LEARNING IN NATURE’S CLASSROOM
SEE PAGES 6-7

CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF HILLS & DALES METROPARK
SEE PAGES 8-9

GROWING FRESH PRODUCE IN THE LANDSCAPE
SEE PAGES 10-11

MASTER A NEW OUTDOOR ACTIVITY
SEE PAGE 12-13
TOP 5 THINGS TO DO
In Your MetroParks This Season

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

1. TAKE TO THE TRAILS
Hike, paddle, cycle and more in your favorite MetroPark this summer. With more than 75 natural surface trails, MetroParks has plenty of places to trek. If you plan to paddle this summer, travel the seven-miles from Eastwood MetroPark to RiverScape River Run in downtown Dayton. Boasting more than 300 miles of paved recreation trails — the nation’s largest paved trail network — there are plenty of cycling adventures for all experience levels. METROPARKS.ORG/EXPLORE

2. SUMMER STAYCATION
Take some time to unplug and set up camp in one of MetroParks’ frontcountry or backcountry camps. Create your own overnight adventure and enjoy updated amenities at Possum Creek, Germantown and Twin Creek MetroPark’s frontcountry sites. Retreat even further into nature to enjoy backcountry sites along the Twin Valley Trail. METROPARKS.ORG/CAMPING

3. PLAY FOR ALL AGES
Make a splash with your family this summer at RiverScape MetroPark. Children can play in the interactive fountains while adults admire the Five Rivers Fountain of Lights. Keep the fun going at Island MetroPark, where kids can spend the day cooling off at the sprayground. METROPARKS.ORG/PLACES-TO-GO

4. ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS
Meet your favorite animals at Carriage Hill and Possum Creek MetroParks. Get up close to sheep, goats, chickens, rabbits and more at Possum Creek MetroPark, as you learn more about the farm-to-table movement. Check out the heritage breed animals on the historical farm at Carriage Hill MetroPark. METROPARKS.ORG/PLACES-TO-GO

5. FIND YOUR FAVORITE BLOOMS
Enjoy colorful blooms and picturesque prairies this summer in your favorite MetroParks. Visit Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark to experience the formal gardens, then head to Cox Arboretum and Aullwood Garden MetroParks to see what’s in bloom. Home to the Huffman Prairie, Huffman MetroPark is a must in mid-summer to see all the native plants, animals and insects that live in this important habitat. METROPARKS.ORG/PLACES-TO-GO

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.

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

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

HOW TO CONTACT A RANGER
Inform the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office dispatcher you are in a MetroParks facility. A MetroParks law enforcement Ranger will be notified and respond to the situation as soon as possible.
EMERGENCY CONTACT: 9-1-1
NON-EMERGENCY: (937) 535-2580
DEAR METROPARKS FRIENDS,

Did you know 15 species of fireflies live in Ohio? That you can sleep in a primitive campsite along the Twin Valley Trail? Or that many of our local summertime veggies are key ingredients in food from cultures across the globe?

This is just some of the information you can learn by attending programs led by Five Rivers MetroParks’ expert staff and volunteers.

These programs help people of all ages and abilities Get Out & Explore their 18 clean, safe MetroParks. They teach people how to enjoy healthy, active lifestyles and learn such skills as hiking, fishing, gardening, bird watching and cycling.

While you browse the many programs and events found on pages 18-43 in this issue, keep an eye out for new programs. You’ll find a new event at RiverScape MetroPark, Passport to MetroParks, filled with live music, kids activities, and a chance to sample and register for MetroParks’ summer programs. At the new Small Farm and Food Fest, learn how to live more sustainably and grow your own healthy food. Grab a friend or family member for MetroParks’ new Summer Dates in the Park series and learn what to expect in your garden month-by-month this summer in the new Garden Check-Up series.

Also new in this issue: We need your input to help MetroParks improve ParkWays magazine. Please complete the survey inserted in this issue or online at metroparks.org/parkways. Your input is invaluable to ensure this magazine best meets your needs.

Whether you’re paddling our waterways or picnicking in a shelter, we hope you enjoy this summer!

Best Regards,

Becky Benná
Executive Director

INTRODUCING YOUR NEW PARK COMMISSIONER

Bear Monita has joined Five Rivers MetroParks’ Board of Park Commissioners. He’s a partner of LWC and has been with the firm for 21 years. Monita leads marketing, business development and client relations initiatives. He assisted Dayton Public Schools, the city of Kettering, Huber Heights City Schools, Dayton Metro Library and Wayne Local Schools in the passage of bond issue measures to construct new facilities totaling $1 billion. Monita also serves on the boards of the Kettering Medical Center Foundation, Sinclair Foundation and Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges. He is a Kettering resident and graduated from Ohio University. Monita replaces Alan Pippenger, who recently retired from the Board of Park Commissioners after 14 years of outstanding service and leadership to Five Rivers MetroParks.
Five Rivers MetroParks is taking the next step in implementing its 10-year comprehensive master plan by developing site plans of individual parks. More than eight park site plans have been developed since 2016, with Hills & Dales and Huffman MetroParks now entering the second phase of the planning process.

Based on feedback collected during public meetings, Five Rivers MetroParks developed proposed site plans for Hills & Dales and Huffman MetroPark. These plans will be released and available to review during open houses held in June.

The plans showcase the rich history and cultural resources of Hills & Dales MetroPark, in addition to plans to improve the trail network throughout the park and more. Connections to the region through improved partnerships and physical connections also will improve Hills & Dales MetroPark by ensuring a quality experience for all park users.

Huffman MetroPark presents a design challenge. It consists of four distinct parts that need to be connected into one cohesive park. There also is an exceptional opportunity at Huffman MetroPark to tell the story of the area, including the geologic, ecologic and human histories that are significant to the park and its immediate surroundings.

Each plan will have an underlying theme that ensures the natural experience is well maintained through sound conservation and restoration efforts.

During the open houses, the proposed park plan will be presented with an opportunity afterward to provide feedback. Two open houses will be held each day.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19: PREVIEW PLAN FOR HILLS & DALES METROPARK**
Noon to 1:30 PM and 6 to 7:30 PM
Oakwood Community Center, 105 Patterson Rd.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 25: PREVIEW PLAN FOR HUFFMAN METROPARK**
Noon to 1:30 PM and 6 to 7:30 PM
Comfort Suites Wright Patterson, 5220 Huberville Ave.

Learn more about these proposed site plans and existing plans for other locations at metroparks.org/plan.
NATURE’S PLAYGROUNDS

TWENTY METROPARKS’ LOCATIONS ARE NOW CERTIFIED ACCESS TO NATURE SITES.

As part of an ongoing effort to promote outdoor play and access to greenspace, Five Rivers MetroParks continues to nominate its locations for Connect to Nature Site certification, which is awarded by the Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Collaborative. To date in 2019, nine MetroParks and conservation areas have been certified as Connect to Nature Sites, creating a total of 20 certified sites since 2017. These sites provide accessible, natural spaces and experiences for children in which they can have unstructured play time and a chance to explore the natural world.

“A commitment to facilitating kid-friendly natural experiences also is a commitment to cultivating happier, healthier kids,” said Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside board member and National Association for Interpretation Master Frontline Interpreter Doug Horvath. “Organizations that receive this certification have made that commitment and taken actual steps to provide nature-based opportunities for children in their communities.”

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

- Taylorsville MetroPark
- Wolf Creek Trail
- Medlar Conservation Area
- Woodman Fen Conservation Area
- Sunrise MetroPark
- Island MetroPark
- Deeds Point MetroPark
- RiverScape MetroPark
- Huffman MetroPark

Of the certified sites, Englewood, Hills & Dales, Possum Creek, Sugarcreek, and Wesleyan MetroParks are home to nature play areas. Featuring natural materials that allow kids to run, jump, climb, balance and slide, these playscapes encourage outdoor exploration and curiosity about the natural world. From increased social skills to healthier lifestyles, unstructured nature play has a host of benefits for children.

Those interested in learning more about the benefits of nature play areas can participate in a workshop and tour on June 13 with internationally known designer Adam Bienenstock. See page 42 for details.
Yvonne Entingh’s passion for backpacking began with an introductory program hosted by MetroParks.

As MetroParks’ outdoor recreation specialists shared their personal adventures on the trails, how-tos and examples of what to pack, her interest continued to grow. Entingh recalled a MetroParks backpacking program that involved a night hike in which she hesitated to participate because she didn’t have confidence on the trails without sunlight. Dozens of MetroParks backpacking programs and miles of local trails hiked later, Entingh has backpacked thousands of miles on some of the country’s most challenging trails.

“Knowledge brings comfort, and the courses people take through MetroParks build knowledge and experience,” said Entingh, who now helps other groups tackle the trails through her outdoor recreation business, A Time to Keep.

Providing the public with hundreds of programs per year, Five Rivers MetroParks introduces people of all ages to new, fun ways to connect with nature. MetroParks’ outdoor recreation, education and conservation staff and volunteer experts empower people to learn new skills and embark on their own life-changing adventures.

“We want to see that spark, that excitement when people learn something new and fall in love with being outdoors,” said Brent Anslinger, MetroParks outdoor recreation program manager. “Whether it’s a little one meeting farm animals for the first time or a family exploring the Twin Valley Trail together, providing experiences that connect people to nature is MetroParks’ mission.”

Five Rivers MetroParks offers programs that provide instruction on a variety of skills, including gardening, outdoor education and recreation, conservation, farming, sustainable living, horseback riding and more. MetroParks also helps program participants put what they’ve learned to practice with hands-on opportunities. “Often, outdoor experiences require use of equipment, safety considerations and the confidence to apply newly learned skills — which is where we can help,” Anslinger said. “We offer programs that teach the basics, including safety, and we even provide gear for people to borrow.”

On one of her first backpacking excursions with MetroParks, Entingh borrowed gear to trek the Red River Gorge. Next, she found herself getting ready for a MetroParks trip to the Appalachian Trail. She trained for her 27-mile journey by getting her own gear and visiting the Twin Valley Trail and Sugarcreek MetroPark. As she grew more comfortable on the trails, she decided to complete longer solo hikes on trails across the country.

Entingh continues her learning process through progression programs, which expand on basic outdoor recreation skills. Courses in navigation, backcountry cooking and water filtration have been helpful during her backpacking adventures.

“The woman who started the trail is not the same woman who finishes the trail,” Entingh said. “It’s a learning process.”
Joshua York
METROPARKS’ NATURE EDUCATION STAFF EXPERT

Joshua York teaches classes for Miami University in Paraguay, Baja and elsewhere around the world — and in your MetroParks.

He served two terms as a board member for the Environmental Education Council of Ohio, which in 2015 named him Outstanding Environmental Educator of the Year. York holds a dozen certifications, has presented at numerous conferences, published papers and was named the 2015 Outstanding Individual by the North American Association for Environmental Education.

Yet he really enjoys working with educators and children here in Montgomery County.

“I love giving teachers what they need to be successful when incorporating nature into their classrooms,” York said. “I also enjoy getting kids into wetland environments, watching them hold frogs and salamanders for the first time.”

York was inspired to become an environmental educator at age 11, after a naturalist from MetroParks visited a Boy Scouts event.

“This person showed up with patches on her jacket and live animals,” York said. “I realized I could get paid doing something I love: sharing nature with others.”

Eventually, when he started at MetroParks, York worked with this same staff member. “I never imagined working alongside my childhood hero.”

Connie Duncan
METROPARKS’ FARMING AND GARDENING STAFF EXPERT

Connie Duncan grew up near Hoosier National Forest, riding her horse named Daisy Mae and exploring her uncle’s 325-acre farm with siblings and cousins.

“They raised meat rabbits, cattle and hogs and grew hay,” Duncan said. “Us kids had free range of the farm — and we used it. We were all over the place.”

Duncan’s dad was an avid fisherman and hunted rabbits, squirrels and pheasants to feed the family. Her mom and grandmother were avid gardeners with “several green thumbs,” Duncan said.

Now, Duncan is sharing her knowledge about farming and gardening during the public programs she teaches.

“Many people want to raise an animal, but they don’t know how,” Duncan said. “My goal is to give people a head start, let them know what’s involved, the right way to raise an animal and introduce them to it.”

Duncan also worked on a lot of farms, most of them horse farms, and at nurseries.

“My greatest joy is watching kids when they come to the Possum Creek MetroPark farm and get to see and touch a real chicken or goat,” she said. “Their faces light up, and it’s the greatest thing ever.”
Conservation efforts at Hills & Dales MetroPark help maintain dogwood pond (pictured on this page) as it was 100 years ago when the park opened (shown in postcard to the right). Photo credit: Andy Snow
A VISIT TO HILLS & DALES PARK WAS AN EXCITING EXPERIENCE FOR DAYTONIANS WHEN IT OPENED A CENTURY AGO. WITH ITS CAREFULLY DESIGNED MEADOWS, WATER AND WOODS, THE PARK WAS MEANT TO RECREATE THE PERFECTION FOUND IN NATURE AND PROVIDE A PLACE FOR CITY DWELLERS TO ENJOY BEAUTIFUL SCENERY.

Now, Five Rivers MetroParks’ parks and conservation staff continue to maintain this greenway treasure for Daytonians’ enjoyment. A park master plan has been developed to guide its future, and it includes nods to the park’s past.

That Hills & Dales legacy is thanks to John Patterson, founder of the National Cash Register Company. He believed that education and outdoor exercise are the pillars of good health. In the early 1900s, Patterson owned hundreds of acres south of Dayton and wanted the community to benefit from the land. He hired John Charles Olmsted and Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. to work their magic on the natural terrain. In the park’s early days, visitors strolled walking paths on foot or horse. They picked blackberries, wild strawberries, May apples, walnuts and hickory nuts and ate them on the grounds. They lingered near wading pools and picnicked in Adirondack camps.

However, in the early 1930s, the park land started to be chipped away. Only a few decades later, the original character of what remained had been impacted by years of vegetation growth. Almost 90 percent of the natural areas were overgrown with Amur honeysuckle.

A group of concerned citizens named Friends of Hills & Dales Park started a cleanup effort in the late 1980s and continued their work well into the 1990s. Five Rivers MetroParks assumed operations and maintenance in 1999.

