

# PARKWAYS

YOUR GUIDE TO FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS  
NEWS AND PROGRAMS



## CREATING GREAT PARKS

HOW COMMUNITY INPUT GUIDES  
THE FUTURE OF PARKS

MAINTAINING  
NATURAL SPACES  
SEE PAGE 10

THE POWER OF  
POLLINATORS  
SEE PAGES 12-13

GET OUT &  
VOLUNTEER  
SEE PAGE 17

FIVE RIVERS  
METROPARKS



TM

# 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](http://metroparks.org/things-to-do)



# 1

### HIT THE HILLS

Snow days are to be celebrated! Bundle up, grab a sled and head to Germantown, Englewood and Taylorsville MetroParks for some downhill fun. Learn more at [metroparks.org/winter](http://metroparks.org/winter).



# 2

### COMFORT FOOD

Visit the 2nd Street Market to stock up on all the pantry essentials needed to make hearty stews, soups and more. Find locally sourced meats, dairy, vegetables and artisan breads as well. Take a break from shopping to enjoy a hot meal from one of the Market's many prepared food vendors. Visit [metroparks.org/localfood](http://metroparks.org/localfood) to see the variety of Market vendors.



# 3

### COLD WEATHER ADVENTURE

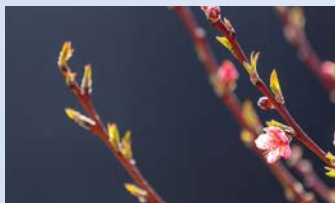
Did you resolve to get more active in 2018? Cold weather shouldn't keep you from being active outdoors! Hit one of the many hiking, cycling, mountain biking and equestrian trails in your MetroParks. The Dayton region is also home to more than 300 miles of paved trails—perfect for getting your body in motion in colder temps. Find your next adventure at [metroparks.org/active-outdoors](http://metroparks.org/active-outdoors).



# 4

### PADDLE ON

Bare and budding trees make for great views along Dayton's rivers. Travel the beautiful seven-mile paddle from Eastwood MetroPark on the Mad River, through RiverScape River Run and then to the Carillon Historical Park and University of Dayton area. Plan your paddle at [metroparks.org/river-run](http://metroparks.org/river-run).



# 5

### SIGNS OF SPRING

Visit your favorite MetroPark to spot the first signs of spring. Check out budding trees, spring blooms and wildlife along the trails, then head to Aullwood Garden, Wegerzyn Gardens, Possum Creek and Cox Arboretum MetroPark to be inspired by gardens in bloom. Visit [metroparks.org/gardening](http://metroparks.org/gardening) for more information.



### ALERTS AND CLOSURES

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



### 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 Benna**  
Executive Director

Five Rivers MetroParks is proud of its role in providing Montgomery County residents with a high quality of life by continuing to implement the community's priorities, outlined in the 10-year comprehensive master plan. It is a living document that provides ongoing direction to Five Rivers MetroParks in serving as the region's conservation leader; connecting people to nature and active lifestyles; and ensuring Five Rivers MetroParks remains a major source of pride, a vehicle for place-making and an economic catalyst for the region.

One of the comprehensive master plan's key recommendations included updating or developing new park concept plans. Beginning in 2016, Five Rivers MetroParks began soliciting input from the community via public meetings and online surveys regarding the park concept plans for the first eight of its eighteen park locations. Late last summer and fall, we completed the draft plans and invited the community provide feedback regarding the concept plans. Plans included Spring Run MetroPark (the former Larch Tree Golf Course/Wetland Mitigation Bank); Medlar MetroPark (formerly known as the Medlar Conservation Area); and Aullwood Garden, Englewood, Carriage Hill, Eastwood, Wegerzyn Gardens, Germantown, Twin Creek and Possum Creek MetroParks.

Hopefully you were able to attend a public meeting or gave us your feedback about the plans for these parks online. If not, you can read more about the park site concept plans here in Parkways or review them and comment on our website at [metroparks.org/plan](http://metroparks.org/plan).

Moving forward, we will continue to keep you informed through the community engagement process as new or updated concept plans are completed in the near future for the ten remaining MetroParks.

Happy spring! We hope to see you out and about enjoying your MetroParks as warmer weather and budding flora and active fauna return to the Miami Valley.

Best Regards,

*Becky Benna*

#### METROPARKS COMMISSIONERS



Irvin G. Bieser, Jr.



Karen L. Davis



Alan F. Pippenger



Five Rivers MetroParks  
is a CAPRA-accredited  
park agency.

## WINTER/SPRING 2018 IN THIS ISSUE

### METROPARKS NEWS • 4

**CONNECTING KIDS TO NATURE**  
Five Rivers MetroParks honored with award  
an for providing access to nature.

### COVER STORY • 6

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**  
See how your input helps direct the future of  
our parks.

### CONSERVATION • 10

**MAINTAINING NATURAL AREAS**  
We maintain a balance between natural  
space and developed areas in the parks.

### EDUCATION • 12

**THE POWER OF POLLINATORS**  
Find out how you can help grow our butterfly  
population.

### RECREATION • 14

**CLIMBING MOUNTAINS**  
Find out who's coming to The Adventure  
Summit this February.

### VOLUNTEER • 16

**MEET OUR LATEST SUPERSTAR**  
Learn how you can sign up for  
Adopt-a-park happening in April.

### DEVELOPMENT • 18

**THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT**  
See how you can get involved long-term with  
Five Rivers MetroParks' future.

### PROGRAM GUIDE • 20

Register for programs happening February  
through May 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.*



Photo by Jessica Biltz

## FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS RECOGNIZED FOR CONNECTING KIDS TO NATURE

Five Rivers MetroParks was honored with a Connect to Nature Site award during a ceremony held last November. The award reception was hosted by Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside, an organization that connects children to nature across the Miami Valley and beyond. Five MetroPark locations received an award certification. In addition to Adventure Central, a youth development program located at Wesleyan MetroPark, other Five Rivers MetroParks certified include Cox Arboretum, Germantown, Hills & Dales, Possum Creek and Sugarcreek MetroParks.

Eight other parks and schools located in the Miami Valley were also recognized during the ceremony.

“These sites provide an accessible, natural space for kids to have unstructured play and explore the natural world,” said Doug Horvath, MetroParks education coordinator.

To become certified, organizations must implement the Ohio Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights, an outline of nature-based opportunities all children should experience on a regular basis.

Learn more about the Connect to Nature Site Awards during the Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Summit on Saturday, March 10 and visit [metroparks.org/families](https://metroparks.org/families) to learn more about how you can connect your child to nature in MetroParks.





## CONCEPT MASTER PLAN MEETINGS

Did you want to learn about the future of MetroParks, but were unable to make it to a 2017 public meeting? We encourage everyone to visit [metroparks.org/plan](http://metroparks.org/plan) to view park concept plans for eight MetroParks locations, including Spring Run MetroPark (the former Larch Tree Golf Course/Wetland Mitigation Bank); Medlar MetroPark (formerly known as the Medlar Conservation Area); and Aullwood Garden, Carriage Hill, Englewood, Eastwood, Wegerzyn Gardens, Germantown Twin Creek and Possum Creek MetroParks.

Concept plans are posted online. In addition, you'll find examples of public feedback we received during the initial public meetings and how we incorporated your thoughts into the concept park site plans.



## UPDATES TO THE TWIN VALLEY WELCOME CENTER

The Twin Valley Welcome Center is a gateway to the region's most biologically rich natural area. When all phases are complete it will be transformed into a space that provides a more engaging atmosphere for visitors to orient themselves and learn about the importance of the Twin Creek watershed. Located in Germantown MetroPark, the Twin Valley Welcome Center is an asset for those who want to experience the 40-mile trail system including the Twin Valley Trail.

Phase 1 updates to the Welcome Center include new flush restrooms, water and a training classroom where MetroParks outdoor education and recreation staff can host programs. Previously, flush restrooms and water were only available during limited weekend hours, but the Welcome Center's updates will allow visitors to use this trailhead amenity during all park hours.

To learn more about the Twin Valley Welcome Center, and future phases visit [metroparks.org/twin-valley-welcome-center](http://metroparks.org/twin-valley-welcome-center). Stay up-to-date on future programs hosted at the Welcome Center by visiting [metroparks.org/programs](http://metroparks.org/programs).



6

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT **DIRECTS THE FUTURE OF OUR PARKS**





## THE COMMUNITY IS THE CATALYST FOR THE FUTURE OF FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS.

That is why you have been invited to share your opinion multiple times over the last several years about what you want from your MetroParks now and in years to come.

In 2016, Five Rivers MetroParks developed a 10-year comprehensive master plan to guide the future of your park system. Through the community engagement process, you disclosed the things that are most important to you, such as hiking, cycling and river trails; protection of wildlife habitats, natural areas and river corridors; being good stewards of the assets we already manage; providing equitable access and trail connections to public parks across Montgomery County; providing outdoor spaces for festivals and large events; and broadening access to amenities that have a positive impact on public health.

“The public is guiding us when it comes to this vision. They are painting a picture of what they want from the future of their parks, trails and waterways,” MetroParks executive director, Becky Benná said. “With their continued guidance and support, MetroParks will be a critical asset in improving the quality of life in Montgomery County now and for many years to come.”

The comprehensive master plan looks at the future of MetroParks on a macro level, from facilities to park services. The next step in the community feedback process was to develop concept plans for individual parks—which were informed by the comprehensive master plan.

In 2017, Five Rivers MetroParks began soliciting input from the community via public meetings and online surveys regarding the park concept plans for the first eight of its 18 park locations, which included Spring Run MetroPark (the former Larch Tree Golf Course/Wetland Mitigation Bank); Medlar MetroPark (formerly known as the Medlar Conservation Area); and Aullwood Garden, Englewood, Carriage Hill, Eastwood, Wegerzyn Gardens, Germantown, Twin Creek and Possum Creek MetroParks.

Public feedback was gathered and incorporated into draft concept plans for the respective parks. Last summer and fall, these concept plans were presented to the public during a second round of meetings and also online so the community could respond to the proposed plans.

“These park concept plans reflect the full and brilliant future of each park, but before deciding what parts of each of the plans can be implemented, we look at community priorities, budget and MetroParks’ capacity to execute projects and maintain park amenities and features,” said MetroParks’ chief of planning and projects, Carrie Scarff.





Here are two examples of information that was collected during public meetings and how they were incorporated into concept plans:



## GERMANTOWN METROPARK

### WHAT YOU SAID:

You are all about the trails in the Twin Valley! The Twin Valley Trail, which connects Germantown and Twin Creek MetroPark, is a favorite in the region and a highlight of these parks.

### HOW WE USED YOUR FEEDBACK:

The proposed concept plan for Germantown MetroPark looks at expanding and integrating several trail types and providing better facilities for accessing the trails.



## CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK

### WHAT YOU SAID:

During public meetings, those who use horse trails communicated the need for better equestrian facilities for Carriage Hill MetroPark.

### HOW WE USED YOUR FEEDBACK:

The proposed concept plan increases equestrian trail length, provides equestrian access to the park core and improves the Riding Center at Carriage Hill MetroPark.

Learn more about all eight of the park site concept plans at [metroparks.org/plans](http://metroparks.org/plans).

# COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS



## DAYTON RIVERFRONT PLAN

### WHO IS INVOLVED:

The city of Dayton, Five Rivers MetroParks, Miami Conservancy District, Dayton Downtown Partnership, Dayton Regional Transit Authority and the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

The Dayton Riverfront Plan is an open space and community economic development plan that highlights the area's rivers and open spaces, and their potential to enhance quality of life in Montgomery County. The 20-year plan harnesses 12 miles of river corridor located in greater Dayton, which encompass four waterways: the Great Miami River, the Stillwater River, the Mad River and the Wolf Creek.

The plan—also relying heavily on community input—will study parks and open spaces to transform waterways to active, vital places where the entire community comes together. Additionally, the plan will enhance the environmental value of the river corridors, promote centrally located cultural assets, expand outdoor recreation opportunities and increase access connectivity anchored by the region's extensive trail network.

### CONNECTING THE DOTS:

As part of the Dayton Riverfront Plan, ten parks and open spaces have been identified because of their potential to connect each other and adjacent neighborhoods to the rivers. Concept plans will be developed for these sites, which include Island, Deed's Point, RiverScape, Sunrise and Wesleyan MetroParks. DeWeese Park, Triangle Park, Kettering Field, River's Edge Park, and Sunset Park — which are managed by other regional partners of the Dayton Riverfront Plan — will also be included.



Open spaces and access to trails have been identified as a community priority, and the Dayton Riverfront Plan will use the river corridors as a resource to enhance recreation opportunities, provide better access to waterways and highlight community-centric public spaces.

