SUMMER 2018 FREE

# PARKWAYS

YOUR GUIDE TO FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS NEWS AND PROGRAMS

# MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR FIVE RIVERS

Photo by Kelly Kingery

BALD EAGLES MAKE A TRIUMPHANT RETURN
SEE PAGES 10 - 11

GET INSPIRED BY OUR HORTICULTURISTS
SEE PAGES 12 - 13

GET OUT & PADDLE, BIKE AND FISH THIS SUMMER
SEE PAGES 14 - 15

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS™

# TOP 5 THINGS TO DO
## In Your MetroParks This Season

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

### 1 TAKE A RIDE

Grab a bike and experience the beauty of the Miami Valley while exploring our region's more than 300 miles of paved recreation trails – the nation's largest paved trail network. Switch it up by visiting the MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA), with more than nine miles of mountain biking trails for all levels of riders. **metroparks.org/cycling**

### 2 CHILD'S PLAY

Kids can make a splash in the water features at Island and RiverScape MetroParks. For even more outdoor exploration, visit the nature play areas in Englewood, Hills & Dales, Possum Creek, Sugarcreek, and Wesleyan MetroParks. Nature play areas allow kids to use their imaginations as they climb, jump, run and get hands-on while experiencing the outdoors. **metroparks.org/outdoor-play**

### 3 CAMP OUT

Set up camp under the stars at one of MetroParks' campsites. Updated amenities and easy camp site access make front country camping in Possum Creek, Englewood, Germantown and Twin Creek MetroParks an enjoyable experience for all ages. Those who wish to have a more secluded experience can visit the backcountry campsites along the Twin Valley Trail in Germantown and Twin Creek MetroParks. **metroparks.org/camping**

### 4 SUMMER POLLINATORS

Visit the Butterfly House at Cox Arboretum MetroPark to explore beautiful native butterflies, such as painted lady, red admiral, monarch, a variety of swallow tails and more. After seeing how many butterflies you can spot, walk through the beautiful gardens to see how many pollinators you can find, and then learn how to attract them to your yard. **metroparks.org/cox-arboretum**

### 5 ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS

Get up close to your favorite farm animals at Carriage Hill and Possum Creek MetroParks. Meet sheep, goats, chickens, rabbits and more at Possum Creek MetroPark as you learn more about the farm-to-table movement. Next, visit Carriage Hill MetroPark to visit the heritage breed animals on the historical farm, including pigs, sheep and more. **metroparks.org/places-to-go**

### ALERTS AND CLOSURES

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

### LOST ITEMS

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

### HOW TO CONTACT A RANGER

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

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

Becky Benná
Executive Director

## DEAR METROPARKS FRIENDS,

As summer unfolds, we savor the longer days that allow us to linger outdoors, such as enjoying an evening concert under the RiverScape MetroPark pavilion, or relaxing on a park bench watching the sun set. We relish the warmth that allows us to experience the outdoors in ways only summer can offer: biting into a fresh tomato grown at home or purchased at the 2nd Street Market, enjoying the blooms of native perennials and the pollinators they attract at the Cox Arboretum MetroPark Butterfly House, splashing in the water of the Twin Creek's tributaries at Germantown MetroPark, and taking the kids on pony rides at the Carriage Hill MetroPark Riding Center.

Your Five Rivers MetroParks is proud to provide you with a variety of opportunities to connect with nature. We're proud to protect, preserve and maintain more than 16,000 acres of land — 90 percent of which is in its natural state. MetroParks' conservation practices improve air and water quality, provide habitat for wildlife, support plant biodiversity, and help create a healthier environment.

In Montgomery County, much of that protected land is along our waterways. Your clean and safe MetroParks are home to 270 miles of river corridor, 42 of which is cared for by MetroParks — and those rivers help make our region a great place to live, work and play. Read more about our rivers and their contribution to the Dayton region's quality of life in this issue of *ParkWays*.

There are so many ways for people of all ages to have a healthy, active lifestyle along the waterways and in the greenways MetroParks protects: paddling, backpacking, fishing, gardening, cycling and so much more. Learn the skills needed to master these activities at a MetroParks program, listed on pages 20-38.

To ensure MetroParks is providing programs and services you want, the agency follows a 10-year comprehensive master plan based on our community's priorities. MetroParks also is working with its partners to develop the Dayton Riverfront Plan, which focuses on greater downtown's four waterways and explores the tremendous potential our rivers have to enhance regional vibrancy, livability and economic vitality during the next 20 years.

Whether you're hiking or horseback riding in the woods, cycling on the paved recreation trails or birdwatching, we hope you enjoy the many opportunities to connect with nature at your MetroParks this summer!

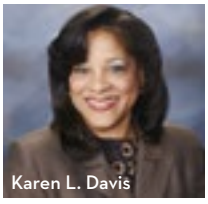
Best Regards,

Becky Benná

METROPARKS COMMISSIONERS

## INTRODUCING YOUR NEW PARK COMMISSIONER

Alan F. Pippenger



Karen L. Davis

Jessica Saunders

JESSICA SAUNDERS has joined Five Rivers MetroParks' Board of Park Commissioners. As director of the office of community health and engagement programs at Dayton Children's Hospital, Saunders directs and coordinates regional children's health efforts. She also is an adjunct faculty member at Wright State University and the University of Dayton. Saunders has served as the president of the Junior League of Dayton and currently serves on multiple boards, such as Project READ and Leadership Dayton.

© Easterling Studios

SUMMER 2018

# IN THIS ISSUE


**METROPARKS NEWS • 4**
LONG-TIME METROPARKS COMMISSIONER RETIRES
Irvin G. Bieser Jr. retires after almost 20 years of dedicated service to MetroParks.

**COVER STORY • 6**
MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR FIVE RIVERS
Discover all the ways to enjoy your five rivers this summer and year-round.

**CONSERVATION • 10**
RIPPLE EFFECT
How MetroParks' reforestation efforts helped bring back eagles to the region, in addition to stabilizing the rivers.

**EDUCATION • 12**
GET OUT & GARDEN
Tricks and tips from MetroParks' horticulture technicians to inspire the gardener in everyone.

**RECREATION • 14**
GET ACTIVE ALONG THE RIVERS
Find paddling, biking and fishing adventures along the region's bountiful network of rivers.

**VOLUNTEER • 16**
BUILDING A CONSERVATION GENERATION
Madalyn Beban is on a mission to protect the region's rivers and get her peers involved.

**DEVELOPMENT • 18**
SUPPORTED SCHOLARSHIPS
The Access to Nature Scholarship helps to alleviate costs for MetroParks camps and fee-based programs.

**PROGRAM GUIDE • 20**
Register for programs happening June through September 2018.


## 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.*

Five Rivers MetroParks is a CAPRA-accredited park agency.


MIX Paper from responsible sources FSC® C132124

*ParkWays* is a publication of Five Rivers MetroParks and published three times per year. An online version is available at **metroparks.org/parkways**.

©2018 Five Rivers MetroParks 409 E. Monument Ave. Dayton, Ohio 45402 • 937-275-PARK

# LONG-TIME METROPARKS COMMISSIONER RETIRES

AFTER ALMOST 20 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE, IRVIN G. BIESER JR. RETIRED FROM FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS' BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AT THE END OF 2017.

## IRV BIESER BEGAN HIS TENURE AT METROPARKS IN 1998

and was an integral part of myriad projects that revitalized the region, from the critical addition to Germantown MetroPark to prairie restoration.

During his involvement with MetroParks, Bieser saw the organization grow through endeavors that speak to its mission to protect the region's natural heritage and provide outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature.

"MetroParks has kept its eye on the ball – not just with acquisition of land but of resources that make the parks great, from wetlands to wildlife," Bieser said.

Of the projects MetroParks completed during Bieser's time with the agency, he's particularly enthusiastic about prairie restoration and projects that connect people with the rivers, such as the creation of RiverScape MetroPark and RiverScape River Run. Both projects also contribute to the revitalization of downtown Dayton, providing entertainment and recreation value to the region. Bieser also sees Five Rivers MetroParks as an integral community wellness asset.

> ***"A strong park system makes the whole community stronger, and its strength and reputation helps the whole region."***
>
> – Irv Bieser, retired partner with the law firm Bieser Greer Attorneys at Law

As for time spent in the MetroParks, Bieser recommends hiking the variety of terrain in Taylorsville and Germantown MetroParks. He also touts Possum Creek MetroPark as the perfect destination to visit farm animals and hike through the beautiful prairies. Fishing and kayaking are also a favorite pastime of the former MetroParks commissioner.

Indeed, Bieser is proud of the work MetroParks accomplished during his time there, and he looks forward to what the future has in store.

"These permanent enhancements are something we can all be proud of," he said. "There's a higher expectation in our region because of our wonderful parks."

Join us in thanking Bieser for his dedication to conservation in the Dayton region and his sterling service.

## EMERGENCY ACCESS PLANS PROVIDE PARK-GOERS A SAFER EXPERIENCE ON THE TRAILS

Your Five Rivers MetroParks are home to 75 miles of natural surface trails on which park-goers explore nature, hike, backpack, mountain bike and more. Recently, MetroParks has developed emergency access plans for 14 parks, resulting in better tools for park-goers and first responders to address emergencies in the parks.

The primary goal of the new plans is to create a quicker, more effective response to emergency situations in the parks by improving communications between the MetroParks' ranger division and local response agencies.

Plans include new signage posted through the parks and maps identifying access points. Local response agencies, park managers and rangers together reviewed emergency access plans at the respective MetroParks.

"Improved communications ensure the quickest and most organized approach to an emergency in our parks," said Ron Bicknell, MetroParks regional park manager.

These plans will also allow park visitors to use the new signs as reference points if they need to call for assistance.

**MORE THAN 100 SIGNS HAVE BEEN INSTALLED AT PARKING LOTS AND TRAILHEADS THROUGHOUT THE PARK SYSTEM.** They are marked with instructions on how to reach first responders in case of emergencies (911) and non-emergencies (937-225-HELP), which is the number you call to request a ranger.

## BE IN THE KNOW ABOUT YOUR METROPARKS

Get a bird's eye view of your MetroParks by signing up for our new monthly email newsletter packed with highlights! Discover ways you can Get Out & Explore your MetroParks, get a list of can't-miss upcoming events, and learn how you can help MetroParks protect the region's natural heritage. This newsletter is designed to help you make the most of your Five Rivers MetroParks!

Sign up for the monthly newsletter – along with MetroParks' other newsletters focused on outdoor recreation, the 2nd Street Market, gardening and more – at **metroparks.org/newsletters**.

A FUN WAY TO SIGN UP — and one that could net you an awesome prize package — is by entering our summer *ParkWays* contest.

See page 38 or visit **metroparks.org/birdhunt** for details.

## NEW PROJECT AT COX ARBORETUM METROPARK UTILIZES TREE DIAPERS

The next time you visit Cox Arboretum MetroPark, be sure to admire the 50 new trees and 218 shrubs planted at The Allée, one of the park's most popular wedding spots. As part of a project funded by the Cox Arboretum Foundation, these plants will each receive a "tree diaper," a Zynnovation product that acts as an advanced hydration system and provides root protection, weed control and more. Using the tree diapers will promote water conservation, save staff time and provide the public with examples of sustainable practices. The tree diapers will be part of a Zynnovation study and were funded by the Cox Arboretum MetroPark Foundation with a matching in-kind donation from Zynnovation.

# MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR FIVE RIVERS

THESE WATERWAYS IN YOUR FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS ARE GREAT PLACES TO ENJOY A HEALTHY, ACTIVE LIFESTYLE.

**What started as a summer vacation pastime has turned into a passion for Paula Smith.**

"As far back as I can remember, my dad always took me fishing at Indian Lake," Smith said. "When I was in nursing school, I'd hit the rivers or a lake whenever I got a break because fishing is about the most relaxing thing you can do."

Now, Smith is president of the Miami Valley Fly Fishers club often can be found catch-and-release fishing on local rivers.

## WHEN KELBY AND AMBER DIERKING

looked to move closer to their hometowns after starting a family while living in Arizona, "I don't think we would have considered Dayton if not for recent investments in access to outdoor recreation, including removal of low dams, improved access to the riverways and the whitewater features," such as RiverScape River Run, they said. "We were impressed by the strides that had been made in this mid-sized, traditionally industrial city and excited to be part of future growth."

Today, the couple and their 2-year-old son, Rowan, enjoy spending time outdoors — particularly on the water — as a family at such destinations as the Mad River Run at Eastwood MetroPark.

"We can park near the wave, and one of us kayaks while the other plays with Rowan," the Dierkings said. "There's a nice trail along the river, a playground and a great place to picnic. After a while, we swap out."

As is true for Smith and the Dierkings, many in Montgomery County find the area's rivers an invaluable resource for relaxation and recreation. For your Five Rivers MetroParks, the rivers and surrounding corridors are critical to conservation efforts, too: The more than 16,000 acres of land your MetroParks protects are tied together by river corridors that provide critical habitat for wildlife and allow for rich biodiversity.

Indeed, that land includes 290 miles of river corridor, 42 miles of which MetroParks manages. The Great Miami, Stillwater and Mad rivers are Ohio State Water Trails. In 2016, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior named the Great Miami Watershed Water Trail a National Water Trail System — one of only 22 such systems in the nation. It's a distinctive bullet point on the list of bragging rights for the Dayton region, home to the nation's largest paved trail network.

"It's a pretty unique experience to be paddling the tree-lined Mad River, round a bend, and then see the Dayton cityscape and be paddling in an urban environment," the Dierkings said. "It's quite unique to have five-plus rivers as a community asset. Rivers are incredibly powerful, should be respected as a force of nature and enjoyed for the same reason. Engaging with riverways means different things to different people, but most would agree that it adds an element of mindfulness, connection to the important things in life and an opportunity for reflection no matter how you choose to engage.

"To us, there is no better way to disconnect with the day-to-day and connect with our loved ones than while on the water," the couple added. "Engaging with rivers, whether from the bank or in a boat, is incredibly rejuvenating, fuels our spirits and reduces stress."

In recognition of rivers' powers as a rejuvenator for economic development, your Five Rivers MetroParks is working with community partners to develop the Dayton Riverfront Plan. It's a community-wide process to develop a comprehensive plan that explores the tremendous potential of our rivers to enhance regional vibrancy, livability and economic vitality. Visit daytonriverfrontplan.org for more information and to get involved.

While this 20-year plan is being developed with community input, Paula Smith plans to continue spending as much time as possible fly fishing on our rivers.

"There's nothing like being out on the water and out in nature. You can hear the birds and see the animals," she said, adding that she's spotted mink on the Mad River and observed a bald eagle flying above the Great Miami before. "There's nothing like fishing on a fly you tied. Fly fishing is exciting and just so much fun, and when you're with friends, it's a memory builder. It's something that brings you together."

# WAYS TO GET OUT & EXPLORE YOUR FIVE RIVERS

## PADDLE

Kayak, canoe and stand-up paddleboard for an intimate river experience. See page 14 for suggested day trips. New this summer, don't miss monthly downtown Dayton river kayaking trips, which travel through the two whitewater features of RiverScape River Run! See page 26 for info on how to register.

## GET FIT

Cycle, run, walk and rollerblade on more than 300 miles of paved recreation trails — the nation's largest paved trail network, much of it located in your MetroParks. See page 24 for info on the new Bike for Health Challenge, which includes many rides along our rivers.

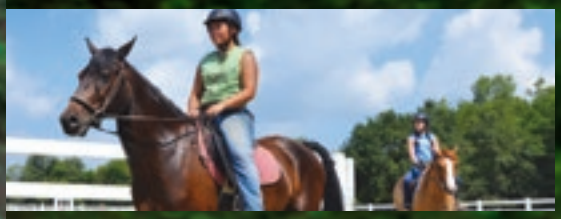
## HIKE

Of the more than 75 miles of natural-surface trails in your MetroParks, many of them meander alongside rivers and creeks.

