HEALING NATURE
HOW YOUR FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS PROTECTS NATURE - AND HOW NATURE HELPS HEAL HUMANS

DISCOVER LOCAL WILDLIFE
SEE PAGES 12 - 13

TREE PLANTING TIPS
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NEWS ABOUT REGIONAL TRAILS
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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. LEAF PEEPING
The warm colors of fall are on full display along the 75 miles of hiking trails in your Five Rivers MetroParks, almost all of which have year-round hiking trails. For a panoramic view of fall in Montgomery County, visit the Tree Tower at Cox Arboretum MetroPark or Twin Creek MetroPark’s High View shelter, 6688 Eby Rd. in Germantown. METROPARKS.ORG/HIKING

2. FILL UP ON LOCAL EATS
Shop fresh and local at the 2nd Street Market in downtown Dayton this season. Warm up with delicious comfort food from one of the Market’s many prepared food vendors. Buy produce, kitchen staples, flowers, seasonal gifts and much more from more than 50 vendors. The Market is open year-round Thursday through Saturday—and on Sunday through the end of December. METROPARKS.ORG/LOCALFOOD

3. IT’S ALL DOWNHILL
Snow days are for bundling up and whizzing down the hills of your favorite MetroPark. Grab your sled and head to Englewood, Germantown or Taylorsville MetroParks for some downhill fun. For those who want to switch up their traditional snow day activities, visit the MetroParks Ice Rink at RiverScape MetroPark, which opens the Friday after Thanksgiving. METROPARKS.ORG/WINTER

4. GET A JUMP ON 2020
Use the cool weather as an opportunity to get a head start on your New Year’s resolutions. Tackle your health and wellness goals by familiarizing yourself with the region’s trails and waterways. The greater Dayton region offers 265 miles of water trails to paddle, in addition to 340 miles of paved recreation trails—the nation’s largest paved trail network. Run, bike, walk, paddle or hike your way to new fitness goals. METROPARKS.ORG/FITNESS

5. SNEAK A PEEK
Bare trees and fresh blankets of snow provide unique opportunities to spot nature you can’t see during the warm-weather seasons. Venture onto the trails in your favorite MetroPark, stop, be still and listen to experience the sights and sounds of local birds and wildlife. Look for animal tracks in the snow and bright birds in the trees. METROPARKS.ORG/NATURE-APPRECIATION

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 dates, 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) 667-4765 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) 225-HELP (4357)
DEAR METROPARKS FRIENDS,
Fall marks not only a time of dazzling colors and cooler temps, but a season of giving thanks — and giving back.

Our region has been through a lot this year. The Five Rivers MetroParks family empathizes with all those who are recovering from the traumas throughout the region. We all want to do something to help. Your Five Rivers MetroParks is no exception.

Five Rivers MetroParks provides access to nature, which offers respite and solace during these challenging times. A growing body of research supports this. For example, a study published in Frontiers in Psychology earlier this year found spending just 20 minutes a day in contact with nature significantly lowers stress hormone levels.

Most Montgomery County residents live just 10 to 15 minutes from a MetroPark, all of which are open year-round and offer outdoor experiences for people of all ages and abilities. Whether you visit one of your 18 MetroParks, a favorite outdoor destination or simply your back yard, spending time in nature can have a tremendous healing effect.

Your Five Rivers MetroParks helped our region rebound in other ways. The area near the community gardens at Wegeners Gardens MetroPark was significantly damaged by the Memorial Day tornadoes. Staff helped clear debris at the park, volunteered at community crisis centers, donated money, participated in an office toy drive and more. Five Rivers MetroParks also was one of the sponsors of the July 13 Dayton Strong concert at RiverScape MetroPark, which raised money for the disaster relief fund.

Five Rivers MetroParks also has a long-term role to play in tornado relief efforts. helping recover lost habitat. An untold number of trees, shrubs and other plants critical to our region’s natural heritage were lost during the storms. MetroParks staff are working on a plan to help plant trees in these devastated areas. Details will be announced as soon as they’re available. Look for more information on metroparks.org and by following MetroParks on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

I’m confident our region will recover from this year’s tragedies. While we work together to do so, take time to be with nature. Let its sights, smells and sounds uplift you and your loved ones.

Best Regards,

Becky Benne
Executive Director

THANK YOU, PARKWAYS READERS!
We appreciate the hundreds of you who completed a survey that will help us improve this publication. We’ll be incorporating your feedback into future issues, and will contact the winners of our random drawing in mid-October.

