GET A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK AT

HOW SEEDS BECOME TREES

HABITAT RESTORATION IS FOR THE BIRDS
SEE PAGE 10

NEW EARTH-FRIENDLY GREENHOUSE HELPS TREES GROW SUSTAINABLY
SEE PAGE 12

TIPS FOR HIKING THE TWIN VALLEY TRAIL
SEE PAGES 14-15

Reforestation volunteer Douglas May with a tree tube in Wesleyan MetroPark.
TOP 5 THINGS TO DO
In Your MetroParks This Season

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

1. COLOR POP
Hike through your Five Rivers MetroParks and enjoy the first flush of fall color. Some of the parks offering extraordinary leaf-peeping opportunities include Carriage Hill, Cox Arboretum, Englewood, Germantown, Hills & Dales, Possum Creek, Sugarcreek, Taylorsville and Twin Creek MetroParks.

2. TASTE OF DAYTON
Visit the 2nd Street Market to shop for all the fresh, local ingredients you need to craft a cozy meal at home. For an instant warm-up, enjoy your favorite comfort foods from one of the many Market vendors.

3. BEAT THE HOLIDAY BULGE
Cooler temperatures shouldn’t interrupt your fitness goals. With 75 miles of hiking trails, more than 70 miles of paved recreation trails and 26 miles of rivers to paddle, your Five Rivers MetroParks are the perfect place for outdoor exercise in a serene fall setting.

4. IT’S ALL DOWNHILL FROM HERE
Bundle up and hit the hills. Sledding is the perfect way to celebrate a snow day. Visit Englewood, Germantown and Taylorsville MetroParks for some speedy sledding action.

5. POWDER POWER
Head to Possum Creek or Carriage Hill MetroParks after a fresh snowfall for an exhilarating cross-country skiing or winter hiking adventure.

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

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

HOW TO CONTACT A RANGER
Inform the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office dispatcher you are in a MetroParks facility. A MetroParks law enforcement Ranger will be notified and respond to the situation as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY CONTACT: 9-1-1
NON-EMERGENCY CONTACT: (937) 535-2580
DEAR METROPARKS FRIENDS,

Fall is the season for thinking about trees: their beautiful changing colors, the piles of leaves to jump in and the baring branches that make it easier to spot birds. At Five Rivers MetroParks, conservation efforts are a year-round endeavor and at the heart of all we do to protect our region’s natural heritage. Fall also is when reforestation efforts kick into high gear. This year, our staff and volunteers will focus on planting and caring for tree seedlings, many grown from seeds you helped collect.

Conservation also is at the heart of Five Rivers MetroParks’ 10-year comprehensive master plan — and remains so as we move to the next step of implementing that plan by developing park site master plans.

Like the comprehensive master plan, the site plans will be based on community input. See page 21 or visit metroparks.org/plan to learn about upcoming open houses and providing feedback online. Each park master plan will include a look at such elements as protected open space, habitats, amenities and potential uses, as well as estimated costs and revenues for improvements and operations.

All this work is part of Five Rivers MetroParks’ commitment to create great parks where everyone in our community can experience the outdoors and nature. Five Rivers MetroParks is also committed to using your input as the guide for future planning and for ensuring we continue to offer the world-class natural areas, parks, facilities and programs our community deserves.

We value your opinions and invite you to participate in the planning processes for our parks so we can hear all you have to say. We also hope to see you outdoors enjoying the beauty and serenity that abound in your MetroParks during the fall and winter seasons!

Best Regards,

Becky Benná
Executive Director

MARVIN OLINSKY INDUCTED IN NATIONAL 4-H HALL OF FAME

Former Five Rivers MetroParks chief executive officer Marvin Olinsky had a vision to connect urban youth with nature in a positive context, with the goal of creating capable, caring and contributing citizens. The result was Adventure Central, a youth program and partnership with Five Rivers MetroParks, 4-H, The Ohio State University Extension and the University of Dayton that still is thriving at Wesleyan MetroPark in Dayton. Since opening in 2000, Adventure Central has served more than 2,500 youth with 100,000 direct contact hours.

Olinsky’s efforts to create Adventure Central and his lifelong commitment to 4-H recently earned him a place in the 2016 National 4-H Hall of Fame. He served as MetroParks’ CEO from 1986 until 2001. Congratulations, Marvin!

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Register for programs happening in your MetroParks from October 2016 through January 2017.

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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.

© Easterling Studios
What started with a simple question from a local resident led to a generous donation that’s helping Five Rivers MetroParks measure the impacts of its conservation efforts.

Paul Lamberger’s question was this: “What could Five Rivers MetroParks do with $10,000 that it would not otherwise be able to do?”

Michael Enright, director of parks and conservation, and Beth Redden, director of development, worked with Mr. Lamberger to develop a donation to the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation that would support the conservation department in its work to manage natural habitats.

Mr. Lamberger is passionate about conservation and protecting natural resources for future generations. He began attending Five Rivers MetroParks Board of Park Commissioners meetings as a representative of the League of Women Voters a number of years ago. His son worked for former director of conservation Dave Nolin several years ago planting prairies at Carriage Hill MetroPark.

After reviewing several options, Mr. Lamberger decided to support a project that would develop a new method to monitor natural habitats on MetroParks’ land. The information collected will guide future management efforts.

Five Rivers MetroParks manages more than 10,000 acres of natural habitats. Each year, a variety of management methods are used to ensure the habitats in each park remain healthy. However, measuring the impact of those management methods is difficult.

Working with Miami University professor Keith Gilland and conservation department staff, a new monitoring protocol was developed in spring 2016. Two Miami University botany students, Mallory Dickey and Payton Kraus, tested this new protocol at Germantown MetroPark – collecting valuable information that provided a quick, easy way to measure the impacts and guide future management needs in natural habitats. All this was supported by Mr. Lamberger’s gift.

“The Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation helps support work that isn’t able to be funded by the operating budget,” Mr. Lamberger said. “It also allowed me to support a project in conservation, something that is important to me. The Foundation is important to the community because it supports Five Rivers MetroParks.”
RIVERSCAPE RIVER RUN CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES

Work began this summer on the second in-river structure for RiverScape River Run, located in the Great Miami River at RiverScape MetroPark, and is continuing this fall.

Five Rivers MetroParks partnered with Kokosing, general contractor for the I-75 project, to reuse construction materials at the RiverScape River Run site. Repurposing the materials saved taxpayers significant money on both projects and helped MetroParks meet its mission to protect the region’s natural heritage by making the project more sustainable. MetroParks will continue to repurpose the I-75 construction materials for bank stabilization when the cofferdam is no longer needed.

At the RiverScape River Run structure near the Dayton Art Institute, final adjustments have been made to enhance safety and the performance of the structure as I-75 construction finishes. RiverScape River Run has eliminated the hazards associated with the low dam and created a passage for recreational paddlers and a whitewater play spot for kayakers. RiverScape River Run finally provides opportunities for people to get out on the river downtown — kayaking, canoeing and stand-up paddle boarding, as well as simply sun bathing and people-watching from the rocks.

2ND STREET MARKET PARTNERSHIP INCREASES ACCESS TO FRESH, LOCAL FOOD

Nearly 30 vendors selling fresh food items at the 2nd Street Market now accept SNAP/food assistance Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) tokens thanks to a partnership with Homefull, a nonprofit organization working to end homelessness.

This new partnership expands healthy food options for customers who receive food assistance while giving them more options for stocking their kitchens with locally grown and produced food. The partnership is funded by a two-year grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture aimed at increasing SNAP/EBT redemption at farmers markets in Montgomery, Greene and Preble counties.

GOOGLE PROGRAM MAPS DAYTON TRAILS

This summer, Five Rivers MetroParks partnered with Outdoor Adventure Connection to participate in the Google Street View Trekker loan program, capturing 360-degree imagery of Dayton-area trails. It was the first Google Trekker project in Ohio.

When completed, panoramic street view-like “treks” of regional hiking, mountain biking, equestrian, water and paved trails will be available in Google Maps. Now, all the data volunteers collected is being processed before it’s added to Google Maps, which can take several months. MetroParks will announce when the images are available online.
Volunteers gathered more than 120,000 hickory nuts and acorns as part of MetroParks’ “Go Nuts!” fall reforestation efforts held since 2012. Reforestation helps MetroParks protect our region’s land and water by fighting back against the negative impacts the emerald ash borer, invasive species and climate change are having on our forests.

Here’s a look at how Metroparks staff and volunteers are helping make that happen:

The Life of a Seed

Even the largest trees start as a seed

1. Floaters
Nuts and seeds collected by the public are sorted by type and tested for viability, meaning they have a chance to become a tree, through a float test. Seeds are placed in water, and those that sink are viable while those that float are not. Nearly 80 percent of those collected pass the float test and, of those, a smaller portion will actually turn into trees.

2. Cool Down
Bad seeds are composted and good seeds are mixed with moist vermiculite, which is a sponge-like material that prevents seeds from drying out. They’re stored in a fridge for two to three months, depending on the type of seed, to mimic winter dormancy.
3. INTO THE DIRT
Seeds are removed from the fridge and planted in deep, flat containers of soil to germinate. Again, the timing varies depending on the type of seed.

4. TREE BIRTH
Sprouted seeds are transplanted into cone-shaped containers (shown above) specially designed for this purpose. In the greenhouses at Cox Arboretum MetroPark, they sprout into seedlings.

5. BIG & TALL
Once the seedlings are large enough, they are again transplanted — this time into large containers, placed outside the greenhouse in cold frames where they will spend the next two years growing and adjusting to life in the great outdoors.

6. PARK LIFE
Young trees that are large and sturdy enough to withstand life in the forest make one last move when staff and volunteers plant them in land MetroParks manages. Many will go to the Great Miami Mitigation Bank, a large tract of former farmland MetroParks is transforming into a diverse wetland and forest habitat. Others will be planted in strategic locations in the parks. All will be protected from hungry deer and more extreme weather in tree tubes.
THE LIFE OF A SEED MADE EASIER

The new Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture, which opened this past spring at Cox Arboretum MetroPark, makes this whole process easier.