## FISH

Our rivers and creeks offer prime spots for baiting a variety of species. Fishing is available in lakes and ponds in your MetroParks as well.

▲ ***See pages 24-27 for programs that can teach you skills in these and other outdoor recreation activities!***

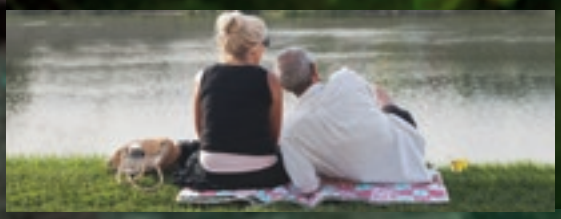


## HORSEBACK RIDE

The bridle trails at Sugarcreek and Twin Creek MetroParks offer varied terrain and creek crossings.

## DISCOVER THE NATURAL WORLD

Visit **metroparks.org/nature-appreciation** for some of the best ways to view wildlife and find native plants.



## RELAX

The natural areas alongside your rivers are some of the best places to experience the outdoors — and some of those places are in our urban core. See page 39 for summertime events along the downtown riverfront at RiverScape MetroPark, from outdoor concerts to free yoga classes.

# WHAT ARE THE FIVE RIVERS?

*Your Five Rivers MetroParks is really comprised of three rivers and two creeks – but that would be a pretty clunky name, don't you agree?*

## THE STILLWATER RIVER

The scenic beauty of the Stillwater River attracts paddlers and fishermen from throughout the country. The river was designated as a state water trail in 2010. It flows through Englewood, Aullwood Garden, Wegerzyn Gardens and Island MetroParks, as well as a few protected conservation areas.

## WOLF CREEK

Wolf Creek supports a variety of wildlife and offers scenic views as it flows through Wesleyan MetroPark. Both great blue herons and green herons have been spotted foraging in the creek, and trees show recent signs of beaver activity. Wolf creek also supports a variety of fish.

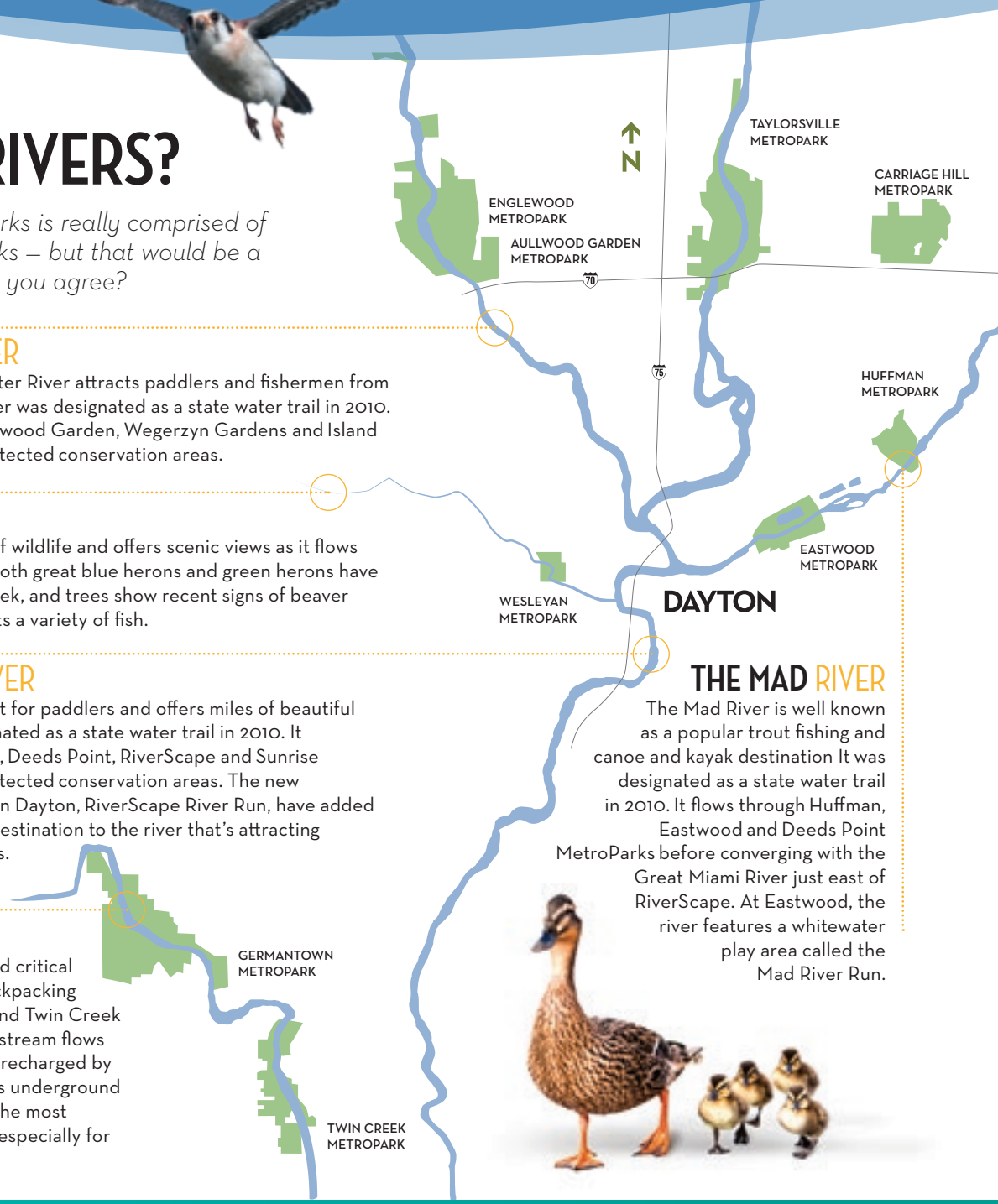
## THE GREAT MIAMI RIVER

The Great Miami River is perfect for paddlers and offers miles of beautiful streamside forests. It was designated as a state water trail in 2010. It flows through Taylorsville, Island, Deeds Point, RiverScape and Sunrise MetroParks, as well as a few protected conservation areas. The new whitewater features in downtown Dayton, RiverScape River Run, have added an exciting regional recreation destination to the river that's attracting paddlers, anglers and spectators.

## THE TWIN CREEK

The Twin Creek is a beautiful and critical habitat. Like the Twin Valley Backpacking Trail, it connects Germantown and Twin Creek MetroParks. This gently sloping stream flows over glacial till and is constantly recharged by cool, clean water from numerous underground pools. Scientists say it's among the most biologically rich creeks in Ohio, especially for aquatic macroinvertebrates.




## THE MAD RIVER

The Mad River is well known as a popular trout fishing and canoe and kayak destination It was designated as a state water trail in 2010. It flows through Huffman, Eastwood and Deeds Point MetroParks before converging with the Great Miami River just east of RiverScape. At Eastwood, the river features a whitewater play area called the Mad River Run.



**THE GREAT MIAMI RIVERWAY IS A REGIONAL DESTINATION IN SOUTHWEST OHIO:** a 99-mile stretch of vibrant riverfront communities that starts in Sidney in the north and runs south to Hamilton, with Dayton near its center. The goal of this placemaking initiative is to develop and implement ongoing marketing, planning and programming to increase use of recreational, historical and cultural assets; attract more visitors; support economic development; and strengthen river corridor neighborhoods.

Your Five Rivers MetroParks is a Great Miami Riverway coalition member. This summer, kiosks identifying the Riverway will be installed, including some in MetroParks locations.

More than $500 million in riverfront investments has been completed during the past 10 years in communities along the Great Miami Riverway. Partners have invested $1 million into the Riverway and that investment continues to grow through such projects as RiverScape River Run.

Visit **greatmiamiriverway.com** for more information.

# RIVER WILDLIFE WATCH

VISIT THE FOLLOWING METROPARKS TO VIEW WILDLIFE BY THE RIVER THIS SUMMER:

The portion of the Great Miami River paved recreation trail just south of **ISLAND METROPARK** is home to black-crowned night herons, sandpipers and great egrets.

The wellfield adjacent to **EASTWOOD METROPARK** is home to Dayton's most famous bald eagles, Jim and Hope.

Walk along the Wolf Creek in **WESLEYAN METROPARK** to view kingfishers, great-blue herons, beavers, groundhogs, deer and more.

All the trails along the rivers provide opportunities to see ducks, such as mallards and wood ducks.

**90%** **YOUR FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS PROTECTS MORE THAN 16,000 ACRES OF LAND, 90 PERCENT OF IT IN ITS NATURAL STATE.**

Protecting this land — in addition to such conservation efforts as reforestation — allows MetroParks to reach its long-term land management goals:

- Protect land along streams and rivers
- Allow forests to expand
- Plant native trees and shrubs to restore forests impacted by the Emerald Ash Borer and other invasive insects and disease
- Restore edge thickets, grasslands and wetlands

Learn more about MetroParks' conservation initiatives at **metroparks.org/conservation**.



# RIPPL EFFEC

## HEALTHY RIVERS MEAN HEALTHY WILDLIFE

The cascading positive effects of reforestation have been well documented and can be seen in Dayton — as evidenced by the return of bald eagles.

## METROPARKS AND ITS COMMUNITY PARTNERS HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED LOCAL HABITATS AFTER YEARS OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES, SUCH AS REFORESTATION.

**ACCORDING TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, BALD EAGLES WERE NEAR EXTINCTION JUST 40 YEARS AGO** due to the effects of the chemical DDT and habitat loss. As of 1959, scientists had documented only 15 nests in Ohio, but as of 2017 there were 221. Laws such as the Endangered Species Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Act have assisted with these repopulation efforts. Yet the current abundance of eagles in Dayton can be attributed to the healthy rivers and habitats in the area — and your Five Rivers MetroParks has and continues to serve as a conservation leader, ensuring those natural areas remain healthy.

An abundance of trees plays a big role in creating a stable, healthy river: Trees protected and planted as part of reforestation cultivate an ecosystem that's favorable for aquatic animals by providing nutrients, temperature-stabilizing shade and more.

"Residents of southwestern Ohio now feel safer around the rivers, and because the rivers are more stable and the forests are more robust, greater populations of once-dwindling wildlife have returned to the Miami Valley — from bald eagles to beavers," said Mary Klunk, Five Rivers MetroParks regional conservation manager. "Protected lands along rivers and streams provide valuable connections to larger natural areas, much like hallways connecting rooms."

Integral to its mission to protect the region's natural heritage, Five Rivers MetroParks leases the land around four dams at Huffman, Englewood, Taylorsville and Germantown MetroParks. Surrounding the river's dams is land that contains some of the largest and oldest forest tracts in Montgomery County.

The old-growth forests in these tracts, as well as the newly planted trees along the rivers, provide utility. Much like a sieve, the deep-rooted trees and other organic materials slow down water, preventing a sudden influx or flood from hitting streams and rivers. Similar to the kidneys, trees act as filters, trapping nutrients and fine silt to hold soil in place. Additionally, trees provide food and shelter for many animals — and enjoyment for humans. The trails, shelters, campgrounds and other places found in the forests of your MetroParks are popular places to experience the outdoors and connect with nature.

GET OUT & GARDEN

# TIPS AND TRICKS TO

Whether you are a gardening guru or a newbie with a would-be green thumb, you can find garden inspiration around every corner in your MetroParks. Just in time for the summer, MetroParks horticulturists share gardening tips, tricks and hidden gems in their favorite parks.

## TAYLER COY

HORTICULTURE TECHNICIAN, responsible for the Edible Landscape Garden and Rock Garden at Cox Arboretum MetroPark:

### *What is your favorite part of that garden area?*

At the Edible Landscape Garden, I find the pear espalier really interesting. I enjoy how it illustrates that you can train a tree to grow in a fence-like form. I hear it used to be planted for fencing that provided protection and food.

### *What inspiration would you like to share for people's home gardens?*

Don't be afraid to grow unique plants. Even plants that don't normally grow in this region might surprise you and grow well. A really good example is the magnolias in the shrub garden at Cox Arboretum MetroPark.

## EMILY ELDRIDGE

HORTICULTURE TECHNICIAN, responsible for landscaping urban MetroParks, such as Island and Deeds Point MetroParks:

### *What is your favorite part of your garden area?*

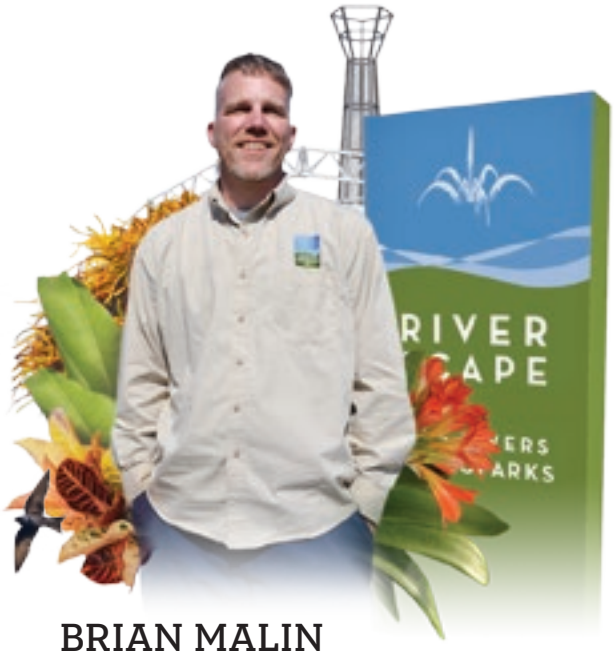
At Island MetroPark, the beds by the restroom have a variety of color. The hibiscus and dogwood even provide winter color.

### *How can people learn more about horticulture?*

Come out and volunteer! We are always happy to have more gardening volunteers throughout the downtown parks. Those interested in gardening also can attend the variety of Five Rivers MetroParks' gardening programs. Additionally, The OSU Extension is a great local resource for seminars.

See pages 28-30 for upcoming gardening programs.
Visit **metroparks.org/gardening** to learn about where to visit and more.

# INSPIRE



## BRIAN MALIN

HORTICULTURE TECHNICIAN, responsible for downtown-area MetroParks:

### *What tips would you share for home gardeners?*

Use elements you like and don't be afraid to mimic other gardens you see. Take pictures of things you find inspirational. Additionally, you can use natives, which come in straight/pure forms and cultivars.

### *How can people learn more about horticulture?*

It's easy to start gardening and you don't have to begin with a huge garden. Starting with container gardening is a great idea. Try one pot on a patio to help you learn. Additionally, MetroParks offers many programs throughout the year that can get you going when it comes to gardening.

Photo by Beth Burke

# EXPLORING THE PAST

## AT TWIN CREEK METROPARK

FOR METROPARKS, PROTECTING THE REGION'S NATURAL HERITAGE OFTEN INCLUDES PRESERVING THE PAST.

Thousands of years before the Twin Valley included MetroParks destinations, natives inhabited the region. The Hopewell people lived in the Miami Valley 2,000 years ago and crafted massive earthen structures that still exist today.

One such structure, Carlisle Fort, is located in Twin Creek MetroPark. Rivers were supremely important to the Hopewell and as a result, many of the places they inhabited are in proximity to rivers located throughout the Miami Valley.

According to Bill Kennedy, curator of the Dayton Society of Natural History, the Carlisle Fort earthwork is a hilltop enclosure. These earthworks were initially thought to be fortresses, but instead of serving a military purpose they were actually used as a communal area for scattered communities.

While today the earthen wall structures aren't as visible to onlookers, there are still mounds of earthen structures that are visible, especially in the winter. As for the parts that are no longer visible thanks to years of development surrounding Carlisle Fort, MetroParks staff worked with Ohio Valley Archaeology to identify where the structure had once existed.