Learn more about the Dayton Riverfront Plan at [DaytonRiverfrontPlan.org](http://DaytonRiverfrontPlan.org)



## WHO IS INVOLVED:

Sidney, Piqua, Troy, Tipp City, Riverside, Dayton, West Carrollton, Miamisburg, Moraine, Franklin, Middletown, Hamilton, Montgomery County, Miami County Park District, Five Rivers MetroParks, MetroParks of Butler County and Miami Conservancy District

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

The Great Miami Riverway connects the bike trails and Ohio's Great Miami River with vibrant riverfront communities. The Riverway offers access to recreational activities along the water and into these respective towns, making these areas easy for residents and tourists to explore and engage in outdoor recreation adventures.

## CONNECTING THE DOTS:

This effort connects parks and communities through broadened access to the Great Miami River. The community has told us that trails and access to outdoor recreation opportunities are important. The river is a natural resource that can be harnessed to provide enhanced recreation experiences on the trails and connect communities.

Learn more about the Great Miami Riverway project at [www.greatmiamiriverway.org](http://www.greatmiamiriverway.org).

## HOW THE RIVERSCAPE METROPARK MASTER PLAN WAS EXECUTED

The RiverScape MetroPark Master Plan remains among the most impactful plans developed for our region. RiverScape MetroPark's goals were to create a regional destination that attracted people to downtown, connected people to the river, and served as a catalyst for economic development in the city's core. Six agencies came together to make this happen, City of Dayton, Montgomery County, Miami Conservancy District, Downtown Dayton Partnership and Greater Dayton RTA.

In January of 1995, Van Cleve Park is leased to Five Rivers MetroParks from the City of Dayton.

Below is the timeline of the plan's significant initiatives and funding sources.

### PHASE I 2001

- Interactive fountain
- Fountain Snack Bar
- Reflecting pools
- Inventor's River Walk
- Five Rivers Fountain of Lights
- East and west restrooms
- Hydraulic jump fountain
- Founder's Point Pavilion
- Canal Walk (from Monument Ave. to First St.)

### PHASE II 2003

- Deeds Point MetroPark
- North shore
- Pedestrian bridge
- Canal Walk (from First St. to Second St.)

### FUNDING FOR PHASE I AND PHASE II:

- Total cost: \$31 Million
- Private donors: \$11 Million
- State, federal, and local grants and funding: \$20 Million

### PHASE III 2009

- RiverScape pavilion
- Ice rink
- Bike hub

### FUNDING FOR PHASE III

- Total cost: \$7 Million
- Private donors: \$0
- State, federal and local grants and funding: \$7 Million

### PHASE IV 2016

RiverScape River Run

### FUNDING FOR PHASE IV

- Total cost: \$4.2 Million
- Private donors: \$2.9 Million
- State, federal and local grants and funding: \$1.3 Million





# MAINTAINING NATURAL SPACES

**FROM HIKING TRAILS AND PLAYGROUNDS TO PRAIRIES, PARKS ARE ALL ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT PEOPLE WITH NATURE.** Five Rivers MetroParks strikes a balance between natural areas and developed park amenities through a 9-to-1 ratio, with just 10 percent of land being impacted through development.

“As a conservation agency, we are committed to maintaining healthy ecosystems and balancing natural and developed areas,” says regional conservation manager, Mary Klunk.

Land is considered developed if it includes turf that requires mowing, a parking lot, building, pasture, crop field or paved recreation trail. An unpaved trail is not considered developed as long as it is installed and maintained to minimize impacts on natural systems. MetroParks designates land as a natural area to protect and manage wildlife habitats in forests, grasslands, thickets, wetlands and bodies of water.

Though natural areas make up 90 percent of MetroParks’ footprint, these spaces don’t remain untouched.

“There’s a level of hands-on environmental stewardship when it comes to maintaining natural spaces,” Klunk said. “From prairie burning and planting trees, to invasive species removal—we do everything we can to keep these natural ecosystems thriving.”

Leaving these natural spaces completely untouched would leave them open to the negative effects of things like emerald ash borer, invasive plant growth and more. In order to mitigate this, MetroParks’ Parks & Conservation team works to maintain balanced ecosystems that allow for local habitats and wildlife to flourish.

In 1980, the board of park commissioners set an 4-to-1 ratio policy, which required that 80 percent of the land it owned had to be maintained in a natural state and only 20 percent could be developed. When MetroParks tightened the ratio to 9-to-1 in 2010, it hadn’t even come close to that 20 percent, with development on only about seven percent of the park property MetroParks manages or leases.



## HOOKS, LINES, AND SINKERS

Nine million miles of fishing line. That's enough to wrap around the earth 360 times.

Unfortunately, it's also the amount of discarded line that has wrapped around trees, rocks and aquatic life in our country's waterways in the last 30 years. Since 1990, the Berkley Conservation Institute has recycled these miles of line to try to keep lakes, streams and rivers clear and healthy for plants and wildlife.

Five Rivers MetroParks is launching a local Fishing Line Recovery Program to collect old fishing lines, tackle and lures and to educate the public about the harmful effects of these items when they're discarded. Most fishing line is not biodegradable—so if you cast it aside when you're done with it, it could stay in the environment for centuries. It poses a primary threat to birds, fish and other river life but also can damage outboard motors, jet skis and lawn equipment.

We are rolling out 35 collection bins throughout our parks and recruiting volunteers to help us look for, collect and dispose of leftover fishing gear. We'll send the material we collect to the Berkley recycling facility.

Our park staff received numerous calls about wildlife snagged in old fishing line, and often it's too difficult to catch and assist the animals. Let's work together to remove the threat to begin with and make fishing an outdoor activity that's not hazardous to the wildlife we love.

### HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE FISHING LINE RECYCLING PROGRAM?

- Don't discard fishing supplies. Take them with you or dispose of them properly.
- Replace used and worn-out line before it becomes a problem.
- Recover as much line as you can when it gets snagged on trees and rocks.
- If you see old line on the shore or in the water, grab it and put it in one of our outdoor collection bins.
- Volunteer to maintain a Five Rivers collection bin at a Five Rivers MetroPark location near you.



# THE POWER OF POLLINATORS



## BUTTERFLIES ARE DISAPPEARING FROM OHIO.

More than beautiful, butterflies are a clear indicator of the health of our land and contribute to the overall health of our planet.

Since 1987, ten species of these valuable pollinators have been reported as endangered or threatened in Ohio. Species, such as persius dusky wing, frosted elfin, silver-bordered fritillary and grizzled skipper are diminishing. Declining populations have been attributed to pesticides and habitat loss due to climate change.

Five Rivers MetroParks has led important conservation efforts to ensure the wellbeing of pollinators for more than 20 years. These efforts include monitoring butterfly populations within the parks and conservation areas

through surveys. MetroParks has conducted surveys at Germantown MetroPark for over 20 years, at Cox Arboretum MetroPark for nine years, at the Sandridge Conservation Area for six years and at Huffman Prairie (WPAFB) for four years.

Monitoring season runs from April 1 to Oct. 31. Butterfly monitors—which include MetroParks staff and volunteers—walk selected paths in our parks called transects and record the butterflies that flutter inside a 15-foot radius. Long-term data collected about fluctuations in numbers, colonization, flight periods, immigration of non-native species and overall health of the butterflies are just a few of the indicators being tracked. In areas of habitat restoration work, monitoring can provide clues to the success of the conservation

## HELP BRING BACK OUR BUTTERFLIES

Want to help butterfly populations for years to come? There are ample opportunities for people of all ages to get involved:

### PLANT SOME BUTTERFLY BUDS

Butterflies native to southwest Ohio are attracted to a variety of flowers that add color and texture to your garden, while having a positive effect on our ecosystem. Here are a few favorite flora that will have butterflies flocking to your backyard:

1. Aster—purple daisy-like flowers that pearl crescent butterflies love
2. Milkweed—bright pink flowers that brings the bright orange Monarch
3. Purple coneflowers—daisy-like flowers with sweet nectar that draws a variety of butterflies





Silver-bordered Fritillary

work and direct changes we need to make to provide the best habitats for pollinators.

MetroParks also established the Miami Valley Butterfly Association (MVBA) to enlist the aid of partners such as Mount Saint John's, the Aullwood Audubon Center and the Centerville Washington Township park district. These partners collect and share data that help better our understanding of butterflies in the region. Members

of the MVBA meet annually at the beginning of each year to review the results of the previous season. The meeting is open to the public.

## GET KIDS INVOLVED

Do you have young nature lovers in your life? If so, you probably know about our popular Conservation Kids program for children ages 3 to 13. This spring, there are two programs specifically focused on preserving habitats for pollinators:

### BUTTERFLIES AND BEES

May 9 • 1 PM – 2 PM

Cost: Free

Explore a prairie and learn about pollinators that make their homes there.

### MILKWEED FOR MONARCHS

May 19 • 10 AM – 11:30 AM

Cost: \$5

Help our naturalists plant milkweed so that our local monarch butterflies can thrive.

## BECOME A VOLUNTEER

Interested in giving your time to become a volunteer for our butterfly monitoring program? Contact MetroParks volunteer services at [volunteerservices@metroparks.org](mailto:volunteerservices@metroparks.org), apply online or call volunteer coordinator Yvonne Dunphy at 275-PARK (7275).



# CLIMB EVERY MOUNTAIN

## ADVENTURE SUMMIT TO FEATURE YOUNGEST TO CLIMB SEVEN SUMMITS

Talk to parents of teens, and they might tell you that the biggest peaks their kids ever faced were the mountains of dirty laundry in their bedrooms.

Not true for Jordan Romero. By the time he was 13, he had climbed Mount Everest. At 15, he'd scaled Vinson Massif, and he ended up becoming the youngest climber in the world to complete the highest summits on each of the seven continents. As he sets out to climb the highest point in each of the 50 states, he's making a stop in Dayton to tell his story at the 2018 Adventure Summit, presented by Wagner Subaru.

This annual outdoor lifestyle exposition, produced by Five Rivers MetroParks and Wright State University, draws thousands of outdoor enthusiasts from around the region and beyond. Attendees come to be inspired by our featured personalities and locals who share adventures from around the world at one of dozens of presentations. Others come to put their outdoor skills

to the test as they compete in a bouldering competition and try to sink their opponents' boats in canoe battleship before venturing into a paddling or SCUBA program in the pool.

New this year, on Friday night, the public is invited to mingle with the featured personalities and other event presenters. Buy your ticket to the Summit Soirée, a reception with food, beverages and live music on Wright State University's campus immediately preceding the featured presentation and then keep the night alive at the Party with the Pros, open to the public, from 9 - 11 PM at The Wandering Griffin in Beavercreek.



The Adventure Summit is a coproduction of Five Rivers MetroParks and Wright State University.

See Jordan Romero Friday 8 PM  
Susan Marie Conrad Saturday Noon  
Dale "Grey Beard" Sanders Saturday 5 PM  
*presented by Tomfoolery Outdoors*

**THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT,  
FEBRUARY 9 & 10  
WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY**

To learn more about this event, visit  
[TheAdventureSummit.com](http://TheAdventureSummit.com)





## LOCAL TRAILS NOW AVAILABLE ON GOOGLE STREET VIEW



### OFF ROAD

In 700 feet, step over the 400-year-old tree roots.

In one-quarter mile, shoot the rapid in the center of the whitewater.

Okay, so the new local trail and river maps on Google don't actually navigate for you—but the Google Street View does have 360-degree images of more than 600 miles of local trails including paved, equestrian, hiking, mountain biking, and waterways. Five Rivers MetroParks collaborated with Outdoor Adventure Connection, Dayton Hikers and dozens of regional partners to hike, paddle and cycle our outdoor recreation areas while taking photographs from every angle, so you can plan your next adventure on the small screen before you step into the big outdoors.

Heading out to kayak Mad River Run? See what a particular drop looks like from the seat of a boat. Want to know if you can hang your hammock on your camping trip? Zoom in on a campsite to see if it has the trees you need.

"This project is the most comprehensive of its kind in Ohio," says Amy Dingle, director of outdoor connections for Five Rivers. "Its success is a true reflection of the outdoor culture here and showcases Dayton as the Outdoor Adventure Capital of the Midwest."

### ON THE MAP

Google Street View is easy to use. Access Street View through Google Maps or just download and install the Google Street View app on your phone or tablet and follow these steps:

1. In the "Search Street View" field at the top, enter the name of the park or trail you want to explore.
2. The next screen will show a map and a thumbnail photograph of the location you entered as well as photos of surrounding locations.
3. Click on a photograph to bring up the 360-degree view and then swipe in any direction to see the whole area. Click on the arrows on the screen to advance or move backward a few "feet."
4. Change locations by going back to the map and clicking anywhere on a blue line. Once the yellow person icon moves to the location you clicked, the thumbnail images below will change and you can explore a new site.