After years of construction and master planning, $4 million in improvements were unveiled to park goers in 2009, including new Adirondack-style shelters, a boardwalk and playgrounds. Many of the improvements also helped habitat for wildlife, including a restored pond and extensive honeysuckle removal. The park now feels like a ramble through a thickly wooded upstate New York forest, and Hills & Dales is one of Five Rivers MetroParks’ most popular destinations.

“John Patterson’s beliefs about the benefits of nature have been long proven,” said Debby McKee, Five Rivers MetroParks conservation supervisor. “Hill & Dales is once again a prime spot for connecting to nature and rejuvenating your inner child.”

100 YEARS OF HILLS & DALES: A CELEBRATION OF THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
Friday, June 28 — 5 to 8 PM
Michael Solomon Pavilion at Community Golf Club, 2917 Berkley St.

Celebrate the rich history of Hills & Dales MetroPark. Learn about the park’s beginnings, how it became publicly owned land, how it has developed during the past 100 years, and how the park is currently managed and how Five Rivers MetroParks plans to care for it in the future.

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF YOUR METROPARKS
The proposed park plan for Hills & Dales and Huffman MetroParks, developed with community input, will be available to review during open houses. See page 4 for details.
THE EDIBLE LANDSCAPE GARDEN PROVIDES LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES — AND FRESH PRODUCE — FOR THE COMMUNITY.

Despite a kale shortage a few years back, a lot of the popular veggie was growing in the Edible Landscape Garden (ELG) at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. Volunteer Jenny Andary recalls a park visitor offering any amount of green for the leafy green, but staff and volunteers donated the kale, as they do with most of the garden’s produce, to The Foodbank.

Indeed, MetroParks annually donates thousands of pounds of fresh food grown in the ELG to the region’s largest hunger relief network. In 2019, it aims to donate 2,200 pounds of produce from the garden, where edible plants are grown without chemicals as ornamental components of the landscape.

“Vegetables should be for everyone,” said Andary, one of the many volunteers who make the ELG possible. “It’s an important link to keep people, and especially kids, engaged in gardening.”

Andary is among a crew of volunteers who meet most Monday nights at the Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture, which this season produced extra edible plant seedlings for the ELG and the community garden plots at Wegerzyn Gardens and Possum Creek MetroParks.

Led by Cox Arboretum horticulture technician Brian Malin, volunteers participate in the full process — from seed to harvest.

Each year, the garden plan is a little different as the annual, edible and ornamental plants are rotated, Malin said. This year, The Foodbank gave MetroParks a list of the fruits and veggies its clients like best, and those faves were incorporated into the plan.

The ELG teaches people how to add edible plants to their own landscapes. It also demonstrates how to live more sustainably, since gardening saves energy and water, and gardens provide important nutrients to the soil and habitat for wildlife.

“I can’t grow vegetables at home because my yard is too shady,” ELG volunteer Kristi Sherman said while pushing basil seeds into plant trays. “This allows me to help grow food — everything from pumpkins to peanuts — while also giving back to the community through donations to The Foodbank.”

Contact Candy Holloway at cholloway@metroparks.org or 937-275-PARK to volunteer for the Edible Landscape Garden.

Learn more about gardening with your Five Rivers MetroParks at metroparks.org/garden and see the list of this summer’s gardening programs on pages 30-33.
Betty Hoevel
METROPARKS’ NATURE EDUCATION STAFF EXPERT

Betty Hoevel’s grandmother began every day by pinning a flower from her garden onto her dress. Today, Hoevel carries on this tradition of weaving gardening into daily life. She leads gardening programs as an education coordinator for MetroParks and is a master gardener.

When Hoevel started at MetroParks in 2006, the agency offered two adult gardening programs. She’s since increased program offerings — and incorporated information on finding a balance with nature into them.

“You can learn a lot by paying attention,” said Hoevel, a graduate of Rice University in Houston who’s been working in the gardening industry for approximately 25 years. “One of the big benefits of being outdoors is it helps you get your shoulders down from either side of your ears. After you see an ant carrying something around, it makes you think, ‘I really don’t need to be so worried.’”

Hoevel now leads programs at the Children’s Discovery Garden in addition to those for adults, giving her the best of both worlds.

“I get to talk to little ones who don’t know much about nature except they want to grab that flower and to seniors who understand they’d be lost without it,” Hoevel said. “Gardening is one of the nicest things you can do outdoors.”

Doug Horvath
METROPARKS’ NATURE APPRECIATION STAFF EXPERT

For more than 40 years — ever since he worked for the YMCA while a student at Brookville High School — Doug Horvath has been teaching people about nature.

His own experiences in nature run the gamut from working as a deck hand on sailing vessels in Maine to working at dairy barn while a student at the University of New Hampshire, where he earned a degree in zoology. For 11 years, Horvath was an educator at Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm, leading school tours, volunteer training sessions and seasonal programs.

Since joining MetroParks, Horvath has helped create the Children’s Discovery Garden, led an active youth gardening program and held countless school tours as a naturalist.

“I love working with children so they know they’re allowed to explore nature, get muddy, turn over rocks and play in the woods,” said Horvath, who helps lead the Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside initiative.

Now, Horvath serves as an education coordinator for MetroParks, leading educational outreach and advocacy efforts. He still works with kids, especially preschoolers, as well as with apprentices, volunteers and MetroParks’ wild animal ambassadors.

“Nature is democratic — we all have the ability to access and benefit from it,” Horvath said. “We live in a really cool area of the world in the Miami Valley with the seasons, epic flows of migrating birds, and beautiful vistas and trees.”
At one point, Angie Sheldon wanted to be a doctor. Then she discovered the best medicine can be found in the outdoors.

Sheldon grew up hiking with her family at Sugarcreek MetroPark but became hooked on backpacking while an active member of Miami University’s outdoor adventure club. After earning a degree in zoology and environmental sciences, Sheldon taught and lead outdoor adventure trips in a variety of positions. She’s also taken a number of lengthy backpacking trips, including a thru-hike of the Appalachian Trail in 2009.

Today, Sheldon leads programs — including overnight trips on the Twin Valley Trail that connects Germantown and Twin Creek MetroParks — as MetroParks’ backpacking recreation coordinator. She’s also focused on familiarizing her three children with nature and spends a lot of time camping with her family.

Sheldon’s favorite thing about introducing the public to backpacking is seeing program participants go on to plan and take their own backpacking adventures.

“For people who are backpacking for the first time and who are a little nervous and overwhelmed, our programs break it down and make it exciting,” she said. “People have taken one-night trips in Germantown MetroPark and go on to take week-long backpacking trips in the Grand Canyon. We teach those basic skills that can be applied everywhere.”

Angie Sheldon
METROPARCS’ BACKPACKING STAFF EXPERT

Erik Dahlstrom grew up playing in the Olentangy River with his brothers — and, as an adult, he’s still playing in local waterways.

Dahlstrom discovered whitewater paddling during a seven-day class he attended while earning a bachelor’s degree in outdoor education at Ohio University. He flipped his kayak and swam in North Carolina’s Tuckaseegee River 10 times on that chilly day after Thanksgiving in 2004. He became mildly hypothermic. But even after a lifetime of outdoor experiences with family and the Boy Scouts, it was this trip that convinced Dahlstrom there’s something magical about being in water. Now, as MetroParks’ paddlesports recreation coordinator, Dahlstrom helps others discover that magic by leading programs that teach canoe, kayak and stand up paddleboard skills and water safety.

He also holds an associate’s degree in natural and historical interpretation from Hocking College and a master’s degree in recreation studies from Ohio University, where he served as a teaching assistant. He’s taught people how to safely paddle waterways since 2007 and joined the MetroParks staff in 2008.

“I’ve been paddling since the late ’80s, and whitewater is one of my favorite ways to experience nature,” Dahlstrom said. “Today, one of my favorite things is connecting people to nature though shared experiences on the water.”

Erik Dahlstrom
METROPARCS’ PADDLING STAFF EXPERT

ADVENTURE LEARNING

BUILD YOUR SKILLS AND HAVE THE CONFIDENCE TO TAKE ON BUCKET LIST ADVENTURES WITH HELP FROM METROPARCS’ OUTDOOR RECREATION PROGRAM PROGRESSIONS IN BACKPACKING, PADDLING, MOUNTAIN BIKING AND FLY FISHING.

Participants begin by discovering more about these outdoor activities in the classroom or during Try It programs. Experience outdoor activities with borrowed gear and guidance from MetroParks professionals. These programs allow would-be outdoor adventurers to test the waters — sometimes literally — and try a new nature-based activity before buying their own gear.

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FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

OUTDOOR PROGRAM PROGRESSION

Use this guide to help you choose the right programs to get you on your individual path.

1

DISCOVER SERIES PROGRAMS teach the variety of disciplines within an activity. Learn about the activities, local places to play and resources such as retailers, clubs and opportunities. TRY ITS provide an opportunity to try an activity during drop-in style programs that offer guidance yet minimal instruction.

2

CORE PROGRESSION PROGRAMS are numbered, such as Backpacking 1, Backpacking 2, etc. Numbers 2 and above mean that a pre-requisite is required. ENHANCE CLASSES are programs — such as river rescue knots, Wilderness First Aid, filleting fish and lightweight backpacking — with no pre-requisites, just a desire to supplement your skills.

3

PUT YOUR INDEPENDENT BASIC SKILLS TO THE TEST

Opportunities to independently Get Out & Live in your Five Rivers MetroParks!

- Backpack on the Twin Valley Trail
- Mountain bike at MoMBA
- Ride the nation’s largest paved trail network
- Paddle the Mad River Run, RiverScape River Run or on the Great Miami River Watershed National Water Trail
- Camp in several MetroParks
- Fish in dozens of ponds or rivers
- Spin a disc at the Blue Heron Disc Golf Course

MetroParks also offers a few guided trips annually to help you build confidence.

Visit metroparks.org/active-outdoors to get started on your path to independent adventure.
Your Five Rivers MetroParks includes 18 parks, 160 miles of managed trails and 270 miles of river corridor — meaning parks and conservation staff have full plates when it comes to keeping those green spaces, waterways and habitats beautiful and thriving. It also means volunteer groups are integral to tackling important projects. Increasingly, those groups are from local businesses.

“It’s a nice change of pace, and people are excited to get outside,” said MetroParks volunteer coordinator Janelle Leonard. “You’re team building while giving back to the community, so it’s beneficial to both employees and MetroParks.”

Many local businesses — including U.S. Bank, Vectren, Lord Corp., Spectrum Brands and LexisNexis — commit to days of service in MetroParks. Groups also volunteer during annual agency-wide service days, such as Adopt-A-Park in April and Make a Difference Day in October.

Most often, groups are needed to tackle things like trail work, invasive species removal, and garden and horticulture facility maintenance. Groups also are needed to help with events, including the Wagner Subaru Outdoor Experience the first weekend in October and conservation initiatives like fall nut collecting. Volunteer projects are available year-round but are particularly important from spring through fall.

For those looking to volunteer with MetroParks as part of an employee service day, Leonard suggests starting by creating a plan. Decide how many volunteers would like to participate and in which MetroPark. If you are not familiar with your closest MetroPark, perhaps plan to visit.

Group requests can be made online by filling out the group volunteer application at metroparks.org/volunteer/group-volunteer-application. Leonard suggests submitting requests six weeks ahead of your desired volunteer date. Very large groups of employees may be asked to split the days into shifts.
Get Out & Volunteer

A great way to give back to nature is by volunteering throughout the year! Attend a free orientation session to learn more about Five Rivers MetroParks’ volunteer opportunities, and check pages 18-38 for more volunteer programs. Attending an orientation doesn’t commit you to anything, but it does give an overview of location-specific opportunities and an introduction to opportunities this season.

Volunteer orientations are for people 18 and older and are held at Five Rivers MetroParks’ headquarters, 409 E. Monument Ave., third floor. Call (937) 275-PARK or visit metroparks.org/volunteer to register.

• Thursday, June 13: 9-11 AM (program B1)
• Wednesday, June 26: 6:30-8:30 PM (B2)
• Tuesday, July 16: 9-11 AM (B21)
• Wednesday, July 31: 6:30-8:30 PM (B22)
• Wednesday, Aug. 14: 9-11 AM (B23)
• Thursday, Aug. 29: 6:30-8:30 PM (B24)
• Thursday, Sept. 5: 9-11 AM (B25)
• Tuesday, Sept. 17: 6:30-8:30 PM (B26)

In addition to volunteering, you can make a difference through financial and in-kind donations.

When you support the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation, you support MetroParks’ special projects and programs that connect families to nature, protect local habitats and wildlife, and preserve greenspace. With so many ways to make a donation, supporting the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation has never been easier.

• CHAMPIONS PROGRAM: The easiest way to contribute is by making a monthly recurring gift.
• TRIBUTE PROGRAM: Honor a special person with a named bench, tree and more in their favorite MetroPark.
• PLANNED GIVING: Leave a lasting legacy with a planned gift that will provide Five Rivers MetroParks with long-term stability and ensure future generations enjoy great parks.
• INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS: One-time donations can be made securely online in any denomination.
• Support MetroParks via Amazon Smile and when shopping at Kroger and Dorothy Lane Market.

The Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and your donations are 100 percent tax deductible.
Dayton Hikers founder and local trail advocate Andy Niekamp spends much of his time on the trails and in the region’s 18 clean, safe MetroParks. Because he’s such an avid park user, Niekamp understands the importance of preserving these greenspaces so people can enjoy them in the future — which is why he included a gift to the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation in his charitable plans.

“I grew up when kids played outside on a regular basis and that’s happening less and less,” Niekamp said. “The MetroParks will be more important to the children of the future so they have a space to connect with nature.”

Indeed, planned giving through the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation is the most impactful way to support MetroParks because it ensures great parks for future generations.

A Kettering resident, Niekamp grew up spending time outdoors in local parks and on area trails. Now, Niekamp embarks on amazing hiking adventures, most recently completing a through hike of the 1,100-mile Florida Trail.

“There’s kind of an understanding that once you complete one of these long hikes — once you achieve them, you have a duty to inspire,” Niekamp said. “It’s the same thing with our parks. Once you enjoy them, you have a duty to preserve them for future generations.”

For Niekamp, the process of naming the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation as a beneficiary on a few of his retirement accounts was simple and could be accomplished online. Because there are many ways to provide planned gifts, the MetroParks Foundation suggests reaching out to your financial advisor or estate attorney about planned giving options.

