LIVE LIGHTLY ON THE EARTH
WAYS TO BE MORE SUSTAINABLE

FIVE TIPS FOR EARTH-FRIENDLY GARDENING
SEE PAGE 8

CYCLING: SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION
SEE PAGE 11

NEW FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS FOUNDATION
SEE PAGE 12
SAVE THE DATE
Be sure to mark your calendars for these upcoming Five Rivers MetroParks events!

FEBRUARY 14
BIRDING WORKSHOP: OWLS
Germantown MetroPark

FEBRUARY 19
FARM FRESH TO YOU; COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE FAIR
2ND Street Market

FEBRUARY 21
LEAVE NO CHILD INSIDE SUMMIT
Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark

MARCH 7
MIAMI VALLEY GARDENING CONFERENCE
Sinclair Community College

APRIL 7
TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING MoMBA, Huffman MetroPark

APRIL 14 & 56
TRY FLY FISHING
Cox Arboretum and
Eastwood MetroParks

APRIL 19
AULLWOOD SPRING WALK
Aullwood Garden MetroPark

APRIL 24 & 25
TREE SEEDLING GIVEAWAY
2ND Street Market

MAY 2
FISH WITH A RANGER
Possum Creek MetroPark

MAY 2 & 3
MAYFAIR PLANT SALE
Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark

HOLD ON TO YOUR PARKWAYS!
This issue covers programs from February through May 2015.

For more information about these upcoming events and other programs and events offered by MetroParks each month, check the back section of this issue of ParkWays or visit WWW.METROPARKS.ORG/PROGRAMS

Dear MetroParks Friends,

Spring is the season of renewal and a great time to think about sustainability, an increasingly important concept in nature and day-to-day life as we seek to live more lightly on the Earth.

At Five Rivers MetroParks, sustainability is a priority in our efforts to protect the region’s natural heritage. In this issue of ParkWays, you’ll read how sustainability infuses our work, including programs that teach skills for more sustainable living, gardening tips to help you grow your own food and commuting by cycling, a sustainable form of transportation.

Five Rivers MetroParks also continues to become more financially sustainable. We greatly appreciate the citizens of Montgomery County who support a property tax levy that is our primary funding source. Five Rivers MetroParks is committed to being a responsible steward of this funding. As a result of declines in recent years in local property values that fund the levy, coupled with additional reductions in state financial support, our traditional funding sources have been significantly reduced. The annual revenue declines mean we must be creative and resourceful in diversifying our income stream and provide services in a new way that allows us to meet our commitments in maintaining the high-quality parks, programs and services the community deserves. Along with new revenue opportunities, we also continue to identify and implement opportunities for cost savings throughout the agency and expand our partnerships with other community organizations.

We are very excited to announce the creation of the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation. This foundation, which will work with existing charitable organizations that support specific parks, creates a funding mechanism of support for all our parks, programs and services. We anticipate the new foundation will enhance our ability to apply for grants, accept philanthropic gifts and create endowments. (See page 12 for information on donation opportunities).

We also are embarking on developing a comprehensive strategy to plan for the future of MetroParks. To help ensure we understand your needs and interests and sustain MetroParks for future years, an extensive community engagement process will begin this year that will result in a comprehensive 10-year master plan. The plan will serve as the agency’s guide in planning and ensuring we continue to offer high-quality parks, programs and services. We will be reaching out to you later this year as we gather out community’s thoughts about Five Rivers MetroParks.

Five Rivers MetroParks is proud to have served the Dayton region for more than 50 years. We look forward to serving for decades to come by providing clean, safe, enjoyable parks; protecting our region’s natural heritage; and providing outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature.

Best regards,
Becky Benné
Executive Director

METROPARKS COMMISSIONERS

Irvin G. Bieser, Jr.
Karen L. Davis
Alan F. Pippenger

Five Rivers MetroParks is dedicated to protecting the region’s natural heritage and to providing outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature.
WINTER WARM UP: Visit the 2nd Street Market to stock up on hearty stew essentials and other fresh, local foods. Take a break from your shopping to warm up with a hot meal from one of the many local vendors.

WINTER WONDERLAND: The trails at Germantown and Twin Creek MetroParks make for beautiful hiking in the snow.

HIDE AND SEEK: What kinds of animals are hiding in the snow? What types of tracks in the snow or sounds do you hear when you are out in your MetroParks?

FARM LIFE: Visit Carriage Hill MetroPark and experience the daily tasks of farm life in the 1800s. Don’t forget to stop by the country store for some penny candy.

PARTY TIME: Celebrating an event this spring? Check out the great options for reservable shelters throughout the MetroParks at metroparks.org/reservations.

TAKE THE BAIT: Get Out & Fish at such spots as Possum Creek MetroPark’s ponds and Argonne Lake or Eastwood MetroPark’s Lagoon and Blue Lake, where a fishing license is not required. Learn more at metroparks.org/angling.

Get out and active in the MetroParks. With 75 miles of paved bikeways in the region, more than 300 hiking trails in your parks and more than 300 miles of paved bikeways in the region, keeping healthy goals is easy.

Challenge Yourself: Did you know there are more than 25 MetroParks? How many have you visited? Try to experience them all this year.

Sliding and Gliding: Take advantage of snow cover to enjoy cross-country skiing and sledding or skate the MetroParks Ice Rink at RiverScape MetroPark during January and February. Learn more at metroparks.org/winter.

A diverse crew of volunteers of all ages, accessibility levels and backgrounds join forces during this event to make our parks and river corridors healthier, more attractive and friendlier places to visit. Volunteers will participate in projects aimed at improving the environment at more than two dozen sites throughout the Dayton area.

In addition to cleanup, volunteers will plant trees, prepare garden beds, remove invasive species, maintain trails and spruce up facilities. Volunteers will receive a free T-shirt and lunch at RiverScape MetroPark, and project supplies will be provided.

Go green and create a more sustainable environment by protecting and cleaning green spaces during Five Rivers MetroParks’ 28th Annual Adopt-A-Park Event from 9 to 11:30 AM on Saturday, April 18.

Register online by April 6 at www.metroparks.org/adopt. Groups are encouraged to register early to ensure space at available sites.

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Each species of bird has specific habitat requirements it needs to survive and reproduce. Habitat destruction is the main cause for declines in bird populations, which is why Five Rivers MetroParks has implemented habitat management plans designed to provide a variety of habitats throughout the year so birds and other wildlife will continue to live here.

PILEATED WOODPECKER

These spectacular giants of the woodpecker world live in our parks year round. Once rare, they have adapted to humans and benefitted from an increase in protected forest lands. Pileateds especially love ants and will dig deep into a rotting tree or log to get them. These big woodpeckers need tracts of mature forest with lots of dead and dying wood containing ant nests. Their numbers correspond to the size and quality of our forests, with the largest populations at Germantown, Twin Creek, Englewood and Taylorsville MetroParks.

