MetroParks also will launch an initiative to encourage college students to adopt an outdoor lifestyle through campus incentives, friendly competitions, parties and career development programming.

The keynote speaker is adventurer and world record breaker Dave Cornthwaite, who has set a goal of completing 25 journeys of 1000 miles or more, each using a different form of non-motorized transport. The Adventure Summit is a partnership between Five Rivers MetroParks and Wright State University.

Visit [theadventuresummit.com](http://theadventuresummit.com) for a complete listing of speakers and activities. 🍃

Learn more about this year's featured speaker at [davecornthwaite.com](http://davecornthwaite.com).





# TIME TO GET AWAY

Ever dream about paddling, backpacking or fishing your way through a U.S. national park or scenic area? The Five Rivers MetroParks Trip Planning series can help you make that dream trip a reality!

Start planning your next outdoor adventure by attending a series of trip planning programs that will be offered this winter. The fundamentals of trip planning series provide an overview of what to consider before heading out on your next outdoor adventure including topics such as trip goals, destination research, route planning, logistics and budgeting.

Our specific adventure planning programs dive into mapping out an itinerary for an upcoming trip you have in mind, including Long Distance Hiking Trip Planning (Appalachian Trail), National Park Trip Planning for Families and Fly Fishing the Smokies.

You will meet with local experts and look at maps, guidebooks and resources and get all your questions answered. What a way to plan an outdoor vacation! For details or to register for the program, visit [metroparks.org/recreation](http://metroparks.org/recreation). 🍃



## BECOMING A MASTER OUTDOOR EDUCATOR



Five Rivers MetroParks is always looking for volunteers, especially ones skilled in recreation and who can be advocates beyond the work they do for the parks. The Master Outdoor Educator program is an intensive program where volunteers will learn and teach outdoor education skills.

The multi-session program is for volunteers who have prior knowledge and skills in the program area they choose and should have already attended the corresponding program progression (paddling, cycling, mountain biking, backpacking, and fishing) through Five Rivers MetroParks. There will be a combination of classroom and field workshops in the course, including those listed below:

Trip Planning  
Leadership  
Map Reading/Route Finding  
Risk Management  
Overnight TVT Leadership Trip Training

Volunteers who complete the series will be able to help assist programs and potentially lead trips. Upon completion of the course and breakout session of your choice you will be expected to give back by volunteering a minimum of 25 hours throughout the year.

Applications are being accepted Oct. 1 - Dec. 16 and are available online at [metroparks.org](http://metroparks.org). The program costs \$150, which includes classroom sessions. Breakout session certifications for American Canoe Association instructor, League Cycling Instructor, Backpack trip instructor or Wilderness First Aid training will have additional costs. 🍃

LNT Trainer Certification (included)  
LCI Instructor Certification  
ACA Instructor Certification  
Wilderness First Aid (WFA/CPR) Certification



## PLANNING A PICNIC FOR 2014?

Starting in November, you can easily reserve picnic shelters online at [metroparks.org/reservations](http://metroparks.org/reservations).

The online reservation system is 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 will be accepted.

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

## REFORESTATION LESSONS LEARNED

1. The larger the tree planted the quicker it gets above the competition and takes off. We anticipate transitioning to growing and planting fewer, but larger trees.
2. Tree survival is also dependant of how well the planting site is prepared before planting, follow up inspections to remove competing vegetation, and straightening after winter.
3. The program is going to concentrate exclusively on native trees that are not regenerating naturally on park land, especially oaks, hickories, and native shrubs that are vital to wildlife.

# REFORESTATION PROGRESS REPORT

## GREAT STRIDES MADE WITH THE HELP OF MANY VOLUNTEERS

The numbers, enthusiasm, skill and commitment of volunteers who have given their time to grow and plant trees have been tree-mendous. The program would not be possible without these volunteers. So far this year, 600 ash trees have been treated for a second time to protect them from the Emerald Ash Borer. Nearly all of the trees are in good to excellent health.



The Forest Foster program germinated 14,000 seedlings of native trees and shrubs with the help of volunteers at Cox Arboretum this spring. About 12,000 of these are being cared for by volunteers at their homes for the summer in anticipation of field planting in the spring of 2014.

About 2,000 of the seedlings were placed into larger containers in an effort to grow them larger during their first year. Results to date have shown that larger seedlings get a much better start and have a better survival rate.

About 12,000 trees "fostered" in 2012 were planted this spring by volunteers at Carriage Hill MetroPark, Sugarcreek MetroPark, Medlar Conservation Area, and the Great Miami Wetland Mitigation bank.

The Reforestation Program is a vital part of our mission at Five Rivers MetroParks. We are excited to see it doing so well and making a difference in our parks. 🌿





# HOST A PARKER PARTY!

Host a Parker Party for 10 of your best pals. Included in the package are 10 skate rentals, 10 meals (hot chocolate, hot dog and chips) and 10 invitations with envelopes. Call (937) 274-0126 for more information.

## ICE RINK HOURS OF OPERATION

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

**REGULAR PUBLIC HOURS:** Monday-Thursday, \$5 skate rental;  
Friday-Sunday, \$7 admission, which includes skate rental.

**Extended hours November 29, 2013 through January 4, 2014**

**Extended hours December 23, 2013 through January 4, 2014**

**SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS:** \$7 admission, which includes skate rental

Christmas Eve (Dec. 24): 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Christmas Day (Dec. 25): 1-8 p.m.

New Year's Eve (Dec. 31): 11 a.m. – 10 p.m.

New Year's Day (Jan. 1): 1-8 p.m.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Jan. 20): 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Presidents' Day (Feb. 17): 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

MetroParks Ice Rink is available for private event rentals from 6-8 p.m. Sundays and Thursdays (\$300 rental fee includes 50 cups of hot chocolate and 50 pairs of ice skates). Add a visit with Parker for \$75. Call (937) 274-0216 to rent the rink.

 [metroparks.org/icerink](http://metroparks.org/icerink)

## GIVE THE GIFT OF OUTDOOR FUN

Ice rink season passes make great gifts! Call (937) 274-0126 for details.





# 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 **metroparks.org** or by phone.

## **BY DATE**

You can also 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 **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 **metroparks.org** and click on the “Find a Program” link found on the left-hand navigation bar. You can also 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, as well as 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.



**FRI, NOV 1, 2013**

**10:00 AM My First Leaf Collection**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 27, G122)

**SAT, NOV 2, 2013**

**9:00 AM Seedling Saturdays- FALL Plantings**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 28, G120)  
**9:00 AM The Special Wish Run**, Island MetroPark (see page 22, G136)  
**9:00 AM All Soles Run**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 222, G93)  
**10:00 AM Picturing Puddles and Ponds**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32, G121)  
**10:00 AM Fall Landscape: Trees, Leaves, and Dormancy**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 23, G106)  
**1:00 PM Land Navigation Basics**, Twin Creek MetroPark (see page 31, G9)  
**2:00 PM Preparing for Winter Play**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 28, G140)

**SUN, NOV 3, 2013**

**1:30 PM Taylorsville Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers**, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 22, G100)

**MON, NOV 4, 2013**

**9:00 AM NAI Certified Interpretive Guide Training**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28, G51)

**WED, NOV 6, 2013**

**10:00 AM Wednesday Discovery Stroll**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 28, G166)  
**12:00 PM Winter and you're gardening!**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 23, G108)  
**6:00 PM Fundamentals of Lightweight Backpacking**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 20, G98)  
**6:30 PM Green Nanotechnology**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, G116)

**THU, NOV 7, 2013**

**10:00 AM Leaves of Color**, Sugar Creek MetroPark (see page 28, G109)  
**6:30 PM Intro to Bicycle Maintenance**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 20, G97)

**SAT, NOV 9, 2013**

**10:00 AM Canning Club: Butters**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 27, G94)  
**10:00 AM EARTHJOY Tree Climbing**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 31, G138)  
**1:00 PM Ohio's First People**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 26, G105)  
**1:00 PM The Great Miami River Watershed**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, G111)

**SUN, NOV 10, 2013**

**12:00 PM Vices of the 1880s: Tobacco, Alcohol and Others**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 26, G95)

**TUE, NOV 12, 2013**

**9:00 AM Tuesday Adult Nature Walk**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 28, G163)  
**10:00 AM My First Leaf Collection**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 27, G123)  
**6:30 PM Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation**, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 29, G119)

**WED, NOV 13, 2013**

**6:30 PM Bicycle Maintenance Basics**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 20, G103)

**FRI, NOV 15, 2013**

**12:30 PM Project FeederWatch**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 29, G181)  
**8:00 PM Northern Saw-whet Owls and Red Cedars**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 29, G112)

**SAT, NOV 16, 2013**

**8:30 AM Family Farm Chores**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 21, G96)  
**9:00 AM Seedling Saturdays- FALL Plantings**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 28, G137)  
**10:00 AM Your Winter Garden: What stays, goes, changes, and grows**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 23, G107)

**SUN, NOV 17, 2013**

**1:30 PM Germantown Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 22, G101)

**TUE, NOV 19, 2013**

**1:00 PM Are Turkeys Pretty?**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 24, K4)

**WED, NOV 20, 2013**

**10:00 AM Planting Acorns**, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 29, G124)  
**6:00 PM Fundamentals of Trip Planning**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 31, G102)

**SAT, NOV 23, 2013**

**11:00 AM Kick the Disposable Habit**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 25, G113)  
**1:00 PM Brewing Pumpkin Beer**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27, G99)

**WED, NOV 27, 2013**

**11:00 AM Stock-up Wednesday**, 2nd Street Market (see page 27, G118)

**FRI, NOV 29, 2013**

**11:00 AM Ice Rink Opening Weekend**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32, G117)

**SUN, DEC 1, 2013**

**12:00 PM Beginners I for Tots**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32, H108)  
**12:00 PM Christmas on the Farm**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 26, H2)  
**12:30 PM Skating Basics for Adults & Older Kids**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H115)

**MON, DEC 2, 2013**

**4:00 PM Competitive Junior Rowing**, Island MetroPark (see page 32, H1)  
**4:00 PM Rookies Learn To Row**, Island MetroPark (see page 32, H49)

**TUE, DEC 3, 2013**

**9:00 AM Tuesday Adult Nature Walk**, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 28, H164)  
**10:00 AM MetroParks Largest Mammal**, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 27, H94)  
**1:00 PM Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation**, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 29, H140)

**WED, DEC 4, 2013**

**6:00 PM Backcountry Fast & Light Cooking**, 2nd Street Market (see page 20, H6)  
**6:30 PM American Chestnut**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, H60)

**THU, DEC 5, 2013**

**10:00 AM Winter Beginnings**, Sugar Creek MetroPark (see page 28, H44)  
**11:00 AM Green Holiday Gatherings**, 2nd Street Market (see page 25, H59)