• New utility sinks are used for float tests.

• Flat, stainless steel moveable tables ease transplanting and maintain a sterile environment, which is important to avoiding fungus that could attack the seedlings.

• Swamp coolers, temperature controls and shade cloths in the greenhouses keep things from getting too hot during the summer and cold during winter.

The Center also has made the process more sustainable. Composting and recycling are easier. A rainwater harvesting system is used to water and fertilize seedlings while they’re in the cold frames. Certain items have been repurposed, such as a former Coca-Cola cooler used for refrigeration and a former mortician’s table on which soil is piled.

In addition to trees, native wildflowers and shrubs also are grown at the Center. (See page 12.) Together, these plants are critical to MetroParks’ reforestation efforts and work to create diverse, healthy habitats on the land it manages.

MetroParks has learned and made adjustments and improvements to its reforestation efforts since launching them in 2010. With your help, our community can continue to take on the stressors impacting our forests and improve our local environment for generations to come.

ADVENTURE CENTRAL YOUTH PART OF REFORESTATION EFFORT

A partnership between Five Rivers MetroParks, 4-H, The Ohio State University Extension and the University of Dayton, Adventure Central serves area youth and is located at Wesleyan MetroPark.

This past year, youth in its after-school program aided MetroParks’ reforestation efforts while learning about seed propagation, the forces impacting local forests and more. Students used grow lights confiscated by law enforcement to raise thousands of oak and hickory seedlings in the basement of Adventure Central. When the seedlings are ready, students will plant them in a reforestation area near the building and at other sites around MetroParks.
REFORESTATION BY THE NUMBERS

120,000+ nuts collected by the community during Go Nuts! efforts

40,000 trees and shrubs grown by Tree Corp. Volunteers

14,690 trees and shrubs planted in 2016 to date

4,000 trees planted in 2015

5,000 additional trees and shrubs to be planted this fall

HOW CAN I HELP?

Five Rivers MetroParks needs your help to put those additional 5,000 plants in the ground during two planting dates:

SATURDAYS, SEPT. 10 & 24 • 9 AM TO NOON
Great Miami Mitigation Bank
8401 Little Richmond Rd.

You and your family also can volunteer for reforestation efforts during Make a Difference Day on Saturday, Oct. 22, from 9 a.m. to noon.
HABITAT RESTORATION FOR THE BIRDS

A STATE-LISTED THREATENED SPECIES IN OHIO IS COMING HOME TO ROOST.

Black-crowned night herons historically nested and colonized at Island MetroPark but have been rare in more recent years, abandoning the area after invasive species took over the land. Now, they’re back — and MetroParks is welcoming them with a habitat restoration project to make sure the park is, indeed, a home sweet home.

The herons prefer the southern portion of Island MetroPark near the dam. Five Rivers MetroParks is restoring the location, as it’s one of the only places in the region the herons have been spotted. In April 2016, staff and volunteers planted 200 potted trees, shrubs and other plants to create habitat for the herons.

Mostly active at night or at dusk, the herons forage in wetlands and breed in colonies of stick nests usually built over water. They require an aquatic habitat for foraging and terrestrial vegetation for cover, with a habitat more common in wetlands.

“Black-crowned night herons are rare in the Dayton region, which is one reason we wanted to enhance their habitat,” said Michael Enright, director of parks and conservation. “We’re taking out the invasive plants, such as honeysuckle, which isn’t a good roosting or nesting shrub, and bringing back native trees and shrubs.”

The herons nest colonially, usually with at least a dozen nests, and can remain in one place for 50 years or more.
Five Rivers MetroParks manages land that's home to an amazing diversity of birds. Below are some of the best parks for observing these beautiful winged creatures:

**CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK'S** Cedar Lake and North Woods Pond are home to a variety of waterfowl, such as green herons, wood ducks and ring-necked ducks. Hike the nature trails to see hummingbirds in the prairie and pine warblers along areas where there are cedar trees.

**COX ARBORETUM METROPARK'S** bird blind provides opportunities for bird and wildlife viewing in an area that includes two wetlands and 13 acres of prairie. Redwing blackbirds and common yellowthroat warblers are often seen.

**EASTWOOD METROPARK** is home to birdwatchers’ fave couple, American bald eagles Jim and Cindy. If you have a spotting scope, Eastwood is a great place to spot such ducks as buffleheads, common goldeneye, scaup and sometimes even common loons.

**ENGLEWOOD METROPARK** is a birdwatcher’s paradise, as its variety of habitats means it has great avian diversity as well. Spot buffleheads, ruddy ducks, redheads, American coots, grebes and sometimes blue-winged teal in the swamp just north of the lower lake parking lot. The rivers are full of migrating waterfowl. At the wildlife area in North Park, 500 Old Springfield Rd., see purple martins and herons. Take the small trail by Thompson Shelter and head toward the river to see many kinds of birds, such as the belted kingfisher and prothonotary warbler.

**GERMANTOWN METROPARK** is designated as an Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society and a Watchable Wildlife viewing site by Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The 1.6-mile silver trail takes you by Twin Creek and through a variety of habitats where you can spot warblers, hawks and other birds and includes a wildlife viewing station that allows a peek into a wetland.

**HUFFMAN METROPARK** is an excellent place to view migrating ducks. Huffman Lake, the Mad River and natural vegetation provide a welcoming home to birds.

**POSSUM CREEK METROPARK** is home to tall grass prairies, Argonne Lake and ponds that provide habitat for a variety of birds. Argonne Lake is a great place to watch a variety of ducks. At the Wildlife Pond, spot belted kingfishers, green and blue herons, and the yellow breasted chat. Look in the thicket and brush areas that border the prairies on the west side trails.
DESIGNED WITH METROPARKS AND YOU IN MIND

This Center makes Five Rivers MetroParks’ growing operations more efficient and Earth-friendly and makes it easier for you to experience conservation projects and learn how to live more sustainably at home.

The Center already has improved MetroParks’ reforestation efforts. (See page 8.) It also will help with other conservation projects aimed at protecting our region’s natural heritage:

• Staff and volunteers are growing wildflowers for habitat restoration efforts. For example, milkweeds being propagated will be planted in a 65-acre pollinator prairie being created adjacent to Germantown MetroPark. Milkweeds are the only food source for the threatened monarch butterfly caterpillar.

• Native grasses are being grown for a project at Twin Creek MetroPark, where portions of ancient earthworks known as the Carlisle Fort have eroded. Thousands of these grasses will be planted on the earthworks to give visitors a visual sense of what it once looked like.

• Native woodland wildflowers are being rescued and grown from the construction zones of MetroParks’ strategic trail initiative, in which trails are being reconstructed to be more sustainable and have less impact on the environment. Plants grown by wildflower volunteers this year will be used at Sugarcreek MetroPark.

THE CENTER ITSELF IS A SUSTAINABLE FACILITY:

The original greenhouses were renovated rather than rebuilt.

Each greenhouse has its own temperature control system, which along with LED lighting helps minimize energy use.

A rainwater collection system is used to water plants. Permeable clay pavers and rain chains feed into that system.

The center includes 13 growing zones, each of which uses automated irrigation to provide just the amount of water the plants in each zone need.

A station for filling water bottles reduces the need for disposable water bottle use.
GET OUT & TEACH

Five Rivers MetroParks and the James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation have partnered to present the OUTstanding Teacher Award, which recognizes Dayton-area teachers who engage students with the outdoors. Launched in 2015, the award honors educators who provide students with environmental experiences that inspire a personal connection with and build positive attitudes about nature.

The OUTstanding Teacher Award is given annually to three educators, who may teach any grade level and in any academic area. Educators are awarded based on their years of experience in the Rising Star, Leader and Lifetime Achievement categories.

“Nature isn’t just for science,” said Katrina Arnold, conservation and nature program manager. “It’s multidisciplinary and can be the lens through which many subjects and concepts can be taught and applied.”

The OUTstanding Teacher Award package includes:

- One-year membership to the James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation
- One-year membership to the Environmental Education Council of Ohio
- Registration for the 101 conference at Camp Kern
- Transportation for a class field trip to Cox Arboretum MetroPark
- Plant kit to start or add to a Green Schoolyard
- Supplies for the winning teachers’ classrooms or schools

Dana Franks, a kindergarten teacher at DECA Prep and 2016 Rising Star winner, purchased soil, plants and tools to start raised beds at her school. Brookville Elementary teacher and 2016 Leader winner Kristina Dobberstein purchased a sugar maple tree, different milkweed species for monarchs and plants for pollinators.

“By creating and enhancing space around the school for wildlife,” Arnold said, “students will be able to get out into nature even more often.”

Visit metroparks.org/outstanding to learn more and nominate a teacher for the 2017 award.
Five Rivers MetroParks’ conservation efforts in the Twin Valley not only help protect the wildest natural area in Montgomery County — they provide an excellent outdoor recreation opportunity as well.

The 22-mile Twin Valley Trail (TVT) is set in the rolling hills of this area — located less than 30 minutes from downtown Dayton. And with cooler temps and fall colors on display, there’s no better time than now to hit the trail.

Providing a backpacking experience reminiscent of other wilderness trails, the TVT winds through a variety of habitats, including old-growth forests, prairies, grasslands, wetlands and ponds. The land is home to native plants and wildlife, the Twin Creek is one of the cleanest rivers in Ohio, and 2,000-year-old earthworks constructed by the Hopewell culture can be seen.

“The TVT provides a challenging and remote experience that will invigorate and inspire experienced backpackers,” said Brent Anslinger, outdoor recreation manager. “The proximity to home makes the TVT the perfect place to start a love affair with backpacking.”

Opened in June 2008, the TVT connects Germantown (1,665 acres) and Twin Creek (1,000 acres) MetroParks. It’s part of a trail system in the Twin Valley that includes 43 miles of trails and three backcountry camping areas.
“Scouts and other groups will find a perfect destination to connect to nature and leave the electronics at home,” said Angie Sheldon, outdoor recreation coordinator. “Groups also can set up base camp at one of MetroParks’ frontcountry campsites and then allow the more experienced hikers to trek to one of the backcountry campsites. The beauty of the trail and camping options really allow people to customize their experience.”