METROPARKS COMMISSIONERS

Karen L. Davis
Jessica Southeast
Bear Booth

Five Rivers MetroParks is a CAPRA-accredited park agency.

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ON THE COVER
The rugged and remote hiking trails in Twin Creek MetroPark are among the best places in the region to view fall color.
After 14 years of dedicated service, Alan Pippenger retired from Five Rivers MetroParks’ Board of Park Commissioners in Spring 2019.

MetroParks’ outdoor recreation program was in its early years when Pippenger joined the commission.

“Today it’s providing opportunities to learn and participate in backpacking, cycling, fly fishing, mountain biking, kayaking and other activities that get people outside and help develop a connection to nature and a conservation ethic,” he said.

Indeed, Pippenger began his tenure at MetroParks in 2005 and saw the organization rapidly grow so it could better serve its mission. To protect the region’s natural heritage and provide outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature.

“Having the opportunity to visit each of our parks and facilities provided a deeper appreciation for the diversity and scope of the natural resources in our area,” said Pippenger, who still serves as president of Requarth Co. “From fens to wetland to woodlands, from meadows to prairies to lakes, ponds and rivers – we have so much to explore right here in our backyard.”

Of the many accomplishments spanning Pippenger’s time with the agency, he’s particularly proud of helping develop a 10-year comprehensive master plan and completing the rigorous Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) national accreditation in 2017.

“The accreditation process and the public input in developing the plan better align agency priorities with community needs and guide MetroParks as it fulfills its mission.”

Following Pippenger’s departure, Judge Alice O. McCollum of the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas Probate Division appointed Bear Monita of LWC. He joins president Karen L. Davis and vice president Jessica Saunders on the Board of Park Commissioners.

“Fellow commissioners Karen Davis, Irv Bieser (who retired at the end of 2017) and Jessica Saunders are the most enthusiastic and devoted volunteers I’ve ever worked with,” said Pippenger. “My sincere appreciation goes to Judge McCollum for selecting me to serve as a commissioner. The integrity she brings to the appointment process and her commitment to MetroParks is critical to its success.”

Pippenger is excited to see how the agency develops in the future.

“As my granddaughters get older, I look forward to providing the same kind of formative experiences with nature that I had in our parks and natural areas,” said Pippenger.

Join us in thanking Pippenger for his dedication to Five Rivers MetroParks and his sterling service!
One of the largest of this year’s Memorial Day tornadoes devastated portions of Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. It moved over Jay Lake and into the park’s Swamp Forest and woods, destroying some of the park’s oldest native trees, including hundreds of bur oaks, sycamores, silver maples and more.

“The trees that were lost represent generations of growth,” said Chris Pion, MetroParks Director of Parks and Conservation. “These natural resources really are irreplaceable, and we’re going to have to work hard to restore these areas.”

The downed trees blocked the paved recreation trail and roadway to the back portion of the park, where the community garden plots are located. Storm debris littered the plots and the massive trees that foiled into the Stillwater River posed safety concerns. The storms destroyed the Swamp Forest’s boardwalk and made the Marie Aull Trail unsafe.

For the safety of visitors, park staff and the contractors enlisted to help with clean up, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark remained closed for two weeks, reopening on June 10.

The Marie Aull Trail is a natural surface trail that runs along the park’s eastern boundary and provides access to Wegerzyn’s special habitats. The trail remains closed until further notice, as does the boardwalk.

“The majority of the park is accessible to the public,” said Pion. “We are working diligently to repair damage and are committed to restoring the park to its original state, all of which will take time.”

Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark features beautiful formal gardens, a prairie loop and the Children’s Discovery Garden, where families can have fun exploring the senses and learning about nature.

Five Rivers MetroParks is working on plans to help the community with post-tornado reforestation efforts. Look for more information on metroparks.org and by following MetroParks on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.
CONSERVATION FOR THE COMMUNITY

Nature is not just for enjoyment. It also can help with employment and economic development. Partnerships allow Five Rivers MetroParks to extend its reach in the community and the benefits of its conservation work. Here are just three stories.

1. TRANSFORMING LAND FOR HABITAT AND A HEALTHY ECONOMY

The Great Miami Mitigation Bank Conservation Area is one of the largest tracts of open land in Montgomery County. Now, more of that land being is being restored to a natural state.

