

# PARKWAYS

YOUR GUIDE TO FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS NEWS AND PROGRAMS



Photo by Jan Underwood

## HAPPY TRAILS

CREATING ROUTES TO CONNECT WITH NATURE

KIDS LEARN OUTDOORS  
IN GREEN SCHOOLYARDS  
SEE PAGE 12

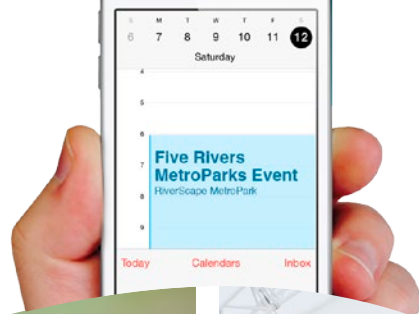
DISCOVER THE MANY WAYS TO GET INVOLVED  
WITH YOUR FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS  
SEE PAGE 18





# SAVE THE DATE

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING METROPARKS EVENTS



**FEBRUARY 12-13**

## THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT

Wright State University  
**See Pages 14-15 (Recreation) and 37 (Outdoor Adventure)**



**MARCH 5**

## THE SUSTAINABLE GARDEN

Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark  
**See Page 29 (Gardening & Landscaping)**



**APRIL 16**

## ADOPT-A-PARK

Various Locations  
**See Page 17 (Volunteer) and 37 (Nature)**



**MAY 14**

## POLLINATOR PARTY

Cox Arboretum MetroPark  
**See Page 31 (Gardening & Landscaping)**



**MAY 20**

## NATIONAL BIKE TO WORK DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

RiverScape MetroPark  
**See Page 15 (Recreation) and 26 (Cycling)**

# TOP FIVE

WAYS TO ENJOY YOUR FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS THIS WINTER AND SPRING



**1**

## HEALTHY ESCAPE

With 75 miles of hiking trails in your parks and more than 300 miles of paved bikeways in the region, keeping healthy goals is easy and fun, even in colder temps!



**2**

## WINTER WARM-UP

Visit the 2nd Street Market to stock up on hearty stew essentials and other fresh, local foods. Take a break from your shopping to warm up with a hot meal from one of the many local food vendors.



**3**

## THE EARLY BIRD

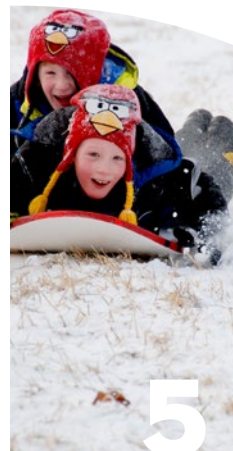
As warmer weather returns, so will many varieties of birds. A visit to any of your parks will give you lots of chances to listen and identify the spring singers in the area.



**4**

## RECESS TIME

Enjoy fun, unstructured playtime at the nature play areas at Englewood, Hills & Dales, Possum Creek, Wegerzyn Gardens and Sugarcreek MetroParks.



**5**

## SNOW DAY

Take advantage of snow cover to enjoy ice skating at RiverScape MetroPark, cross-country skiing or a winter hike. Go sledding at Germantown, Englewood and Taylorsville MetroParks. Learn more at [metroparks.org/winter](http://metroparks.org/winter).



**Becky Benná**  
Executive Director

DEAR METROPARKS FRIENDS,

As part of our 10-year comprehensive master planning process, we have been asking for your input during the past 10 months to determine what the interests and priorities should be for your Five Rivers MetroParks. A statistically valid survey was distributed this past fall to residents throughout Montgomery County. Listed below are just a few highlights from the results of that survey.

- **Protecting significant natural areas and river corridors in the Miami Valley is the most important principle for Five Rivers MetroParks to follow in its conservation planning efforts.**

(Five Rivers MetroParks currently manages slightly less than 16,000 acres of natural areas, and a significant portion of the region's 270 miles of river corridor.)

- **Preserving clean water and air is the most important benefit of conserving land in its natural state.** (Currently, approximately 90 percent of the land Five Rivers MetroParks manages is in its natural state.)
- **Trails for hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, mountain biking, cycling and cross-country skiing represent one of Five Rivers MetroParks' amenities you most value.** (Five Rivers MetroParks now manages 160 miles of trails for a variety of users.)

We were also so pleased to learn that 90 percent of households that responded to the survey visited at least one Five Rivers MetroPark or trail in the past 12 months. We'll continue to work hard to create great parks where everyone in our community can experience the outdoors and nature.

We anticipate that the 10-year comprehensive master plan will be completed by early spring 2016. If you would like to learn more, please visit [metroparks.org/plan](http://metroparks.org/plan).

We recognize the trails are where so many of you connect with nature year-round, and Five Rivers MetroParks is committed to preserving and improving these community treasures. I hope you will enjoy this issue of *ParkWays*, which contains news and information about those trails.

Five Rivers MetroParks is also committed to using the input you provided as the guide for our focus on the future in planning and ensuring we continue to offer world-class natural areas, parks, facilities and programs to the community. As part of the comprehensive master plan, short and long-term strategies have been developed and will guide us in meeting the needs and priorities of this wonderful region.

We are proud to continue the long tradition of providing clean, safe, enjoyable parks; protecting our region's natural heritage; and providing outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature. We look forward to serving you and our community for many more years to come!

Best Regards,

*Becky Benná*

## WINTER-SPRING 2016 IN THIS ISSUE

### METROPARKS NEWS • 4

### COVER STORY • 6 - 9

We're building outstanding trails, providing fantastic opportunities for you to experience the outdoors.

### RECREATION • 14

Be sure and check out upcoming events The Adventure Summit and Bike to Work Day

### VOLUNTEER • 17 - 19

There a number of ways to get involved with your Five Rivers MetroParks. Discover all of them here.

### PROGRAM GUIDE • 25

Register for programs happening in your MetroParks from February through May 2016.

*ParkWays* is published three times per year. An online version is available at [metroparks.org/parkways](http://metroparks.org/parkways).

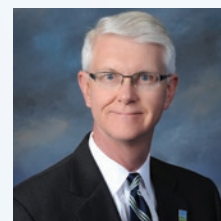
## METROPARKS COMMISSIONERS



Irvin G. Bieser, Jr.



Karen L. Davis



Alan F. Pippenger

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## 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.*



# METROPARKS GETS MORE GREEN

Five Rivers MetroParks has completed efforts that better align the workplace with its conservation mission.

Recently, Five Rivers MetroParks completed Dayton Regional Green (DRG) Green Business Certification for all staffed facilities. MetroParks first certified its headquarters, 409 E. Monument Ave., in 2014 and completed certification at other facilities in 2015. DRG is a Miami Valley regional leadership collaborative that promotes sustainability. The certification provides guidelines for adopting sustainable workplace practices. Learn more at [www.drg3.org](http://www.drg3.org).

Also, Five Rivers MetroParks completed a five year, agency-wide sustainability plan in summer 2015. The plan is built on the “triple bottom line” principle of integrating people, planet and profit. Goals for the next five years include investing in sustainability, operating more sustainably and creating a conservation culture.

The plan also calls for MetroParks to provide public recycling in all parks by the end of 2016. A 2014 matching grant from Montgomery County Solid Waste District funded the placement of recycling bins at RiverScape, Wegerzyn Gardens, Wesleyan, Hills & Dales, and Island MetroParks. After analyzing use in these parks, the agency is ready to make recycling commonplace. Expect to see well-marked blue containers at shelters, parking lots, trailheads and events.

Learn how you also can increase sustainability by attending a Green Living program. (See page 32.)

## OUTDOOR RECREATION PROGRAM UPDATES

As Five Rivers MetroParks’ outdoor recreation program celebrates 10 years, it’s launching an easier way to understand the progression of core programs that teach paddling, cycling, backpacking and other outdoor skills.

Previously, programs were labeled “intro” and “basics” to describe levels. Now, those programs will be more clearly identified using a numbering system, such as “Backpacking 1,” “Paddling 2,” etc. This better indicates prerequisites, as a level 1 program will be a prerequisite for a level 2 program and so on, allowing you to build a strong foundation in the basic skills necessary to enjoy the outdoor activity. Many of the core programs offer trips as a capstone experience.

“We hope this new method will give you a clear place to start your journey toward



NEWS



enjoying the outdoors with confidence and, ultimately, independently,” said Brent Anslinger, Five Rivers MetroParks’ outdoor recreation program manager. “We will continue to offer the same great programs, but it will be easier for people to know which programs they should take first, second and third.”

## PROJECT UPDATES



### RIVERSCAPE RIVER RUN

The work to transform the low dam between I-75 and Monument Avenue is well underway. RiverScape River Run will eliminate the hazards associated with the low dam and create a recreational passage for novice boaters and a whitewater play chute for experienced kayakers. Work will begin this year 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 mussels located in the construction footprint. The first mussel survey was completed Oct. 24, when Five Rivers MetroParks staff and volunteers helped relocate hundreds of these freshwater creatures to new homes.

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



### MoMBA

The new skills and strider loops at the MetroParks Mountain Bike Area (MoMBA) are scheduled for completion in late spring. Improvements also include a new restroom, bike wash and repair station, and upgrades to the entry drive and parking area. The skills loop is designed for beginners who've never ridden a trail and for more experienced riders to practice specific skills.

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



### BARBARA COX CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE HORTICULTURE

This new feature at Cox Arboretum MetroPark has been completed, with a grand opening to be held in May. The renovated greenhouses, head house (an area with workspace to transplant, propagate and train plants) and outdoor demonstration areas already are producing new trees and wildflowers to be planted throughout land managed by Five Rivers MetroParks. Tours of the new facility will begin after the grand opening.



### TWIN VALLEY WELCOME CENTER

The first phase of the renovation of the former Nature Center at Germantown MetroPark is scheduled to be complete by late spring 2016. The center is designed as a gateway to the upper Twin Valley area, with information about one of the largest and most biologically rich natural areas in Montgomery County. In addition, the center will be a stopping point for hikers and backpackers, providing new fully accessible restrooms and meeting space. Ultimately, people will be able to take classes, participate in educational demonstrations, and learn more about outdoor recreation opportunities at the center.

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



FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS manages 160 miles of trails for cycling, mountain biking, cross-country skiing and horseback riding, including 75 miles for hiking. In 2014, park services staff spent 2,924 hours maintaining our recreational trails.

COVER STORY

# HAPPY TRAILS

TRAILS ARE A LINK BETWEEN PEOPLE AND NATURE.



A recent community-wide survey, conducted as part of Five Rivers MetroParks' master plan, indicated people are looking for ways to escape daily pressures – and parks, particularly trails, are a favorite place to experience the outdoors.

That's why it's so important Five Rivers MetroParks create and maintain the best trails possible for both users and the natural areas they enjoy. Several trail-related projects recently have been completed, a Strategic Trail Initiative (STI) is underway and the park services department created a dedicated trail crew, led by trail specialist Mark Allen.

"We're trying to make a better user experience and trails that are not going to be detrimental to the ecosystem Five Rivers MetroParks is here to protect," Allen said. "Properly built and maintained trails won't have erosion issues and will have a more consistent tread and surface. This allows people to focus on the beauty around them instead of consistently looking at their feet while on the trail."

The orange trail at Taylorsville MetroPark is an example of a successful STI project. Once marked by rutted, steep hills that became slick when wet, the orange trail was lengthened, the grade was softened to match the natural topography, honeysuckle was removed to open new vistas and two new blocks of undisturbed habitat were created. The trail crew currently is working at Sugarcreek MetroPark, with work scheduled to be complete in 2016.



"Many of the Sugarcreek trails are old farm access roads created for tractors and animals to get from one pasture to another," Allen said. "They were never designed for hiking."

Eventually, all MetroParks' natural surface trails for users ranging from horseback riders to hikers will receive a sustainable revamp. Once the trail crew finishes at Sugarcreek, it will move to Germantown MetroPark, home to a good portion of the 22-mile Twin Valley Backpacking Trail. In addition to Taylorsville, the trails at the MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA) already are sustainable: They were designed and built sustainably – by volunteers working by hand – according to International Mountain Bike Association standards.



"People want to experience our parks through trails, and MetroParks strives to have trails that have zero impact on the environment so people can experience nature without damaging it," Allen said. "Having a dedicated trail crew allows Five Rivers MetroParks to focus on designing trails that take users to the most amazing features of our parks, are easier to maintain and will be here for many years to come."

"Many children don't have a lot of opportunity for unstructured play in the woods so having trails is a great way for families to go out and experience and discover nature," he added. "There are so many things to love."





# WHY STI?

## THE PROCESS OF CREATING A SUSTAINABLE TRAIL.

It begins with an evaluation of the existing trail and user patterns, the best features of a park, and determination of needs and goals for trail maintenance. The trail crew lays out the most sustainable route on paper that meets all of these needs, and it is then reviewed by staff from all departments.

*It takes more than a year to make a great trail.*

The goal of sustainable trails is to allow people to experience nature in a responsible way without negatively impacting the environment. For example, sustainable design keeps people on the trail and water off so hikers don't walk around muddy areas and disturb the vegetation alongside the trail.

Once approved, the trail crew goes out in winter, after all leaves have dropped, and flags the proposed route. Conservation staff and volunteers then monitor potential impact to sensitive plants for a growing season. (See conservation, page 10, for more info.) After a year of monitoring and final approval by all departments, construction on the new trail can begin.

The trail crew and volunteers clear the new trail corridor, which usually happens in the winter to avoid disturbing breeding wildlife in the spring.

Old trails remain open while new construction is taking place, one section at a time. Once a new section has been completed with specialized machinery, hand-working crews finalize the new trail. At the end, the edges of the new trail are softened with leaf litter to help it blend with surroundings. The old trail is restored by breaking up the surface to promote water absorption and adding soil and woody debris to promote native plant growth.

[METROPARKS.ORG/STI](http://METROPARKS.ORG/STI)



## MAKING TRAILS: RECENT PROJECTS IN YOUR FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

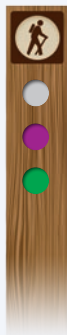
- A dedicated five-person trail crew was established in winter 2015.
- A new trail connecting Argonne Lake and the farm at Possum Creek MetroPark opened in fall 2015.
- Work recently was completed on a new beginner loop and the Talon trail at MoMBA.
- Reach arm mowing on bikeways, such as Creekside Trail, was completed in fall 2015 to clear overhanging vegetation and clear corridors.
- A new pink trail at Germantown MetroPark opened in fall 2014, creating a higher-elevation option for the Twin Valley Backpacking Trail and opening new access to Sunfish Pond.





# TRAIL PICKS

## PARK SERVICES STAFF OFFER UP THEIR FAVES



### RON BICKNELL Regional Park Manager

- Germantown MetroPark silver trail: "This trail moves through a variety of habitats, including a river bottom, mature woods, ravines and a prairie while being a challenging hike."
- Possum Creek MetroPark purple trail: "The Argonne loop trail is flat and you'll see historical remnants along the way."
- Englewood MetroPark green trail: "This trail includes a river, transitional lake, three waterfalls, deep woods and good bird watching."



Hawk's Lair

### MARK ALLEN Trail Specialist

- "I like the mountain bike trails at MoMBA, especially the fast, flowy sections; technical climbs; and natural rock outcroppings on Hawks Lair."



### SHANE SHELDON Trail Technician

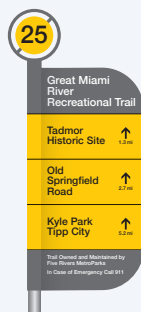
- Taylorsville MetroPark orange loop: "This trail has a great flow and is great for running and hiking. There's always wildlife; I've seen bald eagles, albino squirrels and deer, and there's never an abundance of users."
- Hills & Dales MetroPark orange trail: "This trail has many great features our whole family enjoys, including a nature play area, Dogwood Pond, wetlands boardwalk and the stone tower overlook. Also, the area from Pawpaw Camp to Dogwood Pond is easy hiking even for our 2-year-old."



Talon

### DOUG SCHAUER MoMBA Trail Technician

- "The new trail at MoMBA called Talon is the best trail we have at Five Rivers MetroParks. It was put in by volunteers, has more rock wall and rock gardens, and nice overlooks."



### STEVE BURDINE Trail Technician

- "The south park trail at Englewood MetroPark is where I have spent a lot of time walking through the years. I recharge there; often I'm the only person in the park. The prairie trail in the winter has a quietude about it I find in few places."
- "The Great Miami River Recreation Trail is my favorite bike path, especially the section in Taylorsville MetroPark. It is a pleasant ride year round."



### KAREN HESSER

Director of Park Services and  
Legislative Affairs

- Germantown MetroPark silver and orange trails
- Twin Creek MetroPark orange trail

## FLOWER TRAILS

From native wildflowers to bulb displays, the parks burst into color in early spring – and along the trails is where you'll find some of the most dazzling displays. The garden parks are some of the best places to catch spring color, although you'll find blossoms throughout your Five Rivers MetroParks facilities. Below is a guide to get you started on a spring wildflower discovery walk.