**BACKCOUNTRY CAMPSITE DESCRIPTIONS**

Each location includes three primitive campsites large enough for two small backpacking tents, a vault toilet and common area. Reserve campsites at metroparks.org/campsites or by calling 937-275-PARK.

- **OAK RIDGE**
  Located in the northern section of the TVT in Germantown MetroPark, this rural location near large native prairies makes Oak Ridge the perfect place for nighttime star gazing.

- **CEDAR RIDGE**
  Located in the middle section of the TVT, halfway between Germantown and Twin Creek MetroParks, the three wooded campsites nestled into gentle hills provide a great resting stop.

- **PINE RIDGE**
  Located in the southern section of the TVT in Twin Creek MetroPark, the campsites are tucked in the pines of the old Camp Hook and provide the opportunity to see and hear a number of owl species.

**RECOMMENDED HIKING TRIPS**

**SINGLE-NIGHT TRIP**

**DAY 1:**
Park at the Germantown MetroPark trailhead and sledding hill and head north on the TVT, following the eastern half of the loop around Germantown five miles to the Cedar Ridge campsites.

**DAY 2:**
Loop six miles back to your car, following the western half of the loop around Germantown MetroPark.

**TWO-NIGHT TRIP**

**DAY 1:**
Park at the Germantown MetroPark main park spillway parking lot and follow the TVT 5.4 miles around Germantown MetroPark and camp at the Oak Ridge campsites.

**DAY 2:**
Hike 4.3 miles to the Cedar Ridge campsites.

**DAY 3:**
Enjoy a short two-mile hike back to your car.

**THREE-NIGHT TRIP**

**DAY 1:**
From Twin Creek’s High View trailhead, hike 3.9 miles to the Pine Ridge campsites, looping around the southern portion of Twin Creek.

**DAY 2:**
Hike 10.3 miles following the TVT connector to the Oak Ridge campsites.

**DAY 3:**
Hike north from Oak Ridge and loop 6.9 miles around Germantown MetroPark back to the Cedar Ridge campsites.

**DAY 4:**
Hike 4.2 miles back to your car.
AT ADVENTURE CENTRAL, TODAY’S SEEDLINGS ARE BECOMING TOMORROW’S FORESTS — AND DOUGLAS MAY IS A PRIME EXAMPLE.

Not only is he literally helping grow forests, he has grown from a reserved 9-year-old to an exemplary volunteer with a passion for reforestation. May’s attitude and dedication earned him the Adventure Central Volunteer of the Year award in 2015. Adventure Central offered May the opportunity to embrace the program’s emphasis on nature, unstructured outside play and service.

After progressing through each age group and attending the after-school program and summer day camp, May dedicated himself to the concept of service, an integral part of the Adventure Central program. He follows the example of his mother, Marqueitta Captain, a strong supporter of Adventure Central and a Five Rivers MetroParks volunteer since 2007.

Adventure Central — a youth development partnership between Five Rivers MetroParks, 4-H, The Ohio State University Extension and the University of Dayton — was a springboard for May. In addition to volunteering, he also applied to be part of the Job Experience and Training Program (JET) for teens ages 12-18.

For the past three years, May has helped with gardening and conservation projects, including taking on the daily care of the vegetable and herb garden beds and assisting with animal care. Most recently, May embraced his largest and possibly most challenging volunteer opportunity yet, an ambitious conservation project in which native tree seeds and nuts were harvested and grown into saplings in the Adventure Central basement at Wesleyan MetroPark.

After participating in MetroParks’ “Go Nuts!” campaign, when more than 90,000 acorns and hickory nuts were collected, May and his peers were inspired to tackle this reforestation project. They collected a variety of nuts — as well as native shrub, spice bush and paw paw seeds — for germination and transplantation. By the end of 2016, the project will have yielded an estimated 3,000 saplings.

“Doug can be counted on to come in and independently complete tasks on daily basis. He’s willing to try new things,” said Nate Arnett, director of Adventure Central.

May spent the summer working with the Five Rivers MetroParks’ conservation team, looking after his saplings at the Great Miami Mitigation Bank and Wesleyan MetroPark.
Volunteers are needed year round to maintain your Five Rivers MetroParks gardens. Develop a personal connection with nature while learning from Five Rivers MetroParks’ horticulturists and other gardeners. No experience necessary; hands-on training is provided.

**GARDEN STEWARDS**
RiverScape MetroPark
Perform a variety of Earth-friendly activities, including weeding, watering, pruning, deadheading, mulching, and maintaining herbaceous and woody plants throughout the grounds. Daily shifts are flexible.

**FREELANCE GARDENERS**
Cox Arboretum MetroPark
Assist with grounds maintenance projects, including propagation, planting, grooming, mulching, weeding and removing invasive species. Special attention will be given to the Iris Garden. Shifts are flexible.

**BARBARA COX CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE HORTICULTURE VOLUNTEER GARDENERS**
Cox Arboretum MetroPark
Learn propagation techniques that help MetroParks’ habitat restoration efforts and become an advocate for native plants while working in this new center’s greenhouse complex, renovated for energy and water efficiency. Shifts available Fridays and Saturdays, 9 AM to noon.

**WEGERZYN GIFT AND GARDEN SHOP**
2nd Street Market
Volunteers interact with customers and conduct sales at this shop specializing in garden-themed merchandise, gifts and house plants. Proceeds benefit the Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation. Shop hours are 11 AM to 3 PM Thursdays and Fridays, and 8 AM to 3 PM Saturdays.

**WEGERZYN GARDENING ANGELS**
Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark
Discover design ideas, unique plants and cultivation techniques suitable for the home garden. Shifts available Wednesdays through October and Saturday, Oct. 15, from 9 AM to noon.

**AULLWOOD GARDEN HELPERS**
Aullwood Garden MetroPark
Learn to grow a variety of shade plants and help with plant propagation, garden mapping and botanical research.

**AULLWOOD HISTORICAL RESEARCH SPECIALIST**
Document the significance of the Aull family and the Aullwood property by reviewing and organizing historical documents, as well as conducting independent research.

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**GARDENING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

**VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS**

Five Rivers MetroParks has a volunteer opportunity for every interest year round!
Attend an orientation at MetroParks’ headquarters (409 E. Monument Ave., third floor, in downtown Dayton) or see pages 24-37 for additional volunteer opportunities this coming fall and winter.

**FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION**
Wednesday, Oct. 12: 9:30 to 11:30 AM
Thursday, Nov. 3: 1 to 3 PM
Wednesday, Jan. 11: 1 to 3 PM
Learn about the various volunteer opportunities available in your MetroParks. (See page 31 for more info.)

**INTRODUCTION TO CONSERVATION**
Tuesday, Oct. 25: 1 to 3 PM
Thursday, Nov. 10: 6:30 to 8:30 PM
Discover how you can help with Five Rivers MetroParks’ conservation efforts. (See page 30 for more info.)
The Market features more than 40 vendors — all locally owned — offering:

- Fresh Produce
- Locally Produced Meat
- Kitchen Staples
- Dairy Items

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

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

Thursday & Friday: 11 AM TO 3 PM
Saturday: 8 AM TO 3 PM

metroparks.org/localfood
SEARCH AND REGISTER FOR METROPARKS PROGRAMMING
Finding things to do and learn that match your interests is now easier. Search the following pages by the categories below.

PROGRAMMING CATEGORIES

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE
Enjoy time with friends and family at these community celebrations.

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

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

ADULT NATURE EXPLORATION
Enjoy and learn about the splendor of the natural world.

PROGRAMMING FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN
Spend quality time outdoors with everyone in your family.

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

HOW TO REGISTER

ONLINE
metroparks.org/programs
Search online by date or program number to register.

BY PHONE
(937) 275-PARK (7275)
Register for all programs by calling 275-PARK unless otherwise noted in the listing.

PROGRAMMING DETAILS

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

ONLINE REGISTRATION
Online registration is available for programs marked with this icon.

WEATHER DEPENDENT
Some outdoor events and programs are weather permitting.

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

CANCELLATIONS
Some programs require a minimum number of participants and are subject to cancellation. Those who are registered will be contacted if this occurs. The website contains up-to-date information on cancellations.
SPECIAL EVENTS
Enjoy time with friends and family at these community celebrations.

(FREE) CHARLIE DOYLE MEMORIAL REGATTA
SAT. OCT 1, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM R91
ISLAND METROPARK, 101 E. Helena St.
Hosted by the Greater Dayton Rowing Association, the 17th annual Dayton rowing regatta brings together over 1,000 youth and adult athletes from around the Midwest to compete in a 2,000-meter race down the Great Miami River! Spectators can catch a spectacular view of the finish line at Island MetroPark and visit food and clothing vendors. No registration required. www.daytonrowing.org. Age: All ages

(FREE) FUN FALL SPOOKY EVENING IN THE GARDEN
FRI. OCT 21, 6:00-8:00 PM R45
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Bring the family to visit the gardens as the sun sets to enjoy cider by the fire, ghost stories, and fun seasonal games and crafts. Learn about fall and winter veggies, prairie seeding, bugs other creatures of the garden and more. Costumes are encouraged. This event is sponsored by the Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: METROPARKS’ MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY
SAT. OCT 22, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM R107
MULTIPLE LOCATIONS
Make a Difference Day is the largest national day of community service. It is a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors and the power of people coming together to make a difference. Help MetroParks with a variety of Earth-friendly activities. Registration closes October 14. Register at metroparks.org/volunteer. Registration required. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages

(FREE) WAGNER SUBARU OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE
SAT. OCT 1, 11:00 AM-10:00 PM R112
SUN. OCT 2, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Park, 1385 Harshman Rd.
The Wagner Subaru Outdoor Experience has grown beyond just gear and exploded into one of the largest festivals celebrating the outdoor lifestyle in the Midwest. This multi-day event features camping, competitions, live music, a youth adventure zone, high-flying demos, a beer garden and much more! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. www.metroparks.org/outdoorx. Age: All ages