### VIRTUAL ADVENTURE

Your next outdoor trek through one of these Google-mapped Five Rivers MetroParks sites is just a screen drag away using Google Street View. We captured miles and miles of local parks and our massive trail network so that you can zoom in on these great spots:

- Publicly accessible trails and open spaces in 18 MetroParks
- Woodman Fen and Dull Woods conservation areas, and Medlar MetroPark
- Woodland Cemetery, Grant Park and Bill Yeck Park
- 20 paved trails, including the Great Miami River Trail, the Stillwater River Trail and the Mad River Trail
- Mad River Run and RiverScape River Run
- Great Miami River Watershed National Water Trail through Montgomery County

APRIL IS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH

## MEET STAR VOLUNTEER BRENT DOUGLAS



**"I SEE MYSELF AS A KIOSK ON WHEELS,"** says Brent Douglas, a star Five Rivers MetroParks volunteer and a great example of the kind of park supporter we celebrate during National Volunteer Month in April.

For about four years now, Douglas has been rolling through our parks on his bike as part of the 30-person MetroParks Volunteer Bike Patrol (MVP), keeping a watchful eye on the grounds while being a friendly face and a fountain of facts for park visitors.

"I really enjoy the quick interactions with other trail users," Douglas says. "I can answer questions about the trails, point things out to them." He always carries his bike repair tools, too, which come in handy when he meets a cyclist with a flat tire or some other kind of mechanical difficulty.

Douglas also leads tours for our Bike for the Health of It program, a series of guided bicycle rides on our region's more than 300 miles of paved trails. Douglas says he

was particularly energized during the tours last year by a group of participants in their 80s. "I've found them to be inspiring," he says. "I'd like to think that I could still be active and vital at that age."

This dedicated volunteer has explored just about every corner of the MetroParks system, riding not only the regular bike paths but taking it up a notch on the MetroParks Mountain Biking Area paths at Huffman MetroPark. He also travels various trails on foot. "I run the trails at night," he says, "and I feel like they're safe enough to do that. I'd like to think I'm a small part of that."

If you would like to join Douglas and the rest of the MVP crew, contact MetroParks Volunteer Services for more information.

[METROPARKS.ORG/VOLUNTEER](https://www.metro-parks.org/volunteer)





## CELEBRATE EARTH DAY VOLUNTEER FOR ADOPT-A-PARK

SATURDAY, APRIL 21 • 9 – 11:30 AM  
REGISTRATION: MARCH 1 – APRIL 6 AT  
[METROPARKS.ORG/ADOPT](https://METROPARKS.ORG/ADOPT)

If you'd like to be the other kind of MetroParks MVP, sign up to be one of our most valuable players on our upcoming Adopt-a-Park day. Park lovers will spend about three hours at dozens of sites, removing thousands of pounds of litter, planting a couple thousand trees and preparing garden beds for spring.

You will receive a free T-shirt, an opportunity to enjoy a free lunch with other volunteers under the pavilion at RiverScape MetroPark, and our eternal gratitude for helping us with tasks there's no way we could complete without public participation. When you volunteer—especially when you volunteer consistently—you become a huge part of the reason we have such great parks in our community.

## GET OUT & VOLUNTEER

If Adopt-a-Park day sparks your volunteer spirit, there are plenty of other ways you can contribute your time and talents to Five Rivers MetroParks. From gardening to educating to trail blazing, you can find a niche that works for your schedule and your interests. Check out these upcoming meetings and volunteer days:

### FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Wed. Apr 4, 6:30 – 8:30 PM  
See details on page 30

### VOLUNTEER: OUTDOOR RECREATION ORIENTATION

Sat. Apr 14, 9 – 11 AM  
See details on page 25-26

### VOLUNTEER: SUSTAINABLE TRAIL BUILDING

Sat. Apr 25, 8:30 AM- 3:30 PM  
See details on page 26

### VOLUNTEER: PLANTING TREES & SHRUBS

Wed. May 9, 9 – 11:30 AM  
See details on page 28

### VOLUNTEER: BIKE TO WORK DAY ORIENTATION

Thur. May 10, 6:30 – 7:30 PM  
See details on page 24



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

# WITH APPRECIATION

Without the support of the community, it would be difficult for Five Rivers MetroParks to fulfill our mission of protecting the region's natural heritage and providing outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature. In addition

to levy funding, we also receive, and appreciate, the many individuals, foundations and businesses throughout the Miami Valley who support us through donations and sponsorships.

Please join us in thanking the following 2017 lead corporate donors, sponsors and foundations:

Allegra Allergy  
Backpacker Magazine  
Barrett Paving Materials Inc.  
Best Breed, Inc.  
Bonbright Distributors  
Boston Stoker  
Bridge Credit Union  
Code for Dayton  
Cox Media Group  
Crowne Plaza  
Dayton Cycling Club  
Dayton Power & Light Company  
Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation  
Four Seasons Garden Club  
Friends of Carriage Hill Farm  
Fronana  
Fusian Inc.

Great Lakes Brewing Company  
Great Miami Outfitters  
Iddings Foundation  
The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation  
Kind LLC  
Mad River Mountain Ski Resort  
Mechanical Systems of Dayton (MSD)  
Miami Valley Fly Fishers  
Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission  
Mike's Bike Park  
Mikesell's Snack Foods  
Mix107.7  
National Environmental Education Foundation

Osprey Packs, Inc.  
PNC Foundation  
Opticals  
Princeton Tec  
REI-Recreational Equipment, Inc.  
Subaru of America, Inc.  
Universal 1 Credit Union, Inc.  
Vectren Foundation  
Wagner Subaru  
WDTN-TV2  
Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation

Become a **SPONSOR** of Five Rivers MetroParks

Learn more about the many sponsorship opportunities available at Five Rivers MetroParks. Visit [metroparks.org/sponsor](http://metroparks.org/sponsor).



# FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS PARK SYSTEM MAP

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

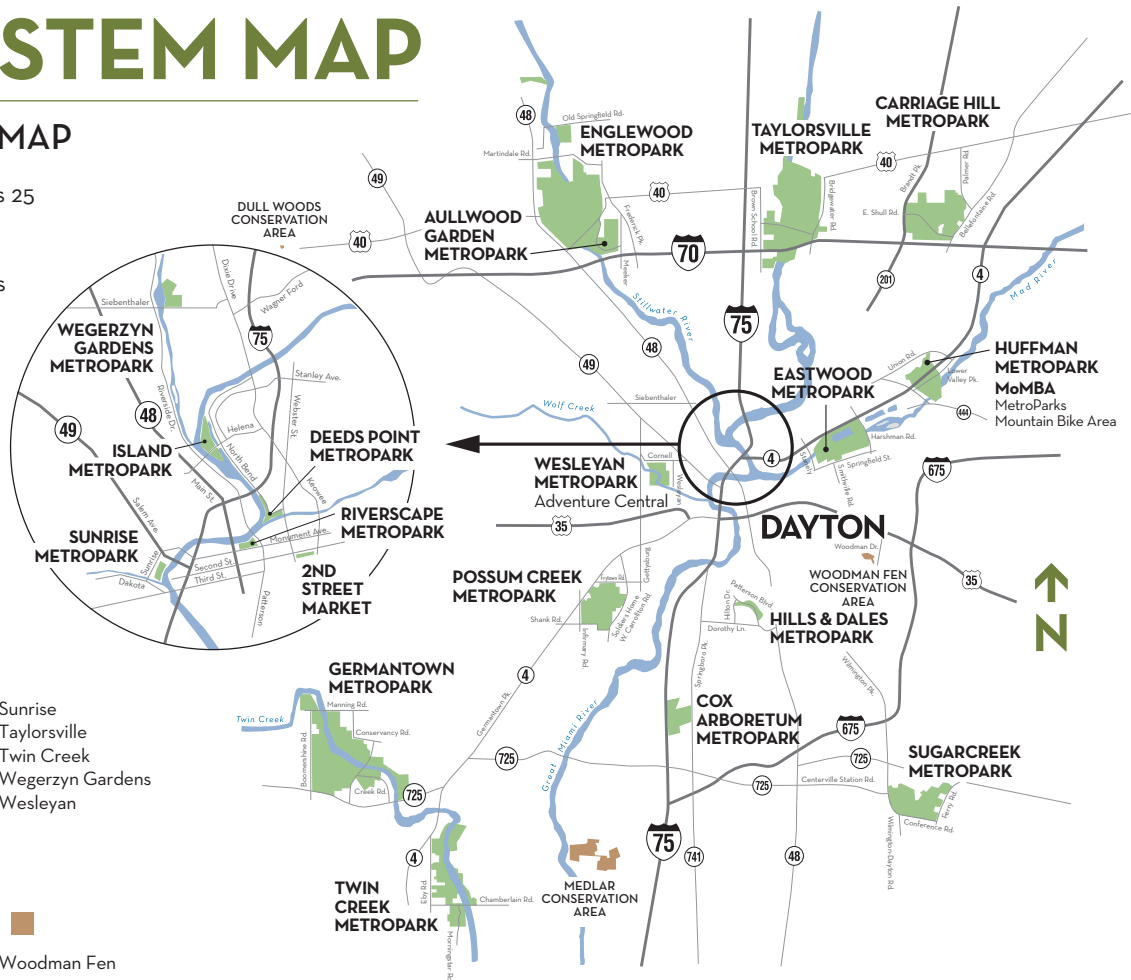
Five Rivers MetroParks operates 25 outstanding public facilities. Founded in 1963 to serve the greater Dayton area, MetroParks protects nearly 16,000 acres of open space and provides year-round recreation, education and conservation opportunities. Facilities are available to the public free of charge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

## METROPARKS

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

## 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](http://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](http://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.



## SCHOOL PRIDE NIGHT

**FRI. FEB 2, 7:00-10:00 PM X5**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Represent your school at MetroParks Ice Rink. Wear your school colors to skate as a DJ plays Top 40 hits. Bring your student ID to get half-priced admission. No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: Admission & skate rental: \$7 ⚙️



## (FREE) THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT PRESENTED BY WAGNER SUBARU

**FRI. FEB 9, 5:00-9:00 PM X115**

**SAT. FEB 10, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM**

OFFSITE, Wright State University, 3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.

Enjoy the outdoors with a weekend of inspiring presentations focused on outdoor skill, culture and experience. Jordan Romero, the world's youngest climber to complete the seven summits, will be the 2018 featured speaker. Visitors can get active in a bouldering competition, kayaking sessions and fitness activities. No registration required. [www.theadventuresummit.com](http://www.theadventuresummit.com). Age: All ages

## PRESIDENTS' DAY SKATE

**MON. FEB 19, 11:00 AM-5:00 PM X2**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Spend the holiday at MetroParks Ice Rink! No registration required. Age: All ages Fee: Admission & Rental: \$7 ⚙️

## (FREE) BLACK HISTORY DAY AT THE MARKET

**SAT. FEB 24, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM X153**

2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St. All are invited to the 2nd Street Market's Annual Black History Day. Join us in celebrating the rich history of African American art and culture in Dayton, Ohio. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages

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

**SAT. MAR 17, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM X156**

2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St. Get your Irish on at the 2nd Street Market! Enjoy live Celtic music, followed by dancers from the Celtic Academy of Irish Dance. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages



## (FREE) TREE SEEDLING GIVEAWAY

**FRI. APR 20, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM X157**

**SAT. APR 21, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM X158**

2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St. Commemorate Earth Day with free tree seedlings while supplies last! This project is brought to you with the support of the Montgomery and Miami County Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Rush Creek Gardens. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages



## (FREE) ADOPT-A-PARK 2018

**SAT. APR 21, 9:00-11:30 AM X192**

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

Volunteers are needed to work at 15 river locations and every Five Rivers MetroParks facility. See Page 5 for details. See contact info to register. [www.metroparks.org/adopt](http://www.metroparks.org/adopt). Age: All ages

## (FREE) ANNUAL MAYFAIR MEMBERS ONLY PRE-SALE

**FRI. MAY 4, 5:00-7:00 PM X36**

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation members get a jump on their spring plant shopping at this special members-only night. In addition to early sale entry, members receive 10 percent off their total purchase. Anyone can become a member; memberships start at \$40. To find out more call 937-474-3760 or visit [wegerzyngardensfoundation.org/become-a-member.html](http://wegerzyngardensfoundation.org/become-a-member.html) No registration required. Contact 937-474-3760 or [contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org](mailto:contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org) for details. [www.wegerzyngardensfoundation.org](http://www.wegerzyngardensfoundation.org). Age: All ages





### PICKIN' IN THE PARK

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

### (FREE) KICKIN' OFF PICKIN' IN THE PARK

**FRI. MAY 4, 5:30-10:00 PM X7**  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.

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



### (FREE) ANNUAL MAYFAIR PLANT SALE

**SAT. MAY 5, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM X34**

**SUN. MAY 6, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM X35**

WEGERYZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Get a jump on spring and purchase unique perennials, annuals, vegetables and herbs for companion planting or to enhance your landscape. Pass-along plants are locally grown. Enjoy hanging baskets just in time for Mother's Day. A Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation event and fundraiser. No registration required. Contact (937) 474-3760 or [contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org](mailto:contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org) for details. [www.wegerzyngardensfoundation.org](http://www.wegerzyngardensfoundation.org). Age: All ages



### (FREE) NATIONAL BIKE TO WORK DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**FRI. MAY 18, 7:00-9:00 AM X116**  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.