MetroParks staff are making the earthworks easier to experience through new projects that allow people of all ages to learn about Ohio's pre-history. A 10-foot-wide section of prairie drop seed was planted so visitors can best view the plowed down earthworks. Prairie drop seed, a distinctive-looking native grass, was planted on top of a section of old wall. Once the grass is established, it will add a visible feature to assist with future interpretive signage. Currently, there is one interpretive panel identifying the earthworks along Twin Creek MetroPark's green trail to help visitors identify the earthworks.

Starting this summer, educators also will be able to check out education kits that allow students to get hands on while they learn about the history of Carlisle Fort.

# GET OUT & PADDLE

**THE DAYTON REGION IS HOME TO A BOUNTIFUL NETWORK OF RIVERS,** including nearly 300 miles along three state-designated water trails: the Mad, Stillwater and Great Miami rivers. These three rivers also are part of the Great Miami River Watershed Water Trail – one of 22 nationally designated water trail systems. It provides 291 miles of paddling, fishing and wildlife watching opportunities.

## EXPLORE SOME OF OUR LOCAL WATERWAYS IN ONE DAY OF PADDLING FUN.

**PUT IN:** S
RiverScape MetroPark
**TAKE OUT:** F
Dayton Art Institute

**WATERWAY:**
Great Miami River/
RiverScape River Run

**SEASON:**
Most of the year

**LENGTH/TIME:**

| ¾ MILE | ½ HOUR |
|---|---|

**NOTES:**
This paddle includes both RiverScape River Run features. For more info and parking, visit **metroparks.org/river-run**.

**PUT IN:**
Taylorsville MetroPark
**TAKE OUT:**
RiverScape MetroPark

**WATERWAY:**
Great Miami River

**SEASON:**
Most of the year

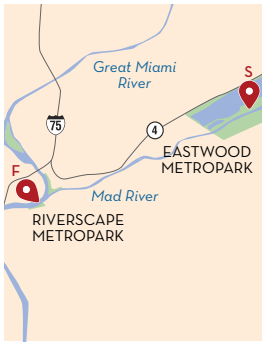
**LENGTH/TIME:**

| 9.6 MILES | 6 HOURS |
|---|---|

**NOTES:**
There's a low head dam downstream of Needmore Rd. at the city of Dayton wellfield; portage this dam on left.

**PUT IN:**
Eastwood MetroPark
**TAKE OUT:**
RiverScape MetroPark

**WATERWAY:**
Mad River/
Mad River Run




**SEASON:**
Most of the year

**LENGTH/TIME:**

| 4 MILES | 2 HOURS |
|---|---|

**NOTES:**
This stretch of river includes the Class II whitewater feature Mad River Run.

**PUT IN:**
Aullwood Garden MetroPark
**TAKE OUT:**
Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark

**WATERWAY:**
Stillwater River

**SEASON:**
Spring to early summer

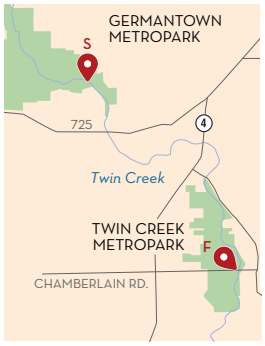
**LENGTH/TIME:**

| 6.8 MILES | 4 HOURS |
|---|---|

**NOTES:**
There are a couple of small rapids along this stretch of river and be wary of strainers.

**PUT IN:**
Germantown MetroPark
**TAKE OUT:**
Twin Creek MetroPark

**WATERWAY:**
Twin Creek




**SEASON:**
Spring to early summer

**LENGTH/TIME:**

| 7 MILES | 4 HOURS |
|---|---|

**NOTES:**
For the take out, park on the north side of Chamberlain Road near the bridge over Twin Creek. There's a long dirt path down to the creek.

**VISIT METROPARKS.ORG/PADDLE**
for other ways to enjoy our local waterways, safety tips and more.

# GET OUT & BIKE

**WE'RE ENCOURAGING MORE PEOPLE TO RIDE THE NATION'S LARGEST PAVED TRAIL NETWORK.** The program previously known as Bike for the Health of It has gone through major changes in 2018. Now called the **Bike for Health Challenge**, the program is a series of self-guided rides throughout the region. Busy schedules will no longer prevent people from participating in this program that encourages bicycling as part of having a healthy, active lifestyle.

Participants can ride each week's designated route at their own pace when they're able, keeping track using the ride log in the program brochure. After completing 125 miles, participants will be eligible to receive a T-shirt. All participants who return their ride log, regardless of miles completed, will be entered to win a $50 gift card to a local bike shop.

Bike for Health Guided Rides also will be held on the first Saturday of each month now through September. These rides, led by Five MetroParks staff and volunteers, are shorter — making them a great activity for families and new riders.

**VISIT METROPARKS.ORG/CYCLING**
for a Bike for Health Challenge brochure and more ways to Get Out & Bike this summer.

# GET OUT & FISH

**SUMMERTIME FISHING CAN BE JUST AS GOOD AS IT WAS IN THE SPRING — YOU JUST HAVE TO ADJUST YOUR TACTICS A LITTLE.**

- Most fish will move to deeper water where it's cooler and seek shelter in brush and structure, so fish for crappie in 10 to 15 feet of water and along the edges of anything that will conceal them.
- Fishing for smallmouth in the early morning or evening is a real treat. Fish the banks and boulders where they're filling up before heading deeper to get away from the midday sun.
- Crayfish like rocks, and smallies like crayfish, so fish the rocks with those patterns. But also cast streamers and fast-sinking flies to get the job done along deeper pools.
- Catch and release, with bass especially, is a great way to give back to the sport and make sure we can keep taking photos of big fish to show our friends.
- Bluegill will fish all summer long, so plan to take the kids along with a bobber, sinker and worm setup. Bluegill also will look for shade during the midday heat, so early and later in the day is best. You'll usually find a subject willing to chomp a worm during a noontime picnic. Just pitch it out a little further and set the bobber a little higher and watch the smiles happen.

**VISIT METROPARKS.ORG/FISHING**
to discover fishing holes in your MetroParks.

# MADALYN BEBAN IS HELPING TO BUILD A CONSERVATION GENERATION THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM

*YOUNG PEOPLE ARE POISED TO MAKE A HUGE IMPACT WHEN IT COMES TO THE ENVIRONMENT — AND VOLUNTEERING WITH FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS IS A GREAT PLACE TO START.*

## STUDENTS ARE HELPING FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS PROTECT THE REGION'S RIVERS

and Madalyn Beban is on a mission to get more of her peers involved. A University of Dayton student majoring in mechanical engineering with a minor in sustainability, energy and environment, Beban has a passion for water conservation and recreation.

"Lakes and rivers were part of my childhood from an early age, and they allowed me to explore kayaking, fishing and being out on the water," Beban said. "Water conservation didn't solidify for me until entering UD's River Stewards program."

The three-year interdisciplinary program is focused on leadership development and getting involved in the local community, which is how Beban was introduced to Five Rivers MetroParks.

Volunteering at MetroParks has given Beban an outlet for her passion and a method to share it: She recruits fellow UD students to volunteer for service opportunities with MetroParks.

"It's easy to tap into the enthusiasm of students in the River Stewards program because they're guaranteed to have interest in the mission of Five Rivers MetroParks," Beban said. "I believe a lot of students on the UD campus have an interest in volunteerism or in the outdoors. Engaging others often has been as easy as sending a single text."

Beban plans to continue volunteering her time to support watershed management, conservation and local economic development after graduation, when she'll pursue a career in the energy sector. She believes young people are poised to make a huge impact when it comes to the environment — and volunteering with Five Rivers MetroParks is a great place to start.

"Beyond being mindful of the actions you take in your own home, in your dorm or in your day-to-day life, getting involved in the community is the most powerful thing you can do to live your values," Beban said. "Five Rivers MetroParks is an incredible asset in the Dayton community. Not only can volunteering with the organization allow the services MetroParks provides to continue, but volunteering is a great way to learn about how conservation is put into practice in the field."

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## JOIN THE METROPARKS RIVER CLEANUP GROUP

Our local waterways are one of the Dayton region's most vital resources and deserve attention. Five Rivers MetroParks has started a new volunteer group to do just that. The areas around a river's edge accumulate trash over time, especially after a storm. River cleanup group volunteers make a positive impact on our river system's health and wellbeing by keeping the river areas around RiverScape MetroPark free of debris.

Volunteers should dress for the weather and wear old shoes or rubber boots. MetroParks provides gloves, trash bags and pickers/grabbers. The group meets every other Wednesday from 9 to 11 a.m. in front of the rental office at the RiverScape MetroPark Pavilion.

Contact volunteerservices@metroparks.org or call 937-275-PARK for more info.

## VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS

Volunteering is a great way to give back to nature. Learn more about opportunities by attending the free programs below, held at Five Rivers MetroParks' headquarters, 409 E. Monument Ave., third floor. Attending doesn't commit you to anything.

**INTRODUCTION TO CONSERVATION**
**TUE. JUN 5, 1:00-3:00 PM** (program Y241)
**THU. SEP 13, 6:30-8:30 PM** (Y242)
Five Rivers MetroParks protects more than 16,000 acres, and we could use your help. Whether you're interested in fish or flowers, like to walk or prefer to help in an office or the greenhouse, there's an opportunity perfect for you. Discover what MetroParks is doing in conservation and how to get involved. All ages welcome.

**FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION**
**FRI. JUN 15, 9:00-11:00 AM** (program Y15)
**WED. JUN 27, 6:30-8:30 PM** (Y16)
**THU. AUG 2, 6:30-8:30 PM** (Y18)
**THU. SEP 6, 6:30-8:30 PM** (Y229)
**TUE. JUL 10, 1:00-3:00 PM** (Y17)
**THU. AUG 16, 9:00-11:00 AM** (Y19)
**TUE. SEP 25, 1:00-3:00 PM** (Y230)
Five Rivers MetroParks has volunteer opportunities year-round and at nearly every park. Orientation provides an overview of location-specific opportunities and an introduction to opportunities. Ages 18 and older welcome.

## HIKE WITH A COORDINATOR

For an active way to learn about Five Rivers MetroParks, join a Hike with the Coordinator volunteer orientation. Learn about various sites and opportunities to get involved. All ages are welcome.

**HIKE WITH THE COORDINATOR**
**THU. JUN 28, 9:00-11:00 AM** (program Y233): Carriage Hill MetroPark, Cedar Lake/parking lot, 7891 E. Shull Road
**TUE. JUL 17, 6:00-8:00 PM** (Y234): Germantown MetroPark, Welcome Center Parking Lot, 6910 Boomershine Road
**TUE. AUG 21, 1:00-3:00 PM** (Y235): Taylorsville MetroPark, North Park parking lot, 2005 US 40
**WED. SEP 12, 6:00-8:00 PM** (Y236): Medlar Conservation Area, Medlar Bikeway, 4558 Medlar Road

**REGISTRATION IS REQUESTED FOR THESE PROGRAMS,** although walk-ins are welcome. Call 937-275-PARK or visit **metroparks.org/volunteer** to register and for more info on volunteering for your Five Rivers MetroParks.

# THANK YOU, KEVIN!

**AFTER A 30-YEAR CAREER WITH FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS, VOLUNTEER SERVICES MANAGER KEVIN KEPLER RETIRED APRIL 30.**

Kepler started with MetroParks as a horticulture technician at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. During his tenure, he's also served as the Native Seed Nursery manager and as the park manager at Aullwood Garden, Cox Arboretum, and Hills & Dales MetroParks. Kepler was the first horticulturalist serving at all garden facilities in 1992, served as the horticulturalist alongside conservationist Marie Aull in 1993 and was area manager of horticulture from 2002-2006. He started his current position in 2007, leading a crew of staff coordinators and thousands of volunteers.

Kepler has received numerous accolades during his tenure with MetroParks. The Miami Valley Career Technology Center recognized him as the Volunteer of the Year in 1998 and inducted Kepler into its hall of fame in 2001. He was inducted in the National Future Farmers of America Hall of Fame in 1999 and was recognized with the lifetime achievement award for student mentoring. Thank you, Kevin, for all you've done through the years to help Five Rivers MetroParks protect the region's natural heritage and provide outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection to nature!

APPLY FOR THE FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS FOUNDATION

# ACCESS TO NATURE SCHOLARSHIP

## GET 50 - 75% OFF METROPARKS CAMPS AND PROGRAMS FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY*

APPLY ONLINE AT METROPARKS.ORG/SCHOLARSHIP

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS FOUNDATION

*The Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation's Access to Nature Scholarship provides eligible individuals or families up to $200 in matching funds to be used toward the cost of camps or programs provided by Five Rivers MetroParks. Eligibility is based on income: Those with an annual household income of less than $11,600 may receive up to 75% off, and those with an annual household income between $11,700 and $21,600 may receive up to 50% off. Only those individuals or families who are Montgomery County residents and have an annual household income of $21,600 or less may be eligible for the Access to Nature Scholarship. Individuals or families will need to apply online and provide proof of income from a W-2, pay stubs or SNAP/EBT card. The Access to Nature Scholarship program is limited to 25 families and up to $200 per family per year. The scholarship is awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis. The Access to Nature Scholarship is proudly funded by the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation.

## SUPPORT
### FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

Learn more about giving to the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation; The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation; Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation; and Friends of Carriage Hill.

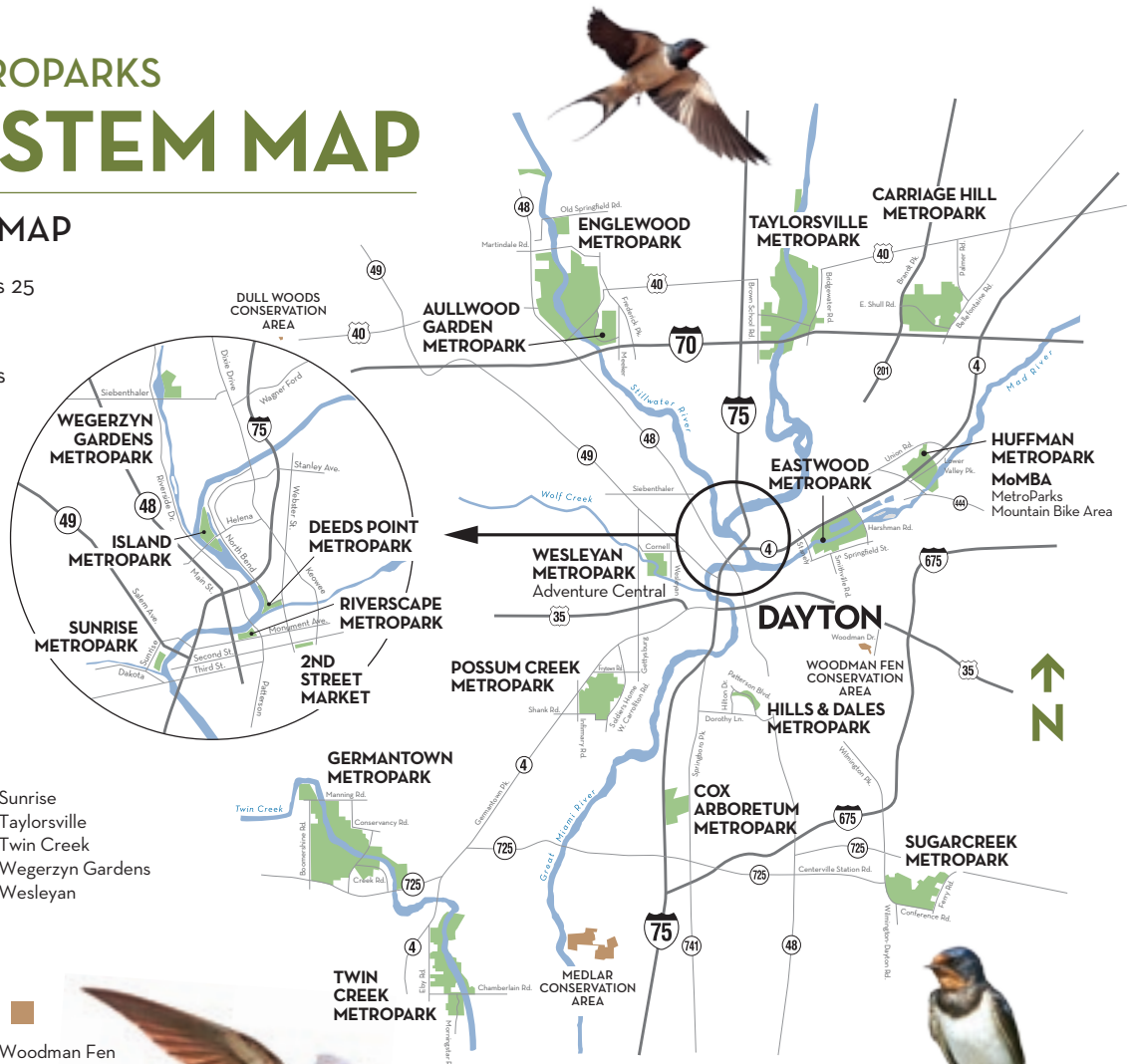
Visit **metroparks.org/donate**.