(FREE) STOCK UP WEDNESDAY
WED. NOV 23, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM R94
2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. Second St.
The Market will be open to pick up your last-minute needs for Thanksgiving, including homemade breads, fresh turkeys and hams, pies and cakes, flowers, and more. Many vendors accept pre-orders throughout November so remember to ask on your next visit. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

ICE RINK OPENING WEEKEND
FRI., SAT. NOV. 25-26, 11:00 AM-10:00 PM R72
SUN. NOV 27, 1:00-5:00 PM R113
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Spend the holiday weekend creating lasting memories with friends and family at MetroParks Ice Rink! Warm up with hot chocolate from our food concession and enjoy our outdoor fireplaces. No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: $7

(937) 275-PARK
to life. Concessions will be available. No registration required. Age: All ages

CHRISTMAS EVE SKATE
SAT. DEC 24, 1:00-8:00 PM S37
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Start a holiday tradition by skating with your friends and family at MetroParks Ice Rink! Enjoy splendid scenery, warm outdoor fireplaces and hot chocolate from our food concession. No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: $7

CHRISTMAS DAY SKATE
SUN. DEC 25, 1:00-5:00 PM S38
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Have an old-fashioned, family holiday and skate on Christmas Day! Enjoy the festive atmosphere as you sip hot chocolate by our outdoor fireplaces. No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: $7

NEW YEAR’S EVE SKATE
SAT. DEC 31, 11:00 AM-10:00 PM S51
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Looking for something fun to do before the ball drops? Start your New Year’s Eve party at the MetroParks Ice Rink! No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: $7

NEW YEAR’S DAY SKATE
SUN. JAN 1, 1:00-5:00 PM S52
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Start the New Year right and be the first to skate in 2017! No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: $7

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY SKATE
MON. JAN 16, 11:00 AM-5:00 PM S53
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Celebrate the holiday at MetroParks Ice Rink! No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: $7

TUESDAY, SEPT. 27: DISCUSS MEDLAR CONSERVATION AREA
• 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM open house at Miami Township Library Branch: 2718 Lyons Road
• 6 to 8 PM open house at Miamisburg Library Branch: 35 S. Fifth St.

TUESDAY, OCT. 11: DISCUSS EASTWOOD METROPARK
• Both open houses will be held at Comfort Suites Wright Patterson: 5220 Huberville Ave.

THURSDAY, OCT. 13: DISCUSS THE WETLAND MITIGATION BANK AND FORMER LARCH TREE GOLF COURSE
• 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM open house at Trotwood Library Branch, 651 E. Main Street
• 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM open house at Adventure Central, 2222 N. James H. McGee Blvd.

TUESDAY, OCT. 18: DISCUSS ENSGLEWOOD AND AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARKS
• Both open houses will be held at Aullwood Nature Center: 1000 Aullwood Road

THURSDAY, OCT. 27: DISCUSS WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK
• Both open houses will be held in the park auditorium: 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
THE MIDWEST’S PREMIER OUTDOOR ADVENTURE FESTIVAL

OUTDOOR experience

FREE!

NEW DATES & TIMES WITH TWO FULL DAYS OF ACTIVITY!

OCTOBER 1 & 2

SATURDAY 11 AM - 10 PM
SUNDAY 10 AM - 4 PM

EASTWOOD METROPARK, 1385 HARSHMAN ROAD
METROPARKS.ORG/OUTDOORX

ACTIVITIES

• Make a splash while canoeing and kayaking in the Paddle Zone.
• Try slacklining, tubing and climbing.
• Ride bikes on the pump track.
• Fuel up your canine companion in the Bark Zone.
• Flex your muscles and mind with yoga, Zumba and bootcamp sessions.

DEMONSTRATIONS

• Team Zoom will perform high-flying disc dog maneuvers.
• Paddling pros will hit the water for freestyle whitewater kayak shows.
• Mountain bike professional Craig Wright will perform his BikeStuntShow.
• See BMX Pro riders at Inspired Stunt Shows.
GET OUT & GET ACTIVE
at the Wagner Subaru Outdoor Experience

Try more than 25 outdoor activities, challenge yourself in 10 competitions and watch amazing stunts during more than seven demo shows at the Midwest’s premier outdoor adventure festival!

- In the Osprey Backcountry Zone featuring the Great Miami Outfitters Outpost, be custom fitted for a pack and try it on a custom backpacking loop.
- Slackliners return with a new trio of competitions meant to test athletes’ abilities on land, across the waters of the Eastwood Lagoon and on a line high in the trees.
- Mountain bike trials rider Craig Wright will make his second appearance at the event with demo shows Saturday and Sunday.
- Returning favorites include the climbing wall, pumptrack, Subaru Buckeye DockDogs, Mad River Mountain Snow Tubing, whitewater kayakers and more.
- Bike in on your own or join the Bike for the Health of It group ride. Either way, enjoy valet bike parking courtesy of the Dayton Cycling Club.
- Enjoy camping, your favorite brews featuring Great Lakes Brewing Company and live music on the Dayton.com stage all weekend.

Free camping Friday through Sunday!

EXHIBITORS
- Find the latest gear from the likes of Osprey, Princeton Tec and Vibram.
- Local organizations offer activities and educational opportunities for all ages.
- See what your favorite retailers and manufacturers have to offer in the Exhibitors Village.

COMPETITIONS
- Put your precision to the test during the Vibram Disc Golf Tournament.
- Team up with your pup for the Ruff Run 5K.
- The 12-hour State Champion Endurance Run is the most advanced competition at the Wagner Subaru Outdoor Experience.
CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: SEEDLING SATURDAYS
SAT. OCT 15, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM R105
SAT. NOV 19, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM R106
GREAT MIAMI WETLAND MITIGATION BANK, 8401 Little Richmond Rd.
Join our conservation efforts and help us put some seedlings in the ground! Restoration is a vital part of building a habitat, and we could use your help planting thousands of native plants. Registration required. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. metroparks.org/forest.
Age: All ages

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) PICKLED, SMOKED AND FERMENTED
SUN. NOV 13, 12:00-4:00 PM R52
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Join us to learn about the various preservation methods used in the 19th century. Learn about the basics of fermentation and watch as sauerkraut is made. Basic methods of pickling will be demonstrated throughout the day. Lastly, learn about smoking and curing and watch as we use our smokehouse. No registration required. Age: All ages

HERITAGE & HISTORY

(FREE) BISCUIT DAY
SUN. OCT 16, 12:00-4:00 PM R50
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
One of the most common staples of any farm family’s meal was the biscuit. Watch as various types of biscuits are made around the farm, and baked in our outdoor oven. No registration required. Age: All ages

(FREE) VICES OF THE 1880s: TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND OTHERS
SUN. NOV 6, 12:00-4:00 PM R51
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Help the farm hands strip the cured tobacco from the stalk and get it ready for sale as they did 100 years ago. Watch as tobacco plugs are made. Information on several other period vices will be provided, including coffee, tea, beer and gambling. No registration required. Age: All ages

SKATING

STAR-LATE SKATE
SAT. NOV 26, 7:00-10:00 PM R88
SAT. DEC 3, 7:00-10:00 PM S68
SAT. DEC 10, 7:00-10:00 PM S69
SAT. DEC 17, 7:00-10:00 PM S70
SAT. JAN 7, 7:00-10:00 PM S71
SAT. JAN 14, 7:00-10:00 PM S72
SAT. JAN 21, 7:00-10:00 PM S73
SAT. JAN 28, 7:00-10:00 PM S74
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. Age: All ages Fee: $7

SCHOOL PRIDE NIGHT
FRI. JAN 6, 7:00-10:00 PM S59
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Represent your school at MetroParks Ice Rink. Wear your school colors to skate as a DJ plays Top 40 hits. Bring your student ID to get half-priced admission. No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: $7

MICHAEL JACKSON SKATE
FRI. JAN 13, 7:00-10:00 PM S57
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Do you love the King of Pop? Then come to MetroParks Ice Rink and moonwalk in ice skates as a DJ plays a variety of Michael Jackson’s biggest hits. Groove to Thriller, Black or White, I’ll Be There, and even some hits from the Jackson 5. No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: $7

TOP 40 HITS SKATE
FRI. JAN 20, 7:00-10:00 PM S58
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Come to MetroParks Ice Rink and skate as an on-site DJ plays Top 40 hits! No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: $7

FROZEN ON ICE
FRI. JAN 27, 7:00-10:00 PM S60
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Bring the family out for a magical evening of ice skating! Glide the night away as the DJ plays your favorite Disney songs! No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: $7
**BACKPACKING**

**FREE VOLUNTEER: BACKPACKING TRAIL WORK DAYS**

**SAT. OCT 8, 9:00-12:00 PM R14**
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Park Office, 6675 Conservancy Rd.

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

**RED RIVER GORGE BACKPACKING TRIP**

**FRI. OCT 14, 12:00 PM - SUN. OCT 16, 6:00 PM R10**
OFFSITE,

Join us for a weekend backpacking trip to the Red River Gorge. This unique and scenic natural area within the Daniel Boone National Forest is known for its abundant natural stone arches, unusual rock formations, and spectacular sandstone cliffs. Breathe in fresh fall air and enjoy stunning views. Mandatory pre-trip meeting October 6th. Pre-requisites: Backpacking 2 or Backpacking Basics. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $130

**LIGHTWEIGHT BACKPACKING**

**WED. NOV 16, 6:00-8:00 PM R8**
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Looking to lighten your load so you can backpack more easily, hike longer, or get more miles in? Join us for this evening classroom-based program as we explore a variety of ways to reduce our backpacking load. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $10

**BACKCOUNTRY FAST & LIGHT COOKING**

**WED. DEC 7, 6:00-8:00 PM S1**
2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.

Do you have the ultra-light backpacking bug and are looking for a way to cook nutritious, light-weight meals? This course will introduce you to techniques, like using a pot cozy and freezer bag cooking. Come hungry! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