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER

This bird is becoming increasingly scarce due to habitat loss. These birds need shrubby thickets and overgrown fields in which to nest. This transitional habitat only lasts a few years before growing into young forest, and so the only way to provide it is to regularly disrupt natural succession. Five Rivers MetroParks staff does this by using heavy mowers to give thickets a haircut on occasion. Look for blue-wings in shrubby habitats in most parks by listening for their distinctive “beee-buzzzzzz” call.

NORTHERN HARRIER

These graceful hawks come to our area for the winter and need large, open meadows or prairies where they hunt mice and voles. Harriers also are scarce in our area, mainly because there are not many large grasslands. Five Rivers MetroParks’ habitat management plans include the establishment and maintenance of large, open meadows and prairies, which are managed by periodic mowing or burning. The best places to see harriers are Germantown MetroPark and the Huffman Prairie Conservation Area.

WINGED WILDLIFE

More than 300 species of birds can be found in Five Rivers MetroParks facilities at various times of the year. Some species live here all year, some migrate south in winter and others come here for the winter.
GROW FOOD, BUILD COMMUNITY

Gardening is another way to live sustainably, and Five Rivers MetroParks’ Community Garden Program is a great way to grow your own food — and new friendships. This program has helped people transform vacant lots into productive community gardens since 1986. Community gardens are managed, maintained, and owned by neighborhood residents and organizations. Community gardeners cultivate vegetable gardens, care for community-managed parks, and beautify their neighborhoods with flowers and trees. Five Rivers MetroParks provides many forms of ongoing support to groups that want to start a community garden.

GET INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY GARDENING:
Contact Luci Beachdell at (937) 275-PARK or lbeachdell@metroparks.org.

RENT A COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOT 
AT A FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS FACILITY

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK
- $20/year Apr. 27 through Nov. 1 (weather permitting)
- Approximately 100 garden plots (800 square feet)
- Register starting March 23 at the Possum Creek MetroPark farmhouse Tue. - Thur., 10 AM to 3 PM

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK
- $20/year Apr. 27 through Nov. 1 (weather permitting)
- Approximately 300 garden plots (784 square feet)
- Register starting March 23 at the Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark office Mon. - Fri., 8 AM to 5 PM

GET MORE INFO: METROPARKS.ORG/COMMUNITYGARDENING

FIVE EASY TIPS FOR EARTH-FRIENDLY GARDENING

KEEP OUT CHEMICALS!
A healthy garden is filled with insects, birds and other creatures that keep your garden pest free. Chemicals damage insects, plants and soil and can even contaminate ground water.

USE COMPANION PLANTING
Companion plants act as insect repellents and physical supports, as well as attract desirable insects. Use native plants whenever possible in both flower and vegetable gardens to attract native pollinators.

KEEP YOUR SOIL HEALTHY
Add such organic matter as compost, leaves, grass and plant trimmings to create healthy soil, which creates healthy plants more resistant to droughts, disease and pests.

KEEP AWAY WEEDS
Weeds fight with your garden plants for available water, nutrients, sunlight and air while providing hiding places for disease and undesirable insects. Smother them and keep them pulled or cut.

WATER WISELY
Plants need the equivalent of an inch of rainfall per week. Too much and they die from root rot, too little and they starve. Provide water slowly, preferably through drip hoses, so roots grow deeper in soil, making plants able to withstand drought and heat. Water in the morning, as foliage left damp at night can be a breeding ground for disease.

SUSTAINABLE SKILLS: WHAT IS OLD IS NEW AGAIN

Rural life in the 1880s was a model for sustainable living. Today, as more people want to practice sustainability, such traditional skills as canning, woodworking and maple sugaring are pertinent again.

At the Historical Farm at Carriage Hill MetroPark, many of these skills are brought to life in demonstrations and specialized workshops. Staff teach visitors about 1880s life and how to incorporate traditional skills into today’s lifestyles — while becoming more conservation-minded at home.

HELP YOUTH GROW: JOIN CITY BEETS

Youth learn valuable skills in business, communication, leadership, problem-solving, nutrition and cooperation during Five Rivers MetroParks’ summer program City Beets. Participants grow vegetables at Possum Creek MetroPark Farm, take field trips, and learn about where food comes from and how to cook healthy meals.

Applications will be accepted Feb. 1-March 1 for the 2015 program, held June 9-Aug. 1 at Possum Creek MetroPark. Youth ages 12 to 15 can apply for the eight-week program. Adults also are needed to volunteer as mentors, working in the garden, and helping with nutrition and cooking classes.

Learn more during the City Beets open house from 6 to 7:30 PM Thursday, Feb. 12, at the Possum Creek MetroPark Education Building.

MORE INFO AND TO APPLY: METROPARKS.ORG/CITYBEETS
INcredible Journeys

The Adventure Speaker Series is back, with a lineup of speakers sure to inspire outdoor enthusiasts of all ages and experience levels. Hear tales of paddling, cycling, climbing and backpacking adventures from places near and far. The Adventure Speaker Series is a partnership between Five Rivers MetroParks and Wright State University. These free talks are held from 7 to 8 PM.

Winter Climbing in Scotland’s Cairngorms

Wright State University Student Union

The British Mountaineering Council hosts an International Climbers’ Meet in the Cairngorm Mountains of Scotland every two years. In 2012, the American Alpine Club chose Scott Fife to represent the United States at this event, where he spent a week with climbers from 26 other nations. This multimedia presentation will highlight the climbing, incredible scenery in this legendary setting, and some cultural and historical anecdotes.

Presenter Bio:
A retired educator, Scott is a lifelong resident of the Miami Valley. He enjoys numerous outdoor sports, including hiking, camping, cycling and skiing. A homegrown mountaineer for 40 years, he has climbed on rock, ice and snow. He is a member of the American Alpine Club, the Northern Ontario Mountaineering Club, and the Mountaineers of Western Washington. His climbs have taken him to numerous states, and he is a backpacking guide for Outdoor Adventure Connection.

Fear Is Not an Option: Embracing the Journey, the Adventure & the Passion of the Trail

Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark

“Are you afraid?” is a question Yvonne Entingh—who’s backpacked more than 6,000 miles, mainly solo—is often asked. Yvonne will share her experiences hiking many of America’s long trails, such as the Appalachian Trail, and share hiking tips essential to any long-distance backpacking trip.

Presenter Bio:
Yvonne started backpacking later in life after raising three daughters. In 2007, she enrolled in a beginning backpacking class at Five Rivers MetroParks and has been on numerous trips since. She has backpacked in more than 18 states, and is a backpacking guide for Outdoor Adventure Connection.

Axus: Across the United States, Cycling for a Cause

Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark

In summer 2014, Ian Kallay planned to cycle 3,207 miles across the United States, passing through nine states in 37 days—all while raising money and awareness to combat human trafficking. He conquered 35 mph headwinds, 110-degree heat and 10,000-foot mountains. Ian’s will was truly tested a mere 87 miles from the finish when an accident fractured his hand. Unable to ride, but with a strong desire to finish, Ian ran the rest of the way.