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

# PARK SYSTEM MAP

## METROPARKS.ORG/MAP

Five Rivers MetroParks operates 25 outstanding public facilities. Founded in 1963 to serve the greater Dayton area, MetroParks protects nearly 16,000 acres of open space and provides year-round recreation, education and conservation opportunities. Facilities are available to the public free of charge — made possible by Montgomery County citizen support of a property tax levy.

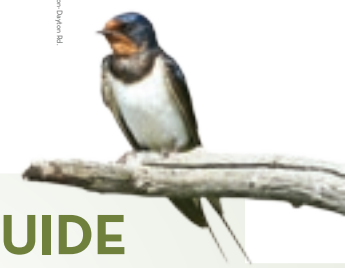



## METROPARKS

- 2nd Street Market
- Aullwood Garden
- Carriage Hill
- Cox Arboretum
- Deeds Point
- Eastwood
- Englewood
- Germantown
- Hills & Dales
- Huffman
- Island
- Possum Creek
- RiverScape
- Sugarcreek
- Sunrise
- Taylorsville
- Twin Creek
- Wegerzyn Gardens
- Wesleyan

## CONSERVATION AREAS

- Dull Woods
- Medlar
- Woodman Fen



# PROGRAM GUIDE

## PROGRAM DETAILS

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

### WEATHER DEPENDENT
Some outdoor events and programs are weather permitting.

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

### 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.

## 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.

### PROGRAMS FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN
Spend quality time outdoors with family.

### COMMUNITY GROUPS AND TRAINING
Share 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.

# SPECIAL EVENTS

*Enjoy time with friends and family at these community celebrations.*

EVENTS ARRANGED BY DATE

## JUNE EVENTS

### **(FREE)** DAYTON JAZZ FESTIVAL

**SUN. JUN 10, 1:00-9:00 PM** Y75

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.

Experience the best the local jazz scene has to offer. Relax to the smooth sounds of the region's best jazz vocalists and artists. No registration required. Contact (937) 333-8400 for details. All ages ☼

### **(FREE)** TRY ROWING OLYMPIC DAY

**SAT. JUN 23, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM** Y158

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.

Get an introduction to rowing and meet an Olympian. Learn about Dayton Regional Rowing, the nation's only Community Olympic Development Program for rowing and a partnership between USRowing, Five Rivers MetroParks, Dayton Boat Club and the Greater Dayton Rowing Association. On-site time-slot registration is mandatory. Must be a minimum 56" tall. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: approximately 10Y and up ☼

## JULY EVENTS

### **(FREE)** A GRAND OLD INDEPENDENCE DAY

**SUN. JUL 1, 12:00-5:00 PM** Y115

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

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

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

**TUE. JUL 3, 5:00-10:00 PM** Y76

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.

Celebrate Dayton with live music, food, beverages and kids activities. Watch the City's "Lights in Flight" spectacular visual display over the Great Miami River. Fireworks take off at 10 pm! No registration required. Contact (937) 333-8400 for details. All ages ☼

### BRIGHT NIGHTS

**SAT. JUL 14, 6:30-10:30 PM** Y77

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

Benefiting Big Brothers Big Sisters, Bright Nights is a unique downtown Dayton outdoor celebration featuring Dayton's top chefs. Enjoy live music, wine, beer and gourmet tastings. Tickets can be purchased on the event website. See contact info to register. Contact kromano@bbbsgmv.org for details. https://mentor.bbbsgmv.org/bright. 21Y and up Fee: Admission: $125 ☼

### **(FREE)** DAYTON BLUES FESTIVAL

**SUN. JUL 15, 1:00-9:00 PM** Y78

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.

Enjoy some of the best blues bands this side of the Mississippi. Listen to the rhythms and licks from the guitar as the artists and bands wow you with a fantastic show. No registration required. Contact (937) 333-8400 for details. All ages ☼

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

**FRI. JUL 27, 5:30-11:00 PM** Y79

**SAT. JUL 28, 11:30 AM-11:00 PM** Y80

**SUN. JUL 29, 9:00 AM-6:00 PM** Y81

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.

Celebrate Celtic style with music, dance, food and fun! No registration required. Contact (937) 372-9788 for details. www.daytoncelticfestival.com. All ages ☼

## AUGUST EVENTS

### **(FREE)** URBAN OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE

**FRI. AUG 3, 5:30-8:30 PM** Y156

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.

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

Photo by Adam Alonzo

### **(FREE)** GERMANFEST PICNIC

**FRI. AUG 10, 5:00-11:00 PM** Y82

**SAT. AUG 11, 11:00 AM-11:00 PM** Y83

**SUN. AUG 12, 11:00 AM-6:00 PM** Y84

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.

Now in its 35th year, the GermanFest Picnic is a 3-day celebration of the Miami Valley's rich German heritage. Authentic food, live music, a 5K/10K race, Polka Mass, kid zone, genealogy, and

a culture display make this event really family-friendly. And did we mention great BIER? Get your Gemuetlichkeit on at RiverScape MetroPark! No registration required. Contact (937) 429-9251 or jabkoerner@aol.com for details. www.germanfestdayton.com. All ages ☼

### **(FREE)** DAYTON AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL

**SAT. AUG 18, 12:00-8:00 PM** Y202
ISLAND METROPARK, 101 E. Helena St.
This family event brings the richness of the African American experience to Dayton and its surrounding communities through culture, education and music. Come see an African Village, a pavilion of paintings and enjoy live R&B, gospel and jazz performances. Merchandise and food vendors will be on site. No registration required. www.daacf.com. All ages ☼

## SEPTEMBER EVENTS

### **(FREE)** DAYTON REGGAE FESTIVAL

**SUN. SEP 2, 1:00-8:00 PM** Y85
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Reggae music is popular for its melodic beats and lyrics that proclaim various social issues of the time. Groove with the music and be free to live in the life of the Reggae movement! No registration required. Contact (937) 333-8400 for details. All ages ☼

### WEGERZYN GARDENS FOUNDATION ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY

**THU. SEP 13, 5:30-9:00 PM** Y310
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Formal Gardens, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Guests will enjoy a catered dinner, live music, and silent auction under a tent on the Garden Green. Proceeds benefit Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation in support of Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 474-3760 or contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org for details. www.wegerzyngardensfoundation.org. Age: 21Y and up Fee: Non-member Ticket Price: $85, Member Ticket Price: $75

### **(FREE)** HISPANIC HERITAGE FESTIVAL

**SAT. SEP 15, 11:00 AM-11:00 PM** Y215
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Back for its 18th consecutive year, the fiesta offers the best authentic Latin food, entertainment and music in the Miami Valley for a full day of family fun! The official entertainment begins at noon with a multi-cultural parade through nearby Dayton streets and ending at RiverScape. No registration required. www.pacodayton.org; facebook.com/PACODayton. All ages ☼

### **(FREE)** 15TH ANNUAL UNITED REHABILITATION SERVICES RUBBER DUCK REGATTA

**SAT. SEP 15, 4:30-6:00 PM** Y108
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
At least 20,000 rubber ducks will be dropped from the bridge for a race to the finish at RiverScape MetroPark, in conjunction with the Hispanic Heritage Festival. Proceeds from this family-friendly event benefit local children & adults with disabilities! Adopt a duck for $5 for a chance to win great prizes! Presented by Synchrony Financial. No registration required. Contact (937) 853-5464 or acrawford@ursdayton.org for details. www.daytonducks.com. All ages ☼

### **(FREE)** COUNTRY FAIR

**SAT. SEP 22, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** Y125
**SUN. SEP 23, 12:00-5:00 PM** Y126
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
As the fall harvest approaches, so does the tradition of the country fair. From agricultural demonstrations to a pie-baking competition, all the sights and sounds of an 1880s country fair will be recreated. See various living history talks and demonstrations that present a vibrant picture of our past. No registration required. All ages

# FOR EVERYONE

*Connect with and learn about nature with friends and family.*

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

## CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

### **(FREE)** VOLUNTEER: INTRODUCTION TO CONSERVATION

**TUE. JUN 5, 1:00-3:00 PM** Y241
**THU. SEP 13, 6:30-8:30 PM** Y242
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor
Five Rivers MetroParks protects over 16,000 acres, and we could use your help. Whether you are interested in fish or flowers, like to walk or prefer to help in an office or the greenhouse, there is an opportunity perfect for you. Discover what we are doing in conservation and how to get involved. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact info@metroparks.org for details. All ages

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

**THU. JUN 28, 9:00-11:00 AM** Y233
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
**TUE. JUL 17, 6:00-8:00 PM** Y234
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Welcome Center Parking Lot, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
**TUE. AUG 21, 1:00-3:00 PM** Y235
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, North Park Parking Lot, 2005 US 40
**WED. SEP 12, 6:00-8:00 PM** Y236
MEDLAR CONSERVATION AREA, Medlar Bikeway, 4558 Medlar Rd.
A more active way to learn about Five Rivers MetroParks, highlights at this particular site, and opportunities to get involved. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact info@metroparks.org for details. All ages

## FOOD: EARTH TO TABLE

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

**SUN. JUL 22, 12:00-5:00 PM** Y119
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Fish were not the most common item found on the farm. However, it was highly sought after and enjoyed. Join us for a whole day focused on the role that fish played on an 1880s farm. Try fishing with a cane pole and learn about cleaning fish. Watch as we cook with fish and smoke it in the smokehouse. No registration required. All ages

## HERITAGE & HISTORY

### 19TH CENTURY FARMING DEMONSTRATIONS

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

### **(FREE)** HAYMAKING

**SUN. JUN 3, 12:00-5:00 PM** Y106
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
The farmer makes hay 19th century style using historic horse drawn equipment. Watch as loose hay is loaded on the wagon and taken to the barn to be unloaded. No registration required. All ages

### **(FREE)** GRAIN THRESHING

**SUN. JUL 8, 12:00-5:00 PM** Y116
**SUN. AUG 5, 12:00-5:00 PM** Y120
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
The steam engine, separator, farm hands and shocks of grain recreate the farm scene of a century ago. The separator removes the grain from the stalk so it can be used for feed and flour. Watch as the last threshing of the season is done. No registration required. All ages

### HOEDOWN SQUARE DANCE

**SAT. JUN 9, 8:00-10:30 PM** Y111
**SAT. AUG 25, 8:00-10:30 PM** Y121
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Join us for a square dance in our historical barn. Listen to the sounds of The Corndrinkers. All skill levels welcome. Tickets are $5 per person and available at the door. No registration required. All ages Fee: $5

### **(FREE)** PIGMENTS, PAPER & PAINTS

**SUN. JUN 10, 12:00-5:00 PM** Y112
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Paint was used for a variety of skilled crafts on a historical farm. Watch various demonstrations involving historical paints including faux wood graining, making milk paint, marbled paper and painting oil cloths. No registration required. All ages

### LEMONADE AND LIMOUSINES: A 1920s SUMMER SUNDAY

**SUN. JUL 15, 2:00-4:00 PM** Y191
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 955 Aullwood Rd.
Come up the driveway and enter the 1920s, when John and Marie Aull were creating the garden at Aullwood. We'll have a vintage Packard, music and lemonade on the porch, and wonderful plant containers done up in the style of the times. Period dress is encouraged but not required. A great way to spend a summer afternoon! Registration required. All ages Fee: $5

**OPEN SUNDAYS JUNE 3 THROUGH DEC. 30**

MILK A COW EVENT JUNE 3

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

# SHOP FRESH & LOCAL AT THE 2ND STREET MARKET

The Market features 40 vendors offering a variety of fare, most of it locally produced:

- Produce
- Sweet Treats
- Kitchen Staples
- Flowers
- Meat and Dairy
- Gift Items

*Grab a meal at one of the many food vendors while you shop.*

## SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE MARKET THIS SUMMER:

### FIRST FRIDAYS AT THE MARKET

**Friday, June 1 — 5 to 8 PM • Friday, Aug. 3 — 5 to 8 PM**
Enjoy food and shopping at the Market as part of downtown Dayton's First Friday celebration.

### GRAND OPENING OF THE OUTDOORS FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, June 2 — 8 AM to 3 PM:** Shop for in-season fruit, vegetables, herbs and plants from local conventional and organic farmers on Saturdays and Sundays through October.

### NATIONAL FARMERS MARKET WEEK

**Saturday, Aug. 4 & 11, and Sunday, Aug. 5 & 12:** Visit the Market during regular business hours to support your local farmers during this national event. Enjoy a wide variety of sustainably grown produce during the peak of the season, along with local music and fun kids activities.

**Nearly 30 Market vendors now accept SNAP/EBT tokens and Produce Perks!**

SNAP/EBT $1 TOKEN

**METROPARKS.ORG/LOCALFOOD**

# ACTIVE OUTDOORS

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

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

## BACKPACKING

### **(FREE)** VOLUNTEER: BACKPACKING TRAIL WORK DAYS

**SAT. JUN 9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y237
**SAT. JUL 14, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y238
**SAT. AUG 11, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y239
**SAT. SEP 8, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y240
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 required. Contact info@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

### **(FREE)** DISCOVER BACKPACKING

**SUN. JUN 10, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y28
**SUN. JUL 15, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y29
**SUN. AUG 12, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y30
**SUN. SEP 16, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y31
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Meet with local experts to ask your backpacking questions, try on a backpack, experiment with some of the gear, sample backcountry food and learn about local resources and opportunities to get started with backpacking. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

### BACKPACKING 1

**THU. SEP 6, 6:00-8:30 PM** Y23
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn about gear, food, trip planning and other tips and tricks during this classroom session, setting you up to have a safe and enjoyable backpacking adventure. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $5

### BACKPACKING 2

**SAT. SEP 22, 12:00 PM - SUN. SEP 23, 12:00 PM** Y24
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Campsite: Shimps Hollow, 7350 Boomershine Rd.
Spend a night on the Twin Valley Trail learning how to pack your backpack, use a water filter, cook in the backcountry, select a campsite and more. Equipment is available at no additional charge with reservation. Prerequisites: Backpacking 1 or Intro to Backpacking. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $40

## CAMPING

### GREAT AMERICAN CAMPOUT

**SAT. JUN 23, 3:00 PM - SUN. JUN 24, 10:00 AM** Y21
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Campsite: Black Cherry Camp/Black Cherry Shelter/Parking, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Join us as we take the National Wildlife Federation's pledge to celebrate camping as a way to connect with nature and wildlife. Pack the tent and the family; we'll provide the hotdogs, campfire and s'mores. Check in at the campsite between 3-5 p.m. Price per family (up to 5 people). Registration required. All ages Fee: $25

## CYCLING

### BIKE FOR HEALTH GUIDED RIDES

Join us for a guided ride led by staff and volunteers. These guided rides are part of the Bike for Health Challenge, a series of self-guided, ride-at-your-own-pace rides each week through September. The first 100 people to log 125 miles will receive a 125 Mile Achievement T-shirt. Use the guided rides to help log miles to work toward the 125 Mile Achievement. Participants under 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Bicycles must be in good working order with properly inflated tires. ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST WEAR A HELMET. For more information and to download the ride log visit metroparks.org/bikehealth.

