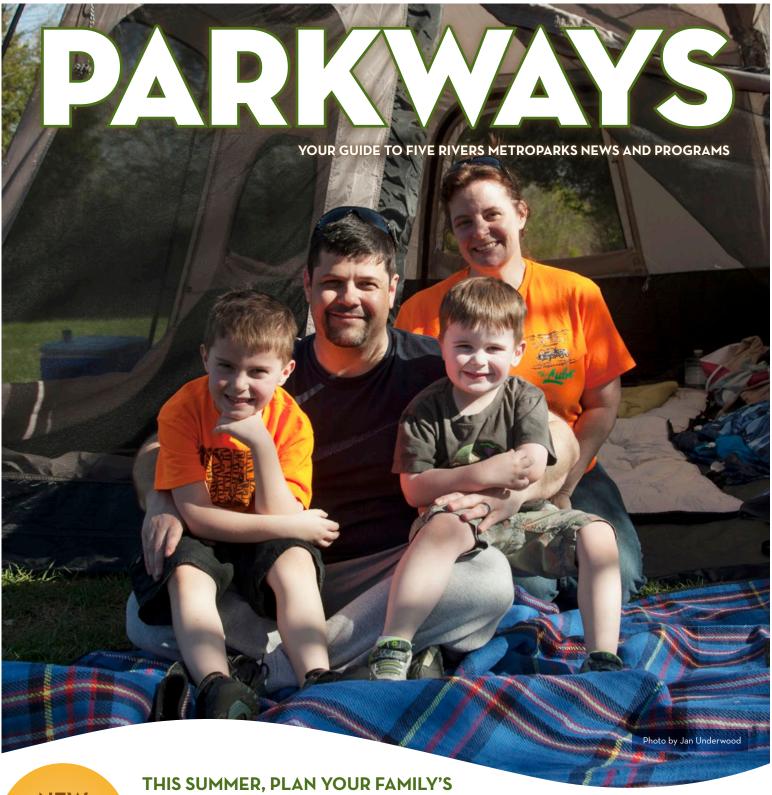
SUMMER 2016 FREE



NEW
METROPARKS.ORG
MAKES IT EASY TO
PLAN YOUR OUTDOOR
ADVENTURES!

OUTDOOR STAYCATION

HOW YOUR METROPARKS CLEAN AIR AND WATER SEE PAGES 8-9

LEARN TO ROW AND MEET AN OLYMPIAN SEE PAGE 13 NEW PROGRAM LISTINGS MAKE IT EASIER TO CONNECT WITH NATURE STARTS ON PAGE 18



# TOP 5 THINGS TO DO In Your MetroParks This Season

Visit "Things to Do" on our new website for suggestions about the best places and ways to enjoy 24 different activities, hand-picked by the experts! metroparks.org



### PADDLE POWER

The small Blue Lake at Eastwood MetroPark is a great place for beginners to try paddlesports. Use the 1401 Harshman Rd. entrance and drive to the other end of the park.



#### **GONE FISHIN'**

Take a family outing at Possum Creek MetroPark: Visit the farm animals, hike the purple trail to explore relics of an amusement park and fish at Argonne Lake (no license needed). The ponds offer many great fishing and wildlife viewing experiences as well. Every first Friday during summer, the ponds are stocked with catfish.



#### GO WHERE THE IMAGINATION LEADS

Kids can explore nature while playing in the Children's Discovery Garden at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark, which features whimsical plant displays, a cave, nature play area, pond and much more.



#### **EASY RIDER**

The Great Miami River Trail bisects Taylorsville MetroPark and includes an observation deck above a tall grass prairie to the south and remnants of the village of Tadmor to the north. The ride is part of the region's 300-plus miles of recreation trails — the nation's largest paved trail network.



#### **GO WILD**

Spend a day immersed in nature by hiking the orange trail at Germantown MetroPark. This 6.8-mile trail winds through (and up and down) pristine habitat where native plants and animals thrive.



### 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.



### LOST ITEMS

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



#### HOW TO CONTACT A RANGER

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.

EMERGENCY CONTACT: 9-1-1 NON-EMERGENCY CONTACT: (937) 535-2580



Becky Benná Executive Director

#### DEAR METROPARKS FRIENDS.

This summer, we hope you and your family will discover new ways to be active outdoors and connect with nature — perhaps by trying the new offerings for camping featured in this issue of *ParkWays*.

Speaking of new, we've rolled out a website upgrade that makes it easy to plan an outdoor adventure in your MetroParks. You'll find an improved programs and events calendar, ways to enjoy your parks by activity, quicker access to park amenities, and information about how to support your MetroParks — all while underscoring our commitment to conservation in the community. Plus, you can read it all — and register for programs or rent a shelter and even campsites — on your mobile device. You'll also notice changes

related to the website in the program listings on pages 18-38, which are now organized by experience and activities to make it easier for you to discover a program that fits your lifestyle.

All of this is part of providing the world-class park district this community deserves — and providing the things you told us you want during the development of MetroParks' 10-year comprehensive master plan. You provided valuable input through a statistically significant community survey, public meetings, community stakeholder focus groups, intercept surveys in MetroParks, and online in comments on the master plan crowdsource site. Now, all this feedback has been shaped into a plan that will guide MetroParks for the next decade.

You told us you want MetroParks to protect significant natural areas and river corridors: MetroParks' conservation team leads the protection and management of nearly 16,000 acres of land. You told us you want special events: See pages 18-19 for a list of what's in store June through September. You told us you highly value recreation trails: See page 12 for information on new trail amenities at the MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA).

This is a long-term vision created by the community, for the community. It ensures your MetroParks are positioned for the future — and ensures future generations can enjoy our region's natural heritage.

Indeed, MetroParks' comprehensive master plan is at the crux of all our work. It affects everyone, from me to staff in the field. It ensures your MetroParks operate as efficiently as possible. It helps justify that every dollar we spend and every decision we make has the wants and needs of this community at heart. And it ensures that your first priority — to take care of the land and facilities we already protect and manage — is MetroParks' first priority, too.

We hope you will review the plan at metroparks.org/plan and check out the new website while you're there — and then unplug for some quality time with nature!

Best Regards,

### rds, Becky Benná

#### METROPARKS COMMISSIONERS



Irvin G. Bieser, Jr.



Karen L. Davis



Alan F. Pippenger

#### **SUMMER 2016**

### IN THIS ISSUE

### COVER STORY • 4 - 6

OUTDOOR STAYCATION
Spend an evening under the stars in your MetroParks this summer.

### **METROPARKS NEWS • 7**

### CONSERVATION • 8

METROPARKS HELP CLEAN AIR AND WATER Discover the benefits of natural processes.

### **EDUCATION • 10**

LOCAVORE LEARNING Learn what is means to eat local.

### **RECREATION • 12**

MoMBA: REFRESHED AND READY FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY Check out what's new at MoMBA, the MetroParks Mountain Biking Area.

### **VOLUNTEER • 14 - 15**WANT TO VOLUNTEER FOR

METROPARKS?

We've got a number of options to get you started based on your specific interests.

#### **DEVELOPMENT • 16**

Learn how you can support your MetroParks.

#### **PROGRAM GUIDE • 18**

Register for programs happening in your MetroParks from June through September 2016.

ParkWays is published three times per year. An online version is available at metroparks.org/parkways.

#### **OUR MISSION**

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

### **EXPLORE YOUR** WILD SIDE

this summer by spending an evening under the stars! Camping is a great way to experience the outdoors and create lasting memories with friends and family.

Five Rivers MetroParks offers 23 tent camping sites at four parks. Frontcountry campsites are easily accessible by car, and hike-in backcountry sites are

for the more adventurous camper. Both allow you to unplug just a short drive from home.

...CAMPING IN YOUR METROPARKS

Campsites are close to great park amenities, such as hiking, fishing, paddling, geocaching and more. Recently, all frontcountry sites were updated with new or improved picnic tables, fire rings and firewood boxes.

### FRONTCOUNTRY CAMPING

Options are available for families, groups and individuals at these primitive sites that include a vault toilet, fire ring and picnic table. Bring gear, food and water; a limited supply of firewood is provided.



MAKE LASTING FAMILY MEMORIES at Possum Creek MetroPark, which has five easily accessible campsites near such amenities as fishing ponds, hiking trails, the historical Argonne forest, and a farm where you can visit chickens, sheep, a donkey and other farm animals. Possum Creek is an excellent place to take your next camping trip with family, scout troop or first-time camper.



GET AWAY FROM IT ALL at Englewood MetroPark, where you can discover next-door nature. This MetroPark offers four frontcountry campsites near woodlands, meadows and waterfalls. Activities include 20 miles of hiking trails through a wide variety of habitats, fishing and paddling opportunities on the Stillwater River, a disc golf course, nature playground, and a spot for fossil collecting. Bring your bikes: The Stillwater River Trail offers nearly two miles of paved trail through the park.





### **BACKCOUNTRY CAMPSITES**

Immerse yourself in nature in one of our secluded backcountry sites along the Twin Valley Trail. Ideal for backpacking, the three locations in Germantown and Twin Creek MetroPark offer a total of nine sites on the 22-mile trail. Only accessible by foot, these primitive campsites are large enough for two small backpacking tents. Each location has a vault toilet and a common area for cooking with a backpack stove and hanging out. No campfires are permitted.

### **GET OUT & CAMP**

Learn more about camping with MetroParks staff at Possum Creek MetroPark the weekend of June 25! Register for both programs at metroparks.org.

### FAMILY CAMPING (program Q33)

Learn outdoor skills to have successful camping experiences with your kids. We'll provide the camping equipment and teach you how to use it. Then, camp under the stars during the Great American Campout at no additional cost. Price per family (up to five people) is \$50.

GREAT AMERICAN CAMPOUT (program Q101) Join us as we take the National Wildlife Federation's pledge to celebrate camping as a way to connect with nature and wildlife. Pack the tent, and we'll provide the hot dogs, campfire and s'mores. Price per family (up to five people) is \$25.

### **GERMANTOWN METROPARK**



### TWIN CREEK METROPARK



### EXPLORE A WORLD OF WILD at Germantown

MetroPark, one of the most scenic MetroParks. It features two frontcountry campsites, both offering remote and nature-filled experiences. Each site is connected to the park's nearly 14 miles of hiking trails, which wind through a rich diversity of towering trees, prairies, meadows, steep ravines and the Twin Creek. Spend your days hiking, fossil collecting, fishing or just enjoying the amazing sights and sounds of the Twin Valley.

THE HISTORICAL CAMP HOOK AREA at Twin Creek MetroPark offers three frontcountry campsites with access to the park's extensive hiking trail system where you can climb the region's most rugged ridges. The nearly 10 miles of trails in the park connect to the 22-mile Twin Valley Trail and take you along the beautiful Twin Creek, by a prehistoric Indian mound and up to a scenic hilltop

WE'VE GOT SOME GREAT

CREEK FIVE RIVERS

vista.

CAMPING TIPS

### **NEW TO CAMPING? START SIMPLE.**

FAMILY CAMPING TIPS AND TRICKS FOR YOUR METROPARKS CAMPING ADVENTURE

### DO SOME PLANNING

- · Set up a tent in your backyard to test out your gear and get comfortable sleeping outside.
- Create a packing checklist so you don't leave anything behind.
- Keep organized using bags, tubs and stuff sacks so you can quickly find items.
- Let the kids help pack and decide on activities.
- No need to completely rough it! Throw in those pillows, favorite stuffed animals and a toy or two.
- But don't bring too many toys and gadgets – you'll be amazed at how easily kids (and you!) can be entertained by playing in the creek, taking a hike and flipping over rocks to look for critters.

### **PACK YOUR GOODS**

- Sleeping gear: tent, sleeping bags, sleeping pads or air mattress, pillows
- Lights: headlamps, flashlights and lanterns (with extra batteries)
- Clothing: lots of layers (synthetic or wool wicking layers and fleece or down warm layers), hat, gloves, rain jacket, socks, hiking shoes and comfortable camp shoes
- Camp kitchen: Think of everything from cutting board and knife, to stove and fuel, to biodegradable soap and dishwashing bins
- Camera: Capture those priceless memories!

Several local businesses rent camping equipment. Check out the full list at outdoordayton.com.



### SET UP AND GET ORIENTED

- · Get everything set up early so you aren't trying to figure out equipment or searching for items in the dark.
- Keep the kids involved. Give them camp chores, such as helping with tent poles or collecting water.
- Bring a map and get familiar with the lay of the land. Make sure everyone knows where your campsite is within the park, as well as the bathroom and any other necessities.
- Keep a positive attitude! Even with some comforts, camping can require a little more effort to make meals, get water, use the bathroom and wash dishes. A little enthusiasm goes a long way.

### HAVE LOTS OF FUN

- Do some star gazing; bring along binoculars or a telescope. Research constellations ahead of time.
- Bring your pole and head to the ponds, lakes and rivers. Visit metroparks.org/ fishing for details.
- Bring your bikes and ride the nation's largest paved trail network
- Play games: Bring cards or a Frisbee, play flashlight tag or tic-tac-toe in the dirt.
- Bring along that guitar or harmonica and jam around the campfire, but be considerate of other visitors.
- Look for bugs or go bird watching.
- Roast marshmallows or make s'mores.



### MAKE YOUR CAMPING RESERVATION

Permits are required for both frontcountry (with four business days advance notice) and backcountry camping. Fees vary. To ensure your use of a campsite on the date you want, make reservations now.

**ONLINE** Use the online reservation system at metroparks.org.

**BY PHONE** Call (937) 275-PARK (7275)

IN PERSON

Stop in the main office at 409 E. Monument Ave., third floor, Dayton, OH from 9 AM to 4 PM Monday-Friday.





### FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

Planning an outdoor adventure online is now easier, thanks to MetroParks' newly designed website! Together with all the great features and functions found on the previous website, the modern design is mobile-friendly and simple to navigate. In this issue of *ParkWays*, you'll also see changes to the program and event pages, which now reflect the website's navigation.

We hope you'll visit the site and give us feedback using the form at the bottom right of every page. We need your input to make your experience better, and we look forward to hearing from you!

metroparks.org

### BARBARA COX CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE HORTICULTURE OPENS

This new feature at Cox Arboretum MetroPark offers new ways to learn about the importance of biodiversity.

See conservation in action at the renovated energy-efficient greenhouses, where native trees, shrubs and wildflowers that will be planted on MetroParks' land are being grown. Learn about horticulture and discover how gardening and landscaping can help conservation in our area. Activities are being planned to help the community incorporate the sustainable activities and designs demonstrated at the center into their lifestyles and homes.

The center was made possible thanks to generous donations from Cox Family Foundations and The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation.

metroparks.org/sustainability-center

### RIVERSCAPE RIVER RUN CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES

The work to transform the low dam between I-75 and Monument Avenue is nearly complete. Adjustments will be made this summer after the nearby I-75 construction is finished to improve the way the water flows through the chutes and in the eddies. RiverScape River Run has eliminated the hazards associated with the low dam and created a passage for recreational paddlers and a whitewater play chute for kayakers. Work will begin this summer on the second similar structure, which will be located near RiverScape MetroPark. That work will start after completion of a second mussel survey, which will relocate these freshwater creatures to new homes.

metroparks.org/riverrun

### METROPARKS NEWS









## METROPARKS HELP **CLEAN AIR AND WATER**

Five Rivers MetroParks manages some of the best natural areas in Montgomery County. But did you know these forests, wetlands and prairies are more than beautiful places to hike and watch wildlife? These habitats also help clean local air and water through

natural processes. The plants in each habitat, along with the unique microbes in the soil, perform these functions as part of their normal growth pattern which is why protecting these habitats for the future is critical.