**FRI, DEC 6, 2013**

**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H63)

**SAT, DEC 7, 2013**

**9:00 AM Christmas Walk in Downtown Dayton**, 2nd Street Market (see page 22, H137)  
**10:00 AM Nature Photography by the Numbers**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32, H91)  
**1:00 PM Sharing the Harvest**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, H21)  
**5:00 PM Nature at Night**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 30, H90)  
**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H64)

**SUN, DEC 8, 2013**

**12:00 PM Beginners I for Kids**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H122)  
**12:30 PM Beginners II**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H128)  
**6:00 PM Aullwood Winter Walk**, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 23, H37)

**TUE, DEC 10, 2013**

**6:00 PM Backcountry Gourmet Cooking**, 2nd Street Market (see page 20, H7)

**WED, DEC 11, 2013**

**10:00 AM Wednesday Discovery Stroll**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 28, H177)

**THU, DEC 12, 2013**

**6:00 PM Fly Fishing the Smoky Mountains Trip Planning**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 22, H26)  
**6:30 PM Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation**, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 29, H141)

**FRI, DEC 13, 2013**

**10:00 AM Squirrel Search**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 27, H96)  
**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H65)

**SAT, DEC 14, 2013**

**10:00 AM Soap-making**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27, H15)  
**5:30 PM A Holiday Evening at Carriage Hill**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 26, H11)  
**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H66)

**SUN, DEC 15, 2013**

**12:00 PM Beginners I for Tots**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32, H109)  
**12:30 PM Skating Basics for Adults & Older Kids**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H116)

**MON, DEC 16, 2013**

**12:00 AM Volunteer: Ohio State Extension Master Gardener Program Call for Applications**, Offsite (see page 23, H138)  
**9:00 AM Audubon Christmas Bird Count**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 30, H53)

**TUE, DEC 17, 2013**

**1:00 PM Warm Gingerbread**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, H23)

**WED, DEC 18, 2013**

**10:00 AM Animal Keeper**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 29, H95)

**THU, DEC 19, 2013**

**11:00 AM Parker visits the Market**, 2nd Street Market (see page 21, H107)

**FRI, DEC 20, 2013**

**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H67)

**SAT, DEC 21, 2013**

**8:30 AM Family Farm Chores**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 21, H5)  
**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H68)

**SUN, DEC 22, 2013**

**12:00 PM Beginners I for Kids**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H123)  
**12:30 PM Beginners II**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H129)

**TUE, DEC 24, 2013**

**11:00 AM Christmas Eve Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H80)

**WED, DEC 25, 2013**

**1:00 PM Christmas Day Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H81)

**FRI, DEC 27, 2013**

**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H69)

**SAT, DEC 28, 2013**

**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H70)

**SUN, DEC 29, 2013**

**12:00 PM Beginners I for Tots**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32, H110)

**12:30 PM Skating Basics for Adults & Older Kids**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H117)

**1:30 PM Eastwood Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 22, H25)

**TUE, DEC 31, 2013**

**11:00 AM New Year's Eve Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H82)

**WED, JAN 1, 2014**

**1:00 PM New Year's Day Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H83)

**THU, JAN 2, 2014**

**10:00 AM Wonderful Wildlife**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 28, H45)

**FRI, JAN 3, 2014**

**7:00 PM School Pride Night**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H149)

**SAT, JAN 4, 2014**

**11:00 AM The Energy Efficient Household**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, H58)  
**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H71)

**SUN, JAN 5, 2014**

**12:00 PM Beginners I for Kids**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H124)  
**12:30 PM Beginners II**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H130)  
**1:30 PM Possum Creek Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 22, H27)

## MIAMI VALLEY GARDENING CONFERENCE



### SATURDAY, MARCH 1,

7:30 AM - 5:00 PM  
 Sinclair Community College

Make your garden its best with a full day of lectures and workshops all designed to give you the advice you need to “get growing” using Earth-friendly practices.

### REGISTER ONLINE AND SAVE!

For details, call (937) 276-7053 or visit [metroparks.org/conference](http://metroparks.org/conference)



**MON, JAN 6, 2014**

**10:00 AM Hibernating Bugs**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 27, H99)

**6:00 PM Outdoor Broomball League**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 34, H134)

**6:30 PM Master Outdoor Educator Service Learning Program**, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 31, H103)

**TUE, JAN 7, 2014**

**6:00 PM Compost Kitchen: Building Better Soil**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 23, H57)

**6:00 PM Curling League**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 34, H158)

**WED, JAN 8, 2014**

**6:30 PM Microbial Symbiosis**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, H61)

**THU, JAN 9, 2014**

**6:30 PM Changing a Flat Tire**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 21, H148)

**FRI, JAN 10, 2014**

**7:00 PM Pop-Country Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 34, H151)

**SAT, JAN 11, 2014**

**9:00 AM Volunteer: Join MetroParks Volunteer Patrols**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 22, H36)

**10:00 AM Mommy and Me (and Daddy too!)**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 34, H135)

**10:00 AM Putting the Pieces into Place**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32, H92)

**10:00 AM How Plants Work: Soil and Botany**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 23, H38)

**10:30 AM Project FeederWatch**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 29, H193)

**1:00 PM Where does my cookie come from?**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, H20)

**2:00 PM Animal Tracking Excursion**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 30, H146)

**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H72)

**SUN, JAN 12, 2014**

**12:00 PM Beginners I for Tots**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32, H111)

**12:30 PM Skating Basics for Adults & Older Kids**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H118)

**TUE, JAN 14, 2014**

**1:00 PM The Earth Sleeps**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, H17)

**1:00 PM Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation**, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 29, H142)

**6:00 PM Compost Kitchen: Backyard Composting**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 23, H56)

**WED, JAN 15, 2014**

**10:00 AM Wednesday Discovery Stroll**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 28, H181)

**THU, JAN 16, 2014**

**10:00 AM Animal Tracking**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 28, H100)

**6:00 PM Long Distance Hike Trip Planning**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 20, H30)

**FRI, JAN 17, 2014**

**7:00 PM Divas of Pop**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 34, H152)

**SAT, JAN 18, 2014**

**8:30 AM Family Farm Chores**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 21, H12)

**1:00 PM Chemicals and Catastrophe**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, H50)

**1:00 PM Winter Tree ID Workshop**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 30, H47)

**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H74)

**SUN, JAN 19, 2014**

**12:00 PM Beginners I for Kids**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H125)

**12:00 PM Ice Harvesting**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 26, H3)

**12:30 PM Beginners II**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H131)

**MON, JAN 20, 2014**

**11:00 AM Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 34, H84)

**TUE, JAN 21, 2014**

**9:00 AM Tuesday Adult Nature Walk**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 28, H170)

**10:00 AM Greenhouse Helpers**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 29, H97)

**6:00 PM Compost Kitchen: All About Worms**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 23, H55)

**FRI, JAN 24, 2014**

**7:00 PM British Invasion**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 34, H153)

**SAT, JAN 25, 2014**

**10:00 AM Mommy and Me (and Daddy too!)**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 34, H136)

**10:00 AM How Plants Work: Propagation**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 23, H39)

**1:00 PM Homemade Herbal Tea**, Possum

Creek MetroPark (see page 27, H16)

**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H73)

**SUN, JAN 26, 2014**

**12:00 PM Beginners I for Tots**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32, H112)

**12:30 PM Skating Basics for Adults & Older Kids**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H119)

**TUE, JAN 28, 2014**

**1:00 PM Volunteer: Native Plant Primer**, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 24, H87)

**6:00 PM Butterfly Monitoring Season Review**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 30, H10)

**6:00 PM National Park Trip Planning for Families**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 231 H32)

**6:00 PM Volunteer: Conservation Ambassadors**, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 30, H89)

**FRI, JAN 31, 2014**

**7:00 PM Michael Jackson Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 34, H154)

**SAT, FEB 1, 2014**

**9:00 AM Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation**, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 29, H143)

**10:00 AM Winter Garden Workshop for Families**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 24, H40)

**11:00 AM Whistle Pig Day**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, H34)

**1:00 PM Traditional Butchering**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 21, H4)

**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H75)

**SUN, FEB 2, 2014**

**12:00 PM Beginners I for Kids**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H126)

**12:30 PM Beginners II**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H132)

**1:30 PM Carriage Hill Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 22, H28)

**MON, FEB 3, 2014**

**9:00 AM City Beets 2013 Call for Applications**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 24, H159)

**10:00 AM Groundhogs Galore**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 28, H101)

**WED, FEB 5, 2014**

**6:00 PM Nature's Candies**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27, H19)

**6:30 PM Community Supported Agriculture**,

Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, H62)

#### THU, FEB 6, 2014

**10:00 AM Nature Toys**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 28, H46)

#### FRI, FEB 7, 2014

**7:00 PM School Pride Night**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H150)

#### SAT, FEB 8, 2014

**9:00 AM Winter Bird Banding**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 30, H52)  
**9:00 AM Seed Swap**, Offsite (see page 24, H22)  
**10:00 AM Winter Garden Workshop for Families**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 24, H105)  
**2:00 PM Hidden Life**, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 30, H147)  
**6:00 PM Hawk and Owl Workshop**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 30, H54)  
**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H76)

#### SUN, FEB 9, 2014

**12:00 PM Beginners I for Tots**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32, H113)  
**12:30 PM Skating Basics for Adults & Older Kids**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H120)

#### TUE, FEB 11, 2014

**10:00 AM Winter Birds**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 28, H102)  
**1:00 PM Can a Groundhog be a Weatherman?**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, H18)  
**6:00 PM Volunteer: Master Recycling**, Offsite (see page 26, H48)

#### WED, FEB 12, 2014

**12:00 PM Green Garden Planning: Know your space**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 23, H42)

#### THU, FEB 13, 2014

**9:30 AM Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation**, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 29, H144)  
**11:00 AM Local-made Valentine's at the Market**, 2nd Street Market (see page 21, H104)

#### FRI, FEB 14, 2014

**10:00 AM Great Backyard Bird Count**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 29, H98)  
**2:30 PM Sweetheart Deal**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 34, H155)  
**5:00 PM The Adventure Summit**, Offsite (see page 31, H145)

#### SAT, FEB 15, 2014

**8:30 AM Family Farm Chores**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 21, H13)  
**9:00 AM The Adventure Summit**, Offsite (see page 31, H145)  
**10:00 AM Nature in Motion**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32, H93)  
**10:00 AM Miami Valley Orchid Show**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 24, H199)  
**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H77)

#### SUN, FEB 16, 2014

**12:00 PM Beginners I for Kids**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H127)  
**12:30 PM Beginners II**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H133)  
**1:30 PM Sugarcreek Hike With The Dayton Metro Hikers**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 22, H29)

#### MON, FEB 17, 2014

**11:00 AM President's Day Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 34, H85)

#### WED, FEB 19, 2014

**6:00 PM Homemade Soft Cheese and Yogurt**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 27, H24)

#### FRI, FEB 21, 2014

**12:00 PM Sustainable Food Choices**, 2nd Street Market (see page 26, H106)  
**7:00 PM 90s Night**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 34, H156)