### VISIT THIS PARK ...

### HIKE THIS TRAIL ...

### AT THIS TIME OF YEAR ...

### TO SEE ...

Aullwood Garden  
MetroPark

Follow the trail through the estate garden around the property and into the woods at this intimate garden park.

Mid-February to late April  
early March  
March to early April  
mid-April  
mid to late April

Hellebore/Lenten Rose  
Winter Aconite  
Siberian Squill  
Great White Trillium  
Virginia Bluebells

Cox Arboretum  
MetroPark

Visit the Woodland Wildflower Area off the red trail.

late March through mid-April  
April  
April  
April  
May  
May

Trout Lily  
Dutchman's Breeches  
Celandine Poppy  
A wide variety of violets  
Yellow Lady's Slipper  
Blue False Indigo

Wegerzyn Gardens  
MetroPark

Walk the Marie Aull Trail and paths through the formal gardens.

January through early March  
early March  
early April  
April  
mid-April  
May

Spring Witch Hazel  
Winter Aconite  
Anemone  
Daffodils & Tulips  
Magnolia  
Camassia




 A photograph of three people in a forest setting. On the left, a man with a beard and a blue shirt is pointing at a map. In the center, a man wearing a green jacket and a cap is looking at the map. On the right, a woman in a blue jacket is also looking at the map. They are standing in a wooded area with trees and fallen leaves.
 

Five Rivers MetroParks trail specialist Mark Allen works with conservation department staff Mike Enright and Debby McKee on the Strategic Trail Initiative at Sugarcreek MetroPark.

# CONSERVATION

## BUILDING TRAILS THAT WORK WITH NATURE

BECAUSE TRAILS ARE HOW MOST PEOPLE EXPERIENCE THE OUTDOORS, Five Rivers MetroParks takes care to thoughtfully design and install trails to work with nature.

The Strategic Trail Initiative process begins more than a year before a new trail is installed or a current trail is moved. During winter, after leaves have fallen and visibility is much better, MetroParks' trail crew flags the proposed route of the new trail. (See page 8 for more info.)

Next, conservation staff and volunteers monitor the route during the next growing season to see if any rare plants, such as fringed gentian, might be impacted. If a plant or population of plants is located, the best solution for that location is determined, whether moving the plants to new locations outside the trail corridor or moving the location of the trail. Protection of the park's biodiversity is a critical part of trail installation.

Also critical to protecting natural resources is trail density. Animals and birds need space undisturbed by humans, but a critical part of trails is allowing people to watch and experience wildlife. Five Rivers MetroParks balances these by limiting the number and length of trails installed in each park area. This allows people access but means such animals as the bobcat and red tailed hawk have places to hunt and raise their young.

Wetlands are home to a great variety of plant and animal life, but standing water and mud make visiting these areas difficult and walking in wetlands would harm many of the plant species living there. To make these habitats accessible, Five Rivers MetroParks has



constructed boardwalks in wetlands at three locations: Carriage Hill MetroPark, Dull Woods Conservation Area and Woodman Fen Conservation Area.

*MetroParks' Strategic Trail Initiative (STI) ensures trails don't harm the natural environments enjoyed by so many.*

[METROPARKS.ORG/STI](http://METROPARKS.ORG/STI)

Many trails in MetroParks were designed and installed before modern trail-building science. As a result, many are steep and susceptible to erosion. This erosion not only destroys the trail surface, it harms aquatic communities nearby. During heavy rains, dirt and small rocks wash down headwater streams that are critical to support a variety of amphibians, such as stream-side salamanders, and invertebrates, such as mayflies. The sediment clogs those small invertebrates' gills and smothers them. Yet without the invertebrates, the ecosystem of the headwater stream breaks down as the amphibians struggle to find food. The sediment then washes into large streams and rivers, where it causes problems for fish

and other animals. For this reason, all new and renovated trails in MetroParks are specifically designed to prevent erosion to protect our natural resources and ensure water quality. ■



## KEEP WILDLIFE WILD

Most wildlife species raise their young in spring, and it's a critical time to ensure the next generation of wildlife in Five Rivers MetroParks gets off to a good start.

### HERE ARE WAYS YOU CAN HELP THESE WILDLIFE BABIES:

1. **NEVER PICK UP OR REMOVE A YOUNG ANIMAL FROM A PARK.** In the spring, many species of young animals are learning their way around the world, but parents are close by and out of sight. If you find an animal that appears orphaned, contact the Ohio Division of Wildlife at 1-800-WILDLIFE. Only certified centers, such as Brukner Nature Center, can accept orphaned wildlife.
2. **NEVER FEED WILDLIFE.** Doing so may prevent young wildlife from eating natural food with the necessary nutrients, which could cause growth issues. It also will teach the animal to associate humans with food, which may cause conflict.
3. **KEEP DOGS ON A LEASH.** This is a requirement in MetroParks. Even if unintentionally, dogs can harm young wildlife if allowed to wander. In addition, some wildlife, such as deer and coyotes, can be very protective of their young and den sites.
4. **STAY ON MARKED TRAILS.** Many species of birds, if they are disturbed too many times, will abandon a nest and may not be able to nest successfully at all. Ground-nesting birds, such as the woodthrush, are particularly susceptible to disturbance.
5. **WATCH OUT FOR YOUNG WILDLIFE ON THE ROAD.** Cars are the largest source of mortality for most wildlife species, and young animals have not yet learned how to safely cross roads. Slow down in the morning and evening, when wildlife is most active.
6. **WATCH OUT ON THE GROUND.** Young birds spend a portion of time on the ground while learning to fly. Keep your pets away from young birds and owls during this critical time.

*With these simple tips, you can help young animals get off to a safe start in MetroParks – and in your own back yard.*



# GREEN SCHOOLYARDS PROGRAM IN FULL GEAR

Moxie John's sixth-graders at Belle Haven Elementary School were amazed at how quickly plants grow and how delicious a home-grown tomato tastes.

They experienced both at Belle Haven's Green Schoolyard, offered in partnership with Five Rivers MetroParks. Students planted seeds in the classroom and transplanted them outdoors — all while completing experiments and learning activities.

"The fact that you can just give soil, water, nutrients and sunlight to plants and they will grow blew students' minds," John said. "They loved working in the garden. It engages a different part of students' brains. They can approach it without the preconceived notion they're not good at math. No one's told them they can't garden."

Belle Haven is joined by Kiser Elementary as the two schools partnering with Five Rivers MetroParks this school year. Now, MetroParks is looking for two additional schools to serve as partners for the next academic year, extending the reach of area schools providing outdoor places where students can learn and discover nature.

The process begins with a presentation by Five Rivers MetroParks' AmeriCorps team. Interested schools must have buy-in from the principal, along with a teacher willing to lead the charge.

Schools selected from an application process receive training and help planning and designing their green schoolyard. AmeriCorps coordinators lead two programs at the school, teaching educators how to incorporate the green schoolyard into lesson plans.

"Our goal is to facilitate the creation and use of sustainable outdoor classrooms in Montgomery County," Beachdell said. "Those can be habitat and/or vegetable gardens or any outdoor space that promotes environmental awareness."

One year into the program, John has seen her students benefit.

"The kids are not only learning how to grow their own food and where food comes from," she said, "they're also learning how to add fresh fruits and vegetables to their diets." ■

***"A green schoolyard is a place where you can take kids outside to explore the world,"***

said education coordinator Luci Beachdell.

***"All you have to do is go outside. We want to encourage teachers everywhere to do that."***

Carla and Scott Lachecki's granddaughter, June, visits the couple's community garden plot at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.

## GET INVOLVED:

Contact Luci Beachdell at [lbeachdell@metroparks.org](mailto:lbeachdell@metroparks.org) or call (937) 275-PARK.

EDUCATION



## GROWING GARDENING PROGRAMMING

Gardening is a fun, fruitful way to connect with nature and help Five Rivers MetroParks' conservation efforts. Whether you grow food in a large plot or flowers in a small container, all gardens add biodiversity, shelter and food while contributing to cleaner air and water. Growing food also helps maintain a healthy, active lifestyle.

This year, after gathering community input, Five Rivers MetroParks is tweaking its gardening programs to better meet your needs. Focus will be on helping new gardeners get started, helping experienced gardeners use Earth-friendly practices and building a sharing community of gardeners.

Already, new garden programs have been created:

- A beginner gardening series starts Feb. 17. See pages 28-29.
- A lecture on sustainable gardening with national expert Deb Knapke will be held March 5. See page 29.
- A pollinator party on May 14 includes a presentation on Ohio native plants, as well as activities for the whole family. See page 31.

Garden tours, such as the Wildflower Walks, help you use parks for inspiration and education. Look for even more opportunities to Get Out & Garden throughout the year!

## GROW FOOD, BUILD COMMUNITY

Another way to Get Out & Garden is to rent a plot in one of Five Rivers MetroParks' community gardens.

For Carla and Scott Lachecki, who live in an urban Dayton neighborhood without much of a yard, renting a year-round plot at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark allows them to grow their own produce and share the natural world with their granddaughter, 3.

"We've been able to feed our granddaughter since she was eating solid food," Scott Lachecki said. "Her favorite is vegetable soup."

The Lacheckis have gotten more serious about their gardening, taking soil samples of their plot to improve its quality and culinary classes at Sinclair Community College to better cook all those veggies.

"It's nice to be outside," Lachecki said. "And the food you get is second to none."

Community gardens not only help your palate, they help the Earth, too.

"We have to make spaces for biodiversity, pollinators and green things growing in healthy, sustainable ways in between the parks," education coordinator Luci Beachdell said. "Gardening is an important part of Five Rivers MetroParks' mission to protect the region's natural resources and build a vital, active, nature-based community."



### RENT A COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOT

at a Five Rivers MetroParks facility for \$20-\$40/year.

The plot is prepped for you, and water is provided.

- Possum Creek MetroPark has approximately 100 garden plots.
- Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark has approximately 300 garden plots; year-round plots available for \$40/year.
- More info: [metro-parks.org/communitygardening](https://www.metro-parks.org/communitygardening) or (937) 275-PARK.

Register starting in late March by calling (937) 275-PARK.



# GET READY FOR ADVENTURE

In mid-February, thousands of outdoor enthusiasts will converge on Dayton, Ohio: The Outdoor Adventure Capital of the Midwest for a weekend of outdoor skill, culture and experience to attend The Adventure Summit.

Amy Purdy

"This event has a rich history of featuring world-class outdoor personalities who are sure to inspire and amaze," said Lucy Sánchez, Five Rivers MetroParks outdoor recreation event coordinator. "The Adventure Summit celebrates the spirit of outdoor adventure by



A co-production of Five Rivers MetroParks  
and Wright State University

Friday, Feb. 12: 5 to 9 PM

Saturday, Feb. 13: 9 AM to 5 PM

Wright State University Student Union

[THEADVENTURESUMMIT.COM](http://THEADVENTURESUMMIT.COM)

showcasing the vibrant lifestyle and culture of human-powered endeavors through inspiration, education and experience."

Amy Purdy and Luke "Strider" Jordan are the 2016 featured speakers. Purdy will give a keynote presentation, "Living Beyond Limits," at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 12, which also is part of the Wright State University Presidential Lecture Series. After contracting a rare illness at 19, Purdy underwent a double leg amputation. Yet she challenged herself to move on with life and is now a world-class snowboarder, 2014 Paralympic Medalist, Dancing with the Stars finalist, author, actress and fashion designer.

Jordan also will tell the story of his journey – a continuous thru-hike on the 4,600-mile North Country National Scenic Trail, the longest such trail in the United States – during the keynote presentation at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13. In 2013, Jordan became one of only five people at the time to have thru-hiked the NCT, part of which runs through the Dayton area.

Luke  
"Strider"  
Jordan



RECREATION



These featured speakers will be joined by more than two dozen others who will present 30-plus tales of outdoor adventures, technical skills workshops, classes and more. All these offerings have one goal: inspire you to plan an outdoor adventure of your own.

“The Adventure Summit is committed to providing something for everyone,” Sánchez said, “from the armchair adventurer to the hard-core enthusiast.” ■



### THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT ALSO WILL FEATURE:

- An Outdoor Industry Expo, where you can learn about local clubs, retailers and outdoor destinations
- Opportunities to try paddling, bouldering and other activities
- Competitions, such as Canoe Battleship and an indoor triathlon
- Party with the Pros ... and much more!



### MAY IS NATIONAL BIKE MONTH,

and it's easy to ride in the Miami Valley, home to the nation's largest paved trail network where you can explore more than 300 miles of connected trails – just one of many reasons Dayton is a Bronze-Level Bicycle Friendly Community.



The region's largest celebration of cycling as a means of transportation is the National Bike to Work Day Pancake Breakfast. Last year, more than 700 cyclists rode downtown to enjoy free pancakes, sausage, coffee, bike-related exhibitors and live music. Participate in the team challenge to win sweet prizes and be one of the first 400 cyclists to receive a free gift courtesy of Five Rivers MetroParks.

Yet that is not all: See pages 25-26 for a list of all Five Rivers MetroParks' winter and spring cycling programs. Other cycling-related events held in May include:

MAY	Saturdays throughout May – Bike Bucks at the Market
7	Bike for the Health of It Ride to Radvansky Bridge
11	Trailside Repairs Program
16	Go W/ the Flow, Bike Week Edition
17	Bicycle Commuting Program
21	Bike Rodeo for Kids
21	Bike for the Health of It Ride to Island MetroPark
22	Bike to the Dragons
25	Trailside Repairs Program
28	Bike for the Health of It Ride to RiverScape MetroPark

### NATIONAL BIKE TO WORK DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Friday, May 20: 7 to 9 AM  
RiverScape MetroPark

[METROPARKS.ORG/  
BIKETOWORK](http://METROPARKS.ORG/BIKETOWORK)





# YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**YOUR EXPERIENCES IN FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS** – whether a walk on the trails or bikeways, attending a program, or sitting on a bench and enjoying nature – are made possible by Montgomery County residents who support the levy, an array of volunteers who donate their time, and dedicated businesses and individuals who support Five Rivers MetroParks through donations, grants and sponsorships.

Thank you to everyone in the community who supported Five Rivers MetroParks in 2015, especially the following lead corporate and foundation partners:

- Bonbright Distributors
- Buckeye Health Plan
- Coca-Cola Refreshments
- Field & Stream
- Friends of Carriage Hill MetroPark Farm
- KIND
- Mikesell's
- MSD (Mechanical Systems of Dayton, Inc.)
- Osprey
- PNC Foundation
- REI
- Southwest Airlines Co.
- Subaru of America
- The Dayton Power and Light Foundation
- The Dayton Power and Light Company
- The Garden Club of America
- The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation
- The Virginia W. Kettering Foundation
- Thompson Hine
- Wagner Subaru
- Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation
- Whole Foods Market
- Zuke's

As we begin 2016, we look forward to new and renewed support from our many friends. Together, our efforts continue to enrich our community.

## SUPPORT

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

Learn more about giving to the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation; James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation; Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation; and Friends of Carriage Hill: Visit [metroparks.org/donate](http://metroparks.org/donate).

**INTERESTED IN PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES  
WITH FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS?**

PLEASE CONTACT Lucy Johnson, development manager  
at 937-277-4139 or [lucy.johnson@metroparks.org](mailto:lucy.johnson@metroparks.org)





## A TRAIL TO VOLUNTEERISM

Five Rivers MetroParks' hiking, cycling, mountain biking, water and equestrian trails have one thing in common: volunteers help build, maintain, interpret and patrol them.

Five Rivers MetroParks offers many volunteer options for supporting the system of trails the public so enjoys. Some opportunities occur only one time, making them perfect for group projects, and others are ongoing and support maintenance or programming for the long term or for a season. Projects range from several hours to several weeks, and volunteers with varying skill levels are welcome.

Volunteer trail opportunities are available year round, with the busiest season being March through November. Every year, significant volunteer power helps control invasive plants such as honeysuckle, which grows aggressively along woodland trails, and helps keep trail surfaces maintained for aesthetics and safety. All volunteer projects are led by qualified staff who provide instruction and materials, as well as point out more hidden features and trail-side sightings, such as unusual plants and wildlife.

For more information or to get involved, contact Five Rivers MetroParks' volunteer services department at [volunteer@metroparks.org](mailto:volunteer@metroparks.org) or (937) 275-PARK (7275), or visit [metroparks.org/volunteer](http://metroparks.org/volunteer).



## CELEBRATE EARTH DAY BY VOLUNTEERING DURING ADOPT-A-PARK

Go green by helping keep natural areas clean during Five Rivers MetroParks' 29th annual Adopt-A-Park event from 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 16. Starting in March, you can register online at [metroparks.org/adopt](http://metroparks.org/adopt). Groups are encouraged to register early to ensure space at available sites.