Presenter Bio:
Originally from Painesville, Ohio, Ian received his undergraduate degree in marketing from Wright State University’s Raj Soin College of Business. Currently, he is working toward a master’s degree in engineering innovation and entrepreneurship while working a research assistantship at Wright State’s Research Institute.

May is National Bike Month

Spring is a great time to get out and ride, and May is the official month to celebrate all things cycling. We’re offering a month-long roster of activities to educate you on safe cycling skills and holding festivities to encourage riding your bike as a sustainable means of transportation. Cycling to work and play helps you tread lighter on the Earth, stay fit, save money—and have fun. Plus, it’s easy to get out and ride in the Miami Valley, home to the United States’ largest paved bikeway network with more than 300 miles of trails to explore.

May

6 Fundamentals of Commuting
12 Go W/ the Flow Yoga, Bike Week Edition
15 National Bike to Work Day
16 MoMBA Work Day
29 Cycling Summit in Piqua
31 Bike to the Dragons

You Also Can Get Your Ride On by Attending One of These Cycling Classes and Events.

April

16 Introduction to Smart Cycling
25 Smart Cycling Basics
29 Cycling Fundamentals for Women
30 Fundamentals of Bicycle Touring

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Bike to Work Day Pancake Breakfast

Join fellow cyclists at the Five Rivers MetroParks’ breakfast served from 7 to 9 AM Friday, May 15, at the RiverScape MetroPark Bike Hub, 237 E. Monument Ave. in downtown Dayton. Enjoy lots of free flapjacks, live music, cycling exhibits and team challenges—all before your workday starts.

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6 Fundamentals of Commuting
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More Info: metroparks.org/biketowork
YOUR GUIDE TO UPCOMING PROGRAMS
Finding your interests is quick and easy. You can find them by TOPIC or DATE. Follow the instructions below and start filling up your calendar.

FOR ALL PROGRAMMING CALL (937) 275-PARK (7275)
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

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

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.

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 also can find suggestions by clicking the “Get Outside” link at the top of the page. Metroparks.org helps you get connected to park information, program guides, videos, nature play and Registration.

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

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

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

HOW TO CONTACT A RANGER IN A METROPARK:
EMERGENCY CONTACT: 9-1-1
NON-EMERGENCY CONTACT (937) 535-2580
Inform the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office dispatcher you are in a MetroParks facility. A MetroParks Law Enforcement Ranger will be notified and respond to the situation as soon as possible. As always, if it is an emergency, please call 9-1-1.

LOST SOMETHING?
If you lost something valuable in a MetroPark, contact the Rangers to identify and retrieve your belongings. Contact Alan Starnes at (937) 561-4285 for details.
BIKE FOR THE HEALTH OF IT!
Join us for a bike ride on Saturdays, April through October. Earn a Tag that helps you cycle 100 miles. Participants completing 250 miles or more will receive an additional award. Parent/guardians must remain with children. Wearing a helmet is strongly recommended for all participants and required for children younger than 13. We ride rain or shine, but may cancel due to storms or trail flooding. More information on metroparks.org/bikehealth. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $10

FUNDAMENTALS OF BICYCLE TOURING
THU. APR. 3, 6:00-8:00 PM M129 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
This lecture-style class will cover touring equipment, clothing, types of tours and tour planning. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $5

FREE BIKE BUDDIES
SAT. APR. 5, 8:00-9:00 AM M128 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Second St.
Celebrate National Bike Month by riding your bike to the 2nd Street Market on any Saturday in May and enter to win $50 in Market Money. Volunteers will be on hand to help you enter, snap a photo of you (with your awesome bike) and supply you with valuable info on cycling in the Miami Valley. No registration required: Contact (937) 228-2085 for details. Age: All ages

FREE FUNDAMENTALS OF FABRIC COMMUTING
WED. MAY. 6, 6:00-8:00 PM M127 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
This lecture-style class will include bike terminology, commuting equipment and bike preparation. We will briefly discuss traffic laws, hazards encountered, safe-riding skills and proper route planning. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $15

FREE FUNDAMENTALS OF FABRIC COMMUTING
WED. MAY. 6, 6:00-8:00 PM M127 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
This lecture-style class will include bike terminology, commuting equipment and bike preparation. We will briefly discuss traffic laws, hazards encountered, safe-riding skills and proper route planning. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $15

FREE VOLUNTEER BIKE TO WORK DAY ORIENTATION
THU. MAY. 7, 6:00-7:15 PM M149 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Second St.
Learn how to promote cycling while volunteering (the perfect opportunity for your Day of Service) signage, t-shirts, yard signs and more. Registration required. Contact (937) 228-2086 for details. Age: All ages

FREE WEGEZRNY BIKES 2 RIDE
THU. APR. 3, 6:30-7:30 PM M133 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Second St.
Wegewerzyn Gardens Metropark, Park Lot, 1301 E. Second St.
Join the Metroparks Ranger Division on a ride through a nature course, and have your bikes checked out by a technician. Before riding, students are encouraged to have their helmets properly fitted to their heads. New helmets will be available for those who need them (or you can bring your helmet, please). Allow one hour to complete the activities. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $0

FREE VALentine’s DÉCOrATING
SAT. FEB. 14, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM M222 2ND STREET MARKET, 500 E. Second St.
Make a Valentine for your mom or dad, best friend, or teacher. No registration required: Contact (937) 228-2085 for details. Age: All ages

FRIDAY, MAY 15 - 7 TO 9 AM • RIVERSCAPE METROPARK
Ride on your own or with a group for a free breakfast before heading to work. Live music, cycling-related exhibitors and a team challenge add to the fun.

The Dayton region is home to the largest off-street bicycle network in the United States — and May, National Bike Month, is the perfect time to explore it! www.metroparks.org/bikeworkout

Celebrate all things cycling during National Bike to Work Day Pancake Breakfast
FRIDAY, MAY 15 - 7 TO 9 AM • RIVERSCAPE METROPARK

- Online Registration Available 
- Program is Weather-Dependent
GUIDE TO PROGRAMS BY TOPIC

SATURDAY SCAPE RENTALS
Begins Sat May 23

Rent bikes and children’s accessories weekenders. From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Memorial Day through Labor Day weekends.