### **(FREE)** RIDE TO DEEDS POINT METROPARK

**SAT. JUN 2, 9:00-11:00 AM** Y70
GREAT MIAMI RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 25
Meet in the main parking lot near the prairie at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. (6 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

### **(FREE)** RIDE TO ENGLEWOOD METROPARK NATURE PLAY

**SAT. JUL 7, 9:00-11:00 AM** Y71
STILLWATER RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 7
Meet in the West Park parking lot at Englewood MetroPark, 100 E. National Road. (5 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

### **(FREE)** RIDE THE ORIGINAL 8-MILE LOOP

**SAT. AUG 4, 9:00-11:00 AM** Y73
GREAT MIAMI RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 25
Meet at Deeds Point MetroPark. (8 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

### **(FREE)** RIDE TO HUFFMAN DAM

**SAT. SEP 1, 9:00-11:00 AM** Y72
MAD RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 8
Meet in the last parking lot at Eastwood MetroPark, 1385 Harshman Road. (7 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

### **(FREE)** BIKE TO THE DRAGONS

**SUN. JUN 24, 2:00-5:00 PM** Y133
**SUN. JUL 29, 2:00-5:00 PM** Y134
**SUN. AUG 26, 2:00-5:00 PM** Y135
OFFSITE, Fifth Third Field, 220 N Patterson Blvd
Hop on your bike with the family and head downtown to watch America's favorite pastime. The first 50 cyclists to register at drivelesslivemore.org and Bike to the Game will receive complimentary lawn tickets and a pack of prizes courtesy of Five Rivers MetroParks, Dayton Dragons, and the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 223-6323 or DLLM@mvrpc.org for details. drivelesslivemore.org. All ages

### RIDING IN TRAFFIC

**WED. SEP 19, 6:00-8:00 PM** Y66
DEEDS POINT METROPARK, 510 Webster St.
Want to venture out onto the city streets on your bicycle, but not sure where to begin? This on-bike program will introduce you to riding in traffic. Topics covered will include where to ride in the

street, how to interact with cars and basic bike handling. A helmet and bicycle in good working order are required. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

## FISHING

### (FREE) TRY FLY FISHING

**WED. JUN 6, 4:30-7:30 PM** Y2
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Farm Shelter/Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Road

**WED. JUL 11, 5:00-8:00 PM** Y4
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lagoon, 1385 Harshman Rd.

**WED. AUG 8, 5:00-8:00 PM** Y5
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Jay Lake and parking lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Always wanted to try fly fishing? Here is your opportunity. Instructor is available for questions and will teach basic fly fishing techniques in a controlled and safe environment. Equipment is provided. No fishing license required at this location. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 12Y and up

## FITNESS

### DAYTON BEER 5K

**SAT. JUN 2, 5:00-8:00 PM** Y216
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.

This inaugural 5K and 1/4 mile walk/tasting will bring together local microbreweries and the running community to enjoy a fun, athletic event with a relaxing beer tasting after party. The event has options for athletes of all abilities and beer enthusiasts. Run local and drink local with 9 area microbreweries in one place. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 776-1977 or anthony@keysports.net for details. www.beer5k.com. Age: 21Y and up Fee: 5K Pre-Registration: $45, 5K Day Of Registration: $50

### FITNESS IN THE PARK

Come out for fun and effective workouts under the pavilion! Center yourself on yoga days with Tori Reynolds and enjoy fast paced Zumba with The Studio Fitness instructors. Wear comfortable clothes and bring water. Come enjoy a fun, free, outdoor workout!

#### (FREE) ZUMBA IN THE PARK

**SAT. JUN 9, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y90
**SAT. JUN 23, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y91
**SAT. JUL 7, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y92
**SAT. AUG 4, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y93
**SAT. AUG 25, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y94
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.

Classes vary, so check www.metroparks.org for the specific class schedule. No registration required. All ages

#### (FREE) YOGA IN THE PARK

**SAT. JUN 16, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y86
**SAT. JUN 30, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y87
**SAT. JUL 21, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y88
**SAT. AUG 18, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y89
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.

Classes vary, so check www.metroparks.org for the specific class schedule. No registration required. All ages

### STILETTOS TO SNEAKERS 5K

**FRI. SEP 28, 7:00-9:30 PM** Y203
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.

This outdoor community recreation opportunity is sponsored by Oasis House. To register, visit www.speedyfeet.com. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 898-7811 or oasishouse@oasisforwomen.org for details. www.oasisforwomen.org. All ages Fee: Pre-Registration by 9/7/18 (Includes t-shirt): $25

## HIKING

### (FREE) TWIN VALLEY TRAIL CHALLENGE

**SAT. JUN 2, 6:00 AM-8:00 PM** Y153
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Join Dayton Hikers and Five Rivers MetroParks for the 6th Annual TVT Challenge! This is a fun, non-competitive hiking endurance event. Various routes will be marked for 1 to 27 mile hiking options along the Twin Valley Trail. See how far you can hike in a day! This year's challenge will be a part of the TVT 10-year celebration. See contact info to register. www.tvtchallenge.com. All ages

### (FREE) HIKE & EXPLORE GERMANTOWN

**SAT. AUG 18, 2:00-9:00 PM** Y248
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

Enjoy a guided 2-mile hike through Germantown MetroPark and then explore historic downtown. Germantown's monthly Saturday Night Out event kicks off at 3 pm and includes live music, food, beer trucks and street vendors. Hike participants receive a special passport for promotions and discounts at downtown shops and restaurants for the evening. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

## MOUNTAIN BIKING

### (FREE) TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING

**TUE. JUN 12, 4:00-7:00 PM** Y50
**TUE. JUL 10, 4:00-7:00 PM** Y54
**TUE. AUG 14, 4:00-7:00 PM** Y60
**TUE. SEP 11, 4:00-7:00 PM** Y65
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

Want to try mountain biking but don't have a bike? If so, come out to MoMBA and borrow one of our bikes. Bikes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Riders younger than 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Helmets are required and are provided with the bike. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

### MOUNTAIN BIKING 1

**TUE. JUN 26, 6:00-8:00 PM** Y53
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

This hands-on program designed for beginners will introduce skills for riding singletrack mountain bike trails. Topics covered include trail etiquette, body positioning, braking, shifting, and safety. Bicycles and helmets are required and can be provided. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

### (FREE) DISCOVER BIKEPACKING

**SAT. JUL 14, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM** Y55
**SAT. AUG 18, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM** Y61
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

Whether you call it bikepacking, bicycle camping or bicycle touring, are you curious about travelling by bicycle? Stop by this hands-on program to check out equipment, try a bike loaded with gear, and learn about local resources and opportunities to get started with bikepacking. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

### TRAILSIDE REPAIRS

**WED. JUL 18, 6:30-8:30 PM** Y58
**THU. SEP 6, 6:00-8:00 PM** Y64
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

This hands-on class will develop your ability to troubleshoot and repair common bicycle maintenance issues that occur on the trail. You are encouraged to bring your own bike to practice on. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

### MOUNTAIN BIKING 2

**TUE. JUL 31, 6:00-8:00 PM** Y59
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

This hands-on program will practice and build on skills learned in Mountain Biking 1. After these skills are reviewed, we will go on a trail ride practicing what was learned. Prerequisites: Mountain Biking 1. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

# OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

### **(FREE)** VOLUNTEER: WAGNER SUBARU OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE ORIENTATION

**WED. SEP 26, 6:30-8:00 PM** Y272
**SAT. SEP 29, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM** Y274
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Bluegrass, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Join the fun, food, music, demos, and more at this year's Wagner Subaru Outdoor Experience! Outdoor X is the region's premier outdoor adventure festival, bringing together people from all over the Midwest to celebrate healthy, active lifestyles. You can be a part of the action as an event volunteer. There are volunteer opportunities available for all skill levels and interests, including set up, tear down, action sports assistant, bike support, slackline assistant, information, hospitality, sustainability, and more. Learn more about how you can be a part of this great event at this volunteer orientation. You can also learn more by visiting our website at www.metroparks.org/outdoorx. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 567-1413 or jenny.hymans@metroparks.org for details. www.metroparks.org/outdoorx. Age: 18Y and up

# OUTDOOR SKILLS AND SAFETY

### LEAVE NO TRACE TRAINER COURSE

**SAT. JUL 28, 10:00 AM - SUN. JUL 29, 12:00 PM** Y22
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Campsite: Shimps Hollow, 7350 Boomershine Rd.
Enhance your understanding of Leave No Trace outdoor ethics and increase your confidence in teaching these skills to others during this two day, overnight course. Ideal for outdoor educators, leaders or enthusiasts who want to learn the skills needed to minimize recreational impacts. Participants will receive a national LNT Trainer certificate. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $70

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

**WED. AUG 29, 6:30-8:30 PM** Y228
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor
There are more than 75 miles of trails throughout Five Rivers MetroParks, and we are continuing our efforts in maintaining them. Volunteers are needed to help monitor and act as trail team leaders to help support our trails. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. All ages

# PADDLING

### ACA CANOE INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION

**FRI., SAT., SUN, MON. JUN. 1-4, 8:30 AM-6:00 PM** Y6
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
American Canoe Association Level 1-2 Canoe certification gives you a good foundation in the skill and knowledge needed to instruct canoeing on Class I rivers. This 4-day course will be a combination of classroom and on the lake and river learning skills, including participants teaching topics. Prerequisites: ACA membership and SEIC membership paid to the ACA, in addition to current First Aid and CPR certification. Registration required. Contact (937) 274-3147 or erik.dahlstrom@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: Level 1 & 2: $150, Level 1 only: $75, Level 2 upgrade only: $75

### DOWNTOWN DAYTON RIVER KAYAKING TRIPS

**WED. JUN 6, 5:30-8:30 PM** Y296
**TUE. JUL 24, 5:30-8:30 PM** Y297
**TUE. AUG 21, 5:30-8:30 PM** Y298
**TUE. SEP 18, 5:30-8:30 PM** Y299
MAD RIVER TRAIL, Mad River Recreation Trail - Parking Lot, 2299 E. Monument Ave.
Kayak down the Mad River and the Great Miami River through the two whitewater features of the RiverScape River Runs. This trip is led by Five Rivers MetroParks' staff. We will be getting wet so please dress appropriately, including wearing water shoes or old sneakers. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $30

### KAYAK 1

**SAT. JUN 9, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** Y35
**SAT. JUL 7, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** Y40
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.
Become acquainted with equipment, learn a variety of paddle strokes, flatwater rescues and other safety topics for beginners. Dress to get wet. Prerequisites: none. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $70

### **(FREE)** TRY PADDLESPORTS

**THU. JUN 14, 4:00-7:00 PM** Y37
**THU. JUL 5, 4:00-7:00 PM** Y39
**WED. AUG 1, 4:00-7:00 PM** Y42
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lagoon, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Kayak, stand up paddleboard, and canoe overviews will be given. Learn about the sport in a controlled environment. Equipment provided at this drop-in program. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

### KAYAK 2: RIVER

**SUN. JUN 24, 12:00-5:00 PM** Y36
**SAT. JUL 21, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** Y41
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Mad River Access parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Get instruction on safety, river paddling techniques, and how to recognize and avoid hazards. Dress to get wet. Prerequisites: Kayak 1. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $70

### STAND UP PADDLEBOARDING 1

**TUE. AUG 7, 5:30-8:30 PM** Y44
**WED. SEP 5, 5:30-8:30 PM** Y47
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.
This hands-on program will use instruction and games as we learn to stand up paddleboard. Topics covered include paddle strokes, board handling and safety, and more. Dress to get wet. Prerequisites: None. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $40

### KAYAK EXPLORING: HUFFMAN LAKE

**THU. AUG 9, 6:00-9:00 PM** Y45
HUFFMAN METROPARK, Huffman Lake, 4095 Lower Valley Pk.
Explore Huffman Lake with a Five Rivers MetroParks naturalist and learn about the wildlife that exists along this hidden gem. We will be in and out of our kayaks around the lake as we explore. Prerequisites: none. Registration required. Age: 12Y and up Fee: $25

### KAYAK EXPLORING: EASTWOOD LAGOON

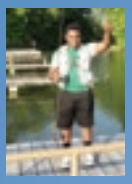
**THU. AUG 30, 6:00-9:00 PM** Y46
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lagoon, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Explore Eastwood Lagoon with a Five Rivers MetroParks naturalist and learn about the wildlife that exists here. We will be in and out of our kayaks around the lagoon as we use our senses, binoculars, and more to explore this unique environment. Registration required. Age: 12Y and up Fee: $25

SUBARU ADVENTURE SERIES

# SHARE YOUR LOVE OF THE OUTDOORS

This great series is designed to help the whole family Get Out & Live!

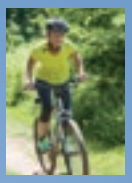
STOP BY ANY TIME DURING THESE **FREE** PROGRAMS:



TRY
**FLY FISHING**
June 6,
4:30-7:30 PM
Possum Creek
MetroPark

TRY
**PADDLESPORTS**
June 14,
4-7 PM
Eastwood
MetroPark

**URBAN OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE**
Aug. 3,
5:30-8:30 PM
RiverScape
MetroPark



TRY
**MOUNTAIN BIKING**
July 10,
4-7 PM
MoMBA

SUBARU
**ADVENTURE SERIES**

CELEBRATE 10 YEARS OF THE TWIN VALLEY TRAIL!

# GET OUT & HIKE

Take the Twin Valley Trail Challenge and then celebrate with food, music and more during the TVT 10-Year Celebration.

## TWIN VALLEY TRAIL CHALLENGE

**SATURDAY, JUNE 2**
Join Dayton Hikers and Five Rivers MetroParks for the sixth annual TVT Challenge. A fun, non-competitive hiking event, the challenge offers 1 to 27-mile hiking routes along the trail. Registration is available on-site from 5:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## TWIN VALLEY TRAIL 10-YEAR CELEBRATION

**SATURDAY, JUNE 2 • 3-9 PM**
Enjoy hiking, camping and food during a celebratory evening along the trail. The evening's festivities will take place in the newly renovated Twin Valley Welcome Center with backcountry campsite tours, gear demos and more held throughout the evening. Camping for this event is limited, please pre-register.

TWIN VALLEY WELCOME CENTER • GERMANTOWN METROPARK
TVTCHALLENGE.COM

DAYTON REGIONAL ROWING

# TRY ROWING

## GET OUT & ROW DURING TRY ROWING OLYMPIC DAY

Saturday, June 23 • 9 AM to 3 PM
Eastwood MetroPark

LEARN MORE ON PAGE 20

For upcoming programs and more information:
Dayton Boat Club: daytonboatclub.org
Greater Dayton Rowing Association: daytonrowing.org

DAYTON REGIONAL ROWING

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

RENT MOUNTAIN BIKES AT MoMBA BIKE RENTALS

# MoMBA MOUNTAIN BIKE RENTALS

SATURDAYS FROM 10 AM TO 1 PM
MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH LABOR DAY

Explore the trails at the MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA) at Huffman MetroPark this summer. Trails are available for all levels, from tots to advanced riders.