#### SAT, FEB 22, 2014

**9:00 AM Black History Day at the Market**, 2nd Street Market (see page 26, H79)  
**11:30 AM Leave No Child Inside Summit**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 30, H9)  
**12:00 PM Maple Sugaring on the Farm**, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see page 26, H14)  
**1:00 PM Water Wise Gardening**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, H51)  
**7:00 PM Star-Late Skate**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H78)

#### SUN, FEB 23, 2014

**12:00 PM Beginners I for Tots**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 32, H114)  
**12:30 PM Skating Basics for Adults & Older Kids**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 33, H121)

#### TUE, FEB 25, 2014

**9:00 AM Tuesday Adult Nature Walk**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 28, H175)  
**6:30 PM Intro To Backpacking For Women**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 20, H8)

#### WED, FEB 26, 2014

**10:00 AM Wednesday Discovery Stroll**, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see page 28, H187)

#### THU, FEB 27, 2014

**9:00 AM Volunteer: MetroPark Volunteer Naturalist**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 30, H88)

#### FRI, FEB 28, 2014

**7:00 PM Last Night to Skate!**, RiverScape MetroPark (see page 34, H157)

#### SAT, MAR 1, 2014

**7:30 AM Miami Valley Gardening Conference**, Offsite (see page 24, I22)

#### SUN, MAR 2, 2014

**1:30 PM Taylorsville Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers**, Taylorsville MetroPark (see page 22, I10)

#### TUE, MAR 4, 2014

**10:00 AM Animal Homes**, Englewood MetroPark (see page 28, I48)  
**6:30 PM Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation**, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 29, I52)

#### WED, MAR 5, 2014

**6:00 PM Plant a Community Garden**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 24, I13)  
**6:30 PM Monarch Way Stations**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, I33)  
**6:30 PM Intro to Backpacking**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 20, I1)

#### THU, MAR 6, 2014

**10:00 AM Bird Study**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 28, I26)  
**6:30 PM Intro to Bicycle Maintenance**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 20, I17)

#### SAT, MAR 8, 2014

**10:00 AM Soaring Eagles and Quacking Ducks Along the Mad River**, Eastwood MetroPark (see page 30, I46)  
**1:00 PM The Water Wise Household**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 25, I30)

#### MON, MAR 10, 2014

**4:00 PM Competitive Junior Rowing**, Island MetroPark (see page 32, I28)

#### TUE, MAR 11, 2014

**1:00 PM Maple Sugar Moon**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 21, I9)  
**6:30 PM Bicycle Maintenance Basics**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 20, I16)



**FRI, MAR 14, 2014**

**6:00 PM Wilderness First Aid**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 31, 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 24, 114)

**10:00 AM Picturing Beasts and Birds**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 32, 143)

**10:00 AM How Nature Works: Trees and Water**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see page 24, 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 22, 111)

**MON, MAR 17, 2014**

**9:30 AM Spring Orientation and Welcome**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 31, 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)

**12:00 PM Is it Spring yet?**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 23, 125)

**THU, MAR 20, 2014**

**4:00 PM Try Backpacking**, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see page 20, 12)

**FRI, MAR 21, 2014**

**10:00 AM Winter Birds**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 28, 147)

**SAT, MAR 22, 2014**

**11:00 AM How to Drive Less**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 26, 132)

**MON, MAR 24, 2014**

**9:00 AM Volunteer: Aullwood Garden Kickoff for New & Veteran Volunteers**, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see page 24, 119)

**9:30 AM Out in the Garden**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 31, 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 20, 118)

**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 20, 14)

**SUN, MAR 30, 2014**

**1:30 PM Huffman Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers**, Huffman MetroPark (see page 22, 112)

**MON, MAR 31, 2014**

**9:00 AM Wonderful Wegerzyn**, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see page 31, 144)

**WED, APR 2, 2014**

**6:00 PM Fly Fishing For Bass And Bluegill**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 22, 157)

**SAT, APR 5, 2014**

**12:00 PM Backpacking Basics**, Germantown MetroPark (see page 22, 13)

**TUE, APR 8, 2014**

**5:30 PM Introduction to Fly Fishing**, Possum Creek MetroPark (see page 22, 156)

**6:30 PM Volunteer: Conservation Caretaker Orientation**, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see page 31, 139)



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February 14 & 15**

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# YOUR PROGRAM GUIDE HAS A NEW FORMAT!


Programs are now listed only by their topic, instead of being broken out into “Education,” “Recreation” and “Special Events” categories. We hope you will find this format easier to find the programs you’re interested in attending, and perhaps discover programs you never knew were available before! Visit **metroparks.org** and click on the “Find a Program” link to search for programs and register online.

## BACKPACKING

### FUNDAMENTALS OF LIGHTWEIGHT BACKPACKING

**WED. NOV 6, 6:00-8:00 PM** G98


WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Looking to lighten your load so you can backpack more easily, hike longer, or get more miles in? Then join us for this evening classroom based program as we explore a variety of ways to reduce your backpacking load. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$5 

### BACKCOUNTRY FAST & LIGHT COOKING

**WED. DEC 4, 6:00-8:30 PM** H6


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

Do you have the ultra-light backpacking bug and are looking for a way to cook nutritious and lightweight meals? This course will introduce you to techniques, like using a pot cozy, and will showcase some of the innovative lightweight cooking equipment on the market. Bring your spork or foon. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 

### BACKCOUNTRY GOURMET COOKING

**TUE. DEC 10, 6:00-9:00 PM** H7

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

Learn to cook in the backcountry like you do in your kitchen. Discover a variety of cooking methods that include more elaborate gourmet meals using foods common at your local grocery while cooking on backpacking stoves. Ingredients provided. Bring a spork or foon. Registration is required and limited. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 


### LONG DISTANCE HIKE TRIP PLANNING

**THU. JAN 16, 6:00-8:00 PM** H30

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Have you ever thought about a section or thru-hike on the Appalachian Trail or Pacific Crest Trail but aren't sure where to start? Come check out resources and talk with local experts to learn about the ins and out of a long distance


hike on one of America's classic trails. Bring your questions and start your planning at this program.

Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$10 

### INTRO TO BACKPACKING FOR WOMEN

**TUE. FEB 25, 6:30-9:00 PM** H8


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

Join other women interested in backpacking to get an orientation to backpacking. This class, taught by female backpacking experts, will cover trip planning, trail techniques, nutrition, physical fitness, 'Leave No Trace' concepts, and female specific techniques. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 

### INTRO TO BACKPACKING

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



WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East 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 out 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

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


## CYCLING

### INTRO TO BICYCLE MAINTENANCE

**THU. NOV 7, 6:30-9:00 PM** G97

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

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East 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, 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

**WED. NOV 13, 6:30-8:30 PM** G103

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

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

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East 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 but you do not have to. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$10 



**CHANGING A FLAT TIRE****THU. JAN 9, 6:30-7:45 PM** H148

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

This short hands-on class will walk you through changing a bicycle flat tire. A step-by-step process will be explained, demonstrated, and practiced. We will also cover patching a tube and show other tips and tricks to help with those stubborn tires. Please do not bring your bicycle. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$5 📅

**ENTERTAINMENT****(FREE) PARKER VISITS THE MARKET****THU. DEC 19, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM** H107**FRI. DEC 20, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM****SAT. DEC 21, 12:00-3:00 PM**

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

Come visit Parker the Penguin at the Market. Bring your tykes and your camera to take photos with everyone's favorite wintertime mascot from MetroParks Ice Rink! No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 or bramsey@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages

**(FREE) LOCAL-MADE VALENTINE'S AT THE MARKET****THU. FEB 13, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM** H104**FRI. FEB 14, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM****SAT. FEB 15, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM**

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

Spread the love and keep it local! Shop the Market for handcrafted, one-of-a-kind gifts, wine, flowers, locally-produced confections and more for your sweetie! And to show our affection for our customers, the Market will offer special sweetheart deals all weekend long – follow us on Facebook and Twitter to learn more! No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 or bramsey@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages

**FARMING****(FREE) FAMILY FARM CHORES****SAT. NOV 16, 8:30-10:00 AM** G96**SAT. DEC 21, 8:30-10:00 AM** H5**SAT. JAN 18, 8:30-10:00 AM** H12**SAT. FEB 15, 8:30-10:00 AM** H13**SAT. MAR 15, 8:30-10:00 AM** I5

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

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

**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. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: 3Y-6Y 📅 PTN

**(FREE) ARE TURKEYS PRETTY?****TUE. NOV 19, 1:00-2:30 PM** K4

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

Do you think turkeys are pretty birds? Join us in celebrating the noble bird we call a turkey. Learn how the turkey almost became our national symbol, how he feeds people from all over the world, and how he played a role in the first Thanksgiving.

**(FREE) WARM GINGERBREAD****TUE. DEC 17, 1:00-2:30 PM** H23

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

Learn about all the ingredients that go into warm gingerbread. Grind some wheat for flour. Find out how ginger looks and see and smell the molasses that gives the gingerbread its moistness.

**(FREE) THE EARTH SLEEPS****TUE. JAN 14, 1:00-2:30 PM** H17

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

Do all the plants die in the winter? How do the farm animals survive? Are animals in the wild safe from the cold? Have fun learning how trees, plants, and creatures great and small survive the winter.

**(FREE) CAN A GROUNDHOG BE A WEATHERMAN?****TUE. FEB 11, 1:00-2:30 PM** H18

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

Do you think animals can really predict the weather? What about a plant - or a bird? Can you predict the weather? You will be surprised! Have fun as we learn about seasons. Registration begins January 1.

**(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 of how maple syrup was discovered, followed by sweet samples and a cool activity. Registration begins January 1.

**(FREE) SHARING THE HARVEST****SAT. DEC 7, 1:00-2:30 PM** H21

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

Why do some birds fly to other parts of the world in cold weather and others stay here? What can we do to help our local and migrating birds survive the winter's harshness? Using cereal grains and other seeds, we will make tasty high-energy treats to share with the birds. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: All ages 📅 PTN

**(FREE) WHERE DOES MY COOKIE COME FROM?****SAT. JAN 11, 1:00-2:30 PM** H20

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

The weather outside is frightful, but it's warm at Possum Creek on the farm. We will explore the origins of each ingredient as we make chocolate chip cookies. After all that learning, relax and take a bite out of our fresh-baked cookies. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: All ages 📅 PTN

**(FREE) WHISTLE PIG DAY****SAT. FEB 1, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM** H34

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

Help us celebrate the furry creature we know as a groundhog. Did you know he is known by different names? Or that he was not the original weather forecaster? Enjoy learning about other animals' weather predicting abilities. Registration begins January 1. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: All ages 📅 PTN

**(FREE) TRADITIONAL BUTCHERING****SUN, SAT. FEB. 1-2, 1:00-3:00 PM** H4

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, 7800 E. Shull Rd.