Leave your car in the garage and support National Bike to Work Day. Ride in on your own or with a group to RiverScape MetroPark for a free pancake breakfast before you head to work. Live music, cycling-related exhibitors and a team challenge are also part of the fun. No registration required. [www.metroparks.org/biketowork](http://www.metroparks.org/biketowork). Age: All ages

### (FREE) TAB-A-PULL-OOZA

**SAT. MAY 19, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM X161**  
2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.  
Bring your aluminum can pull-tabs to help raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Miami Valley. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. Age: All ages



The Adventure Summit is a coproduction of Five Rivers MetroParks and Wright State University.

## CELEBRATE ALL-THINGS CYCLING THIS MAY DURING NATIONAL BIKE MONTH

It's easy to Get Out & Bike in the Dayton region, home to the nation's largest paved trails network, where you can experience more than 300 miles of connected trails. Below are some events in May to get you and enjoying cycling in the Dayton, Ohio, the Outdoor Adventure Capital of the Midwest.

- Monday, May 14: GO W/ THE FLOW Yoga: Bike Week Edition
- Wednesday, May 16: Riding in Traffic
- Sunday, May 20: Bike to the Dragons
- Saturday, May 26: MoMBA and RiverScape Rentals begin
- Wednesday, May 30: Trailside Repairs



FRIDAY, MAY 18, 7 TO 9 AM  
at RiverScape MetroPark



Ride downtown for flying cakes and live tunes! Be a part of the region's largest celebration of biking as a means of transportation and mingle with fellow riders. Participate in the team challenge to win sweet prizes.

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

# FOR EVERYONE

Connect with and learn about nature  
with friends and family.

## CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: BLUEBIRD MONITOR KICK-OFF

**SAT. FEB 10, 1:00-3:00 PM** X170  
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor  
This orientation and training is for all those interested in monitoring blue bird boxes in 2018. Bluebird boxes are in several MetroParks locations, and dedicated volunteers are needed for the season starting in March. This is a family friendly opportunity. Registration required. Contact [yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org](mailto:yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org) for details. Age: All ages 🐦 ⚙️

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: INTRODUCTION TO CONSERVATION

**TUE. FEB 27, 1:00-3:00 PM** X187  
**THU. APR 19, 6:30-8:30 PM** X188  
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 [yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org](mailto:yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org) for details. Age: All ages 🐦 ⚙️

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

**WED. MAR 14, 1:00-3:00 PM** X178  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, West Park Parking Lot, 100 East National Rd.  
**TUE. APR 24, 6:00-7:30 PM** X179  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference 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 [yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org](mailto:yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org) for details. Age: All ages 🐦 ⚙️

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

**MON. MAY 7, 9:00-11:00 AM** X180  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Prairie Dock/ Parking Lot, 4730 Frytown 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 [yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org](mailto:yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org) for details. Age: All ages 🐦 ⚙️

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: SEEDLING SATURDAYS

**SAT. MAY 19, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** X171  
GREAT MIAMI WETLAND MITIGATION BANK, 8401 Little Richmond Rd.  
Join our conservation efforts and help us put some seedlings in the ground! Restoration is a vital part of building a habitat, and we could use your help planting hundreds of native plants. Registration required. Contact [yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org](mailto:yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org) for details. [www.metroparks.org/](http://www.metroparks.org/) volunteer. Age: All ages 🐦 ⚙️

## ENTERTAINMENT

### (FREE) MUSIC @ LUNCH

**MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI. MAY-SEP. 28, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM** T175  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.  
Lunchtime downtown features acoustic music, food, free WiFi and more. Weekdays throughout the summer. No registration required. Age: 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) TRADITIONAL BUTCHERING

**SAT. FEB 3, 12:00-4:00 PM** X14  
**SUN. FEB 4, 12:00-4:00 PM** X15  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.  
Watch the age-old activity of processing meat, a staple of the 19th century farmer's diet. On Saturday the hog is scraped, cleaned and cooled. On Sunday the meat is prepared into the various cuts such as ribs, roasts, and hams. Also, watch as meat is then salted, cured, and made into sausage. No registration required. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) MAPLE SUGARING ON THE FARM

**SAT., SUN FEB. 17-18, 12:00-4:00 PM** X18  
**SAT., SUN FEB. 24-25, 12:00-4:00 PM** X166  
**SAT., SUN MAR. 3-4, 12:00-4:00 PM** X167  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, 7800 E. Shull Rd.  
The end of winter has traditionally marked the beginning of maple sugaring season. Join us as we demonstrate maple sugaring. Come learn about the various tools and processes used to collect the sap. Watch as the sap is boiled down into the sweet syrup. No registration required. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) FROM SHEEP TO SHAWLS

**SAT. APR 7, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** X24  
**SUN. APR 8, 12:00-5:00 PM** X25  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.  
The role sheep played on the farm will be discussed during this comprehensive program. Watch as the sheep are sheared for the spring at 2 pm. Help card wool and watch as fabric is dyed using traditional methods. Come hear about the spinning process and factory production of wool. Watch spinners process the wool into yarn and weavers make a shawl. No registration required. Age: All ages



**(FREE) CORN ON THE FARM****SUN. MAY 6, 12:00-5:00 PM** X27

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

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

**(FREE) BISCUIT DAY****SUN. MAY 20, 12:00-5:00 PM** X26

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

One of the most common staples of any farm family's meal was the biscuit. Celebrate National Biscuit Day with us, as we dedicate a whole program to the biscuit. Watch as various types of biscuits are made around the farm, and then baked in our outdoor bake oven. Also, purchase biscuit-making supplies and preserves in our Country Store. No registration required. Age: All ages

**(FREE) GUIDED MAPLE SUGARING TOUR****SAT. FEB 17, 12:30-1:00 PM** X17**SAT. FEB 17, 2:30-3:00 PM** X194

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

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

**TRAIL RIDES**

Experience Carriage Hill MetroPark's trails on horseback during these one-hour, walk-only, guided outings through the woods. Riders must be at least 8 years old and 42 inches tall.

Reservations are required and are available beginning May 1.

Fee: \$30 per rider.

Visit [metroparks.org/ridingcenter](https://metroparks.org/ridingcenter) or call (937) 275-PARK to learn more.

# SUMMER STARTS IN MAY AT RIVERSCAPE METROPARK

## ENJOY RIVERSCAPE RENTALS, THE FOUNTAINS AND MORE, ALL KICKING OFF MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND!

- Friday, May 4: Summer unofficially starts with Pickin' in the Park at 5:30 PM.
- Monday, May 7: Enjoy lunch and live acoustic music by the Great Miami River during Music @ Lunch. Monday – Friday, 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
- Saturday, May 12: Get in gear with free Zumba or yoga classes during Fitness in the Park at RiverScape MetroPark. Classes are most Saturdays from 10 to 11 AM.



[METROPARKS.ORG/RIVERSCAPE](https://metroparks.org/riverscape)

# ACTIVE OUTDOORS

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



## BACKPACKING

### BACKCOUNTRY KNOTS

**THU. FEB 15, 6:00-8:00 PM** X117  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Learn some of the best knots for use in the outdoors as we take a hands-on approach to knot tying use and know-how. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$10 🗝️

### APPALACHIAN TRAIL TRIP PLANNING

**TUE. MAR 6, 6:00-8:30 PM** X65  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
We'll walk through planning your long-distance A.T. hike. You'll receive a planning booklet (optional) and talk with past thru-hikers and local experts. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: Program Fee WITHOUT Booklet: \$5 Program Fee WITH Booklet: \$12 🗝️

### BACKPACKING 1: WOMEN

**THU. MAR 15, 6:00-8:30 PM** X69  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Join other women interested in backpacking to learn about gear, food, trip planning, personal hygiene and other tips and tricks. This classroom session sets you up to have a safe and enjoyable backpacking adventure. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$5 🗝️

### BACKPACKING 1

**TUE. MAR 20, 6:00-8:30 PM** X68  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Learn about gear, food, trip planning and other tips and tricks during this classroom session, setting you up to have a safe and enjoyable backpacking adventure. Prerequisites: None. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$5 🗝️

### BACKPACKING 2

**SAT. APR 7, 12:00 PM - SUN. APR 8, 12:00 PM** X70  
**SAT. APR 28, 12:00 PM - SUN. APR 29, 12:00 PM** X71

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Campsite: Shimps Hollow, 7350 Boomershire Rd.  
Spend a night on the Twin Valley Trail learning how to pack your backpack, use a water filter, cook in the backcountry, select a campsite and more. Equipment is available at no additional charge with reservation. Prerequisites: Backpacking 1 or Intro to Backpacking. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$40 🗝️ ⚙️

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

**SAT. MAY 12, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** X174  
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 yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 🗝️ ⚙️

## CYCLING

### BICYCLE MAINTENANCE 1

**TUE. MAR 13, 6:00-8:30 PM** X128  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
This hands-on classroom session will help you diagnose and perform common bike repairs. Topics will include inspections, fixing a flat tire and chain replacement. Registration required. Age: 16Y and up Fee: \$12 🗝️

### BICYCLE MAINTENANCE 2

**TUE. MAR 27, 6:00-8:30 PM** X129  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
This hands-on class will offer instruction and guided practice with brake and drive-train maintenance. Prerequisites: Bicycle Maintenance 1. Registration required. Age: 16Y and up Fee: \$15 🗝️

### LOCAL BICYCLE TOURING TRIP PLANNING

**TUE. APR 3, 6:00 AM-8:00 PM** X193  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Have you ever thought about going on a bicycle touring trip, but aren't sure where to start? Learn about opportunities right here in the Miami Valley to take a trip on your bicycle. We'll walk through planning your bicycle touring trip, covering local routes, resources and where to stay. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$5 🗝️

### BIKEPACKING 1

**THU. APR 12, 6:00-8:30 PM** X135  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Learn the basics of travelling by bicycle, whether you call it bikepacking, bicycle camping or bicycle touring. Topics covered will include: gear, food, trip planning and other tips and tricks. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$5 🗝️

### BIKEPACKING 2

**SAT. APR 21, 12:00 PM - SUN. APR 22, 12:00 PM** X132  
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor  
Build on what you learned in Bikepacking 1. We will load up at our Main Office and ride to MoM-BA. Learn how to load your bike, trailside bike maintenance, and more. Equipment available at no additional charge. Helmet and bicycle in good working order required. Those under 18 must be with a registered adult. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$40 🗝️ ⚙️

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: BIKE TO WORK DAY ORIENTATION

**THU. MAY 10, 6:30-7:30 PM** X163  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.  
Join nearly 600 cycling enthusiasts and 50 volunteers for the region's largest celebration of biking and pancakes! In this orientation, you'll learn more about how you can join the volunteer team for this incredible event. A variety of volunteer positions will be available with signup available on site. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 567-1413 or jenny.hymans@metroparks.org for details. Age: 14Y and up 🗝️

### RIDING IN TRAFFIC

**WED. MAY 16, 6:00-8:00 PM** X139  
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 is required. Registration required. Age: 16Y and up Fee: \$10 🚲 ⚙️

## FISHING

### FILLETING FISH

**WED. FEB 28, 6:00-8:00 PM** X107  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
You have your catch and want to bring it home to the dinner table, but are not sure what to do with it once it's off the hook. This class will show you how to efficiently fillet and store your fish until ready to cook. Registration required. Age: 16Y and up Fee: \$10 🐟

### (FREE) TRY FLY FISHING

**WED. MAR 21, 4:00-7:00 PM** X108  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.

**WED. MAY 9, 4:30-7:30 PM** X110  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Outdoor Venues, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Have you always wanted to try fly fishing? Here is your opportunity. An 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 🐟

### NYMPHS, EMERGERS, DRIES

**WED. APR 18, 6:00-7:30 PM** X109  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

What is the difference between an emerger, a streamer and a dry fly? Learn all about various flies and when to use them during this program designed for those with some knowledge about fly fishing. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$10 🐟

### FLY FISHING 1

**WED. APR 25, 5:30-8:00 PM** X111  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
An introduction to fly fishing, this classroom program covers gear (both essentials and accessories), flies, the basic cast, and more. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required. Age: 12Y and up Fee: \$10

### FLY FISHING 2: LAKE

**SAT. APR 28, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** X112  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Farm Shelter/Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Road