A diverse crew of volunteers of all ages, accessibility levels and backgrounds join forces during this event to make your parks and river corridors healthier and more attractive. Volunteers also will plant trees, prepare garden beds, remove invasive species, maintain trails and spruce up facilities. Project supplies will be provided to volunteers, who receive a free T-shirt and lunch at RiverScape MetroPark.

**IN 2015, MORE THAN 2,300 PEOPLE VOLUNTEERED AT 54 SITES THROUGHOUT MONTGOMERY COUNTY. WORK INCLUDED:**

- Removing 37,000 pounds of litter; 8,000 pounds of recyclable materials; and 267 tires
- Sprucing up two playgrounds
- Planting 2,600 tree seedlings
- Cleaning 25 miles of bikeways and two illegal dumps
- Removing invasive plants from 15 acres of park land



## VOLUNTEER AT YOUR FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

Work alongside Five Rivers MetroParks' staff and other volunteers to learn about nature, gardening, outdoor recreation, heritage skills and more — all while experiencing the outdoors! A variety of opportunities are available to fit all interests and abilities. Attend one of the free events to learn how you can make a difference in your parks!

REGISTER OR LEARN MORE:

[METROPARKS.ORG/VOLUNTEER](http://METROPARKS.ORG/VOLUNTEER)  
(937) 275-PARK  
[volunteer@metroparks.org](mailto:volunteer@metroparks.org)



### FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**TUE. FEB 16, 10 AM-NOON P220**

**TUE. MAY 17, 6:30-8:30 PM P221**

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

Orientation provides history, an overview of location-specific opportunities and an introduction to opportunities this season.

### OUTDOOR RECREATION VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**THU. MAY 5, 6:30-7:30 PM P260**

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

Help build the "Outdoor Adventure Capital of the Midwest" by supporting backpacking, cycling, kayaking, fishing and more.

## TRAILS

### SUSTAINABLE TRAIL SUPPORT TEAM/ TRAIL MONITOR ORIENTATION

**WED. MAR 9, 6:30-8:00 PM P255**

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

**THU. APR 14, 9:00-11:00 AM P256**

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

**THU. MAY 26, 6:30-8:00 PM P257**

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

Volunteers are needed to help monitor and act as trail team leaders to help support Five Rivers MetroParks' more than 75 miles of trails.

No experience is necessary for trail work days; tools are provided. Please bring water and work gloves. Youth 14-17 must be accompanied by an adult.

### BACKPACKING TRAIL WORK DAYS

**SAT. MAY 14, 9:00 AM-NOON P223**

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Park Office, 6675 Conservancy Rd.

### MOMBA TRAIL WORK DAYS

**SAT. MAY 21, 9:00 AM-NOON P222**

MOMBA, 4485 Union School House Road

## EVENTS

### THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT ORIENTATION

**WED. FEB 3, 6:00-7:30 PM P2**

Wright State University, 3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy. Learn how you can support this exhibition of outdoor adventure culture.

### BIKE TO WORK DAY ORIENTATION

**TUE. MAY 10, 6:00-7:30 PM P261**

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

Learn how to promote cycling while volunteering for the National Bike to Work Day Pancake Breakfast on Friday, May 20.

## PARKS & FACILITIES

### POSSUM CREEK VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**THU. FEB 25, 10:00 AM-NOON P233**

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

Volunteers are needed to prep flower beds around the farmhouse and gardens and to assist staff with various events, programming, park and farm projects.

### CARRIAGE HILL VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**THU. MAR 3, 10:00 AM-NOON P234**

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

Carriage Hill has a variety of volunteer opportunities at the 1880s Historical Farm and Riding Center and helping with retail, conservation and park projects.

### CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK RIDING CENTER ORIENTATION

**THU. MAR 10, 6:00-7:30 PM P259**

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

See what's happening at the Riding Center and how you can get involved. Many opportunities are hands-on and schedules are flexible.

### COX ARBORETUM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**WED. MAR 30, 9:00-11:00 AM P273**

**WED. MAY 25, 6:00-8:00 PM P115**

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

Learn about the park's amenities and find out how you can help the Arboretum grow. Orientation will include a walking tour.

### WEGERZYN GARDENS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**WED. APR 13, 10:30 AM-NOON P215**

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

Orientation will provide an overview of opportunities and a walking tour.

### AULLWOOD GARDEN VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**TUE. APR 26, 10:30 AM-NOON P210**

AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aull Residence, 900 Aullwood Rd.

Help maintain and preserve this historical estate garden and living work of art and local history. Orientation will include a walking tour.

### URBAN PARKS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**TUE. APR 26, 6:00-8:00 PM P136**

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

Orientation provides history, an overview of location-specific opportunities and an introduction to upcoming opportunities.

Discover how volunteers can make an impact at this hidden gem of the Miami Valley.



## NATURE AND CONSERVATION

### CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**TUE. FEB 2, 1:00-3:00 PM P228**

**SAT. FEB 20, 10:00 AM-NOON P229**

**THU. MAR 10, 9:00-11:00 AM P230**

**WED. MAR 30, 6:30-8:30 PM P231**

**WED. APR 13, 9:00-11:00 AM P232**

**THU. APR 21, 6:30-8:30 PM P235**

**WED. MAY 11, 6:30 AM-8:30 PM P236**

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

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.

### CONSERVATION NATURALIST VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**THU. FEB 11, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM P218**

**TUE. MAY 3, 9:00-11:00 AM P219**

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

Help Five Rivers MetroParks connect kids and families to nature. Experience not required, just a passion for sharing, love of nature, and joy for working with kids and families.

### ANIMAL AMBASSADOR ORIENTATION

**THU. FEB 18, 1:00-3:30 PM P244**

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Park Office, 6675

Conservancy Rd. Animal ambassadors help connect people to wildlife, the habitat they need, and break barriers and fears about nature. Learn the programs offered within the parks and area schools. Animal care, handling and behavior will be discussed.

### CONSERVATION CARETAKER ORIENTATION

**WED. MAR 23, 6:30-8:30 PM P226**

**THU. MAY 12, 9:00-11:00 AM P227**

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

Learn about the different conservation areas and how you can become a caretaker for them.

### BUTTERFLY MONITORS

**THU. MAR 24, 1:00-3:30 PM P245**

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

Butterfly surveys will start in April at Germantown MetroPark. Beginners and experienced participants are welcome to this training on identification, plants associated with various butterflies, and orientation to the survey and routes.

### WETLAND WORKDAYS

**WED. MAR 30, 9:00 AM-NOON P237**

**WED. APR 27, 9:00 AM-NOON P238**

**WED. MAY 25, 9:00 AM-NOON P239**

GREAT MIAMI WETLAND MITIGATION BANK, 8101 Little Richmond Rd. Help preserve and enhance this ecosystem Five Rivers MetroParks is developing. Join staff in essential projects, such as tree plantings, seeding and invasive plant removal while discovering this new conservation treasure. Registration required.

## GARDENING

### NATIVE PLANT GARDENER ORIENTATION AND TRAINING

**THU. FEB 4, 9:00 AM-3:30 PM P243**

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Park Office, 6675 Conservancy Rd.

Gardeners are needed to support conservation efforts. Orientation includes introduction to native plants, techniques to successfully grow and establish them and habitats they support, as well as hands-on activities in the greenhouse and seed nursery, native plant gardens, pollinator plantings and prairies.

### HORTICULTURAL LEARNING SERIES

**TUE. FEB 23, 9:00 AM- NOON P209**

**WED. MAY 25, 9:00 AM- NOON P213**

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

**WED. APR 20, 9:00 AM- NOON P170**

**THURS. MAY 19, 9:00 AM-NOON P274**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.

**WED. MAR 23, 9:00 AM- NOON P171**

ISLAND METROPARK, 101 E. Helena St.

**TUE. APR 5, 9:00 AM- NOON P214**

AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 930 Aullwood Rd. Staff and seasoned and novice gardeners can learn from each other. Each session will include a learning topic, followed by a work project.

### GREENHOUSE VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**WED. FEB 24, 10:00-11:00 AM P168**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Green House, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Be a part of the new Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture, where conservation and horticulture meet! Tasks will include watering, pruning, grooming, seeding, transplanting, cleaning, pot washing and assisting with group activities.

### A WORLD OF GARDENING WORKSHOP

**SAT. MAR 19, 9:00 AM-1:30 PM P135**

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

Get excited about the upcoming gardening season as you learn about common edible plants, forest ecology for the home gardener, nighttime pollinators, wildflowers, pruning, heritage seed propagation and preserving the harvest, as well as how you can volunteer in Five Rivers MetroParks' garden parks.

### GARDENING ANGELS WORK DAYS

**SAT. APR 16, 9:00 AM-NOON P211**

**SAT. MAY 21, 9:00 AM-NOON P212**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, 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.

### RIVERSCAPE METROPARK GARDENERS KICKOFF

**FRI. APR 22, 9:00-11:00 AM P283**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.

Learn about the unique features of RiverScape and how you can help keep this park a beautiful downtown resource. Bring a container and take a little piece of the park home with you.

### GARDEN DISCOVERY GUIDES KICK-OFF

**SAT. MAY 7, 12:30-2:30 PM P208**

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

Learn more about volunteering in the Children's Discovery Garden this summer, when volunteers will engage visitors through guided discoveries and simple hands-on activities. Volunteers will be trained by shadowing staff. Registration required.

## ONGOING GARDENING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### WEGERZYN GARDENING ANGELS

**EVERY WEDNESDAY BEGINNING MARCH 30 AND TWO SATURDAYS, APRIL 16 & MAY 21 9:00 AM-NOON**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

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

### AULLWOOD GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

**EVERY MONDAY AND TUESDAY BEGINNING MARCH 14**

**9:00 AM-NOON**

AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 900 Aullwood Rd. Restore this historical estate garden to its mid-1970s design. Learn to grow wildflowers and woodland plants and about plant propagation, garden mapping, and botanical and historical research.

### GARDEN DISCOVERY GUIDES FLEXIBLE SHIFTS, MAY THROUGH SEPTEMBER

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Engage visitors through guided discoveries and simple hands-on activities. Volunteers will be trained by shadowing staff.

### POSEY PATROL

**VARIOUS DOWNTOWN DAYTON LOCATIONS, FLEXIBLE SHIFTS STARTING IN MAY**

As part of the First Bloom program, volunteers plant downtown planters with fresh annuals each spring and/or monitor them throughout the growing season.

### GARDEN STEWARDS

**FLEXIBLE SHIFTS, MAY THROUGH SEP.**

COX ARBORETUM AND RIVERSCAPE METROPARKS Perform a variety of Earth-friendly activities, including seed collection, propagation, weeding, pruning, deadheading, mulching and maintaining herbaceous and woody plants throughout the grounds. No experience necessary, hands-on training provided.



# HOW TO SEARCH AND REGISTER FOR METROPARKS PROGRAMMING

Finding your interests is quick and easy. You can find them by DATE or TOPIC. Follow the instructions below and start filling up your calendar.

## SEARCH

### GUIDE TO PROGRAMS BY DATE

#### THU, FEB 26, 2015

**6:00 PM Intro to Paddling**, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see Page 33 M112)

**9:00 PM Owl Excursion**, Englewood MetroPark (see Page 30 M199)

**9:00 PM Owl Prowl**, Englewood MetroPark (see Page 31 M191)

### GUIDE TO PROGRAMS BY TOPIC

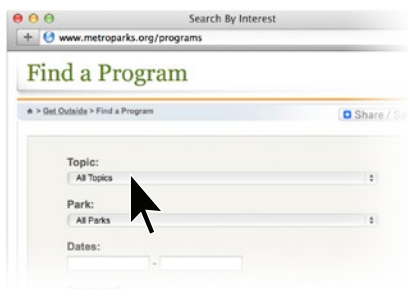
#### PADDLING

##### INTRO TO PADDLESPOOTS

**THU. FEB 26, 6:00-8:30 PM M112**

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

During this classroom-based program, learn about different types of kayaking, stand up pad-



## REGISTER

[VIEW DETAILS AND REGISTER](#)

### ONLINE

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

After locating your desired program, use the button located in the listing to register for that program.

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

Fees are required at the time of registration. Visit [metroparks.org/refunds](http://metroparks.org/refunds) for details.

### PARKWAYS BY DATE

This is a chronological listing of every program at every park. Pick a date, find an activity that interests you and go to the page listed to find out more information.

### PARKWAYS BY TOPIC

This is an alphabetical listing of programming by topic. Each program lists the title, date, time, location, program code and description.

### ONLINE

Select programs listed by topic, park, dates, program numbers and/or age ranges. Visit [metroparks.org/programs](http://metroparks.org/programs).



### BY PHONE

**(937) 275-PARK (7275)**

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



### ALERTS AND CLOSURES

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



### HOW TO CONTACT A RANGER

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

Inform the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office dispatcher you are in a MetroParks facility. A MetroParks Law Enforcement Ranger will be notified and respond to the situation as soon as possible. As always, if it is an emergency, please call 9-1-1.



### LOST SOMETHING?

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



**MON, FEB 1, 2016**

9:00 am City Beets 2016 Call for Applications  
, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P138*)

**TUE, FEB 2, 2016**

1:00 pm Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P228*)

**WED, FEB 3, 2016**

2:00 pm Great Backyard Birdcount, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P70*)  
6:00 pm Volunteer: Adventure Summit Orientation, Offsite (see *Outdoor Adventure P2*)  
6:30 pm Astronomy Report, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Green Living P172*)  
7:00 pm Inspired to Ride, Offsite (see *Cycling M342*)

**THU, FEB 4, 2016**

9:00 am Volunteer: Native Plant Gardener Orientation and Training, Germantown MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P243*)  
6:00 pm City Beets, a Summer Youth Program: Open House, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P204*)

**FRI, FEB 5, 2016**

7:00 pm Karaoke Classics, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Skating P6*)

**SAT, FEB 6, 2016**

10:00 am Posing Group Portraits, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Photography P187*)  
11:00 am Sleeping Nature, Sugar Creek MetroPark (see *Nature P55*)  
12:30 pm Teen Garden Planning, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P17*)  
1:00 pm Traditional Butchering, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Heritage & History P117*)  
2:00 pm Great Backyard Birdcount, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P71*)  
7:00 pm Star-Late Skate, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Skating P3*)

**SUN, FEB 7, 2016**

1:30 pm Carriage Hill Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P40*)

**MON, FEB 8, 2016**

10:30 am Animal Tracking, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Nature P64*)

**TUE, FEB 9, 2016**

6:00 pm Bokashi Workshop, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Green Living P258*)  
6:00 pm Master Recycling Class, Offsite (see *Green Living P13*)

**WED, FEB 10, 2016**

6:00 pm Teachers' Night Out: Composting in the Classroom, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P133*)

**THU, FEB 11, 2016**

10:00 am Volunteer: Conservation Orientation-Naturalists Volunteers, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P218*)

**FRI, FEB 12, 2016**

2:30 pm Sweetheart Deal, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Skating P8*)  
5:00 pm The Adventure Summit, Offsite (see *Outdoor Adventure P33*)  
7:00 pm Sweetheart Skate, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Skating P7*)

**SAT, FEB 13, 2016**

10:00 am Getting started Raising Small Livestock at Home, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Farming P32*)  
10:00 am Valentine's Decorating, 2nd Street Market (see *Entertainment P276*)  
7:00 pm Star-Late Skate, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Skating P4*)

**MON, FEB 15, 2016**

11:00 am Presidents Day Skate, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Skating P9*)

**TUE, FEB 16, 2016**

10:00 am Volunteer: Five Rivers MetroParks Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P220*)  
6:00 pm Discover Backpacking, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Backpacking P27*)

**WED, FEB 17, 2016**

6:00 pm Site Assessment and Basic Design, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P91*)

**THU, FEB 18, 2016**

1:00 pm Volunteer: Animal Ambassador Orientation, Germantown MetroPark (see *Nature P244*)

**FRI, FEB 19, 2016**

7:00 pm Sounds from the Cinema Skate, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Skating P10*)

**SAT, FEB 20, 2016**

8:30 am Family Farm Chores, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Farming P129*)  
10:00 am Amazing Sheep, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Farming P52*)  
10:00 am Carriage Hill Pancake Breakfast, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Heritage & History P121*)  
10:00 am Forest Bird Search, Englewood MetroPark (see *Nature P56*)  
10:00 am Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P229*)  
10:00 am Miami Valley Orchid Show, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P282*)  
12:00 pm Maple Sugaring on the Farm, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Heritage & History P118*)  
12:30 pm Guided Maple Sugaring Tour, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Heritage & History P119*)  
2:00 pm Birds and Community, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P73*)  
2:00 pm Winged Friends, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P72*)  
2:30 pm Guided Maple Sugaring Tour, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Heritage & History P120*)  
7:00 pm Star-Late Skate, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Skating P14*)