For those who want to make an impact immediately, Niekamp suggests becoming a Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation Champion, the easiest way to support the Foundation. Champions make an ongoing monthly gift, which can be safely and securely made online at metroparks.org/champions. Funds donated through the Champions program also support MetroParks’ special projects, programs, conservation initiatives and allow families to connect with nature.

To learn more about the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation or to inquire about planned giving, contact Beth Redden, MetroParks Chief of Philanthropy, at 937-275-PARK. Because the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, gifts may have valuable tax incentives.
Five Rivers MetroParks operates 30 outstanding public locations. Founded in 1963 to serve the greater Dayton area, MetroParks protects more than 16,000 acres of open space and provides year-round recreation, education and conservation opportunities. Admission to MetroParks’ locations is available free of charge – made possible by Montgomery County citizen support of a property tax levy.

**Program Guide**

**Program Details**

- **Online Registration**: Online registration is available for programs marked with this icon.
- **Weather Dependent**: Some outdoor events and programs are weather permitting.
- **Program Series**: Programs contained within a light blue box are part of a series of programs.
- **Fees**: Fees are required at the time of registration. Visit metroparks.org/policies for information on refunds.
- **Cancellations**: Some programs require a minimum number of participants and are subject to cancellation. Those who are registered will be contacted if this occurs. The website contains up-to-date information on cancellations.

**Categories**

- **Special Events and Programs for Everyone**: Enjoy time with friends and family at these community celebrations.
- **Active Outdoors**: Discover how easy it is to have an active, healthy outdoor lifestyle.
- **Earth Friendly Living**: Learn how to live more sustainably and make better choices for the environment.
- **Adult Nature Exploration**: Enjoy and learn about the splendor of the natural world.
- **Programs for Families and Children**: Spend quality time outdoors with family.
- **Community Groups and Training**: Share an active, nature-based lifestyle with your community and future generations.

**How to Register**

**Online**

metroparks.org/programs

Search online by date or program number to register.

**By Phone**

937 275-PARK (7275)

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

Enjoy time with friends and family at these community celebrations.

EVENTS ARRANGED BY DATE

(NEW) PASSPORT TO METROPARKS
FRI. JUN 7, 6:00-10:00 PM
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Dance to the sounds of performers from the Celtic, German, African American & Hispanic festivals while enjoying fun activities showcasing Five Rivers MetroParks events & programs. Kids, grab a passport & get it stamped at booths to be entered to win an exclusive recreational experience for your family! Food trucks onsite & beer for sale. No registration required. All ages 🌟

BRIGHT NIGHTS
SAT. JUN 22, 6:30-10:30 PM
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Benefitting Big Brothers Big Sisters, Bright Nights is a unique Downtown Dayton outdoor celebration featuring Dayton's top chefs. Enjoy live music, wine, beer and gourmet tastings. See contact info to register. For details, contact kromano@bbbsmiamivalley.org. https://mentor.bbbsgmw.org/bright. Age: 21Y and up Fee: General Admission: $125 🌟

(NEW) 100 YEARS OF HILLS & DALES: A CELEBRATION OF THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
FRI. JUN 28, 5:00-8:00 PM
OFFSITE, Michael Solomon Pavilion at Community Golf Club, 2017 Berkley St.
Celebrate the rich history of Hills & Dales MetroPark! Learn about the park’s beginnings, how it became publicly owned land, and how it has developed during the past 100 years. Learn how the park is currently managed and how Five Rivers MetroParks plans to care for it in the future. Light refreshments will be provided. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact shelby.ashcraft@metroparks.org for details. All ages 🌟

(NEW) MUD DAY!
SAT. JUN 29, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
WEGERTZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Children’s Discovery Garden, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
June 29 is International Mud Day, and we’re having a celebration! Join us in the Children’s Discovery Garden for mud painting, games and crafts while literally getting in touch with nature. Activities are designed for families and kids as young as 2. There will be a place to wash off when you’re done. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages 🌟

(NEW) CITY OF DAYTON’S LIGHTS IN FLIGHT FIREWORKS SHOW AND FESTIVAL
WED. JUL 3, 5:00-10:00 PM
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Celebrate Dayton with live music, food, beverages and kids’ activities. Watch the City’s Lights in Flight spectacular visual display over the Great Miami River. Fireworks take off at 10 PM! No registration required. Contact (937) 333-8400 for details. www.daytonohio.gov. All ages 🌟

(NEW) UNITED IRISH OF DAYTON CELTIC FESTIVAL
FRI. JUL 26, 5:30-11:00 PM
SUN. JUL 28, 9:00 AM-6:00 PM
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Celebrate Celtic style with music, dance, food and fun! Four stages. No registration required. Contact (937) 372-9788 for details. celticfestival.com. All ages 🌟

(NEW) SMALL FARM AND FOOD FEST
SAT. JUL 27, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center, 7800 E. Shull Rd
This festival is dedicated to healthy eating, hobby farming and homesteading skills, designed to expand your knowledge about or teach you how to produce your own healthy food. Attend educational talks, shop at an outdoor farmers market, and view demonstrations to learn such skills as canning, milling, gardening and soap making. No registration required. All ages 🌟

(NEW) URBAN OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE
FRI. AUG 2, 5:30-8:30 PM
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Try your hand at mountain bike skill elements, slacklining, disc golf and more in this outdoor recreation sampler sponsored by Subaru. Then enjoy the sounds and atmosphere of Pickin’ in the Park, complete with a food truck rally and progressive bluegrass under the RiverScape pavilion. No registration required. All ages 🌟

(NEW) GERMANFEST PICNIC
FRI. AUG 9, 5:00-11:00 PM
SUN. AUG 11, 11:00 AM-6:00 PM
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Now in its 36th year, the GermanFest Picnic is a 3-day celebration of the Miami Valley’s rich German heritage. Authentic food, live music, a 5K/10k race, Polka Mass, kidzone, genealogy, and culture make this event really family-friendly. And did we mention great BIER? Get your Gemuetlichkeit on at RiverScape MetroPark! No registration required. Contact (937) 429-9251 or germanfestdayton@gmail.com for details. www.germanfestdayton.com. All ages 🌟
**FREE** DAYTON AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL
SAT. AUG 17, 12:00-8:00 PM B291
ISLAND METROPARK, 101 E. Helena St.
This family event brings the richness of the African American experience to Dayton through culture, education and music. See an African village and a pavilion of paintings. Enjoy live R&B, gospel and jazz performances. Merchandise and food vendors will be on site. Don’t miss this citywide event where diverse people gather in celebration. No registration required. www.daacf.com. All ages 🎉

**FREE** COUNTRY FAIR
SAT. SEP 28, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM B218
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.
At least 20,000 rubber ducks will be dropped from the bridge for a race to the finish at RiverScape MetroPark, in conjunction with the Hispanic Heritage Festival. Proceeds from this family-friendly event benefit local children and adults with disabilities! Adopt your ducks for $5 each or Quack Pack (6 for $25) for a chance to win great prizes! Presented by Synchrony. No registration required. Contact (937) 853-5464 or acrawford@ursdayton.org for details. www.daytonducks.com. All ages 🎉

**FREE** HISPANIC HERITAGE FESTIVAL
SAT. SEP 14, 11:00 AM-11:00 PM B280
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
The 19th Annual Hispanic Heritage Festival will offer something for all ages. Dance to hot and electrifying Latin music and enjoy delicious food. Enjoy children’s activities, and entertainment to include demonstrations of art, food, crafts, and traditional dance and dress. No registration required. www.facebook.com/PACODayton. All ages 🎉

**FREE** 16TH ANNUAL UNITED REHABILITATION SERVICES RUBBER DUCK REGATTA
SAT. SEP 14, 4:00-5:30 PM B361
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.

**WEGERZYNN GARDENS FOUNDATION ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY**
THU. SEP 12, 5:30-7:30 PM B198
WEGERZYNN GARDENS METROPARK, Formal Gardens, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Guests will enjoy a catered dinner, live music, and silent auction under a tent on the Garden Green. Proceeds benefit Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation in support of Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 474-3760 or contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org for details. www.wegerzyngardensfoundation.org. Age: 21+ Fee: Non-member Ticket Price: $85, Member Ticket Price: $75

**METROPARKS.ORG**
SEE PAGE 43

**FOR MORE SPECIAL EVENTS**
SEE PAGE 43

For a list of live music concerts, free fitness classes, lunchtime music and more happening at RiverScape MetroPark.

**MIDWEST’S PREMIER OUTDOOR ADVENTURE FESTIVAL**
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
OCTOBER 5 & 6

**GET OUT & PADDLE DOWNTOWN**
YOUR METROPARKS IS CREATING NEW AND EXCITING WAYS FOR NOVICE AND EXPERIENCED PADDLERS TO GET OUT & PADDLE THE RIVERS IN DOWNTOWN DAYTON, including the RiverScape River Run whitewater feature!

**SEE PAGE 28-29 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON DOWNTOWN DAYTON RIVER KAYAKING TRIPS, INCLUDING NEw PROGRAM, KAYAK UNDER THE FOUNTAIN**

**METROPARKS.ORG/OUTDOORX**

**METROPARKS.ORG/RIVERSCAPE**
FOR EVERYONE
Connect with and learn about nature with friends and family.
PROGRAMS AND EVENTS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

HOEDOWN SQUARE DANCE
SAT. JUN 1, 8:00-10:30 PM B199
SAT. AUG 24, 8:00-10:30 PM B213
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Join us for a square dance in our historical barn with live music by The Corndrinkers. All skill levels welcome. Tickets are $5 per person and available at the door. No registration required. All ages Fee: $5

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

(FREE) HAYMAKING
SUN. JUN 2, 12:00-5:00 PM B200
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
The farmer makes hay 19th century style using historic horse drawn equipment. Watch as loose hay is loaded on the wagon and taken to the barn to be unloaded. No registration required. All ages Fee: FREE

(FREE) GRAIN THRESHING
SUN. JUL 14, 12:00-5:00 PM B206
SUN. AUG 4, 12:00-5:00 PM B210
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
The steam engine, separator, farm hands and shocks of grain recreate the farm scene of a century ago. The separator removes the grain from the stalk so it can be used for feed and flour. No registration required. All ages Fee: FREE

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: INTRODUCTION TO CONSERVATION
TUE. JUN 4, 1:00-3:00 PM B300
THU. SEP 12, 6:30-8:30 PM
THU. SEP 12, 6:30-8:30 PM B400
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 allison.zimmerman@metroparks.org for details. All ages Fee: (FREE)

(FREE) FAMILY FIRST TUESDAY FREE TRAM TOUR
TUE. JUN 4, 6:00-7:00 PM B226
TUE. JUL 2, 6:00-7:00 PM B232
TUE. AUG 6, 6:00-7:00 PM B244
TUE. SEP 3, 6:00-7:00 PM B251
2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.
Five Rivers MetroParks will host the Walk with a Doc program provided by Dayton Children’s Hospital. Families are encouraged to attend and discover how being outside playing in nature and walking are so good for our health. Walk from the Market Pavilion (east end of building) to Deeds Point MetroPark and back. No registration required. All ages Fee: (FREE)

(FREE) WALK WITH A DOC
SAT. JUL 20, 9:00-10:00 AM B293
SAT. AUG 3, 9:00-10:00 AM B294
2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.
Five Rivers MetroParks will host the Walk with a Doc program provided by Dayton Children’s Hospital. Families are encouraged to attend and discover how being outside playing in nature and walking are so good for our health. Walk from the Market Pavilion (east end of building) to Deeds Point MetroPark and back. No registration required. All ages Fee: (FREE)

(FREE) FISH ON THE FARM
SUN. AUG 25, 12:00-5:00 PM B214
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Fish was not the most common item found on the farm. However, it was highly sought after and enjoyed. Join us for a whole day focused on the role that fish played on an 1850s farm. Try fishing with a cane pole. Watch as we cook with fish and smoke it in the smokehouse. No registration required. All ages Fee: (FREE)

ACCESS TO NATURE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
Providing qualifying families with financial assistance for fee-based MetroParks programs, the Access to Nature Scholarship is available for those of all ages. From summer camps to family programs, these funds enable more families to Get Out & Explore!

To learn more and apply for an Access to Nature Scholarship, visit metroparks.org/scholarships.
SHARE YOUR OPINION about ParkWays magazine

Five Rivers MetroParks needs your help. As a valued reader of Five Rivers MetroParks’ ParkWays magazine, your opinions, satisfaction and use of the publication are very important to us. Getting to know you helps the MetroParks team create the best possible magazine for you and your family.

Please participate in this ParkWays reader survey. Your individual participation and input will remain confidential. The survey should take about five minutes to complete.

IF YOU CHOSE TO SHARE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION, YOU’LL BE ENTERED TO WIN ONE OF FIVE $100 VISA GIFT CARDS.

Complete this survey by Sept. 6, 2019, to enter. It’s free and easy to participate. If you’re feeling really green, take this survey online at metroparks.org/parkways.
ENTER TO WIN
To enter to win our drawing, please provide your:

FIRST NAME:

LAST NAME:

PHONE:

E-MAIL:

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY.

ABOUT YOU
Please help us serve all segments of the community by providing this optional information:

HOME ZIP CODE: ____________

YOUR GENDER:
☐ Female: ☐ Male ☐ Prefer not to say
☐ Prefer to self-describe __________________________

YOUR AGE:
☐ 18 or younger ☐ 19-24 ☐ 25-34
☐ 35-45 ☐ 46-55 ☐ 56-65
☐ 66-75 ☐ 76+

YOUR RACE:
☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
☐ Asian ☐ Black or African American
☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
☐ White or Caucasian
☐ Two or More Races ☐ Other: __________________________

INSTRUCTIONS
1. Carefully remove this survey and complete all questions.
2. Please print legibly. All survey questions must include an answer to be eligible to win our drawing.
3. Fold and seal. Drop in the U.S. Mail — postage is already included!