Fly Fishing 1 taught you skills now let's move it to your hands! Learn to cast, tie on a fly, set the hook and strip in the line; all essential skills for catching that fish so you can post to all your friends. Equipment available upon request. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Prerequisites: Fly Fishing 1. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$30

### FLY FISHING 2: RIVER

**SAT. MAY 12, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** X114  
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Bluegrass, 1385 Harshman Rd.  
Fly Fishing 1 got you started and now you're ready for the next step. Learn about habitat, how to read the water and casting techniques needed for fishing in the current. Equipment available upon request. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Bring a water bottle. Valid Ohio fishing license required. Park in Springfield St entrance lot. Prerequisites: Fly Fishing 1. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$30

## FITNESS

### 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) YOGA IN THE PARK

**SAT. MAY 12, 10:00-11:00 AM** T182  
**SAT. MAY 26, 10:00-11:00 AM** T332  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.  
Classes vary, so check [www.metroparks.org](http://www.metroparks.org) for the specific class schedule. No registration required. Age: All ages ⚙️

### (FREE) ZUMBA IN THE PARK

**SAT. MAY 19, 10:00-11:00 AM** X8  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.  
Classes vary, so check [www.metroparks.org](http://www.metroparks.org) for the specific class schedule. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🚶 ⚙️

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

**MON. MAY 14, 6:00-7:30 PM** X120  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.  
Join the largest gathering of outdoor yogis in Dayton, led by Tori Reynolds and Ben Rivet. Power Vinyasa yoga is geared for all experience levels and builds whole-body strength, flexibility and mental focus. Ride your bike to the event and earn cool prizes. No registration required. Age: All ages 🚶 ⚙️

### (FREE) WALK! DOWNTOWN DAYTON

**WED. MAY 16, 12:00-1:00 PM** T181  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.  
Help kick off the summer season by joining Public Health Dayton & Montgomery County for WALK! Downtown Dayton. This is a free, non-competitive event open to everyone who wants to participate in a 30-minute walk along the Great Miami River. Vendors will also be available to promote their services. No registration required. Contact (937) 496-3090 or [getupmc@phdmc.org](mailto:getupmc@phdmc.org) for details. [www.phdmc.org](http://www.phdmc.org). Age: All ages ⚙️

## MOUNTAIN BIKING

### (FREE) TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING

**TUE. MAY 8, 4:00-7:00 PM** X138  
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. Age: All ages 🚲 ⚙️

### TRAILSIDE REPAIRS

**WED. MAY 30, 6:00-8:00 PM** X137  
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: 16Y and up Fee: \$10 🚲 ⚙️

## OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT

**TUE. JAN 30, 6:30-8:00 PM** W81  
**THU. FEB 1, 6:30-8:00 PM** OFFSITE, Join us for a weekend of outdoor skill, culture and experience at The Adventure Summit by serving with a team of staff and volunteers to make this event happen. Volunteer spots available for people of all skill levels and interests. Attend this orientation to learn more. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 567-1413 or [jenny.hymans@metroparks.org](mailto:jenny.hymans@metroparks.org) for details. [theadventuresummit.com](http://theadventuresummit.com). Age: 14Y and up 🚶

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: OUTDOOR RECREATION

**SAT. APR 14, 9:00-11:00 AM** X164  
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor  
Are you an outdoor adventurer looking to get

involved and give back? We're building the "Outdoor Adventure Capital of the Midwest" and need your help with backpacking, cycling, fishing programs and more. Discover what we're doing that inspires people to Get Out & Live! Registration required. Contact (937) 567-1413 or jenny.hymans@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 📱

## OUTDOOR SKILLS AND SAFETY

### WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER SAT., SUN, MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI.

**MAR. 3-9, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM** X66

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

Through lectures, discussions and scenarios, you'll learn the essential principles and skills required to assess and manage medical problems in isolated and extreme environments for days and weeks if necessary. See contact info to register. Contact (719) 395-5358 or coloradooutside@gmail.com for details. www.wildmed.com. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$720

### WILDERNESS FIRST AID

**SAT., SUN MAR. 10-11, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM**

X67

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

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

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

**TUE. MAR 13, 9:00-11:00 AM** X176

**THU. MAY 3, 6:30 AM-8:30 PM** X177

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. Age: All ages 📱

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: SUSTAINABLE TRAIL BUILDING

**SAT. APR 14, 8:30 AM-3:30 PM** X172

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Main Park Office Meeting Room, 6675 Conservancy Rd.

**WED. APR 25, 8:30 AM-3:30 PM** X173

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

Trails can foster a greater understanding of the

natural world by creating access; by leading people through diverse terrain, habitats, and historical areas; and enhancing an individual's appreciation for our natural heritage. Theory and hands-on activities will give you insight on building a sustainable trail, and how to get involved. Registration required. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 📱 ⚙️

## PADDLING

### RIVER RESCUE KNOTS

**TUE. FEB 20, 6:00-8:00 PM** X118

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

Learn and practice the major knots used in river rescue during this hands-on program in an indoor setting. Prerequisites: none. Registration required. Age: 16Y and up Fee: \$10 📱

### (FREE) DISCOVER PADDLESPOOTS

**WED. MAR 14, 6:30-7:30 PM** X119

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

Are you interested in canoeing, kayaking, and Stand Up Paddleboarding? This short classroom presentation will cover basic equipment, safety, where to go and more. Prerequisites: none. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 14Y and up 📱

### RIVER ACCESS VAN TOUR: MAD RIVER AND RIVER RUNS

**WED. MAR 28, 6:00-8:30 PM** X121

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

Join us for a driving tour, exploring river access points along the Mad River from Eastwood MetroPark to downtown to help plan your next paddling adventure. We'll check out the new River Run features along the way. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 📱

### RIVER ACCESS VAN TOUR: TWIN CREEK

**WED. APR 11, 6:00-8:30 PM** X123

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

Join us for a driving tour, stopping at different river access points along the Twin Creek to help plan your next paddling adventure. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 📱

### RIVER ACCESS VAN TOUR: GREAT MIAMI

**WED. APR 25, 6:00-8:30 PM** X122

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

Join us for a driving tour, stopping at different river access points along the Great Miami River to help plan your next paddling adventure. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 📱

## SWIFTWATER RESCUE FOR PADDLERS

**SAT., SUN MAY 12-13, 8:30 AM-6:00 PM**

X124

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

This American Canoe Association Level 4 Swiftwater Rescue course is for whitewater paddlers, and teaches recognition and avoidance of common river hazards; rescue techniques for paddlers in distress; and self-rescue. Class time will be spent on land and in the river. Prerequisites: None, however prior Class II whitewater experience is recommended. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$235

## TWIN CREEK KAYAK FLOAT

**SAT. MAY 19, 1:00-5:00 PM** X126

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Creek Access and Dam Overlook, 7481 Creek Rd.

Enjoy a pleasant float down the Twin Creek. We will kayak from the Germantown Dam to Twin Creek MetroPark. Prior kayaking experience is strongly recommended. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$40 📱

## ACA KAYAK INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION

**TUE., WED., THU. MAY 22-24, 8:30 AM-**

**6:00 PM** X125

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

American Canoe Association Level 1 Kayak certification gives you a good foundation in the skill and the knowledge needed to instruct kayaking on flatwater. Certification requires ACA membership, CPR and First Aid certification. This course will be a combination of classroom and on the water skills including participants teaching topics and skills. Prerequisites: ACA membership & SEIC dues paid; Current CPR and First Aid certifications. Registration required. Contact erik.dahlstrom@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$130 📱

## SKATING

### LEARN TO ICE SKATE! ADULT COURSE

**SUN FEB. 4-18, 12:00-12:30 PM** X1

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Skills include skating forward and backward edges on a circle, three-turns, backward stops, bunny hop, lunges, and front and back crossovers. Register for this program and receive two free skating admissions! Fee includes use of skates and lessons on February 4, 11 and 18. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$50 📱 ⚙️





# EARTH FRIENDLY LIVING

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

## FOOD: EARTH TO TABLE

### DISCOVER MAPLE SUGARING AT HOME

**SUN. FEB 11, 10:00-11:30 AM** X37

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

Maple sugaring season is rapidly approaching. Learn about what is needed to tap your own trees and how to process the sap. Books and some supplies will be available in the Carriage Hill Country Store. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$5

### TRADITIONAL SAUSAGE MAKING

**SAT. FEB 17, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** X16

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

Butchering season meant an abundance of pork. One of the best uses for pork scraps was making sausage. Learn about the various types of sausage and its history. Next, make a variety of different sausages using 19th century recipes and techniques. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$30

### DISCOVER ANIMALS FOR SMALL ACREAGE

**WED. FEB 21, 6:00-7:30 PM** X38

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

Interested in raising your own animals, but not sure where to start? This program will cover general needs and considerations for owning small livestock such as rabbits, chickens, sheep and goats. Bring your questions and your friends. We will visit the barns afterwards. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5

### (FREE) MEET YOUR CSA FARMER, SHARE YOUR SEEDS

**THU. FEB 22, 5:30-7:30 PM** X13

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

Chat with local farmers to learn about their growing methods, pricing, produce, pick-up methods, and buying directly from the farmer through

community supported agriculture (CSA). Taste home-grown recipes the farmers have prepared. For gardeners, this is also a chance to share open-pollinated seeds with one another! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages

### HOW TO MAKE GOETTA

**SAT. FEB 24, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM** X28

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

Goetta is a historic regional dish that used pork and beef sausage as well as pin oats and seasoning. Join us as we trace its origins and discuss its history. Instructions on how to make goetta at home will be provided during this hands-on class. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$30

### 19TH CENTURY COOKERY CLASS FOR COUPLES

**SAT. MAR 10, 5:00-7:30 PM** X23

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

Couples are invited to join us for an evening of historic cooking lessons and parlor entertainments. Participants will learn how to prepare fresh, local vegetables and do some simple baking. Afterwards, participants will join us in the candlelit parlor for some historic games and entertainment. Fee will cover one couple. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$50

### BACKYARD CHICKENS 101

**WED. MAR 21, 6:00-7:30 PM** X39

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

### BACKYARD GOATS: TASTE AND LEARN

**WED. APR 18, 6:00-7:30 PM** X76

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

Goats have a lot to offer any household or farm. Goats can be kept on small acreage, and provide meat, milk, fiber - and even brush-clearing. Learn about breeds, care, and fencing. Taste goat meat, goat cheese, and take home a bar of goat milk soap. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15

### THINKING ABOUT CANNING

**SAT. MAY 5, 10:00-11:30 AM** X45

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

Canning your own produce teaches self-sufficiency and helps keep our planet green. This demonstration (taste-test only, no hands-on) on canning pickled asparagus will help you learn how to preserve fruits and vegetables in an inexpensive and efficient way. Please meet in the lower classroom at the Carriage Hill Visitor's Center Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5

### BACKYARD SHEEP: TASTE AND LEARN

**THU. MAY 24, 6:00-7:30 PM** X74

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

Are you interested in raising sheep for food, wool and milk? Let us walk you through what you need to know about fencing, space requirements, feeding, and equipment. Taste a lamb dish and sheep dairy products, and look at what can be done with wool. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$15

## GARDENING

### WINTER IN THE GREENHOUSE

**SAT. FEB 3, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** X40

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Green House, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Beat the gloom and cold of winter with a visit to a warm greenhouse. Learn how MetroParks is keeping our facilities stocked with native trees and wildflowers propagated and grown by volunteers. The wonderful work of the African violet volunteers will also be discussed and you'll be able to ask questions. Come for a morning of fun! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5

## NEW, TRENDY, AND NOW: WHAT'S HOT IN GARDENING FOR 2018

**SAT. FEB 24, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM X44**  
WEGERYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium,  
1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Now's the time to get your spring garden planning underway! Learn about new garden plants, techniques, and trends and how to have them in your own landscape this season. Come with questions and go home with a great, new plan. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🗝️

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

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

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: WITCH HAZELS, SIX MONTHS OF BLOOM

**TUE. FEB 27, 1:00-3:00 PM T335**  
WEGERYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Experience the burst of color and fragrance of winter-blooming witch hazels! This unique class of shrub blooms from October to April, allowing 365 days of bloom in your garden. The class will include an indoor slide presentation and a walk through the gardens. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 🗝️ ⚙️

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: PRUNING BASICS

**TUE. MAR 13, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM X146**  
WEGERYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.  
Take the mystery out of pruning by learning the proper techniques and timing for trees and shrubs. A great opportunity to try new skills and ask questions of an expert. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 🗝️ ⚙️

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

**FRI. MAR 16, 9:00-11:30 AM X130**  
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. Contact janet.metter@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 🗝️

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: PRUNING TREES

**WED. MAR 21, 9:00-11:30 AM X133**  
ISLAND METROPARK, Parking Lot, 101 E. Helena St.  
Learn the proper way to prune trees for health and longevity, keeping in mind the age and species. Try out your newly acquired skills that day. Registration required. Contact janet.metter@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 🗝️ ⚙️