**SUN, FEB 21, 2016**

1:30 pm Hills & Dales Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P41*)

**TUE, FEB 23, 2016**

9:00 am Volunteer: Horticultural Learning Series, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P209*)  
1:00 pm Winter Birds, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Nature P65*)  
1:00 pm The Goodness of Sheep, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Farming P51*)  
6:00 pm Discover Biking, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Cycling P82*)

**WED, FEB 24, 2016**

10:00 am Volunteer: Greenhouse Orientation, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P168*)  
6:00 pm What to Plant, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P93*)

**THU, FEB 25, 2016**

10:00 am Volunteer: Possum Creek Volunteer Orientation, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P233*)  
5:30 pm Farm Fresh to You: A Community Supported Agriculture Fair, 2nd Street Market (see *Green Living P137*)  
6:00 pm River Rescue Knots, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Paddling P24*)  
6:00 pm Appalachian Trail Trip Planning, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Backpacking P190*)

**FRI, FEB 26, 2016**

7:00 pm Disco Fever, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Skating P11*)

**SAT, FEB 27, 2016**

8:00 am Wilderness First Responder, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Outdoor Skills and Safety P182*)  
9:00 am Black History Day, 2nd Street Market (see *Heritage & History P277*)  
10:00 am Winter Garden Workshop and Seed Swap, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P88*)  
7:00 pm Star-Late Skate, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Skating P5*)

**MON, FEB 29, 2016**

2:30 pm Last Day to Skate!, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Skating P12*)

**WED, MAR 2, 2016**

6:00 pm Basic Plant Care and Garden Maintenance, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P94*)  
6:30 pm Twin Creek vs. Wolf Creek, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Green Living P173*)  
7:00 pm Discover Paddlesports, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Paddling P25*)

**THU, MAR 3, 2016**

10:00 am Volunteer: Carriage Hill Volunteer Orientation, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Farming P234*)



**SAT, MAR 5, 2016**

**8:00 am** Wilderness First Aid, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Outdoor Skills and Safety P185*)  
**10:00 am** The Sustainable Garden: Deb Knapke, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P97*)  
**2:00 pm** Eco Advocate, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P74*)  
**2:00 pm** Eco Kid, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P75*)  
**6:00 pm** Woodcock Watch, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P57*)

**SUN, MAR 6, 2016**

**9:00 am** Project Wild & Inquiry Adventures Workshop, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P1*)  
**1:30 pm** Possum Creek Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P42*)

**TUE, MAR 8, 2016**

**11:00 am** Signs of Spring, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see *Nature P66*)  
**6:00 pm** Discover Fishing, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Fishing P144*)

**WED, MAR 9, 2016**

**8:00 am** Wilderness Medicine Open Recertification, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Outdoor Skills and Safety P186*)  
**6:30 pm** Volunteer: Sustainable Trail Support Team/Trail Monitor Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Outdoor Adventure P255*)

**THU, MAR 10, 2016**

**9:00 am** Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P230*)  
**6:00 pm** Volunteer: Carriage Hill Riding Center Orientation, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Horseback Riding P259*)  
**6:30 pm** Community Garden Coordinators Dinner, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P50*)

**SAT, MAR 12, 2016**

**8:00 am** Green Schoolyards Training at the MVLNCI Summit, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P81*)  
**10:00 am** Blooms all year long, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Photography P100*)  
**10:00 am** Seed Starting Basics with Doug Christen, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P99*)  
**10:00 am** St. Patrick's Day at the Market, 2nd Street Market (see *Heritage & History P278*)  
**11:30 am** 5th Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Summit, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Nature P54*)  
**3:15 pm** Nature Exploration, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Nature P113*)  
**3:15 pm** Nature Fun, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Nature P112*)

**SUN, MAR 13, 2016**

**12:00 pm** Historical Skills Day, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Heritage & History P124*)

**12:00 pm** Steam on the Farm, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Heritage & History P122*)

**TUE, MAR 15, 2016**

**6:00 pm** Teachers' Night Out: Schoolyard Birds, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P184*)

**WED, MAR 16, 2016**

**10:00 am** Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see *Nature P311*)  
**1:30 pm** Project Budburst, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see *Nature P92*)  
**6:00 pm** Family Egg Dyeing, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Farming P53*)  
**6:00 pm** Backpacking 1: Women, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Backpacking P31*)

**THU, MAR 17, 2016**

**10:00 am** City Beets Garden Volunteer Open House, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P206*)  
**5:30 pm** River Access Van Tour: Great Miami South and Twin Creek, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Paddling P290*)  
**6:00 pm** Teen Fly Tying, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Fishing P143*)

**SAT, MAR 19, 2016**

**8:30 am** Family Farm Chores, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Farming P130*)  
**9:00 am** Volunteer: A World of Gardening Workshop, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P135*)  
**10:00 am** Exploring Eagles and Ducks, Eastwood MetroPark (see *Nature P58*)  
**12:30 pm** Teen Aquaponics, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P18*)  
**1:00 pm** Seedling Saturdays, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see *Nature P90*)

**SUN, MAR 20, 2016**

**1:30 pm** Englewood Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Englewood MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P43*)

**MON, MAR 21, 2016**

**6:00 pm** Bicycle Maintenance 1, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Cycling P193*)

**TUE, MAR 22, 2016**

**1:00 pm** Natural Egg Dyeing, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Farming P38*)  
**6:30 pm** Repurposing Workshop: Glass Cutting, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Green Living P176*)

**WED, MAR 23, 2016**

**9:00 am** Volunteer: Horticultural Learning Series, Island MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P171*)  
**1:30 pm** Woodland Adventure, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see *Nature P67*)  
**6:00 pm** Bicycle Maintenance 2, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Cycling P194*)  
**6:30 pm** Volunteer: Conservation Caretaker Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P226*)

**THU, MAR 24, 2016**

**1:00 pm** Volunteer: Butterfly Monitors, Five Rivers

MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P245*)

**5:30 pm** River Access Van Tour: Mad River and River Runs, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Paddling P291*)

**6:00 pm** Backpacking 1, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Backpacking P28*)

**MON, MAR 28, 2016**

**4:00 pm** Greater Dayton Youth Spring Rowing, Island MetroPark (see *Rowing P286*)

**TUE, MAR 29, 2016**

**6:00 pm** Bicycle Maintenance 2, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Cycling P195*)  
**6:30 pm** Reduce Your Energy Bill, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Green Living P177*)

**WED, MAR 30, 2016**

**9:00 am** Volunteer: Cox Arboretum Volunteer Orientation, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P273*)  
**9:00 am** Volunteer: Wetland Workdays, Offsite (see *Nature P237*)  
**6:30 pm** Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P231*)

**THU, MAR 31, 2016**

**5:30 pm** MetroParks Campsites Van Tour, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Camping P292*)

**SAT, APR 2, 2016**

**9:00 am** Ride to Verona, Bikeway: Wolf Creek (see *Cycling P264*)  
**10:00 am** Be a Bunny with the Easter Bunny, 2nd Street Market (see *Entertainment P279*)  
**11:00 am** Try Gardening!, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P295*)

**SUN, APR 3, 2016**

**1:30 pm** Eastwood Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Eastwood MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P44*)

**TUE, APR 5, 2016**

**9:00 am** Adult Nature Walk, Taylorsville MetroPark (see *Nature P303*)  
**9:00 am** Volunteer: Horticultural Learning Series, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P214*)  
**4:00 pm** Try Mountain Biking, MoMBA (see *Mountain Biking P196*)

**WED, APR 6, 2016**

**1:00 pm** Buds and Bugs, Taylorsville MetroPark (see *Nature P68*)  
**6:30 pm** Miami Conservancy District, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Green Living P174*)

**THU, APR 7, 2016**

**5:30 pm** Twin Valley Trail Van Tour, Germantown MetroPark (see *Backpacking P293*)  
**6:00 pm** Teachers' Night Out: Busy Bees, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P134*)

**SAT, APR 9, 2016**

**9:00 am** Ride to Trotwood, Bikeway: Wolf Creek (see *Cycling P265*)



**9:00 am** Growing Up WILD Training, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P263*)  
**10:00 am** From Sheep to Shawls, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Heritage & History P123*)  
**12:00 pm** Backpacking 2, Germantown MetroPark (see *Backpacking P29*)  
**12:30 pm** Teen Mushroom Growing, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P23*)

### SUN, APR 10, 2016

**2:00 pm** Wildflower Walk: Early Spring Wonders, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P114*)

### TUE, APR 12, 2016

**6:00 pm** Garden Design, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P140*)

### WED, APR 13, 2016

**9:00 am** Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P232*)  
**10:30 am** Volunteer: Wegerzyn Gardens Orientation, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P215*)  
**11:00 am** Compost Kitchen, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Green Living P178*)  
**6:00 pm** Fly Fishing 1, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Fishing P146*)

### THU, APR 14, 2016

**8:00 am** Bus Trip: Cincinnati Flower Show and Bern's, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P150*)  
**9:00 am** Volunteer: Sustainable Trail Support Team/Trail Monitor Orientation, Taylorsville MetroPark (see *Outdoor Adventure P256*)

### FRI, APR 15, 2016

**11:00 am** Tree Seedling Giveaway, 2nd Street Market (see *Gardening & Landscaping P280*)  
**7:30 pm** Nocturnal Amphibian Quest, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see *Nature P111*)

### SAT, APR 16, 2016

**8:00 am** Beginning Birding Workshop, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P248*)  
**9:00 am** Ride to Fifth Third Gateway Park, Bikeway: Creekside (see *Cycling P266*)  
**9:00 am** Adopt-A-Park 2016, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Nature P254*)  
**9:00 am** Volunteer: Gardening Angels Work Days, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P211*)  
**9:00 am** Wegerzyn Gardens Walkfest, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P15*)  
**2:00 pm** Amphibian Naturalist Training, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P96*)  
**2:00 pm** Frog Party, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P95*)  
**7:30 pm** Nocturnal Amphibian Search, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see *Nature P60*)

### SUN, APR 17, 2016

**1:30 pm** Germantown Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Germantown MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P45*)  
**2:00 pm** Aullwood in Spring, Aullwood Garden

MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P139*)

### MON, APR 18, 2016

**11:00 am** Leave a Legacy, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see *Nature P98*)  
**6:00 pm** Bicycle Touring, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Cycling P198*)

### TUE, APR 19, 2016

**6:00 pm** Wildflower Walk on the Marie Aull Trail, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P141*)

### WED, APR 20, 2016

**9:00 am** Volunteer: Horticultural Learning Series, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P170*)  
**10:00 am** Storytime Adventures: Water, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Outdoor Play P145*)

### THU, APR 21, 2016

**6:30 pm** Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P235*)

### FRI, APR 22, 2016

**9:00 am** Volunteer: RiverScape Gardeners Kickoff, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P283*)  
**9:30 am** Volunteer: The Big Pull, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P216*)

### SAT, APR 23, 2016

**8:30 am** Family Farm Chores, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Farming P131*)  
**9:00 am** Ride to Wright Brothers Memorial Park, Bikeway: Mad River (see *Cycling P267*)  
**10:00 am** Garden Prep Boot Camp, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P106*)  
**10:00 am** Volunteer: Heritage Interpreter Historical Skills Course, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Heritage & History P127*)  
**12:00 pm** Backpacking 2, Germantown MetroPark (see *Backpacking P30*)

### SUN, APR 24, 2016

**2:00 pm** Wildflower Walk: The next layer of Spring, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P249*)

### TUE, APR 26, 2016

**10:30 am** Volunteer: Aullwood Garden Orientation, Aullwood Garden MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P210*)  
**6:00 pm** Nymphs, Emergers, Dries, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Fishing P148*)  
**6:00 pm** Volunteer: Urban Parks Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P136*)

### WED, APR 27, 2016

**9:00 am** Volunteer: Wetland Workdays, Offsite (see *Nature P238*)  
**10:00 am** Storytime Adventures, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P149*)  
**6:00 pm** Planting Techniques, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P147*)

### SAT, APR 30, 2016

**8:30 am** 5K/10K Run for the Health of It, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P48*)  
**9:00 am** Ride to Kyle Park, Bikeway: Great Miami River (see *Cycling P268*)  
**9:00 am** Annual MayFair Plant Sale, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P246*)  
**10:00 am** Picturing Petals and Plants, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Photography P188*)  
**10:00 am** Fly Fishing 2: Lake, Taylorsville MetroPark (see *Fishing P151*)  
**12:30 pm** Woodland Salamander Search, Taylorsville MetroPark (see *Nature P61*)  
**7:30 pm** Bullfrog Round Up, Germantown MetroPark (see *Nature P101*)

### SUN, MAY 1, 2016

**11:00 am** Annual MayFair Plant Sale, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P247*)

### TUE, MAY 3, 2016

**9:00 am** Volunteer: Conservation Orientation-Naturalist Volunteers, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P219*)  
**11:30 am** Historical Methods for Making Coffee, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Home & Hobbies P128*)  
**4:00 pm** Try Mountain Biking, MoMBA (see *Mountain Biking P197*)  
**6:00 pm** Family First Tuesdays Free Tram Tours, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P157*)

### WED, MAY 4, 2016

**6:30 pm** Inkjet Chemistry, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Green Living P175*)

### THU, MAY 5, 2016

**5:30 pm** Start a New Community Garden, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P166*)  
**6:30 pm** Volunteer: Outdoor Recreation Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Outdoor Adventure P260*)

### FRI, MAY 6, 2016

**9:00 am** Hopewell Earthworks Conservation Project, Twin Creek MetroPark (see *Nature P200*)  
**6:00 pm** Kickin' off Pickin' in the Park, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Entertainment P85*)

### SAT, MAY 7, 2016

**9:00 am** Mother and Son Fishing Day, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Fishing P155*)  
**9:00 am** Ride to Radvansky Ln Bridge, Bikeway: Stillwater River (see *Cycling P269*)  
**10:00 am** Fitness in the Park, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P77*)  
**10:00 am** Picturing Beasts and Birds, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Photography P189*)  
**10:00 am** Basic Garden Skills and Tools Review, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P152*)  
**11:00 am** Music @ Lunch, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Entertainment P83*)  
**12:30 pm** Volunteer: Garden Discovery Guides Kick-Off, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P208*)  
**1:00 pm** Let's Bug Out!, Cox Arboretum MetroPark



## GUIDE TO PROGRAMS BY DATE

(see *Nature P62*)

**1:30 pm** Fairy Garden Workshop, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P203*)

**8:00 pm** Forests at Night, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see *Nature P110*)

### SUN, MAY 8, 2016

**12:00 pm** Corn on the Farm, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Heritage & History P125*)

**1:00 pm** Planting for Pollinators, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P103*)

**2:00 pm** Wildflower Walk: late spring beauty, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P156*)

### TUE, MAY 10, 2016

**6:00 am** Container Vegetable Gardens, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P159*)

**9:00 am** Adult Nature Walk, Englewood MetroPark (see *Nature P308*)

**11:30 am** Music @ Lunch, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Entertainment P84*)

**4:30 pm** Spring Greens and Early Planting, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P180*)

**6:00 pm** Volunteer: Bike to Work Day Orientation, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Cycling P261*)

### WED, MAY 11, 2016

**6:30 am** Volunteer: Conservation Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P236*)

**10:00 am** Storytime Adventures: Flowers, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Outdoor Play P162*)

**11:00 am** Worm Composting Workshop, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Green Living P179*)

**1:00 pm** Milkweed for Monarchs, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P105*)

**6:00 pm** Trailside Repairs, Eastwood MetroPark (see *Cycling P201*)

### THU, MAY 12, 2016

**9:00 am** Volunteer: Conservation Caretaker Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P227*)

### SAT, MAY 14, 2016

**9:00 am** Ride to Verona, Bikeway: Wolf Creek (see *Cycling P270*)

**9:00 am** RiverScape Gardening Steward, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P169*)

**9:00 am** Volunteer: Backpacking Trail Work Days, Germantown MetroPark (see *Backpacking P223*)

**10:00 am** Fitness in the Park, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P78*)

**10:00 am** Fly Fishing 2: River, Eastwood MetroPark (see *Fishing P158*)

**10:00 am** Pollinator Party!, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P153*)

**10:30 am** Solomon Gamboa: Ohio Native Plants and Pollinators, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P294*)

### SUN, MAY 15, 2016

**1:30 pm** Sugarcreek Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health*

*P46*)