**BACKCOUNTRY GOURMET COOKING**

**WED. DEC 14, 6:00-8:30 PM S2**
2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.

Learn to cook in the backcountry like you do in your kitchen. Discover a variety of cooking methods that include more elaborate gourmet meals using foods common at your local grocery while cooking on backpacking stoves. Come hungry! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

**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

**BIKE FOR THE HEALTH OF IT!**

**SAT. OCT 8, 9:00-11:00 AM R5**
CREEKSIDE TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 2
Join us for a bike ride on the Creekside Bikeway. (12 miles). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages

**FREE RIDE TO WRIGHT BROTHERS MEMORIAL PARK**

**SAT. OCT 15, 9:00-11:00 AM R4**
MAD RIVER TRAIL, 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 TROTWOOD**

**SAT. OCT 22, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM R6**
WOLF CREEK TRAIL, 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 VERONA**

**SAT. OCT 29, 9:00-11:00 AM R2**
WOLF CREEK TRAIL, 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

**BICYCLE MAINTENANCE 1**

**TUE. OCT 25, 6:00-8:00 PM R20**
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
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**

**THU. OCT 27, 6:00-8:00 PM R21**
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

**WED. NOV 2, 6:00-8:00 PM R22**
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
This hands-on class will cover tune-ups and offer guided practice with brake and drive-train main-
turn your resolution into reality! Learn about local destinations, opportunities to build skills, and community resources for backpacking, paddling, biking and fishing. This class is designed to get the juices flowing as you make plans to turn 2017 into the year that you Get Out & Live! Hot drinks and snacks provided. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact outdoors@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages ️

Hiking

FREE HIKE LEADERSHIP
THU. JAN 12, 7:00-8:30 PM S65
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn the basics of how to get started leading day hikes in our local parks. Gain the skills and confidence necessary to plan, organize and lead safe and enjoyable hikes. Topics include trip planning, basic map reading, trail etiquette, hiker safety and minimizing your impact to the trails. Experienced hike leaders are encouraged to attend too. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up ️

Horseback Riding

FREE VOLUNTEER: CARRIAGE HILL RIDING CENTER
THU. OCT 20, 6:00-7:30 PM R102
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Riding Center, 811 E. Shull Rd.
Want to volunteer with horses? You might not have any experience, but we can train you! Learn how you can get involved as a barn aide, pony ride assistant, trail guide and monitor, or arena assistant at the Carriage Hill Riding Center. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact jenny.hymans@metroparks.org for details. Age: 14Y and up ️

Mountain Biking

FREE VOLUNTEER: MOMBA TRAIL WORK DAYS
SAT. OCT 15, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM R13
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.
Learn about sustainable trail building while helping maintain the mountain bike trails at MoMBA! No experience is necessary; tools are provided. Volunteers bring work gloves and water. Youth 14-17 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up ️

Outdoor Adventure

FREE VOLUNTEER: OUTDOOR RECREATION
THU. OCT 27, 6:00-7:30 PM R95
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor
Would you like to learn about ways you can volunteer with the Outdoor Recreation team? Maybe you're an outdoor adventurer looking to get involved and give back? Five Rivers MetroParks is building the “Outdoor Adventure Capital of the Midwest.” Come learn how you can help us. Registration required. Contact jenny.hymans@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up ️

Outdoor Skills and Safety

LAND NAVIGATION
SAT. NOV 5, 9:00 AM-4:30 PM R9
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Main Park Office Meeting Room, 6675 Conservancy Rd.
Would you like to learn how to use a map and compass in the backcountry or maybe dust off some little-used skills? Then this is the program for you. We'll spend the morning in the classroom learning the basic parts and ways to use maps and compasses. Then, we'll get out and learn how to use them together in the field. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $25

(3 FREE) VOLUNTEER: JOIN METROPARKS VOLUNTEER PATROLS
SAT. NOV 12, 9:00-11:00 AM R101
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor
MVP (MetroParks Volunteer Patrol) volunteers help others to enjoy our trails by providing information about our trail system and assistance to users. Volunteers assist on MetroParks’ bike, hike, mountain bike and horse trails. Come to this training to learn more about this opportunity and how you can get involved. Prerequisites: Interview
and background check will be required. MVPs are required to serve 50 hours per year for the MVP Program, a minimum of 25 of those hours must be active patrol hours on MetroParks’ trails. We do not have open recruitment for Horse Patrol at this time. Registration required. Contact jenny.hymans@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

**PADDLING**

**KAYAK CAMPING**  
**THU. DEC 8, 6:00-8:00 PM S84**  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Meeting Room, 7800 E. Shull Rd.

Have you ever wanted to go camping from a kayak or a canoe? Join Five Rivers MetroParks as we explore the equipment and some tips for camping out of a boat. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up  
Fee: $15  

**OUTDOOR BROOMBALL LEAGUE**  
**MON., WED. JAN. 2-FEB. 15, 6:00-8:00 PM S56**  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Sign up for the Dayton Broomball Association’s co-ed league at MetroParks Ice Rink! Visit daytonbroomball.org/riverscape to learn more about this fast-paced sport and register your team for either the competitive or recreational league. The DBA will take the first 18 teams. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up  
Fee: $310  

**CURLING LEAGUE**  
**TUE. JAN. 3-FEB. 7, 6:00-9:00 PM S54  
THU. JAN. 5-FEB. 9, 6:00-8:00 PM S55**  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Play an Olympic sport this winter and sign up with friends for Curl Troy’s co-ed league at the MetroParks Ice Rink! Curling is accessible to all physical skill levels and no experience is required. Visit curltroy.org to learn more and to register your team. Curl Troy will accept the first 18 teams; 4 players per team. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up  
Fee: $480  

**SKATING**

**LEARN TO ICE SKATE ADULT COURSE**  
**SUN NOV. 27-DEC. 11, 12:00-12:30 PM R87  
SUN JAN. 8-22, 12:00-12:30 PM S67**  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Skills include skating forward and backward edges on a circle, three-turns, backward stops, bunny hop, lanages, and front and back crossovers. Register for this program and receive two free skating admissions! Fee includes use of skates. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to start time. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up  
Fee: $50  

**TRY BROOMBALL**  
**SUN. NOV 27, 6:00-8:00 PM R83**  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Grab your friends, come to MetroParks Ice Rink and let the Dayton Broomball Association take you through the broomball basics! Learn the rules, get on-ice instruction and scrimmage with other participants. Please wear gloves and gym shoes. No experience necessary. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up  
Fee: $10  

**CASUAL CURL**  
**THU. DEC 1, 6:00-8:00 PM S61**  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Enjoy an evening of curling at MetroParks Ice Rink! Participants can choose between a Learn to Curl session led by Curl Troy or a recreational pickup game against other local curlers. Register as a team of four players or as an individual by visiting curltroy.org. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up  
Fee: $20  

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY**

Help MetroParks protect the region’s natural heritage by assisting with a variety of Earth-friendly tasks during the 2017 Make a Difference Day!

**SATURDAY, OCT. 22**  
9 AM TO NOON  
Various locations

Register online by Oct. 14 at metroparks.org/volunteer.
FOOD: EARTH TO TABLE

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

BEYOND THE BASICS: HOMEMADE MUSTARD
SAT. OCT 1, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM R55 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Daniel Arnold House, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
This class goes beyond the basics of canning. Here, students learn to prepare and can homemade mustard. We will also learn to make German soft pretzels to go with the mustard. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $30

COOKING WITH PUMPKINS 101
SAT. OCT 22, 10:00-11:30 AM R68 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn which pumpkin is best for pie, which is best for breads and cakes and how to include it into a wholesome meal. You will have items to eat and receive a pumpkin to take home. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

INTRO TO GOAT AND SHEEP CHEESE
WED. NOV 9, 6:00-7:30 PM R68 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
If you are interested in raising sheep or goats for dairy, then please join Brian Conley, cheese expert from Whole Foods. There will be samples to try and we will discuss the different breeds of goats and sheep for dairy. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

MUSHROOM GROWING WORKSHOP
THU. NOV 10, 6:00-7:30 PM R73

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Do you love mushrooms but never considered growing your own? Learn all you need to know to get started and get hands-on experience making your own colony to take home. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: Lecture Only: $10, Mushroom Kit and Lecture: $25

ROOTS: SPECTACULAR FALL HARVEST VEGGIES
SAT. NOV 12, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM R48 WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Root vegetables are a great way to brighten any fall dinner. Learn how and why we grow certain varieties and how to select them in the market. We'll also have a tasty sampling of and recipes for these great vegetables, so come prepared for a treat! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

ADULT WINTER DISCOVERY
Join us each week in January and February for a 1.5-hour adventure in MetroParks. See wonderful sights, enjoy local foods, learn new skills, step back into history, visit a farm, and enjoy the beauty of nature in winter. Attend one or all sessions.