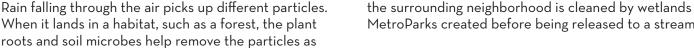
Clean water is one of the most important parts of a healthy environment. During an average year, more than 11,000 acres of natural habitats in MetroParks filter an estimated 11 billion gallons of water. That's enough to fill 16,853 Olympic swimming pools.

When it lands in a habitat, such as a forest, the plant roots and soil microbes help remove the particles as the water runs into a stream or is absorbed into the groundwater. Forests also release water more slowly than hard surfaces, which helps avoid flooding and erosion.

> Wetlands are a unique habitat within MetroParks and are known as "nature's kidneys" for their special water filtering ability. MetroParks land contains more than 170 acres of wetlands, and many of these wetlands were created by MetroParks.

> When water flows through a wetland, special plants and microbes remove suspended soil and nutrients from the water. This helps the wetland plants grow and improves the water quality. Woodman Fen Conservation Area is an

excellent example of a wetland where storm water from the surrounding neighborhood is cleaned by wetlands MetroParks created before being released to a stream.



Another important habitat for improving water quality is forests, especially along rivers. MetroParks land contains more than 1,000 acres of forests near rivers and streams. When flooding occurs, these forests provide a place for the flood waters to spread out and slow down. When this happens, soil suspended in the water settles and is left in the forest when water levels return to normal.

The roots of the trees then grow into this new soil, providing nutrients for the trees and preventing the soil from washing downstream. The forests behind the Miami Conservancy District dams at Huffman, Taylorsville, Englewood and Germantown MetroParks provide examples of where this process takes place.

Besides helping filter water, trees also help filter the air. MetroParks land contains more than 6,000 acres of forest habitats — and staff and volunteers planted more

than 10,000 trees as part of MetroParks' reforestation program in spring 2016. This is in addition to tens of thousands more planted as part of earlier reforestation efforts.

As each tree grows, it draws air into the leaves and removes gases and particles. Trees use carbon dioxide to grow, and MetroParks forests remove an estimated 14 million pounds per year. Small particles often are a serious air quality problem in urban areas, and MetroParks forests remove an estimated 155,000 pounds per year. Ozone is also a serious air quality issue, and MetroParks forests remove more than 157,000 pounds of ozone per year.

By creating and managing natural habitats, MetroParks not only provides homes for wildlife and a place for people to connect with nature — it also helps ensure clean air and water for current and future generations.

### TAKE A CONSERVATION ADVENTURE

Visit MetroParks' publicly accessible conservation and natural areas to see conservation work in action! Learn more about the land MetroParks protects by visiting our new website at metroparks.org.



### **DULL WOODS**

8199 Cole St., Brookville

Take the Wolf Creek Trail south to find this eightacre woodlot. Dull Woods is a high-quality remnant of the vast swamp forests that once covered northwest Montgomery County.



### MEDLAR

4558 Medlar Road, Miamisburg

Discover mature woods, fields, a pond and created wetlands, with a bikeway winding throughout, at this 416-acre area.



### WOODMAN FEN

2409 Newcastle Dr., Kettering

Stroll the boardwalk at this 37-acre natural area, which contains a rare groundwater-fed wetland known as a fen.



### HUFFMAN PRAIRIE

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base off Route 444

This restored site is one of the largest prairie remnants in Ohio. For bird watching, June is the best time to visit, and for the most spectacular display of wildflowers, visit in mid to late July.



MetroParks' programs provide education about growing and producing your own food.

Don't let seed starting scare you.

If you've ever wanted to learn to garden, raise small animals, cook with fresh food you've raised — or if you've ever wanted the young people in your life to develop an appreciation for these things — MetroParks is here to help you join the growing ranks of locavores, those interested in eating locally produced food. Indeed, a 2015 report by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service showed interest in local food growing in numerous fields, from restaurants to grocery stores to schools.

"Gardening and raising your own food is healthier for you and the planet and tastes fresher," Bernadette Whitworth, community ecology program manager, said. "You know what goes into your food. It's a good activity for young and old to do together that lets you get some exercise and fresh air."

Education coordinator Luci Beachdell has seen firsthand the popularity of local food bloom since she first started with MetroParks' Grow With Your Neighbors program in the late '90s. Then, two dozen or so community gardens were established. Today, 91 are up and growing — and volunteers manage, maintain and operate nearly all of them.

Working at these gardens, or in your own backyard, not only allows you to grow your own food, it provides a way to experience the outdoors.

"Gardening gives people a place and way to connect with nature and has tangible benefits that are different than those from a walk in woods," Beachdell said. "Gardening takes me out of my house, touching green things that are growing. I'm out there with my hands in the dirt, creating a stronger ecosystem and, as long as I'm using sustainable methods, increasing biodiversity and soil health."

MetroParks rents community garden plots at Wegerzyn Gardens and Possum Creek MetroParks and works with 89 volunteer-managed community gardens throughout Montgomery County.

In addition, MetroParks offers a number of programs and series that develop a lifelong appreciation for nature while teaching such skills as gardening, raising small animals and farming. Many of these are outlined on the next page and in the new Earth Friendly Living section on pages 25-27. Visit metroparks.org/food for a complete list of programs and to learn more about how you can become a locavore aficionado.



### ONGOING PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH AND FAMILY

### · YOUTH GARDEN CLUB

Youth ages 8 through 12 plant, tend and harvest Skeeter's Garden at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark while acquiring skills and learning about sustainable gardening. Three classes are held each month through August, and participants may register for any or all months. (See page 35.)

### · CHILDREN'S GARDEN GOURMET

Kids ages 6-12 use fresh seasonal ingredients from the garden to prepare something delicious to take home. (See page 36.)

#### GARDENING FOR KIDS

Learn basic botany and vegetable gardening. Kids ages 6 to 10 help tend the garden, sample available veggies and herbs, and plant seeds to take home and grow. (See page 35.)

#### FAMILY FARMHANDS

Saturday mornings, kids ages 5 to 8 help feed and care for the rabbits, chickens, sheep, goats and donkey at Possum Creek MetroPark farm. (See page 35.)

#### MORNING CHORES

Kids ages 8 to 12 join a farm staff member to experience a typical work day for a farm hand one Saturday morning a month at Carriage Hill MetroPark. (See page 37.)

### ONGOING PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS



CANNING CLUB: Learn how to preserve fruits and vegetables in an inexpensive and efficient way during these programs at Carriage Hill MetroPark. Take home a jar of goodies, along with 19th-century and modern recipes. (See page 25.)



LUNCH AND LEARN: Explore a variety of topics in green living, from making butter to spinning yarn, with engaging speakers at Carriage Hill MetroPark. (See page 25.)

### DATE-SPECIFIC PROGRAMS



CHICKENS 101: July 21 — Learn about the different breeds and what you need to get started raising your own backyard flock. (See page 21.)



RABBITS 101: Aug. 11 — Learn about the different breeds and what you need to get started raising your own rabbits. (See page 21.)



VEGGIE-PALOOZA: Aug. 13 — Learn what to do with your fresh food, especially veggies that are plentiful, and make a summer-fresh pizza. (See page 30.)



### ANOTHER WAY TO EAT LOCAL

The outdoor farmers market opens Saturday, June 4, at the 2nd Street Market, 600 E. Second St. in downtown Dayton. Enjoy breakfast or lunch while you shop for fresh produce and locally produced meat, bread, dairy and kitchen staples at the Market's more than 40 vendors.

### **REFRESHED AND READY** FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

This year marks 10 years since the groundbreaking for the MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA) – and the opening of the largest scale improvements since.

New amenities on and off the trails open this summer, with improvements for all types of riders. Comfort amenities at the trailhead include a new restroom, water, fix-it station and parking area. Trail improvements include:

#### TOT TRACK:

This 1/4-mile trail is designed for kids to practice balance and other skills on a natural surface trail.

### HILLTOP FLOW TRAIL:

This 3/4-mile trail is designed to provide a fun experience for all skill levels from beginner to advance. Optional features help develop the skills required to ride on the main trail system.

#### THE TALON:

This double black diamond trail is designed to challenge the most experienced mountain bikers and is accessed from the black diamond Hawk's Lair trail.

No mountain bike? No worries! This summer. MetroParks will have bikes available to rent at MoMBA on Saturdays from 9 AM to noon. From balance bikes for little ones learning to ride to adults looking for a new adventure, bikes for all ages will be available to rent. Rates for youth bikes start at \$6 an hour, and adult bikes start at \$8 an hour.

See page 23 for more information on upcoming mountain biking programs.





### ADVENTURE SERIES

Share your love for adventure with this great series designed to help the whole family Get Out & Live! See pages 22-24 for more information or visit metroparks.org/programs to register.



TRY PADDLESPORTS (program Q48)
June 8 • 4 to 7 PM
Lagoon at Eastwood MetroPark

 Try a kayak, canoe or stand up paddleboard.



FAMILY FISHING DAY (program Q43)
July 9 • 9 AM to noon

Argonne Lake at Possum Creek MetroPark

• Instruction and bait provided, with limited gear available.



### GREAT AMERICAN CAMPOUT

#### (program Q101)

June 25 & 26 Arrive between 3 to 5 PM Argonne Trailhead at Possum Creek MetroPark

- Pack the tent and camp with the whole family! Campfire program and s'mores will cap off a beautiful evening.
- \$25; registration requested, walk-ins welcome with credit card payment.



### URBAN OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE AT PICKIN' IN THE PARK (program Q349)

August 5 • 5 to 8 PM RiverScape MetroPark

- Try your hand at mountain bike skill elements, slacklining, disc golf and more in this outdoor recreation sampler.
- Enjoy Pickin' in the Park, complete with a food truck rally and progressive blue grass under the pavilion.
- Free; registration requested, walk-ins welcome.

### LEARN TO ROW OLYMPIC DAY

Learn more about Dayton Regional Rowing, the nation's only Community Olympic Development Program for rowing, and give the sport a try during this inaugural event.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 25 · 10 AM TO 4 PM

Eastwood MetroPark Lake, 1401 Harshman Road Free; registration requested, walk-ins welcome

An Olympic athlete is planned to be on site, and members of the Dayton Boat Club and Greater Dayton Rowing Association will give demonstrations and provide programming about rowing. The clubs will help youth and adults, regardless of skill level, try rowing and learn to row.

Dayton Regional Rowing is a partnership between USRowing, Five Rivers MetroParks, the Dayton Boat Club and Greater Dayton Rowing Association. Dayton Regional Rowing also gives the Dayton region a connection with the U.S. Olympic Committee and gives Dayton-area rowers new opportunities for coaching, camps, athletic development and training, and more.



# WANT VOLUNTEER?

### ATTEND A VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION TO GET STARTED

Volunteering throughout the year is a fabulous way to give back to nature. Attend an orientation to learn more about Five Rivers MetroParks' volunteer opportunities and see pages 18-38 for more ways to get involved.

Attending an orientation doesn't commit you to anything. All orientations are held at Five Rivers MetroParks' headquarters, 409 E. Monument Ave., third floor. Registration is requested for the free orientations, geared for ages 18 and older. Call (937) 275-PARK or visit metroparks.org/volunteer to register.

### **VOLUNTEER SUPERSTAR**

### JENNY CARROLL

Volunteer Jenny Carroll is willing to bust out some dance moves to teach people about nature.

"Jenny knows how to have fun and captivate a group," said Kevin Kepler, volunteer services manager. "She is known for creating a version of the hokey pokey that demonstrates butterfly metamorphosis. Now, that's dedication!"

Carroll started volunteering with MetroParks in 2008 as a guide in the Butterfly House at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. Soon afterward, she became a school tour guide, hiking through woodlands, prairies and next to ponds to help children learn about nature through hands-on experiences.

"She has always had a passion for nature and has found that the opportunities to get involved and to give back to the community offered through MetroParks have provided her the confidence and knowledge to share her passion with others," Kepler said.

A few years ago, Carroll took on additional responsibilities as a Butterfly House volunteer lead, helping train new volunteers about the fascinating world of pollinators and how to share that knowledge with the public. She also has completed the Certified Interpretive Guide training, a course sanctioned by the National Association for Interpretation and offered through MetroParks, as well as The Ohio State Certified Master Naturalist course.

"Volunteering at Cox is an incredible opportunity to enjoy the beauty of nature and learn how to conserve it for future generations."

- JENNY CARROLL



#### CONSERVATION AMBASSADORS

### THU. JUN 16, 1:00-3:00 PM Q330 WED. AUG 31, 6:30-8:30 PM Q331

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. Contact yvonne.dunphe@ metroparks.org for details.

### CENTRAL PARKS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

#### WED. JUN 15, 6:00-8:00 PM Q257

Find out how you can help keep our parks in the heart of Dayton beautiful and well maintained. You will learn about our history, location-specific and upcoming opportunities and how easy it is to get started. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact janet.metter@metroparks.org for details

### CONSERVATION CARETAKER ORIENTATION

#### TUE. JUL 26, 6:30-8:30 PM Q314 WED. SEP 28. 6:30-8:30 PM Q316

Learn about MetroParks' conservation areas and how you can volunteer to help with boundary checks, greeting other volunteers during workdays, acting as an invasive scout and giving each of the areas some TLC. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details.

### CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

TUE. JUN 14, 1:00-3:00 PM Q282 TUE. JUN 21, 6:30-8:30 PM Q283 THU. JUL 14, 9:30-11:30 AM Q284 TUE. AUG 16, 6:30-8:30 PM Q294 FRI. SEP 9, 9:30-11:30 AM Q295

Five Rivers MetroParks needs your help to protect nearly 16,000 acres. Whether you're interested in fish or flowers, like to walk or prefer to help in an office or greenhouse, there is an opportunity for you. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details.

### CONSERVATION ORIENTATION, NATURALIST VOLUNTEERS

WED. JUL 6, 1:00-3:00 PM Q345 TUE. SEP 20. 6:30-8:30 PM Q348

MetroParks' naturalist staff needs volunteers to assist with programs for kids and families. You don't need to be a naturalist to get started, but a passion for sharing, a love of nature, and a joy for working with kids and families is a must. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details.

### FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

TUE. JUL 26, 1:00-2:30 PM Q280 WED. SEP 14, 6:30-8:00 PM Q281

MetroParks has volunteer opportunities yearround and at nearly every park. Orientation provides history, an overview of location-specific opportunities and an introduction to opportunities this season. Contact info@metroparks.org for details.

### HELP METROPARKS GROW THIS SUMMER

Volunteers are needed year-round — and especially during the summer months — to help MetroParks' gardens flourish. No experience necessary; hands-on training provided.