**2:00 pm** Growing Up WILD Training, Sugarcreek MetroPark (see *Nature P183*)

### MON, MAY 16, 2016

**6:00 pm** GO W/ FLOW Yoga: Bike Week Edition, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P35*)

**6:00 pm** Greater Dayton Adult Spring Learn-to-Row, Island MetroPark (see *Rowing P287*)

### TUE, MAY 17, 2016

**6:00 pm** May's Beautiful Blooms, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P160*)

**6:00 pm** Bicycle Commuting, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Cycling P199*)

**6:00 pm** Greater Dayton Adult Spring Learn-to-Row, Island MetroPark (see *Rowing P288*)

**6:30 pm** Volunteer: Five Rivers MetroParks Volunteer Orientation, Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office (see *Nature P221*)

### WED, MAY 18, 2016

**10:00 am** Storytime Adventures: Flowers, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Outdoor Play P205*)

**10:00 am** Discovery Stroll, Hills & Dales MetroPark (see *Nature P312*)

**12:00 pm** Walk! Downtown Dayton, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P49*)

**6:00 pm** Kick the Disposable Habit, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Green Living P181*)

### THU, MAY 19, 2016

**9:00 am** Pollinator Plantings, Germantown MetroPark (see *Nature P240*)

**9:00 am** Volunteer: Horticultural Learning Series, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P274*)

**12:30 pm** Pollinator Plantings, Germantown MetroPark (see *Nature P241*)

### FRI, MAY 20, 2016

**7:00 am** National Bike To Work Day Pancake Breakfast, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Cycling P34*)

### SAT, MAY 21, 2016

**8:30 am** Family Farm Chores, Carriage Hill MetroPark (see *Farming P132*)

**9:00 am** Pollinator Plantings, Germantown MetroPark (see *Nature P242*)

**9:00 am** Ride to Island MetroPark, Bikeway: Great Miami River (see *Cycling P271*)

**9:00 am** Volunteer: Gardening Angels Work Days, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P212*)

**9:00 am** Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days, MoMBA (see *Mountain Biking P222*)

**9:00 am** Wegerzyn Bike Rodeo - For Kids, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Cycling P313*)

**9:00 am** Tab-a-pull-ooza, 2nd Street Market (see *Entertainment P281*)

**10:00 am** Fitness in the Park, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P79*)

**10:00 am** Leave No Trace Trainer Course, Twin Creek MetroPark (see *Outdoor Skills and Safety P108*)

**10:00 am** Perennials Workshop: division and transplant, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening*

*& Landscaping P154*)

**12:00 pm** Greater Dayton Adult Spring Learn-to-Row, Island MetroPark (see *Rowing P289*)

**2:00 pm** Caring for Caterpillars, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P107*)

**8:30 pm** Owl Prowl, Englewood MetroPark (see *Nature P63*)

### SUN, MAY 22, 2016

**2:00 pm** Wildflower Walk: Beautiful May Blooms, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P250*)

**2:00 pm** Bike to the Dragons, Offsite (see *Cycling P191*)

### MON, MAY 23, 2016

**6:00 pm** RiverScape Gardening Steward, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P275*)

### TUE, MAY 24, 2016

**8:15 am** Bus Trip: Cincinnati Nature Center, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P161*)

**11:00 am** Little Sprouts, Englewood MetroPark (see *Nature P69*)

**1:00 pm** Goodness of Goats, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Farming P37*)

### WED, MAY 25, 2016

**9:00 am** Volunteer: Horticultural Learning Series, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P213*)

**9:00 am** Volunteer: Wetland Workdays, Offsite (see *Nature P239*)

**10:00 am** City Beets Program Volunteer Open House, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P207*)

**6:00 pm** Trailside Repairs, MoMBA (see *Mountain Biking P202*)

**6:00 pm** Goats 101, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Farming P217*)

**6:00 pm** Volunteer: Cox Arboretum Volunteer Orientation, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Gardening & Landscaping P115*)

### THU, MAY 26, 2016

**6:30 pm** Volunteer: Sustainable Trail Support Team/Trail Monitor Orientation, Taylorsville MetroPark (see *Outdoor Adventure P257*)

### FRI, MAY 27, 2016

**7:30 pm** Nocturnal Insect Party, Cox Arboretum MetroPark (see *Nature P109*)

### SAT, MAY 28, 2016

**9:00 am** Ride to Wright Brothers Memorial Park, Bikeway: Mad River (see *Cycling P272*)

**10:00 am** Fitness in the Park, RiverScape MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P80*)

**10:00 am** Family Goat Fun, Possum Creek MetroPark (see *Farming P36*)

### SUN, MAY 29, 2016

**10:00 am** Twin Valley Trail Hike With The Metro Dayton Hikers, Germantown MetroPark (see *Fitness & Health P47*)



## BACKPACKING

### (FREE) DISCOVER BACKPACKING

**TUE. FEB 16, 6:00-7:00 PM** P27

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

Get an overview of what backpacking is, where to go, and the local opportunities and resources available to learn more and get the gear you need to try it out. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$5

### APPALACHIAN TRAIL TRIP PLANNING

**THUR. FEB 25, 6:00-8:30 PM** P190

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

We'll walk through planning your long-distance A.T. hike. You'll receive a planning booklet and talk with past thru-hikers and local experts. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$12

### BACKPACKING 1: WOMEN

**WED. MAR 16, 6:00-8:30 PM** P31

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

Join other women interested in backpacking to learn about gear, food, trip planning, personal hygiene and other tips and tricks during this classroom session, setting you up to have a safe and enjoyable backpacking adventure. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$5

### BACKPACKING 1

**THU. MAR 24, 6:00-8:30 PM** P28

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

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

### TWIN VALLEY TRAIL VAN TOUR

**THU. APR 7, 5:30-8:00 PM** P293

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Join us for a driving tour, visiting trailheads and backcountry campsites along the Twin Valley Trail to help plan your next backpacking adventure. Plan to stretch your legs on a couple of 1/2 mile hikes. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5

### BACKPACKING 2

**SAT., SUN APR. 9-10, 12:00-12:15 PM** P29

**SAT., SUN APR. 23-24, 12:00-12:15 PM** P30

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Campsite: Shimps Hollow, 7350 Boomershire 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

### METROPARKS CAMPSITES VAN TOUR

**THU. MAR 31, 5:30-8:00 PM** P292

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

Join us for a driving tour, visiting all 14 frontcountry campsites throughout MetroParks to learn about the variety of offerings so you can find the perfect spot to spend your next night under the stars. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5

## CYCLING

### INSPIRED TO RIDE

**WED. FEB 3, 7:00-9:00 PM** M342

OFFSITE, The Neon, 130 East Fifth Street

45 cyclists. 4,233 miles. Be inspired this winter while watching the story of the first Trans Am bike race, self-supported, coast to coast across 10 states. Buy tickets at [www.inspiredtoride.it](http://www.inspiredtoride.it). Registration required. [www.inspiredtoride.it](http://www.inspiredtoride.it). Age: All ages Fee: In-advance: \$12, At the door: \$15

### (FREE) DISCOVER BIKING

**TUE. FEB 23, 6:00-7:00 PM** P82

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

Do you want to Get Out and Bike but not sure how to get started? This short classroom presentation will overview different types of cycling, where to ride and more. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 14Y and up

### BICYCLE MAINTENANCE 1

**MON. MAR 21, 6:00-8:00 PM** P193

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

This classroom session will help you diagnose and perform common bike repairs. Topics will include bike terminology and tools, inspections, fixing a flat tire and chain replacement. Registration required. Age: 16Y and up Fee: \$5

### BICYCLE MAINTENANCE 2

**WED. MAR 23, 6:00-8:00 PM** P194

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

**TUE. MAR 29, 6:00-8:00 PM** P195

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

This hands-on class will cover tune-ups and offer guided practice with brake and drive-train maintenance. Prerequisites: Bicycle Maintenance 1. Registration required. Age: 16Y and up Fee: \$10

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## 937-228-3630

GROUPS SAVE! CALL BETTY AT 937-461-8295!

**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](http://metroparks.org/bikehealth)

**(FREE) RIDE TO VERONA****SAT. APR 2, 9:00-11:00 AM** P264**SAT. MAY 14, 9:00-11:00 AM** P270

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 🚲

**(FREE) RIDE TO TROTWOOD****SAT. APR 9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** P265

BIKEWAY: WOLF CREEK, Ohio Bike Route 38

Meet in the parking lot behind Rob's Restaurant, 705 Arlington Rd. in Brookville.

(14 miles). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🚲

**(FREE) RIDE TO FIFTH THIRD GATEWAY PARK****SAT. APR 16, 9:00-11:00 AM** P266

BIKEWAY: CREEKSIDE, Ohio Bike Route 2

(12 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🚲

**(FREE) RIDE TO WRIGHT BROTHERS MEMORIAL PARK****SAT. APR 23, 9:00-11:00 AM** P267**SAT. MAY 28, 9:00-11:00 AM** P272

BIKEWAY: MAD RIVER, Ohio Bike Route 8

Meet in last parking at 1385 Harshman Rd. park entrance. 9 miles. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🚲

**(FREE) RIDE TO KYLE PARK****SAT. APR 30, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** P268

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, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🚲

**(FREE) RIDE TO RADVANSKY LN BRIDGE****SAT. MAY 7, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** P269

BIKEWAY: STILLWATER RIVER, Ohio Bike Route 7

Meet at Wegerzyn Garden MetroPark. (16 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🚲 ⚙️

**(FREE) RIDE TO ISLAND METROPARK****SAT. MAY 21, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** P271

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). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🚲 ⚙️

**BICYCLE TOURING****MON. APR 18, 6:00-8:00 PM** P198

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

This lecture-style class will cover touring equipment, clothing options, types of tours and tour planning. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$5 🚲

**TRAILSIDE REPAIRS****WED. MAY 11, 6:00-7:00 PM** P201

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Bluegrass, 1385 Harshman Rd.

**WED. MAY 25, 6:00-7:00 PM** P202

MOMBA, 4485 Union School House Road

This hands-on class will develop your ability to troubleshoot and repair common bicycle maintenance issues that occur on the trail. You are encouraged to ride to the class. Registration required. Age: 16Y and up Fee: \$5 🚲 ⚙️

**BICYCLE COMMUTING****TUE. MAY 17, 6:00-8:00 PM** P199

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

This lecture style class will cover bike selection, commuting equipment, and trip preparation. We will briefly discuss traffic laws, hazards encountered, safe-riding skills and proper route planning. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$5 🚲

**(FREE) NATIONAL BIKE TO WORK DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST****FRI. MAY 20, 7:00-9:00 AM** P34

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Leave your car in the garage and support National Bike to Work Day. Ride in on your own or with a group to RiverScape for a free pancake breakfast then head to work. Live music, cycling related exhibitors and a team challenge are also part of the fun. No registration required. [metroparks.org/biketowork](http://metroparks.org/biketowork). Age: All ages**(FREE) WEGERZYN BIKE RODEO FOR KIDS****SAT. MAY 21, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** P313

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Join Rangers and MVPs for a day of bicycle safety. Bring your two-wheeled bicycle (with or without training wheels) for a bicycle course. Receive a

free bike helmet, properly fitted (while quantities last) (no beads in hair, please). The bicycle course teaches students the rules of the road. Supported by Dayton Children's Hospital and Safe Kids Day. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-15Y 🚲

**(FREE) BIKE TO THE DRAGONS****SUN. MAY 22, 2:00-5:00 PM** P191

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 Dragons' 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](mailto:dragons@daytondragons.com) for details. [www.daytondragons.com](http://www.daytondragons.com). Age: All ages**ENTERTAINMENT****(FREE) VALENTINE'S DECORATING****SAT. FEB 13, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** P276

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

Make a Valentine for your mom, dad, best friend, or teacher. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

**(FREE) BE A BUNNY WITH THE EASTER BUNNY****SAT. APR 2, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** P279

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

Decorate a fun bunny mask. Bring a camera to take a picture with the Easter bunny. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

**PICKIN' IN THE PARK**

Enjoy progressive bluegrass music, a variety of food trucks and craft beer as RiverScape MetroPark brings music to the riverside! No registration is required for this free, all-ages event.

**(FREE) KICKIN' OFF PICKIN' IN THE PARK****FRI. MAY 6, 6:00-10:00 PM** P85

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.

Enjoy the beginning of our Pickin' in the Park series featuring progressive bluegrass music, craft beer and food. Bring your dancing shoes and a lawn chair for seating in case you need a break. No registration required. Age: All ages ⚙️



**(FREE) MUSIC @ LUNCH****SAT. MAY 7-AUG. 13, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM** P83**TUE., WED., THU., FRI. MAY 10-SEP. 30, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM** P84  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Lunchtime downtown features acoustic music, food, free WiFi, bike rentals and more. No registration required. Age: All ages 🌟

**(FREE) TAB-A-PULL-OOZA****SAT. MAY 21, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM** P2812ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.  
Bring your aluminum can pull-tabs to help raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Miami Valley. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages**FARMING****GETTING STARTED RAISING SMALL LIVESTOCK AT HOME****SAT. FEB 13, 10:00-11:30 AM** P32  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

We'll talk about what you need to know before spending time and money on animals, food and other needs. Afterward, we will go to the barn to see our animals. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 🗝️

**FAMILY FARM CHORES****SAT. FEB 20, 8:30-10:00 AM** P129**SAT. MAR 19, 8:30-10:00 AM** P130**SAT. APR 23, 8:30-10:00 AM** P131**SAT. MAY 21, 8:30-10:00 AM** P132

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 🗝️

**AMAZING SHEEP****SAT. FEB 20, 10:00-11:30 AM** P52

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

Sheep provide milk, meat and fiber, but did you know there are different kinds of sheep? Meet the different breeds that live at the farm and make a felted craft to take home. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: per child: \$5 🗝️

**FARM TO PRESCHOOL**

These programs help children understand where their food comes from and what they are eating. Healthy food means healthy children, which starts at the farm.

**THE GOODNESS OF SHEEP****TUE. FEB 23, 1:00-2:30 PM** P51

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

Did you know that not all sheep have wool and some have hair? Come meet Possum Creek's different sheep breeds. Make and take home a felted wool craft! Registration required. Age: 3Y-6Y Fee: per child: \$5 🗝️

**NATURAL EGG DYEING****TUE. MAR 22, 1:00-2:30 PM** P38

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

Learn how to color your eggs with natural materials you can find in the kitchen or in the garden. You will receive 6 eggs to color and take home to share with friends and family. Registration required. Age: 3Y-6Y Fee: per child: \$5 🗝️

**GOODNESS OF GOATS****TUE. MAY 24, 1:00-2:30 PM** P37

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

Come to the farm and meet our goats. Taste some of the great things they can provide for us: milk, cheese and yogurt! There will be a story and activity following. Registration required. Age: 3Y-6Y Fee: per child: \$5 🗝️

**FAMILY EGG DYEING****WED. MAR 16, 6:00-7:30 PM** P53

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

Learn how to color your eggs with natural materials you can find in the kitchen or in the garden. You will receive 6 eggs to color and take home to share with friends and family. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: per child: \$5 🗝️

**GOATS 101****WED. MAY 25, 6:00-7:30 PM** P217

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

Goats require very little space to raise, provide us with milk and meat, and are the clowns of the barnyard. Meet our goats and learn more about how you would raise them at home. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 🗝️

**FAMILY GOAT FUN****SAT. MAY 28, 10:00-11:30 AM** P36

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

Bring the family to the farm to meet and feed our goats! Learn about different breeds of goats and sample some of the great things they have to offer us: cheese, yogurt and milk. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: per child: \$5 🗝️

**FISHING****(FREE) DISCOVER FISHING****TUE. MAR 8, 6:00-7:00 PM** P144

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

Have you ever wondered where you can fish within MetroParks and when you need a license? Come get answers and an overview of local opportunities and resources available to learn more or get the gear you need to try it out. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🗝️

**TEEN FLY TYING****THU. MAR 17, 6:00-8:00 PM** P143

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

There is nothing more satisfying than catching a fish with a fly you tied. Learn the art of fly tying with help from members of the Miami Valley Fly Fishers. Equipment and materials provided. Registration required. Age: 14Y-17Y Fee: \$5 🗝️

**FLY FISHING 1****WED. APR 13, 6:00-8:00 PM** P146

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

An introduction to fly fishing, this classroom program covers gear, (both essentials and accessories), flies, several different casts, and more. Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required. Age: 12Y and up Fee: \$5 🗝️

**NYMPHS, EMERGERS, DRIES****TUE. APR 26, 6:00-8:00 PM** P148

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

What is the difference between an emerger, a spinner and streamer? Learn all about various flies and when to use them during this program. Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$10 🗝️

**FLY FISHING 2: LAKE****SAT. APR 30, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** P151

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Poplar Creek Fishing Pond/Parking Lot, 7790 Johnson Station Rd.