1. WHERE DO YOU USUALLY OBTAIN YOUR PRINT COPY OF PARKWAYS?
☐ Mail ☐ Park ☐ 2nd Street Market ☐ Family/friend

2. WHAT DID YOU DO WITH PARKWAYS THE LAST TIME YOU SAW IT? (Check ONE)
☐ Read it and found it useful ☐ Read it but saw little of interest
☐ Noticed it but didn’t look through it ☐ Saved it for later reference

3. HOW MUCH TIME DO YOU USUALLY SPEND READING PARKWAYS? (Check ONE)
☐ More than 3 hours ☐ More than 2 hours but less than 3
☐ More than 1 hour but less than 2 ☐ Less than 1 hour

4. HOW DO YOU USUALLY READ PARKWAYS? (Check ONE)
☐ Read cover to cover ☐ Clip pages
☐ Read table of contents and articles of interest ☐ Skim or look through quickly
☐ Read articles of interest and look through remaining pages
☐ Only read listings of programs and events
5. WHAT CONTENT IN PARKWAYS DO YOU READ? (Circle ONE per line)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALWAYS</th>
<th>SOMETIMES</th>
<th>NEVER</th>
<th>NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top 5 Things to Do This Season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter from the Executive Director</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MetroParks News</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cover Story</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation articles</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education articles</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation articles</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer articles</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philanthropy articles</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park system map</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program and event listings</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. ON A SCALE OF 1-5, RATE YOUR SATISFACTION WITH THE WAY PROGRAM AND EVENT LISTINGS (LOCATED IN THE SECOND HALF OF PARKWAYS) ARE ORGANIZED. (Circle ONE)

Program and event listing organization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SATISFIED</th>
<th>DISSATISFIED</th>
<th>NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER: ____________________________

8. WHAT ARTICLES WOULD YOU LIKE TO READ MORE OF IN PARKWAYS? (Circle ONE per line)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VERY INTERESTED</th>
<th>NOT INTERESTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Profiles of MetroParks’ staff experts</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stories about people who use MetroParks</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articles that teach you such things as how to get active outdoors, live more sustainably and appreciate nature</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articles that teach you skills, such as how to compost at home, mountain bike and produce your own food</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articles about our region’s environment and wildlife</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articles about encouraging children to spend more time outdoors</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articles about upcoming programs and events</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggestions for using your parks independently on your own time</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other/Comments: _______________________________________

9. WHY DO YOU READ PARKWAYS? (Circle ONE per line)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
<th>STRONGLY DISAGREE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Find suggestions for free-time activities</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find programs and events to attend</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn more about Five Rivers MetroParks</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stay up-to-date on improvements to MetroParks</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand how my tax dollars are being spent</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find out how to volunteer at MetroParks</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find out how to donate to MetroParks</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS HAVE YOU TAKEN AS A RESULT OF READING PARKWAYS? (Circle ONE per line)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FREQUENTLY</th>
<th>RARELY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Went to metroparks.org to learn more</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Went to metroparks.org to register for a program online</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Called to register for a program</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attended a special event featured in the magazine</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Went to a MetroParks location to see or do something I read about</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signed up to become a volunteer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donated to Five Rivers MetroParks</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied what I read about in my own yard/home/community</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussed articles with friends</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clipped/saved items of interest</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared my copy of ParkWays</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11. IF YOU WERE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT SOMETHING YOU READ IN PARKWAYS, WHAT WOULD BE YOUR PREFERRED METHOD OF RECEIVING THAT INFORMATION? (Check ONE)

☐ Visit metroparks.org    ☐ Call Five Rivers MetroParks
☐ Visit a location and ask staff     ☐ Sign up for e-mail newsletters
☐ Follow Five Rivers MetroParks on social media

12. HOW MANY OTHER PEOPLE USUALLY READ OR LOOK THROUGH YOUR ISSUE OF PARKWAYS? (Check ONE)

☐ 1       ☐ 2       ☐ 3       ☐ 4       ☐ 5 or more

13. HOW LIKELY ARE YOU TO READ PARKWAYS ONLINE? (Circle ONE)

VERYY LIKELY                      VERY UNLIKELY

☐ 1       ☐ 2       ☐ 3       ☐ 4       ☐ 5

14. OTHER THAN PARKWAYS, WHAT ARE YOUR MAIN SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS? (Circle ONE per line)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Daily</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Rarely</th>
<th>NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read the Dayton Daily News</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit daytondailynews.com or Dayton.com</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read other local online news</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read community newspapers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read local magazines</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read club/group newsletters</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read brochures</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pick up fliers for programs or events of interest</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listen to local radio stations</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watch local TV news</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read MetroParks’ email newsletters</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read email newsletters from other sources</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit online calendars, such as daytonlocal.com</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watch videos</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listen to podcasts</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use social media</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read reviews</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rely on word-of-mouth</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16. HOW DO YOU CURRENTLY CONNECT WITH FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS? (Circle ONE per line)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Frequently</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Rarely</th>
<th>NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attend programs with pre-registration</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend drop-in programs (no registration required)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go to festivals/special events</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve shelters or campsites</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit parks on my own without scheduled programs or events</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit metroparks.org</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follow MetroParks on social media</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read MetroParks e-mail newsletters</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donate</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17. Comments/Suggestions:
The Market features 40 vendors offering a variety of fare, most of it locally produced:

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

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

SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE MARKET THIS SUMMER:

GRAND OPENING OF THE OUTDOORS FARMERS MARKET
Saturday, June 1 — 8 AM to 3 PM: Shop for in-season fruit, vegetables, herbs and plants from local farmers on Saturdays and Sundays through October. Weekend surprises and raffles will be held throughout the season.

SUNDAYS AT THE MARKET KICK OFF
Sunday, June 2, from 11 AM to 3 PM
Open Sundays from June through December, the 2nd Street Market is the perfect place for live music, brunch and Sunday shopping.

NATIONAL FARMERS MARKET WEEK
Sunday, Aug. 1, through Saturday, Aug. 10
Celebrate National Farmers Market Week with peak-season produce, live music and fun programming for the whole family.

Nearly 30 Market vendors now accept SNAP/EBT tokens and Produce Perks!
ACTIVE OUTDOORS
Discover how easy it is to have an active, healthy outdoor lifestyle.

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

BACKPACKING

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: BACKPACKING TRAIL WORK DAYS
SAT. JUN 8, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM B13
SAT. JUN 15, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM B14
SAT. AUG 10, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM B15
SAT. SEP 14, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM B16
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 allison.zimmerman@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

BACKPACKING 2
SAT. SEP 21, 12:00 PM - SUN. SEP 22 12:00 PM B30
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Campsite: Shimp's Hollow, 7350 BoomerShine Rd.
Spend a night on the Twin Valley Trail learning how to pack your backpack, use a water filter, cook in the backcountry, select a campsite and more. Equipment is available at no additional charge with reservation. Prerequisites: Backpacking 1 or Intro to Backpacking. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $45

BOATING

(FREE) DISCOVER ROWING
SAT. JUL 13, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM B197
ISLAND METROPARK, Greater Dayton Rowing Association Boathouse, 124 E. Helena St.
The Greater Dayton Rowing Association invites you to discover how rowing can boost your fun & fitness. Get introduced to the boats, oars, basic body mechanics, how to get in a boat safely, & get on the water in a sweep or sculling boat. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Receive a $25 discount for our Learn-to-Row program. See contact info to register. Contact LTR@daytonrowing.org for details. https://daytonrowing.org/. Age: 18Y and up

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

CYCLING

(FREE) RIDE TO RIVERSCAPE METROPARK
SAT. JUN 8, 9:00-11:00 AM B354
MAD RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 8
Meet in the last parking lot at Eastwood MetroPark, 1385 Harshman Road. (6 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

(FREE) RIDE TO WEGERTZYN GARDENS METROPARK
THU. JUN 20, 6:30-7:30 PM B355
GREAT MIAMI RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 25
Meet at Deeds Point MetroPark, 510 Webster St. (6 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

(FREE) RIDE TO HUFFMAN METROPARK
SAT. JUN 13, 9:00-11:00 AM B356
MAD RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 8
Meet at Deeds Point MetroPark, 510 Webster St. (14 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

(FREE) RIDE IN ENGLEWOOD METROPARK
SAT. AUG 10, 9:00-11:00 AM B357
STILLWATER RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 7
Meet in the West Park parking lot at

BACKPACKING 1
THU. AUG 29, 6:00-8:30 PM B136
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn about gear, food, trip planning and other tips and tricks during this classroom session, setting you up to have a safe and enjoyable backpacking adventure. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $5

CAMPING

GREAT AMERICAN CAMPOUT
SAT. JUN 22, 3:00 PM - SUN. JUN 23, 10:00 AM B135
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Campsite: Black Cherry Camp, 7490 Frytown Rd.
Join us as we take the National Wildlife Federation's pledge to celebrate camping as a way to connect with nature and wildlife. Pack the tent and the family; we'll provide the hotdogs, campfire and s'mores. Check in at the campsite between 3-5 PM Price per family (up to 5 people). Registration required. All ages Fee: $25

SAT. SEP 14, 9:00-11:00 AM B359
STILLWATER RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 7
Meet in the West Park parking lot at

SAT. SEP 21, 12:00 PM - SUN. SEP 22, 12:00 PM B30
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Campsite: Shimp's Hollow, 7350 BoomerShine Rd.
Spend a night on the Twin Valley Trail learning how to pack your backpack, use a water filter, cook in the backcountry, select a campsite and more. Equipment is available at no additional charge with reservation. Prerequisites: Backpacking 1 or Intro to Backpacking. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $45

SAT. SEP 14, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
SAT. JUL 14, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
SUN. JUL 14, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Y451
SUN. JUN 9, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM B105
SUN. JUL 14, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Y451
SUN. AUG 11, 12:00 AM B106
SUN. SEP 15, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM B107
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.
Meet with local experts to ask your backpacking questions, try on a backpack, experiment with some of the gear, sample backcountry food and learn about local resources and opportunities to get started with backpacking. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

SAT. JUL 13, 9:00-11:00 AM B356
MAD RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 8
Meet at Deeds Point MetroPark, 510 Webster St. (14 miles) Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

SAT. JUN 8, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM B13
SAT. JUL 13, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM B14
SAT. AUG 10, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM B15
SAT. SEP 14, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM B16
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 allison.zimmerman@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

SAT. JUN 8, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
MAT. JUL 13, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
SUN. JUN 9, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
SUN. JUL 14, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
SUN. AUG 11, 12:00 AM
SUN. SEP 15, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
Y451
B105
B107
B106
B106
B107
B105
B106
B107
**ACTIVE OUTDOORS PROGRAMMING**

*NEW THIS SUMMER*

**Fishing**

- **Daytime Fly Fishing**
  - **FREE** Fly Fishing Clinic
  - Sun. Jun 23, 10:00-11:00 AM
  - CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK
    - 8111 E. Shull Rd.
    - 8111 E. Shull Rd.
    - 6910 Boomershine Rd.
  - Meet in the last parking lot at Eastwood MetroPark, 1385 Harshman Rd.
  - Fishing license required. All ages

- **Fly Casting Games**
  - Thu. Sep 12, 5:00-6:00 PM
  - EASTWOOD METROPARK, Rugby Field, 1385 Harshman Rd.
  - Fly fishing is fun - but not if you are struggling with your cast. Hoops in the air, hoops on the ground, kneeling, standing; all designed to simulate real-life fishing situations. Have fun and improve your cast at the same time. Instructors will be on hand to help you through the course. Equipment provided, or bring your own. Registration required. Age: 10Y and up Fee: $10

**Hiking**

- **FREE** Boot Camp in the Park
  - Tue. Jun 11, 5:30-6:30 PM
  - CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, 8111 E. Shull Rd.
  - Join us this season for our weekend horseback rides which begin June 1 & 2, 2019 and are offered through October. Registration opens May 1, 2019. Rides are about one hour. Weight limit is 225 pounds. Registration required. Age: 8Y and up Fee: $30

**Fitness**

- **Yoga in the Park**
  - Sat. Jun 1, 10:00-11:00 AM
  - RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
  - Please bring your own mat and water. No registration required. All ages

- **Cardio Dance in the Park**
  - Sat. Jun 8, 10:00-11:00 AM
  - RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
  - Please bring your own water. No registration required. All ages

**Biking**

- **FREE**try Fly Fishing
  - Thu. Jun 13, 5:00-8:00 PM
  - POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Farm Shelter/Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Road
  - Meet in the last parking lot at Eastwood MetroPark, 1385 Harshman Rd.
  - Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

- **Ride to Huffman Dam**
  - Wed. Sep 25, 6:30-7:30 PM
  - MAD RIVER TRAIL, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
  - Meet in the last parking lot at Eastwood MetroPark, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
  - Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

**Riding**

- **SUMMER HORSE CAMP**
  - Mon., Tue., Wed., Thu., Fri. June
  - CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, 8111 E. Shull Rd.
  - Do you have a young person who loves horses? Sign them up for our summer youth horse camps. We offer half-day, week-long camps throughout the summer. Contact (937) 776-1977 or anthony@keysports.net for details. www.beer5k.com. Age: 8Y and up Fee: $10

**New This Summer**

**Driveless Livemore**

- **Starts June 1**
  - Meet in the last parking lot at Eastwood MetroPark, 1385 Harshman Rd. (7 miles)
  - Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

**Beer 5K**

- **Dayton Beer 5K**
  - Sat. Jun 1, 5:00-8:00 PM
  - RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
  - The 2019 Dayton Beer 5K & 1/4 mile walk and tasting will bring together 12 local microbreweries and the running community to enjoy a fun, athletic event with a relaxing beer tasting after party. Options are available for athletes of all abilities. All event details can be found at www.beer5k.com or on social media: @beer5k. Contact (937) 776-1977 or anthony@keysports.net for details. www.beer5k.com. Age: 21Y and up Fee: $5 Pre-Reg.: $50, 5K Race Day: $60, 1/4 Mile Walk:Pre-Reg.: $45, 1/4 Mile Walk Race Day: $55, Tasting Only: $20

**Cardio Dance**

- **Cardio Dance**
  - Sat. Jul 13, 10:00-11:00 AM
  - CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Riding Center, 8111 E. Shull Rd.
  - Please bring your own mat and water. No registration required. All ages

- **Cardio Dance**
  - Sat. Jul 20, 10:00-11:00 AM
  - CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Riding Center, 8111 E. Shull Rd.
  - Please bring your own mat and water. No registration required. All ages

**Riding**

- **FREE** Vogelzang Gardens Horseback Riding
  - Thu. Jul 18, 5:30-6:30 PM
  - WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Jay Lake and Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
  - Always wanted to try fly fishing? Here is your opportunity. Instructors available for questions and will teach basic fly fishing techniques in a controlled environment. Equipment is provided. No fishing license required at this location. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 14Y and up