Contact Janelle.Leonard@metroparks.org or call (937) 275-PARK to volunteer for the opportunities below.

#### WEGERZYN GARDENING ANGELS

#### 9 AM to noon, Wednesdays

Work alongside knowledgeable horticulturists to keep the gardens looking great. Discover design ideas, unique plants and cultivation techniques suitable for the home garden.

#### **AULLWOOD GARDEN HELPERS**

### 9 AM to noon, Mondays and Tuesdays

Marie Aull's garden is a living work of art and local history. Volunteers restore this historical estate garden. Learn to grow a variety of wildflowers and woodland plants and help with plant propagation, garden mapping, and botanical and historical research.

#### **GARDEN DISCOVERY GUIDES**

### Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark Flexible shifts through September

Welcome and engage visitors through guided discoveries and simple hands-on activities.

### CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY GARDEN PROGRAM ASSISTANT

### Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark Flexible shifts through September

Assist staff with garden-related tours, story time, activities, cooking and crafts. Help children perform simple garden tasks, such as planting, weeding and harvesting.

Contact janet.metter@metroparks.org or call (937) 275-PARK to volunteer for the opportunities below.

### BARBARA COX CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE HORTICULTURE

#### Cox Arboretum MetroPark Flexible shifts year-round

At the greenhouse complex, renovated for energy and water efficiency, become a part of this sustainable effort:

 Greenhouse: Tasks will include watering, pruning, grooming, seeding, transplanting,

- cleaning, pot washing and assisting with volunteer activities.
- Native Wildflowers: Become an advocate for native plants as you learn propagation techniques that will help our habitat restoration efforts throughout the park system.

#### **GARDEN STEWARDS**

#### Cox Arboretum and RiverScape MetroParks

Perform a variety of Earth-friendly activities, including seed collection, propagation, weeding, pruning, deadheading, mulching and maintaining plants throughout the grounds. Shifts, available daily, are flexible.

### **BUTTERFLY HOUSE VOLUNTEERS**

#### Cox Arboretum MetroPark

Shifts available daily for guides

- GUIDES: Help visitors discover the fascinating world of butterflies and moths.
- Gardeners: Maintain the nectar and host plants that butterflies depend on for sustenance and egg laying, Thursdays from 4 to 6 PM.

# PARK LIFE

"My mom is one of those people for whom staying in the house was not an option," said Brock Anderson, vice president of the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation board and CEO of Bonbright Distributors. "My birthday parties were at a shelter with outdoor games and bobbing for apples. Every Thanksgiving, we'd have a big breakfast and then the entire family would pile into the station wagon and go to a park and hike for the day before coming back home for our Thanksgiving dinner."

Today, Anderson and his two sisters are continuing these traditions — raising their own children with plenty of time outdoors.

"This is more important now than when I grew up because children are less exposed to parks," said Anderson, who has a daughter, 13, and son, 10. "Early on, my wife and I took the kids to a lot of places outdoors. We feel it's important for them to get outside, take a hike and unplug." Such experiences led Anderson and his business to become a leading supporter of Five Rivers MetroParks' efforts to build the region's culture of outdoor recreation and environmental stewardship. Since 2014, Bonbright Distributors has contributed more than \$143,000 to MetroParks, thanks to a community fund Anderson established and Bonbright's relationship with New Belgium Brewing Company.

"I was already involved financially, so to be involved in a volunteer capacity, too, was a great way to support the community," Anderson said of his decision to join the Foundation. "There are a lot of great things going on, and I'm excited to be part of MetroParks' future."

Anderson also supports MetroParks by spreading the word: "It's great to introduce people to all the parks. Each one has a different personality," he said. "The uniqueness of each park is what you celebrate."

He's also excited about the new RiverScape River Run, which will open a seven-mile stretch of river corridor through downtown Dayton.

It comes back to those family memories: "My mom is an avid cyclist, and I'd go downtown with her when I had a little BMX bike and follow her on the bikeways," Anderson said. "I have lots of great memories from the parks, but what I remember most are those family traditions."



## SEARCH AND REGISTER FOR METROPARKS PROGRAMMING

Finding things to do and learn that match your interests is now easier.

Search the following pages by the categories below.

### **PROGRAMMING CATEGORIES**



### SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE

Enjoy time with friends and family at these community celebrations.



### **ACTIVE OUTDOORS**

Discover how easy it is to have an active, healthy outdoor lifestyle.



### **EARTH FRIENDLY LIVING**

Learn how to live more sustainably and make better choices for the environment.



#### ADULT NATURE EXPLORATION

Enjoy and learn about the splendor of the natural world.



### PROGRAMMING FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

Spend quality time outdoors with everyone in your family.



### COMMUNITY GROUPS AND TRAINING

Share the benefits of an active, nature-based lifestyle with your community and future generations.

### **HOW TO REGISTER**



#### **ONLINE**

### metroparks.org/programs

Search online by date or program number to register.



#### BY PHONE

### (937) 275-PARK (7275)

Register for all programs by calling 275-PARK unless otherwise noted in the listing.

### PROGRAMMING DETAILS

#### PROGRAMMING SERIES

Programs contained within a light blue box are part of a series of programs.



### ONLINE REGISTRATION

Online registration is available for programs marked with this icon.



#### WEATHER DEPENDENT

Some outdoor events and programs are weather permitting.

#### FFFS

Fees are required at the time of registration. Visit **metroparks.org/policies** for information on refunds.

#### **CANCELLATIONS**

Some programs require a minimum number of participants and are subject to cancellation. Those who are registered will be contacted if this occurs. The website contains up-to-date information on cancellations.

# SPECIAL EVENTS

Enjoy time with friends and family at these community celebrations.





(FREE) AFRICAN
AMERICAN
WELLNESS WALK
SAT. JUN 11, 7:00 AM12:00 PM Q343
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK.

RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.
This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by Premier Health. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 208-3863 for details.
www.aawwdayton.org. Age: All ages



### (FREE) TRY ROWING OLYMPIC DAY SAT. JUN 25, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM Q69

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.

Learn to row and about Dayton Regional Rowing, the nation's only Community Olympic Development Program for rowing and a partnership between USRowing, Five Rivers MetroParks, Dayton Boat Club and the Greater Dayton Rowing Association. Get an introduction to rowing and meet an Olympian. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🕆



### GREAT AMERICAN CAMPOUT SAT. JUN 25, 3:00 PM - SUN. JUN 26, 9:00 AM Q101

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

Join us as we take the National Wildlife Federation's pledge to celebrate camping as a way to connect with nature and wildlife. Pack the tent and the family; we'll provide the hotdogs, campfire and s'mores. Check in at the campsite between 3-5 PM Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages Fee: \$25 % 🗘

### (FREE) A GRAND OLD INDEPENDENCE DAY

#### SUN. JUL 3, 12:00-5:00 PM Q145

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

Celebrate our country's independence with period games and contests while stepping back in time to mark the holiday. No registration required. Age: All ages

### (FREE) CITY OF DAYTON'S LIGHTS IN FLIGHT FIREWORKS SHOW AND FESTIVAL

#### SUN. JUL 3, 1:00-10:00 PM Q94

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave. Celebrate Dayton with live music, food, beverages and kids' activities. Watch the City's spectacular visual display over the Great Miami River. No registration required. Contact (937) 333-8400 for details. Age: All ages



### (FREE) UNITED IRISH OF DAYTON CELTIC FESTIVAL

FRI. JUL 29, 6:00-11:00 PM Q264

**SAT. JUL 30, 12:00-11:00 PM** Q320

SUN. JUL 31, 9:00 AM-6:00 PM Q322

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave. Celebrate the sights and sounds of Ireland, Scotland and Wales. No registration required. Contact (937) 372-9788 for details. unitedirishofdayton.org. Age: All ages 🜣

### GREAT DAYTON ADVENTURE RACE

#### FRI. AUG 5, 5:00-9:00 PM Q352

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

This race is an urban scavenger hunt in downtown Dayton, starting and ending at RiverScape MetroPark. Experience Dayton in a new way as you weave your way through the excitement of First Friday and Downtown Adventure Night Contact www.topoadventuresports.org/dayton.html for details and to register. Age: All ages Fee: \$10 🌣

### (FREE) HISPANIC HERITAGE FESTIVAL

#### **SAT. AUG 20, 11:00 AM-11:00 PM** Q306

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

Enjoy hot and spicy Latin music and delicious Latin food. The sounds of Salsa, Merengue, Tejano, Latin Jazz, Cumbia, and Bachata music will come alive. No registration required. www.pacodayton.org. Age: All ages

### (FREE) DAYTON AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL

### **SAT. AUG 27, 12:00-8:00 PM** Q263

ISLAND METROPARK, 101 E. Helena St.
This family event brings the richness of the
African American experience to the Dayton region
through culture, arts, education and music. No registration required. www.daacf.com. Age: All ages

### (FREE) 13th ANNUAL URS RUBBER DUCK REGATTA

### FRI. SEP 16, 6:45-7:15 PM Q303

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

20,000 rubber ducks will be dropped from the bridge at RiverScape for a race to the finish for great prizes. Proceeds benefit programs for children and adults with disabilities. Adopt your ducks for only \$5 each. Contact (937) 853-5464 or acrawford@ursdayton.org for details. www.daytonducks.com. Age: All ages



### (FREE) COUNTRY FAIR SAT. SEP 24, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM Q156 SUN. SEP 25, 12:00-5:00 PM Q351

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK,

Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd. As the fall harvest approaches, so does the tradition of the country fair. From agricultural demonstrations to a pie-baking competition, all the sights and sounds of an 1880s country fair will be recreated. No registration required. Age: All ages

2016 SERIES

## SUMMER MUSIC

### AT RIVERSCAPE METROPARK

### PICKIN' IN THE PARK



MAY 6 • 6-10 PM Urban Pioneers | Hackensaw Boys



JUNE 3 · 6-10 PM Bigfoot Yancey | Al Scorch and the Country Soul Ensemble



AUGUST 5 • 6-10 PM Sawgrass | Old Salt Union

### **R&B HOT SUMMER MUSIC**

PRESENTED BY BUCKEYE HEALTH PLAN



JUNE 10 • 7:30-9:30 PM KICK-N-FLAVA



JULY 8 • 7:30-9:30 PM



AUGUST 12 • 7:30-9:30 PM Premium Blend Music

### **BIG BAND NIGHTS**



7:30-9:30 PM Bob Gray Orchestra



7:30-9:30 PM Tom Daugherty Orchestra



7:30-9:30 PM Dayton Jazz Orchestra



7:30-9:30 PM Barry Campbell & his Big Band with vocalist Elaina McCormick



**AUGUST 11** 7:30-9:30 PM The Kim Kelly Orchestra

JOIN THE FUN ALL SUMMER LONG

### **MUSIC@** LUNCH

SATURDAY eSCAPE

FREE FITNESS **CLASSES** 

### **RIVERSCAPE RENTALS**

9 AM TO 6 PM SATURDAY AND SUNDAY MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH LABOR DAY

Rent bikes and child accessories to explore the region's more than 300 miles of paved, connected bikeways.





### **ENTERTAINMENT**

#### STREET BEATS

#### **SAT. JUN 11, 5:00-9:00 PM** Q332

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

Kick off your shoes and dance with us as Street Beats ends the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company season. An outdoor concert accompanied by DCDC's exceptional dancers, this family friendly event offers food vendors, dance lessons, and more. For tickets call (937)228-3630 or visit ticketcenterstage.com. See contact info to register. www.dcdc.org. Age: All ages Fee: \$25

### **FITNESS**

#### FITNESS IN THE PARK

Fun and effective workouts under the pavilion are part of Saturday eScape. Center yourself on yoga days with Tori Reynolds and enjoy Zumba with Nashanda Moore. Wear comfortable clothes and bring water. Come enjoy a terrific, free, outdoor workout!

#### (FREE) YOGA

SAT. JUN 18, 10:00-11:00 AM Q51 SAT. JUL 2, 10:00-11:00 AM Q55 SAT. JUL 16, 10:00-11:00 AM Q56 SAT. AUG 6, 10:00-11:00 AM Q57

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

No registration required. Age: All ages 🜣

#### (FREE) ZUMBA

SAT. JUN 25, 10:00-11:00 AM Q58 SAT. JUL 9, 10:00-11:00 AM Q59 SAT. JUL 23, 10:00-11:00 AM Q60 SAT. AUG 13, 10:00-11:00 AM Q61

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

No registration required. Age: All ages 🌣

### (FREE) WANDERING WHEELS VOLKSMARCH

### **SAT. JUL 23, 8:00 AM-4:00 PM** Q68

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

This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by Wandering Wheels Volkssport Club. No registration required. Contact (937) 435-0467 or jmedz@aol.com for details. Age: All ages

#### 5K FOR KELLI

#### **SAT. AUG 20, 9:00 AM** Q370

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by 5k for Kelli. All proceeds to benefit local women living with breast cancer. Since Kelli loved fairies we encourage everyone to dress in their fairy best! Tutus, wings and flower crowns for sale on race day with proceeds going to charity. Contact 5kforkelli@gmail.com; visit 5kforKelli.com to register. Age: All ages Fee: \$25

### MARKET TO MARKET RELAY SAT. SEP 10, 3:00-10:00 PM Q305

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

The Market to Market Relay is Ohio's running road trip, a day-long team running relay that takes runners from Cincinnati to Dayton. Teams of 6, 7, or 8 runners take on a scenic course through the Little Miami River Valley and make their way to a downtown Dayton finish at RiverScape MetroPark. See contact info to register. Contact (513) 801-1758 or matt@pinkgorillaevents.com for details. markettomarketrelay.com. Age: All ages Fee: Team: \$525, Team after Aug. 5th: \$555

### I(FREE) PEACE HEROES WALK AROUND THE WORLD

#### SUN. SEP 11, 1:00-3:00 PM P340

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

This educational, fund-raising event supports peace leadership programs while celebrating everyday people who promote justice, peace and nonviolent approaches to conflict. Participants may pre-register on event website or sign up on

walk day. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 999-7314 or jerryleggett@daytonpeacemuseum.org for details. www.peaceheroeswalk.org. Age: All ages 🗘

### STILETTOS TO SNEAKERS 5K FRI. SEP 23, 7:00-8:00 PM Q302

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

This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by Oasis House. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 898-7811 or oasishouse@ oasisforwomen.org for details.

www.oasisforwomen.org. Age: All ages Fee: Registration Fee: \$25 🌣

### HERITAGE & HISTORY

### 19TH CENTURY FARMING DEMONSTRATIONS

Join us for ongoing drop-in demonstrations of 19th century farm life. Typical farm chores will be recreated to demonstrate daily life in the 1880s.

### (FREE) HAYMAKING SUN. JUN 5, 12:00-5:00 PM Q138

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd. The farmer makes hay 19th century style

when loose hay is loaded on the wagon and taken to the barn. No registration required. Age: All ages .