Fly Fishing 1 put all the knowledge in your head, now let's move it to your hands! Learn to cast, tie on a fly, set the hook and strip in the line - all essential skills for catching that fish. Equipment available upon request. Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$30 🗝️

**MOTHER AND SON FISHING DAY****SAT. MAY 7, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** P155

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

We have planned a special morning just for mothers and sons to spend together enjoying a great American pastime. Instruction, equipment and

bait provided. Registration required. Age: All ages  
 Fee: \$5 📍

## FLY FISHING 2: RIVER

**SAT. MAY 14, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** P158  
 EASTWOOD METROPARK, Mad River Access parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Fly Fishing 1 got you started and now you are ready for the next step. Learn about fish habitat, how to read the water, flies, and casting techniques needed for fishing current. Equipment available upon request. Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$30 📍

## FITNESS & HEALTH

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

**SUN. FEB 7, 1:30-3:30 PM** P40  
 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

Enjoy a 5 mile, two-hour easy hike. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

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

**SUN. FEB 21, 1:30-3:30 PM** P41  
 HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Olmsted/Nature Play/Parking Lot, 2606 Hilton Dr.

Enjoy a 5 mile, two-hour easy hike. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

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

**SUN. MAR 6, 1:30-3:30 PM** P42  
 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Enjoy a 5 mile, two-hour easy hike. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

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

**SUN. MAR 20, 1:30-4:00 PM** P43  
 ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, West Park Parking Lot, 100 East National Rd.

Enjoy a 5-6 mile, 2 1/2 hour moderate hike. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

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

**SUN. APR 3, 1:30-3:30 PM** P44  
 EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Enjoy a 4-5 mile, two-hour easy hike. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

## (FREE) WEGERZYN GARDENS WALKFEST

**SAT. APR 16, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM** P15  
 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Picnic Area, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Avenue

This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by Purple Penguins. No registration required. Contact (937) 429-3946 for details. Age: All ages

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

**SUN. APR 17, 1:30-4:30 PM** P45  
 GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Welcome Center Parking Lot, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Enjoy a 7 mile, three-hour rugged hike. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

### 5K/10K RUN FOR THE HEALTH OF IT

**SAT. APR 30, 8:30-10:30 AM** P48  
 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Sponsored by the Junior League of Dayton, additional information on the Junior League of Dayton's website. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 467-9683 for details. www.jldayton.org. Age: All ages Fee: 5K early registration: \$25, 5K day of race: \$30, 10K early registration: \$35, 10K day of race: \$40

## 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) FITNESS IN THE PARK

**SAT. MAY 7, 10:00-11:00 AM** P77

**SAT. MAY 14, 10:00-11:00 AM** P78

**SAT. MAY 21, 10:00-11:00 AM** P79

**SAT. MAY 28, 10:00-11:00 AM** P80  
 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Classes vary, so check [metroparks.org](http://metroparks.org) for the specific class schedule. No registration required. Age: All ages ⚙️

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

**SUN. MAY 15, 1:30-4:00 PM** P46  
 SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Enjoy a 5 mile, 2 1/2 hour difficult hike. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) GO W/ THE FLOW YOGA: BIKE WEEK EDITION

**MON. MAY 16, 6:00-7:00 PM** P35

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

Join the largest gathering of outdoor yogis in Dayton. Power Vinyasa yoga is geared for all experience levels and builds whole-body strength, flexibility and mental focus. Ride your bike to the event and earn cool prizes. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 📍

### (FREE) WALK! DOWNTOWN DAYTON

**WED. MAY 18, 12:00-1:00 PM** P49  
 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Participate in a non-competitive 30-minute walk along the Great Miami River sponsored by Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County. Walkers are eligible for door prizes! No registration required. Contact (937) 225-4398 or bbarcelo@phdmc.org for details. www.phdmc.org. Age: All ages

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

**SUN. MAY 29, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** P47  
 GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Sledding Hill/TVT/Parking Lot, 6206 Boomershire Rd.

Enjoy a 14 mile, four-hour rugged hike. Bring a small lunch to carry in a pack. No registration required. Contact (937) 687-0114 or cksands8@woh.rr.com for details. Age: All ages

## GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

### TEEN GARDEN PLANNING

**SAT. FEB 6, 12:30-2:30 PM** P17  
 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Help us plan the demonstration gardens for City Beets, our summer youth program teaching teens about gardening and food. Learn everything you need to know about companion and trap planting, heirlooms and hybrid varieties and more. Registration required. Age: 12Y-18Y Fee: \$5 📍

### BEGINNER GARDENING

If you've never gardened before or you've forgotten how, we'll get you ready to plant your garden, yard, landscape or balcony. Learn Earth-friendly planning, plant selection and maintenance practices for landscape and food gardening. Combine lectures, demos, hands-on experiences and tours to build a solid gardening foundation and get your garden started quickly.



## SITE ASSESSMENT AND BASIC DESIGN

**WED. FEB 17, 6:00-8:00 PM** P91  
 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
 Choosing the right site for your garden and understanding your yard are critical first steps for success. Learn how to evaluate your current plantings, your soil and available sunlight and then to use that knowledge to select appropriate plants. We'll discuss spacing, plant size and use, and creating an attractive and useful landscape plan. Both vegetable and landscape gardens are covered. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🍷

## WHAT TO PLANT

**WED. FEB 24, 6:00-8:00 PM** P93  
 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek



## CITY BEETS Helps Youth Grow

Youth ages 12 to 15 learn about gardening, nutrition and cooking while developing communication, leadership, business and problem-solving skills during the summer City Beets program. Participants grow produce at Possum Creek MetroPark, take field trips and receive a stipend.

Learn more by attending an open house:  
 Thursday, Feb. 4, 6 to 8 PM (P204)  
 Possum Creek MetroPark Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

City Beet volunteer opportunities include planting, mulching and watering the garden; mentoring teens; helping during cooking demonstrations and more. Learn how you can help by attending an open house:  
 Thursday, March 17, 10 to 11 AM (P206)  
 Wednesday, May 25, 10 to 11 AM (P207)  
 Possum Creek MetroPark Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Apply for the 2016 City Beets summer program now through March 15.

[METROPARKS.ORG/CITYBEETS](http://METROPARKS.ORG/CITYBEETS)

Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
 Build your general knowledge of plants to help your gardening vision become a reality. Learn the best trees, shrubs, annuals and perennials for our area. Hybrids, heirlooms, natives and cultivars will be included. This class will familiarize you with plant names and families, and how to select the ones that suit your garden plan. Both vegetable and landscape plants are covered. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🍷

## BASIC PLANT CARE AND GARDEN MAINTENANCE

**WED. MAR 2, 6:00-8:00 PM** P94  
 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
 Once you have a garden, you need to know what to do to keep it thriving. Good soil is the key to great plants, so we'll cover how to augment your soil seasonally. Learn about successful irrigation methods, how to control weeds, and troubleshooting diseases and pests. Each person will go home with a seasonal maintenance plan. Vegetable and landscape gardens will be covered. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🍷

## PLANTING TECHNIQUES

**WED. APR 27, 6:00-8:00 PM** P147  
 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
 Get your hands dirty and learn how to plant everything from a seed to a tree! Proper planting is essential to the success of each plant in your garden, it's so much more than just digging a hole. You'll leave with a 4-pack of seedlings and the confidence to successfully plant anything! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🍷

## (FREE) MIAMI VALLEY ORCHID SHOW

**SAT., SUN FEB. 20-21, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM** P282  
 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
 View many artful displays full of blooming tropical orchids. Vendors will have orchids and other items available for purchase. Join our informal classes both days, and activities for kids. Sponsored by Miami Valley Orchid Society. No registration required. Age: All ages

## (FREE) WINTER GARDEN WORKSHOP AND SEED SWAP

**SAT. FEB 27, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** P88  
 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
 What do gardeners do in winter? Enjoy their preserved harvest from last year and plan for spring. Bring the family and learn about gardening, enjoy herbal teas, bread and preserves, and roasted

root vegetables. Try micro green sprouting, garden plant selection, lasagna gardening, and more. We'll have a seed swap available and tips on seed saving. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🍷

## THE SUSTAINABLE GARDEN: DEB KNAPKE

**SAT. MAR 5, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** P97  
 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
 Let Deb Knapke help you get your spring garden plan in order! A favorite of local and national audiences, Deb will talk about sustainability in your garden and how to get started now with plans, plants, and practices. Gather your gardening buddies and come for a wonderful morning. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 🍷

## (FREE) COMMUNITY GARDEN COORDINATORS DINNER

**THU. MAR 10, 6:30-8:30 PM** P50  
 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
 Do you work with a community garden in Montgomery County? Join MetroParks' community gardening program staff and representatives from the region's 80+ community gardens for dinner - no need to bring anything. Discover essential resources and information and meet your gardening colleagues. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

## SEED STARTING BASICS WITH DOUG CHRISTEN

**SAT. MAR 12, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** P99  
 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
 Learn how a farmer starts his seeds and gets his garden going in spring. Learn to use seed catalogs, select the varieties of plants best suited for your needs, and how and when to start your seeds. We'll also cover maintaining healthy seedlings and when to transplant them. Each participant will have the chance to plant seeds and will take home some to start their own garden. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🍷

## TEEN AQUAPONICS

**SAT. MAR 19, 12:30-2:30 PM** P18  
 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
 Help us create our aquaponics system at Possum Creek for City Beets, our youth program teaching teens about gardening and food. Learn what aquaponics is and how this cool science helps veggies and fish thrive. Registration required. Age: 12Y-18Y Fee: \$5 🍷

## (FREE) TRY GARDENING!

**SAT. APR 2, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM** P295  
 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek

Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Learn how to get your garden planted for spring and brush up on your gardening skills. Demonstrations and fun opportunities for visitors of all ages to get their hands dirty will be available. Try planting potatoes, asparagus, and other spring crops. Learn about composting and get garden advice from staff and volunteers. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 📅

## TEEN MUSHROOM GROWING

**SAT. APR 9, 12:30-2:30 PM** P23

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

Help us get our mushroom spawn started for City Beets, our youth program teaching teens about gardening and food. Learn everything you need to know about starting mushrooms. Registration required. Age: 12Y-18Y Fee: \$5 📅

## 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.

### WILDFLOWER WALK: EARLY SPRING WONDERS

**SUN. APR 10, 2:00-3:00 PM** P114

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Join us for a look at the first wildflowers of the season. Learn when and how long they bloom and how to introduce these beauties into your own landscape. We hope to have the following starts ready this week:

Trillium sessile, Mertensia virginica (Virginia blue bells), Phlox divaricate, viola sororia x confederate. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 📅

### WILDFLOWER WALK: THE NEXT LAYER OF SPRING

**SUN. APR 24, 2:00-3:00 PM** P249

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Today we'll see the next spring blooms to emerge in the wildflower area and learn how they, along with the first emerging plants, create a broader color pallet and richer look for the season. We hope to have seedlings for Delphinium tricornis, Sedum ternatum, Podo-phyllum peltatum (May apple). Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$10 📅 ⚡

### WILDFLOWER WALK: LATE SPRING BEAUTY

**SUN. MAY 8, 2:00-3:00 PM** P156

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot,

6733 Springboro Pk.

Warmer weather brings different wildflowers into bloom. Today's walk covers not only the most recent flowers, but the ones whose beauty will continue for months. Today we hope to have starts of Arisaema triphyllum (Jack in the Pulpit), Geranium maculatum, Zizia aurea, Iris cristata. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 📅 ⚡

## WILDFLOWER WALK: BEAUTIFUL MAY BLOOMS

**SUN. MAY 22, 2:00-3:00 PM** P250

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Spring's earliest blossoms are fading and are replaced by larger, fuller ones. Join us and see the ever changing variety of buds, blossoms, and leaves. We hope to have available seedlings for Stylophorum diphyllum (Celandine poppy) and native shrubs. 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) GARDEN DESIGN

**TUE. APR 12, 6:00-7:00 PM** P140

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Learn how to make a garden design using the plantings at Cox as an example. A great opportunity to see the early gardens, learn how they will evolve and change over the growing season, and how you can use this information in your own home garden. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚡

### (FREE) CONTAINER VEGETABLE GARDENS

**TUE. MAY 10, 6:00-7:00 AM** P159

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Many vegetables do beautifully in containers. Learn which plants work best and how to plant and maintain them. We'll also talk about types of containers and plant care through the season. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚡

## BUS TRIP: CINCINNATI FLOWER SHOW AND BERN'S

**THU. APR 14, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM** P150

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

Today we'll visit the Cincinnati Flower Show at Yeatman's Cove. After a great morning, we'll have lunch at a local bistro and then conclude the trip with a visit to Bern's Garden Center in Middletown. Reservations required and due March 11. Credit cards and checks accepted. A Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation event and fundraiser. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7052 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$69

## (FREE) TREE SEEDLING GIVEAWAY FRI. APR 15, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM

P280

**SAT. APR 16, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM**

2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. Second St.

Celebrate Earth Day and pick up free tree seedlings while supplies last! No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

## (FREE) AULLWOOD IN SPRING

**SUN. APR 17, 2:00-4:00 PM** P139

AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Gardens, 930 Aullwood Rd.

Come ready to see the carpet of bluebells and other spring wildflowers. It's a once-a-year wonder, so don't miss this beautiful sight. We'll meet in the parking lot. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚡

## LEARNING FROM THE LANDSCAPE: WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK

Volunteers lead one-hour walks using the park for examples of plants and maintenance techniques. Meet in the parking lot.

### (FREE) WILDFLOWER WALK ON THE MARIE AULL TRAIL

**TUE. APR 19, 6:00-7:00 PM** P141

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

This is a great opportunity to see not only the flowers, but also the wonderful foliage of trees and shrubs as they break open for a new year. We'll also go through some of the formal gardens. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚡

### (FREE) MAY'S BEAUTIFUL BLOOMS

**TUE. MAY 17, 6:00-7:00 PM** P160

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

May is the time for iris, peonies, roses, and lilacs. Walk the gardens and learn about these wonderful plants and how to keep them growing and blooming for years to come. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚡



**GARDEN PREP BOOT CAMP**

**SAT. APR 23, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** P106  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek  
Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Learn how to get your vegetable or landscape garden ready for spring planting. This program is hands-on, so bring your gloves and gardening shoes and be ready to work. MetroParks experts will be there guiding you through clean-up and soil prep, talking about ways to assure a more successful gardening season with tips on site selection, planting, supports, and suggestions for weed prevention and irrigation techniques. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 📞 ⚙️

**(FREE) ANNUAL MAYFAIR  
PLANT SALE**

**SAT. APR 30, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM** P246

**SUN. MAY 1, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM** P247  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn  
Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Get a jump on spring and purchase unusual perennials, annuals, vegetables and herbs for companion planting or to enhance your landscape. Pass-along plants are locally grown. Enjoy hanging baskets, just in time for Mother's Day. A Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation event and fundraiser. No registration required. Age: All ages

**(FREE) START A NEW  
COMMUNITY GARDEN**

**THU. MAY 5, 5:30-7:00 PM** P166

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

How can you start a community vegetable garden in your neighborhood, school, church? Learn the essential steps to a successful project. Start planning for next year! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📞

**BASIC GARDEN SKILLS AND  
TOOLS REVIEW**

**SAT. MAY 7, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** P152

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

Designed for experienced gardeners who want to learn new techniques and polish their skills. We'll talk about tool selection and use, planting guidelines, creating new and refurbishing old beds; pest, disease and weed control. We'll also take a look at mulches and their proper application, followed by pruning and perennial division. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 📞

**FAIRY GARDEN WORKSHOP**

**SAT. MAY 7, 1:30-3:30 PM** P203

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

Come have a magical afternoon creating a little fairy garden with your children. We will have an array of vessels or you may bring your own 12x12 container. You will receive soil, pebbles and plants to create your very own garden to take home.