A variety of mountain bikes are available. Rates for youth bikes start at $6 an hour, and adult bikes start at $8 an hour.

METROPARKS.ORG/MOMBA

**MOMBA: METROPARKS MOUNTAIN BIKING AREA**

# EARTH FRIENDLY LIVING

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

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

## FOOD: EARTH TO TABLE

### TINY GARDEN, GREAT PRODUCE

**SAT. JUN 2, 9:30-11:00 AM** Y140
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter , 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Bigger isn't always better! We'll give you step-by-step instructions and plans to create, plant, and maintain the perfect 4x6 garden for season-long harvest and enjoyment. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

### CANNING CLUB

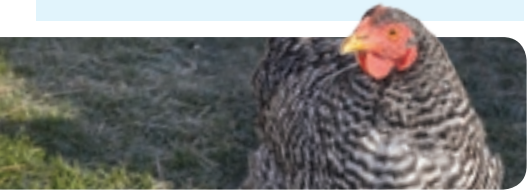
Learn how to preserve fruits and vegetables in an inexpensive and efficient way. Take home a jar of goodies, along with 19th-century and modern recipes.

#### CANNING CLUB: STRAWBERRY MARMALADE

**SAT. JUN 2, 9:30 AM-12:00 PM** Y139
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Daniel Arnold House, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Students will participate in the safe preparation and preservation of the month's harvest, taking with them basic knowledge, recipes and a jar of strawberry marmalade. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

#### CANNING CLUB: PICKLED GREEN BEANS

**SAT. JUL 7, 9:30 AM-12:00 PM** Y142
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Daniel Arnold House, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
In the 1880s, canning clubs were formed to teach people about one way to preserve the harvest. Students will participate in the safe preparation and preservation of the month's harvest, taking with them basic knowledge, recipes and a jar of pickled green beans. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15



#### CANNING CLUB: TOMATO SAUCE

**SAT. AUG 4, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM** Y144
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Daniel Arnold House, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Students will participate in the safe preparation and preservation of the month's harvest, taking with them basic knowledge, recipes and a jar of tomato sauce. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

#### CANNING CLUB: APPLESAUCE

**SAT. SEP 1, 9:30 AM-12:00 PM** Y145
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Daniel Arnold House, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Students will participate in the safe preparation and preservation of the month's harvest, taking with them basic knowledge, recipes and a jar of applesauce. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

### LEARNING FROM THE LANDSCAPE: COX ARBORETUM METROPARK

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

#### (FREE) CONTAINER VEGGIES

**TUE. JUN 12, 6:00-7:00 PM** Y138
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
You CAN have lots of great vegetables without a traditional garden! Learn how to enjoy a full season of produce without a lot of digging or space. We'll talk about types of containers, soils, and varieties of vegetables to get you started growing and enjoying this season. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

#### BACKYARD CHICKENS 101

**WED. JUN 13, 6:00-7:30 PM** Y305
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Do you want to raise chickens at home? Learn the basics before you buy anything! Staff will review coop design, how much space is needed per chicken, feed, equipment and more. Bring your questions and we'll send you away ready to get started. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

#### FOOLPROOF TOMATOES

**SAT. JUN 16, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y143
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Want great tomatoes? This is the class for you! We'll talk about soil conditions, maintenance schedules, and great varieties for containers and gardens alike. Come and get ready for a great summer of delicious, home-grown goodies. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

## GARDENING

### VOLUNTEER: GARDENER'S LEARN AND TRY-IT SERIES

Each session will feature a learning topic to enhance your knowledge and skills, followed by a volunteer project to practice what you've learned.

#### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: EASY WILDFLOWER PROPAGATION

**TUE. JUN 5, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y287
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 955 Aullwood Rd.
Tour the gardens to get to know some of Aullwood's signature plant varieties, then try your hand at propagation by digging, dividing, and potting spring wildflowers. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

#### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: LEARN HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN LEAF CASTING

**MON. JUL 9, 9:00-11:30 AM** Y222
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Grow House, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn how to create leaf castings from members of the Cox Arboretum Rock Garden Vol-

unteer Group in this hands-on workshop as they demonstrate their technique and share their recipe for making these natural works of art. Leaf castings are a wonderful way to add a natural and organic element to your yard or garden, as well as a decorative item. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

### **(FREE)** VOLUNTEER: LEARN HOW TO PAINT LEAF CASTINGS

**MON. JUL 16, 9:00 AM-11:00 PM** Y221
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Grow House, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Members of the Cox Arboretum Rock Garden Volunteer Group will demonstrate painting techniques to add a touch of realism to leaf castings. Leaf castings are a wonderful way to add a natural and organic element to your yard or garden, as well as a decorative item for the home. They are also great for attracting birds and other wildlife. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

### **(FREE)** VOLUNTEER: WEGERZYN'S MOST WANTED: WEEDS!

**TUE. JUL 24, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y288
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
View "mugshots" to identify the most troublesome garden weeds then practice the best approaches for eradication out in the gardens. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

### **(FREE)** VOLUNTEER: BOXWOOD BASICS PART II

**TUE. SEP 4, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y218
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 955 Aullwood Rd.
Learn the basic guidelines for "cloud pruning" your boxwoods, then try it in the gardens. This technique promotes healthy interior growth by lightening heavy branches to allow more light and air circulation. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

### **(FREE)** VOLUNTEER: LEARN HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN HYPERTUFA

**FRI. SEP 14, 9:00-11:30 AM** Y226
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Grow House, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn how to make your own hypertufa from experienced members of the Cox Arboretum Rock Garden Volunteer Group. Volunteers will demonstrate their techniques and share their recipe for these beautiful rustic, textured containers that resemble tufa rock. Each participant will have the opportunity to make their own small container. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

### TOUR WEGERZYN WITH A HORTICULTURIST

**SUN. JUN 10, 2:00-3:00 PM** Y187
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Enjoy the June beauty of Wegerzyn as you walk with a horticulturist--the person in charge of all the plantings--as they explain the different plant varieties and why they were selected, planting schemes for each of the gardens, as well as how the park is maintained. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

### **(FREE)** AULLWOOD IN EARLY SUMMER

**SUN. JUN 17, 2:00-3:30 PM** Y190
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 955 Aullwood Rd.
Trees are in full leaf now and the summer gardens and prairie are showing wonderful color. Join us as we explore Marie's Garden, the prairie and edge of the woods. A wonderful summer Sunday afternoon! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

### EASY SUCCULENT CONTAINER

**SAT. JUL 7, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y147
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Succulents are low maintenance, fun, and go almost anywhere. You'll put together an 8" shallow container (you'll need to bring your own), and we'll supply soil, plants, techniques and inspiration. Get ready to enjoy your new container for many seasons. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

### TOUR COX WITH A HORTICULTURIST

**SUN. JUL 8, 2:00-3:00 PM** Y188
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Enjoy beautiful Cox Arboretum as you walk with horticulturist Kelly Wood. She'll explain the different planting areas and plant varieties chosen for them, seasonal color and texture interest, and maintenance for each area. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

## LEARNING FROM THE LANDSCAPE: COX ARBORETUM METROPARK

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

### **(FREE)** SUMMER COLOR SURPRISES

**TUE. JUL 10, 6:00-7:00 PM** Y146
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Drifts, waves, and blends are just a few of the ways you can use color in the garden to create mood, drama, or space. Learn how to use these techniques in your own landscape and see examples in the gardens at Cox. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

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

**TUE. AUG 14, 6:00-7:00 PM** Y174
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Summer is winding down, but it doesn't mean that color goes away. Learn how plants can give color in the landscape, no matter what the season. You'll learn about great plants and planting combinations to keep your garden beautiful and interesting year round. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

### HOMETOWN HABITAT: STORIES OF BRINGING NATURE HOME

**SAT. JUL 21, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y286
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Award-winning director Catherine Zimmerman has incorporated narrative by Doug Tallamy in this compelling film about why we need to change our landscaping attitudes and practices and how change-makers across the county are doing exactly that. Learn how you can be part of this exciting movement. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

### TOUR RIVERSCAPE WITH A HORTICULTURIST

**SUN. AUG 19, 2:00-3:00 PM** Y189
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Enjoy the beautiful plantings at RiverScape as you walk with horticulturist Cinda Plante. She'll explain the intricacies of planting in an urban location and how that determines plant varieties and their selection. You'll also learn about seasonality in planting at the park and how the gardens are maintained. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

### FALL GARDENING CHALLENGE: PULL, KEEP, REPLACE, TAKE INSIDE

**SAT. SEP 15, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y150
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
The annual dilemma: what to do with the fall garden? We'll go over temperature and dormancy, show you how to enhance the look of the declining garden through pruning and augmentation, and give you ways to save summer plants indoors. A great class that will help you hold onto the beauty of your garden for a bit longer. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

### FEARLESS PRUNING
**SAT. SEP 22, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y161
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Take the mystery and fear out of pruning! Join retired Wegerzyn Horticulturist Chris Jensen as he demonstrates the basics of pruning and explains timing. Trees, shrubs, and perennials will all be addressed and you'll be able to ask specific questions about plants in your own landscape. A great way to learn from an expert! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

## HERITAGE & HISTORY

### HERITAGE CRAFTS
Our heritage craft series helps keep historical crafts alive through hands-on opportunities.

### FAUX GRAINING
**THU. JUN 14, 6:00-8:00 PM** Y113
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Faux graining is the art of painting an imitation wood grain onto an object. Join us as we talk about the history of graining and let you try your hand at some graining techniques. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

### WOODWORKING
**THU. JUL 12, 6:00-8:00 PM** Y117
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

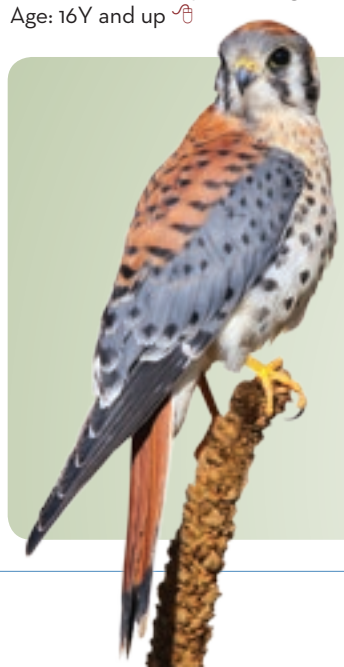
### BROOM-MAKING
**THU. AUG 9, 6:00-7:00 PM** Y127
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Broom-making was a skilled occupation in the 1880s. Come learn the history of making brooms and watch the process for putting a broom together. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

### BUS TRIP: NATIONAL UNDERGROUND RAILWAY MUSEUM FREEDOM CENTER & WASHINGTON PARK
**WED. JUN 20, 8:00 AM-4:30 PM** Y110
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Join us for a trip to the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. The museum documents the struggle of past & ongoing fights against oppression. Following lunch, we'll travel to Washington Park for a docent-led tour to hear its remarkable history. On our way home we'll stop at Natorp's Nursery. A Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation fundraiser. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 233-3481 or contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org for details. http://wegerzyngardensfoundation.org/bus-trips.html. Age: 18Y and up Fee: Foundation non-members: $80, Wegerzyn Foundation Members: $75

### BUS TRIP: ZOAR VILLAGE & WARTHER MUSEUM
**WED. SEP 19, 6:45 AM-7:00 PM** Y109
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Travel to east central Ohio as we visit Zoar & Dover. We'll tour Zoar Village, founded in 1817 by German Separatists. After lunch, we'll visit Warther Museum in Dover. We'll see carvings showing the evolution of the steam engine from 1905-1971 & visit the gift shop featuring famous Warther cutlery. A Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation fundraiser. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 233-3481 or contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org for details. http://wegerzyngardensfoundation.org/bus-trips.html. Age: 18Y and up Fee: Foundation non-members: $140, Wegerzyn Foundation Members: $135

## SUSTAINABLE HOME

### (FREE) COMPOST KITCHEN
**TUE. AUG 14, 6:00-8:00 PM** Y132
**TUE. AUG 21, 6:00-8:00 PM**
**TUE. AUG 28, 6:00-8:00 PM**
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Meeting Room, 7800 E. Shull 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 Environmental Services. 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



## GET A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF YOUR METROPARKS
by signing up for our new monthly email newsletter packed with highlights – designed to help you make the most of your Five Rivers MetroParks!

See page 38 for a way to sign up that could net you an awesome prize package or visit **metroparks.org/newsletters**.

# ADULT NATURE EXPLORATION

*Enjoy and learn about the splendor of the natural world.*

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

## CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

### CAFÈ SCI

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

**(FREE)** HERPETOLOGY
**WED. JUN 6, 6:30-8:30 PM** Y295
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Often overlooked, amphibians and reptiles are important environmental indicators. Join Jeremy Barkley, environmental science graduate of Wittenberg University, as he discusses the importance of herpetological surveys and what our scaly and slimy friends can tell us about their habitat. Live animals will be featured during this exciting talk! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

**(FREE)** HIGH-TECH ARCHAEOLOGY
**WED.AUG 1, 6:30-8:30 PM** Y301
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Find out how technology is used to make discoveries about the past. Age: 18Y and up

**(FREE)** LEAVE NO TRACE: RESEARCH ON REC-RELATED IMPACTS ON THE NATURAL WORLD
**WED. SEP 5, 6:30-8:30 PM** Y276
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Leave No Trace master educator Angie Sheldon will present on how the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics' data-driven approach is teaching people how to enjoy the outdoors responsibly, through educational programs, high-quality training, and best practices. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

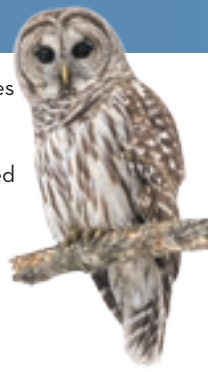
**(FREE)** BECOME A BUTTERFLY HOUSE GUIDE
**SAT. JUN 9, 1:00-3:30 PM** Y306
**WED. JUN 13, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM** Y9
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
The Butterfly House captures some of the most compelling stories in nature, critical to human survival. Learn what it takes to be a guide and hear the stories from Butterfly House veteran volunteers while studying identification techniques, behavior, and ecology. Volunteer opportunities available pending screening process. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up

## FLORA & FAUNA

BASIC INSECT IDENTIFICATION
**SAT. JUL 14, 9:00-11:30 AM** Y300
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn how to identify bugs through an interactive session on insect biology, exploring collections, live specimens, and a field study. We'll also explore basic spider ID, as well as discuss myths and folklore. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $10

BUTTERFLY FIELD IDENTIFICATION
**SAT. AUG 11, 1:00-3:30 PM** Y307
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Get started with butterfly identification through this hands-on experience exploring live specimens and the Butterfly House. Later, put your new skills to work while exploring on-site pollinator habitats, and learn how to create your own pollinator garden at home. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $10

TREE ID WORKSHOP
**SUN. SEP 16, 1:00-3:30 PM** Y308
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: $10



## NATURE APPRECIATION

### ADULT NATURE WALKS

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

**(FREE)** DISCOVERY STROLL
**WED. JUN 13, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y196
**WED. AUG 15, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y197
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Program Parking, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.
Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

**(FREE)** ADULT NATURE WALK
**TUE. JUN 19, 9:00-11:00 AM** Y245
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
**TUE. JUN 26, 9:00-11:00 AM** Y246
EASTWOOD METROPARK, First Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.
**TUE. JUL 10, 9:00-11:00 AM** Y194
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.
**TUE. AUG 21, 9:00-11:00 AM** Y195
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

**(FREE)** VOLUNTEER: CONSERVATION ORIENTATION NATURALIST VOLUNTEERS
**TUE. JUL 31, 9:00-11:00 AM** Y11
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor

Five Rivers MetroParks' naturalist staff needs volunteers to assist with programs for kids and families. You don't need to be a naturalist to get started, but a passion for sharing, a love of nature, and a joy for working with kids and families is a must. Attendance does not commit you to anything. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. All ages

## PHOTOGRAPHY & ART

### SHOOTING SUCCESSFUL OUTDOOR PORTRAITS

**SAT. JUN 2, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y141
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Get ready for individual and family shots of weddings, graduations, and reunions by learning the importance of background and foreground elements, stance and pose, and sunlight and shadow. Following a presentation indoors, participants will go outside (weather permitting) to take pictures of a model in the garden. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

### PHOTOS DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE

**SAT. JUL 7, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y148
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Bring your camera downtown to explore the shore of the Great Miami River, taking photos of plants, sculptures and RiverScape River Run, as well as the fountains. Be prepared to walk a lot and possibly get wet. Meet under the pavilion near. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

### WALK WITH A PHOTOGRAPHER: BUTTERFLIES AND BEES

**SAT. AUG 11, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y149
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
We'll walk through the gardens and then to the Butterfly House to photograph some beautiful butterflies and captivating caterpillars, experimenting with camera angle and settings to get the best results. Also discover how time of day, location and season affect your chances of finding butterflies to take pictures of. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

### ACTION PHOTOGRAPHY ON THE FARM

**SAT. SEP 8, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y160
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Practice taking action photos of people, equipment, and animals at a MetroPark farm. Photographer Adam Alonzo will be on hand to coach you on how to capture movement without blur, take advantage of the light, and choose the best vantage point. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

VISIT THE

# Butterfly House

**AT COX ARBORETUM METROPARK THIS SUMMER!**

Learn about native butterflies and moths in all stages of metamorphosis in a beautiful garden setting.