SUN., MAY 2, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM (FREE)
SUN. MAY 16, 12:30-3:00 PM FREE)
SAT. MAY 16, 4:00-7:00 PM (FREE)
FRI., MAY 15, 6:00-8:00 PM (FREE)
SAT., MAY 16, 10:00-11:30 AM FREE)
SAT., MAY 2, 10:00-11:30 AM FREE)
SUN., MAY 3, 1:00-2:00 PM FREE)
SUN., MAY 16, 1:00-3:00 PM FREE)
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FRI., MAY 14, 2:00-3:00 PM FREE)
SUN., APRIL 26, 1:30-3:30 PM FREE)
SAT., APRIL 11, 6:00-8:00 PM FREE)
SAT., MAY 9, 6:00-8:00 PM FREE)
SAT., MAY 16, 8:30-10:00 AM FREE)
SAT., MAY 9, 8:30-10:00 AM FREE)
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**FREE** SUGARCREEK HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS SAT, MAR 29, 9:00-12:30 PM M26 SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd. This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by Purple Penguins Walking Club. No registration required. Contact Helga Slade at (937) 429-3946 or hslade@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages.

**FREE** EASTWOOD HIKES FRI, MAR 30, 10:00-11:00 AM M04 EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd. This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by Purple Penguins Walking Club. No registration required. Contact Helga Slade at (937) 429-3946 or hslade@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages.

**FREE** TWIN VALLEY TRAIL HIKE WITH THE METRO DAYTON HIKERS SUN, MAR 3, 10:00-11:30 AM M15 POISSON CREEK METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. Learn more about City Beets and how you can be involved as a volunteer: helping youth in the garden, the kitchen or at the 2nd Street Market. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up.

**FREE** WEGEYZRN GARDENS WALKFEST SAT, APR 8, 9:00-11:00 AM M27 WEGEYZRN GARDENS METROPARK, Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. Join us for a 2-3 mile, 2-hour hike considered easy, no hills. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages.
(FREE) VOLUNTEER: GARDENING WORK DAYS
SAT. MAR 28, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM M38 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Educa-
tion Building, 4705 Fryton Rd.
We will talk about the new interest in ancient grains, such as einkorn, quinoa, spelt and ama-
ranth. Learn how to incorporate new grains into your meal plans. Registration requested. Age: 18Y and up.

(SP) SPRING GARDEN PREP
SAT. MAR 28, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM M56 WEGERTZY GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Class-
room, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Learn what to do with the soil and when, the timing of seeding, and when to buy plants. Learn about your soil and how to make it beautiful in the new growing season. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up.

(SP) LEARNING FROM THE LANDSCAPE: COX ARBORETUM
Volunteers lead one-hour walks using the park grounds for examples of plants and gardening techniques. Meet in the parking lot.

(SE) MAKING A GARDEN PLAN
TUE. APR 14, 6:00-7:30 PM M65 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Rd.
Bring your own 8” or 10” container with a central hole for drainage and soil. We will teach you about garden design and help you make a beautiful spring accent. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $15

(SE) LEARNING FROM THE LANDSCAPE: WEGERTZY GARDENS
Volunteers lead one-hour walks using the park grounds for examples of plants and gardening techniques. Meet in the parking lot.

(SE) SPRING BULBS IN THE GARDEN
THU. APR 23, 6:00-7:00 PM M70 WEGERTZY GARDENS METROPARK, Parking lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Spacing, color and bloom time make each bulb unique. Learn the basics of bulb planting and take home bulbs with you. Registration required; walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages.

(SE) SPRING PERENNIALS
THU. MAY 21, 6:00-7:00 PM M83 WEGERTZY GARDENS METROPARK, Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
All flowers have a perfect time to bloom and spring is best for the plants we will see today. Learn how to select, plant and maintain them. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages.

(SE) BRINGING BIRDS, BEES AND BUTTERFLIES TO YOUR FAMILY’S YARD
SAT. APR 11, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM M196 POINSETTIA GARDENS METROPARK, 1501 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Help us celebrate the coming growing season with fun ways to attract much-needed pollinators to your gardens. No registration required. Contact educanct@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages.

(SE) ANNUAL MAYFAIR PLANT SALE
SAT. MAY 2, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM M105 WEGERTZY GARDENS METROPARK, Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
See the bluebells and other wonderful flowers in full glory. We will have on sale a variety of unusual plants and veggies. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages.

(SE) WILD ABOUT WILDFLOWERS WALKS
Join volunteers from the Cox Wildflower group for informative walks through the different aspects of wildflowers at the park. Each session, see new and exciting wildflowers in the gardens. Each participant will receive four wildflower seedlings raised by the group. Meet in the parking lot.

(SE) WILDFLOWER WALKS: EARTHDAY WILD ABOUT WILDFLOWERS WALKS
SUN. APR 20, 2:00-3:00 PM M85 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Rd.
Discover warmer wildflowers, such as delphinium trichome, sedum torminum and potentilla fruticosa ‘alpina’. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages. Fee: $10

(SE) WILDFLOWER WALKS: THE NEXT LAYER OF COLOR
SUN. APR 26, 2:00-3:00 PM M276 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Rd.
See the first wave of our gardens, as an additional layer of color. Learn about our sustainable horticulture initiative and how volunteers fit into the picture. Find out about the many ways you can help the Arboretum grow. Orientation will include a walking tour. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Contact janelle.levantor@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up.

(SE) WILD ABOUT WILDFLOWERS WALKS
SUN. MAY 1, 10:00-11:00 AM M5 M106 POINSETTIA GARDENS METROPARK, 1501 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Learn about our sustainable horticulture initiative and how volunteers fit into the picture. Find out about the many ways you can help the Arboretum grow. Orientation will include a walking tour. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. Contact janelle.levantor@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up.

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GUIDE TO PROGRAMS BY TOPIC

 METROPARKS.ORG

CREATE A GARDEN
SAT. MAY 9, 10:00-12:00 PM M78 WEGGYZER GARDENS METROPARK, Skater’s Shelter.
Learn how to plan, measure and build a regular garden, laying out a raised bed and adding a container garden. Bring your gloves, lunch and a willingness to get dirty! Registration required, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

GREEN LIVING
CAFÉ SCI
Discern observations in a relaxed atmosphere. Increase your science savvy and join in an open discussion following the topic introduction. Submissions available by donation. Registration required, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

HERITAGE & HISTORY
VOLUNTEER: INTERPRETER HISTORICAL SKILLS COURSE
SAT. MAY 9, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM M80 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd. Learn about the history of the farm, construction of the farm buildings, and how to care for the farm in the 1880s and how maple sugaring is recreated to demonstrate daily life in the 1880s. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

HOME & HOBBIES
DIY CONDIMENTS
SAT. MAY 30, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM M23 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd. Learn about the science and art of vermiculture and vermiculture. Self-proclaimed “worm wrangler” Connie Dandridge will discuss the benefits of worm bin care and send you home with a functioning bin. We’ll provide starter bin, worm castings and soil. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15 and up Fee: $15

LUNCH AND LEARN
Explore a variety of topics in green living and growing with engaging speakers. Bring a lunch and learn something new.

FUTURE
STEAM ON THE FARM
SAT. MAR. 15, 12:00-4:00 PM M22 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd. View demonstrations of how steam was used during the time period. Chores such as steam grilling and milling, will illustrate the effectiveness of this agricultural marvel.