**More bike rides**

- **BIKE TO THE DRAGONS**
  - Thu. Aug 22, 6:30-7:30 PM
  - MAD RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 8
  - Meet at Deeds Point MetroPark, 510 Webster St. (7 miles)
  - Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

**More fun options**

- **FREE** Yoga in the Park
  - Sat. Jun 1, 10:00-11:00 AM
  - RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
  - Please bring your own mat and water. No registration required. All ages

- **FREE** Cardo Dance in the Park
  - Sat. Jun 8, 10:00-11:00 AM
  - RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
  - Please bring your own water. No registration required. All ages

**More horseback riding**

- **WEEKEND HORSE TRAIL RIDES**
  - Sat., Sun Jun. 1-Oct. 27, 9:30 AM-1:15 PM
  - CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Riding Center, 8111 E. Shull Rd.
  - Join us this season for our weekend horseback rides which begin June 1 & 2, 2019 and are offered through October. Registration opens May 1, 2019. Rides are about one hour. Weight limit is 225 pounds. Registration required. Age: 8Y and up Fee: $30

**Fishing**

- **Fly Fishing**
  - Thu. Aug 8, 5:00-8:00 PM
  - WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Jay Lake and Parking Lot, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
  - Always wanted to try fly fishing? Here is your opportunity. Instructors available for questions and will teach basic fly fishing techniques in a controlled environment. Equipment is provided. No fishing license required at this location. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 14Y and up
the summer (June-mid-August) where campers learn to ride and care for horses. Multiple skill levels available. Registration required. www.metroparks.org/ridingcenter. Age: 8Y-17Y Fee: $260

**FALL HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS**
**MON. SEP. 9-NOV. 4, 4:30-5:30 PM** B289 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Riding Center, 811 E. Shull Rd.
Fall riding lessons for youth and adults begin the first week of September and run for 10 weeks. These hour-long, weekly group lessons are offered for various riding levels for English riding. Registration required. Age: 8Y and up Fee: Lessons: $250

**MOUNTAIN BIKING**

**FREE** TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING
**THU. JUN 13, 4:00-7:00 PM** B273 **WED. JUL 17, 4:00-7:00 PM** B274 **TUE. AUG 6, 4:00-7:00 PM** B275 **WED. SEP 11, 4:00-7:00 PM** B276 HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.
Want to try mountain biking but don’t have a bike? If so, come out to MoMBA and borrow one of our bikes. Bikes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Riders younger than 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Helmets are required and are provided with the bike. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome.
All ages

**FREE** RIDE WITH A GUIDE
**THU. JUN 13, 4:30-5:30 PM** B281 **THU. JUN 13, 6:00-7:00 PM** B282 **TUE. AUG 6, 4:30-5:30 PM** B283 **TUE. AUG 6, 6:00-7:00 PM** B284 HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.
Join staff and volunteers on a guided ride around MoMBA. Ride your own bike or borrow one of ours. Bikes must be in good working order with properly inflated tires. Helmets are required and can be provided with bikes. Participants under 18 must be with a parent or guardian. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 14Y and up

**NATURE APPRECIATION**

**FREE** VOLUNTEER: FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION
**THU. JUN 13, 9:00-11:00 AM** B1 **WED. JUN 26, 6:30-8:30 PM** B2 **TUE. JUL 16, 9:00-11:00 AM** B21 **WED. JUL 31, 6:30-8:30 PM** B22 **WED. AUG 14, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** B23 **THU. AUG 29, 6:30-8:30 PM** B24 **THU. SEP 5, 9:00-11:00 AM** B25 **TUE. SEP 17, 6:30-8:30 PM** B26 FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor
Five Rivers MetroParks has volunteer opportunities year-round and at nearly every park. Orientation provides history, an overview of location-specific opportunities and an introduction to opportunities this season. Attendance does not commit you to anything. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact info@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE**

**FREE** VOLUNTEER: WAGNER SUBARU OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE TRAINING
**SAT. SEP 21, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM** B27 **SAT. SEP 28, 3:00-5:00 PM** B28 EASTWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Bluegrass, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Join the fun at this year’s Wagner Subaru Outdoor Experience, the region’s premier outdoor adventure festival! You can be a part of the action as an event volunteer. Check out the opportunities available and learn more about this year’s event online at www.metroparks.org/outdoorx. Come to this session for hands-on volunteer training. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact jenny.hymans@metroparks.org for details. Age: 14Y and up

**PADDLING**

**DOWNTOWN DAYTON RIVER KAYAKING TRIPS**
**TUE. JUN 4, 6:00-8:00 PM** B117

**TUE. JUL 23, 6:00-8:00 PM** B125 **TUE. AUG 20, 6:00-8:00 PM** B128 **TUE. SEP 17, 6:00-8:00 PM** B124 OFFSITE, Whitewater Warehouse, 104 Valley St.
Kayak down the Mad River and the Great Miami River through the two whitewater features of the RiverScape River Runs. This trip is led by Five Rivers MetroParks’ staff. We will be getting wet so please dress appropriately, including wearing water shoes or old sneakers. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $30

**FREE** TRY PADDLESPORTS
**THU. JUN 6, 4:00-7:00 PM** B118 EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lagoon, 1385 Harshman Rd.
**WED. JUL 10, 4:00-7:00 PM** B119 EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Park, 1385 Harshman Rd.
**WED. AUG 28, 4:00-7:00 PM** B120 EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.
Kayak, Stand Up Paddleboard, and canoe overviews will be given. Learn about the sport in a controlled environment. Equipment provided at this drop-in program. Registration required. All ages

**KAYAK 1**
**SAT. JUN 8, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** B121 **SAT. JUL 6, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** B123 **SAT. AUG 17, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** B127 EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.
Become acquainted with equipment, learn a variety of paddle strokes, flatwater rescues and other safety topics for beginners. Dress to get wet. Prerequisites: none. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $70

**KAYAK 2: RIVER**
**SAT. JUN 15, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** B122 **SAT. AUG 3, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** B126 **SAT. AUG 24, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** B130 EASTWOOD METROPARK, Mad River Access Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Get instruction on safety, river paddling techniques, and how to recognize and avoid hazards. Dress to get wet. Prerequisites: Kayak 1. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $70

**SWIFTWATER RESCUE FOR PADDLERS**
**SAT., SUN JUN. 22-23, 8:30 AM-6:00 PM** A166 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 white-water experience is recommended. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $235

KAYAK UNDER THE FOUNTAINS
WED. AUG 7, 4:30-5:30 PM B138
WED. AUG 7, 5:30-6:30 PM B380
WED. AUG 7, 6:30-7:30 PM B381
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Join us as we kayak under the Five Rivers Fountain of Lights at RiverScape MetroPark on the Great Miami River. There will be three sessions, each an hour long, & space is limited so make sure you register! Registration required. All ages Fee: $10

KAYAK EXPLORING:
HUFFMAN LAKE
THU. AUG 22, 6:00-9:00 PM B129
HUFFMAN METROPARK, Huffman Lake, 4095 Lower Valley Pk.
Explore Huffman Lake with a Five Rivers MetroParks naturalist and learn about the wildlife that exists along this hidden gem. We will be in and out of our kayaks around the lake as we explore. Prerequisites: none. Registration required. Age: 12Y and up Fee: $25

STAND UP PADDLEBOARDING 1
WED. SEP 4, 5:30-8:30 PM B131
TUE. SEP 10, 5:30-8:30 PM B132
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.
This hands-on program will use instruction and games as we learn to stand up paddleboard. Topics covered include paddle strokes, board handling and safety, and more. Dress to get wet. Prerequisites: None. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $45

KAYAK EXPLORING:
EASTWOOD LAGOON
THU. SEP 5, 6:00-9:00 PM B398
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Lagoon, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Explore Eastwood Lagoon with a Five Rivers MetroParks naturalist and learn about the wildlife that exists here. We will be in and out of our kayaks around the lagoon as we use our senses, binoculars, and more to explore this unique environment. Registration required. Age: 12Y and up Fee: $25

NEW THIS SUMMER
TWIN VALLEY TRAIL CHALLENGE
SATURDAY, JUNE 1
Join Dayton Hikers and Five Rivers MetroParks for the seventh annual TVT Challenge. This fun, non-competitive hiking event offers 1 to 27-mile routes along the trail. Registration is available on-site from 5:30 AM to noon.

GET OUT & HIKE
TWIN VALLEY WELCOME CENTER, GERMANTOWN METROPARK
SATURDAYS FROM 10 AM TO 1 PM
MEmorial Day through Labor Day
Explore the trails at the MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA) at Huffman MetroPark this summer. Trails are available for all levels, from tots to advanced riders.
A variety of mountain bikes are available. Rates for youth bikes start at $6 an hour, and adult bikes start at $8 an hour.

RENT MOUNTAIN BIKES AT MoMBA BIKE RENTALS
SATURDAYS FROM 10 AM TO 1 PM
MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH LABOR DAY
Explore the trails at the MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA) at Huffman MetroPark this summer. Trails are available for all levels, from tots to advanced riders.
A variety of mountain bikes are available. Rates for youth bikes start at $6 an hour, and adult bikes start at $8 an hour.

MoMBA: METROPARKS MOUNTAIN BIKING AREA

GET OUT & HIKE
TWIN VALLEY WELCOME CENTER, GERMANTOWN METROPARK
SATURDAYS FROM 10 AM TO 1 PM
MEmorial Day through Labor Day
Explore the trails at the MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA) at Huffman MetroPark this summer. Trails are available for all levels, from tots to advanced riders.
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SATURDAYS FROM 10 AM TO 1 PM
MEmorial Day through Labor Day
Explore the trails at the MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA) at Huffman MetroPark this summer. Trails are available for all levels, from tots to advanced riders.
A variety of mountain bikes are available. Rates for youth bikes start at $6 an hour, and adult bikes start at $8 an hour.
EARTH FRIENDLY LIVING

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

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

FOOD: EARTH TO TABLE

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

STRAWBERRY JAM
SAT. JUN 1, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM B201
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Students will participate in the safe preparation and preservation of the month’s harvest, taking with them basic knowledge, recipes and a jar of strawberry jam. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

PICKLED BEANS
SAT. JUL 6, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM B204
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Students will participate in the safe preparation and preservation of the month’s harvest, taking with them basic knowledge, recipes and a jar of pickled beans. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

MUSHROOM GROWING:
AN INTRODUCTION
SUN. JUL 21, 2:00-3:00 PM B271
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter’s Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Join us as David Sparks, owner of Guided by Mushrooms, talks about varieties of mushrooms, the process of growing them commercially and how he helps supply local restaurants with these delicious treats. Prepare to be amazed! We will have a hands-on mushroom growing class this fall. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

BUILD A BACKYARD COOK STATION
SAT. AUG 17, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM B159
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Backyard kitchens are all the rage, but can be a very expensive investment. Come out to the farm to learn about cold-hearty plants, low tunnels and cold frames. Program participants will help Possum Creek farm staff build a simple root-cellar and take home instructions. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

EXTENDING THE HARVEST
SAT. SEP 28, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM B163
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Do you have squash coming out of your ears and nowhere to store it? Building a backyard root cellar may be an option. Come out for an evening of learning as we explore the history of food storage and talk about modern, sustainable root-cellaring methods. Participants will help farm staff build a simple root-cellar and take home instructions. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

GARDENING

INTRODUCTION TO HERBAL TEA MAKING
WED. AUG 28, 6:30-9:00 PM B161
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Local Herbalist Janet Lawson will be talking with us about the proper way to make fresh and dried herb teas, decoctions, nourishing teas, tea blends for specific conditions and novel ways teas can be used (compresses, bathing, eye washes, etc.) Participants will enjoy making several different blends during this “tea party” and take home recipes. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

THE ROOTS OF ROOT CELLARING
THU. SEP 12, 6:00-7:30 PM B162
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Do you have squash coming out of your ears and nowhere to store it? Building a backyard root cellar may be an option. Come out for an evening of learning as we explore the history of food storage and talk about modern, sustainable root-cellaring methods. Participants will help farm staff build a simple root-cellar and take home instructions. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

INTRODUCTION TO HERBAL TEA MAKING
WED. AUG 28, 6:30-9:00 PM B161
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Local Herbalist Janet Lawson will be talking with us about the proper way to make fresh and dried herb teas, decoctions, nourishing teas, tea blends for specific conditions and novel ways teas can be used (compresses, bathing, eye washes, etc.) Participants will enjoy making several different blends during this “tea party” and take home recipes. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

GROWING WITH NATURE

Gardens many times try to control nature instead of working with it. These classes will show you how to get the best results with the least disruption of nature.