Drop-in for our annual demonstration of the age-old activity of processing pork, the meat that was the staple in the 19th century farmer's diet. On Saturday the hog is scraped, cleaned and cooled. On Sunday the meat is prepared into the various cuts such as ribs, roasts, and hams. Meat will also be salted, cured, and made into sausage. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages



## FISHING

### FLY FISHING THE SMOKY MOUNTAINS TRIP PLANNING

**THU. DEC 12, 6:00-8:00 PM** H26  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium,  
1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Learn tips and tricks to plan a fly fishing adventure to the Smokies! The Great Smoky Mountains National Park offers some of the best and most diverse fly fishing in the country. With hundreds of miles of trout water, the opportunities are endless. Anglers even have a chance to catch a grand slam (brook, brown and rainbow trout) in the same day. Registration required. Age: All ages  
Fee: \$10 📄

### 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 on 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: All ages 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: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 📄



## FITNESS & HEALTH

### THE SPECIAL WISH RUN

**SAT. NOV 2, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** G136  
ISLAND METROPARK, 101 E. Helena St.  
Contact (937) 641-4263 or stockm@childrensdayton.org for details or registration. Fee: \$25

### ALL SOLES RUN

**SAT. NOV 2, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM** G93  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Morgan/West Park, 100 E. National Rd.  
This outdoor recreation opportunity is sponsored by Brunner Literacy Center. For more information contact John Muhlenkamp. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 890-0003 or jhmkkamp@gmail.com for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$20

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

**SUN. NOV 3, 1:30-3:30 PM** G100  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40  
**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-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) GERMANTOWN HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS

**SUN. NOV 17, 1:30-4:30 PM** G101  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Parking Lot, 6910 Boomershire 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 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) CHRISTMAS WALK IN DOWNTOWN DAYTON

**SAT. DEC 7, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM** H137  
2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.  
This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by Ohio Wander Freunde. 5/10KM Christmas Walk in Downtown Dayton starting and ending at the 2nd Street Market. No registration required. Contact (937) 890-0416 or mikkiw17@sbcglobal.net for details. Age: All ages

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

**SUN. DEC 29, 1:30-3:30 PM** H25  
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 for details. Age: All ages

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

**SUN. JAN 5, 1:30-3:30 PM** H27  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Enjoy a 5-mile, two-hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered easy, no hills. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: METROPARKS VOLUNTEER PATROLS

**SAT. JAN 11, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM** H36  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, 6733 Springboro Pike  
MVP (MetroParks Volunteer Patrol) volunteers help others to enjoy our bike, hiking and horse trails by providing assistance to users. New Candidates MUST be interviewed BEFORE Saturday January 11. MVP's are required to volunteer 40 hours April-October. Registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 or kkepler@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

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

**SUN. FEB 2, 1:30-3:30 PM** H28  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.  
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 for details. Age: All ages

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

**SUN. FEB 16, 1:30-4:00 PM** H29  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.  
Enjoy a 5-mile, two-and-a-half hour hike with the Metro Dayton Hikers. This hike is considered difficult, very hilly in spots. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) 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

📄 = Online Registration Available

⚙️ = Program is Weather-Dependent



## GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

### (FREE) FALL LANDSCAPE: TREES, LEAVES, AND DORMANCY

**SAT. NOV 2, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** G106  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Outdoor Venues, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Fall is a spectacular time to look at nature's display and understand the intricate systems that are undergoing changes. Enjoy a walk through the forest as we discuss leaf color, how plants get ready for winter, and how you can apply these lessons in your own garden. We'll meet in front of the Wegerzyn building. 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. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: All ages 📅

### (FREE) WINTER AND YOU'RE GARDENING!

**WED. NOV 6, 12:00-1:30 PM** G108  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Although the regular garden season is done, there are still garden chores, including growing plants. Learn how to put your garden to bed, with some exceptions, and how to get ready for the coming year.

### (FREE) GREEN GARDEN PLANNING: KNOW YOUR SPACE

**WED. FEB 12, 12:00-1:30 PM** H42  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Many gardeners want to plant more than they have space to grow. Join us for a fact-filled class on how to be sure you have enough room in your garden so that everything—including the gardener—flourishes!

### (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? Today's class will talk about all these activities and more and how the plant kingdom is so dependent on hormones to make changes!

### (FREE) YOUR WINTER GARDEN: WHAT STAYS, GOES, CHANGES, AND GROWS

**SAT. NOV 16, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** G107  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Summer is long over, but your garden still needs attention. Learn how to make your gardening space productive—even some vegetables—and attractive in the winter months and how to make your next growing season even better. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📅

### (FREE) AULLWOOD WINTER WALK

**SUN. DEC 8, 6:00-8:00 PM** H37  
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 900 Aullwood Rd.

Welcome the feel of winter with a great, luminary-lit walk through the paths of Aullwood Garden. Aullwood is magical at any time, but especially beautiful on a winter night. Join us for a hot beverage at the house after our walk. We'll meet at the parking lot. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📅

### VOLUNTEER: OHIO STATE EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**MON. DEC 16, 12:00 AM** H138  
OFFSITE, OSU Extension Montgomery County, 1001 South Main St.

Increase your gardening knowledge and serve your community as an OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteer. Weekly series held Feb through April at various Montgomery County locations. Program participants must volunteer for OSU Extension community service projects. Application deadline December 16, 2013. Registration required. Contact (937) 224-9654 for details. <http://montgomery.osu.edu>. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$150, includes course manual.

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

### (FREE) COMPOST KITCHEN: BUILDING BETTER SOIL

**TUE. JAN 7, 6:00-8:00 PM** H57  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Gardeners learn how to evaluate their soil, manage its composition, and add available nutrients without the use of synthetic fertilizer.

### (FREE) COMPOST KITCHEN: BACKYARD COMPOSTING

**TUE. JAN 14, 6:00-8:00 PM** H56  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

This class will focus on various composting methods, describe the characteristics of good compost, and address many of the typical challenges associated with getting started.

### (FREE) COMPOST KITCHEN: ALL ABOUT WORMS

**TUE. JAN 21, 6:00-8:00 PM** H55  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Worms are very efficient composters, and with their help gardeners can produce quick, quality compost. Learn how to manage a worm bin yourself! John Woodman from Montgomery County Solid Waste will also discuss community composting efforts.

### HOW PLANTS WORK

This two part series, for beginning and experienced gardeners alike, shows how and why plants grow, mature, and bear flowers and fruits. We'll also learn how to produce plants from seed, cuttings, and divisions. A great way to spend one or two winter Saturdays so you'll have fantastic spring and summer in your garden for years to come! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📅

### (FREE) HOW PLANTS WORK: SOIL AND BOTANY

**SAT. JAN 11, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** H38  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Learn how soil helps your plants grow and how to create better, healthier soil in your own landscape. We'll also discuss how to know your plants: how they grown, what they need and when, how you can help them produce bigger and better flowers and fruits.

### (FREE) HOW PLANTS WORK: PROPAGATION

**SAT. JAN 25, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** H39  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

We'll explore all the different ways plants can reproduce, both naturally and with assistance. This class is exciting, informative, and you'll take home cuttings to start for your own garden!

## VOLUNTEER: NATIVE PLANT PRIMER

**TUE. JAN. 28-MAR. 18, 1:00-4:30 PM** H87  
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor  
Learn about native plants and habitats of the Miami Valley; invasive species impacting our land; propagation of native perennials and shrubs; and techniques for successful reforestation and habitat restoration. Required: 25 hours of volunteer service. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4147 or yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: 21Y and up Fee: \$35 📄

## (FREE) WINTER GARDEN WORKSHOP FOR FAMILIES

**SAT. FEB 1, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** H40  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
**SAT. FEB 8, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** H105  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Adults and youth ages 6 and older learn how to cook winter squash, mix herbal teas, create spring garden plans, start tomato seeds, and learning how to grow and harvest fresh sprouts and microgreens. Adults can also attend a lecture on seed starting by farmer Doug Christen. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📄

## (FREE) CITY BEETS 2013 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI. FEB. 3-MAR. 3, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM** H159  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
City Beets is a gardening and leadership program for 12 to 15 year olds. Participants grow food at Possum Creek MetroPark while learning leadership skills. Produce is sold and used in nutrition and cooking lessons. Teens receive a stipend. Applications available online and at Possum Creek MetroPark. Applications are due March 1. No registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 or kasey.henneman@metroparks.org for details. www.metroparks.org/citybeets. Age: 12Y-15Y

### Applications Due March 1

FIVE RIVERS  
METROPARKS



## (FREE) SEED SWAP

**SAT. FEB 8, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** H22  
OFFSITE, Community Gardens, Contact Us for Map  
Bring saved vegetable and flower seeds to share. Short workshops include saving and starting seeds, and the difference between heirloom, hybrid, and GM. Attend with or without seed! If sharing seeds, bring non-hybridized, sorted and labeled by type, a minimum of 10-20 seeds per type. Hosted by Edgemont Solar Gardens, 919 Miami Chapel Rd, Dayton. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: All ages 📄

## (FREE) MIAMI VALLEY ORCHID SHOW

**SUN, SAT. FEB. 15-16, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM** H199  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, 6733 Springboro Pike  
Come in out of the cold and view hundreds of orchids in bloom. View many artful displays full of blooming tropical orchids that will surely lift anyone's spirits. Vendors will have orchids and other items available for purchase. Join our informal classes both days. Sponsored by Miami Valley Orchid Society. No registration required. Age: All ages

## MIAMI VALLEY GARDENING CONFERENCE

**SAT. MAR 1, 7:30 AM-4:30 PM** I22  
OFFSITE, Sinclair Community College, 444 W. Third St.  
Enjoy MetroParks' annual kick-off to the spring gardening season. We will have two major keynote speakers and four additional breakout sessions. Fee includes breakfast snack, full lunch (vegetarian options available), breaks and covered parking. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Full conference details and registration will be available in January at metroparks.org/conference. 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) 277-6545 or lucille.beachdell@metroparks.org 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 begins January 1. 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 East 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 📄

## (FREE) VOLUNTEER: AULLWOOD GARDEN KICKOFF FOR NEW & VETERAN VOLUNTEERS

**MON. MAR 24, 9:00-11:00 AM** I19  
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aull Residence, 900 Aullwood Rd.  
Enjoy working amidst the beauty of Marie Aull's garden. Volunteers will learn the basics of shade gardening using a variety of plants. Staff led sessions will show you some of Marie's favorites and a chance to see how this garden unfolds each season. A special volunteer kick off will be held at the Aull Home on Monday March 24 at 9 am. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 276-7055 or bbutts@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 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Today we'll 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 📄

📄 = Online Registration Available


⚙️ = Program is Weather-Dependent





## 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. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: All ages 

### (FREE) GREEN NANOTECHNOLOGY

**WED. NOV 6, 6:30-8:30 PM G116**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Discover and discuss the potential power of nanotechnology as applied to solving key environmental sustainability issues. We'll examine both the virtues and challenges of utilizing nanomaterials for remediation efforts and clean energy production.