WINTER IN THE GREENHOUSE
SAT. JAN 14, 10:00-11:30 AM S26 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Green House, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Tired of the cold? Spend a morning at the Cox greenhouse/Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture! Get warm, enjoy the beauty of green and growing plants and learn about greenhouse operations. Finally, pot up an African violet to take home! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

STEP BACK IN TIME
SAT. JAN 21, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM S27 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Daniel Arnold House, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Bundle up for a trip to the 1800s! Enjoy a tour of Carriage Hill MetroPark, the Arnold home and barns, and learn about life in a slower time. Afterward, come inside the house for a warm refreshment and delicious, fresh baked cookies from the wood-fired stove. A great way to spend a Saturday morning. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

BEES 101
SAT. JAN 28, 10:00-11:30 AM S28 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Edible Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Farms are rarely quiet places, even in winter. Come to Possum Creek MetroPark, visit the animals and the barns, and learn how farmers spend their winter days. We'll also take a brief hike on the trails and have warm refreshments afterward. A memorable Saturday for all! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

HYDROPONICS AND AQUAPONICS
WED. JAN 18, 6:00-7:30 PM S39 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn about what hydroponics and aquaponics are and why they are an effective indoor growing method. We will look into the science behind how they work and talk about how to make systems that you can keep in your own home. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: $10

HERITAGE BAKING SERIES
Using 19th century recipes and methods, students will learn to bake breads, cakes and pastries using a wood-fired stove, as well as hearth baking in the Dutch oven.
HERITAGE BAKING: WORKING WITH A LEAVEN: SOURDOUGH
SAT. JAN 28, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM S34
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Daniel Arnold House, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $65

SUSTAINABLE HOME

(FREE) COMPOST KITCHEN
TUE. OCT. 11-25, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM R77
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
TUE. JAN. 10-24, 6:00-8:00 PM S44
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
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
TUE. NOV 1, 6:00-7:30 PM R78
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
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

FALL HARVEST WREATH
SAT. NOV 5, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM R47
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Brighten up your fall decor! Bring a 16-inch artificial green or twig wreath and we’ll supply design tips, wire and ribbon, and seasonal accents that the class will gather from the grounds of Wegerzyn. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

SOAP 101
SAT. DEC 10, 10:00-11:30 AM S32
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn the basics of making real soap through demonstration. Try your hand at re-batching soap that will give you a chance to experiment with scent, color and essential oils that you can take home and use. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

METRO PARKS TOGETHER

PLANNING AN OUTDOOR ADVENTURE ONLINE IS NOW EASIER, THANKS TO METRO PARKS’ NEW WEBSITE!

Together with all the great features and functions found on the previous website, the modern design is mobile-friendly and simple to navigate.

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

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ADULT NATURE EXPLORATION

Enjoy and learn about the splendor of the natural world.

CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

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) MOSS AND LICHEN OF METROPARKS
WED. OCT 5, 6:30-8:30 PM R75
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Meet the ecologists who have been surveying moss and lichens at MetroParks and learn what these sciences can tell us about the environmental health of our forests. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

(FREE) BOULDERS, BEDROCK, AND BREWING WATER
WED. NOV 2, 6:30-8:30 PM R76
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
David Schmidt, Ph.D. of Wright State University illustrates the connection between the Miami Valley’s geologic history and modern industry including the recent craft brewing renaissance. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

(FREE) WINE SCIENCE
WED. DEC 7, 6:30-8:30 PM S41
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Wine making is an art and science. Learn about the botany and chemistry involved while exploring the history of wine in the Miami Valley. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

(FREE) THERE’S A BEAR IN MY YARD! THE RETURN OF LARGE PREDATORS TO THE MIDWEST
WED. JAN 4, 6:30-8:30 PM S42
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Modern wildlife management in North America is one of the greatest conservation success stories in history. One of the great challenges of the coming decade will be the return of large predators. This talk will review present examples of expansion by these species and some of the conflicts and solutions that are already occurring. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: CONSERVATION SEASON OPENER
SAT. JAN 28, 9:00 AM-1:30 PM S80
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor
What are the elements of conservation? How do Five Rivers MetroParks’ stewardship plans protect our native habitats? How can individuals help? Find out answers to these questions, learn about 2016 accomplishments and what is planned for 2017, meet staff and volunteers, and discover how you can get involved. New and returning volunteers welcome! Registration required. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages

FLORA & FAUNA

TREE ID WORKSHOP
WED. OCT 12, 6:00-9:00 PM R90
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn how to identify more than 20 native trees by their leaf, twig, bark and other characteristics. Discover pioneer, wildlife and commercial uses for each tree while sharing stories of folklore. Each participant will receive a tree identification notebook with everything needed to get started identifying trees. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $15

WINTER TREE ID WORKSHOP
SAT. JAN 14, 1:00-4:00 PM S75
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn how to identify more than 20 native trees by their twig, bark, and other winter characteristics. Discover pioneer, wildlife and commercial uses for each tree while sharing stories of folklore. Each participant will receive a winter tree identification notebook, with everything needed to get started identifying trees. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $15

(IF) VOLUNTEER: HABITAT HEALER OPEN HOUSE
WED. NOV 9, 9:30-11:30 AM R17
WED. NOV 16, 6:30-8:30 PM R18
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor
MetroParks Conservation identifies, preserves, restores and manages plant/animal habitats while increasing public awareness of conservation. Becoming a conservationist is a journey intertwining knowledge with practical experience. We will build our volunteer leadership with this new learning opportunity. Attending doesn’t commit you. Registration required. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: 21Y and up
OWLS OF OHIO
SAT. JAN 28, 7:00-9:00 PM S76
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Explore Ohio’s eight owl species with a relaxing presentation of their courtship rituals, feeding behaviors, identification characteristics, songs and interactions with people. Then take a slow-paced night hike into the forest in search of owls. Each participant will get an ODNR field guide to Ohio Owls and a CD of their sounds. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $10

PHOTOGRAPHY BOOT CAMP
SAT. NOV 12, 10:00-11:30 AM R49
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Bring your camera and instruction manual to this active session where you will learn about the capabilities of your equipment and how to quickly adjust settings for different shooting situations. Each participant will receive individual attention from the instructor and leave the class with a customized quick reference guide. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

PUTTING THE PIECES INTO PLACE
SAT. DEC 10, 10:00-11:30 AM S19
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Two photographs might show the same subject, but one may be much more pleasing to the eye because of the way the elements are arranged within the picture. Photographer Adam Alonzo will introduce important principles of composition that can increase the impact of your photos. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

GETTING STARTED WITH DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY
SAT. JAN 7, 10:00-11:30 AM S20
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Before you can shoot breathtaking outdoor photos, you need to understand the basics of digital photography. Join photographer Adam Alonzo as he explains concepts such as megapixels, magnification, memory cards, quality settings and aspect ratio. Each topic will be clearly illustrated with photos. Bring your camera and your questions. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

NATURE APPRECIATION
(FREE) VOLUNTEER: FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION
WED. OCT 12, 9:30-11:30 AM R103
THU. NOV 3, 1:00-3:00 PM R104
WED. JAN 11, 1:00-3:00 PM S81
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor
Five Rivers MetroParks has volunteer opportunities year-round and at nearly every park. Orientation provides history, an overview of location-specific opportunities and an introduction to opportunities this season. Attendance does not commit you to anything. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact info@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

(FREE) AULLWOOD FALL WALK
SUN. OCT 16, 2:00-4:00 PM R44
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Gardens, 955 Aullwood Rd.
Join us for a walk through Aullwood and be amazed by the fantastic colors of fall. We’ll examine foliage changes and fall colors in the garden, woods and prairie. A wonderful day you won’t want to miss, so bring your friends and camera. We’ll meet in the parking lot of Aullwood Garden MetroPark. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

PHOTOGRAPHY & ART
WALK ON THE WILD SIDE
SAT. OCT 22, 10:00-11:30 AM R46
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Much of the enjoyment of nature photography comes from taking pictures of small animals and birds found outdoors. Join photographer Adam Alonzo, as he 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

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE!
GET SEASON TICKETS NOW! ALL THREE STARTING AT $51!

Hilaree O’Neill
Mountaineer
DOWN TO NOTHING
January 30 • Victoria Theatre

Steve Winter
Wildlife Photojournalist
ON THE TRAIL OF BIG CATS
March 6, 2017 • Victoria Theatre

Pete McBride
Filmmaker/Photographer
CHASING RIVERS
April 24, 2017 • Victoria Theatre

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FAMILY
Spend quality time outdoors with everyone in your family.

(FREE) VOLUNTEER TRAINING: ADVENTURE CENTRAL
THU. OCT 6, 4:00-6:00 PM R49
WESLEYAN METROPARK, Adventure Central, 2222 N. James H. McGee Blvd.
Adventure Central is an after school and summer day camp program for youth ages 5-18 offering hands-on science and nature based education in Wesleyan MetroPark. Attend this training to learn how you can volunteer at Adventure Central this year. Volunteer roles and opportunities will be shared and a tour of the building and park provided. Registration required. Contact info@metroparks.org for details Age: 14 Y and up

BUILD A SCARECROW FUN DAY
SAT. OCT 15, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM R43
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Bring the kids or just yourself and build a fantastic scarecrow. We'll supply straw, stakes, and twine and you provide the clothes and the character for a masterpiece. Completed scarecrows can be taken home or left to decorate the Children's Discovery Garden for the Spooky Evening in the Garden. Bring a camera and snap a photo of your scarecrow. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: Fee per child: $5

(FREE) PUMPKIN DECORATING
SAT. OCT 22, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM R93
2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. Second St.
The great pumpkin harvest has arrived! Bring your creative spirit to 2nd Street Market for a fun-filled family day decorating this favorite fall decoration. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

(FREE) HARVEST ON THE FARM
SAT. OCT 29, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM R74
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
It is harvest time on the farm! Join us for pumpkin decorating, animal encounters, harvest demonstrations and many more fall activities as we celebrate this time of the year. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages

(FREE) NATURE AT NIGHT
SAT. NOV 12, 6:00-9:00 PM R82
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, 6733 Springboro Pike
Celebrate our nocturnal wildlife through activities throughout the park: Stargazing through telescopes, owl walks, storytelling campfire, crafts, and much more! Bring flashlights if you desire. No registration required. Age: All ages

TURKEYS ON THE FARM
SAT. NOV 19, 10:00-11:30 AM R69
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Come learn about the noble bird known as the turkey. Have you ever touched a turkey? Then here’s your chance. There will be a craft and of course a chance to touch Tom Terrific, our resident turkey. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: Fee per child: $5

FAMILY SPROUTING AND MICROGREENS WORKSHOP
SAT. NOV 19, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM R81
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Sprouts and microgreens are fun to grow and a great source of nutrition year-round. Families learn simple ways to do this together and start their own growing trays to take home. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: Fee per family: $10

NATURE’S CANDY
SAT. DEC 3, 1:00-3:00 PM R40
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Celebrate the holidays by making naturally flavored candies with your family. We will use dried herbs, spices and other natural ingredients to make the holiday flavors come alive! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages Fee: Fee per Family: $15