PLANTING ALLIANCES
SAT. JUN 1, 10:00-11:30 AM B223
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Grouping certain plants together provides and animal deterrents, pollinator attraction
significant benefits structural support, insect and habitat, soil enhancement, natural mulch. By letting plants do what they are designed to do and selecting the best companions, our gardens become healthier, more beautiful places with minimal work. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

SMALL SPACES, BIG BENEFITS
SAT. JUN 15, 10:00-11:30 AM B228
WEGEZRYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter’s Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
No room for a large garden, moving to a condo, living in an apartment? This class will show how to grow vegetables, flowers, trees and shrubs in small spaces and still attract pollinators, enjoy great produce, protect the environment, and enjoy your own natural spot. We’ll supply diagrams, plant lists, container suggestions as well as maintenance tips. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

DISAPPEARING FLYING INSECTS
SAT. JUL 6, 12:00-1:30 PM B237
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Flying insects are on the decline and this could have a tremendous impact on your garden, the environment and our food supply. Dr. Hongmei Li-Byarlay of Central State University will address this topic and will answer questions. A valuable session for everyone. Registration required. All ages Fee: $10

NATIVE PLANT TOUR
SAT. SEP 14, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM B255
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Native plants are important to the environment, insects, pollinators and other animals. These plants also enrich soil and provide wonderful color displays. We’ll visit three special native plant sites: Cox Arboretum, Huffman Prairie and the seed nursery at Germantown, with commentary from MetroParks experts. We’ll use vans to go to the sites. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

GARDEN CHECK-UP: JUNE
TUE. JUN 4, 5:30-6:30 PM B285
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
MetroParks community garden coordinator will teach you what to plant, pull, harvest and stagger. Learn what pests come out in June and how to naturally keep them at bay. Bring your garden questions. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

GARDEN CHECK-UP: JULY
MON. JUL 15, 5:30-6:30 PM B287
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Gardens are in full swing now, but so are insects and some plant diseases. We’ll talk about plant-staking, trimming, disbudding, plot maintenance, weeding, critter fencing and watering, as well as how to recognize insect, disease or pest damage. Come with your gardening questions and go home with answers from a MetroParks gardening expert. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

GARDEN CHECK-UP: AUGUST
THU. AUG 1, 5:30-6:30 PM B370
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Summer is winding down, but your garden doesn’t have to fizzle in the heat. Join MetroParks horticulturist Kelly Wood and learn simple techniques to extend your growing season and maintain edible production until frost. Registration required. All ages Fee: $5

GARDEN CHECK-UP: SEPTEMBER
WED. SEP 11, 5:30-6:30 PM B288
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Gardens are winding down now, but there’s still time for fall planting. We’ll go over which plants to remove, which to prune, and which to plant and how to maintain what you’ve got now so it looks good for another month. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

BUS TRIP: GRANGE INSURANCE AUDUBON CENTER, OAKLAND NURSERY & MORE
THU. JUN 6, 7:45 AM-6:00 PM B234
WEGEZRYN GARDENS METROPARK, North Parking Lot Event Staging Area.
Join us on a tour to Columbus. We’ll visit the Columbus MetroParks gardens along the shores of the Scioto River, a transformed urban brownfield site. After lunch at Columbus’ North Market, we’ll visit the American Whistle Factory. Our last stop will be a tour of the Oakland Nursery. This is a Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation fundraiser. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 233-3281 or contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org for details. http://wegerzyngardensfoundation.org/bus-trips.html. Age: 18Y and up Fee: Foundation non-members: $67; Wegerzyn Foundation Members: $62

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) USEFUL WEEDS
TUE. JUN 11, 6:00-7:00 PM B227
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Weeds are usually everywhere, and today we’ll talk about uses for common varieties, from salads, soups and dessert garnishes to relieving the pain of bee stings to composting. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

(FREE) MID SEASON VEGETABLE GARDEN
TUE. JUL 9, 6:00-7:00 PM B240
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Vegetable gardens in mid-July are beautiful, productive and are great examples of companion and rotation planting. We’ll cover plants reaching their peak and second season planting. We’ll also discuss in ground and container gardens as well as planning and maintenance strategies. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

(FREE) LATE SUMMER COLOR: PERENNIALS, SHRUBS AND TREES
TUE. AUG 13, 6:00-7:00 PM B250
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
While many plants are finished for the season, others provide a great display for the end of summer. We’ll discuss flower, foliage, and bark changes and how you can play these up in your own garden. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

TOUR WEGEZRYN WITH THE HORTICULTURIST
SAT. JUN 22, 10:00-11:30 AM B229
WEGEZRYN GARDENS METROPARK, Program Parking Area, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
MetroParks horticulturist Janice Mittelkamp will
be your guide to the gardens, in planted and natural spaces, and to the beauty of this wonderful park beside the river. Learn about the plants and why they’re in specific locations. This is your chance to have a MetroParks’ expert answer your gardening questions. Registration required. All ages Fee: $10.

(VOLUNTEER:  GARDENER’S LEARN AND TRY-IT SERIES

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

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: BOXWOOD ID AND BASIC CARE
MON. JUN 24, 9:00-11:30 AM B386
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Gardens, 955 Aullwood Rd.
Get your boxwoods looking their best! Learn about Boxwood ID and basic care, along with tips and tricks on how to keep your plants healthy and thriving. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up.

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: PRUNING DECIDUOUS SHRUBS
TUE. JUL 16, 9:00-11:30 AM B384
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Learn proper pruning techniques to maintain the health and beauty of your deciduous shrubs. Practice what you’ve learned by helping us prune boxwood, taxus and other popular shrubs. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up.

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: PRUNING EVERGREEN SHRUBS
TUE. SEP 17, 9:00-11:30 AM B385
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Learn proper pruning techniques to maintain the health and beauty of your evergreen shrubs. Practice what you’ve learned by helping us prune boxwood, taxus and other popular shrubs. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up.

TOUR: COX WITH THE HORTICULTURIST
SAT. JUL 20, 10:00-11:30 AM B241
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Join us as Horticulturist Kelly Wood leads a walk around Cox Arboretum, explaining plant selection, site development, and sharing the beauty of the park. Come, enjoy, ask questions, and plan your next visit. A great opportunity to learn about a beautiful park. Don’t forget your camera! We’ll meet in the parking lot. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10.

TOUR: AULLWOOD WITH THE HORTICULTURIST
SAT. AUG 10, 2:00-3:00 PM B249
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Gardens, 955 Aullwood Rd.
Today we tour the beautiful woodland gardens of Marie Aull. Kim Ballweg will be our guide, discussing the history of the plants, gardens, woods and prairie, and how they were planted and developed by Marie and now cared for by MetroParks. Bring your friends, family and camera for this beautiful time. We’ll meet in the parking lot. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10.

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: TO CUT OR NOT TO CUT? DEADHEADING GARDEN PERENNIALS
TUE. AUG 20, 9:00-11:30 AM B387
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Picnic Area, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
This class will help even the most experienced gardeners determine if healthy plants should be cut back to the ground or just deadheaded to promote additional blooming. Join us in learning deadheading techniques and assisting staff in the gardens. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up.

(SEED SAVING BASICS
THU. SEP 26, 6:00-8:00 PM B371
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Wallace Library, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Come to Cox Arboretum and see what Five Rivers MetroParks staff and volunteers are doing to collect and save seeds to ensure healthy biodiversity within our parks and community. Discover edibles, wildflowers, shrubs and trees that can easily be propagated. Learn how you can help and why it is important. Registration required. All ages Fee: $10.

HERITAGE & HISTORY

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

QUILTING
THU. JUN 13, 6:00-8:00 PM B202
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center, 7800 E. Shull Rd
Quilting is a great way to reuse and repurpose old fabrics to create something wonderful. Join us as we talk about the basics of quilting and let you try your hand at a simple project. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15.

SPINNING
THU. JUL 11, 6:00-8:00 PM B205
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center, 7800 E. Shull Rd
Spinning is the traditional art of converting raw wool into fiber. In turn, fiber can be used to produce many hand knit items. Participants will learn the basics of spinning and will get to try their hand at it. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15.

TATTING
THU. AUG 8, 6:00-8:00 PM B211
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center, 7800 E. Shull Rd
Tatting is a technique for handcrafting a particularly durable lace from a series of knots and loops. Participants will learn the basics of this art and get to try it themselves. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15.

BUS TRIP: ARMSTRONG AIR & SPACE MUSEUM, TEMPLE OF TOLERANCE ART GARDEN, BICYCLE MUSEUM
TUE. SEP 10, 8:15 AM-6:00 PM B236
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, North Parking Lot Event Staging Area.
Join us on a tour of the Armstrong Air & Space Museum with lunch at a 1950s-themed restaurant.
Next, we’ll tour the Temple of Tolerance, an art garden in Jim Bowsher’s Wapakoneta back yard. Our last stop will be at the Bicycle Museum of America, which houses antique bicycles from the 19th century. A Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation fundraiser. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 233-3481 or contact@wegerzyngardensfoundation.org for details. http://wegerzyngardensfoundation.org/bus-trips.html. Age: 18Y and up Fee: Foundation non-members: $77, Wegerzyn foundation Members: $72

**SUSTAINABLE HOME**

**FREE** COMPOST KITCHEN

**THU. AUG 15, 6:00-8:00 PM** B261

**THU. AUG 22, 6:00-8:00 PM**

**THU. AUG 29, 6:00-8:00 PM**

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

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

**GET OUT & EXPLORE YOUR METROPARKS**

For more than 50 years, Five Rivers MetroParks has protected the region’s natural heritage and provided outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection to nature.

**FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS OVERVIEW**

3.6 MILLION ANNUAL VISITS

18 CLEAN, SAFE PARKS

2ND STREET MARKET

11 CONSERVATION AREAS

160 MILES OF MANAGED TRAILS for hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding

270 MILES OF RIVER CORRIDOR 42 miles managed by Five Rivers MetroParks

8+ OUTDOOR RECREATION FEATURES Including MoMBA and the Twin Valley Trail

9+ EDUCATIONAL FEATURES Including the Butterfly House and Children’s Discovery Garden

16,112 ACRES OF PROTECTED LAND

90 percent of the land is maintained in its natural state, providing beautiful places where people can connect with nature.

**HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF YOUR 18 CLEAN, SAFE METROPARKS!**

**SHARE YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE FUTURE OF HILLS & DALES AND HUFFMAN METROPARKS**

Plans have been developed to guide the future of Hills & Dales and Huffman MetroParks. Attend an open house in June or view plans online to give your feedback. See page 4 for details.

**METROPARKS.ORG/PLAN**
CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: BUTTERFLY HOUSE GUIDE
TUE. JUN 4, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM B302
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
The Butterfly House captures some of the most compelling stories in nature, critical to human survival. Learn what it takes to be a guide and hear the stories from Butterfly House volunteer while studying identification techniques, behavior, and ecology. Volunteer opportunities available pending screening process. Registration required. Age: 16Y and up ☑

(FREE) STILLWATER RIVER MONITORING FOR ODNR SCENIC RIVERS PROGRAM
WED. JUL 24, 6:00-8:00 PM B145
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Program Parking Area, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Participate in a river water quality assessment training conducted by an Ohio Department of Natural Resources trainer. Learn about the creatures living in our rivers and what they can tell us as important bio-indicators. Wear wading shoes and dress to get wet. Meet at the south end of the parking lot. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact doug.horvath@metroparks.org for details. http://watercraft.ohiodnr.gov/sqm. Age: 18Y and up ☑

ENTERTAINMENT

SUMMER DATES IN THE PARK
Explore, taste, and immerse yourself in the unique personality of our parks! We will be serving up a one-of-a-kind experience for you and your guest, including curated mocktails that are inspired by the park, light refreshments, and unique experiences that will turn into cherished memories.

SUMMER GARDEN GAZING
THU. JUN 20, 7:00-9:00 PM B230
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Come in twos for fun in the park! Together you’ll enjoy hors d’euvres and delicious fruit-based mocktails, create your own gazing ball, and be part of a fun photo adventure. Your evening stroll through our gorgeous gardens will be accompanied by music from our guitarist. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: per couple: $50 ☑

A TASTE OF THE PAST
THU. SEP 12, 5:30-7:00 PM B382
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Join us as we enjoy the hospitality of Carriage Hill Farm. Relax in our historical setting while you sample a flight of homemade ginger beers. Partake of freshly baked items from our bake oven and gourmet popcorn as you mingle with other guests. Entertainment will be the finishing touch to a relaxing evening. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: per couple: $50 ☑

FLORA & FAUNA

INSECT ID AND BEHAVIOR
SAT. JUL 13, 9:00-11:30 AM B311
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn how to identify insects through an interactive session on biology, exploring collections, live specimens, and a field study. We’ll also explore basic spider ID, as well as discuss myths and folklore. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $5
NATURE APPRECIATION

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: VISITOR SERVICES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
THU. JUL 18, 6:00-7:00 PM B383
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor
Share your love for the parks! Visitor Services Volunteers will provide excellent customer service by welcoming and greeting visitors and answering basic questions about MetroParks. Volunteer shifts are available at Carriage Hill or Cox Arboretum, weekends and weekdays. Attending this informational meeting does not require you to volunteer. Registration required. Contact jleonard@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $0

WATCHING THE RIVER
SUN. SEP 8, 2:00-3:30 PM B253
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Program Parking Area, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Meander along the beautiful Stillwater River as we unveil its history and significance as an Ohio Designated Scenic River. Experience the river’s sounds and watch the colors and sparkles of the water in sun and shade. We’ll discuss the concept of Blue Mind and how humans interact with and are connected to water. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

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

(FREE) ADULT NATURE WALK
TUE. JUN 4, 9:00-11:00 AM B390
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter; CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40
TUE. JUL 9, 9:00-11:00 AM B391
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Program Parking at Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.
TUE. AUG 20, 9:00-11:00 AM B392
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter; Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
TUE. SEP 24, 9:00-11:00 AM B393
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Third Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $0

VISITING GARDEN ROOMS
SUN. JUL 7, 2:00-3:30 PM B239
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Formal Gardens, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Summer means flower and vegetable gardens in full production and beauty. Tour the garden rooms at Wegeryn, looking for the dynamics that create excitement or serenity. Experience how plant placement, color or texture choices influence our mood. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

LISTENING TO PRAIRIE SOUNDS
SUN. AUG 4, 2:00-3:30 PM B243
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, Aullwood Gardens, 955 Aullwood Rd.
Prairie flowers and grasses are at their peak, alive with color and creatures while they enrich the soil. Join us as we enjoy the visual impact of these grasslands and listen to the sounds of insects and birds. Prairies have always been special places in our environment. We’ll meet in the parking lot. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

PHOTOGRAPHY & ART

SMILE FOR THE CAMERA!
SAT. JUN 15, 10:00-11:30 AM B224
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Improve your outdoor portraiture by learning the importance of background and foreground elements, stance and pose, and sunlight and shadow. Following a presentation indoors, participants will then go outside (weather permitting) to take pictures of a model in the garden. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

LITTLE PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS ON THE PRAIRIE
SAT. JUL 13, 10:00-11:30 AM B238
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 55 Aullwood Rd.
Walk quietly through the tall grass on a summer morning and you’re likely to see flowers, birds and insects just perfect for photographs. Bring your camera and your questions for photographer Adam Alonzo during this casual exploration of Aullwood’s prairie, nature trails, woods and creek. We’ll meet in the parking lot. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

RECREATION PARKWAY 35 • PARKWAYS

SIGN UP FOR THE NEWSLETTER
Check your inbox to learn how you can Get Out & Explore your MetroParks. MetroParks’ monthly email is filled with highlights. Emails for gardening, outdoor recreation, volunteerism and other special interests also are popular. All are designed to help you make the most of your Five Rivers MetroParks!

METROPAKRS.ORG/NEWSLETTERS
FAMILY
Spend quality time outdoors with everyone in your family.