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: BASICS OF HOME STONESCAPING

**TUE. APR 10, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM X142**  
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 955 Aullwood Rd.  
Explore possible ways to incorporate cut stone in the home landscape. The focus will be on site preparation as well as construction. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 🗝️ ⚙️

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: PRUNING SUMMER - BLOOMING SHRUBS

**WED. APR 18, 9:00-11:30 AM X134**  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.  
Learn proper pruning techniques to maintain the health and beauty of your deciduous summer - blooming shrubs. Practice what you've learned by helping us prune hydrangeas, dogwoods, roses and other popular shrubs. Registration required. Contact janet.metter@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 🗝️ ⚙️

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: PLANTING TREES & SHRUBS

**WED. MAY 9, 9:00-11:30 AM X131**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Volunteer Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Discover the most successful techniques for planting trees and shrubs and the best time to plant them. Practice what you've learned on the grounds of the Arboretum. Registration required. Contact janet.metter@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 🗝️ ⚙️

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: BOX- WOOD BASICS

**TUE. MAY 15, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM X155**  
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 955 Aullwood Rd.  
Get your boxwoods looking their best! Learn tips and tricks for pruning and how to keep your plants healthy and thriving. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 🗝️ ⚙️

## THE NEW SUSTAINABLE GARDEN WITH WES DUREN

**SAT. MAR 3, 12:00-2:00 PM X46**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Wes Duren will delight you with great plants, techniques and designs that will bring a whole new concept of sustainability to your garden or landscapes. Go home with wonderful ideas and inspiration for a great growing season. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 🗝️

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: HILLS & DALES SPRING KICK OFF

**FRI. MAR 9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM X175**  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Park Office, 2581 S. Patterson Blvd.  
Originally designed by renowned landscape architects the Olmsted Brothers, Hills & Dales MetroPark is a beautifully restored urban woodland park. Discover how you can become part of the volunteer team, and participate in skill-building sessions. Volunteers will have the opportunity to get involved during skill-building sessions. Registration required. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 🗝️

## SPRING GARDEN PEP RALLY: SEEDS, TOOLS, AND TECHNIQUES

**SAT. MAR 17, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM X47**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Get ready to garden with seed starting and planting information, and ideas from farmer Doug Christen. He'll also show you the best gardening tools to own and how to use them. An essential class for all gardeners and this one fills quickly, so don't wait to register! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🗝️

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: CITY BEETS VOLUNTEER KICK OFF

**WED. MAR 28, 10:00-11:30 AM X162**  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Discover volunteer opportunities with our City Beets youth program. City Beets takes place weekdays, June through August, and teaches teens about gardening, farm to table principles, job training and leadership skills. Opportunities include mentoring teens in the garden and at market, in the classroom, assistance with field trips and more. Registration required. Contact cholloway@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

### WILD ABOUT WILDFLOWERS WALKS

Join volunteers from the Cox Wildflower Group



for informative walks through the different areas of wildflowers at the park. During each session see new and different blooms you're sure to love. Meet in the parking lot.

### (FREE) EARLY SPRING BLOOMS

**SUN. APR 8, 2:00-3:00 PM** X50  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Join us for a look at the first wildflowers of the season. Volunteer guides identify the plants in bloom and if they may be suitable for your own garden needs. We'll look for Trillium sessile, Mertensia virginica (Virginia Bluebells), Phlox divaricate, Viola sororia x confederate. Don't forget your camera! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚙️

### (FREE) THE NEXT WAVE OF SPRING BLOOMS

**SUN. APR 22, 2:00-3:00 PM** X53  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Cox House Parking lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Early blooming wildflowers are now joined by later, more colorful ones. Our volunteers will guide you and identify the wonderful plant array in the wildflower area. We hope to see the lady slipper orchid in bloom. A beautiful sight you won't want to miss! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📅

### (FREE) LATE SPRING WONDERS

**SUN. MAY 6, 2:00-3:00 PM** X56  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Cox House Parking lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Late spring brings a carpet of blue to the wildflower area. Enjoy the beauty of these blossoms and discover ways to use them in your home landscape. We hope to see Arisaema triphyllum (Jack in the Pulpit), Geranium maculatum, Zizia aurea, Iris cristata. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚙️

### (FREE) SPRING'S FINAL FLING

**SUN. MAY 20, 2:00-3:00 PM** X63  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Our last trip to the wildflower area will show not only blossoms, but also seeds and foliage of earlier plants. This session marks the transition from spring to summer and the decline of some plants but the emergence of others. A beautiful walk you won't want to miss! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📅 ⚙️

## GARDENING BASICS: LANDSCAPING

**SAT. APR 14, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** X49  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Planning a new landscape or revising an old

requires knowledge of soil, sunlight, and plant placement. Learn to evaluate your current plantings and how to modify them, as well as how to space plants correctly in an attractive and useful landscape plan. Both vegetable and landscape gardens are covered. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 📅

## GARDEN BASICS: PLANTING AND MAINTENANCE ESSENTIALS

**SAT. APR 14, 1:00-3:00 PM** X51  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

The best, most expensive plants won't succeed if they are not planted correctly. This class will show you how to plant everything from seeds to trees and give you a maintenance plan to keep everything growing and wonderful for seasons to come. Bring your questions and go home ready to for a successful landscape or garden. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$10 📅

## (FREE) VOLUNTEER: RIVERSCAPE GARDENERS KICKOFF

**FRI. APR 20, 9:00-11:00 AM** X169  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave. Get to know fellow volunteers and learn about the unique features of RiverScape MetroPark and how you can help keep this park a beautiful downtown resource. Meet at the Volunteer Meeting Room located at the West Pavilion. Prerequisites: none. Registration required. Contact janet.metter@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up 📅

## POTTED: GETTING YOUR CONTAINERS STARTED

**SAT. APR 28, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** X54  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Containers are an easy way to fill your landscape with color before the regular planting date. We'll demonstrate selecting, filling, and planting all sizes of containers. We'll also discuss the plant varieties, including vegetables that can be used in containers year after year, as well as annuals for dazzling color spots. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 📅

## LEARNING FROM THE LANDSCAPE: COX ARBORETUM METROPARK

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

## (FREE) SMALL GARDENS MADE EASY

**TUE. MAY 8, 6:00-7:00 PM** X57  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Cox House

Parking lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Join us as we show techniques and plants for growing in smaller spaces. We'll look at flowers, shrubs, and vegetables, and discover ways to make even the tiny garden beautiful and exciting. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📅

## TIME TO PLANT!

**SAT. MAY 12, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** X58  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

The frost-free date is here and it's time to get gardening! Learn how to make new beds, freshen old ones, improve your soil and start planting! Learn about warm weather vegetables and flowering annuals, and the best ways to plant them. We'll also cover perennial division and transplant. A great way to get your season going! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 📅

## HERITAGE & HISTORY

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORIC FARM AT CARRIAGE HILL

**WED. MAR 14, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** X147  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center, 7800 E. Shull Rd

Engage visitors in 1880's farm life, including cooking, sewing, farm chores and other trades of the time period. This meeting provides a history of the farm and an overview of how volunteers can make a difference. Period clothing and onsite training provided. Come discover an opportunity that is right for you! Registration required. Contact cholloway@metroparks.org for details. Age: 21Y and up

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: COUNTRY STORE AT CARRIAGE HILL

**SAT. MAR 24, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** X149  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center, 7800 E. Shull Rd

Volunteers with excellent customer service skills are needed to assist visitors at the Country Store located inside the Carriage Hill MetroPark Visitors Center. Penny candy and unique, hard-to-find gifts are our specialty! Onsite training is provided. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up 📅

## BUS TRIP: COLUMBUS, INDIANA - ARCHITECTURAL TOUR

**TUE. APR 17, 7:00 AM-6:00 PM** X31  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Tour the contemporary and historic architecture in Columbus, IN. We'll begin by seeing the magnificent Chihuly chandelier and shopping.

Next, choose lunch from over fifteen eateries. We'll end the trip with a step-on bus guide to view more than 40 significant structures and stroll the interiors of two buildings. A Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation Fundraiser. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 474-3760 or [contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org](mailto:contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org) for details. [wegerzyngardensfoundation.org/bus-trips.html](http://wegerzyngardensfoundation.org/bus-trips.html). Age: 18Y and up Fee: Foundation non-members: \$91, Wegerzyn Foundation Members: \$86

## HERITAGE CRAFTS

Our Heritage Craft Series helps keep historic crafts alive through hands on opportunities.

### BLACKSMITHING

**THU. MAY 10, 6:00-8:00 PM** X29

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

Have you ever wanted to try your hand at blacksmithing? Join us each month as we focus on a different heritage skill. Basic principles and skills will be taught and participants will work on a simple project. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$10 🍷

## BUS TRIP: SHAKER VILLAGE IN KENTUCKY

**MON. MAY 21, 12:00 AM** X32

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

Join us for a trip to the Bluegrass area in Kentucky. Our first stop is a guided tour is in Harrodsburg, home to the largest Shaker complex in the country. After shopping and a box lunch we'll travel to Nicholasville near Lexington and visit Springhouse Nursery, a ten-acre landscape and garden center. A Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation Fundraiser. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 474-3760 or [contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org](mailto:contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org) for details. [wegerzyngardensfoundation.org/bus-trips.html](http://wegerzyngardensfoundation.org/bus-trips.html). Age: 18Y and up Fee: Foundation non-members: \$125, Wegerzyn Foundation Members: \$120

## NATURE APPRECIATION

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER: FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**WED. FEB 7, 1:00-3:00 PM** X181

**THU. MAR 1, 9:00-11:00 AM** X182

**WED. APR 4, 6:30-8:30 PM** X183

**TUE. APR 17, 1:00-3:00 PM** X184

**WED. MAY 9, 9:00-11:00 AM** X185

**TUE. MAY 29, 6:30-8:30 PM** X186

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E.

Monument Ave., 3rd Floor

Five Rivers MetroParks has volunteer opportunities year-round and at nearly every park. Orientation provides history, an overview of location-specific opportunities and an introduction to opportunities this season. Attendance does not commit you to anything. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact [info@metroparks.org](mailto:info@metroparks.org) for details. Age: 18Y and up 🍷

## SUSTAINABLE HOME

### (FREE) COMPOST KITCHEN

**WED. FEB 7, 1:00-3:00 PM** X159

**WED. FEB 14, 1:00-3:00 PM**

**WED. FEB 21, 1:00-3:00 PM**

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

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 🍷

### WORM COMPOSTING WORKSHOP

**SAT. FEB 10, 10:00-11:30 AM** X64

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

Learn the science and art of vermiculture and vermicomposting! Our "worm wrangler" will review all the aspects of worm bin care. Whether you bring one person, a couple, or even a family, each registration will receive a small starter bin, worms and materials to get started. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: Per worm bin: \$15 🍷

### MASTER RECYCLING CLASS

**WED. MAR. 7-APR. 4, 6:00-8:00 PM** X136

OFFSITE, Montgomery County Solid Waste, 2550 Sandridge Dr.

Presented in partnership with Montgomery County Environmental Services. Learn how to reduce, reuse and recycle effectively and become a community leader for waste reduction initiatives. Participants attend five classes, tour recycling facilities, and complete 20 hours of volunteer service. Register by February 28. Registration required. Contact [cholloway@metroparks.org](mailto:cholloway@metroparks.org) for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$25

SHOP FRESH AND LOCAL  
YEAR-ROUND AT THE

# 2ND STREET MARKET

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

Stop by for lunch and visit more than 40 locally owned businesses offering:

- Kitchen staples
- Sweet treats
- Fresh produce
- Dairy items
- Meat
- Flowers
- Prepared food
- Gifts

*Thanks to a partnership with Homefull, many vendors now accept SNAP.*

Thursdays and Fridays:

11 AM to 3 PM

Saturdays:

8 AM to 3 PM

### SAVE THE DATE

Sunday hours at the Market start the first weekend in June!  
11AM to 3PM







# ADULT NATURE EXPLORATION

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

## 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) CONSERVATION: GLOBAL CHALLENGES

**WED. FEB 7, 6:30-8:30 PM** X160

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

Just as diverse as the habitats that cover the globe, communities have different ways they approach conservation issues, with varying success. Join Joshua York, instructor for Miami University's Global Field Program, and explore community-based conservation efforts across the planet. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📷

#### (FREE) WATER CHALLENGES OF THE MIAMI VALLEY

**WED. MAR 7, 6:30-8:30 PM** X168

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

Water shortages, drought, poor water quality. Everyday we hear about other parts of the world and about the water challenges they face. Learn from Mike Ekberg, Manager for Water Monitoring and Analysis with the Miami Conservancy District, the top water challenges our region faces. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📷

#### (FREE) THE SCIENCE BEHIND CHEESE-MAKING

**WED. APR 4, 6:30-8:30 PM** X10

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

Explore the science of cheese-making with Dan Young of Young's Jersey Dairy. Learn about the roles of bacteria and enzymes,

and try samples of various types of cheese. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome.