### (FREE) AMERICAN CHESTNUT

**WED. DEC 4, 6:30-8:30 PM H60**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
The American Chestnut was once a major constituent of the Eastern North American Forest, but was all but wiped out by chestnut blight caused by an invasive fungal disease during the early 20th century. We'll discuss the science behind this ecological disaster, learn about efforts to reestablish resistant varieties, and roast chestnuts!

### (FREE) MICROBIAL SYMBIOSIS

**WED. JAN 8, 6:30-8:30 PM H61**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Certain microbes have fascinating relationships with larger organisms including plants and people! We'll discuss why these symbioses are important to life as we know it and how to care for our microscopic cohorts.


### (FREE) COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE

**WED. FEB 5, 6:30-8:30 PM H62**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a model of farming which allows producers to sell directly to consumers who purchase shares of the yield at the beginning of the growing season. This system is growing in popularity and provides a viable avenue for local eating. This is an opportunity to converse with regional CSA owners.

### (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 life style which involves trans-continental migration over several generations. Since this journey is significantly impacted by available habitat, the Monarch has become a flagship species for the habitat gardening movement.

### WATER WISDOM

The Great Miami Watershed is a vast network of waterways which drain to the Ohio River and ultimately the Gulf of Mexico. It includes a substantial aquifer system which supplies the region with usable water. This is a valuable resource that is sensitive to anthropogenic 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. Registration required. Contact (937) 279-6979 for details. Age: All ages 

### (FREE) THE GREAT MIAMI RIVER WATERSHED

**SAT. NOV 9, 1:00-3:00 PM G111**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
This session will cover the history, geography and geology of the Great Miami Watershed. We'll examine the natural resources it provides and discuss how they have been utilized, managed and protected throughout human settlement. Topics will also include waterway recreation opportunities and current conservation efforts.

### (FREE) CHEMICALS AND CATASTROPHE

**SAT. JAN 18, 1:00-3:00 PM H50**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Water pollution is a complicated, critical issue. This session will take an in-depth look at how chemical runoff occurs and potentially leads to catastrophe. Problems in the Gulf of Mexico and Lake St. Mary's illustrate worst case scenarios. We'll examine the state of The Great Miami River Watershed and the path of chemicals that enter it.

### (FREE) WATER WISE GARDENING


**SAT. FEB 22, 1:00-3:00 PM H51**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Gardens, landscapes and lawns have the potential to demand a large amount of water

and produce chemical runoff. This session will demonstrate efficient irrigation methods and ways to reduce or eliminate chemical fertilizers and pesticides. We'll also discuss the virtues of native plants, xeriscaping, and pest and disease resistant plant choices.

### (FREE) THE WATER WISE HOUSEHOLD

**SAT. MAR 8, 1:00-3:00 PM I30**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
The typical accoutrements of a 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.

### 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. Age: All ages 

### (FREE) KICK THE DISPOSABLE HABIT

**SAT. NOV 23, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM G113**  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Food packaging, utensils, beverage containers and disposable dining ware are just a few common culprits of unnecessary waste. With a little planning and creativity, it is easy to reduce or even completely eliminate the need for such items. Learn how to make a carry out kit, purchase in bulk and switch to reusable containers. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details.

### (FREE) GREEN HOLIDAY GATHERINGS

**THU. DEC 5, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM H59**  
2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. 2nd St.  
Holiday celebrations can generate a lot of waste, but they don't have to! Learn how to organize an event so that all supplies can be reused, recycled or composted. We'll also discuss how to source locally produced, seasonal food. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 279-6979 for details.

### (FREE) THE ENERGY EFFICIENT HOUSEHOLD

**SAT. JAN 4, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM H58**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead West-



= Online Registration Available



= Program is Weather-Dependent

vaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Household energy is typically generated by the combustion of fossil fuels, contributing significantly to atmospheric carbon. It isn't cheap either, so it's important to learn to conserve energy for the sake of one's finances and the environment. Learn how to analyze an energy bill, utilize alternative energy, and reduce overall consumption. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details.

### **(FREE) SUSTAINABLE FOOD CHOICES**

**FRI. FEB 21, 12:00-1:00 PM** H106

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

Scientists and economists agree that the modern food system is not sustainable. Conscientious dietary choices are becoming increasingly necessary to maintain a viable environment and ensure food security for a growing population. Join us for a brief presentation and discussion about adopting a more sustainable diet. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 279-6979 for details.

### **(FREE) HOW TO DRIVE LESS**

**SAT. MAR 22, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM** I32

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco 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.

## **VOLUNTEER: MASTER RECYCLING**

**TUE. FEB. 11-MAR. 4, 6:00-8:00 PM** H48

OFFSITE, Montgomery County Solid Waste, 2550 Sandridge Dr.

Sessions include a variety of activities involving recycling, the latest available technology in the Miami Valley and practical advice for effective recycling at home and in the community. 15 hrs of volunteer service is required upon completing the course. Participants must complete an interview and background check. Registration deadline Jan 31. Registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$25

### **(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, cleaning our parks and water ways. Registration closes April 14th. Registration required. Contact (937) 278-8231 for details. [www.metroparks.org/adopt](http://www.metroparks.org/adopt). Age: All ages

## **HERITAGE & HISTORY**

### **(FREE) OHIO'S FIRST PEOPLE**

**SAT. NOV 9, 1:00-2:30 PM** G105

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

Please join us in welcoming Andy Sawyer of Sunwatch Indian Village. Andy will talk about how the first Ohioans lived, worked and played. Hands-on activities and displays will be available. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: All ages  PTN

### **(FREE) VICES OF THE 1880S: TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND OTHERS**

**SUN. NOV 10, 12:00-4:00 PM** G95

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

Help the farm hands strip the cured tobacco from the stalk and get it ready for sale as they did 100 years ago. Watch as tobacco plugs are made. Ongoing demonstrations and information on several other period vices will be provided, including coffee, tea, beer, and gambling. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages

### **(FREE) CHRISTMAS ON THE FARM**

**SUN. DEC 1, 12:00-4:00 PM** H2

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

String cranberries and popcorn for the farm-grown cedar tree just like families did a century ago. Enjoy fresh baked gingerbread and sample chestnuts hot from the fireplace. Play some period parlor games. At our Visitor Center you can make a Victorian Christmas decoration to take home. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages

### **(FREE) A HOLIDAY EVENING AT CARRIAGE HILL**

**SAT. DEC 14, 5:30-9:00 PM** H11

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


Come join us for a candlelit stroll through the farm and experience what it was like at night. Listen to holiday music, play some parlor games or watch some historic crafts. An old fashioned Victorian Christmas will come to life. Concessions will be available. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages

### **(FREE) ICE HARVESTING**

**SUN. JAN 19, 12:00-4:00 PM** H3

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

Watch the farm hands use ice saws, pike poles and tongs to cut blocks of ice from the farm pond and load them onto the bobsled for storage in the farm's ice house. Ice can then be used

year-round to make ice cream, and keep certain foods cool. Depending on the weather, date may change. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages 

### **(FREE) BLACK HISTORY DAY AT THE MARKET**

**SAT. FEB 22, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM** H79


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

All are invited to the Annual Black History Day at the Market. Join us for a cultural celebration of old-school music, gospel music and dance! No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

### **(FREE) MAPLE SUGARING ON THE FARM**

**SUN, SAT. FEB. 22-23, 12:00-4:00 PM** H14

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, 7800 E. Shull Rd.

The end of winter has traditionally marked the beginning of maple sugaring season. Come watch as we demonstrate maple sugaring using our historic steam engine. Learn about the various tools and processes used to collect the sap. Watch as the sap is boiled down into the sweet syrup. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 for details. Age: All ages 

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

**SAT. MAR 15, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** I37

2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. 2nd 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](mailto: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

## **HOME & HOBBIES**

### **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: BUTTERS

**SAT. NOV 9, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** G94  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

Learn to make and preserve pumpkin butter/jam safely using the 'Hot-Water Boiling Method'. Participants will take home historic and modern recipes along with a jar of the months harvest. Registration required. Contact (937) 278-2609 or [deborah.spencer@metroparks.org](mailto:deborah.spencer@metroparks.org) for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 

### BREWING PUMPKIN BEER

**SAT. NOV 23, 1:00-3:00 PM** G99  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

We'll brew a batch of beer so you can visually see the process from beginning to end. This introductory class will cover malt extract brewing, siphoning, bottling - and how to get that pumpkin in your beer! Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 or [lucille.beachdell@metroparks.org](mailto:lucille.beachdell@metroparks.org) for details. Age: 21Y and up Fee: \$25 

### (FREE) STOCK-UP WEDNESDAY

**WED. NOV 27, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM** G118  
2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. 2nd St.


The Market will be open to pickup your last minute needs for Thanksgiving - homemade breads, fresh turkeys and hams, pies and cakes, flowers and more. Many of our vendors are accepting pre-orders throughout November so remember to ask on your next visit. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages



## STOCK-UP WEDNESDAY: Nov 27

### SOAP-MAKING


**SAT. DEC 14, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** H15  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Learn about the homemade soap-making process, including laundry and hand soaps. Attendees will leave with an understanding of soap-making methods, basic processes and supplies required, and the value and sustainability of the product. As part of this workshop, participants will re-batch their own bar of soap. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 or [lucille.beachdell@metroparks.org](mailto:lucille.beachdell@metroparks.org) for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 

### HOMEMADE HERBAL TEA

**SAT. JAN 25, 1:00-3:00 PM** H16


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

For herbal tea drinkers who want to learn which herbs grow well in this region, methods for preserving the herbs, and how to make your own teas. Tea-tasting and demonstration accompanies a lecture. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 

### NATURE'S CANDIES

**WED. FEB 5, 6:00-8:00 PM** H19


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

Just in time for Valentine's Day, learn how your garden's harvest can be turned into something sweeter. Participants will make their own candy, using anise, coriander, lavender and honey. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 

### HOMEMADE SOFT CHEESE AND YOGURT

**WED. FEB 19, 6:00-9:00 PM** H24

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

Learn the basics of how to make soft cheese through observing a demonstration of the preparation of Mozzarella cheese. Equipment, supplies, and sources will be covered. Prepared samples of homemade cottage, ricotta, cream cheese, and yogurt will be available to try. Recipes will be available online for interested participants. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7053 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 


### 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? Registration begins January 1, 2014. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7062 for details. Age: 11Y-14Y  PTN

## HORSEBACK RIDING

### TRAIL RIDES


**SUN, SAT. NOV. 2-NOV. 17, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** F249

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Riding Center, 8111 E. Shull Rd.