(FREE) SANTA VISITS THE MARKET
THU. DEC 15, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM S79
FRI. DEC 16, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM S92
SAT. DEC 17, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM S93
2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. Second St.
Bring a camera and snap a photo of Santa with your friends and family. It won’t be too late to tell Santa what is on your wish list, including Market goodies. Santa will have a treat for everyone who stops by. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

SOOPY FAMILY FUN
SAT. DEC 17, 10:00-11:30 AM S33
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Come have some clean fun making re-batched soap; you will pour soap into molds and add coloring and scent to personalize your soap. Each family will make at least three bars of soap to take home. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: Fee per family: $15

HOMEMADE BREAD WORKSHOP
SAT. JAN 28, 10:00-11:30 AM S48
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Bring the family to learn about bread. Grind flour, learn about yeast by doing a fun activity, and make some butter for the bread. Each family will make two loaves of bread to take home and bake. If you would like to make more than two loaves, please register for additional participants. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: per family: $10

DISCOVER NATURE AT NIGHT
SAT. NOV 12
6 TO 9 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK
This free family program includes stargazing, night hikes, storytelling around a campfire and crafts. Learn about nocturnal mammals and much more!
GET OUTSIDE BOOK CLUB STORYTIME

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

(FREE) NATURE PLAY
TUE. OCT 4, 2:30-3:30 PM R97
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Patty/East Park, 4361 National Rd.
Read stories of nature exploration, then embark on your own adventures of discovering life and imagination. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

(FREE) SPACE TRAVELER
MON. OCT 10, 3:30-4:30 PM R98
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Trailside, 4178 Conference Rd.
Travel to the moon, planets, and far beyond our galaxy as we build spaceships made from items found in nature, and blast off into our imagination. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

(FREE) BIRD LIFE
THU. OCT 20, 1:00-2:00 PM R99
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Last Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Explore local bird diversity through stories and hikes while observing what it would be like to fly through the sky. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

(FREE) FOREST OF LEAVES
WED. OCT 26, 2:00-3:00 PM R100
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Explore the colors, sizes, and shapes of leaves through stories, songs, and puppets as Dayton Metro Library and MetroParks naturalists guide your little one on a journey through forests. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

(FREE) FARM STORYTIME
THU. OCT 6, 10:00-11:00 AM O265
THU. OCT 20, 10:00-11:00 AM R109
THU. NOV 3, 10:00-11:00 AM R110
THU. NOV 17, 10:00-11:00 AM R111
THU. DEC 15, 10:00-11:00 AM S94
THU. DEC 29, 10:00-11:00 AM S95
THU. JAN 12, 10:00-11:00 AM S96
THU. JAN 26, 10:00-11:00 AM S97
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Join us for a story and adventure or activity around the farm. This program is designed for preschoolers and their caregivers. Through the winter months, we will cancel for bad weather. Please check the website the day of the program if it’s really cold or driving conditions are bad. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 2Y-5Y

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.

CRAWLY PARTY
SAT. OCT 15, 3:00-5:00 PM R28
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Explore your conservation power and learn how to create a party celebrating miniature animals. Participants will get supplies to help guide their friends on an insect hike. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: $10

ACCURUING ACORNS
MON. OCT 17, 1:00-2:30 PM R30
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40
Come act as squirrels as we collect fallen acorns, test them, and prepare them for planting next month in an area plagued by the Emerald Ash Borer. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: $5

NOCTURNAL ADVENTURE
SAT. OCT 29, 7:00-8:30 PM R25
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Patty/East Park, 4361 National Rd.
Join us on a night hike just for preschoolers and their families. We’ll discuss our fears of the night, explore nocturnal animals, and search for owls. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y

TIKES TAKING ACTION
TUE. NOV 1, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM R108
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
From composting to recycling, there are different ways you and your parents can help the environment through your habits! Learn from a naturalist how to help nature at home. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: $5

A SEED’S JOURNEY
MON. NOV 7, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM R34
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.
By wind, water, explosions, or animal, seeds travel in style! Collect seeds on this hike for planting in your backyard. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y

FOREST GUIDE
SAT. OCT 19, 1:00-3:00 PM R37
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Become an advocate for forest protection by rekindling your relationship with nature, and learning how to share it with others. Participants will get supplies to help them become forest naturalists. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: $10

Help young children discover the wonders of nature.
(FREE) MY FIRST LEAF COLLECTION  
TUE. NOV 22, 10:00-11:00 AM S36  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.  
Collect perfect study materials for preschoolers: Leaves! They come in different colors, shapes, sizes, textures, and more! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y  
▲  

(FREE) METROPARKS’ LARGEST MAMMAL  
TUE. DEC 6, 1:00-2:00 PM S5  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw/Parking Lot, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.  
Learn more about our largest mammal, the white-tailed deer, while hiking through winter’s forest. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y  
▲  

ANIMAL KEEPER  
WED. DEC 7, 10:00-11:30 AM S5  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Park Office, 6675 Conservancy Rd.  
Be a wild animal keeper for a day, learn what animals need to live, and how we care for our animal ambassadors. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: $5  
▲  

(FREE) WINTER MYSTERIES  
MON. DEC 19, 10:00-11:00 AM S10  
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Hilltop/Sledding Hill/Parking Lot, 1200 Brown School Rd.  
Bundle up your little one for a winter adventure through the park, where we will search for nature’s mysteries of survival. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y  
▲  

GREENHOUSE HELPERS  
WED. JAN 4, 10:00-11:30 AM S50  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Green House, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Be a part of conservation efforts while discovering what a horticulturist must do to care for seeds and plants in the winter. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: $5  
▲  

(FREE) HIBERNATING INSECTS  
TUE. JAN 10, 2:00-3:00 PM S12  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.  
Enjoy an expedition in search of insects. Once found, warm them up with body heat and watch them wake up! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y  
▲  

TRACKING PARTY  
SUN. JAN 22, 3:00-5:00 PM S16  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Want to become a tracker? Learn how to spot animal signs, identify tracks and become an animal tracker! Participants will receive knowledge and tools to help them lead their own tracking adventure. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: $10  
▲  

(PREMIUM) PRAIRIE PLAY  
TUE. JAN 24, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM S14  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.  
With towering grasses and no ticks, prairies are great places to play in winter. Join local families in the best nature games! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: $10  
▲  

PUMPKIN FUN  
TUE. OCT 18, 1:00-2:00 PM S67  
POSsum CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Learn about the jolly old pumpkin’s history and then we will learn how to prepare a pumpkin for use in pumpkin bread. We will make some butter for our bread. You will also receive a small pie pumpkin to take home. Registration required. Age: 3Y-6Y Fee: Fee per child: $5  
▲  

ALL ABOUT TURKEYS!  
TUE. NOV 15, 1:00-2:30 PM R70  
POSsum CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Let’s talk turkey! What does a turkey have to say? Come listen to the language of Tom Terrific, our awesome turkey. Listen to a turkey tale and do a turkey craft. Registration required. Age: 3Y-6Y Fee: Fee per child: $5  
▲  

LEARN TO ICE SKATE  
CHILDREN’S COURSE  
SUN NOV. 27-DEC. 11, 11:00-11:30 AM S85  
SUN. JAN. 8-22, 11:00-11:30 AM S64  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.  
Learn the basics of skating so that you can get out there and skate on your own. This three-week session will cover how to get on and off the ice, how to fall safely and get up on your own. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to start time. Fee includes use of skates. Register for this class and receive two free skate admissions! Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: Fee per child: $5  
▲  

WARM GINGERBREAD FUN  
TUE. DEC 6, 1:00-2:30 PM S46  
POSsum CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
The holidays are upon us and thoughts of warm gingerbread are dancing through our heads. Learn about molasses, grind wheat for flour and make butter for our own gingerbread. Registration
FAMILY FARMHANDS
SAT. OCT 8, 10:00-11:30 AM R62
SAT., NOV. 5, 10:00-11:30 AM R65
SAT., NOV. 12, 10:00-11:30 AM R64
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Become a farmhand for the morning and help feed and care for the rabbits, chickens, sheep, goats and donkey. Registration required. Age: 8Y-12Y Fee: $5

MORNING CHORES
SAT. OCT 15, 8:30-10:00 AM R53
SAT. NOV 19, 8:30-10:00 AM R54
SAT. DEC 17, 8:30-10:00 AM S24
SAT. JAN 21, 8:30-10:00 AM S25
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Join a farmer to experience a typical work day for a 1880s farm hand. Participants will help with a variety of historical chores. Meet at the front gate of the farm. Registration required. Age: 8Y-12Y Fee: $5

CONSERVATION KIDS: EXPLORERS & VOYAGERS (AGES 6-13)
This series, designed for families with 6- to 13-year-olds, nurtures kids’ desire to explore nature and empowers them to speak out for the planet they will soon inherit. Watch as your child grows closer to nature, develops leadership skills and works with peers to protect Montgomery County’s ecology. By completing programs in each of the three levels of this series, your child also will receive a special MetroParks Conservation Kids hoodie. Visit metroparks.org/kids.