Age: 18Y and up 📷

#### (FREE) WILD EDIBLE PLANTS

**WED. MAY 2, 6:30-8:30 PM** X127

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

Discover the delicious world around us. Wild plants of all types are not only an important part of our environment, but in many cases are edible, nourishing and delicious. Learn what plants are edible and when the best time is to give them a try. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📷

## FLORA & FAUNA

### OWLS OF OHIO

**FRI. FEB 9, 7:00-9:00 PM** X145

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

Explore Ohio's eight owl species with a relaxing presentation of their courtship rituals, feeding behaviors, identification characteristics, songs and interactions with people. Then take a slow-paced night hike into the forest in search of owls. Each participant will get an ODNR field guide to Ohio Owls and a CD of their sounds. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$10 📷

### BEGINNING BIRDING WORKSHOP

**SAT. APR 7, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM** X148

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

Get started with the basics of birding, including identification, field guide and binocular use, bird song, biology, and behavior. The 2-hour indoor session will be followed by a 2-hour field study. Participants receive a birding handbook, ODNR field guides and bird song CDs. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: \$15 📷

### (FREE) BLUEBELLS AT AULLWOOD WALK

**SUN. APR 15, 2:00-3:30 PM** X52

AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Gardens, 955 Aullwood Rd.

It's bluebell time and what a wonderful way to welcome spring and all the wonderful wildflowers at Aullwood! If you've never seen the bluebells in bloom, this is a must-attend class for you. If you've seen them, come and join us as well! Don't forget your camera! We'll meet in the parking lot. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📷 ⚙️

### (FREE) AULLWOOD IN MAY

**SUN. MAY 13, 2:00-3:30 PM** X60

AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 955 Aullwood Rd.

Join us for a stroll through Aullwood's beautiful prairie, gardens and woods where fantastic foliage, scents and wildflowers abound. Wonderful wildflowers, fantastic foliage, and wonderful scents abound. Don't forget to bring your friends and your camera! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up 📷 ⚙️

## NATURE APPRECIATION

### (FREE) VOLUNTEER:

#### CONSERVATION-NATURALIST OPEN HOUSE

**SAT. FEB 10, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** X30

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, just a passion for sharing, a love of nature, and a joy for working with kids and families. Attendance does not commit you to anything. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact [yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org](mailto:yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org) for details. Age: All ages 📷

## WINTER IN THE WOODS

**SAT. FEB 17, 10:00-11:30 AM** X43  
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Dress for the outdoors and join us on a winter walk! Be amazed by the sights and sounds of the woods and how different they are without leaves. We'll also talk about how even in winter both woods and gardens are silently planning for spring and the gigantic growth spurt they will make. Hot chocolate and cookies will follow the walk! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 📄 ⚙️

**(FREE) VOLUNTEER:**  
**CONSERVATION AMBASSADORS**

**WED. FEB 28, 1:00-3:00 PM** X190

**TUE. APR 17, 6:30-8:30 PM** X191  
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor

This opportunity is for those who enjoy talking to people, love to share information and have a passion for conservation. Training will be ongoing, but this orientation will introduce you to the various topics and the role of Ambassador. Coming to the orientation does not commit you to anything. Registration required. Age: 21Y and up 📄

## ADULT NATURE WALKS

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

**(FREE) ADULT NATURE WALK**

**TUE. MAR 13, 9:00-11:00 AM** X140

**TUE. MAY 8, 9:00-11:00 AM** X141  
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.

Registration requested, walk-ins welcome.  
Age: 18Y and up 📄 ⚙️

**(FREE) DISCOVERY STROLL**

**WED. MAR 14, 10:00-11:30 AM** X143

**WED. MAY 16, 10:00-11:30 AM** X144  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Program Parking, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.

Registration requested, walk-ins welcome.  
Age: 18Y and up 📄 ⚙️

**(FREE) VOLUNTEER: BUTTERFLY MONITORS**

**WED. MAR 14, 6:30-8:30 PM** X189

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

Butterfly surveys start in April at Germantown MetroPark. Beginners or experienced participants are welcome to this training on identifica-

tion, plants associated with various butterflies, and useful resources. Orientation to the survey and routes will be discussed. Registration required. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. Age: All ages 📄

## PHOTOGRAPHY &amp; ART

## HELP! MY CAMERA DOESN'T DO WHAT I WANT IT TO!

**SAT. FEB 10, 10:00-11:30 AM** X42

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

Bring your camera and instruction manual to this active session where you will learn about the capabilities of your equipment and how to quickly adjust settings for different shooting situations. Each participant will receive individual attention from the instructor, and leave the class with a customized quick reference guide. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 📄

NATURE, MOTION AND YOU:  
GETTING BEAUTY INSTEAD OF BLUR

**SAT. MAR 17, 10:00-11:30 AM** X48

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

Learn how time-lapse photography can record natural processes that occur over time, such as blooming flowers or moving clouds, and how video gives nature enthusiasts the power to capture motion and sound that a still photograph cannot convey. Participants can create a time-lapse sequence during the session if their cameras have that feature. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$20 📄

WALK WITH A PHOTOGRAPHER:  
SPRING AT AULLWOOD

**SAT. APR 28, 10:00-11:30 AM** X55

AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 955 Aullwood Rd.

Every spring, Aullwood Garden MetroPark blooms with bright and beautiful daffodils, Virginia bluebells and other colorful flowers. Join photographer Adam Alonzo for a morning of picture-taking in Aullwood's flowerbeds, woods, creek and prairie. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 📄 ⚙️

WALK WITH A PHOTOGRAPHER:  
SPRINGTIME AT COX  
ARBORETUM

**SAT. MAY 12, 10:00-11:30 AM** X59

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

May not only provides wonderful flowers but great insects and birds for the perfect nature shots. Join photographer Adam Alonzo in a

stroll through the gardens and other areas of the arboretum for great picture-taking opportunities. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: \$5 📄



# SWEETHEART SKATE VALENTINE'S DAY WEEKEND SPECIAL

Two rink admissions, two pairs of skates, two cups of hot chocolate and a box of delectable chocolates, all for \$20. The Sweetheart Skate deal is available Friday, Feb. 9 through Sunday, Feb. 11, and Wednesday, Feb. 14 during regular rink hours.

*Chocolates provided by  
Bellbrook Chocolate Shoppe.*

# GET OUT & SKATE

Open daily through Feb. 28, MetroParks Ice Rink is the perfect spot to enjoy a couples skate or a day of fun with the entire family.

(937) 278-2607  
**METROPARKS.ORG/ICERINK**

Celebrate President's Day at  
MetroParks Ice Rink,  
Monday Feb. 19



# FAMILY

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

## 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 hat or backpack. Visit [metroparks.org/kids](http://metroparks.org/kids).

### (FREE) GROUNDHOGS GALORE

**FRI. FEB 2, 1:00-2:00 PM** X98

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

Explore the park to see if we can find any signs of groundhogs and see for yourself if winter will last for another six weeks! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🍷 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) WINTER BIRDS

**SAT. FEB 10, 10:00-11:00 AM** X97

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Welcome Center Parking Lot, 6910 Boomershire Rd.

Come join us on an adventurous hike to discover all of the birds that make Dayton their home during the winter! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🍷 ⚙️ ▲

### WINGED FRIENDS

**SAT. FEB 10, 1:00-3:00 PM** X104

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Come learn more about your feathered friends, and how to build your own bird feeding station at your house, just in time for you to lead your own Great Backyard Bird Count for your friends! Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: \$10 🍷 ⚙️ ▲

### GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

**SAT. FEB 17, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** X99

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

People all across the country will be counting the birds they see this weekend and reporting their sightings online, and you can be a

part of the story! Bring binoculars if you have them, a limited supply will be available. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: \$5 🍷 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) ANIMAL TRACKING

**TUE. FEB 20, 1:00-2:30 PM** X96

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Come for a fun-filled animal tracking experience! We will explore the science and technique behind animal tracks, as well as examine molds, scat replicas, mammal furs, and look for tracks in the wild. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🍷 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) HIBERNATING INSECTS

**THU. FEB 22, 1:00-2:30 PM** X95

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

Enjoy an expedition in search of hibernating insects. Once they're found, your child will warm them up with body heat and watch them wake up! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🍷 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) NOCTURNAL HIKE

**FRI. MAR 2, 7:00-8:00 PM** X94

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Program Parking, 100 Deep Hollow Rd.

Have you wondered what happens in the forest once the sun goes down? On a night hike, we will discuss the differences between night and day, explore pelts of nocturnal animals, and hike to see what nocturnal animals are out! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🍷 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) SIGNS OF SPRING

**SAT. MAR 3, 1:00-2:30 PM** X93

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Satisfy your itch to get outside after a long winter, and help us look for signs of spring! We'll discuss seasonal changes, and explore nature's awakening. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🍷 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) EAGLES AND DUCKS

**SAT. MAR 17, 10:00-11:30 AM** X92

EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.

Discover the winter bird diversity along the Mad River! We will look for the Eastwood Eagles and also watch for the winter waterfowl at Eastwood Lake. Please bring binoculars if you can. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🍷 ⚙️ ▲

### SOWING SAPLINGS

**SAT. MAR 17, 1:00-2:30 PM** X103

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Be a part of the reforestation and biodiversity story as we plant trees, and learn their value on our quality of life. Bring gloves, and be prepared to get dirty! Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: \$5 🍷 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) INSECTS IN YOUR YARD

**SAT. MAR 24, 10:00-11:00 AM** X91

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

**SAT. MAR 24, 1:00-2:00 PM** X90  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Redwing/Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.  
Hike through a rich, old-growth woodland, exploring the trees, plants, wildlife, and ecology. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🍷 ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) SPOTTED SALAMANDER SEARCH

**FRI. APR 6, 8:00-9:30 PM** X89

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Come search for one of the 25 species of salamanders in Ohio on an adventurous night hike! Bring flashlights if you have them. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🍷 ⚙️ ▲

### AMPHIBIAN NATURALIST TRAINING

**SAT. APR 7, 7:00-9:00 PM** X105

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

# CONSERVATION KIDS

We've recently made it even easier for families to participate in Conservation Kids programs by removing the age-level restrictions. Now, siblings can more easily participate with each other and travel through the program together! Here, you will find all your Conservation Kids programs in one place. Let's come experience and protect nature together!

These age-appropriate programs give your kids clear steps to take and opportunities to see the impact they make through planting for pollinators, collecting seeds to plant a forest, creating their own wildlife habitat in their backyard, being a naturalist for their classmates at school and so much more!

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



## PROTECTORS OF NATURE

Congratulations to our most recent Conservation Kids!