FUTURE FROM SHEEP TO SHAWLS
SAT. APR. 11-12, 12:00-5:00 PM M23 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd. We will feature live Celtic music, followed by gospel music and dance. With a top-notch local entertainment line-up. No registration required. Age: All ages

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 METROPARKS.ORG

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GUIDE TO PROGRAMS BY TOPIC

 METROPARKS.ORG

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GUIDE TO PROGRAMS BY TOPIC

MOUNTAIN BIKING

FREE VOLUNTEER: CARRIAGE HILL RIDING CENTER ORIENTATION
THUR., APR. 9, 6:00-7:30 PM M155
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Riding Center, 8th & Shull Rd.
See what’s happening at the Riding Center and how you can get involved. Attending an orientation
does not commit you to anything. Many opportunities are handshake and schedules are
flexible. Registration required. Contact emmy
fabhs@metroparks.org for details. Age: 14+.

GET OUT & RIDE

SPRING HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS AT CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK. RIDING CENTER BEGIN THE WEEK OF MARCH 1.

- A variety of levels, from beginner English
through advanced center-mounted.
- Classes for adults and children ages 8 and older.
- Fee: $120.
- Registration and class schedules will be
online beginning Feb. 2.

SUMMER YOUTH HORSEBACK RIDING CAMP REGISTRATION BEGINS APRIL 1.

- Camps for youth ages 7-14, June 1-Aug. 1.
- Youth learn to lead, groom, saddle, and ride English
and Western, as well as how to take care of a horse.
- Multiple levels are offered.

TO REGISTER AND FOR MORE INFO: METROPARKS.ORG/RIDINGCENTER OR (937) 274-3120

HORSEBACK RIDING

FREE VOLUNTEER: CARRIAGE HILL RIDING CENTER ORIENTATION
THUR., APR. 9, 6:00-7:30 PM M155
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Riding Center, 8th & Shull Rd.
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does not commit you to anything. Many opportunities are handshake and schedules are
flexible. Registration required. Contact emmy
fabhs@metroparks.org for details. Age: 14+.

MOUNTAIN BIKING

FREE (TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING TUE. APR. 7, 4:00-7:00 PM M180
Six Flags Union School House Road
Borrow one of our program bikes to ride for a
two. Bikes are available on a first-come,
first-served basis. Youth under 18 must be
accompanied by a parent or guardian.
Helmets are mandatory and provided with bike.
Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages.

FREE VOLUNTEER: MOMBA TRAIL WORK DAYS SAT. MAY 16, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM M128
MOMBA, 2455 Union School House Road
Learn about sustainable trail building while helping
maintain the mountain bike trails at MomBa. No experience is necessary. Tools are
provided. Volunteers bring work gloves and water. Youth 14-
17 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration
required, walk-ins welcome. Contact yvonnc
duhnp@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18+.

NATURE

CONSERVATION KIDS: VOYAGERS (AGES 10-13)
This series, designed for families with 10- to
15-year-olds, nurtures kids’ desire to protect
nature and empowers them to speak out for the
planet they will soon inherit. Watch as your child
grows closer to nature, develops leadership
skills and works with peers to protect Dayton’s ecol
or communities. Be a part of the Great Backyard Bird
Count and survey the birds found during this
adventure. Bring binoculars if you have them,
a limited supply will be available. Registration

FREE FOREST BIRD EXPLORATION SAT. FEB. 14, 1:00-3:00 PM M192
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, 4178 Conference Rd.
Track down some of the forest’s most beautiful
winter birds, discover why forests and
birds depend on each other for survival and
how you can help! Bring binoculars if you have them.

FREE BUILDING A BIRD SANCTUARY SUN. FEB. 22, 2:00-4:00 PM M182
Cox Arboretum Metropark, Volunteer Lounge, 6733 Springfield Pk.
Learn your local birds, how to attract them to
your yard and how to get kids excited about
nature in time to conduct your Great
Backyard Bird Count. Registration required.
Age: 10-13.

FREE TREE PLANTING & CARE SAT. APR. 18, 2:00-4:00 PM M203
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, 4178 Conference Rd.
Be a part of the reforestation and biodiversity
story as we plant trees and learn their value
on our quality of life. Bring gloves and be
prepared to get dirty. Registration required.
Age: 10-13.

FREE WOODECK DANCE SAT. MAR. 21, 8:00-10:00 PM M195
Cox Arboretum Metropark, Parking Lot, 6733 Springfield Pk.
Be a witness to the woodcock’s extravagant
mating display of circles, spirals and dives
while enjoying the crisp evening. Registration

FREE EXPLORING EGLES AND DUCKS SAT. MAR. 28, 1:00-3:00 PM M195
Eastwood Metropark, Eastwood Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.
Look for the Eastwood Eagles, Jim and Carol’s
nest and watch for the waterfowl at Eastwood Lake. Drive to Huffman Metropark and
search for more waterfowl along the Mad
Stake, Huffman Lake. Bring binoculars if you have them. Registration requested, walk-ins

FREE AMPHIBIAN NATURALIST TRAINING SAT. APR. 4, 2:00-4:00 PM M181
Cox Arboretum Metropark, Volunteer Lounge, 6733 Springfield Pk.
Learn your local amphibians and practice techniques in searching for them and sharing
them with others. We’ll venture out into the
wetlands for our own adventure, then help
you develop your own get-together! Registration

FREE NOCTURNAL AMPHIBIAN EXPLORATION SAT. APR. 4, 8:00-9:30 PM M196
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, 4178 Conference Rd.
Search for spring pepers, spotted salaman-
der, and other amphibians in Sugarcreek’s
ders, and other amphibians in Sugarcreek’s
vernal pool, only 1/4 mile away from the park-
ing lot. Bring a flashlight! Registra-
tion requested, will get muddy. Registration

FREE WOODLAND SALAMANDER EXPLORATION SAT. APR. 18, 1:00-2:30 PM M197
GIZMOTHMOUNT METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Boonshire Rd.
Discover the predators of the leaf litter as we
explore the lives of red-backed salamanders.

(NEW) SPRING FROGS SURVEY SAT. APR. 18, 8:30-10:00 PM M204
Cox Arboretum Metropark, Shelter: Sunbird/ Valley Overflow/Parking Lot,
7610 Conservancy Rd. Help Metroparks conduct frog surveys at Sugarcreek pond and a hidden swamp. Bring
flashlights and wear clothes that can get muddy. Registration required. Age: 10-13.