Open early July to late August.

METROPARKS.ORG/BUTTERFLYHOUSE

GET OUT & RIDE • A GREAT WAY TO EXPERIENCE THE OUTDOORS THIS SUMMER!

# CARRIAGE HILL RIDING CENTER

## HORSEBACK RIDES

**BEGINNING SAT., JUNE 2**

Trail rides for ages 8 and older offered Saturdays and Sundays. Rides are one hour, walk-only, guided trails through the woods at Carriage Hill MetroPark. $30

Pony rides for ages 2 to 8 are offered Saturdays. $5

**SUMMER HORSE CAMPS**
June 4 through Aug. 17
Fee is $250
Ages 8-17

To register or learn more, visit
METROPARKS.ORG/RIDINGCENTER
or call (937) 275-PARK.

# FAMILY

*Spend quality time outdoors with everyone in your family.*

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY DATE

## (FREE) FIRST TUESDAY FREE FAMILY TRAM TOUR

**TUE. JUN 5, 6:00-7:00 PM** Y137
**TUE. JUL 3, 6:00-7:00 PM** Y271
**TUE. AUG 7, 6:00-7:00 PM** Y273
**TUE. SEP 4, 6:00-7:00 PM** Y275
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
The end of the day is a great time to visit Cox Arboretum and enjoy a relaxing 30-minute tour of the gardens. Trams are in the parking lot and knowledgeable volunteer guides will drive you to spectacular spots. Registration required. All ages

### CONSERVATION KIDS

This series 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) OWL SEARCH

**FRI. JUN 8, 8:30-10:00 PM** Y130
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.
Search for owls while naturalists attempt to lure them and explore the importance of forests, their home. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

## (FREE) NIGHT TIME CATERPILLAR EXPLORATION

**SAT. JUN 9, 8:30-10:00 PM** Y131
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Did you know that most of the caterpillars in our area glow in the dark? Join us on a night hike to discover luminescent caterpillars within our parks. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

## (FREE) A BEE'S LIFE

**TUE. JUN 19, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y118
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Farm Shelter/Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Road
Children will see plantlife through a bee's eyes and learn how important these insects are to human survival. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

## (FREE) WOODLAND NESTING BIRDS

**WED. JUN 27, 7:00-8:30 PM** X234
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot , 4178 Conference Rd.
Discover different bird nests and how they make these mystical creations without any hands! Build a nest with natural materials, and go on a hike in search of birds and their nurseries. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

## NESTBOX MONITORING

**SAT. JUN 30, 1:00-2:30 PM** Y128
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Help monitor baby birds as they grow in nests. Hike our bluebird trail and learn how to identify nests and check for parasites. Registration required. Age:3Y-13Y Fee: $5

## FIREFLY PARTY

**SAT. JUN 30, 7:00-9:00 PM** Y129
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Rekindle your own summertime backyard experiences by helping your kid host a Firefly Party! They will learn firefly biology and develop into nature advocates. Participants receive a magnifying bug jar, and make an invitation package to take home. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: $10

## (FREE) WETLAND ESCAPE

**TUE. JUL 3, 7:00-8:30 PM** Y151
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Redwing/ Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.
Witness nature's most powerful, diverse habitat. Search for frogs, dragonflies, waterfowl and plants unique to our area. Wear clothes that can get wet and muddy. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

## (FREE) NOCTURNAL EXCURSION

**FRI. JUL 13, 8:30-10:00 PM** Y152
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40
Explore creatures that lurk in the darkness. Hike through a variety of habitats in search of coyotes, raccoons, owls and other animals. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

## POLLINATOR PARTY

**SAT. JUL 14, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y154
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Come learn about all of the different pollinators that live in the Dayton area and get tools to help when exploring with friends! Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: $10

## (FREE) STREAM EXPLORATION

**SAT. JUL 14, 2:00-3:30 PM** Y7
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Search for macroinvertebrates, rainbow darters and crawdads while exploring the river! Learn about water quality and how kids can keep water clean. Wear shoes that you can wear in the water (no sandals). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

## (FREE) OWL PROWL

**WED. JUL 18, 8:00-9:30 PM** Y155
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot , 4178 Conference Rd.
**THU. AUG 2, 7:30-9:00 PM** Y217
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Welcome Center Parking Lot, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Escape on a night hike in search of the Screech and Barred owls while learning about their interactions with our forests. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

# CONSERVATION KIDS

We've recently made it easier for families to participate in Conservation Kids programs by removing age-level restrictions. You will find all your Conservation Kids programs in one place. 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 building connections!

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.

## BEESPOTTER
**SAT. JUL 28, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y157
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Be a part of a citizen science project to help collect population data on honey bees and bumble bees. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: $5 ▲

## WATERWAY CHECK UP
**SAT. JUL 28, 1:00-2:30 PM** Y159
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Creek Access and Dam Overlook, 7481 Creek Rd.
Check one of our five waterways, Twin Creek, to see how healthy and clean our water is and learn how your family can help keep our water healthy. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: $5 ▲

## BACKYARD CAMPER TRAINING
**FRI. AUG 3, 7:00-9:00 PM** Y162
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Bring your future naturalists to learn how they can have a camping party in their own backyard! Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: $10

## (FREE) BUTTERFLIES AND DRAGONFLIES
**SAT. AUG 11, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y163
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
From beetles and bugs to butterflies and dragonflies: Explore the prairie for these creatures while exploring their role in nature! All insects are released at the end of the program. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y ▲

## (FREE) POLLINATOR DISCOVERY
**SAT. AUG 11, 1:00-2:30 PM** Y164
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.
See flowers through the eyes of such pollinators as butterflies and bees and celebrate the diversity of insects! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y ▲

## (FREE) NIGHT HIKE
**FRI. AUG 17, 8:00-9:30 PM** Y165
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot , 4178 Conference Rd.
Join us on a night hike just for families to explore creatures that lurk in the darkness. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y ▲

## PRAIRIE SEED COLLECTING
**SAT. AUG 25, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y166
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.
By planting prairies, we provide homes and food sources for a variety of wildlife. Explore these connections while helping Five Rivers MetroParks restore this unique habitat. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: $5 ▲

## (FREE) CREEK FUN
**SAT. AUG 25, 1:00-2:30 PM** Y167
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot , 4178 Conference Rd.
Search for macroinvertebrates, rainbow darters and crawdads while exploring the river! Learn about water quality and how kids can keep water clean. Wear shoes that you can wear in the water (no sandals). Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y ▲

## (FREE) BUTTERFLY BONANZA
**SAT. SEP 1, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y168
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Redwing/ Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.
Children will learn about butterflies, how to interact with them, and celebrate all they do for us! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y ▲

## (FREE) INSECT EXTRAVAGANZA
**SAT. SEP 1, 1:00-2:30 PM** Y169
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Patty/East Park, 4361 National Rd.
Explore different habitats to find all different kinds of insects before they are gone for the winter! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y ▲

## (FREE) WOODPECKER SAFARI
**SAT. SEP 15, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y170
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot , 4178 Conference Rd.
Come discover more about these incredible insect hunters as we search for them and their friends. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y ▲

## MONARCH TAGGING
**SAT. SEP 15, 2:00-3:30 PM** Y8
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Monarchs are beginning their migration to Mexico, so come take part in a project monitoring this amazing migration! Help capture, tag and record data to help with butterfly conservation efforts. Registration required. Age: 6Y-13Y Fee: $5 ▲

## (FREE) FOSSIL FUN
**SAT. SEP 29, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y171
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Welcome Center Parking Lot, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Explore Ohio's incredible fossils and geologic history, make a fossil, and take a short hike to view rock formations. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y ▲

## BACKYARD NATURALIST TRAINING
**SAT. SEP 29, 1:00-3:00 PM** Y172
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Children will learn what it takes to be a naturalist and how to excite their friends about protecting the Earth! Participants will receive a naturalist guide pack used to lead their own nature hike for friends. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: $10 ▲

## FATHER AND DAUGHTER FISHING DAY
**SAT. JUN 9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y3
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Farm Shelter/Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Road
Dads, bring your girls and spend some special time at the pond, catching fish and making memories. This is a Passport to Fishing program sponsored in part by the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Instruction, gear and bait provided. Please bring a water bottle with you. Registration required. All ages Fee: $5

## HEALTHY FAMILY: GARDENING, EATING, AND HAVING FUN

**SAT. JUN 9, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y173
**SAT. JUN 23, 10:00-11:30 AM**
**SAT. JUL 14, 10:00-11:30 AM**
**SAT. JUL 28, 10:00-11:30 AM**
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter , 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Families learn to build in-ground and container gardens, how to make healthy meals and snacks, and learn fun games, activities, and resources to keep your family and garden strong and successful for years to come. Registration required. All ages Fee: Fee per family: $35

## CULTURE KITCHEN

Many wonderful cultures make up the Dayton community and each month we'll learn about food from one of them. We'll sample a special dish, learn how and from what crops it's made, and learn about the country and its customs. Recipes will be available!

### (FREE) CULTURE KITCHEN: KENYA

**THU. JUN 14, 6:00-7:30 PM** Y180
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
This month covers the food and culture of Kenya. Registration required. All ages

### (FREE) CULTURE KITCHEN: JAPAN

**THU. JUL 12, 6:00-7:30 PM** Y181
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
This month covers the food and culture of Japan. Registration required. All ages

### (FREE) CULTURE KITCHEN: EGYPT

**THU. AUG 9, 6:00-7:30 PM** Y182
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
This month covers the food and culture of Egypt. Registration required. All ages

### (FREE) CULTURE KITCHEN: BRAZIL

**THU. SEP 6, 6:00-7:30 PM** Y183
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
This month covers the food and culture of Brazil. Registration required. All ages

## TIKE HIKE

Explore nature with your preschooler, hand-in-hand, as we venture through diverse habitats, pretend, tell stories, and play during these theme-based gatherings.

### (FREE) LIVE LIKE A BEE

**WED. JUN 20, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y198
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.
Transform your child into this busy insect to see plant life through a bee's eyes. We'll learn just how important insects are to human survival. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

### (FREE) CREEK ROMP

**THU. JUL 12, 10:00-11:30 AM** Y199
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot , 4178 Conference Rd.
Prepare to get wet in this class, as we hop in the creek to discover the amazing life that it supports. We will investigate basic river ecology and biodiversity by catching and examining wildlife from Sugarcreek's waterway Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

### (FREE) SILENT FLIERS

**FRI. AUG 17, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y200
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Learn about Ohio's owls by listening to their sounds; exploring study skins; meeting our screech owl, River; and taking a hike to explore owls' homes. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

### (FREE) PONDOLOGY

**THU. SEP 13, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y201
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: Hilltop / Sledding Hill/Parking Lot, 1200 Brown School Rd.
Come get wet and muddy as we explore the pond and what lives in and around it. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

### (FREE) PASSPORT TO FISHING

**FRI. JUN 22, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y67
**FRI. JUN 22, 1:00-4:00 PM** Y68
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Farm Shelter/ Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Road
Passport to Fishing is sponsored in part by the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Kids learn the basics of casting, knots and rigging, habitat and handling, and experience a great way to get outdoors and enjoy being healthy and active. Equipment is provided. No fishing license required. Registration required. All ages

## FAMILY FARMHANDS

**SAT. JUN 23, 9:30-11:00 AM** Y204
**SAT. JUL 21, 9:30-11:00 AM** Y205
**SAT. AUG 4, 9:30-11:00 AM** Y206
**SAT. SEP 1, 9:30-11:00 AM** Y207
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: 5Y-8Y Fee: Fee per child: $5

## FLOUR COMES FROM THAT?

**SAT. JUL 14, 12:00-2:30 PM** Y107
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter , 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Where does flour come from? Learn how we get something as simple as flour. Plant a few wheat seeds, grind wheat berries into flour and enjoy the fruits of your labor by helping to make pretzels and even homemade mustard. The wheat berries are organic, of course. Registration required. All ages Fee: Fee per family: $40

### (FREE) FAMILY FISHING DAY

**SAT. JUL 28, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y69
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.
If you have experience or have never done it before, this day is for families to enjoy fishing together. Pack your tackle. Instruction and bait are provided. Limited gear available. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

GET OUT & CAMP AT THE
GREAT AMERICAN CAMPOUT
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK
JUNE 23 - 24

Take the National Wildlife Federation's pledge to celebrate camping as a way to connect with nature and wildlife this summer during the Great American Campout!