### (FREE) GRAIN THRESHING SUN. JUL 10, 12:00-5:00 PM Q147 SUN. AUG 7, 12:00-5:00 PM Q151

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

The steam engine, separator, farm hands and shocks of grain recreate the farm scene of a century ago. Watch as the last threshing of the season is done. No registration required. Age: All ages

HOE DOWN SQUARE DANCE SAT. JUN 11, 8:00-10:30 PM Q139 SAT. AUG 20, 8:00-10:30 PM Q152

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

Join us for a square dance in our historical barn. Listen to the sounds of The Corndrinkers. All skill levels welcome. Tickets are \$5 per person and available at the door. No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$5

### (FREE) DRAFT HORSE DAYS SAT. AUG 20, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM Q153

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

Watch as various demonstrations are given highlighting the skills required to drive draft horses. Watch as the Ohio State Plowing Contest is held. Participants from across the state will put their skills to the test to see who the best plow hand is. No registration required. Age: All ages

### NATURE APPRECIATION

### (FREE) FIREFLIES OF THE FEN WED. JUN 29, 8:30-10:00 PM Q252

WOODMAN FEN CONSERVATION AREA, 2409 Newcastle Dr.

Meet in the Woodman Fen parking lot for an evening walk and a spectacular firefly display as night falls. We'll discuss what makes this place a prime habitat and how people can help protect fireflies and similar species. Registration required. Age: All ages 🕆 🗘

### **(FREE)** VOLUNTEERS: HIKE WITH THE COORDINATORS

#### SUN. AUG 21, 1:30-3:30 PM Q344

WESLEYAN METROPARK, Adventure Central, 2222 N. James H. McGee Blvd.

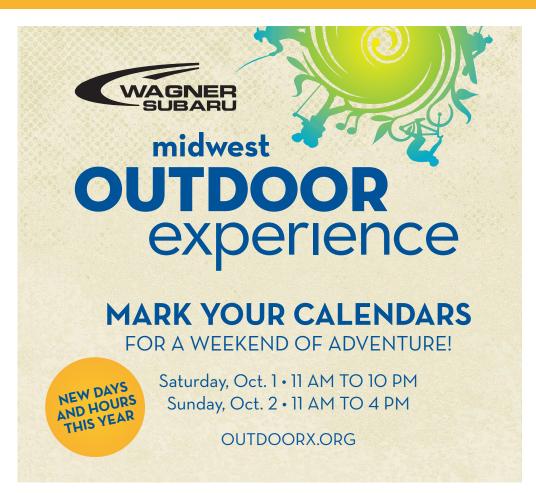
A more active way to learn about Five Rivers MetroParks, highlights at this particular site, and opportunities to get involved. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages 4

### (FREE) PARKING DAY FRI. SEP 16, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Q118 OFFSITE.

PARK(ing) Day is an annual, worldwide event that transforms metered parking spots into temporary parks. MetroParks provides plants, Green Velvet Sod Farms provides sod, and Garden Station organizes volunteers to set up and staff the parks in the Oregon District and other downtown locations. No registration required. Contact Ibeachdell@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages

VISIT THE ALL NEW

METROPARKS.ORG



### DAYTON REGIONAL ROWING

is the nation's only Community Olympic
Development Program for rowing and a
partnership between USRowing, Five Rivers
MetroParks, Dayton Boat Club and the Greater
Dayton Rowing Association.

For upcoming programs and more information:

DAYTON BOAT CLUB www.daytonboatclub.org

GREATER DAYTON ROWING ASSOCIATION daytonrowing.org





### **BACKPACKING**

#### (FREE) VOLUNTEER:

BACKPACKING TRAIL WORK DAYS

SAT. JUN 11, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q307 SAT. JUL 9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q309 SAT. AUG 13, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q311 SAT. SEP 10, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q312

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Park Office, 6675 Conservancy Rd.

Learn about sustainable trail building while helping maintain the Twin Valley Backpacking Trail. No experience is necessary; tools are provided. Please bring water and work gloves. Youth 14-17 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 275-7275 or yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 4

### (FREE) TRY BACKPACKING TUE. AUG 9, 4:00-7:00 PM Q42

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. Meet with local experts to ask your backpacking questions, try on a backpack, experiment with some of the gear, sample backcountry food and more! Backpacks are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages

### BACKPACKING 1

#### WED. AUG 24, 6:00-8:30 PM Q34

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn about gear, food, trip planning and other tips and tricks during this classroom session, setting you up to have a safe and enjoyable backpacking adventure. Prerequisites: None. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$5

### BACKPACKING 2

SAT. SEP 10, 12:00 PM - SUN. SEP 11, 12:00 PM Q35

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Campsite: Old Mill, 100 Old Mill Rd.

Spend a night on the Twin Valley Trail learning

how to pack your backpack, use a water filter, cook in the backcountry, select a campsite and more. Equipment is available at no additional charge with reservation. Prerequisites: Backpacking 1 or Intro to Backpacking. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$40 🌣

### **CAMPING**

### (FREE) DISCOVER CAMPING THU. JUN 9, 6:00-7:00 PM Q286

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

Get an overview of camping, where to go, and the local opportunities and resources available to learn more and get the equipment you need to try it out. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome.

Age: 14Y and up

### **CYCLING**

#### **BIKE FOR THE HEALTH OF IT!**

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

### (FREE) RIDE TO KYLE PARK SAT. JUN 4, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q21 SAT. AUG 27, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q22

BIKEWAY: GREAT MIAMI RIVER, Ohio Bike Route 25

Meet at Rip Rap Park, located at the intersections of Little York, Rip Rap and Taylorsville roads, in the parking lot near the soccer fields. (16 miles) Registration requested, walkins welcome. Age: All ages 🐴

### (FREE) RIDE TO CRAINS RUN NATURE PARK

**SAT. JUN 11, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q23 **SAT. JUL 23, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q24

**SAT. AUG 20, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q25 **SAT. SEP 10, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q26 BIKEWAY: GREAT MIAMI RIVER, Ohio Bike Route

Meet at West Carrollton low dam. Take North Alex Road to Hydraulic Road; use the entrance on the right. (20 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages

### (FREE) RIDE TO JAKE GROSSNICKLE PARK

SAT. JUN 18, 9:00-11:00 AM Q27
BIKEWAY: STILLWATER RIVER, Ohio Bike Route 7
Meet at 100 E. National Rd. in Englewood
MetroPark's West Park. (9 miles) Registration
requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 1

### (FREE) RIDE TO WRIGHT BROTHERS MEMORIAL PARK SAT. JUN 25, 9:00-11:00 AM Q19

SAT. JUL 16, 9:00-11:00 AM Q20 BIKEWAY: MAD RIVER, Ohio Bike Route 8 Meet in the last parking at the Eastwood MetroPark entrance at 1385 Harshman Rd. (9 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🖰

### (FREE) RIDE TO CARILLON HISTORICAL PARK

SAT. JUL 2, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q28 SAT. AUG 13, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q29 SAT. SEP 24, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q30 BIKEWAY: GREAT MIAMI RIVER, Ohio Bike Route

Meet at West Carrollton low dam. Take North Alex Road to Hydraulic Road; use the entrance on the right. (14 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages

### (FREE) RIDE TO FIFTH THIRD GATEWAY PARK

SAT. JUL 9, 9:00-11:00 AM Q31 BIKEWAY: CREEKSIDE, Ohio Bike Route 2 Meet in the last parking at the Eastwood MetroPark entrance at 1385 Harshman Rd. (12 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 4

### (FREE) RIDE TO VERONA SAT. JUL 30, 9:00-11:00 AM Q16 SAT. SEP 17, 9:00-11:00 AM Q17

BIKEWAY: WOLF CREEK, Ohio Bike Route 38
Meet in the parking lot behind Rob's Restaurant, 705 Arlington Rd. in Brookville. (11 miles)
Registration requested, walk-ins welcome.
Age: All ages 4

### (FREE) RIDE TO ISLAND METROPARK, 2ND STREET MARKET FOR LUNCH

**SAT. AUG 6, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q18 BIKEWAY: GREAT MIAMI RIVER, Ohio Bike Route 25

Meet in the parking lot at Rip Rap Park, at the intersections of Little York, Rip Rap and Taylorsville roads. (16 miles) Continue riding to the 2nd Street Market for lunch. (4 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 4

### (FREE) RIDE TO RADVANSKY LANE BRIDGE

SAT. SEP 3, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q32 BIKEWAY: STILLWATER RIVER, Ohio Bike Route 7 Meet at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. (16 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 1

### (FREE) BIKE TO THE DRAGONS SUN. JUN 26, 2:00-5:00 PM Q12 SUN. JUL 17, 2:00-5:00 PM Q13 SUN. AUG 14, 2:00-5:00 PM Q14

OFFSITE, Fifth Third Field, 220 N Patterson Blvd Hop on your bike with the family and head downtown to watch America's favorite pastime. The first 50 cyclists to register on the Dragon's Website and 'Bike to the game' will win complimentary lawn seats and a pack of prizes courtesy of Five Rivers MetroParks, Dayton Dragons, and the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 228-2287 or dragons@daytondragons.com for details. www. daytondragons.com. Age: All ages

### GREENE TRAILS CYCLING CLASSIC

**THU. JUL 14, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM** Q326 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Come be a part of the annual family-oriented biking event. The tour utilizes the nationally recognized, award-winning rail-to-trail system and adjacent communities. Proceeds from the event benefit the Greene County Trail Management Fund. Contact (937) 562-6440 for details. www. gcparkstrails.com. Age: All ages Fee: Cost varies, 4-Day Ride: \$150

#### WOMEN ON WHEELS BIKE RIDE

WED. AUG 17, 6:00-7:30 PM M139 WED. AUG 24, 6:00-7:30 PM Q308 WED. AUG 31, 6:00-7:30 PM Q310

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

Ladies, grab your road or hybrid bike and join us for an all-women's guided bicycle ride along the Mad River and Great Miami River corridor. The average pace will be 10-14 miles per hour. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$12 🔥 💍

#### **SMART CYCLING**

**SAT. SEP 10, 8:00 AM-4:30 PM** Q272 FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor

This class uses discussion, parking lot activities and on-road practice to teach cyclists how to safely and effectively operate their bicycle. Topics include equipment, traffic law, bike handling and maneuvering. We will begin inside then go outside to practice skills and ride on the road. Bicycles and helmets required. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$25 %

### **FISHING**

### (FREE) TRY FLY FISHING THU. JUN 9. 5:00-8:00 PM Q8

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Farm Shelter/Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Road

### WED. JUL 6, 5:30-8:30 PM Q44

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lagoon, 1385 Harshman Rd.

### WED. AUG 10, 5:30-8:30 PM Q45

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Poplar Creek Fishing Pond/Parking Lot, 7790 Johnson Station Rd.
Join us to see if you can entice a fish to bite and catch a fish on fly. Instructor is available for questions and will teach basic fly fishing techniques in a controlled and safe environment. Equipment is provided. No fishing license required. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 12Y and up

### FLY FISHING 3: SMALLMOUTH BASS

#### SAT. JUN 25, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q10

OFFSITE, Contact Us for Location,
Ready to take the next step in fly fishing? Students will learn tips on reading water, casting techniques, flies to use and gear needed for smallmouth bass in our local rivers. Location determined based on weather conditions. Equipment available upon request. Bring a lunch, and a valid Ohio fishing license is required. Under 18 must be accompanied by a parent Prerequisites: Fly Fishing 1, Fly Fishing 2, Fly Fishing Basics. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$30

### HIKING

### (FREE) MEET & HIKE

MON. JUN 6, 6:00-7:30 PM Q53

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

TUE. AUG 30, 6:00-7:30 PM Q54

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Olmsted/ Nature Play/Parking Lot, 2606 Hilton Dr.

Join us for a short hike and meet representatives from local hiking organizations to learn about the opportunities in the Dayton region. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 14Y and up 14

### MOUNTAIN BIKING

(FREE) TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING

TUE. JUN 7, 4:00-7:00 PM Q126

**SAT. JUN 11, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** Q127

TUE. JUL 5, 4:00-7:00 PM Q128

TUE. AUG 2, 4:00-7:00 PM Q131

TUE. SEP 6, 4:00-7:00 PM Q136

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd. Is not owning a mountain bike keeping you from trying it? If so, then come out to MoMBA and borrow one of our bikes to ride for a lap or two. Bikes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Youth younger than 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Helmets are mandatory and provided with bike. Registration requested, walkins welcome. Age: All ages 🖰 💢

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

**SAT. JUN 18, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q298 **SAT. JUL 16, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q299

SAT. AUG 20, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q300

SAT. SEP 17, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q301

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd. Learn about sustainable trail building while helping maintain the mountain bike trails at MoMBA! No experience is necessary; tools are provided. Volunteers bring work gloves and water. Youth 14-17 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 275-7275 or yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

### MOUNTAIN BIKING 1

TUE. JUN 21, 6:00-8:30 PM Q144

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd. This hands-on program designed for beginners will introduce skills for riding singletrack mountain bike trails. Topics covered include trail etiquette, body positioning, braking, shifting, and safety. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 %

#### MOUNTAIN BIKING 2

#### THU. JUL 14, 6:00-8:30 PM Q159

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd. This hands-on program will practice and build on skills learned in Mountain Biking 1. After these skills are reviewed we will go on a trail ride practicing what was learned. Prerequisites: Mountain Biking 1. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🌣

### **OUTDOOR ADVENTURE**

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: OUTDOOR RECREATION VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

THU. JUN 9, 6:30-7:30 PM Q15 SAT. AUG 13. 9:00-10:30 AM Q328

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

Are you an outdoor adventurer looking to get involved or give back? Five Rivers MetroParks is building the "Outdoor Adventure Capital of the Midwest." Learn about areas that need volunteer support: backpacking, cycling, kayaking, fishing, and more. Discover what you can do to inspire others. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 275-7275 or jenny.hymans@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: SUSTAINABLE TRAIL SUPPORT TEAM/TRAIL MONITOR ORIENTATION

THU. JUN 23, 6:30-8:30 PM Q296

Monument Ave., 3rd Floor

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Land Stewardship Classroom, 8300 Brown School Rd.

THU. SEP 15, 9:30-11:30 AM Q297 FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E.

There are more than 75 miles of trails throughout Five Rivers MetroParks, and we are continuing our efforts in maintaining them. Volunteers are needed to help monitor and act as trail team leaders to help support our trails. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 275-7275 or yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) URBAN OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE

#### FRI. AUG 5. 5:00-8:00 PM Q349

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Outdoor Permit Area, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Try your hand at mountain bike skill elements, slacklining, disc golf and more in this outdoor recreation sampler sponsored by Subaru. Then enjoy the sounds and atmosphere of Pickin' in the Park, complete with a food truck rally and progressive bluegrass under the pavilion. No registration required. Age: All ages

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: MIDWEST OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE ORIENTATION

### THU. SEP 15, 6:00-7:30 PM Q323 WED. SEP 21, 6:00-7:30 PM Q327

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Mad River, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Get Out & Volunteer! Participate in the biggest outdoor recreation festival in the Midwest. Spots available for people of all skill levels. Attend this orientation to learn more. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 275-7275 or jenny.hymans@metroparks.org for details.