FREE WILDFLOWER PLANTING SAT. MAY 9, 2:00-4:00 PM M206
Cox Arboretum Metropark, Parking Lot, 6733 Springfield Pk.
Learn about pollinator-friendly plants and get ideas to make your family habitat more

FREE INSECT SAFARI SAT. MAY 16, 1:00-2:30 PM M198
Cox Arboretum Metropark, Parking Lot, 6733 Springfield Pk.
Explore the prairie and wetland to catch in-
ts that probably live in your own back yard. We’ll
nets for close-up inspection and release after identifying what we’ve captured. Registration

FREE MOTH PARTY SAT. MAY 23, 8:00-9:30 PM M180
Cox Arboretum Metropark, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springfield Pk.
Explore the incredible diversity of moths and
learn how to build your own moth party for your
friends. Participants will get a nocturnal moth

FREE OWL EXCURSION SAT. MAY 30, 9:00-10:00 PM M199
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Patty/East Park,
4361 National Rd. Experience a night hike in search of the
screech and barred owls, while learning about
their interactions with our forests. Registration

GUIDE TO PROGRAMS BY TOPIC

This series of nature-based programs for three
age groups (Tweens, Explorers and Voyag-
ers) helps you and your child discover nature,
take conservation action, share cool conservation
actions with others, and ultimately help protect and
promote wildlife. These age-appropriate
programs give your kids clear steps to take and op-
opportunities to see the impact they make through
planting for pollinators, collecting seeds to plant a
creek, creating their own habitat in their backyard.
You can be a part of the math and science Discovery Level (green) programs and build on
their knowledge with blue and orange programs
after completing the green level.

PROTECTORS OF NATURE
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MOST RECENT CONSERVATION KIDS!

Caroline Tempus
Norah Tempus
Gabriella Fitch

Passport to Nature

Due to the new Conservation Kids program series, the Passport to Nature has been
revised.

First Passport

Bally Thomas
Willow Thomas
Keaton Thomas
Josh Adler
Kerly Moon
Austin Miller
Jacob Moon
Giffin Summer
Corrinn Hawkins
Elliot Davis

Third Passport

Gabriel Stewart
Olivia Stewart

Adelle Golden
Camilie Golden
Daniel Spencer
David Spencer
Kayden Stedman
Ava Stedman

METROPARKS.ORG 28

METROPARKS.ORG 29
GUIDE TO PROGRAMS BY TOPIC

CONSERVATION KIDS: EXPLORERS (AGES 6-9)
This series, designed for families with 6- to 9-year-olds, nurtures kids’ desire to discover nature and empowers them to speak out for the planet they will soon inherit. Watch as your child grows closer to nature, develops leadership skills and works with peers to protect Dayton’s ecology. Completing all programs in each of the three levels of this series, your child will also receive a special Metroparks Conservation Kid’s backpack. Visit metroparks.org/kids.

FREE: SLEEPING NATURE
SAT. FEB 1, 10:00-3:00 PM M184 CARRIGE MILL METROPARK, Shelter: Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7811 E. Skull Rd.
Ohio’s winters can be harsh, but plants and animals have developed successful strategies for enduring colder temperatures. Discover these adaptations as we explore the outdoors on this family adventure. Registration required, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6-Y/9-Y

FREE: BIRD SEARCH
SAT. FEB 14, 9:00-10:30 AM M201 GERMANSTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Bomhrene Rd.
Birds are indicators of the health of our local habitats. Be a part of the Great Backyard Bird Count and survey the birds found during this adventure. Bring binoculars if you have them. A limited number of binoculars will be available. Registration required. Age: 6-Y/9-Y

FREE: FOREST BIRD SEARCH
SAT. FEB 14, 1:00-2:30 PM M185 SUGARCREEK METROPARK, 4178 Conference Rd.
Track down some of the most beautiful winter birds, discover why forests and birds depend on each other for survival and learn how you can help! Bring binoculars if you have them. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6-Y/9-Y

FREE: AMPHIBIAN PARTY
SAT. APR 4, 2:00-4:00 PM M177 COX ARBÖRTUM METROPARK, Head West Vista Theatre, 6733 Springfield Pk.
Look for the wood frog’s tan and olive green coloration in April! Registration required. Age: 6-Y/9-Y

FREE: NOCTURNAL AMPHIBIAN SAFARI
SAT. APR 4, 8:00-9:30 PM M186 SUGARCREEK METROPARK, 4178 Conference Rd. Search for spring peepers, spotted salamanders and other amphibians in Sugarcreek’s vernal pool only ¼ mile away from the parking lot. Bring a flashlight and wear clothes that can get muddy. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6-Y/9-Y

FREE: WILDFLOWER PLANTING FOR POLLINATORS
SAT. MAY 9, 2:00-4:00 PM M207 COX ARBÖRTUM METROPARK, Park, 6733 Springfield Pk.
Learn the benefits of pollinator plants and get ideas on how to make your family habitat more pollinator-friendly. Registration required. Age: 6-Y/9-Y

FREE: SIX-LEGGED BEASTS
SAT. MAY 16, 1:00-2:30 PM M182 GERMANSTOWN METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springfield Pk.
Explore the prairie and wetland to catch insects that probably live in your own backyard. We’ll use nets for close-up inspection and release after identifying what we’ve captured. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6-Y/9-Y

FREE: GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT
FRI. FEB 13, 10:00-11:00 AM M143 TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Cox East Pond Parking Lot, 7335 U.S. 40
Participate in this nationwide bird count by counting the birds they see this weekend and reporting their sightings online, and you can be a part of the story. Bring your binoculars if you have them, a limited supply will be available. Registration required. Age: 3-Y/5-Y

FREE: LEAF A LEGACY
MON. APR 20, 10:00-11:30 AM M158 TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Cox East Pond Parking Lot, 7335 U.S. 40
Help our forests by checking on the seedlings planted last spring. These trees are meant to take root, nurture, and grow strong and we need to make sure they are still healthy. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 275-7275 for details. Age: 5-Y/8-Y

FREE: MILKWEED FOR MONARCHS
FRI. MAY 8, 10:00-11:30 AM M161 COX ARBÖRTUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springfield Pk.
Plant milkweed for our monarchs and other plants butterflies need! Registration required. Age: 3-Y/5-Y

FREE: FORESTS AT NIGHT
FRI. MAY 8, 9:00-10:00 PM M142 HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Pav/Pond/ Parking Lot, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.
On a night hike just for preschoolers and their families, we will discuss the differences between night and day, explore facts of nocturnal animals and hike to see what nocturnal animals are out. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3-Y/5-Y

FREE: CAGING FOR CATERPILLARS
SAT. MAY 23, 2:00-4:00 PM M172 COX ARBÖRTUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springfield Pk.
Tilke will help us learn how to raise caterpillars at home and how to create a garden to attract butterflies. Each participant will receive butterfly garden seeds and their own digging tool. Registration required. Age: 3-Y/5-Y

FREE: VOLUNTEER CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION
WED. JUN 3, 10:00-12:00 PM M144 FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor
Discovery ways you can participate and join our conservation team in reforestation efforts, habitat restoration, wildlife management, and animal care. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages

FREE: PROJECT FEDERWATCH
FRI. FEB 13, 12:30-3:30 PM M268 GERMANSTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Bomhrene Rd.
Enjoy the winter feeder birds while taking part in this citizen-science initiative through Cornell University’s Lab of Ornithology. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 8-Y and up

BIRDING WORKSHOP: OWLS
SAT. MAR 14, 8:00-8:30 PM M182 GERMANSTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Bomhrene Rd.
Explore the world of owl species during a relaxing presentation of their courtship rituals, feeding behaviors, identification characteristics, songs and nesting habits. Then take a slow-paced night hike in search of owls. Each participant will get an ORDNL bird guide for Olive Owls and a CD of their sounds. Registration required. Age: 14-Y and up. Fee: $10

FREE: MIAMI VALLEY LEAVE NO CHILD INSIDE SUMMIT
SAT. FEB 21, 11:30 AM-4:30 PM Lto WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerner Center for Education.
Join us on Saturday for the Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Summit! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 8-Y and up

FREE: NATURE CLUB FOR NATURE’S ABC
SAT. FEB 21, 2:45-4:30 PM M144 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 503 E. Monument Ave.
Join this exploration of winter landscapes to look for natural letters and other children-inspired games. This program is offered in concert with the Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Summit. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages

WINTER BIRDING
SAT. MAR 7, 10:30-12:00 PM M145 GERMANSTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6910 Bomhrene Rd.
Participants will meet inside the Nature Center and observe the birding program based on activities to connect children to nature. Registration required. Age: 8-Y and up. Fee: $5

FREE: VOLUNTEER CONSERVATION CARERAKER ORIENTATION
THU. MAR. 12, 6:30-8:30 PM M145 FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor
A leisurely discussion on the role and responsibilities of a Volunteer Conservation Caretaker. Registration required. Age: All ages

CALL (937) 275-794 (7275) Unless otherwise noted in listing.
**CELEBRATE OUTDOORS!**

Now is the time to rent a shelter for your spring or fall event. All of Five Rivers MetroParks open-air shelters can be rented for your exclusive use for birthday parties, family reunions, church group picnics, and other special events. Shelters come with tables and grills, and many include other amenities. All are located in beautiful park settings.

**WATERFOWL FIELDTRIP**
**SUN., MAR. 15, 9:00-6:00 PM** M209 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn how to identify Ohio’s waterfowl as we travel in vans to different birding hotspots throughout the Dayton area, including Spring Valley Wildlife Area. Bring binoculars and a spotting scope if you have one; a limited supply will be available. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $35

**NAI CERTIFIED INTERPRETIVE GUIDE TRAINING**
**MON., TUE., WED., MAR. 16-18, 8-4:50 AM-5:00 PM** M108 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Five Rivers MetroParks and the National Association for Interpretation are offering a 33-hour certification course for anyone who teaches programs. It combines both the theoretical foundations of the profession with practical skills in delivering quality interpretive programming to visitors. See our web site for more information. Registration required. Contact dharrow@metroparks.org for details, www.winterpark.com. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $350

**ADULT NATURE WALKS**
Enjoy a leisurely hike through natural areas as we explore Dayton’s ecology and gain a deeper perspective on how nature works. We also will discuss our role in nature and how we can minimize our harmful impacts and get involved with conservation efforts. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

**FREE** WEDNESDAY DISCOVERY STROLLS
**MAR. 18, 10:00-11:30 AM** M235
**APR. 8, 10:00-11:30 AM** M238
**JUN. 6 & 8 DAILY INTERPRETIVE HIKES METROPAK MetroParks: Shield Point/Paw/Lot Parking Lot, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.**

**FREE** TUESDAY ADULT NATURE WALKS
**TUE. MAR. 24, 9:00-11:00 AM** M253 EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.
**TUE. APRIL 21, 9:00-11:00 AM** M256 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter, Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7614 E. Shull Rd.

**FREE** SEEDLING SATURDAYS-SEEDLING TQC
**SAT. APR 25, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** M215 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Campsite, Camp Rd. Buck Rd. 8796 E. Shull Rd.
**SAT. APR 25, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** M216 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Parking Lot, 7614 E. Shull Rd.
**SAT. MAY 2, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** M216 GERMANSTOWN METROPARK, Park Office, 6075 Conservancy Rd.
**SAT. MAY 9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** M216 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Parking Lot, 7614 E. Shull Rd.
**SAT. MAY 16, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** M215 SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Horse Trailer Parking Lot, 7033 Wingtonton Blvd.
**SAT. MAY 30, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** M217 GERMANSTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6010 Boonshme Rd.
**SAT. JUN. 9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** M217 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Parking Lot, 7614 E. Shull Rd.

**FREE** VOLUNTEER: CONSERVATION AMBASSADORS
**TUE. APR. 7, 6:30-8:30 PM** M218 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. Training will be ongoing, but this orientation will introduce you to the various topics and the role of ambassador. Come to the orientation does not commit you to anything. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $0

**FREE** BIRDING WORKSHOP: WARBLERS
**SAT. APR 9, 8:30-12:00 PM** M219 GERMANSTOWN METROPARK, Nature Center, 6010 Boonshme Rd.
This workshop starts with the basics of birding, including bird identification, field guide and binocular use. Bird song, location and habitat will be discussed. The 2-hour indoor session will be followed by a 2-hour field study. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited supply will be available. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $0

**FREE** VOLUNTEER: COVER MAPPING
**THU. APR 23, 8:30-AM-3:30 PM** M215 TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Land Stewardship Classrom, 85000 Brown School Rd.
Cover mapping, the gathering of geographic information on the status of plant species and their habitats, provides critical information. This is a full-day immersed experience. Participants should have some knowledge of native plants. Registration required. Contact yvonne.dunph@metroparks.org for details. metroparks.org/conservation. Age 21Y and up

**FREE** VOLUNTEER: FIVE RIVERS METROPARK VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION
**WED. MAY 6, 6:30-8:00 PM** M233 FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor. Five Rivers MetroParks has volunteer opportunities year-round, and at virtually every one of our parks. Orientation provides history, an overview of location-specific opportunities and an introduction to opportunities this season. Coming to the orientation does not obligate you to anything. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

**FREE** BIRDCOUNT CARE
**TUE. MAY 12, 6:00-8:00 PM** M216 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Join us for the first of our BIRDCOUNT CARE work parties. Each week we will explore the types of diseases caterpillars are subject to and how to prevent them. There will be a hands-on part of the program. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $0

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE**

**ADVENTURE SPEAKER SERIES**
Check out this winter’s great line-up of talks sure to inspire every level of outdoor enthusiast. This series includes local adventurers and nationally known speakers. Partnership between Five Rivers MetroParks and Wright State University. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. More information available on www.theadventuresummit.com. See pages 10-11 for speaker bios. Age: All ages

**FREE** WINTER CLIMBING IN SCOTLAND’S CAIRNGORMS
**THUR. JAN 29, 7:00-8:00 PM** M214 LPS PRESS, Wright State University, 3460 Coli

**FREE** EMBRACING THE JOURNEY, THE ADVENTURE & THE PASSION OF THE TAIL
**TUE. FEB 3, 7:00-8:00 PM** M234 LASA READING GARDEN METROPARK, Auditorium, 139 C. Sieberthal Ave.