Registration required. Contact (937) 274-3120 for details. Age: 8Y and up Fee: \$30 

## NATURE

### TIKE HIKES

Take a hike in the woods with your little ones as we get up close and personal with nature! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y PTN 

### (FREE) MY FIRST LEAF COLLECTION

**FRI. NOV 1, 10:00-11:00 AM** G122

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

**TUE. NOV 12, 10:00-11:00 AM** G123

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

Leaves are perfect study materials for preschoolers; they learn colors, shapes, and relative sizes, while developing a close relationship with the season. Bring your preschooler out for a hike to collect nature's retired food makers!

### (FREE) METROPARKS LARGEST MAMMAL

**TUE. DEC 3, 10:00-11:00 AM** H94

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40

You've probably seen them in the park or in your backyard, but come learn more about MetroParks' largest mammal, the white-tail deer!

### (FREE) SQUIRREL SEARCH

**FRI. DEC 13, 10:00-11:00 AM** H96

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Join other preschoolers and their parents in search for this rodent of our treetops. We will explore how these furry creatures get through the winter while enjoying a winter morning in the park!

### (FREE) HIBERNATING BUGS

**MON. JAN 6, 10:00-11:00 AM** H99

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

Enjoy an expedition with your preschooler in search of hibernating insects. Once they are found, your child will warm them up with body heat and watch them wake up!

**(FREE) ANIMAL TRACKING****THU. JAN 16, 10:00-11:00 AM** H100

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Bring your preschooler out for a fun-filled animal tracking experience! We will explore the science and technique behind animal tracks, as well as examine molds, scat replicas, mammal furs, and look for tracks in the wild.

**(FREE) GROUNDHOGS GALORE****MON. FEB 3, 10:00-11:00 AM** H101

HILLS &amp; DALES METROPARK, Shelter: White Oak 1/Nature Play/Parking Lot, 2606 Hilton Dr.

Continue your Groundhog Day celebration for another day with a naturalist, searching for groundhog holes to see for yourself if there will be six more weeks of winter!

**(FREE) WINTER BIRDS****TUE. FEB 11, 10:00-11:00 AM** H102

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

**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.

**(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.

**(FREE) SEEDLING SATURDAYS-FALL PLANTINGS****SAT. NOV 2, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** G120

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Main Park Office Meeting Room, 6675 Conservancy Rd.

**SAT. NOV 16, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** G137

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

Join our reforestation efforts and help us plant tree seedlings! We will be planting over 2,000 tree seedlings this fall in locations throughout MetroParks. Visit [www.metroarks.org/forests](http://www.metroarks.org/forests) for up-to-date info. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4147 or [yvonne.dunphe@metroarks.org](mailto:yvonne.dunphe@metroarks.org) for details. Age: All ages 📅 ⚙️

**(FREE) PREPARING FOR WINTER PLAY****SAT. NOV 2, 2:00-3:00 PM** G140

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

Although the days are getting shorter and colder, the changing climate opens many opportunities for

outdoor play that aren't available during the summer. Don't miss out! Come play in Englewood's nature play area while exploring ways to take advantage of the approaching winter's magic, and learn how to engage with nature safely. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages 📅 PTN

**NAI CERTIFIED INTERPRETIVE GUIDE TRAINING****MON., TUE., WED., THU. NOV. 4-7, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM** G51

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, 6733 Springboro Pike

Five Rivers MetroParks and National Association for Interpretation are offering a 32 hr. certification course for anyone who delivers programs. It combines both the theoretical foundations of the profession with practical skills in delivering quality interpretive programming to visitors. For more information see our website program description. Registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 or [dhovath@metroarks.org](mailto:dhovath@metroarks.org) for details. Age: 18Y and up. Fees range from \$50-\$400. See online listing for more information. 📅 ⚙️

**ADULT NATURE WALKS**

Enjoy a leisurely hike through natural areas as we explore Dayton's ecology, and gain a deeper perspective for how nature works. We will also discuss our role in nature, how we can minimize our harmful impacts, and get involved with conservation efforts. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚙️

**(FREE) WEDNESDAY DISCOVERY STROLL****WED. NOV 6, 10:00-11:30 AM** G166**WED. DEC 11, 10:00-11:30 AM** H177**WED. JAN 15, 10:00-11:30 AM** H181**WED. FEB 26, 10:00-11:30 AM** H187

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

**(FREE) TUESDAY ADULT NATURE WALK****TUE. NOV 12, 9:00-11:00 AM** G163

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

**TUE. DEC 3, 9:00-11:00 AM** H164

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40

**TUE. JAN 21, 9:00-11:00 AM** H170

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

**TUE. FEB 25, 9:00-11:00 AM** H175

EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

**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 for this program, as trails are not stroller-friendly. No registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 for details. Age: 0Y-2Y

**(FREE) LEAVES OF COLOR****THU. NOV 7, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** G109

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Treat your baby to some fresh, fall air while exposing them to the colors of fall! We will stop for a break, play time and snacks in the Osage Orange Tunnel.

**(FREE) WINTER BEGINNINGS****THU. DEC 5, 10:00-11:00 AM** H44

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Winter officially begins December 21st so let's treat your baby to some fresh air as we travel through the park searching for signs of winter.

**(FREE) WONDERFUL WILDLIFE****THU. JAN 2, 10:00-11:00 AM** H45

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

What animals are still around in the winter? Let's find out as we search for clues and see some furs of our local wildlife.

**(FREE) NATURE TOYS****THU. FEB 6, 10:00-11:00 AM** H46

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Come learn about some awesome toys you baby will love out in nature.

**(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 good close look at these magnificent animals.





## (FREE) VOLUNTEER:

### CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**TUE. NOV 12, 6:30-8:30 PM** G119

**TUE. DEC 3, 1:00-3:00 PM** H140

**THU. DEC 12, 6:30-8:30 PM** H141

**TUE. JAN 14, 1:00-3:00 PM** H142

**SAT. FEB 1, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** H143

**THU. FEB 13, 9:30-11:30 AM** H144

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

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

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

Five Rivers MetroParks protects over 15,000 acres, and we could use 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 📅

## (FREE) PROJECT FEEDERWATCH

**FRI. NOV 15, 12:30-2:30 PM** G181

**SAT. JAN 11, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM** H193

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Enjoy watching feederbirds and make new friends while taking part in this citizen-science initiative through Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology. At this volunteer-led event, you'll keep track of the number of avian species that visit the feeder, while enjoying the fellowship of like-minded nature lovers. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

## (FREE) NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWLS AND RED CEDARS

**FRI. NOV 15, 8:00-10:00 PM** G112

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Join Master Bander, Dr. Dave Russell as his team searches for and bands the elusive Northern Saw-whet Owl. Discover why these amazing owls are perceived as "tame" while learning about their life history and identification and the importance of the Red Cedar habitat to their wintering grounds. This program is best for ages 9 and above. Registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 for details. www.avianinstitute.com. Age: All ages 📅

## TIKES TAKING ACTION

Looking for a step beyond Tike Hikes? Then bring your experienced, young, nature explorer out to help protect the parks they are growing to love! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-6Y 📅 PTN

## (FREE) PLANTING ACORNS

**WED. NOV 20, 10:00-11:30 AM** G124

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Red Fox Run, 8400 Brown School Rd.

Last month we took the first step in preparing acorns, and this month we are acting as squirrels burying them. These acorns have an important job in our forest, and will take the place of fallen ash trees.

## (FREE) ANIMAL KEEPER

**WED. DEC 18, 10:00-11:30 AM** H95

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Want to know what it's like to care for wild animals? Come be a wild animal keeper for a day and learn about what animals need to survive, and how Five Rivers MetroParks cares for our native captive animals! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 3Y-6Y 📅 PTN

## (FREE) GREENHOUSE HELPERS

**TUE. JAN 21, 10:00-11:30 AM** H97

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Green House, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Ever been in a greenhouse? Be part of our conservation effort as a horticulturist for the day! You will discover what a horticulturist must do to care for seeds and plants in the winter, assisting Cox Arboretum MetroPark staff in the greenhouses.

## (FREE) GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

**FRI. FEB 14, 10:00-11:30 AM** H98

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Education Room, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Want to be a part of the Great Backyard Bird Count of 2014? People all across the US will be counting the birds they see and reporting their sightings online, and you can be a part of this growing program! Bring binoculars if you have them, a limited supply will be available.

## (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 setup 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!

Visit MetroParks facilities, participate in designated passport programs, and get your passport stamped. When eight of the boxes are stamped, fill in the information and mail your passport to Five Rivers MetroParks. Every child who completes a passport will become an official Nature Traveler and will receive a special traveler gift along with recognition in this publication.

Look for **PTN** in the program listing to see if it qualifies as a Passport to Nature program! There are also self-guided Park Trek explorations that qualify to earn a stamp.

For more information or directions to program sites, call **(937) 275-PARK (7275)** or visit us at [metroparks.org/passport](http://metroparks.org/passport).

## FIRST PASSPORT

Leah Tippie  
Brighton Whelpdale  
Jacob Whelpdale  
Kaeleb Drye

## SECOND PASSPORT

Caroline Tempus  
Norah Tempus

## THIRD PASSPORT

Wyatt Rosengarten  
Jack Periard

## FOURTH PASSPORT

Luke Schumaker  
Jason Schumaker



**(FREE) NATURE AT NIGHT****SAT. DEC 7, 5:00-11:00 PM** H90

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Join us at the Nature Center to celebrate about our nocturnal wildlife at this special after-hours event! Grab some hot chocolate and participate in various activities including stargazing with the Miami Valley Astronomical Society, campfire stories, night hikes and much more! Bring flashlights if you desire. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages PTN

**(FREE) AUDUBON CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT****MON. DEC 16, 9:00 AM-1:30 PM** H53

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

Visit MetroParks' Twin Creek Conservation Area and hike cross-country through a rugged landscape to participate in the Preble County Plus Audubon Christmas Bird Count, a citizen science project. Registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 or dhorvath@metroparks.org for details. <http://birds.audubon.org/get-involved-christmas-bird-count>. Age: 18Y and up 📄 ⚙️

**(FREE) ANIMAL TRACKING EXCURSION****SAT. JAN 11, 2:00-4:00 PM** H146

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

What does a beaver track look like? What's the difference between a coyote and dog track? Does opossum scat look like raccoon scat? If you've ever wanted to get started becoming an animal tracker, come out and explore these questions, and discover the art and science of animal tracking on this hands-on outdoor family-friendly excursion. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages 📄 PTN

**WINTER TREE ID WORKSHOP****SAT. JAN 18, 1:00-3:00 PM** H47

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

Learn how to identify more than 20 native trees by their twig, bark, and other winter characteristics. Discover pioneer, wildlife and commercial uses for each tree while sharing stories of folklore. Each participant will receive a winter tree identification notebook, with everything needed to get started identifying trees. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 📄