Maggie Lee  
Isabelle Stefanski  
Yahiro Yokoyama

Hasuna Yokoyama  
Brenton Semeniuk  
Jorma W. Schriber

Come learn your local amphibians and practice techniques in searching for them and sharing them with others. We'll venture out into the wetlands for our own adventure, then help you develop your own get-together! Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: \$10 🗝️ ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) TREE EXPLORATION

**TUE. APR 17, 1:00-2:00 PM** X88  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Hike the trails to learn about all different kinds of trees and learn what they all need in order to grow and explore the greenhouse to see what we can do to help nature! Registration required, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🗝️ ⚙️ ▲

### BULLFROG ROUNDUP

**FRI. APR 20, 8:00-9:30 PM** X102  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Welcome Center Parking Lot, 6910 Boomershire Rd.  
Take part in conservation efforts in removing bullfrogs from natural pools! These bullfrogs will be released back at Cox Arboretum! Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: \$5 🗝️ ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) AMPHIBIAN SEARCH

**FRI. APR 27, 8:00-9:30 PM** X87  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Shelter: Whitetail/Sunfish Pond/Parking Lot, 7101 Conservancy Rd.  
Search for spring peepers, spotted salamanders, and other amphibians in Sugarcreek MetroPark's vernal pool, only 1/4-mile away from the parking lot. Bring a flashlight and wear clothes that can get muddy. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🗝️ ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) FORESTS AT NIGHT

**FRI. MAY 4, 6:00-7:00 PM** X86  
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Patterson/Nature Play/Parking Lot, 2606 Hilton Dr.  
Take an adventurous night hike and look for signs of our nocturnal friends! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🗝️ ⚙️ ▲

### (FREE) BUTTERFLIES AND BEES

**WED. MAY 9, 1:00-2:00 PM** X85  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Explore a prairie and learn about all of the different pollinators that make a prairie their home! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y 🗝️ ⚙️ ▲

### MILKWEED FOR MONARCHS

**SAT. MAY 19, 10:00-11:30 AM** X101  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Come help the naturalists plant milkweed

to help the Monarchs that live in our area! Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: \$5 🗝️ ⚙️ ▲

### GARDENING FOR CATERPILLARS

**SAT. MAY 19, 1:00-3:00 PM** X106  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.  
Come learn to identify some of the butterflies that live around Dayton and what plants they prefer, just in time to teach your friends on a hike around a prairie! Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: \$10 🗝️ ⚙️ ▲

### PRAIRIE PLANTING

**SAT. MAY 26, 1:00-2:30 PM** X100  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Fishing Ponds Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Help butterflies and other pollinators by taking part in a citizen science project to plant seeds in a prairie. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: \$5 🗝️ ⚙️ ▲

### GRAINS AND SEEDS FOR THE BIRDS

**SAT. FEB 24, 10:00-11:30 AM** X79  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Grains and seeds are an important part of our diet, but birds can benefit from them also. We will make seed and grain treats to put out to feed the birds and learn how you can grow them at your house to harvest, to eat and share. You will make bird treats for home along with some seeds to plant in the spring. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: Fee per family: \$10 🗝️

### THE LITTLE RED HEN

**SAT. MAR 17, 10:00-11:30 AM** X41  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.  
Chickens give us eggs and tasty meals! Meet the farm's chickens up close and personal, and have a chance to touch their feathers and collect some eggs to make egg salad. You will peel eggs and prepare them. Make a craft while the eggs cook. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: Per family: \$10 🗝️

### FAMILY FARMHANDS

**SAT. MAR 24, 9:00-10:30 AM** X73  
**SAT. APR 14, 9:30-11:00 AM** X80  
**SAT. MAY 26, 9:30-11:00 AM** X81  
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 🗝️



## FAMILY GOAT ADVENTURE

**SAT. APR 28, 10:00-11:30 AM X75**

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

Have you ever met a goat before? Come and meet the farm's goats, Pearl and Bootsie, for a hands-on good time. You will taste goat products of all kinds and receive a bar of goat milk soap!

Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: Fee

family: \$10 🍷

## MOTHER AND SON FISHING DAY

**SAT. MAY 5, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM X113**

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

We have planned a special morning just for mothers and sons as they enjoy a great American pastime. 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, equipment and bait provided. Please bring a water bottle with you. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$5

## FAIRY GARDEN WORKSHOP

**SAT. MAY 12, 10:00-11:30 AM X9**

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

Come have a magical afternoon creating a little fairy garden with your children. We will have an array of vessels or you may bring your own 12x12 container. Each family will receive soil, pebbles and plants, then create one fairy garden to take home. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: Per Family: \$25 🍷

## WOOL-DYING WORKSHOP

**SAT. MAY 19, 10:00-11:30 AM X78**

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

Not all sheep have wool, some have hair! Visit the farm's sheep and learn about their wool and all the products they have to offer. Then, choose your color, dye some wool, make a bar of felted soap and visit the sheep in the barn. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: per family: \$15 🍷

## (FREE) CHILDREN'S GARDEN

## OPEN HOUSE

**SAT. MAY 19, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM X61**

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

Learn the new and wonderful things happening at the Children's Discovery Garden and Skeeter's Garden for 2018. We'll have games, stories, and interactive classes for all. Come and join us for a great morning and plan to return for all the programs and fun activities during the summer! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 🍷 ⚙️



BECOME A  
**CHAMPION**



SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AS A CHAMPION OF FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS  
*learn more at [metroparks.org/champions](http://metroparks.org/champions)*



GET YOUR SEASON  
**TICKETS NOW!**  
ALL THREE EVENTS STARTING AT \$66!

**2017-2018  
SPEAKER  
SERIES**

See their experiences.  
Feel their stories.  
Be there on the front  
lines of our planet's  
most amazing  
environments.

**Mireya Mayor**  
**PINK BOOTS  
AND A  
MACHETE**  
January 28 & 29, 2018  
Victoria Theatre  
Photography: Brent Storton

**Bertie Gregory**  
**A WILD LIFE**  
February 18 & 19, 2018  
Victoria Theatre  
Photography: Bertie Gregory

**Terry Virts**  
**VIEW  
FROM ABOVE**  
March 11 & 12, 2018  
Victoria Theatre  
Photography: Terry Virts

**NEW THIS YEAR – SUNDAY MATINEES!**

 **SUBARU**  
Confidence in Motion  
SPONSORED BY  
**Subaru of America & Wagner Subaru**

LEADERSHIP SPONSORS  
**WYSO**  
**Spectrum REACH**  
PERFORMANCE SPONSOR  
**PNC**

PRESENTED BY  
 **VTA**  
VICTORIA THEATRE ASSOCIATION

 **FIVE RIVERS  
METROPARKS**

 **Ohio Arts**  
 **WYNOTWAY**

**TICKETCenter Stage.com**  
**937-228-3630**  
GROUPS SAVE! Call 937-461-8295

# PRESCHOOL

*Help young children discover  
the wonders of nature.*



## LEARN TO ICE SKATE! CHILDREN'S COURSE

**SUN FEB. 4-18, 11:00-11:30 AM X4**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Learn the basics of skating so that you can get out there and skate on your own. This three-week session will cover how to get on and off the ice, how to fall safely and get up on your own. Fee includes use of skates and lessons on February 4, 11, and 18. Register for this class and receive two free skate admissions! Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: \$50 📅 ⚙️

## (FREE) FARM STORYTIME

**THU. MAR 1, 10:00-11:00 AM X84**

**THU. APR 5, 10:00-11:00 AM X82**

**THU. MAY 3, 10:00-11:00 AM X77**

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

Join us for a story and adventure or activity around the farm. This program is designed for preschoolers and their caregivers. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 2Y-4Y 📅 📍

## 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) LITTLE SPROUTS

**TUE. MAR 20, 10:00-11:00 AM X151**

COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Cox House Parking lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.

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

## (FREE) SALAMANDER SEARCH

**THU. APR 19, 10:00-11:00 AM X152**

SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4178 Conference Rd.

Treat your preschooler to dirty hands and fresh air as we explore the park for salamanders. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 📅 ⚙️

## (FREE) MOSS: NATURE'S CARPET

**THU. MAY 10, 10:00-11:00 AM X154**

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40

This often-overlooked plant has many secrets to share. Come out and search for different textures of moss in the park! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y 📅 ⚙️

## GET OUT & RIDE

AT THE CARRIAGE HILL  
METROPARK RIDING CENTER

## SUMMER HORSE CAMPS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: REGISTRATION FOR HORSE CAMPS BEGINS ON MARCH 1.

Learn to lead, groom, saddle, take care of a horse and ride English and Western. These half-day, week-long camps are for youth, ages 8 to 17, and include multiple skill levels.

Camps run June 5 through August 17. Fee: \$250

Visit [metroparks.org/ridingcenter](https://metroparks.org/ridingcenter) or call (937) 275-PARK to learn more and register for horse camps.





# YOUTH AND TEEN

*Explore the outdoors while learning and growing.*

## LEARN TO ICE SKATE! YOUTH/TEEN COURSE

**SUN FEB. 4-18, 11:30 AM-12:00 PM X3**  
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Each student will learn how to fall and get up as well as safely cross the ice moving forward and backward. Register for this program and receive two free admissions to skate! Fee includes use of skates and lessons on Feb. 4, 11, and 18. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Registration required. Age: 6Y-17Y Fee: \$50 📅 ⚙️

## MORNING CHORES

**SAT. FEB 24, 8:30-10:00 AM X19**

**SAT. MAR 17, 8:30-10:00 AM X20**

**SAT. APR 21, 8:30-10:00 AM X21**

**SAT. MAY 19, 8:30-10:00 AM X22**

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

Join a farmer to experience a typical work day for an 1880s 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 📅

## (FREE) CITY BEETS, A SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM: OPEN HOUSE

**TUE. FEB 27, 6:00-7:00 PM X165**

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

Learn more about participating in the City Beets summer youth program, as well as basic interview skills. In this summer program, youth ages 12-15 grow vegetables at the Possum Creek MetroPark Farm, learn leadership & job skills, sell food at the Saturday 2nd Street Market, and learn about where food comes from. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: All ages 📅

## TRY A NEW OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

There's something for all ages and interests

### Youth and Teen Summer Camps

- Paddling
- Mountain Biking
- Fishing
- Kayaking

Opportunities for ages 9-17 • Registration opens Feb. 1  
[METROPARKS.ORG/SUMMERCAMPS](http://METROPARKS.ORG/SUMMERCAMPS)



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**



## GREAT AMERICAN CAMP OUT June 23-24, 2018 • Possum Creek MetroPark

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, activities, campfire and s'mores. Check in at the campsite between 3-5 p.m. Registration required. Age: All ages Fee: \$25 per family (up to 5 people; \$5 each additional family member)



# COMMUNITY GROUPS & TRAINING

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

## CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

### TEACHER WORKSHOPS

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

#### PROJECT WILD & INQUIRY ADVENTURES WORKSHOP

**SAT. MAR 3, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM** X72

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 🍷

## GARDENING

### (FREE) COMMUNITY GARDEN COORDINATORS DINNER

**THU. MAR 1, 6:30-8:30 PM** X11

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

Do you work with a community garden in Montgomery County? Join MetroParks' community gardening program staff and representatives from the region's 90+ community gardens for dinner. No need to bring anything. Discover essential resources and information and meet your gardening colleagues. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

### (FREE) START A NEW COMMUNITY GARDEN

**THU. MAY 3, 6:00-7:30 PM** X12

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

MetroParks works with more than 90 community gardens in Montgomery County. How can you

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

## NATURE APPRECIATION

### 7TH ANNUAL MIAMI VALLEY LEAVE NO CHILD INSIDE SUMMIT

**SAT. MAR 10, 9:30 AM-5 PM** X195

OFFSITE,

Hosted at the new Main library, Summit afternoon forum features awards and Keynote: Dr. Duby with Wright State University and Dayton Children's Hospital on Building Brains Through Outdoor Play. Morning workshops: Growing up WILD, Green SchoolYard, Raise a Wild Child Book Club, and Getting OUTside Family Café. Descriptions on line. Lunch option Registration required. Contact (937) 277-4835 or Doug.Horvath@metroparks.org for details. [www.facebook.com/get.out.in.nature](http://www.facebook.com/get.out.in.nature). Age: 18Y and up Fee: With box lunch: \$11, Without box lunch: \$0 🍷

7TH ANNUAL

## Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Summit

Saturday, March 10  
9:30 AM to 5 PM

Dayton Metro Library,  
Main Branch 215 E. 3rd St.  
(Free Parking under library off  
North St. Clair Street)

Help build a thriving community where children experience unstructured outdoor play. The Summit features four educational workshop choices, and the afternoon will include a keynote by Dr. John Duby of Dayton Children's Hospital, "Building Brains through Outdoor Play," plus the OUTstanding Teacher Awards ceremony, networking and more. Registration is required and available online through March 8. Admission: free, lunch option: \$11.

Visit [ohiolnci/summit](http://ohiolnci/summit) to register and learn more.





# GET OUT & GARDEN!

HUNDREDS OF RENTABLE SEASONAL GARDEN PLOTS AVAILABLE AT POSSUM CREEK AND WEGERZYN GARDENS.

- Standard plots are 800 sq. ft. each and cost \$20 each year per plot.
- Rental fee includes plot, initial tilling of the soil, water and access to seeds.
- Community gardens are patrolled by the Five Rivers MetroParks rangers.

WEGERZYN GARDENS HAS ORGANIC PLOTS, BOTH SEASONAL AND YEAR-ROUND.

- Year-round organic plots cost \$40 annually and can be gardened from April to April.
- Gardeners must abide by organic gardening principals and use only products approved by the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI).

No refunds are given. Visit [metroparks.org/communitygardening](http://metroparks.org/communitygardening) for more information.

## 2018 COMMUNITY GARDEN SCHEDULE

- Returning gardeners pre-registration: Thursday, March 1- Friday, March 23
- Open registration: Monday, April 9 - Monday, May 7
- Community Gardens Class: Saturday, April 21
- Gardens open for planting (weather permitting): Saturday, April 28
- Gardens close for the year: Thursday, Nov 1



## CITY BEETS HELPS YOUTH GROW UP GREAT

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

### LEARN MORE BY ATTENDING AN OPEN HOUSE:

Tuesday, Feb. 27, 6 to 7 PM

Possum Creek MetroPark Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Apply for the 2017 City Beets summer program now through March 9.

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



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

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

POSTMASTER: TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL  
PLEASE DELIVER 1/12/18 - 1/26/18

Residential Customer



## HOLD ON TO YOUR PARKWAYS!

This issue covers programs from February through May 2018.  
View this *ParkWays* publication online at [metroparks.org/parkways](http://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](http://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 booklet.