Register for programs by calling

**275-PARK (7275)** Unless otherwise noted.



Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: Per Fairy Garden: \$25 📞

**YOUTH GARDEN CLUB**

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

**SPRING GREENS AND EARLY  
PLANTING**

**TUE. MAY 10-24, 4:30-6:00 PM** P180

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

Gardeners will harvest leafy greens and other spring veggies, plant warm-weather crops and learn about basic plant science. Registration required. Age: 8Y-12Y 📞

**(FREE) RIVERSCAPE  
GARDENING STEWARD**

**SAT. MAY 14, 9:00-11:30 AM** P169

**MON. MAY 23, 6:00-8:00 PM** P275

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. Registration required. Contact janet.metter@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 📞 ⚙️

**(FREE) POLLINATOR PARTY!**

**SAT. MAY 14, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** P153

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

Want birds, bees, and butterflies to dance in

your garden? This expo-style program shows easy ways to encourage pollinators to make your garden healthy and beautiful. Exhibits and demonstrations, fun games and activities for kids. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 📞

**(FREE) SOLOMON GAMBOA:  
OHIO NATIVE PLANTS AND  
POLLINATORS**

**SAT. MAY 14, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM** P294

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

Join Nurseryman Solomon Gamboa as he talks about native Ohio plants, including trees and shrubs, that attract our native pollinators. A fascinating look at both usual and unusual garden plants and ways of using them in landscaping to attract and protect pollinators. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 📞

**PERENNIALS WORKSHOP:  
DIVISION AND TRANSPLANT**

**SAT. MAY 21, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** P154

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

Learn how and when to divide perennials and the best methods for transplanting them. We'll talk about seasonality, division size, soil and planting requirements, care after transplant, and when to expect optimal bloom and growth. Each participant will take home perennial divisions for their own yard. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15 📞

## BUS TRIP: CINCINNATI NATURE CENTER

**TUE. MAY 24, 8:15 AM-5:45 PM** P161

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

Today we visit the Cincinnati Nature Center and the Krippendorf Lodge for a presentation followed by a chance to explore on your own. Lunch is at Putters Grill and then we go to Greenfield Plant Farm. Last we'll visit Marie Aull's garden, which was inspired by the plantings at Krippendorf. This tour benefits the Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation. Registration required. Contact (937) 276-7052 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$73

## GREEN LIVING

### CAFÉ 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 REPORT

**WED. FEB 3, 6:30-8:30 PM** P172

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

Ron Whitehead from the Miami Valley Astronomical Society will give an update on current observations including comet tracking. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

### (FREE) TWIN CREEK VS. WOLF CREEK

**WED. MAR 2, 6:30-8:30 PM** P173

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

The results of a comparative water quality study are in. Let's see how these two bodies of water fared and find out why. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

### (FREE) MIAMI CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

**WED. APR 6, 6:30-8:30 PM** P174

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

Learn what this partnering agency does to manage regional waterways and protect watershed quality. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

### (FREE) INKJET CHEMISTRY

**WED. MAY 4, 6:30-8:30 PM** P175

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

Learn about the chemical and physical properties of the inks used in these graphic

art inkjet printers. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

## BOKASHI WORKSHOP

**TUE. FEB 9, 6:00-8:00 PM** P258

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

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 to take home. You will receive a bucket and all needed pieces to get started. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15

## MASTER RECYCLING CLASS

**TUE. FEB. 9-MAR. 8, 6:00-8:00 PM** P13

OFFSITE, Montgomery County Solid Waste, 2550 Sandridge Dr.

Presented in partnership with Montgomery County Solid Waste District. Learn how to reduce, reuse and recycle effectively and become a community leader for waste reduction initiatives. Participants attend 5 classes, tour recycling facilities, and complete 15 hours of volunteer service. Register by January 31. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$25

## (FREE) FARM FRESH TO YOU: A COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE FAIR

**THU. FEB 25, 5:30-7:30 PM** P137

2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St. This program will introduce you to several local farmers, their growing methods, and the business of community supported agriculture (CSA). What does it mean to join a CSA? Each farmer will talk about pricing, timing of delivery or pick-up, and what kind of food you can receive. A chef will demonstrate how to cook unique or plentiful crops. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages

## REPURPOSING WORKSHOP: GLASS CUTTING

**TUE. MAR 22, 6:30-8:30 PM** P176

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

Bring bottles and jars and leave with decorative vases, votive holders and dispensers. We'll provide the tools and accessories. Registration required. Age: 16Y and up Fee: \$10

## LIVING THE GREEN LIFE

These programs provide participants a variety of opportunities to adopt practical, environmentally friendly practices, reduce waste and curb use of natural resources. Sessions will consist of brief classes, activities and discussion groups.

## REDUCE YOUR ENERGY BILL

**TUE. MAR 29, 6:30-8:00 PM** P177

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

Spend less money on energy and reduce your household carbon footprint by adopting sensible practices and making sound investments. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5

## KICK THE DISPOSABLE HABIT

**WED. MAY 18, 6:00-7:30 PM** P181

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

Learn how to always be prepared to avoid disposable food and beverage containers, unnecessary packaging and more. Registration required. Age: 16Y and up Fee: \$5

## (FREE) COMPOST KITCHEN

**WED. APR. 13-27, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM** P178

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

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

## WORM COMPOSTING WORKSHOP

**WED. MAY 11, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM** P179

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

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

## 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) TRADITIONAL BUTCHERING

**SAT., SUN FEB. 6-7, 1:00-4:00 PM** P117

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

Watch the age-old activity of processing the meat that was the staple in the 19th century farmer's diet. On Saturday the hog is scraped, cleaned and cooled. On Sunday the meat is prepared into the various cuts and then



salted, cured, and made into sausage. No registration required. Age: All ages 🌟

### (FREE) STEAM ON THE FARM

**SUN. MAR 13, 12:00-4:00 PM** P122

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

The use of steam engines ushered in a new era of efficiency on the farm. Watch an ongoing demonstration of how steam was used during the time period. Also learn about the various types of antique farm equipment that were powered by steam. No registration required. Age: All ages

### (FREE) FROM SHEEP TO SHAWLS

**SAT., SUN APR. 9-10, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** P123

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

Watch as sheep are sheared for the spring at 2pm. Help card wool and watch as fabric is dyed using traditional methods. Hear about the spinning process and factory production of wool. Watch spinners and weavers process the wool into yarn. No registration required. Age: All ages

### (FREE) CORN ON THE FARM

**SUN. MAY 8, 12:00-5:00 PM** P125

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

Watch as the farmer rides the corn planter and plants the corn in check rows. See a corn field laid out before your very eyes. Try your hand at grinding corn into meal. Also, learn about heirloom corn and the various resources for it today. Afterwards, stop by the farmhouse to try some items made from corn. No registration required. Age: All ages

## CARRIAGE HILL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**SAT. FEB 20, 10:00-11:30 AM** P121

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

Support the Friends of Carriage Hill volunteer group. Pancakes, sausage, fresh fruit, juice and coffee will be included. No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$5 🌟

### (FREE) MAPLE SUGARING ON THE FARM

**SAT., SUN FEB. 20-21, 12:00-4:00 PM** P118

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

The end of winter has traditionally marked the beginning of maple sugaring season. Come watch as we demonstrate maple sugaring by boiling down the sap in a kettle over an open fire, just like it was done in the 1880s. Learn about the various tools and processes used to collect the sap. Watch as the sap is boiled down into the sweet syrup. No registration required. Age: All ages 🌟

Register for programs by calling

**275-PARK (7275)** Unless otherwise noted.

### (FREE) GUIDED MAPLE SUGARING TOUR

**SAT. FEB 20, 12:30-1:00 PM** P119

**SAT. FEB 20, 2:30-3:00 PM** P120

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

Join the park historian on a guided tour of our maple sugaring operation. Learn about the role that maple sugar played on the farm in the 1880s and how maple sugaring is done today. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🌟

### (FREE) BLACK HISTORY DAY

**SAT. FEB 27, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM** P277

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

A cultural celebration of old school and gospel music and dance. Dianne Coble provides top-notch local entertainment. No registration required.

Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. All ages

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

**SAT. MAR 12, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** P278

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

We will feature live Celtic music, followed by dancers from the Celtic Academy of Irish Dance. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

### (FREE) HISTORICAL SKILLS DAY

**SUN. MAR 13, 12:00-4:00 PM** P124

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

This hands-on program will provide plenty of opportunity for adults to try historical skills. Learn the basics of blacksmithing and woodworking, find out about draft horses, learn to cook on a woodstove and many more. Information will also be provided on how you can volunteer for these various areas. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 🌟

### VOLUNTEER: HERITAGE INTERPRETER HISTORICAL SKILLS COURSE

**SAT. APR 23, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** P127

**SAT. APR 30, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM**

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

Join us for a class entirely devoted to 19th century skills. Participants will choose from an array of available sessions. Topics include canning, blacksmithing, woodworking, gardening, sewing, draft horse basics, broom making and hearth cooking. Participants will attend two classes and provide 50 hours of volunteer service. Register by April 15. Registration required. Contact candace.holloway@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$35

## HOME & HOBBIES

### LUNCH AND LEARN

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

## HISTORICAL METHODS FOR MAKING COFFEE

**TUE. MAY 3, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM** P128

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

Coffee was enjoyed in the 1880s, just as it

is today. However, the process for making it was a little more tedious. Learn about several different historical methods for making coffee and watch as it is roasted. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 🌟

## MOUNTAIN BIKING

### (FREE) TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING

**TUE. APR 5, 4:00-7:00 PM** P196

**TUE. MAY 3, 4:00-7:00 PM** P197

MOMBA, 4485 Union School House Road

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, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🌟

## CONNECT KIDS WITH NATURE

Learn how you can help children and families discover the benefits of unstructured outdoor play by attending the fifth annual Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Summit. Leave with new resources, action steps and connections.

Saturday, March 12

Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark, 1301 E.

Siebenthaler Ave.

### GREEN SCHOOLYARDS TRAINING (P81)

8 AM-4 PM

Learn from fellow teachers how to create an outdoor classroom. Group joins summit at 11:30 a.m.

### SUMMIT (P54)

11:30 AM-4 PM

Network, attend keynotes and nature clubs for families workshops, and view resource displays. Registration required.

### CONSERVATION KIDS TIKES

NATURE FUN (P112)

AND NATURE EXPLORATION (P113)

3:15-4:45 PM

Kids ages 3 to 13 are invited to discover the wonders of nature and the excitement of playing outside. Dress for the outdoors.

# CONSERVATION KIDS

These Five Rivers MetroParks' programs for children and families are a series of nature-based programs for three specific age groups (Tikes, Explorers and Voyagers). They help 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](http://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.



## PROTECTOR'S OF NATURE

CONGRATULATIONS  
TO OUR MOST RECENT  
CONSERVATION KIDS!

Maya Hollbrook  
Jeremy Samuel  
Kevin Alder  
Josh Alder  
Jacob Heppie

## NATURE

### 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](http://metroparks.org/kids).

### GREAT BACKYARD BIRDCOUNT WED. FEB 3, 2:00-3:30 PM P70

**SAT. FEB 6, 2:00-3:30 PM P71**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Join people across the country who will be counting the birds they see this weekend and reporting their sightings online. Learn the crucial role birds play in nature. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited supply will be available. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y  
Fee: \$5 📱 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) ANIMAL TRACKING

**MON. FEB 8, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM P64**  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.

We will explore the science and technique behind animal tracks, as well as examine molds, scat replicas, and mammal furs. Then we will go on a hike looking for tracks in the wild! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 📱 ⚙️ ▲

### WINGED FRIENDS

**SAT. FEB 20, 2:00-4:00 PM P72**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Come learn more about your feathered friends, and how to build your own bird feeding station at your house, just in time for you to lead your own Great Backyard Bird Count for your friends! Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$10 📱 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) WINTER BIRDS

**TUE. FEB 23, 1:00-2:00 PM P65**  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Redwing/ Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.

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

## ECO KID

**SAT. MAR 5, 2:00-4:00 PM P75**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn how to get your peers excited about the Earth while practicing discovery skills. Participants will receive tools that they will use to lead their own ecology hike for their friends. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y  
Fee: \$10 📱 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) SIGNS OF SPRING

**TUE. MAR 8, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM P66**  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw/ Parking Lot, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.

Satisfy your itch to get outside after a long winter. We'll discuss seasonal changes, and explore nature's awakening. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 📱 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) NATURE FUN

**SAT. MAR 12, 3:15-4:45 PM P112**  
WEGERYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Come join us to discover the wonders of nature and the excitement of playing outside! There is also the opportunity to visit the MV-LNCI resources to help connect your family with nature! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 📱 ⚙️ ▲

### PROJECT BUDBURST

**WED. MAR 16, 1:30-3:00 PM P92**  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw/ Parking Lot, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.

Join a national network of citizen scientists monitoring the time of plant growth while learning about the trees in the forests! We will venture out, collect data, then submit to Project Budburst and continue monitoring through the year. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$5 📱 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) WOODLAND ADVENTURE

**WED. MAR 23, 1:30-2:30 PM P67**  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Take an adventurous nature hike through a successional woodland, exploring the trees, plants, and wildlife. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 📱 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) BUDS AND BUGS

**WED. APR 6, 1:00-2:00 PM P68**  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Blue Heron / Parking Lot, 2000 U.S. 40

Use facepaint to transform your preschooler into a bee, bug, or butterfly. We will pretend to be nature's pollinators, exploring flower to flower, and discovering the relationships that flowers have with bugs. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 📱 ⚙️ ▲



**(FREE) NOCTURNAL AMPHIBIAN QUEST****FRI. APR 15, 7:30-8:30 PM** P111

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Search for spring peepers, spotted salamanders, and other amphibians in Sugarcreek's vernal pool, only 1/4 mile away from the parking lot. If time allows, we may go for a night hike and try to call in barred owls. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**FROG PARTY****SAT. APR 16, 2:00-4:00 PM** P95

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Wallace Library, 6733 Springboro Pk.

See what's 'hoppin' around Cox Arboretum's wetlands and develop your own Amphibian Party at a park or at your home! Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$10 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**LEAVE A LEGACY****MON. APR 18, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM** P98

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

This month we will continue helping our forests by checking on the seedlings planted last spring. We will also learn about the "invaders" that hurt our forests. Come out and take part in our reforestation effort! Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$5 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**(FREE) FORESTS AT NIGHT****SAT. MAY 7, 8:00-9:00 PM** P110

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

On a night hike just for preschoolers and their families, we will discuss the differences between night and day, explore pelts of nocturnal animals, and hike to see what nocturnal animals are out! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**MILKWEED FOR MONARCHS****WED. MAY 11, 1:00-2:30 PM** P105

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Milkweed is a monarch caterpillar's favorite food! Come plant milkweed for our monarchs and other plants butterflies need while learning about their role as pollinators! Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$5 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**CARING FOR CATERPILLARS****SAT. MAY 21, 2:00-4:00 PM** P107

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

Watching a caterpillar develop into a butterfly is a fun way to learn about life cycles. Tikes discover how to raise caterpillars at home. Each participant will receive butterfly garden seeds and a digging trowel. Registration

required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$10 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**(FREE) LITTLE SPROUTS****TUE. MAY 24, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM** P69

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

Come learn what a plant needs to grow and then we will search for baby plants in the park! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**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](http://metroparks.org/kids).

**(FREE) SLEEPING NATURE****SAT. FEB 6, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM** P55

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Ohio's winters can be harsh, but plants and animals have developed successful strategies for enduring colder temperatures. Discover these adaptations as we explore the outdoors on this family adventure. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**(FREE) FOREST BIRD SEARCH****SAT. FEB 20, 10:00-11:30 AM** P56

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

Test your bird finding abilities as we track down some of the forest's most beautiful birds. Discover why forests and birds depend on each other for survival, and how you can help! Bring binoculars if you have them. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**BIRDS AND COMMUNITY****SAT. FEB 20, 2:00-4:00 PM** P73

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

Learn your local birds, how to attract them to your yard, and how to get other kids excited about nature. You'll get everything you need to conduct your own Great Backyard Bird-count! Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: \$10 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**ECO ADVOCATE****SAT. MAR 5, 2:00-4:00 PM** P74

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering

Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Learn what it takes to give nature a voice, and how to get your peers excited about the Earth! Participants will practice discovery skills and receive tools to lead their own ecology hike for their friends. Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: Cost: \$10 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**(FREE) WOODCOCK WATCH****SAT. MAR 5, 6:00-7:30 PM** P57

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Be a witness to the woodcock's extravagant mating display of circles, spirals, and dives while enjoying the crisp night. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**(FREE) NATURE EXPLORATION****SAT. MAR 12, 3:15-4:45 PM** P113

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Come join us to discover the wonders of nature and the excitement of playing outside! There is also the opportunity to visit the MV-LNCI resources to help connect your family with nature! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**(FREE) EXPLORING EAGLES AND DUCKS****SAT. MAR 19, 10:00-11:30 AM** P58

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

Discover the winter bird diversity along the Mad River! We will look for the Eastwood Eagles, Jim and Cindy, and also watch for the winter waterfowl at Eastwood Lake. Then drive to Huffman MetroPark together and search for more waterfowl along the Mad River and Huffman Lake! Please bring binoculars if you can! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**SEEDLING SATURDAYS****SAT. MAR 19, 1:00-2:30 PM** P90

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Trees are such an important part of our environment. Be a part of the reforestation and biodiversity story as we plant trees, and learn their value on our quality of life. Bring gloves, and be prepared to get dirty! Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: \$5 🦎 ⚙️ ▲

**AMPHIBIAN NATURALIST TRAINING****SAT. APR 16, 2:00-4:00 PM** P96

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

Learn your local amphibians and practice techniques in searching for them and sharing them with others. We'll venture out into the wetlands for our own adventure, then help

you develop your own get-together! Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: \$10 📅 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) NOCTURNAL AMPHIBIAN SEARCH

**SAT. APR 16, 7:30-9:00 PM** P60  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Join us on an evening search for Spring Peepers and Spotted Salamanders in Sugarcreek's vernal pool, only 1/4 mile away from the parking lot. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y 📅 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) WOODLAND SALAMANDER SEARCH

**SAT. APR 30, 12:30-2:00 PM** P61  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Hilltop / Sledding Hill/Parking Lot, 1200 Brown School Rd. Discover the predators of the leaf litter as we explore the lives of red-back salamanders while bonding with your family in nature. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y 📅 ⚙️ ▲

### BULLFROG ROUND UP

**SAT. APR 30, 7:30-9:00 PM** P101  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Shelter: Sunfish/Valley Overlook/Parking Lot, 7101 Conservancy Rd. Our very own Conservation Kids frog surveys have discovered bullfrogs at a vernal pool critical for MetroParks' anuran biodiversity. These bullfrogs need to be removed, and we need kids to help! Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: \$5 📅 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) LET'S BUG OUT!