**(FREE) BUTTERFLY MONITORING SEASON REVIEW****TUE. JAN 28, 6:00-8:00 PM** H10

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

Annual gathering of the Miami Valley Butterfly Association will recap the summer's butterfly sighting. Members will present finds from the summer surveys. Open to all those interested in butterfly populations in the Miami Valley. Registration required. Contact (937) 434-9005 for details. Age: All ages 📄

**(FREE) VOLUNTEER: CONSERVATION AMBASSADORS****TUE. JAN 28, 6:00-8:00 PM** H89**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 on-going, 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 📄

**WINTER BIRD BANDING****SAT. FEB 8, 9:00-10:30 AM** H52

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Join Dr. Dave Russell who will showcase an up-close perspective of the bird banding process which scientist commonly use to study wild birds. Become familiar with our local feeder birds some of which are only present in Ohio during the winter. Special bird-friendly coffee will be served during this indoor program as we learn how to help our birds. Registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 for details. [www.avianinstitute.com](http://www.avianinstitute.com). Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$16 📄 ⚙️

**(FREE) HIDDEN LIFE****SAT. FEB 8, 2:00-4:00 PM** H147

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40

Although winter may seem to have a relentless hold on the forest, the season is full of life if you look in the right places. Come explore one of Dayton's best forests while searching for animal life on this family-friendly adventure. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: All ages 📄 PTN

**HAWK AND OWL WORKSHOP****SAT. FEB 8, 6:00-8:00 PM** H54

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center Education Room, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Explore Ohio's hawks and owls with a relaxing presentation of their identification characteristics, ecology, and their interactions with people. Afterwards, take a slow-paced night hike into the forest in search of owls. Each participant will get an ODNr field guide to Ohio Owls and a CD of their sounds. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4178 for details. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$10 📄

**(FREE) LEAVE NO CHILD INSIDE SUMMIT****SAT. FEB 22, 11:30 AM-4:30 PM** H9

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

Join in our third summit as the Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside network works to build up access to nature for our children to "Play in the Woods". Share with other leaders and hear more tested ideas on how to facilitate your school, park, pre-school and or family on creating opportunities connecting kids to nature. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 275-7275 for details. Age: 18Y and up 📄

**VOLUNTEER: METROPARK VOLUNTEER NATURALIST****THU. FEB. 27-APR. 24, 9:00 AM-4:30 PM** H88

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Being a naturalist is a state of mind. Becoming a naturalist is a journey - artistic creativity and scientific discipline intertwined. As a volunteer naturalist, you will teach and learn - providing opportunities to share your knowledge, interests and talents with others in a classroom without boundaries. Schedule an interview to begin the journey. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4147 or yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: 21Y and up Fee: \$50 📄

**(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 over 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 able to walk/hike trails at various MetroParks. Children's tour guides make our natural areas come alive for the students that visit each season. Contact (937) 275-5059 for details. Age: 16Y and up 📄



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

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead West-vaco 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.

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

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead West-vaco 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.

**(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 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 9:00AM. Registration required.

**(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 📅

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE****EARTHJOY TREE CLIMBING****SAT. NOV 9, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM** G138

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

Explore and climb some of the biggest trees in the Miami Valley. Learn to rappel, get in and out of hammocks and learn the art of balancing and walking on sturdy limbs. Challenge yourself to hang like Spiderman! Choose starting times 10 am, 12:15 pm, 2:30 pm. Registration required. Contact (859) 653-2907 or Shelly@climbtreeswith-earthjoy.com for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$37

**FUNDAMENTALS OF TRIP PLANNING****WED. NOV 20, 6:00-8:00 PM** G102

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

Learn the tips and tricks of outdoor adventure trip planning. Whether you're planning a weekend backpacking trip or a weeklong paddling adventure, this program will teach you the prep work that goes into ensuring you have a successful trip; covering topics such as trip goals, destination research, route planning, logistics and budgeting. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$15 📅

**NATIONAL PARK TRIP PLANNING FOR FAMILIES****TUE. JAN 28, 6:00-8:00 PM** H32

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Thinking about taking a family road trip to visit some of our beautiful National Parks? Come check out resources and talk with local experts to learn about specific park highlights and advice on traveling and camping with kids. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$10 📅

**(FREE) THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT****FRI. FEB 14, 5:00-9:00 PM** H145**SAT. FEB 15, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM**

OFFSITE, Wright State University, 3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.

The Adventure Summit is a celebration of the outdoors at Wright State University. The event showcases inspiring presentations focused on outdoor skill, culture and experience, featuring world class adventurer Dave Cornthwaite. Visitors can get active in a bouldering competition, kayaking sessions and fitness-related fun. No registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. www.theadventuresummit.com. Age: All ages

**OUTDOOR SKILLS AND SAFETY****LAND NAVIGATION BASICS****SAT. NOV 2, 1:00-4:00 PM** G9

TWIN CREEK METROPARK, High View Shelter/Trail-head Parking Lot, 9688 Eby Rd.

Are you ready for the next step in the Land Navigation progression? Get out and use map and compass together in this field-based program. Intro to Land Navigation is a prerequisite for this program. Prerequisites: Intro to Land Navigation. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$15 📅

**MASTER OUTDOOR EDUCATOR SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM****MON. JAN 6, 6:30-9:00 PM** H103**MON. FEB 3, 6:30-9:00 PM****MON. MAR 3, 6:30-9:00 PM**

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

Volunteers will learn and teach outdoor education skills in recreation programs through classroom and field workshops. Volunteers who complete the series will be able to help assist programs and potentially lead trips. Applications are accepted Oct 1-Dec 25. Applicants are expected to have prior experience. Please see website for complete details. Prerequisites: Completed core progression in: backpacking, paddling, mountain biking or cycling. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$150

**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 Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

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

## PHOTOGRAPHY

### PICTURING PUDDLES AND PONDS

**SAT. NOV 2, 10:00-11:30 AM** G121

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Join photographer Adam Alonzo and discover methods for photographing bodies of water, such as controlling reflections, and how to capture (or avoid) a sense of motion in flowing water. Following a presentation indoors, we'll go outside (weather permitting) to take photos in the park. Due to limited class size, you receive a hands-on photo shoot in the garden, 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: \$15 📄

### (FREE) NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY BY THE NUMBERS

**SAT. DEC 7, 10:00-11:30 AM** H91

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Numeric camera settings such as aperture, shutter speed, focal length and ISO can become confusing. In this session photographer Adam Alonzo explains what the numbers mean and how they affect what you can accomplish when you're outdoors taking photos of nature. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📄

### (FREE) PUTTING THE PIECES INTO PLACE

**SAT. JAN 11, 10:00-11:30 AM** H92

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East Siebenthaler Ave.

Two photographs might show the same subject, but one may be much more pleasing to the eye because of the way the elements are arranged within the picture. In this session photographer Adam Alonzo will introduce important principles of composition that can increase the impact of your photos. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📄

### (FREE) NATURE IN MOTION

**SAT. FEB 15, 10:00-11:30 AM** H93

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

Nearly every digital camera available now has the ability to record video, giving nature enthusiasts the power to capture motion and sound that a still photograph cannot convey. Photographer Adam Alonzo will introduce basic concepts such as video formats, frame rate, resolution, camera support systems and editing tools. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 277-6545 for details. Age: All ages 📄

## PICTURING BEASTS AND BIRDS

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

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 East 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), 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 📄

## ROWING

### ROOKIES LEARN TO ROW

**MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI., SAT. DEC.**

**2-18, 4:00-6:30 PM** H49

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

Curious about rowing? These classes are designed for youth to row three days and learn the basics. Greater Dayton Rowing is led by experienced coaches. Join GDRA for these 3-day programs for rookies. Classes are either: Monday-Wednesday from 4-6:30PM; or Thursday and Friday, 4-6:30PM and Saturday, 10AM-12:30PM. Meet at indoor rowing facility. Prerequisites: Must be comfortable around water; know how to swim; graduated from 6th grade; and at least 100lbs. or at least 5'3" tall. See contact info to register. Contact (513) 885-6251 or alex.walters@gmail.com for details. daytonjuniorrowing.org. Age: 13Y-18Y Fee: \$60

### COMPETITIVE JUNIOR ROWING

**MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI., SAT. DEC.**

**2-MAR. 15, 4:00-6:30 PM** H1

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

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

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

Join Greater Dayton Rowing for this 12-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.daytonjuniorrowing.org. Age: 13Y-18Y Fee: \$420

## SKATING

### ICE RINK OPENING WEEKEND

**FRI. NOV 29, 11:00 AM-10:00 PM** G117

**SAT. NOV 30, 11:00 AM-10:00 PM**

**SUN. DEC 1, 1:00-5:00 PM**

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

Spend the holiday weekend creating lasting memories with friends and family at MetroParks Ice Rink! Warm up with hot chocolate from our food concession and enjoy our outdoor fireplaces. No registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️

### BEGINNERS I FOR TOTS

**SUN. DEC 1, 12:00-12:30 PM** H108

**SUN. DEC 15, 12:00-12:30 PM** H109

**SUN. DEC 29, 12:00-12:30 PM** H110

**SUN. JAN 12, 12:00-12:30 PM** H111

**SUN. JAN 26, 12:00-12:30 PM** H112

**SUN. FEB 9, 12:00-12:30 PM** H113

**SUN. FEB 23, 12:00-12:30 PM** H114

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

Join us select Sunday afternoons for our tot's beginners ice lesson! Your youngster will learn how to sit and stand up on the ice, march in place and across the ice, dip and glide all while gaining confidence in their new abilities. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to start time. Fee includes use of skates. Registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$10 📄 ⚙️



**RINK RENTALS** are available on Sun/Thurs evenings from 6-8 PM and are \$300. Includes 50 pairs of skates and 50 cups of hot chocolate. Add a Parker the Penguin appearance to your rental for an additional \$75. Call (937) 274-0126 for further details.