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY DATE

(NEW) SUMMER AFTER 6
WED. JUN 5, 6:00-6:30 PM B290
WED. JUN 12, 6:00-6:30 PM B324
WED. JUN 19, 6:00-6:30 PM B325
WED. JUN 26, 6:00-6:30 PM B327
WED. JUL 3, 6:00-6:30 PM B328
WED. JUL 10, 6:00-6:30 PM B329
WED. JUL 17, 6:00-6:30 PM B333
WED. JUL 24, 6:00-6:30 PM B334
WED. JUL 31, 6:00-6:30 PM B335

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Children’s Discovery Garden, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Play is critical to the healthy growth and development of children, so come out and play with us in the Children’s Discovery Garden. Each week we will have a new game or activity to get kids outside and moving, followed by free time for you to explore the other ways to have fun in the garden! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages.

NATURE KNOWLEDGE
FRI. JUN 7, 10:30-11:30 AM B219
FRI. JUN 14, 10:30-11:30 AM B220
FRI. JUN 21, 10:30-11:30 AM B221
FRI. JUN 28, 10:30-11:30 AM B222
FRI. JUL 5, 10:30-11:30 AM B245
FRI. JUL 12, 10:30-11:30 AM B246
FRI. JUL 19, 10:30-11:30 AM B247
FRI. JUL 26, 10:30-11:30 AM B248

WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Children’s Discovery Garden, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Kids and parents have questions about nature: Why is soil brown? Why do birds sing? Why is summer hot? Each week we’ll address a new question and invite you and your kids to join us as we explore the answer through science, demonstrations, games, and crafts. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y Fee: Per Family: $7 8 R

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 will also receive a special MetroParks Conservation Kids hat and become eligible to volunteer and help lead future programs. Visit metroparks.org/kids.

(NEW) SUMMER AFTER 6
FRI. JUN 7, 8:30-9:30 PM B305
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Program Parking, 478 Conference Rd.

Some of the most amazing insects venture out at night! Join an expedition in search of these tiny beasts, and learn about their nocturnal life histories. Flashlights welcome. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

(NEW) NIGHTTIME INSECT EXPLORATION
FRI. JUN 7, 8:30-9:30 PM B305
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Program Parking, 478 Conference Rd.

Some of the most amazing insects venture out at night! Join an expedition in search of these tiny beasts, and learn about their nocturnal life histories. Flashlights welcome. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

(NEW) WOODLAND NESTING BIRDS
SAT. JUN 8, 10:00-11:30 AM B304
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.

With only a beak and feet, birds create incredibly intricate nurseries. Explore and learn as we search for breeding birds, and marvel in their nesting architecture. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

(NEW) TOGETHER WITH FIREFLIES
SAT. JUN 8, 8:00-9:30 PM B303
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

It’s backyard sleepover time, and nature is welcoming it with fireflies! From crafts to games and outdoor discovery, learn how to put together the best sleepover in your backyard. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y

(NEW) AMPHIBIAN SURVEY
FRI. JUN 21, 8:30-9:30 PM B306
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Just as kids need their medical check-ups, nature does too! Frogs can be used as indicators to determine wetland health. Be a part of nature’s check-up and learn how to survey frogs. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y

(NEW) BABY OWL SEARCH
FRI. JUL 12, 8:30-9:30 PM B307
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Shelter: Patty/East Park, 4361 National Rd.

Nearly invisible yet majestic, owls are quite common. Join us in search for owls while exploring our inherent connections with our forests. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

(NEW) WATERWAY CHECK-UP
SAT. JUN 8, 4:00-6:00 PM B309

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

From hide & seek to building forts, nature is the perfect playing field for summer! Your family will learn new nature-based games and how to put on a party at your house, focused on fun in nature. Participants will get a games facilitator package to take home. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y

(NEW) NATURE SPORTS
SAT. JUN 15, 4:00-6:00 PM B309

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

Treat the kids to a late night and explore creatures that lurk in darkness. We will hike through a variety of habitats in search of coyotes, raccoons, owls, and other animals. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

(NEW) NOCTURNAL EXCURSION
SAT. JUN 15, 9:00-10:00 PM B310
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40

Treat the kids to a late night and explore creatures that lurk in darkness. We will hike through a variety of habitats in search of coyotes, raccoons, owls, and other animals. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y
**METROPARKS.ORG**

**FAMILY PROGRAMMING**

**FREE** EVENING PRAIRIE SEED COLLECTING  
**FRI. AUG 16, 7:00-8:00 PM B315**  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Program Parking, 4178 Conference Rd.

MetroParks needs seeds to care for existing prairies and to help establish new habitat for pollinators. Join us on a seed-collecting extravaganza to help ensure the future of our region’s biodiversity! Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y ☀️ ☀️

**FREE** CREEK EXPLORATION  
**SAT. AUG 17, 10:00-11:30 AM B312**  
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Program Parking, 4178 Conference Rd.

Treat your family to a cool, refreshing creek and find creatures like crawdads, salamanders, and rainbow darters! Kids and parents should wear clothes that can get wet. Close-toed shoes required, no sandals please. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y ☀️ ☀️

**FREE** CREEK GUIDE TRAINING  
**SAT. AUG 17, 1:00-3:00 PM B313**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Become a Creek Guide and lead your friends on an adventure of their lifetime! You’ll learn how to select a safe site, identify creek creatures, and techniques you can use to help your friends embrace this habitat. Each participant will get a creek exploration kit to take home. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y ☀️ ☀️

**FREE** WETLAND ROMP  
**SAT. AUG 17, 6:00-7:30 PM B314**  
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Redwing/ Parking Lot, 7821 E. Shull Rd.

Get your provided net into the muck and explore baby dragonflies, water scorpions, backswimmers, tadpoles, and many other creatures that call the ponds home. Wear clothes that can get wet and dirty. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y ☀️ ☀️

**FREE** FOSSIL FUN  
**SAT. SEP 14, 10:00-11:30 AM B317**  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 BoomerShine Rd.

Explore Ohio’s incredible fossils and geologic history, make a fossil, and take a short hike to view rock formations. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y ☀️ ☀️

**FREE** BACKYARD NATURALIST TRAINING  
**SAT. SEP 14, 1:00-3:00 PM B316**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Learn what it takes to be a naturalist! Your child will practice discovery skills and learn how to excite other kids about nature. Participants will receive a guide kit that they will use to lead their own nature hike for their friends. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y ☀️ ☀️

**FREE** MONARCH TAGGING  
**SAT. SEP 21, 1:00-3:00 PM B318**  
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.

Monarchs are beginning their migration to Mexico. Help capture, tag, and record data to help with butterfly conservation efforts. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y ☀️ ☀️

**FREE** OWL PROWL  
**SAT. SEP 21, 8:00-9:30 PM B319**  
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 BoomerShine Rd.

Escape on a night walk in search of the Screech and Barred owls, while learning about their interactions with our forests. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y ☀️ ☀️

UPCYCLING FOR THE GARDEN  
**SAT. JUN 8, 10:00-11:30 AM B191**  
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.

Make garden care easy and fun by taking items and learn about the country and its customs. Recipe will be available! Age: 3Y-13Y ☀️ ☀️

**FREE** CULTURE KITCHEN: FRANCE  
**THU. JUN 13, 6:00-7:30 PM B195**  
WEGERZYNS GARDENS METROPARK, Sketer’s Shield, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

This month we learn about the food and culture of France. Registration required. All ages ☀️

**FREE** CULTURE KITCHEN: POLAND  
**THU. JUL 11, 6:00-7:30 PM B144**  
WEGERZYNS GARDENS METROPARK, Sketer’s Shield, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.

This month we learn about the food and culture of Poland. Registration required. All ages ☀️

TEACHING KIDS ABOUT THE WONDERS OF NATURE

Today’s kids spend an average of six minutes outdoors each day — and an average of seven hours looking at screens. Conservation Kids is an effective way to counter that by encouraging outdoor play and helping youth become comfortable exploring nature. By participating in Conservation Kids programs, youth ages 3 to 13 discover and appreciate nature while developing leadership skills.

The programs build on knowledge and skills so youth understand their impact on nature — and what, exactly, they can do to protect it. Through fun activities — such as searching for wildlife, collecting seeds, exploring creeks and woods, and hunting for fossils — Conservation Kids builds a future generation to protect our environment.

How It Works:
1. Take two Discover level (green) programs. Discover what’s out there in nature and become comfortable outdoors.
2. Take two Act level (blue) programs. Learn to protect and give back to nature by improving habitat and becoming citizen scientists.
3. Take one Share level (orange) program and complete one at-home activity with friends. Share knowledge with the community and become a conservation leader.

Look for color triangles (▲) in the program listings for Conservation Kids, which indicate the level of each program. Youth who complete programs in each of Conservation Kids’ three levels will graduate and earn their naturalist’s hat.

**CONSERVATION KIDS**

**PROTECTORS OF NATURE**

Congratulations to our most recent Conservation Kids!

Mary Keller  
Allyson Courville

**METROPARKS.ORG/KIDS**
THE EGG-CELLENT EGG
SAT. JUL 6, 10:00-11:30 AM B192
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Join us as we delve into the workings of an egg. We will visit the chicken coop where the hens lay their eggs and collect what we find. Afterwards we'll make egg salad to eat using eggs from the farm. Registration required. All ages Fee: per family: $10

PASSPORT TO FISHING
SAT. JUL 20, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM B187
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter, Farm Shelter/Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Passport to Fishing is sponsored in part by the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Learn the basics of casting, knots and rigging, habitat and handling and experience a great way to get outdoors and enjoy being healthy and active. Equipment is provided. No fishing license required. Registration required. All ages

FAMILY FARMHANDS
SAT. JUN 15, 9:00-11:00 AM B151
SAT. JUL 13, 9:00-11:00 AM B152
SAT. AUG 3, 9:00-11:00 AM B153
SAT. SEP 14, 9:00-11:00 AM B154
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Become a farmhand for the morning and help feed and care for Possum Creek’s rabbits, chickens, sheep, goats and donkey. Registration required. Age: 5Y-8Y Fee: per child: $5

JAMMING BERRIES
SAT. JUN 22, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM B150
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Smash, mash, bash and clean berries to prepare them for making jam. While our berries cook, you’ll make berry boxes out of cardboard and raffia to take with you to pick berries at your favorite local farm. After our berries are done, you’ll place them in jars to take home. Registration required. All ages Fee: per family: $15

FATHER AND DAUGHTER FISHING DAY
SAT. JUN 29, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM B5
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Shelter: Farm Shelter/Parking Lot, 4790 Frytown Road
Dads, bring your girls and spend some special time at the pond, catching fish and making memories. This is a Passport to Fishing program sponsored in part by the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Instruction, gear and bait provided. Please bring a water bottle with you. Registration required. All ages Fee: $5

FRENCH FRIES AND KETCHUP
SAT. AUG 24, 11:00 AM-1:30 PM B155
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Attention all fry-guys and gals! Are you craving a tasty treat? Come out to the farm to harvest fresh potatoes and tomatoes from the garden. Participants will prepare and enjoy tasty french fries and homemade ketchup from the bounty. Please feel free to bring other lunch items to accompany the fries. Registration required. All ages Fee: per family: $10

FLOWER CRAFTING ON THE FARM
SAT. SEP 7, 10:00-11:30 AM B194
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Ever heard of ever-lasting flowers? Here at the farm we have special flowers that can be dried and kept for a long time. You will pick flowers to make your own arrangement to take home and enjoy. Everything you need will be provided. Registration required. All ages Fee: per family: $15

BUILD A SCARECROW
SAT. SEP 7, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM B252
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Program Parking Area, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Fall is in the air and it’s time to build a scarecrow for your yard or garden. We’ll supply the straw, string and stakes, you bring the clothes and inspiration for your creation. We’ll meet in the parking lot. Registration required. All ages Fee: per scarecrow: $18
**PRESCHOOL**
Help young children discover the wonders of nature. Explore the outdoors while learning and growing.

**PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY DATE**

### (FREE) WHAT’S HAPPENING ON THE FARM
- **THU. JUN 6, 10:00-11:00 AM** B156
  - **THU. JUL 11, 10:00-11:00 AM** B157
  - **THU. AUG 1, 10:00-11:00 AM** B158
  - **THU. SEP 5, 10:00-11:00 AM** B160
  - **POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.**

Things are always changing at the farm; whether it’s the season’s, what’s growing in the garden or prairie, or how the different animals are changing to adapt to the weather. Life on the farm is always in motion. Each month there will be different fun subjects to learn about from stories to activities. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 2Y-5Y

### STORIES, CRAFTS AND MORE
Experience a fun-filled hour in the Children’s Discovery Garden! We’ll read stories about various critters, then take an adventure to see where they live and what they eat. This program designed for toddlers and their caregivers also includes songs and crafts.

### SQUIRRELS
**WED. JUN 12, 10:30-11:30 AM** B254
  - **WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter’s Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.**

Learn about squirrels and see where and how they live. Registration required. Age: 2Y-5Y Fee: Per Child: $5

### BUTTERFLIES
**WED. JUL 3, 10:30-11:30 AM** B257
  - **WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter’s Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.**

Learn about butterflies and see where and how they live. Registration required. Age: 2Y-5Y Fee: Per Child: $5

### FROGS AND TOADS
**WED. AUG 14, 10:30-11:30 AM** B258
  - **WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter’s Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.**

Learn about frogs and toads and see where and how they live. Registration required. Age: 2Y-5Y Fee: Per Child: $5

### (FREE) CREEK ROMP
**WED. JUN 19, 10:00-11:30 AM** B320
  - **SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Program Parking, 4790 Frytown Rd.**

Prepare to get wet as we hop in the creek to discover crawdads, salamanders, and many more of Earth’s creatures! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y

### (FREE) SALAMANDER SEARCH
**THU. JUL 11, 10:00-11:00 AM** B321
  - **HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw/ parking Lot, 2471 Deep Hollow 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) LIVE LIKE A BEE
**TUE. SEP 10, 10:00-11:00 AM** B323
  - **GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomershine Rd.**

Transform your child into this busy insect. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y

### (FREE) PONDOLGY
**THU. SEP 19, 10:00-11:00 AM** B324
  - **POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.**

Discover the wonders of the pond and what lives in and around it. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-5Y

### GET OUTSIDE BOOK CLUB
**FRI. SEP 20, 8:00-9:00 PM** B108
  - **HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw/ parking Lot, 2471 Deep Hollow Rd.**

Join a Dayton Metro Librarian and read stories about spiders! Afterwards, we will go on a spider search and discover their hidden secrets while curbing fears. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

### (FREE) NIGHTTIME EXPLORATION
**FRI. SEP 20, 8:00-9:00 PM** B108
  - **HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw/ parking Lot, 2471 Deep Hollow Rd.**

Join a Dayton Metro Librarian and read stories about owls! Afterwards, we will go on a spider search and discover their hidden secrets while curbing fears. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

### (FREE) SPIDERS
**TUE. SEP 10, 10:00-11:00 AM** B140
  - **POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.**

Join a Dayton Metro Librarian and read stories about spiders! Afterwards, we will go on a spider search and discover their hidden secrets while curbing fears. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

### (FREE) WETLANDS
**WED. SEP 4, 10:00-11:00 AM** B139
  - **WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter’s Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.**

Read stories with a Dayton Metro Librarian, and discover the power of wetlands: nature’s water purifier! We’ll also search for animals and discover plant life. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

### (FREE) OWLS
**WED. SEP 19, 10:30-11:30 AM** B259
  - **WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter’s Shelter, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.**

Learn about owls and see where and how they live. Registration required. Age: 2Y-5Y Fee: Per Child: $5

### (FREE) NIGHTTIME EXPLORATION
**FRI. SEP 20, 8:00-9:00 PM** B108
  - **HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw/ parking Lot, 2471 Deep Hollow Rd.**

Explore the outdoors while learning and growing.
YOUTH AND TEENS
Help young children discover the wonders of nature. Explore the outdoors while learning and growing.