Outdoorx.org. Age: 18Y and up 1

### OUTDOOR SKILLS AND SAFETY

#### WILDERNESS FIRST AID

TUE., WED. JUL. 19-20, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM

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

This two-day introduction to general medical concepts and basic life support skills is targeted to the outdoor enthusiast on day trips or short adventures. See contact info to register. Contact (719) 395-5358 or coloradooutside@gmail.com for details. www.wildmed.com. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$220

### **PADDLING**

### (FREE) TRY PADDLESPORTS

WED. JUN 8, 4:00-7:00 PM Q48

TUE. JUL 12, 4:00-7:00 PM Q52 TUE. AUG 23, 4:00-7:00 PM Q267

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lagoon, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Kayak, stand up paddleboard, and canoe overviews will be given and, depending on demand, you may be able to try different boats. Learn about the sport in a controlled environment. Equipment provided at this drop-in program. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🕆 🗘

#### KAYAK 1

### SAT. JUN 11, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM Q49 SAT. JUL 16, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM Q97

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Pd

Become acquainted with equipment, learn a variety of paddle strokes, flatwater rescues and other safety topics for beginners. Dress to get wet.

Registration required. Age: 16Y and up Fee: \$70 °6

#### KAYAK 2: RIVER

#### **SAT. AUG 6, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** Q265

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.

Review skills on the lake then learn to kayak on a local river. Get instruction on safety, river paddling techniques, and how to recognize and avoid hazards. Dress to get wet. Prerequisites: Kayak 1. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$70

### KAYAK EXPLORING: HUFFMAN LAKE

#### THU. AUG 11, 6:00-9:00 PM Q266

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

Explore Huffman Lake with a Five Rivers MetroParks naturalist and learn about the wildlife that exists along this hidden gem. We will be in and out of our kayaks around the lake as we explore. Prerequisites: none. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$25 %

### STAND UP PADDLEBOARD 1 WED. AUG 31, 5:30-8:30 PM Q268

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.

This hands-on program will use instruction and games as we learn to stand up paddleboard. Topics covered include paddle strokes, board handling and safety, and more. Dress to get wet. Prerequisites: None. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$40 \$40 \text{ } \frac{1}{4} \text{ } \text{ } \frac{1}{4} \text{ } \

### STAND UP PADDLEBOARD 2

WED. SEP 7, 5:30-8:30 PM Q270

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.

This program builds on the skills learned in SUP 1 and adds new techniques. Topics covered include paddle strokes, board handling and safety, and more. Dress to get wet. Prerequisites: SUP 1. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$40 🌣

### KAYAK EXPLORING: EASTWOOD LAGOON

### WED. SEP 14, 6:00-8:30 PM Q271

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lagoon, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Explore Eastwood Lagoon with a Five Rivers MetroParks naturalist and learn about the wildlife that exists here. We will be in and out of our kayaks around the lagoon as we use our senses, binoculars, and more to explore this unique environment. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$25 %



### FOOD: EARTH TO TABLE

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: POSSUM CREEK FARM

WED. JUN 1, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Q353 TUE. JUN 7, 6:00-8:00 PM Q354
WED. AUG 24, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Q355
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek
Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Possum Creek features a farm that teaches
people about food production. Volunteers are
needed to assist in the demonstration garden
beds, with edible landscaping projects, and to
help staff with various park and farm tasks. Email

cholloway@metroparks.org. Registration request-

### UP! MAKING VERTICAL VEGETABLE CONTAINERS

ed, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 4

SAT. JUN 4, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Q182 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult

Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Space saving and versatile, vertical container gardening is a great option. We'll supply a 5-gal. container, stakes, netting and other equipment, and will assist you in building a vertical container to take home. Once you learn this skill, the possibilities are endless! We'll have squash, cucumber, and bean seed available. Registration required. Age: 18 Y and up Fee: \$15 6

### **CANNING CLUB**

Learn how to preserve fruits and vegetables in an inexpensive and efficient way. Take home a jar of goodies, along with 19th-century and modern recipes.

### CANNING CLUB: STRAWBERRIES

**SAT. JUN 4, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q140 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 ^\text{-}

### CANNING CLUB: PICKLED VEGETABLES

SAT. JUL 2, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Q143 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 4

### CANNING CLUB: TOMATOES **SAT. AUG 6, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q150

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee:

### CANNING CLUB: APPLES

SAT. SEP 3, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Q154 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 4

#### **LUNCH AND LEARN**

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

### BACON: CURING AND SMOKING

TUE. JUN 7, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM Q142 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.

Butchering was a natural part of living on a 19th century farm. However, what did they do with all of that pork? Learn about the various methods used for preserving pork and the process for cold smoking. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 ^A

### MAKING YOUR OWN BUTTER TUE. JUL 12. 11:30 AM-1:00 PM Q146

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

Butter was one of the most common items made on a 19th century farm. Join us as we discuss the history of butter and make some fresh. Participants will learn what is needed to make their own butter at home. Registra-

tion required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 🐴

### SIMPLE METHODS FOR DRY-ING FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

TUE. SEP 6, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM Q155 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill

Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Drying was one of the various methods used for preserving foods on a 19th century farm.
Join us as we talk about its history and teach some basic methods for drying your own produce at home. Registration required. Age:

#### **EASY SOFT CHEESE**

18Y and up Fee: \$5 🐴

SAT. JUN 25, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Q157 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek

Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
There is nothing more rewarding than offering your family fresh homemade goodness. Learn about simple soft cheeses to make that you can use in recipes or snack time. You will have hands on activities and cheese to take home to share with the family and friends. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 %

#### CHICKENS 101

THU. JUL 21, 6:00-7:00 PM Q222

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Interested in raising chickens at home for food and fun and don't know where to start? Then this is the class for you. Learn about the different breeds and what you need to get started raising your own backyard flock. Registration required.

Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5

#### RABBITS 101

THU. AUG 11, 6:00-7:00 PM Q244

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Interested in raising rabbits at home for food and fun and don't know where to start? Then this is the class for you. Learn about the different breeds and what you need to get started raising your own rabbits. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 4

### **GARDENING**

### **(FREE)** VOLUNTEER: AULLWOOD GARDEN ORIENTATION

TUE. JUN 7, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM Q276 TUE. AUG 30, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM Q277 AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aull Residence,

Volunteers have a big impact on maintaining and preserving this historic estate garden and living work of art and local history. Orientation will provide an overview of opportunities and a walking tour. Park in the lot at 955 Aullwood Rd. and follow the trail to the house. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

### WILD ABOUT WILDFLOWERS WALKS

Join volunteers from the Cox Wildflower Group for informative walks through the different areas of wildflowers at the park. During each session see new and different blooms you're sure to love. Each participant will receive four wildflower seedlings raised by the group. Meet in the parking lot.

### FIRST SUMMER COLORS

**SUN. JUN 12, 2:00-3:00 PM** Q186 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Explore the beauty of warm weather flowers. We hope to have available starts for Spigelia marilandica, Thalictrum aquiligiafolium and Penstemon digitalis. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 %

### LEARNING FROM THE LANDSCAPE: COX ARBORETUM METROPARK

Volunteers lead one-hour programs using the grounds of the park as examples for plant selection and maintenance techniques. Meet in the parking lot.

### (FREE) COMPANION PLANTING TUE. JUN 14. 6:00-7:00 PM Q196

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Learn how to deter certain garden pests by using specific plants, how to create successful plant combinations, and finally how different colors enhance the garden. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 49 \$\frac{1}{4}\$\$

### (FREE) THE RIGHT SIZE GARDEN

**TUE. JUL 12, 6:00-7:00 PM** Q212 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Learn space management and plant selection techniques so you can enjoy your garden and not be ruled by it — less time and more pleasure for you! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 4 💢

### **(FREE)** FOUR SEASONS OF INTEREST IN THE GARDEN

**TUE. AUG 9, 6:00-7:00 PM** Q216

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

The end of summer doesn't mean the end of the garden. Learn methods and plants to continue garden beauty throughout most of the year. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18 Y and up 🕆 💢

### (FREE) RIVERSCAPE GARDENING STEWARD

TUE. JUN 14, 6:00-8:00 PM Q279 SAT. JUN 25, 9:00-11:00 AM Q315 TUE. JUL 12, 6:00-8:00 PM Q317 SAT. JUL 23, 9:00-11:00 AM Q318 TUE. AUG 9, 6:00-8:00 PM Q319 SAT. AUG 13, 9:00-11:00 AM Q321 TUE. SEP 13, 6:00-8:00 PM Q324 SAT. SEP 24, 9:00-11:00 AM Q325

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

Learn which trees, shrubs and perennials do well in our area and how best to maintain them for ongoing health and beauty. Experience the beauty of RiverScape firsthand while you help us maintain the gardens. Registration required. Contact janet.metter@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 🕆 💢

### BUS TRIP: FINDLAY MARKET AND SPRING GROVE CEMETERY

WED. JUN 15, 7:45 AM-4:00 PM Q243

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

We'll travel to Cincinnati's Findlay Market today for the vast selections of food, goods and plants. Lunch your own there, followed by a guided tour of Spring Grove Cemetery, with fantastic trees. Registration is by mail only. Send check to 1301 E. Siebenthaler Avenue, Dayton, OH 45414. This is a fundraising event for the Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$55

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: WEGERZYN GARDENS ORIENTATION

THU. JUN 16, 6:30-8:00 PM Q274

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

**WED. SEP 7, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM** Q275 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. Discover how volunteers can get involved. Orientation will include a walking tour and provide an overview of opportunities such as gardening, program assistance, gift shop, special events, and administrative support. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 4

### FANTASTIC SUMMER CONTAINERS

**SAT. JUN 18, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q183 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

We'll show you step by step how to create a beautiful container that will be the highlight of any area. The class will work on three demonstration containers: shade, sun, and mixed flowers and veggies. You can also bring your own container and plants to take home a finished creation. A great class for garden clubs or gardening buddies. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 1

### **VOLUNTEER: GARDENERS LEARN AND TRY-IT SERIES**

Each session will feature a learning topic to enhance your gardening knowledge and skills, followed by a volunteer project to practice what you've learned in the garden. Contact janet.metter@metroparks.org for details.

### (FREE) CONTAINER PLANTS AND HOW TO MAINTAIN THEM

MON. JUN 20, 9:00-11:00 AM Q290 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Learn about some great plant choices for container gardens and what it takes to keep them looking good all season. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 4

### (FREE) WEED IDENTIFICATION WED. JUN 22, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q288

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Learn to identify the most common and troublesome garden weeds. Then, practice in the gardens and discover the best approaches for eradication. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

### (FREE) BUILD A DRY STONE RETAINING WALL

TUE. JUL 12, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q289 AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 900 Aullwood Rd.

Learn the benefits of building retaining walls using the traditional method of dry laid stone. See how the project is organized and get some first hand experience. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

### **(FREE)** LEARN HOW TO PRUNE WOODY PLANTS

TUE. JUL 19, 9:00-11:00 AM Q292 MON. AUG 22, 9:00-11:00 AM Q293 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Learn proper pruning techniques to maintain the health and beauty of your woody plants. Practice what you've learned by helping us prune our Spirea shrubs. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 18Y

### (FREE) END OF SEASON DEADHEADING

**THU. SEP 8, 9:00-11:00 AM** P343 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Fall is here and we need to start thinking about putting the gardens to bed. We will do a final deadheading session as you learn about some of the best performing perennials in the garden. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 🕆 🖰

#### A HISTORY OF PLANT EXCHANGE SAT. JUL 9. 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Q254

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third

Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Plant biologist and Ohio University professor Art
Trese Ph.D. presents a legal history of seed swapping, genetic patents and micro regional seed
companies from early agricultural plant breeding
through modern day genetic modification. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$10 \$\textsqcap{

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: COX ARBORETUM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

THU. JUL 14, 6:00-8:00 PM Q255 MON. AUG 1, 6:00-8:00 PM Q256

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

Learn about our sustainable horticulture initiative. Find out how volunteers fit into the picture and about the many ways you can help the Arboretum grow. Orientation will include a walking tour. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact janet.metter@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 4

### MULCH: YES, NO, AND MAYBE **SAT. JUL 16, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q205

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

Mulch may not be necessary in all garden settings. This class helps you determine when and how to use it and how to create planting designs that make it unnecessary. You'll look at the garden in a whole new way! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 \$\frac{1}{10}\$

### (FREE) SUMMER BEAUTY AT AULLWOOD: LILIES AND FERNS

SUN. JUL 31, 2:00-4:00 PM Q248

AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Gardens, 930 Aullwood Rd.

Join us today for a look at the stunning Naked Lady lilies and ferns that make this time of year a favorite at Aullwood. We'll meet in the parking lot of Aullwood Garden MetroPark and go to the gardens together. Don't forget to bring your camera! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 4

### PRAIRIE PLANTS FOR THE HOME GARDEN

SAT. AUG 6, 10:00-11:30 AM Q214

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Many plants look great in the wild but overwhelm a home garden. We'll discuss and see examples of the best plants for limited space as well as how to use large plants as accents. A great class for learning about native plants and the ways they can fit into almost any landscape. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 🕆 🗘

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: GARDENING ANGELS WORK DAY

**SAT. AUG 27, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q273

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Outdoor Venues, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Work with knowledgeable horticulturists to keep the gardens looking great. Discover design ideas, unique plants, and cultivation techniques suitable for the home garden. Get some exercise and make an impact! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 🕆 🗘

### BUS TRIP: HOLMES COUNTY AMISH TOUR

TUE. SEP 13, 6:45 AM-7:00 PM Q245

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

Today's adventure is Millersburg and Hershberger's Bakery and Farm Market. A step-on guide joins us as we go to Heini's Cheese Chalet to watch cheese making and get samples. We'll have an Amish style feast for lunch and go to Yoder Home and Farm for tours. Reservations are by mail only. This is a fundraiser for Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$128

#### PRUNING BOOT CAMP

**SAT. SEP 17, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q220

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Take the fear and guesswork out of pruning! Join retired Wegerzyn horticulturist Chris Jensen as he takes you through the when, where, and how of properly pruning your shrubs and trees. Registration required and limited. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 🕆 💢

### **HERITAGE & HISTORY**

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK

THU. JUN 2, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM P234 WED. AUG 3. 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Q356

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

Carriage Hill has a variety of volunteer opportunities at the historical farm, in conservation or in assisting park staff with various projects. Orientation provides a history, overview of location-specific opportunities and an introduction to seasonal opportunities. Email cholloway@metroparks.org. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 🕆 🖰

### SUSTAINABLE HOME

### (FREE) WATER WISDOM

WED. JUN 8, 6:00-8:00 PM Q361

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

Learn about the Miami Valley's water resources and how to help protect them and save on utility bills through best practices at home or the office. Registration required. Age: All ages All

### (FREE) COMPOST KITCHEN WED. JUL. 13,20,27, 6:00-8:00 PM Q251

OFFSITE, Montgomery County Solid Waste, 2550 Sandridge Dr. This three-part program covers everything you need to know to compost effectively and is offered free of charge thanks to a partnership with Montgomery County Solid Waste District. Talks and activities explore soil ecology, chemical free gardening and household waste management. Participants completing all three programs receive a free composter. Registration required. Age: 16Y and up 4

### SPINNING YOUR OWN YARN TUE. AUG 2, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM Q149

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

Spinning is an age-old process that followed sheep shearing on the farm. Learn about the basic concepts of spinning, as well as the necessary supplies for working with fiber. Try some different types of methods for producing yarn. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5

### BOKASHI COMPOSTING

WED. AUG 17, 6:00-8:00 PM Q357

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Bokashi is an ancient Japanese/Korean form of composting by fermentation. Join us for this hands-on workshop and walk through all steps to make your own bokashi set up at home. If you choose, you can register for a bucket and all needed pieces to get started. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: Bucket and Lecture: \$15, Lecture Only: \$5



### CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

#### **CAFÈ SCI**

Explore science in a relaxed atmosphere with friends and neighbors from the Miami Valley. Increase your science savvy and join an open discussion following the topic introduction. Refreshments available by donation.