## SKATING BASICS FOR ADULTS & OLDER KIDS

**SUN. DEC 1, 12:30-1:00 PM** H115

**SUN. DEC 15, 12:30-1:00 PM** H116

**SUN. DEC 29, 12:30-1:00 PM** H117

**SUN. JAN 12, 12:30-1:00 PM** H118

**SUN. JAN 26, 12:30-1:00 PM** H119

**SUN. FEB 9, 12:30-1:00 PM** H120

**SUN. FEB 23, 12:30-1:00 PM** H121

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

Gain the confidence to let go of the wall in this beginner's class! Our certified skating instructor will lead you through the basics in this half hour class so you can move about the rink safely and comfortably, and learn some skills in the process. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to start time. Fee includes use of skates. Registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: 11Y and up Fee: \$10 📱 ⚙️

## STAR-LATE SKATE

**FRI. DEC 6, 7:00-10:00 PM** H63

**SAT. DEC 7, 7:00-10:00 PM** H64

**FRI. DEC 13, 7:00-10:00 PM** H65

**SAT. DEC 14, 7:00-10:00 PM** H66

**FRI. DEC 20, 7:00-10:00 PM** H67

**SAT. DEC 21, 7:00-10:00 PM** H68

**FRI. DEC 27, 7:00-10:00 PM** H69

**SAT. DEC 28, 7:00-10:00 PM** H70

**SAT. JAN 4, 7:00-10:00 PM** H71

**SAT. JAN 11, 7:00-10:00 PM** H72

**SAT. JAN 18, 7:00-10:00 PM** H74

**SAT. JAN 25, 7:00-10:00 PM** H73

**SAT. FEB 1, 7:00-10:00 PM** H75

**SAT. FEB 8, 7:00-10:00 PM** H76

**SAT. FEB 15, 7:00-10:00 PM** H77

**SAT. FEB 22, 7:00-10:00 PM** H78

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

There's no better way to spend a Friday or Saturday night in the winter than by skating near the river, under a beautifully lit canopy. Take in the sights and sounds of downtown while sipping hot chocolate. Bring your family, coworkers, sweetheart or friends to skate here at MetroParks Ice Rink! Admission includes the use of ice skates. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: Admission: \$7 ⚙️

## BEGINNERS I FOR KIDS

**SUN. DEC 8, 12:00-12:30 PM** H122

**SUN. DEC 22, 12:00-12:30 PM** H123

**SUN. JAN 5, 12:00-12:30 PM** H124

**SUN. JAN 19, 12:00-12:30 PM** H125

**SUN. FEB 2, 12:00-12:30 PM** H126

**SUN. FEB 16, 12:00-12:30 PM** H127

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

Join us select Sunday afternoons for our children's beginner ice lesson! Participants will learn

how to sit and stand up on the ice, march in place and across the ice, dip and glide while gaining confidence in their new abilities. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to start time. Fee includes use of skates. Registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: 6Y-10Y Fee: \$10 📱 ⚙️

## BEGINNERS II

**SUN. DEC 8, 12:30-1:00 PM** H128

**SUN. DEC 22, 12:30-1:00 PM** H129

**SUN. JAN 5, 12:30-1:00 PM** H130

**SUN. JAN 19, 12:30-1:00 PM** H131

**SUN. FEB 2, 12:30-1:00 PM** H132

**SUN. FEB 16, 12:30-1:00 PM** H133

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

Now that your child has the confidence to move about the rink, it's time for some fancy footwork! Before the rink opens on select Sundays, children ages 3-10 will learn how to walk and wiggle backwards, glide, swizzle, do a two-foot turn and learn how to stop. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to start time. Fee includes use of ice skates. Registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: 3Y-10Y Fee: \$10 📱 ⚙️

## CHRISTMAS EVE SKATE

**TUE. DEC 24, 11:00 AM-5:00 PM** H80

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

Start a holiday tradition by skating with your friends and family at RiverScape MetroPark! Enjoy splendid scenery, outdoor fireplaces and hot chocolate from our food concession. Admission includes ice skate rental. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️

## CHRISTMAS DAY SKATE

**WED. DEC 25, 1:00-8:00 PM** H81

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

Have an old-fashioned, family Christmas and skate on Christmas Day! Enjoy the festive atmosphere as you sip hot chocolate by our outdoor fireplaces. Admission includes ice skate rental. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️

## NEW YEAR'S EVE SKATE

**TUE. DEC 31, 11:00 AM-10:00 PM** H82

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

Looking for something fun to do before the ball drops? Start your New Year's Eve party at MetroParks Ice Rink and be the last to skate in 2013! Admission includes ice skate rental. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️



# ICE RINK SEASON PASSES NOW ON SALE

If you love to skate, take advantage of a money-saving season pass to the skating rink. One pass covers admission and rentals for the entire season. Individual passes are available for \$40 and family passes (covering up to five people) are just \$75. Rink passes make perfect holiday gifts!

**937-274-0126**

## NEW YEAR'S DAY SKATE

**WED. JAN 1, 1:00-8:00 PM** H83

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

Start the New Year right and be the first to skate in 2014! Admission includes ice skate rental. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️

## SCHOOL PRIDE NIGHT

**FRI. JAN 3, 7:00-10:00 PM** H149

**FRI. FEB 7, 7:00-10:00 PM** H150

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

Represent your school at MetroParks Ice Rink! Wear your school colors to skate as a DJ plays Top 40 hits. Bring your student ID and get half-priced admission. Admission fee includes the use of ice skates. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️

## OUTDOOR BROOMBALL LEAGUE MON., WED. JAN. 6-FEB. 24, 6:00-8:00 PM H134

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

Get your friends together and sign up for Dayton Broomball Association's co-ed league at MetroParks Ice Rink! Visit [daytonbroomball.org/riverscape](http://daytonbroomball.org/riverscape) to learn more about this fast-paced sport and register your team for either the competitive or recreational league. They will take the first 18 teams. Registration required. [www.daytonbroomball.org/riverscape](http://www.daytonbroomball.org/riverscape). Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$290

## CURLING LEAGUE

**TUE. JAN. 7-FEB. 4, 6:00-8:00 PM H158**

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

Play an Olympic sport this winter and sign up with friends for Curl Troy's co-ed league at MetroParks Ice Rink! Curling is accessible to all physical skill levels and no experience is required. Visit [www.curltroy.org](http://www.curltroy.org) to learn more and to register your team. Curl Troy will accept the first 8 teams. Registration required. Contact (937) 274-0126 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$360

## POP-COUNTRY SKATE

**FRI. JAN 10, 7:00-10:00 PM H151**

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

Saddle on up and head over to MetroParks Ice Rink for a cool night of Pop Country music! A DJ will be on hand, playing all the hits from the likes of Taylor Swift, Lady Antebellum, Sugarland and The Band Perry. Admission includes skate rental, but not horse parking. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️

## MOMMY AND ME (AND DADDY TOO!)

**SAT. JAN 11, 10:00-11:00 AM H135**

**SAT. JAN 25, 10:00-11:00 AM H136**

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

Attention moms and dads! Bring your tyke to MetroParks Ice Rink for a morning of fun together on the ice without the crowds! This special time is set aside for children ages 3-6 to enjoy to the rink with their parents prior to our normal hours. Admission fee includes ice skate rental. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: 3Y-6Y Fee: \$7 ⚙️

## DIVAS OF POP

**FRI. JAN 17, 7:00-10:00 PM H152**

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

Bring all your friends to MetroParks Ice Rink for a night devoted to pop music goddesses! A DJ will be supplying the music from the divas of yesterday and today, including Mariah Carey, Adele and

Whitney Houston. Admission includes skate rental. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️

## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY SKATE

**MON. JAN 20, 11:00 AM-5:00 PM H84**

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

Celebrate the holiday at MetroParks Ice Rink! Admission includes ice skate rental. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️

## BRITISH INVASION

**FRI. JAN 24, 7:00-10:00 PM H153**

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

Spend this Friday night celebrating music from across the pond! Skate to hits from The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Adele, Mumford and Sons and more. You might catch some Beatlemania before you leave! Admission includes skate rental. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️

## MICHAEL JACKSON SKATE

**FRI. JAN 31, 7:00-10:00 PM H154**

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

Are the most-played songs on your iPod by the King of Pop? Then come to MetroParks Ice Rink and moonwalk in ice skates as a DJ plays a variety of Michael Jackson's biggest hits. Groove to Thriller, Black or White, I'll Be There, and even some hits from Jackson Five! Admission includes skate rental. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️

## SWEETHEART DEAL

**FRI. FEB 14, 2:30-10:00 PM H155**

**SAT. FEB 15, 11:00 AM-10:00 PM**

**SUN. FEB 16, 1:00-5:00 PM**

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

Join us at RiverScape MetroPark during Valentine's weekend! During regular Ice Rink Hours from Friday, February 14, through Sunday, February 16, you can purchase the "Sweetheart Deal" and get two rink admissions with skate rental, plus two cups of hot chocolate and a Parker the Penguin plush for only \$22! No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$22 ⚙️

## PRESIDENT'S DAY SKATE

**MON. FEB 17, 11:00 AM-5:00 PM H85**

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

Celebrate the holiday at MetroParks Ice Rink! Admission includes ice skate rental. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️

## 90S NIGHT

**FRI. FEB 21, 7:00-10:00 PM H156**

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

Ah, the 90s. The decade that saw the commercialization of the Internet and cable TV, when people carried portable CD players and pagers, and radio waves were filled with the likes of Nirvana, Pearl Jam, R.E.M., Blink 182, Lauryn Hill, Alanis Morissette, and Sheryl Crow. Transport back as you skate to some 90s hits! Admission includes skate rental. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️

## LAST NIGHT TO SKATE!

**FRI. FEB 28, 7:00-10:00 PM H157**

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

You're invited to help us close-out our skating season at MetroParks Ice Rink! A DJ will bring the party tunes, so lace your skates for the last time as we say goodbye to the rink until next year! Admission includes skate rental. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 ⚙️

# SWEETHEART DEAL

*February 14 - 16*

2

Admissions &  
Skate Rentals

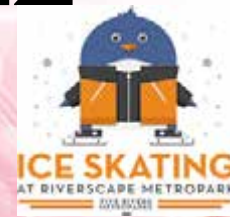
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Hot Chocolates

1

Parker Penguin  
Plush

**\$22**





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Photo: PAUL NICKLEN

## **PAUL NICKLEN** *POLAR OBSESSION: PHOTOGRAPHY FROM THE ENDS OF THE EARTH*

**Monday, February 24, 2014 • Victoria Theatre**

A unique childhood among the Inuit in Canada's Arctic and time spent as a biologist in the Northwest Territories enable Paul Nicklen to take on the most inhospitable places on our planet, often working in sub-zero temperatures, suspended in freezing water. His images reflect a deep caring for the creatures inhabiting these isolated and threatened environments. He endeavors to put a tangible face on climate change, making it impossible to ignore.



Photo: REEL WATER PRODUCTIONS

## **BRYAN SMITH** *THE LENS OF ADVENTURE*

**Monday, March 24, 2014 • 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, 2014 • 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](http://www.victoriatheatre.com/natgeolive) for details!**

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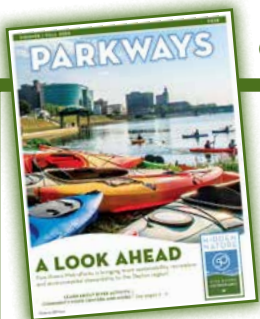


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# OPEN FOR THE SEASON

Friday, November 29, through February 28, 2014!

Host your next event at the rink! Book your full rink rental or Parker Party today; call (937) 274-0126.



(937) 278-2607  [METROPARKS.ORG/ICERINK](http://METROPARKS.ORG/ICERINK)

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