**FREE** AXUS: ACROSS THE US, CYCLING FOR A CAUSE
**TUE. FEB 10, 7:00-8:00 PM** M216 LPS PRESS, Wright State University, 3460 Coli

**FREE** 40 ADVENTURES IN MY 40TH YEAR
**THU. FEB 19, 7:00-8:00 PM** M217 LPS PRESS, Wright State University, 3460 Coli

**FREE** VOLUNTEER: OUTDOOR RECREATION VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION
**WED. FEB. 4, 6:00-7:30 PM** M215 GERMANSTOWN METROPARK, Main Office, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor. Five Rivers MetroParks is building the Outdoor Adventure Capital of the Midwest. Learn about areas that need volunteer support: backpacking, cycling, fishing and more. Attending an orientation does not commit you to anything. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact emmy.fabich@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

**FREE** VOLUNTEER: STREET TEAM ORIENTATION
**WED. APR 15, 6:30-8:00 PM** M215 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk. Street Team volunteers can help with promotion by wearing MetroParks gear, passing out information, posting online or staffing outreach booths. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact emmy.fabich@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

**FREE** TRY INLINE SKATING
**TUE. APRIL 21, 6:30-8:00 PM** M216 EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Try inline skating like a pro. Inline skates, helmets and pads provided. Age: 10-11 for speaker bios. Age: All ages

**FREE** CALL (937) 277-2574 (7275)
Unless otherwise noted in listing
American Canoe Association level 1 kayak certification is meant to give you a good foundation in the skills and knowledge needed to instruct paddling a kayak on flatwater. Certification requires ACA membership, CPR and first aid. Course will be a combination of classroom and on-the-water skills. Prerequisites: ACA membership and SEIC membership. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $125

ACA KAYAK INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION
THU., FRI., SAT. MAY 28-30, 8:30-6:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
American Canoe Association level 1 kayak certification is meant to give you a good foundation in the skills and knowledge needed to instruct paddling a kayak on flatwater. Certification requires ACA membership, CPR and first aid. Course will be a combination of classroom and on-the-water skills including teaching topics. Experience is preferred. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $125

FREE WILDFLOWER AND WOODLAND PHOTOGRAPHY
SAT., APR 25, 10:00-11:30 AM
AUCKLAND GROVE METROPARK, Auckland Grove, 150 Allwood Rd.
Drop in anytime with your camera to photograph the woods in spring complete with wildflowers and wonderful emerging foliage. Photographer Adam Alonzo will be on hand to answer questions and provide informal instruction. Registration requested. Walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

PHOTOGRAPHY ACTION WORKSHOP: LIFE ON THE FARM SAT., APR 25, 10:00-11:30 AM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4500 Troytown Rd.
Practice your skills or learn to take action shots. Join photographer Adam Alonzo at Possum Creek Metropark farm and learn how to capture action without flash and make the best choices in framing your shots and making them exciting. Try your new skills during a sheep shearing demonstration beginning at noon. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

PHOTOGRAPHY WEEKEND SAT., FEB 7-8, 1:30-3:30 PM
SAT., APR 25, 10:00-12:30 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

PHOTOGRAPHY MASTER CLASS SAT., MAR 28, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Photographer Adam Alonzo presents an in-depth master class on photography. Learn in detail how your camera works, how you can improve your photos and how to get the best shots in every occasion. Registration required and limited to six participants. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

PHOTO PERMITS
Professional Photographers: Paid permits are required for photo shoots in all Five Rivers Metroparks facilities. Apply for a permit at metroparks.org or call 759-DARK to speak to a visitor service representative.

Celebrate Earth Day ADOPT A PARK SATURDAY, APRIL 18 9 TO 11:30 A.M.
Volunteer for Five Rivers Metroparks annual Adopt A Park event and help keep our local natural areas beautiful! Remove litter, plant trees and do other Earth-friendly tasks. Volunteer solo or with your club or group.

Swifter Water Rescue for Paddlers WED., MAY 20-21, 9:00 AM-6:00 PM
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Shelter, Mad River, 1355 Harriman Rd.
This American Canoe Association Level 4 Swifter Water course is for whitewater paddlers and teaches recognition and avoidance of common river hazards, rescue techniques for paddlers in distress, and self-rescue. Class time will be spent on land, in the river and in a boat. Prerequisites: Prior Class I-II whitewater experience is strongly recommended. Registration required. Contact outdoors@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $225

ACA CANOE INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION
THU., FRI., SAT. MAY 28-30, 8:30-6:00 AM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
American Canoe Association level 1 kayak certification is meant to give you a good foundation in the skills and knowledge needed to instruct paddling a canoe on flatwater. Certification requires ACA membership, CPR and first aid. Course will be a combination of classroom and on-the-water skills including teaching topics. Experience is preferred. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $125

American Canoe Association level 1 canoe certification is meant to give you a good foundation in the skills and knowledge needed to instruct paddling a canoe on flatwater. Certification requires ACA membership, CPR and first aid. Course will be a combination of classroom and on-the-water skills. Prerequisites: ACA membership and SEIC membership. Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4374 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $125

WILL-O THE WISP SKATE WED., JUNE 25, 7:00-10:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

PHOTOGRAPHY WEEKEND SAT., MAY 30, 10:00-12:30 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

PHOTOGRAPHY WEEKEND SAT., JUNE 27, 10:00-12:30 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

PHOTOGRAPHY WEEKEND SAT., JUNE 20, 10:00-12:30 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

WILL-O THE WISP SKATE WED., JUNE 25, 7:00-10:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

WILL-O THE WISP SKATE WED., JUNE 25, 7:00-10:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

WILL-O THE WISP SKATE WED., JUNE 25, 7:00-10:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

WILL-O THE WISP SKATE WED., JUNE 25, 7:00-10:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

WILL-O THE WISP SKATE WED., JUNE 25, 7:00-10:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

WILL-O THE WISP SKATE WED., JUNE 25, 7:00-10:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

WILL-O THE WISP SKATE WED., JUNE 25, 7:00-10:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

WILL-O THE WISP SKATE WED., JUNE 25, 7:00-10:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

WILL-O THE WISP SKATE WED., JUNE 25, 7:00-10:00 PM
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 130 E. Swibeltcher Ave.
Join Photographer Adam Alonzo for a double photography session on Saturday, participants learn and practice techniques and ask questions. Sunday, discuss how to improve your skills. Deceive personal attention to your own photographic goals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50
Go to metroparks.org/parkways to view this ParkWays publication online.