### (FREE) ASTRONOMY NIGHT

WED. JUN 1, 6:30-9:00 PM Q246
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third
Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Astronomer Ron Whitehead from the Dayton
Astronomical Society visits to discuss current observations and research. Registration
requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and
up 4

### **(FREE)** OLD-GROWTH FOREST DYNAMICS

WED. JUL 6, 6:30-8:30 PM Q247 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Ecologist Julia Chapman presents her research on the dynamics of native old-growth forests populations. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

### (FREE) COMPOSTABLE PRODUCT SCIENCE

WED. AUG 3, 6:30-8:30 PM Q249 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Local experts in compostability, True Choice Pack, discuss how their products are engineered and what is available to consumers. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

### (FREE) GREEN CLEANING TECHNOLOGIES

**WED. SEP 7, 6:30-8:30 PM** Q250 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Mary Prevoteau with Green Clean Dayton will discuss environmentally friendly cleaning agents and technologies. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

### **FLORA & FAUNA**

### (FREE) BEAVER WATCH SAT. JUN 11, 8:30-9:30 PM Q123 FRI. AUG 12, 8:00-9:00 PM Q124

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Learn the life history of the largest rodent in North America while searching for them and the clues they leave behind. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 14Y and up 4

### DATE NIGHT: FIREFLY WALK THU. JUN 23, 8:30-10:30 PM Q253

WOODMAN FEN CONSERVATION AREA , 2409 Newcastle Dr.

Couples take an evening stroll, learn about firefly habitat, and enjoy refreshments on the boardwalk. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: Per Couple: \$10 4 🗘

### (FREE) MOTHS AT NIGHT; THE WORLD'S WILDEST NIGHTCLUB

THU. JUL 28, 8:00-9:00 PM Q346

 ${\it COX\,ARBORETUM\,METROPARK,\,Mead\,Westvaco}\ \ \, Theatre,\,6733\,Springboro\,Pk.$ 

When we are going to bed, moths are just starting their night. This presentation will explore the importance of moths in Ohio's ecology while profiling plant and animal interactions. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up

### (FREE) PRAIRIE WILDFLOWERS WALK

#### SAT. AUG 27, 2:00-3:00 PM Q129

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Treat yourself to this summertime eye candy while exploring the value of Ohio's prairies. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 14Y and up 🕆 🗘

### TREE ID WORKSHOP

### **SAT. SEP 17, 4:00-6:00 PM** Q132

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

Learn how to identify more than 20 native trees by their leaf, twig, bark and other characteristics. Discover pioneer, wildlife and commercial uses for each tree while sharing stories of folklore. Each participant will receive a tree identification notebook with everything needed to get started identifying trees. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$15 %

#### (FREE) OWL PROWL

### SAT. SEP 17, 7:30-8:30 PM Q130

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Twin Oak/ Parking Lot, 2655 S. Patterson Blvd.

Escape on a night walk in search of the Screech Owls while learning about their interactions with our forests. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 🖰

### NATURE APPRECIATION

#### ADULT NATURE WALKS

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

### (FREE) ADULT NATURE WALK TUE. JUN 28, 9:00-11:00 AM Q335

EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

**TUE. JUL 12, 9:00-11:00 AM** Q336 ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.

Registration requested, walk-ins welcome.

Age: 18Y and up 🌴 🜣

(FREE) DISCOVERY STROLL WED. JUL 20, 10:00-11:30 AM Q339

WED. AUG 24, 10:00-11:30 AM Q341 HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Program Parking, 100 Deep Hollow Road

Registration requested, walk-ins welcome.

Age: 18Y and up 4 🌣

### **PHOTOGRAPHY & ART**

### SHOOTING OUTDOOR PORTRAITS

**SAT. JUN 18, 10:00-11:30 AM** Q185 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Improve your outdoor portraiture by learning the importance of background and foreground elements, stance and pose, and sunlight and shadow. Following a presentation indoors, participants will then go outside (weather permitting) to take pictures of a model in the garden. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 4

### LIFE ON THE FARM: TAKING ACTION PHOTOS

**SAT. JUL 9, 10:00-11:30 AM** Q224 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Reservable Area, 4730 Frytown Rd.

Practice taking action photos of activities at a MetroParks farm. Photographer Adam Alonzo will be on hand to coach you on how to capture movement without blur, take advantage of the light, and choose the best vantage point. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 %

### **BUTTERFLY SAFARI**

**SUN. AUG 7, 10:00-11:30 AM** Q215 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Butterfly Hou

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Butterfly House, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Enjoy a photo session in the Butterfly House with some captivating caterpillars and beautiful butterflies. Photographer Adam Alonzo will be on hand to answer questions. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 %

### (FREE) BEAUTY OF AULLWOOD SAT. SEP 10. 10:00-11:30 AM Q221

AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Gardens, 930 Aullwood Rd.

Aullwood has everything a nature photographer could want: tall trees, colorful flowers, a grassy prairie and picturesque stone bridges over rippling creeks. Join photographer Adam Alonzo for a morning of informal picture-taking and helpful tips. Meet at the house. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

VISIT THE ALL NEW
METROPARKS.ORG

### **GET OUT & RIDE**

Camps and rides at the Carriage Hill MetroPark Riding Center are a great way to experience the outdoors this summer!

- HORSE CAMPS for ages 8-17 are available June 6-Aug. 19. Learn English and Western riding styles, safety while handling horses, and proper horsemanship skills. Cost: \$225/week
- TRAIL RIDES for ages 8 and older are offered Saturdays and Sundays from June 4 through Nov. 5. Rides are one hour, walk-only, guided trails through the woods at Carriage Hill MetroPark. Cost: \$30.
- PONY RIDES for ages 2-8 are offered Saturdays June 4 through Oct. 29 and cost \$5.





### (FREE) OSU EXTENSION NUTRITION CLASS

WED. JUN. 1,8,15,22,29

JUL. 6,13,20, 1:00-2:30 PM Q347 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek

Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

This 8-week workshop for families with children from The Ohio State University helps parents provide nutritious food for their families, leading to healthy children and strong families. Learn to make healthy food choices, stretch your food dollars, keep food safe. Enjoy fun family activities together, and receive a take home tool after each class. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🐴

### (FREE) DISCOVER THE GARDEN

FRI. JUN 3. 10:00-10:30 AM Q184 FRI. JUN 17, 10:00-10:30 AM Q187 FRI. JUL 8. 10:00-11:00 AM Q188 FRI. JUL 22, 10:00-10:30 AM Q189 FRI. AUG 5, 10:00-10:30 AM Q190 FRI. AUG 19. 10:00-10:30 AM Q191 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Children's Discovery Garden, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Families with preschool through kindergarten age children meet to tour the Children's Discovery Garden with an interpreter, see what's blooming and learn about why each area is special. Registration required. Age: All ages 🐴 🗘

### (FREE) URBAN FAMILY CHALLENGE TRY IT

#### FRI. JUN 3, 6:00-8:00 PM Q313

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E.

Kids, bring your favorite adult out for this exciting and challenging obstacle course that will test your abilities and broaden your smiles! Try out this new summer fitness series at Pickin' in the Park and register for future challenges onsite. Age 5Y and up. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🐴 💢

(FREE) FAMILY FIRST TUESDAY TRAM TOURS TUE. JUN 7, 6:00-7:00 PM Q192

#### TUE. JUL 5, 6:00-7:00 PM Q193 TUE. AUG 2, 6:00-7:00 PM Q194

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Enjoy a relaxing 30-minute tour of the gardens. Trams are in the parking lot and knowledgeable volunteer guides will drive you to spectacular spots. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🕆 🜣

### (FREE) GARDEN HABITAT **EXPLORATION**

FRI. JUN 10, 10:00-11:00 AM Q195 FRI. JUN 24, 10:00-11:00 AM Q197 FRI. JUL 15. 10:00-11:00 AM Q198 FRI. JUL 29, 10:00-11:00 AM Q200 FRI. AUG 12. 10:00-11:00 AM Q202 FRI. AUG 26. 10:00-11:00 AM Q203 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Children's Discovery Garden, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. Families with elementary age kids and older tour the Children's Discovery Garden to learn about native habitats and then explore the woods, prairie and wetlands at the park. Registration required. Age: All ages 🐴 🜣

### FATHER AND DAUGHTER FISHING DAY

#### SAT. JUN 11, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q9

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Farm Shelter/ Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Road Dads, bring your girls and spend some special time at the pond, catching fish and making memories. Instruction, gear and bait provided. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$5 4

### (FREE) TAKE A KID MOUNTAIN BIKING DAY

### SAT. JUN 11, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM Q148

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd. Celebrate the International Mountain Bicycling Association's Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day. Come ride with your kid at the MetroParks Mountain Bike Area (MoMBA). The Miami Valley Mountain Bike Association and Staff will be onsite to answer questions. Not everyone has a bike, borrow one of ours and ride a lap or two. Bikes are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Youth younger than 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Helmets are mandatory and provided with bike. Registration requested, walkins welcome. Age: All ages 🐴 💆

### URBAN FAMILY CHALLENGE

TUE. JUN 14, 6:15-7:45 PM Q329 TUE. JUN 21, 6:15-7:45 PM Q333

TUE. JUN 28, 6:15-7:45 PM Q334

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave

This obstacle course is designed for full family fun! Enjoy friendly outdoor competitions in hopscotch, jump rope and other age-appropriate challenges. Bring a friend, cousin or neighbor. One free adult with One registered child. Age 5Y and Up. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$5 4 🗘

### FAMILY CAMPING SAT. JUN 25, 12:00 PM - SUN. JUN 26, 10:00 AM Q33

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Campsite: Black Cherry Camp/Black Cherry Shelter/Parking, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Get hands-on and learn basic outdoor skills to help you have successful camping experiences with your kids. We'll provide the camping equipment and teach you how to use it. Then, your family can camp out under the stars, taking part in the Great American Campout at no additional cost. Price per family (up to 5 people). Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$50

### (FREE) FAMILY FISHING DAY SAT. JUL 9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Q43

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Hickory/ Parking Lot/Argonne Lake, 4790 Frytown Rd. If you have experience or have never done it before, this day is for families to enjoy fishing together. Pack your tackle as instruction and bait are provided. Limited gear available. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🐴

### (FREE) VEGGIE-PALOOZA SAT. AUG 13, 1:00-4:00 PM Q119

OFFSITE, Grace United Methodist Church, 1001 Harvard Blvd

Learn how to eat all your summertime veggies, not to mention 500 pounds of kale! Watch dem-

onstrations and taste new veggie dishes. Build your own summer-fresh pizza and collect it after the bake! Co-hosted with United Way's Volunteer Connections. Offsite location: Grace United Methodist Church. 1001 Harvard Blvd, (enter at Salem and Dartmouth). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🐣

### SEED SAVING FOR FAMILIES SAT. SEP 10. 11:00 AM-12:30 PM Q242

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

A family that saves together stays together! Join us for an afternoon of seed saving. Each family will go home with some seeds that they harvest from our demonstration garden. Registration required.

Age: All ages Fee: per Family: \$10 ~\fracche{0}



### BUTTERFLIES

Visit one of the few butterfly exhibits in the country featuring all native butterflies and the surrounding pollinator garden at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. Learn about native butterflies and moths in all stages of metamorphosis in a beautiful garden setting.

Open early July to late August metroparks.org/butterflyhouse



# TRY NEW ADVENTURES THIS SUMMER

WITH
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS
CAMPS AND PROGRAMS
FOR YOUTH AND TEENS!

To register and for more information: metroparks.org (937) 275-PARK (7275)

### YOUTH ADVENTURE CAMP

- June 13-17
- Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
- \$175

During this week-long camp, middle school age kids discover nature through kayaking, mountain biking, fly fishing, hiking and more. Monday through Wednesday are day-long adventures that culminate in a camping trip on Thursday night until Friday at 4 PM. Registration required.

### TEEN PADDLING CAMP

- June 20-24
- Eastwood MetroPark
   Blue Lake, 1385 Harshman Road
- \$225/week

During this week-long day camp, high school age kids discover nature through canoeing, stand up paddleboarding and kayaking on lakes and rivers around the Miami Valley. Registration required.

### METROPARKS KIDS CAMP

- June 27- July 1
- Possum Creek MetroPark, 4790 Frytown Road
- \$175/week

This week-long day camp will give kids age 10 to 14 an opportunity to explore different parks through diverse activities and better understand how they're connected to the natural world. Activities include living history, outdoor recreation, nature exploration, horseback riding and sustainable living. Registration required.

### TEEN ADVENTURE CAMP

- July 25-29
- Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
- \$175

During this week-long camp, high school age kids discover nature through kayaking, mountain biking, fly fishing, hiking and more. Monday through Wednesday are day-long adventures that culminate in a camping trip on Thursday night until Friday at 4 PM Registration required.



### CONSERVATION KIDS: TIKES (AGES 3-5)

This series, designed for families with 3- to 5-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 Montgomery County's ecology. By completing programs in each of the three levels of this series, your child also will receive a special MetroParks Conservation Kids backpack. Visit metroparks.org/kids.

### (FREE) LIVE LIKE A BEE WED. JUN 1. 1:00-2:00 PM Q71

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Children will see plantlife through a bee's eyes and learn how important insects are to human survival. Registration requested, walkins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 1

#### FROG SURVEY

#### FRI. JUN 10, 8:00-9:30 PM Q117

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Children will be part of nature's check-up through surveying frogs to determine the wetland's health. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$5 % 🗘 🗥

#### **NATURE SPORTS**

#### MON. JUN 13, 2:00-4:00 PM Q88

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

From Hide & Seek to building forts, nature is the perfect playing field for summer! Your family will learn new nature-based games and how to put on a party at your house, focused on fun in nature. Participants will get a games facilitator package to take home. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$10 \$\textcap{Age}\$

### (FREE) AN ANT'S VIEW

**TUE. JUN 14, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM** Q73 TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40

Children will explore the park through an ant's eyes, foraging for food, tending to a

brood and trying to make it in this humandominated world. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y ◆↑ ❖ ▲

### (FREE) WETLAND ESCAPE TUE. JUL 5, 10:00-11:00 AM Q75

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

Witness nature's most powerful, diverse habitat. Search for frogs, dragonflies, waterfowl and plants unique to our area. Wear clothes that can get wet and muddy. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 4

### WATERWAY CHECK UP THU. JUL 14. 1:00-2:30 PM Q122

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Parking Lot and Put-in below the Dam, 7481 Creek Rd.