(FREE) PILEATED WOODPECKER SAFARI
SAT. OCT 15, 10:00-11:30 AM R27
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.
Discover more about our largest woodpecker while we search for them in the park! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: $5

SPIDER PARTY
SAT. OCT 15, 3:00-5:00 PM R29

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Spider Party. Registration required. Age: 8Y-13Y Fee: $5

REGENERATING FORESTS
SUN. OCT 23, 2:00-3:30 PM R31
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Shelter: Sunfish/ Valley Overlook/Parking Lot, 7101 Conservancy Rd.
Trees play an important part in the way we and other animals live. Help collect nuts and test their viability to be planted as part of reforestation efforts. Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: $10

(FREE) FOREST FRENZY
SAT. OCT 29, 1:00-2:30 PM R32
HUFFMAN METROPARK, Huffman Lake, 4095 Lower Valley Pk.
Explore the changing season, search for local wildlife, and learn why forests are crucial to human survival. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: $5

(FREE) WHO HIBERNATES?
SAT. NOV 5, 1:00-2:30 PM R33
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Animals adapt to winter in many different ways. Let’s explore these methods as we hike through the forest. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: $5

MAPPING OUR FORESTS
SUN. NOV 13, 10:00-11:30 AM R35
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40
MetroParks constantly monitors trends in our forests to make stewardship decisions. Come explore one of these methods as we map out plant life. Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: $5

FOREST ADVOCATE
SAT. NOV 19, 1:00-3:00 PM R38
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Speak for forests through learning its plants and wildlife, and how to nurture relationships between your friends and nature. Participants will get resources to help them become forest naturalists. Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: $10

(FREE) FALL BIRD WALK
SUN. NOV 27, 10:00-11:30 AM R39
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Discover which birds migrate to Ohio for winter while searching for them in the park. Bring binoculars if you have them. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: $5

(FREE) OWL SEARCH
SAT. DEC 3, 6:00-7:30 PM S9
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw/ Parking Lot, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.
Escape on a night walk in search of owls, while learning about their interactions with our forests. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: $5

(FREE) LAKE EXPLORATION
SAT. DEC 10, 2:00-3:30 PM S8
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Explore this amazing ecosystem, complete with beavers, ducks and large fish. Bring binoculars if you have them. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: $5

GROWING BIODIVERSITY
SAT. JAN 7, 2:00-3:30 PM S11
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Green House, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Come be a part of our conservation story and help grow a variety of plants that will be planted in the spring. Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: $5

(FREE) ANIMAL TRACKING EXCURSION
SUN. JAN 15, 1:00-2:30 PM S13
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Argonne Forest Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.
CONSERVATION KIDS

These MetroParks’ programs for children and families are a series of nature-based experiences 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 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.

LEARN TO ICE SKATE
YOUTH/TEEN COURSE
SUN. NOV. 27-DEC. 11, 11:30 AM-12:00 PM
R86
SUN. JAN. 8-22, 11:30 AM-12:00 PM
S66
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Each student will learn how to fall and get up as well as get safely across the ice, and skate forward and backward. Register for this program and receive two free admissions to skate! Fee includes use of skates. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Registration required. Age: 6Y-17Y Fee: $50 ▲

(PROGRAM) WINTER HABITAT HIKE
SAT. JAN. 21, 1:00-2:30 PM
S15
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
Explore plants and animals in a variety of habitats while discovering plant-animal relationships and local biodiversity. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-13Y ▲

PROTECTORS OF NATURE
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MOST RECENT CONSERVATION KIDS!
Maren Blevins
Benjamin Blevins

TRAIL WORK DAYS

TRAIL REPAIR
Five Rivers MetroParks manages 160 miles of trails for hiking, biking, mountain biking and horseback riding. You told us in MetroParks’ 10-year comprehensive master plan you highly value these trails, and we’re working hard to maintain and improve this regional recreational asset – but we can use your help.

Join us for upcoming trail work days and lend your volunteer power to the trails we so enjoy!

- Register online at metroparks.org or by calling 275-PARK, but walk-ins are welcome.
- No experience is necessary; tools are provided.
- Youth 14-17 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Please bring water and work gloves.
- For details, contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org

BACKPACKING TRAIL WORK DAYS
Sat., Oct. 8
9 AM to noon
(program R14)
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Park Office, 6675 Conservancy Rd.
Learn about sustainable trail building while helping maintain the Twin Valley Backpacking Trail. Youth

MoMBA TRAIL WORK DAYS
Sat., Oct. 15
9 AM to noon
(program R13)
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.
Learn about sustainable trail building while helping maintain the mountain bike trails at MoMBA.
TEACHERS’ NIGHT OUT
Join other like-minded, formal educators in the Montgomery County area for an evening in the park, just for teachers! We will explore new ways to connect your lessons with nature and showcase resources available in the community!

(FREE) MEET YOUR LOCAL TREES
TUE. OCT 11, 6:00-8:00 PM R23
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Let’s explore the local trees and celebrate all they do for us! We will play games and demonstrate curriculum-based activities you can do with students, in your schoolyard or at a park! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

(FREE) WINTER IN YOUR SCHOOLYARD
WED. NOV 9, 6:00-8:00 PM R24
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
While some species hibernate in winter, your students don’t have to! We will discuss ways to get kids outside around your school during the winter, using winter as a lens for student discovery! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

(FREE) SCHOOLYARD BIRDS
THU. JAN 19, 6:00-8:00 PM S4
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Teachers will discover new ways to bring lesson plans to life through citizen science opportunities like the Great Backyard Bird Count, and encourage birds to make your school their home. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

(FREE) START A NEW COMMUNITY GARDEN
THU. OCT 20, 6:00-7:30 PM R40
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
How can you start a community vegetable garden in your neighborhood, school, or church? Learn the essential steps to a successful project. Start planning for next year! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

NAI CERTIFIED INTERPRETIVE GUIDE TRAINING
SAT. NOV 5, 8:30 AM-5:00 PM R7
SUN. NOV 6, 8:30 AM-5:00 PM SAT. NOV 19, 8:30 AM-5:00 PM
SUN. NOV 20, 8:30 AM-5:00 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Five Rivers MetroParks and National Association for Interpretation are offering a 32 hr. certification course for anyone who delivers programs. It combines both the theoretical foundations of the profession with practical skills in delivering quality interpretive programming to visitors. For more information see our website program description. Registration required. http://www.interpret.net.com. Age: 18Y and up Fee: Fee Includes NAI membership and CIG Certification: $40, No NAI Membership: $405, Holding current NAI Membership through 11-20-13 (includes CIG certification): $350, Five Rivers MetroParks Volunteer Scholarship applied (staff use only): $30

NAI CERTIFIED INTERPRETIVE
SCHOOLYARD
SUN. NOV 6, 8:30 AM-5:00 PM S3
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn the steps to establishing a successful green schoolyard, draw up preliminary sketches, and practice using curriculum in a habitat or garden. This training is designed for teachers, who will receive a certificate of participation. Please bring lunch. Location TBD, check website for details. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $25

COMMUNITY GARDENER LEADERSHIP TRAINING
SAT. DEC 10, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM S45
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Multiple speakers make up the day with topics of interest for you to take back to your community gardens. Learn more about specific gardening methods, group dynamics, best plant selection, and an optional overview of good agricultural practices. Light refreshments provided. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: $15

TEACHER WORKSHOPS
Professional development hours are more fun when you’re in a park! Join us as we explore new curriculum guides to bring nature to your classroom and your classroom outside!

PROJECT WILD & INQUIRY ADVENTURES WORKSHOP
SAT. JAN 28, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM S3
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
This workshop will certify classroom teachers in the nationally recognized Project Wild curriculum, engage educators in outdoor inquiry, and demonstrate how to utilize Five Rivers MetroParks’ resources to make science come alive for students. Graduate and/or STUQ credit available. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $25

SAVE THE DATES:
The sixth annual
MIAMI VALLEY LEAVE NO CHILD INSIDE SUMMIT
March 11, 2017 Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark
Learn how you can help children Get Out & Live!

MIAMI VALLEY ORCHID SOCIETY SPRING SHOW
Feb. 18-19, 2017 10 AM to 4 PM at Cox Arboretum MetroPark
GET OUT & SKATE

The popular ice rink at RiverScape MetroPark opens the Friday after Thanksgiving, Nov. 25, and is open through the end of February. Here are some ways you can Get Out & Skate this winter:

REGISTER FOR BROOMBALL AND CURLING LEAGUES
Registration begins in September and closes when full. No experience is required for the co-ed adult leagues.

LEARN HOW TO ICE SKATE
Sign up for Learn How to Ice Skate, a new three-week skating session offered monthly December through February. Each session is divided by age group and registration includes two free passes for the rink.

HOCKEY 101
Also new this year, youth can participate in Hockey 101, taught by Dayton Hockey Association members from 10:30 to 11:30 AM on Dec. 18.

TRY BROOMBALL OR CURLING
Adults can participate in Try Broomball on Nov. 27 or Casual Curl sessions, offered Dec. 1, 8 and 15.

SKATE DURING THE HOLIDAYS
Enjoy the ice with friends and family during special holiday hours throughout the season.

SWEETHEART SKATE

THANK YOU, MSD!
Mechanical Systems of Dayton is bringing the heat to the outdoor rink at RiverScape MetroPark by installing a heating unit that increases guests’ comfort while in line for admission and skates.

Visit metroparks.org/skating for more information and to register. Call 937-275-PARK to book your rink rental now for the best selection of dates.
JOIN THE FUN THIS SEASON AT RIVERSCAPE METROPARK

METROPARKS
ICE RINK

$5 ADMISSION | $2 SKATE RENTAL

SEASON PASSES

Give the gift of outdoor fun!
Ice rink season passes make
great stocking stuffers.

PRIVATE RINK RENTALS

Private event ice rink rentals are available
Sundays and Thursdays 6 to 8 PM.
$300 rental fee includes 50 cups of hot chocolate
and 50 pairs of skates. Add a visit with Parker for $75/hr.

937-275-PARK (7275)
After 5 PM and on weekends and holidays, call 278-2607 for rink information.

2016 - 2017 HOURS OF OPERATION

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HOLIDAY HOURS

| Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) | 11 AM - 5 PM |
| Christmas Day (Dec. 25) | 1 - 8 PM     |
| New Year’s Eve (Dec. 31)| 11 AM - 10 PM|
| New Year’s Day (Jan. 1) | 1 - 8 PM     |
| Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Jan. 18)| 11 AM - 5 PM |
| Presidents Day (Feb. 15) | 11 AM - 5 PM |

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HOLD ON TO YOUR PARKWAYS!
This issue covers programs from October 2016 through January 2017. View this ParkWays publication online at metroparks.org/parkways.

RESERVATIONS MADE EASY
Experience the outdoors at Five Rivers MetroParks’ reservable facilities.

CAMPING
Plan an overnight outdoor adventure with numerous park amenities nearby!

SHELTERS
Shelters in beautiful, natural settings are excellent for BBQs, family reunions, birthday parties and more.

metroparks.org/easy

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