Price per family (up to five people): $25;
$5 for each additional family member.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Want more camping? Reserve one of MetroParks' 23 tent camping sites year-round for a fun and memorable outdoor adventure.
METROPARKS.ORG/CAMPING

# PRESCHOOL

*Help young children discover the wonders of nature.*

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY DATE

**(FREE)** STORYTIME ON THE FARM
**THU. JUN 7, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y208
**THU. JUL 5, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y285
**THU. AUG 2, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y213
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Come to Possum Creek MetroPark's farm for a story, a fun activity and afterwards visit the animals. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y

**(FREE)** STORY TIME: BIRDS
**WED. JUN 13, 10:30-11:30 AM** Y175
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter , 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
After we've read the story, we'll go on a garden adventure to see the different types of birds that live in the garden and the trees nearby. Crafts and a song included! This program is designed for toddlers and their caregivers. Registration required. Age: 2Y-5Y

**(FREE)** STORY TIME: BLOOMS
**WED. JUL 11, 10:30-11:30 AM** Y176
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter , 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
After we've read the story, we'll go on a garden adventure to see the different types of flowers, learn how insects need them, and why they are important for growing vegetables. We'll enjoy a craft and a song, too. This program is designed for toddlers and their caregivers. Registration required. Age: 2Y-5Y

**(FREE)** STORY TIME: BEES
**WED. AUG 8, 10:30-11:30 AM** Y177
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter , 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
After we've read the story, we'll go on a garden adventure to see bees, learn how they collect pollen and why they are important for growing vegetables and flowers, as well as seeing different types of bees and where they live. There'll be time for a craft and a song as well! This program is designed for toddlers and their caregivers. Registration required. Age: 2Y-5Y

## GET OUTSIDE BOOK CLUB

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

**(FREE)** WETLANDS
**THU. SEP 6, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y223
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter , 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Read stories with a Dayton Metro Librarian, and discover the power of wetlands: nature's water purifier! We'll also search for animals and discover plant life. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

**(FREE)** SPIDERS
**TUE. SEP 11, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y224
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Prairie Dock/Parking Lot, 4730 Frytown Rd.
Join a Dayton Metro Librarian and read stories about spiders! Afterwards, we will go on a spider search and discover their hidden secrets while fighting arachnophobia. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

**(FREE)** NIGHTTIME EXPLORATION
**FRI. SEP 21, 8:00-9:00 PM** Y105
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw/ Parking Lot, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.
Encounter the mysteries of the night while reading stories and songs with a librarian, then take a walk with a MetroParks naturalist exploring owls and other nightlife! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

**(FREE)** HOME SWEET HOME
**WED. SEP 26, 10:00-11:00 AM** Y225
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Redwing/ Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.
Join a Dayton Metro Librarian and read stories about animal homes! Afterwards, we will explore animal homes out in nature, make a visit to the wetland, and explore a prairie. Visitors are encouraged to visit the living history farm afterward. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

**(FREE)** STORY TIME: BURROWS
**WED. SEP 12, 10:30-11:30 AM** Y178
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter's Shelter , 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
After we've read the story, we'll go on a garden adventure to see the different places burrows might be and learn what types of animals would use them. We'll also find what plants these animals need. There'll be a song and a craft before we're done. This program is designed for toddlers and their caregivers. Registration required. Age: 2Y-5Y

# YOUTH AND TEEN

*Explore the outdoors while learning and growing.*

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY DATE

## **(FREE)** NATURE KNOWLEDGE

**FRI. JUN 1, 10:30-11:30 AM** Y185
**FRI. JUN 8, 10:30-11:30 AM** Y277
**FRI. JUN 15, 10:30-11:30 AM** Y278
**FRI. JUN 22, 10:30-11:30 AM** Y279
**FRI. JUN 29, 10:30-11:30 AM** Y280
**FRI. JUL 6, 10:30-11:30 AM** Y281
**FRI. JUL 13, 10:30-11:30 AM** Y282
**FRI. JUL 20, 10:30-11:30 AM** Y283
**FRI. JUL 27, 10:30-11:30 AM** Y284

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

Why are trees so big? Why do bees buzz? Why is summer hot? These and many other questions about nature will be answered each week. We'll visit different parts of the Children's Garden and discover super fun facts each time. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 6Y-10Y

## YOUTH BEGINNER FARMER

**SAT. JUN 9, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** Y214
**SAT. JUL 14, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**
**SAT. AUG 18, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**
**SAT. SEP 29, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

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

Children will get to know a variety of animals during this 4 session program. Each month a new animal and its role on the farm will be introduced. There will be opportunities to interact with goats and sheep, practice properly handling and feeding rabbits and chickens, and work with eggs, milk & wool. Registration required. Age: 8Y-11Y Fee: Fee per child: $25

## **(FREE)** HEALTHY KIDS

**MON. JUN 11, 1:00-2:00 PM** Y186
**MON. JUN 18, 1:00-2:00 PM**
**MON. JUN 25, 1:00-2:00 PM**
**MON. JUL 2, 1:00-2:00 PM**
**MON. JUL 9, 1:00-2:00 PM**
**MON. JUL 16, 1:00-2:00 PM**
**MON. JUL 23, 1:00-2:00 PM**
**MON. JUL 30, 1:00-2:00 PM**

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

An exciting program about healthy eating, gardening skills, and fun activities. Each week we'll feature a new lesson from an OSU extension Nutritionist, as well as games and food. Attendance required for 7 of the 8 sessions. This program is offered free of charge thanks to sponsorship from the NxG fund. Registration required. Age: 5Y-11Y

## MORNING CHORES

**SAT. JUN 16, 8:30-10:00 AM** Y114
**SAT. JUL 14, 8:30-10:00 AM** Y124
**SAT. AUG 18, 8:30-10:00 AM** Y122
**SAT. SEP 15, 8:30-10:00 AM** Y123

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

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

## TEEN MOUNTAIN BIKING CAMP

**TUE. JUN 19, 1:00-5:00 PM** Y51
**THU. JUL 26, 1:00-5:00 PM** Y57
**TUE. AUG 21, 1:00-5:00 PM** Y62

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

Designed specifically for teens 14-17 years old, this hands-on program will introduce skills for riding singletrack mountain bike trails. Topics covered include trail etiquette, body positioning, braking, shifting, and safety. Bicycles and helmets are required and can be provided. Registration required. Age: 14Y-17Y Fee: $15

## YOUTH MOUNTAIN BIKING CAMP

**THU. JUN 21, 1:00-5:00 PM** Y52
**TUE. JUL 24, 1:00-5:00 PM** Y56
**THU. AUG 23, 1:00-5:00 PM** Y63

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

Designed specifically for kids 9-13 years old, this hands-on program will introduce skills for riding singletrack mountain bike t rails. Topics covered include trail etiquette, body positioning, braking, shifting, and safety. Bicycles and helmets are required and can be provided. Registration required. Age: 9Y-13Y Fee: $15

## YOUTH FISHING CAMP

**THU. JUL 12, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM** Y26

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

Start out fishing 1880s style and move through time to present day. In the morning you will make and use materials the pioneers of the area utilized to put fish on the table all year long. You will then transition to present day, make and use present day fishing gear. Lots of games and fun activities will fill the day. Prerequisites: none. Registration required. Age: 9Y-12Y Fee: $40

## YOUTH WHITEWATER KAYAKING CAMP

**TUE., WED., THU. JUL. 17-19, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** Y34

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.

Advanced kayaking camp for kids with prior kayaking experience with Five Rivers MetroParks who want to learn to paddle whitewater. Registration required. Age: 11Y-17Y Fee: $80

## **(FREE)** TEEN FLY FISHING CAMP

**THU. JUL 19, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM** Y27

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Pioneer, 1385 Harshman Rd.

Make your own flies as you learn about this exciting sport. In the morning you will learn to cast, play accuracy games and fish the lake while learning about habitat and fish behavior. In the afternoon, we transition to the river and wade-fish, learn about river safety and fly presentation on moving water. Games and fun activities fill the day. Prerequisites: none. Registration required. Age: 13Y-17Y

# COMMUNITY GROUPS & TRAINING

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

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

## NATURE APPRECIATION

### 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!

#### GROWING UP WILD TRAINING

**SUN. JUN 3, 1:00-4:00 PM** Y20
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Trailside, 4178 Conference Rd.
Take the nationally recognized Growing Up WILD curricula combined with our Natural Adventures Box and you'll have a fun, exciting summer with students! Give children an early foundation in nature while encouraging them to explore the outdoors. Ohio approved credit from ODJFS is available. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

#### PROJECT WILD & INQUIRY ADVENTURES WORKSHOP

**SAT. JUN 16, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM** Y192
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
This workshop will certify classroom teachers in the nationally recognized Project Wild curricula, engage educators in outdoor inquiry, and demonstrate how to utilize Five Rivers MetroParks' resources to make science come alive for students. Graduate and Ohio approved credit is available. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $25

## NATURAL ADVENTURE BOXES

Engage early learners with outdoor exploration!

Learn more and make a reservation at **metroparks.org/natural-adventure-boxes**

## SPOT THE BIRDS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

YOUR METROPARKS INVITES YOU ON A DIFFERENT KIND OF BIRD WATCHING ADVENTURE!
See how many birds you can find in this issue of ParkWays for a chance to win a bird-inspired prize package that will help you Get Out & Explore your MetroParks!

Have fun on your page hunt, and visit **metroparks.org/nature** for ideas about places you can explore this summer to see some birds in real life!

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Read through this issue of *ParkWays* and count how many birds you see.
- Then, visit **METROPARKS.ORG/BIRDHUNT** to fill out an entry form. All contest entrants also will receive a monthly email for a bird's eye view of all the highlights in MetroParks! (See page 5 for more information.)

Of the correct entries, MetroParks staff will draw three winners at random on Oct. 1, 2018. The winner will be contacted by email.

**NOTE:**
BIRDS FOUND ON PRIZE PACKAGING ARE NOT PART OF THE CONTEST.

Prize package includes a Get Out & Explore Your MetroParks T-shirt; Oberwerk 8x32mm Sport HD binoculars with harness, *The Peterson Field Guide to Birds of Eastern and Central North America, Sixth Edition*, by Roger Tory Peterson; a tube and suet bird feeders, along with seeds and suet.

For a complete list of contest rules and more information, please visit
METROPARKS.ORG/BIRDHUNT

# SUMMER MUSIC

## 2018 SUMMER MUSIC SERIES
### RIVERSCAPE METROPARK

## PICKIN' IN THE PARK

**FRIDAY, JUNE 1 • 5:30-10 PM**
Luke Knight | Bigfoot Yancey | The Wooks

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 3 • 5:30-10 PM**
The Hussey Brothers | Slippery Creek
Urban Pioneers

## R&B HOT SUMMER MUSIC

**FRI. JUN. 8 • 7:30-9:30 PM**
Natural Progression

**FRI. JUL. 13 • 7:30-9:30 PM**
KICK-N-FLAVA

**FRI. AUG. 17 • 7:30-9:30 PM**
LYD

## BIG BAND NIGHTS

**THUR. JUNE 7**
**7:30-9:30 PM**
The Kim Kelly Orchestra

**THUR. JUNE 21**
**7:30-9:30 PM**
Tom Daugherty Orchestra

**THUR. JULY 5**
**7:30-9:30 PM**
The Bob Gray Orchestra

**THUR. JULY 19**
**7:30-9:30 PM**
Dayton Jazz Orchestra

**THUR. AUG. 16**
**7:30-9:30 PM**
Barry Campbell Big Band with Vocalist Elaina McCormick

## JOIN THE FUN AT RIVERSCAPE ALL SUMMER LONG

### MUSIC @ LUNCH

**NOW THROUGH SEP. 28**
**11:30 AM TO 1:30 PM MON-FRI**

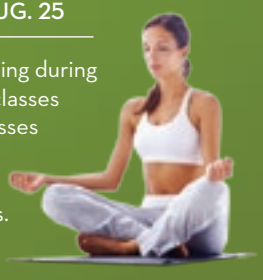
Take your break along the river with live acoustic music. Enjoy lunch from a rotating selection of food trucks and grab ice cream from the Fountain Snack Bar.

### FITNESS IN THE PARK

FREE FITNESS CLASSES

**NOW THROUGH AUG. 25**

Get your heart pumping during free Zumba or yoga classes from 10 to 11 AM. Classes alternate each week, please see schedule on page 25 for details.



### RIVERSCAPE RENTALS

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

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

Five Rivers MetroParks
409 East Monument Avenue, Third Floor
Dayton, Ohio 45402-1260

**Presorted Standard**
**U.S. Postage**
**PAID**
**Permit # 45**
**Dayton OH**

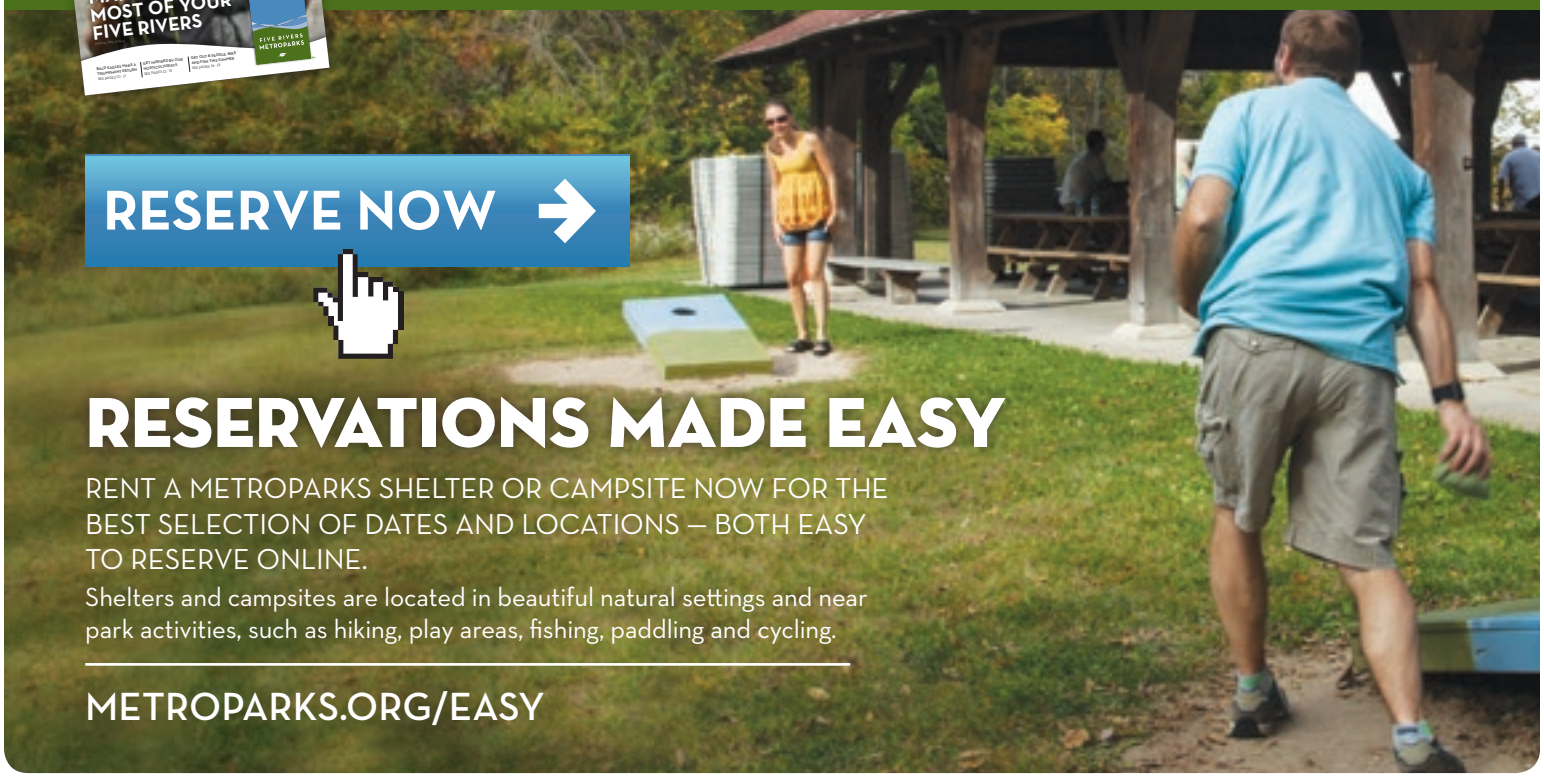
POSTMASTER: TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER 5/11/18 - 5/25/18

Residential Customer

## HOLD ON TO YOUR PARKWAYS!

This issue covers programs from June through September 2018.
View this *ParkWays* publication online at **metroparks.org/parkways.**

PLEASE RECYCLE



**RESERVE NOW**

# RESERVATIONS MADE EASY

RENT A METROPARKS SHELTER OR CAMPSITE NOW FOR THE BEST SELECTION OF DATES AND LOCATIONS — BOTH EASY TO RESERVE ONLINE.

Shelters and campsites are located in beautiful natural settings and near park activities, such as hiking, play areas, fishing, paddling and cycling.

METROPARKS.ORG/EASY

*ParkWays* is mailed to every resident of Montgomery County. Due to delivery specifications, we are unable to remove individual recipients from our mailing list at this time. If you are not interested in this publication, please pass it along to a friend or recycle the magazine.