Check one of our five waterways, Twin Creek, to see how healthy and clean our water is and learn how your family can help keep our water healthy. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$5 % 🐧 🗘 🗥

### (FREE) CREEK PLAY

MON. JUL 18, 10:00-11:30 AM Q77

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

#### MOTH PARTY

#### TUE. JUL 26, 7:00-9:00 PM Q91

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

Learn how to put together the best backyard moth party at your house with crafts, games and outdoor discovery! Registration required.

Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$10 % 🗘 🔼

### PRAIRIE SEED COLLECTING

### TUE. AUG 2, 1:00-2:30 PM Q116

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

By planting prairies, we provide homes and food sources for a variety of wildlife. Explore

these connections while helping Five Rivers
MetroParks restore this unique habitat. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$5 ♠ ♣

### (FREE) CREEK EXPLORATION TUE. AUG 9, 2:00-3:00 PM Q80

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

Treat your tike to a cool, refreshing creek and find creatures like crawdads, salamanders, and rainbow darters! Kids and parents should wear clothes that can get wet. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y ?

### (FREE) POLLINATOR DISCOVERY

#### WED. AUG 10, 10:00-11:00 AM Q81

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

See flowers through the eyes of such pollinators as butterflies and bees and celebrate the diversity of insects! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y

#### SPEAK CREEK!

#### **SUN. AUG 21, 1:00-3:00 PM** Q110

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

Learn the language of streams and lead your friends on an adventure of a lifetime! You'll learn how to select a safe site, identify creatures, and techniques to help your friends embrace this habitat. Each participant will get a creek exploration kit. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$10 %

### TIKE NATURALIST TRAINING SUN. SEP 4, 2:00-4:00 PM Q113

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead West-

vaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Learn what it takes to be a naturalist and how to get your peers excited about the planet! Participants will receive a nature tool pack to help lead their own hike for their friends. Registrative of the planet is a second

tion required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$10 🕆 🗘 🔺

### (FREE) BUTTERFLY BONANZA Tue. Sep 20, 1:00-2:30 PM Q86

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Children will learn about butterflies, how to interact with them, and celebrate all they do for us! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 🌴 🛕

### (FREE) SPIDER KID

**TUE. SEP 27, 10:00-11:30 AM** Q87 ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.

Help your tike feel comfortable and appreciate creepy crawlies as we search for spider webs and learn about their occupants.

Registration requested, walk-ins welcome.

Age: 3Y-5Y

#### MONARCH TAGGING!

WED. SEP 28, 1:00-2:30 PM Q112

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Monarchs are beginning their migration to Mexico, so come take part in a project monitoring this amazing migration! Help capture, tag, & record data to help with butterfly conservation efforts. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$5 ℃ ♣

### (FREE) FARM STORYTIME

THU. JUN 2, 10:00-11:00 AM Q233
THU. JUN 23, 10:00-11:00 AM Q240
THU. JUL 14, 10:00-11:00 AM Q235
THU. JUL 28, 10:00-11:00 AM Q236
THU. AUG 11, 10:00-11:00 AM Q237
THU. AUG 25, 10:00-11:00 AM Q238
THU. SEP 29, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM Q239
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek
Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Join us for a story and adventure or activity around the farm. This program is designed for preschoolers and their caregivers. Registration

#### (FREE) BUG STORY TIME

WED. JUN 8, 10:00-11:00 AM Q225

requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 2Y-5Y 4

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler avenue

WED. JUN 15, 10:00-11:00 AM Q226

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Edible Landscape Garden/Pavilion, 6733 Springboro Pk.

June is the month for a story about bugs. After we've read the story, we'll go on a garden adventure to see real bugs and where they live. This program is designed for toddlers and their caregivers. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 2Y-5Y

#### GRANDMA AND ME

Grandma and Me is a program designed for preschoolers and their grandparents. Each session provides a fun activity or lesson for older and younger participants to do together. We'll start in the Children's Garden and then go into the Wegerzyn main gardens for an adventure. Registration required and limited.

### (FREE) PLANTING SEEDS TUE. JUN 21. 6:00-7:00 PM Q199

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler avenue Most every plant begins as a seed. Each child receives a pot and some seed and we'll learn how to plant them. Next, we'll go out into the main gardens and discover plants that have different types of seeds. Registration required. Age: 2Y-5Y

### (FREE) FASCINATING PLANTS TUE. JUL 19, 6:00-7:00 PM Q213

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler avenue It's not always the flower that makes a plant attractive or useful! Today we'll tour the Children's Garden and find plant varieties that appeal to us through sight, sound, touch, smell, and taste. Next, we'll go out into the main gardens and discover other plants that you can touch, smell, listen to and enjoy. Registration required. Age: 2Y-5Y

### (FREE) ADVENTURE IN THE WOODS

**TUE. AUG 16, 6:00-7:00 PM** Q217 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler avenue

Woods are special places for large trees and other plants. We'll spend time in the woodland area of the Children's Garden and look at the trees and plants there. Next, we'll go out into the main gardens and the swamp forest and discover wonderful trees — how big they are and how they grow. Registration required. Age: 2Y-5Y

#### (FREE) SEED COLLECTING TUE. SEP 20. 6:00-7:00 PM Q223

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler avenue
This is the time of year when birds look for seeds, and so will we! Today we will collect seeds from plants in the Children's Garden and each child will take some home for planting. Next, we'll go out into the main gardens and discover plants that have different ways of displaying their seeds. Registration required. Age: 2Y-5Y



MetroParks' series of nature-based programs for three specific age groups (Tikes, Explorers and Voyagers) 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 opportunities to see the impact they make through planting for pollinators, collecting seeds to plant a forest, creating their own wildlife habitat in their backyard, being a naturalist for their classmates at school and so much more!

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



CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR MOST RECENT
CONSERVATION KIDS!

Annabelle Howe Maya Holbrook Jeremy Samuel Kevin Alder Josh Alder Jacob Heppe

### (FREE) VEGGIE STORY TIME WED. JUL 6, 10:00-11:00 AM Q227

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler avenue

**WED. JUL 20, 10:00-11:00 AM** Q228 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Edible Landscape Garden/Pavilion, 6733 Springboro Pk.

July is the month for a story about veggies. After we've read the story, we'll go on a garden adventure to see real vegetables and how they grow. This program is designed for toddlers and their caregivers. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 2Y-5Y

### TIKES YOGA AND NATURE EXPLORATION

WED. JUL 6, 10:00-11:00 AM Q102 SAT. JUL 23, 10:00-11:00 AM Q103 WED. AUG 3, 10:00-11:00 AM Q104 SAT. AUG 13, 10:00-11:00 AM Q105 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Children will spend half of the class exploring playful yoga poses and breathing exercises through interactive games and stories and half of the class exploring nature in the garden. Bring a yoga mat or heavy towel and appropriate shoes for walking. Registration required. Age: 4Y-6Y Fee: \$5 4

### (FREE) GARDEN CRITTERS STORY TIME

**WED. AUG 3, 10:00-11:00 AM** Q229 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler avenue

**WED. AUG 17, 10:00-11:00 AM** Q230 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Edible Landscape Garden/Pavilion, 6733 Springboro Pk. August is the month for a story about garden critters. After we've read the story, we'll go on a

critters. After we've read the story, we'll go on a garden adventure to see the different types of creatures that live in the garden. This program is designed for toddlers and their caregivers. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 2Y-5Y

#### (FREE) BIRDS STORY TIME

**WED. SEP 7, 10:00-11:00 AM** Q231 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler avenue

**WED. SEP 21, 10:00-11:00 AM** Q232 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Edible Landscape Garden/Pavilion, 6733 Springboro Pk.

September is the month for a story about birds. After we've read the story, we'll go on a garden adventure to see the different types of birds that live in the garden and the trees nearby. This program is designed for toddlers and their caregivers. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 2Y-5Y

### GET OUTSIDE BOOK CLUB STORYTIME

Five Rivers MetroParks and the Dayton Metro Library have designed a special reading club for preschoolers! Storytimes at your local library and in the parks will get you and your child excited for nature adventures in your backyard. Visit metroparks.org/bookclub.

### (FREE) SPIDERS

**THU. SEP 8, 10:00-11:00 AM** Q133 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Prairie Dock/Parking Lot, 4730 Frytown Rd. Join Ms. Amanda for Spider Storytime! After

Join Ms. Amanda for Spider Storytime! Afterwards we will go on a spider hunt. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

### (FREE) NIGHTTIME EXPLORATION

FRI. SEP 16, 8:00-9:00 PM Q134

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

Encounter the mysteries of the night while reading stories with Dayton Metro Librarians and searching for owls. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y 🌴

### (FREE) HIDDEN NATURE

WED. SEP 21, 1:30-2:30 PM Q135

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

Learn about what kinds of animals can be found in the middle of a city while reading books with a Dayton Metro Librarian. Nature may be closer than you think! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y 🌴 🗘

### (FREE) POND EXPLORATION MON. SEP 26. 12:30-1:30 PM Q137

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Hilltop / Sledding Hill/Parking Lot, 1200 Brown School Rd. Read books with a Dayton Metro Librarian and learn all about pond life with stories and a craft. Later, explore the pond in search of life! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y



### Support Your MetroParks

Your tax-deductible gift to the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation helps protect the region's natural heritage and provide outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature.

Contact Brenda Cox, development coordinator, at (937) 277-4839 or brenda.cox@metroparks.org.

METROPARKS.ORG/DONATE

### SEE THE FUTURE OF YOUR METROPARKS



Five Rivers MetroParks has adopted a 10-year comprehensive master plan that serves as a guide for its future and provides direction for implementing short- and long-term strategies and actions to best meet the community's needs and priorities.

Read the complete master plan and the results of surveys, focus groups and other research at metroparks.org/plan.



#### **FAMILY FARMHANDS**

SAT. JUN 4, 10:00-11:30 AM Q218
SAT. JUN 11, 10:00-11:30 AM Q362
SAT. JUL 9, 10:00-11:30 AM Q363
SAT. JUL 16, 10:00-11:30 AM Q364
SAT. AUG 6, 10:00-11:30 AM Q365
SAT. AUG 13, 10:00-11:30 AM Q366
SAT. SEP 3, 10:00-11:30 AM Q367
SAT. SEP 10, 10:00-11:30 AM Q368
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd

Calling all young, future farmers or those who wonder what it would be like to raise animals on a farm: be a farmhand for the morning and help feed and care for the rabbits, chickens, sheep, goats and donkey. Registration required. Age: 5Y-8Y Fee: per child: \$5 \$\text{-}\text{\theta}\$

#### YOUTH GARDEN CLUB

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

#### SUMMERTIME AND SOIL

**TUE. JUN. 7-21, 4:30-6:00 PM** Q165 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Garden, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Harvest early summer crops, continue planting and learn about soil and compost. Registration required. Age: 8Y-12Y Fee: \$15 → ♣

### SUNSHINE, WATER, AND BUGS **TUE. JUL. 5-19, 4:30-6:00 PM** Q166

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

Learn how to keep plants watered and healthy and study insects both helpful and a nuisance. Registration required. Age: 8Y-12Y Fee: \$15 ⁴ ♣

(FREE) WHAT'S NEW @ 2?
WED. JUN 8, 2:00-3:00 PM Q172
WED. JUN 15, 2:00-3:00 PM Q173
WED. JUN 22, 2:00-3:00 PM Q174
WED. JUN 29, 2:00-3:00 PM Q175
WED. JUL 6, 2:00-3:00 PM Q176
WED. JUL 13, 2:00-3:00 PM Q177
WED. JUL 20, 2:00-3:00 PM Q178
WED. JUL 27, 2:00-3:00 PM Q179
WED. AUG 3, 2:00-3:00 PM Q180
WED. AUG 10, 2:00-3:00 PM Q181
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's
Garden, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Meet in the Children's Discovery Garden for a fun craft, game or other activity. Topics announced weekly based on what's growing, blooming or hanging around. Limited to first 30 drop-in participants. No registration required. Age: 5Y-12Y

### **GARDENING FOR KIDS**

THU. JUN 9, 10:00-11:00 AM Q168
THU. JUL 14, 10:00-11:00 AM Q169
THU. AUG 11, 10:00-11:00 AM Q170
THU. SEP 8, 10:00-11:00 AM Q171

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

Learn basic botany and vegetable gardening. Participants will help tend the garden, sample available veggies and herbs, and plant seeds to take home and grow. Registration required. Age: 6Y-10Y Fee: \$5 1

### CONSERVATION KIDS: EXPLORERS & VOYAGERS (AGES 6-13)

This series, designed for families with 6- to 13-year-olds, nurtures kids' desire to explore 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 Montgomery County's ecology. By completing programs in each of the three levels of this series, your child also will receive a special MetroParks Conservation Kids hoodie. Visit metroparks.org/kids.

### (FREE) WOODLAND NESTING BIRDS

### **SUN. JUN 12, 1:00-2:30 PM** Q72

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

Discover different bird nests and how they make these mystical creations without any hands! Build a nest with natural materials, and go on a hike in search of birds and their nurseries. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y

### NATURE CLUBS FOR FAMILIES

MON. JUN 13, 2:00-4:00 PM Q89 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead West-

vaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Families can help each other enjoy, explore and play in our nature parks. Practice some simple tricks to help your friends join you on an adventure. Participants will get tools to help facilitate natural experiences for their peers. Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee:

\$10 4 🗘 📥

### (FREE) BABY OWL SEARCH FRI. JUN 17, 8:30-10:00 PM Q74

 ${\tt ENGLEWOOD\ METROPARK,\ Patty\ Shelter\ Parking\ Lot,\ 4361\ National\ Rd.}$ 

Search for owls while naturalists attempt to lure them and explore the importance of forests, their home. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y

### **NESTBOX MONITORING**

**SAT. JUN 25, 10:00-11:30 AM** Q121 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds

Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Help monitor baby birds as they grow in nests. Hike our bluebird trail and learn how to identify nests and check for parasites. Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: \$5 ♦ ♦ ♠

### HEALTHY WATERWAYS

**SAT. JUL 9, 2:00-3:30 PM** Q90

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

Healthy waterways make for healthy plants, animals, and people. Join us as we check one of our five waterways to see how healthy and

clean our water is. Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: \$5 ✓ 1 ♣ ♣

### (FREE) NOCTURNAL EXCURSION

#### FRI. JUL 15, 8:30-10:00 PM Q76

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

Explore creatures that lurk in the darkness. Hike through a variety of habitats in search of coyotes, raccoons, owls and other animals. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y

### MOTH SLEEPOVER

#### TUE. JUL 26, 7:00-9:00 PM Q92

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn how to put together the best backyard moth sleepover at your house with crafts, games and outdoor discovery! Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: \$10 %

### (FREE) CREEK FUN WED. JUL 27, 1:00-2:30 PM Q78

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Search for macroinvertebrates, rainbow darters and crawdads while exploring the river! Learn about water quality and how kids can keep water clean. Wear shoes that you can wear in the water (no sandals). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y

#### ☆▲

### LEADING TIKES CREEKING

#### TUE. AUG 9, 1:00-3:00 PM Q79

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

You have seen naturalists lead, and now it's your turn! Learn tools of the trade, and lead a tike hike with your fellow Earth Explorers. Dress for getting wet, and wear closed toed shoes. Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: \$5 \( \cdot \) \( \tau \)

### (FREE) MUSSEL POWER! SAT. AUG 13. 1:00-2:30 PM Q125

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

Come and explore the river's edge! Learn about the importance of water quality, the water cycle, and some cool creatures that work hard for us. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y

### (FREE) WETLAND EXPLORATION

#### THU. AUG 18, 10:00-11:30 AM Q82

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Shelter: Sunfish/ Valley Overlook/Parking Lot, 7101 Conservancy Rd. Get into the muck and explore dragonflies, water scorpions, backswimmers, tadpoles and other creatures living in ponds. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y 1

### CREEK GUIDE TRAINING

### SUN. AUG 21. 1:00-3:00 PM Q111

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Lead friends on an adventure! Learn how to select a safe site, identify creek creatures, and techniques that will help your friends embrace this habitat. Participants receive a creek exploration kit. Registration required.

Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: \$10 %

### (FREE) BUTTERFLIES AND DRAGONFLIES

#### TUE. AUG 23, 1:00-2:30 PM Q83

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Prairie Dock/Parking Lot, 4730 Frytown Rd.
From beetles and bugs to butterflies and dragonflies: Explore the prairie for these creatures while exploring their role in nature!
All insects are released at the end of the program. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y

### (FREE) SPIDER SEARCH SAT. SEP 3, 2:00-3:30 PM Q84

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40 Challenge undesired fears while learning

more about these adaptable creatures. See a brown recluse and black widow so you'll know how to recognize them. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y

### (FREE) FOSSIL FUN

### SUN. SEP 4, 10:00-11:30 AM Q85

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Welcome Center Parking Lot, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Explore Ohio's incredible fossils and geologic history, make a fossil and take a short hike to view rock formations. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y

### YOUTH NATURALIST TRAINING

#### SUN. SEP 4, 2:00-4:00 PM Q114

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

Learn what it takes to be a naturalist and how to get your peers excited about the Earth! Participants will receive a nature tool pack to help lead their own hike for their friends. Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: \$10

#### **♣** ♣

#### MONARCH TAGGING

#### **SAT. SEP 24, 1:00-2:30 PM** Q115

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

Monarchs are beginning their migration to Mexico, so come take part in a project monitoring this amazing migration! Help capture, tag, & record data to help with butterfly conservation efforts. Registration required.

Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: \$5 ⁴ 🌣 🔺

### YOUTH ADVENTURE CAMP MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI. JUN. 13-17, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM Q47

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

This is a week-long day camp for middle school age kids in which we discover nature through kayaking, mountain biking, fly fishing, hiking, and more. Monday through Wednesday are day-long adventures that culminate in a camping trip held on Thursday night until Friday at 4 PM. Registration required. Age: 11Y-14Y Fee: \$175 ^

#### CHILDREN'S GARDEN GOURMET

Kids use fresh seasonal ingredients from the garden to prepare something delicious to take home.

#### STRAWBERRY JAM

#### THU. JUN 16, 2:00-3:00 PM Q206

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

Learn about one of the most prized fruits of summertime and make jam from scratch. Registration required. Age: 6Y-12Y Fee: \$5 4 🗘

#### HERB DIP

#### THU. JUN 30, 2:00-3:00 PM Q207

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

Use fresh herbs from the garden to make a nice veggie dip. Registration required. Age: 6Y-12Y Fee: \$5 ö ♥

### **PICKLES**

#### THU. JUL 7, 2:00-3:00 PM Q208

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

Use fresh cucumbers to make refrigerator pickles. Registration required. Age: 6Y-12Y Fee: \$5 ⁴ ☆

### SALSA

### THU. JUL 21, 2:00-3:00 PM Q209

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

Learn to make fresh salsa with summer veg-

Learn to make fresh salsa with summer veggies. Registration required. Age: 6Y-12Y Fee:

#### **PESTO**

### THU. AUG 4, 2:00-3:00 PM Q210

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

Turn fresh basil into a delicious pesto spread. Registration required. Age: 6Y-12Y Fee: \$5 🕆 🗘

#### **GAZPACHO**

#### THU. AUG 11, 2:00-3:00 PM Q211

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

Learn to make this delicious later summer veggie cold soup. Registration required. Age: 6Y-12Y Fee: \$5 √6 ♣

#### MORNING CHORES

**SAT. JUN 18, 8:30-10:00 AM** Q160 **SAT. JUL 16, 8:30-10:00 AM** Q161

**SAT. AUG 20, 8:30-10:00 AM** Q162

**SAT. SEP 17, 8:30-10:00 AM** Q163

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

Join a farm staff member to experience a typical work day for a farm hand. Participants will help with a variety of historic chores. Meet at the front gate of the farm. Registration required. Age: 8Y-12Y Fee: \$5 %

#### **GRASS ROOTS ENRICHMENT**

Lisa Patrick-Wright of Grass Roots Enrichment and Wellness Center facilitates fun, unique and engaging activities for kids. Sessions are held outdoors under the pavilion as part of Saturday eScape.

#### **MINECRAFT**

**SAT. JUN 18, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM** Q337 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 F. Monument Ave.

Bring the game of Minecraft to life by creating new worlds out of boxes, pixels and Legos.
Registration required. Age: 3Y-12Y Fee: \$5

### HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW

**SAT. JUL 2, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM** Q338 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Hands on gardening, garden designs, garden art and sculptures. Registration required. Age: 3Y-12Y Fee: \$5.

#### **APOTHECARY: 101**

**SAT. JUL 16, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM** Q340 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Learn about basic herbs, plants, and aromatherapy that can be used to cure the common cold and burns and other cure-alls. Registration required. Age: 3Y-12Y Fee: \$5 💍

#### NATURAL URBANITES

SAT. AUG 6, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM Q342

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

Discover the great outdoors in your city! Identify plants, animals and insects that dwell in our city and your own backyard. Registration required. Age: 3Y-12Y Fee: \$5

### TEEN PADDLING CAMP

### MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI. JUN. 20-24, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM Q50

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.

This is a weeklong day camp for high school age kids where we will canoe, Stand Up Paddleboard, and kayak on lakes and rivers around the Miami Valley. Once you register you will receive a detailed registration form that must be completed and returned prior to attending. Registration required. Age: 14Y-17Y Fee: \$175 4

### METROPARKS KIDS CAMP MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI. JUN. 27-

JUL. 1. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM Q285

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

This week-long day camp will give kids an opportunity to explore different parks through diverse activities and better understand how they're connected to the natural world around them. Elements of the week will include living history, outdoor recreation, nature exploration, horseback riding and sustainable living. Registration required. Age: 10Y-14Y Fee: \$175 ♣

### TEEN MOUNTAIN BIKING 1

#### TUE. JUN 28, 5:30-8:00 PM Q141

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd. Designed specifically for teens, this hands-on program will introduce skills for riding singletrack mountain bike trails. Topics covered include trail etiquette, body positioning, braking, shifting, and safety. Registration required. Age: 14Y-17Y Fee: \$5

### KIDS YOGA AND NATURE EXPLORATION

WED. JUL 6, 10:00-11:00 AM Q106 SAT. JUL 23, 10:00-11:00 AM Q107 WED. AUG 3, 10:00-11:00 AM Q108 SAT. AUG 13, 10:00-11:00 AM Q109

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Students will spend half of the class learning to connect movement and breath as they flow through yoga poses and half of the class exploring nature in the garden. Bring a yoga mat or heavy towel and appropriate shoes for walking Registration required. Age: 6Y-10Y Fee: \$5 %

### YOUTH KAYAK 1

### TUE. JUL 19, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM Q98

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd. This hands-on program will use instruction and games as we learn to kayak. Topics covered include paddle strokes, boat handling and safety

for kayaking. Equipment is provided. We will be getting wet so dress appropriately. Prerequisites: none. Registration required. Age: 9Y-17Y Fee: \$40

### TEEN MOUNTAIN BIKING 2 THU. JUL 21, 5:30-8:00 PM Q164

17Y Fee: \$5 🌣

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd. This hands-on program will practice and build on skills learned in Teen Mountain Biking 1. After these skills are reviewed we will go on a trail ride practicing what was learned. Prerequisites: Teen Mountain Biking 1. Registration required. Age: 14Y-

### TEEN ADVENTURE CAMP MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI. JUL. 25-29, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM Q46

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

This is a week-long day camp for high school age kids in which we discover nature through kayaking, mountain biking, fly fishing, hiking, and more. Monday through Wednesday are day-long adventures that culminate in a camping trip held on Thursday night until Friday at 4 PM. Registration required. Age: 14Y-17Y Fee: \$175 ~

### YOUTH KAYAK 2: RIVER

### THU. AUG 4, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM Q99

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

Learn to kayak on a local river. Get instruction on safety, river paddling techniques, and how to recognize and avoid hazards. Dress to get wet. Prerequisites: Youth Kayak 1. Registration required. Age: 9Y-17Y Fee: \$50

#### YOUTH CYCLING

#### THU. SEP 8, 5:30-7:30 PM Q269

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

Designed specifically for kids, this hands-on program will introduce skills for riding safely on roads and paved trails. After practice at RiverScape, we will go for a ride on the Great Miami River Trail using these skills. Bikes and helmets required. Registration required. Age: 9Y-14Y Fee: \$5

VISIT THE ALL NEW
METROPARKS.ORG



Share the benefits of an active, nature-based lifestyle with your community and future generations.

### (FREE) MVLNCI RESOURCE NETWORK NIGHT

TUE. JUN 21, 6:00-8:00 PM Q350 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, 6733 Springboro Pk. Mead Westvaco Theatre Come out for a fun, social, networking event focused on common efforts to help children con-

nect to nature and spend more time outdoors. We will explore resources in the community and share ideas, as we discuss the Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside collaborative. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

### GROWING UP WILD TRAINING SAT. JUN 25, 2:00-5:00 PM Q41

WESLEYAN METROPARK, Shelter: Blue Jay/Parking Lot, 1441 Wesleyan Rd.

Calling all childcare professionals: Take the nationally recognized Growing Up WILD curricula combined with our Natural Adventures Box and you'll have a fun, exciting summer with students! Give children an early foundation in nature, while encouraging them to explore the outdoors. Step-Up-To-Quality credit from ODJFS is available. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5

### (FREE) TEACHERS' AFTERNOON OUT: AQUATIC BIOLOGY

#### WED. JUN 29, 2:00-4:00 PM Q96

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

Come spend time in conservation corner exploring life in wetlands! We will explore ways you can bring the pond to your classroom, and your class to local aquatic habitats. Registration required.

Age: 18Y and up

### PROJECT WILD & INQUIRY ADVENTURES WORKSHOP

### THU. JUL 7, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Q93

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

This workshop will certify teachers in the nationally recognized Project Wild curricula, engage educators in outdoor inquiry, and demonstrate how to utilize Five Rivers MetroParks' resources to make science come alive for students. Gradu-

ate and/or STUQ credit available. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$25 ^+

### (FREE) SCHOOL GARDEN TOUR: WEST CARROLLTON

### THU. JUL 21, 4:00-6:00 PM Q204

OFFSITE, West Carrollton High School, 5833 Student St

Meet at West Carrollton HS for an introduction to the Green Schoolyards program and visit garden habitats on school grounds. Tour the greenhouse and gardens: courtyard pollinator, straw bale and raised bed. Discussion on butterfly programs and managing students' behavior outdoors. Meet at West Carrollton HS, 5833 Student St, 45449. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages

### (FREE) TEACHERS' NIGHT OUT: MOTHING AROUND

#### MON. JUL 25, 8:00-10:00 AM Q95

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

This month we will focus on an overlooked pollinator, moths! Teachers will discover new ways to bring pollination to life through citizen science opportunities, learn how to attract moths, and learn how to attract these pollinators to their school garden. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

### **(FREE)** SCHOOL GARDEN TOUR: SOUTHDALE

#### TUEHU. JUL 26, 4:00-6:00 PM Q201

OFFSITE, Southdale Elementary, 1200 W Dorothy Ln Meet at Southdale Elementary for an introduction to the Green Schoolyards program. Tour the courtyard green space, greenhouse and garden areas. Highlighted discussion on curriculum connections and funding your garden. Meet at 1200 W. Dorothy Lane, 45409. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🕆

### (FREE) COMMUNITY GARDENERS POTLUCK

### **SAT. AUG 27, 4:00-5:30 PM** Q120

OFFSITE, Community Gardens, Contact Us for Map Do you work with a community garden? Join MetroParks community gardening program staff and fellow community gardeners for a summer potluck. Bring a dish from the garden to share. Meet at Omega Community Garden, 825 Manhattan Ave, 45406. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 4

### **(FREE)** TEACHERS' NIGHT OUT: MIGRATING MONARCHS

### THU. SEP 22, 6:00-8:00 PM Q287

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

Monarch migration is a hot topic in many schools, and many grade levels. Come learn about local monarch populations, why they need our help, network with educators in the area, and discover new ways to bring nature to your classroom no matter the subject you teach! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 🖰

### OTHER RESOURCES FOR GROUPS

Five Rivers MetroParks has built-in activities that make it easy for your community group, church, business or school to connect with nature. Visit metroparks.org/group to learn about available resources to help you share the benefits of living an active, outdoor lifestyle with your community and future generations.

- · Indoor and Outdoor Facilities for Events
- · Tours
- · Speakers
- · Equipment Rental
- · Education Kits
- · Green Schoolyards
- · Service Projects
- · Natural Adventures Boxes

# SHOP FRESH & LOCAL AT THE 2ND STREET MAADKET



The Market features more than 40 vendors — all locally owned — offering:

- Fresh Produce
- Kitchen Staples
- Locally Produced Meat Gift Items
- D : !!
- Dairy Items

Grab a meal from one of the many food vendors while you shop!

The 2ND Street Market is located at 600 E. Second St., downtown Dayton

Sweet Treats

Flowers

# THE SATURDAY OUTDOOR FARMERS MARKET OPENS JUNE 4!

Enjoy in-season fruit, vegetables, herbs and plants from local conventional and organic farmers.

THURSDAY & FRIDAY: 11 AM TO 3 PM SATURDAY: 8 AM TO 3 PM



### **GET OUT & BIKE**

Five Rivers MetroParks is proud to be a founding sponsor of Link, downtown Dayton's bike share program. Start or end your bike trips at Link stations at RiverScape MetroPark or the 2nd Street Market — just two of the 24 Link stations in the network. We're helping make transportation fun, safe and active!

LINKDAYTON.ORG



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

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### HOLD ON TO YOUR PARKWAYS!





### CELEBRATE OUTDOORS

RENT A METROPARKS SHELTER NOW FOR YOUR SPECIAL EVENT TO HAVE THE BEST SELECTION OF DATES AND LOCATIONS.

Open-air shelters in beautiful settings are excellent for BBQs, graduation parties, family reunions, birthday parties and more. Amenities vary and include tables, grills, electricity and water. All are Ranger-patrolled, quiet and offer a degree of privacy. Fees vary. Reserve today.

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