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY DATE

FREE) HOME SWEET HOME
WED. SEP 25, 10:00-11:00 AM B141
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
Join a Dayton Metro Librarian and read stories about animal homes! Afterwards, we will explore animal homes out in nature, make a visit to the wetland, and explore a prairie. Visitors are encouraged to visit the living history farm afterward. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

GROWING ADVENTURES: PLANT, PLAY AND EAT
TUE. JUN 4, 12:30-1:30 PM B336
TUE. JUN 11, 12:30-1:30 PM B337
TUE. JUN 18, 12:30-1:30 PM B338
TUE. JUN 25, 12:30-1:30 PM B339
TUE. JUL 2, 12:30-1:30 PM B340
TUE. JUL 9, 12:30-1:30 PM B341
TUE. JUL 16, 12:30-1:30 PM B342
TUE. JUL 30, 12:30-1:30 PM B343
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter’ Garden, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
A fast, fun-packed hour where kids learn about plants and planting, enjoy healthy snacks and exercise, create a fun craft and go on an exciting nature adventure. A new class each week. Registration required. Age: 6Y-10Y Fee: Per Child: $7

YOUTH KAYAK CAMP
TUE., WED. JUN. 11-12, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM B113
WED., THU. JUN. 19-20, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM B114
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.
Designed specifically for youth 9-15 years old, this hands-on program will introduce skills for riding singletrack mountain bike trails. Topics covered include trail etiquette, braking, shifting, and bike handling. Bicycles and helmets are required and can be provided. Registration required. Age: 9Y-15Y Fee: $15

YOUTH MOUNTAIN BIKING CAMP
TUE. JUN 18, 1:00-5:00 PM B109
TUE. JUL 9, 1:00-5:00 PM B110
TUE. JUL 23, 1:00-5:00 PM B111
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.
Designed specifically for youth 9-15 years old, this hands-on program will introduce skills for riding singletrack mountain bike trails. Bicycles and helmets are required and can be provided. Registration required. Age: 9Y-15Y Fee: $15

YOUTH WHITEWATER KAYAKING CAMP
TUE., WED., THU. JUL. 16-18, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM B112
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.
Advanced kayaking camp for kids with prior kayaking experience with MetroParks that want to learn to paddle whitewater. Prerequisites: Youth Kayak Camp, or Kayak 1 & 2, or similar. Registration required. Age: 11Y-17Y Fee: $80

NEW THIS SUMMER
TUE., WED. JUN. 25-26, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM B115
WED., THU. JUL. 31-AUG. 1, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM B116
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.
This youth focused hands-on 2-day program will use instruction and games as we learn to kayak. Day 1 will be on a lake and day 2 will be on the river. We will be getting wet so dress appropriately. Registration required. Age: 9Y-17Y Fee: $60

MORNING CHORES
SAT. JUN 15, 8:30-10:00 AM B203
SAT. JUL 20, 8:30-10:00 AM B207
SAT. AUG 17, 8:30-10:00 AM B212
SAT. SEP 14, 8:30-10:00 AM B217
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Join a farm staff member to experience a typical work day for a farm hand. Participants will help with a variety of historic chores. Meet at the front gate of the farm. Registration required. Age: 8Y-12Y Fee: $5

GET OUT & DISCOVER DURING TOUR DE WAY
Embark on a summer adventure with Tour de Way! This new program is a fun way to explore the 99 miles of river corridor that connect communities in the Great Miami Riverway. Register at bit.ly/TourDeWay and get a passport. Fill it between now and March 2020 by visiting destinations in our region, including stops in RiverScape, Eastwood and Deeds Point MetroParks. Earn points for a chance to win amazing prizes!

FREE) HOME SWEET HOME
WED. SEP 25, 10:00-11:00 AM B141
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter: Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
Join a Dayton Metro Librarian and read stories about animal homes! Afterwards, we will explore animal homes out in nature, make a visit to the wetland, and explore a prairie. Visitors are encouraged to visit the living history farm afterward. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y

FREE) GET OUT & DISCOVER DURING TOUR DE WAY
Embark on a summer adventure with Tour de Way! This new program is a fun way to explore the 99 miles of river corridor that connect communities in the Great Miami Riverway. Register at bit.ly/TourDeWay and get a passport. Fill it between now and March 2020 by visiting destinations in our region, including stops in RiverScape, Eastwood and Deeds Point MetroParks. Earn points for a chance to win amazing prizes!

FREE) MOSSY ROCK CAMP
WED., JUN. 26, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM B120
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.
This youth focused hands-on 2-day camp will use instruction and games to teach kids basics of camping and nature exploration. A new class each week. Registration required. Age: 7Y-11Y Fee: $30

FREE) COME & PLAY IN THE GARDENS
SAT. JUL 6, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM B202
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Skeeter’ Garden, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Explore the gardens as you learn about plants and flowers. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y Fee: $5

FREE) METROBIRD WALK
SAT. JUN 15, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM B201
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Blue Lake, 1401 Harshman Rd.
Join a MetroParks biologist to see and hear birds at various locations throughout the Park. Registration required. Age: 8Y-12Y Fee: $5
GARDENING

**FREE** HOW TO START A NEW COMMUNITY GARDEN  
**THU. JUN 6, 6:00-7:30 PM**  
**POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.**  
MetroParks works with many 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. Contact kaitlyn.lowry@metroparks.org for details.  
**Age: 18Y and up**

**SCHOOL GARDEN TOURS**  
Are you interested in starting a garden at your school? Join us for tours of Dayton-area schools. Talk with educators about how they got started and how to incorporate the gardens into curriculum. Learn more about the Five Rivers MetroParks’ Green Schoolyards program and other resources for educators.

**FREE** CREATIVE WORLD OF MONTESSORI  
**FRI. JUN 14, 2:00-4:00 PM**  
**OFFSITE, Creative World of Montessori, 1720 Belvo Rd.**  
Creative World of Montessori has gardens at all three of its locations. The Miamisburg location features traditional and raised garden beds and a hay bale garden for squash. Learn how they use the garden with a variety of ages. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

**FREE** PRIMARY VILLAGE SOUTH  
**FRI. JUN 21, 2:00-4:00 PM**  
**OFFSITE, Primary Village South, 8388 Paragon Rd**  
Primary Village South features a courtyard garden with a water feature, vegetable gardens and wildlife habitat. Learn how they partner with their PTO. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

**FREE** GLORIA DEI MONTESSORI  
**TUE. JUL 16, 5:30-7:30 PM**  
**OFFSITE, Gloria Dei Montessori, 615 Shiloh Dr**  
Gloria Dei Montessori features two beds at the school. Learn how Gloria Dei partnered with a local community garden to use some of their plots as well. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

**FREE** KISER ELEMENTARY  
**TUE. JUL 23, 5:30-7:30 PM**  
**OFFSITE, Kiser Elementary, 1401 Leo St**  
Kiser Elementary, one of MetroParks’ first Seedling Schools, features 13 raised beds, an outdoor learning area, outdoor natural/sensory play area, and a native prairie area. Learn how they’ve used community partnerships to help with their outdoor learning space. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

**FREE** MIDSUMMERS NIGHT POTLUCK FOR COMMUNITY GARDENERS  
**WED. AUG 14, 6:00-7:30 PM**  
**POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.**  
Attention to all community gardeners! Celebrate the hard work you’ve put into your garden with a community garden potluck. Bring a dish that utilizes the vegetables you’re growing, and prepare for socializing and most wondrous merriment. Brineth thy appetite! Please label all dishes with potential allergens. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

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

**GROWING UP WILD WORKSHOP**  
**SAT. JUN 15, 1:00-4:00 PM**  
**WESLEYAN METROPARK, Shelter: Blue Jay/Park-ing Lot, 1441 Wesleyan Rd.**  
Take the nationally recognized Growing Up WILD curricula combined with our Natural Adventures Box and you’ll have a fun, exciting summer with students! Give children an early foundation in nature while encouraging them to explore the outdoors. Ohio approved credit from ODJFS is available. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

**PROJECT WILD & INQUIRY ADVENTURES WORKSHOP**  
**WED., THU. JUN. 19-20, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM**  
**COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.**  
This two-day 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 6 hours of Ohio approved credit is available, with no “homework” or papers to write. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $35

**COMMUNITY GROUPS & TRAINING**  
Share the benefits of an active, nature-based lifestyle with your community and future generations.
HELP KIDS DISCOVER NATURE

ATTEND THE NATURAL PLAYSCAPES WORKSHOP AND KEYNOTE
Thursday, June 13, from 8 to 10 AM (program A193)
Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark

Discover the benefits of natural playscapes, which have more health benefits for children and can be installed at a lower cost than traditional playground equipment. This event will include a design workshop during a tour of local sites and a keynote presentation by internationally known designer and builder Adam Bienenstock. He’ll provide information about how to bring natural playscapes to your community.

A natural playscapes tour for professionals also will be held following the public workshop (program A197). Contact doug.horvath@metroparks.org for more information.

Registration required at bit.ly/MLNC1.

www.naturalplaygrounds.ca

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 13

SMALL FARM AND FOOD FEST

CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK
Saturday, July 27, from 10 AM to 5 PM
Celebrate the growing season with an entire day of learning about healthy eating, hobby farming and homesteading. Expand your knowledge with educational talks, shop an outdoor farmers market and grab a bite to eat. View demonstrations to learn more about canning, milling, gardening and soap making — all skills that help you live more sustainably.

PLAN YOUR METROPARKS SUMMER

PASSPORT TO METROPARKS
Friday, June 7, from 6 to 10 PM at RiverScape MetroPark
Get a taste of adventure so you can make the most of your summer during this new event. Between 6 and 8 PM, MetroParks staff experts and representatives from Dayton’s favorite festivals will guide you through fun hands-on activities. Register for programs, meet MetroParks’ live animal ambassadors and fill your passport to be entered to win cool prizes.

Until 10 PM, get a preview of Dayton’s favorite festivals, including GermanFest, the African American Cultural Festival, Celtic Festival and Hispanic Heritage Festival. Enjoy live music, food, dancing and more during this summer festival sneak peek.
GET OUT & LIVE THIS SUMMER AT RIVERSCAPE METROPARK

2019 SUMMER MUSIC SERIES

MUSIC @ LUNCH
Monday - Friday
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Lunchtime downtown features music, food trucks and free WiFi.

FOOD TRUCKS
Monday - Friday
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Food trucks every weekday at lunch.

RIVERSCAPE CAFÉ
Monday - Friday
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Open weekdays for lunch.

INTERACTIVE FOUNTAINS
11 AM - 8 PM daily
Fun for kids of all ages.

FOUNTAIN SNACK BAR
Mon-Wed 11 AM-6 PM
Thur-Sun 11 AM-8 PM
Serving sweet treats like lemonade and ice cream.

PICKIN’ IN THE PARK
FRI. MAY 3, 6-10 PM
Flatland Harmony Experiment
Kind Country
FRI. AUGUST 2, 6-10 PM
Mama Said String Band Buffalo Wabs & the Price Hill Hustle

R&B HOT SUMMER MUSIC
FRI. JUNE 14, 7:30-9:30
KICK-N-FLAVA
FRI. JULY 12, 7:30-9:30
Premium Blend Music
FRI. AUGUST 16, 7:30-9:30
Authorized Personnel

BIG BAND NIGHTS
THUR. JUNE 13, 7:30-9:30
Big Band Nights with The Bob Gray Orchestra with vocalist Felita LaRock
THUR. JUNE 27, 7:30-9:30
The Dayton Jazz Orchestra
THUR. JULY 11, 7:30-9:30
The Tom Daugherty Orchestra
THUR. AUGUST 15, 7:30-9:30
Barry Campbell Big Band with vocalist Elaina McCormick
THUR. AUGUST 29, 7:33-9:30
The Kim Kelly Orchestra

CARDIO DANCE IN THE PARK
10-11 AM
Select Saturdays (See pg. 27 for dates)
Cardio workouts with Meghan Millat of Fit N Fruitful.

YOGA IN THE PARK
10-11 AM
Select Saturdays (See pg. 27 for dates)
Center yourself with Tori Reynolds of Speakeasy Yoga.

BOOT CAMP IN THE PARK
5:30-6:30 PM
Every other Tuesday starting June 11
High energy HIIT workouts with Fit Body Boot Camp instructors.

CHECK LISTINGS FOR DATES FOR THESE FREE PROGRAMS

VISIT METROPARKS.ORG/RIVERSCAPE FOR A LIST OF UPCOMING PERFORMERS AND FOOD TRUCKS.
HOLD ON TO YOUR PARKWAYS!
This issue covers programs from June through September 2019.
View this ParkWays publication online at metroparks.org/parkways.

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.

NEW! The Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation provides Access to Nature scholarships to qualifying families in Montgomery County — and those scholarships now include shelter and campsite rental fees. Learn more and apply at metroparks.org/scholarships.

METROPARKS.ORG/EASY

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