**SAT. MAY 7, 1:00-2:30 PM** P62  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk. Spend the morning in Conservation Corner on an insect scavenger hunt. Families completing the hunt will get a free ODNR butterfly guide. A limited number of nets and containers will be available. All insects collected will be released before leaving. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y 📅 ⚙️ ▲

### PLANTING FOR POLLINATORS

**SUN. MAY 8, 1:00-2:30 PM** P103  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk. Pollinators have an important job to do, so let's help them by planting flowers they need! Learn about pollinator-friendly plants, and get ideas to make your family habitat more pollinator friendly. Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: \$5 📅 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) OWL PROWL

**SAT. MAY 21, 8:30-10:00 PM** P63  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.

Escape on a night walk in search of screech and barred owls while learning about their interactions with our forests. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y 📅 ⚙️ ▲

### NOCTURNAL INSECT PARTY

**FRI. MAY 27, 7:30-9:30 PM** P109  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk. Come explore the incredible diversity of moths, and how to build your own Moth Party for your friends. Participants will get a nocturnal moth starter kit. Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: \$10 📅 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) TEACHERS' NIGHT OUT: COMPOSTING IN THE CLASSROOM

**WED. FEB 10, 6:00-8:00 PM** P133  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk. Composting is a great way to turn food waste into soil for your school garden. Join other formal educators as we discover how to bring composting to your classroom, and all the activities that go hand-in-hand with this conservation action. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 📅

### PROJECT WILD & INQUIRY ADVENTURES WORKSHOP

**SUN. MAR 6, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM** P1  
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. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$25 📅

### (FREE) TEACHERS' NIGHT OUT: SCHOOLYARD BIRDS

**TUE. MAR 15, 6:00-8:00 PM** P184  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. Learn how to use birds in classroom instruction. Teachers will discover new ways to bring lesson plans to life through citizen science opportunities, and encourage birds to make your school their home. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 📅

### 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) DISCOVERY STROLL

**WED. MAR 16, 10:00-11:30 AM** P311

**WED. MAY 18, 10:00-11:30 AM** P312  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Program Parking, 100 Deep Hollow Road. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚙️

### (FREE) ADULT NATURE WALK

**TUE. APR 5, 9:00-11:00 AM** P303  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40  
**TUE. MAY 10, 9:00-11:00 AM** P308  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚙️

### (FREE) TEACHERS' NIGHT OUT: BUSY BEES

**THU. APR 7, 6:00-8:00 PM** P134  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk. This month we will focus on our number 1 pollinators, bees! Teachers will discover new ways to bring pollination to life through citizen science opportunities, learn how to observe bees safely with students, and learn how to attract pollinators to their school garden. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 📅

### GROWING UP WILD TRAINING

**SAT. APR 9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** P263  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
**SUN. MAY 15, 2:00-5:00 PM** P183  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Trailside, 4178 Conference Rd. Do you want to get your students outdoors to learn? Using proven material for early childhood educators geared toward curriculum goals, this workshop gives you the tools needed for successful outdoor learning. You will also learn about our Green Schoolyards program and how we can help you better utilize the outdoor space at your school, as well as our Natural Adventures Box program, to help childcare center professionals spend their summer outdoors with kids. Registration required. Contact [kathi.mcqueen@metroparks.org](mailto:kathi.mcqueen@metroparks.org) for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 📅

### BEGINNING BIRDING WORKSHOP

**SAT. APR 16, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** P248  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk. Get started with the basics of birding, including identification, field guide and binocular use, bird song, biology, and behavior. The 2-hour indoor session will be followed by a 2-hour field study. Participants receive a birding handbook, ODNR field guides and bird song CDs. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$25 📅



**(FREE) ADOPT-A-PARK 2016**

**SAT. APR 16, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** P254  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
Volunteers are needed to work at 15 river locations and every Five Rivers MetroParks facility. See Page 5 for details. Registration required. Age: All ages

**(FREE) FAMILY FIRST TUESDAYS  
FREE TRAM TOURS**

**TUE. MAY 3, 6:00-7:00 PM** P157  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

The end of the day is a great time to visit Cox Arboretum and 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) HOPEWELL EARTHWORKS  
CONSERVATION PROJECT**

**FRI. MAY 6, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** P200  
TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Chamberlain Rd  
Trailhead Parking Lot, 8502 Chamberlain Rd.  
Plant prairie drop seed to delineate the earthworks and provide a setting for future interpretation of the area. Participants will hike 5-10 minutes to get to the site. Meet in the parking lot on Chamberlain Rd at 9 am for orientation. Registration required. Contact mary.klunk@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages 🍷

**(FREE) POLLINATOR PLANTINGS**

**THU. MAY 19, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** P240  
**THU. MAY 19, 12:30-3:30 PM** P241  
**SAT. MAY 21, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** P242  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Sledding Hill/TVT/  
Parking Lot, 6206 Boomershire Rd.  
Join the MetroParks conservation team as we expand the habitat and plant a new pollinator haven in Germantown. A great opportunity to learn about pollinator-friendly plants, and get ideas to make your landscape more pollinator friendly. Registration required. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages 🍷

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE****(FREE) THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT**

**FRI. FEB 12, 5:00-10:00 PM** P33  
**SAT. FEB 13, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM**  
OFFSITE, Wright State University, 3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.  
Celebrate the outdoors with a weekend of inspiring presentations focused on outdoor skill, culture and experience. Amy Purdy, Paralympic medalist snowboarder, and Luke Jordan, North Country Trail thru-hiker, will be the 2016 featured personalities. Visitors can get active in a bouldering competition, kayaking sessions and fitness activities. No registration required. www.theadventuresummit.com. Age: All ages

**OUTDOOR PLAY****(FREE) STORYTIME ADVENTURES:  
WATER**

**WED. APR 20, 10:00-11:00 AM** P145  
**WED. APR 27, 10:00-11:00 AM** P149  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter  
Come to the Children's Discovery Garden and enjoy a time for stories and exploring, designed especially for toddlers and their caregivers. Our theme for the next two Wednesdays is water. We'll read a story and then go on a brief adventure. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y 🍷 ⚙️

**(FREE) STORYTIME ADVENTURES:  
FLOWERS**

**WED. MAY 11, 10:00-11:00 AM** P162  
**WED. MAY 18, 10:00-11:00 AM** P205  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter  
We'll read a story and then go on a brief adventure. This program is designed for toddlers and their caregivers. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y 🍷 ⚙️

**OUTDOOR SKILLS  
AND SAFETY****WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER**

**SAT., SUN, MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI.**  
**FEB. 27-MAR. 4, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM** P182  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Through lectures, discussions and scenarios, you'll learn the essential principles and skills required to assess and manage medical problems in isolated and extreme environments for days and weeks if necessary. See contact info to register. Contact (719) 395-5358 or coloradooutside@gmail.com for details. www.wildmed.com. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$690

**WILDERNESS FIRST AID**

**SAT., SUN MAR. 5-6, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM**  
P185  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown 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

**WILDERNESS MEDICINE OPEN  
RECERTIFICATION**

**WED., THU., FRI. MAR. 9-11, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM** P186

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

This course is open to graduates of all wilderness medical training courses of 64 hours or longer with a current WFR certification. WMA WEMT graduates with a current EMT-B or Paramedic certificate may also recertify the wilderness portion of their WEMT with this course. See contact info to register. Contact (719) 395-5358 or coloradooutside@gmail.com for details. www.wildmed.com. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$350

**LEAVE NO TRACE TRAINER  
COURSE**

**SAT. MAY 21, 10:00 AM - SUN. MAY 22, 12:00 PM** P108  
TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Campsite: Twin Creek Group #2: Geronimo, 8539 Morningstar Rd.  
Enhance your understanding of Leave No Trace outdoor ethics and increase your confidence in teaching these skills to others during this two day, overnight course. Ideal for outdoor educators, leaders or enthusiasts who want to learn the skills needed to minimize recreational impacts. Participants will receive a national LNT Trainer certificate. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$60 🍷

**PADDLING****RIVER RESCUE KNOTS**

**THU. FEB 25, 6:00-8:00 PM** P24  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Learn and practice the major knots used in river rescue during this hands-on program in an indoor setting. Prerequisites: none. Registration required. Contact outdoors@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🍷

**(FREE) DISCOVER PADDLESPO RTS**

**WED. MAR 2, 7:00-8:00 PM** P25  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Are you interested in canoeing, kayaking, and stand up paddleboarding? This short classroom presentation will cover basic equipment, safety, where to go and more. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 14Y and up 🍷

**RIVER ACCESS VAN TOUR: GREAT  
MIAMI SOUTH AND TWIN CREEK**

**THU. MAR 17, 5:30-8:00 PM** P290  
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor  
Join us for a driving tour, stopping at 10 different river access points along the Great Miami River south of Dayton and Twin Creek to help plan your next paddling adventure. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 🍷

## RIVER ACCESS VAN TOUR: MAD RIVER AND RIVER RUNS

**THU. MAR 24, 5:30-8:00 PM** P291

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

Join us for a driving tour, visiting river access points along the Mad River from Eastwood MetroPark to downtown to help plan your next paddling adventure. We'll check out the new River Run features along the way. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 📄

## PHOTOGRAPHY

### POSING GROUP PORTRAITS

**SAT. FEB 6, 10:00-11:30 AM** P187

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

Discover techniques for taking photos of families, teams or other groups. Class attendees will serve as models, so be prepared to move. Bring your camera and (if you have them) a tripod, flash and remote control. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 📄

### BLOOMS ALL YEAR LONG

**SAT. MAR 12, 10:00-11:30 AM** P100

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

Even when the weather is cold outside, you can use creative methods to take pictures of plants indoors on a tabletop or by a window. Bring your camera and (if you have them) a tripod, flash and macro lens. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 📄

### PICTURING PETALS AND PLANTS

**SAT. APR 30, 10:00-11:30 AM** P188

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

Discover methods for photographing flowers and other kinds of plants outdoors. Learn to use focus to direct the viewer's eye, and to portray flowers within the larger context of a garden. Following a presentation indoors, the class will then go outside (weather permitting) to take photos in the garden. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 📄

### PICTURING BEASTS AND BIRDS

**SAT. MAY 7, 10:00-11:30 AM** P189

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

Much of the enjoyment of nature photography comes from taking pictures of small animals and birds found outdoors. This session covers techniques for photographing wildlife, followed by an opportunity for participants to practice what they have learned (weather permitting). Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 📄

## ROWING

### GREATER DAYTON YOUTH SPRING ROWING

**MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI., SAT. MAR. 28-MAY 28, 4:00-6:00 PM** P286

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

Join in this multi-week program to train and compete in the sport of rowing and participate in regatta events. Training plans are specific to age groups. Participants must be able to swim and be comfortable around water. See [www.daytonrowing.org](http://www.daytonrowing.org) for registration, fees and coach contact. See contact info to register. Age: 11Y-18Y

### GREATER DAYTON ADULT SPRING LEARN-TO-ROW

**MON., WED. MAY 16-JUN. 8, 6:00-8:00 PM** P287

**TUE., THU. MAY 17-JUN. 9, 6:00-8:00 PM** P288

**SAT., SUN MAY 21-JUN. 12, 12:00-2:00 PM** P289

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

Get on the water and learn to row! A four week class for adults will cover everything needed to row a single sculling boat confidently and independently. Participants should be comfortable in and around water and able to lift 25 lbs overhead and do deep knee bends. See [www.daytonrowing.org](http://www.daytonrowing.org) for specific dates, times and fees. See contact info to register. Age: 18Y and up

## SKATING

### KARAOKE CLASSICS

**FRI. FEB 5, 7:00-10:00 PM** P6

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

Skate as an onsite DJ plays karaoke classics like Don't Stop Believin', Dancing Queen and Sweet Caroline. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7

### STAR-LATE SKATE

**SAT. FEB 6, 7:00-10:00 PM** P3

**SAT. FEB 13, 7:00-10:00 PM** P4

**SAT. FEB 20, 7:00-10:00 PM** P14

**SAT. FEB 27, 7:00-10:00 PM** P5

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

Take in the sights and sounds of downtown, warm up with hot chocolate from our food concession, and enjoy an evening skating alongside the Great Miami River! No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: Admission: \$7 🌤️

## SWEETHEART DEAL

**FRI. FEB 12, 2:30-10:00 PM** P8

**SAT. FEB 13, 11:00 AM-10:00 PM**

**SUN. FEB 14, 1:00-5:00 PM**

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

Join us at MetroParks Ice Rink for Valentine's weekend! During regular ice rink hours from Friday, February 12 through Sunday, February 14, you can purchase the "Sweetheart Deal" and get two rink admissions with skate rental, plus two cups of hot chocolate and a Parker the Penguin plush for only \$20. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$20 🌤️

## SWEETHEART SKATE

**FRI. FEB 12, 7:00-10:00 PM** P7

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

Bring your sweetie to MetroParks Ice Rink and skate to love songs supplied by an onsite DJ. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 🌤️

## PRESIDENTS DAY SKATE

**MON. FEB 15, 11:00 AM-5:00 PM** P9

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

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

## SOUNDS FROM THE CINEMA SKATE

**FRI. FEB 19, 7:00-10:00 PM** P10

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

Come to MetroParks Ice Rink and skate to your favorite movie music! Records like Don't You (Forget About Me), Footloose, and I Will Always Love You will be the soundtrack for an awesome evening of skating! No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 🌤️

## DISCO FEVER

**FRI. FEB 26, 7:00-10:00 PM** P11

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

Do the hustle! Channel John Travolta from Saturday Night Fever as you skate to disco classics. No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 🌤️

## LAST DAY TO SKATE!

**MON. FEB 29, 2:30-5:00 PM** P12

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

Lace up your skates for the last time and help us close out our skating season at MetroParks Ice Rink! No registration required. Contact (937) 278-2607 for details. Age: All ages Fee: \$7 🌤️





RIVER  
SCAPE  
FIVE RIVERS  
METROPARKS

# SKATE WITH YOUR SWEETHEART

VALENTINE'S DAY WEEKEND SPECIAL



2 RINK  
ADMISSIONS



2 SETS  
OF SKATES



2 CUPS OF HOT  
CHOCOLATE



PARKER  
PLUSH

\$ 20

Available Friday, February 12, through Sunday, February 14, during regular rink hours.

(937) 278-2607

FOR RINK AND SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS, VISIT [METROPARKS.ORG/ICERINK](http://METROPARKS.ORG/ICERINK)

## SHOP FRESH AND LOCAL AT THE 2ND STREET MARKET

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

- Kitchen staples
- Dairy items
- Fresh produce
- Sweet treats
- Meat
- Gift items

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

[METROPARKS.ORG/LOCALFOOD](http://METROPARKS.ORG/LOCALFOOD)

600 E. Second St., downtown Dayton  
Thursday & Friday: 11 AM to 3 PM  
Saturday: 8 AM to 3 PM



## GET OUT & RIDE

### SPRING HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS

AT CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK  
RIDING CENTER

BEGINNING THE WEEK OF MARCH 1.

- A variety of levels from beginner English through advanced canter offered
- Classes for adults and children 8 and older
- Registration and class schedules will be online beginning February 2.
- Fee \$250

### SUMMER YOUTH HORSEBACK RIDING CAMP

REGISTRATION BEGINS APRIL 1.

- Camps, for youth ages 8-17, run June 6 to August 15
- Youth learn to lead, groom, saddle, and ride English and Western, as well as how to take care of a horse.
- Multiple levels are offered.



CARRIAGE  
HILL  
FIVE RIVERS  
METROPARKS

TO REGISTER, OR  
FOR MORE INFO, GO TO:  
[metroparks.org/ridingcenter](http://metroparks.org/ridingcenter)  
or (937) 274-3120





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

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## HOLD ON TO YOUR PARKWAYS!

This issue covers programs from February through May 2016.

View this *ParkWays* publication online at [metroparks.org/parkways](http://metroparks.org/parkways).



PLEASE RECYCLE

# 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.

 [METROPARKS.ORG/RESERVATIONS](http://METROPARKS.ORG/RESERVATIONS)



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