This year, phase two of habitat restoration on the 360-acre site began. MetroParks conservation staff and volunteers planted short-grass prairie to begin restoring soil health on additional acreage where, previously, corn and soybean were farmed.

The short-grass prairie that will take root should attract bobwhite quail, which Five Rivers MetroParks Biologist Grace Dietzsch says is an umbrella species not common in Ohio anymore.

“If you have a habitat that’s good for quail, it’s also good for monarchs, other pollinators, meadowlarks, wild turkey, white-tailed deer and so much more,” she said.

Five Rivers MetroParks is leading the effort to create a biodiversity hotspot — including wetlands, forests and prairies — on this former farmland. The restoration effort began in 2010 at the property, located in Trotwood adjacent to Sycamore State Park and once slated for a landfill.

The land already includes wetlands and prairie, and thousands of tree seedlings have been planted. Volunteers have spotted more than 89 species of birds, including Ohio endangered species, at the mitigation bank.

It takes partnerships to create these success stories.

For example, the University of Dayton and Wittenberg University have recently established long-term research projects with Five Rivers MetroParks at the mitigation bank. UD is researching soil health and its role in restoration, while Wittenberg is collecting data that will help improve biodiversity.

In addition to improving biodiversity, the mitigation bank also serves as a regional economic development tool. If an existing wetland is damaged, developers can purchase credits from the Great Miami Mitigation Bank that are used to fund the restoration. Because mitigation banks are on larger tracts of land, they are more effective at replacing the lost wetlands. The Great Miami Mitigation Bank is the first mitigation bank in Ohio owned, designed and managed by a conservation agency.

For more information on the Great Miami Mitigation Bank Conservation Area (pictured above), as well as Five Rivers MetroParks’ other conservation efforts, visit metroparks.org/conservation.
2 GROWING SOLUTIONS TO FEED THE COMMUNITY

Dawn Marie Roberts and her three children were homeless off and on for more than seven years, but she’s found a community that feels like home at Homefull and the 2nd Street Market.

Roberts is a client of Homefull, which helped her secure stable, permanent housing. She’s also a Homefull employee, working at the nonprofit’s booth selling produce at the Market.

“I love the people at the Market,” Roberts said. “It’s really kid-friendly, and it gives people a chance to shop local.”

The 2nd Street Market’s partnership with Homefull — a local organization dedicated to ending homelessness — began in 2017. Homefull clients grow the produce sold at the Market on the nonprofit’s urban farms, located at its men’s emergency shelter and at a community garden at North Main and Helena streets. Clients are paid to run the booth at the 2nd Street Market and other farmers markets in the region, which allows them to earn income and build applicable job skills.

The Market and Homefull’s partnership also enabled many of the Market’s vendors to accept SNAP/EBT tokens. In 2018, a matching program called Produce Perks was introduced and has since doubled in benefits.

“These programs help people who have lower incomes eat healthier,” said Roberts.

Lynda Suda, 2nd Street Market manager, has noticed growing activity at Homefull’s booth since Roberts started. “Dawn is the perfect ambassador,” Suda said. “She shares her passion for healthy food and her story, so people can really relate.”

Indeed, homelessness and food insecurity can affect anyone.

“My father has struggled with homelessness for years. Food insecurity and homelessness can happen to anyone — and for many reasons.” said Lauren Lemons, MetroParks community engagement coordinator. “Community partnerships that address these challenges make me proud to be a Daytonian and a MetroParks employee, and I wish they could be replicated in every city across the country.”

In Montgomery County, an estimated 93,210 people struggle with food insecurity, according to The Foodbank, Inc.

Yet the 2nd Street Market is an oasis for fresh food close to neighborhoods considered food deserts, areas where it’s difficult to find affordable or high-quality fresh food.

The Market features local growers who provide fresh, local produce to the public — which is often less taxing on the environment and a healthier choice. The Market helps Five Rivers MetroParks meet its conservation mission to protect the region’s natural heritage. And partnerships like the one with Homefull allow broader access to fresh food in a location where it’s needed.

“Having Homefull enable us to accept EBT means more people have access to fresh produce,” Suda said. “The goal is to make the Market inclusive. We’re all in this together.”

Learn more about the 2nd Street Market at metroparks.org/localfood.
DAYTON YOUTH ON THE JOB IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

As part of Montgomery County Business Services’ YouthWorks program, Five Rivers MetroParks hosts several students who spend their summer and winter breaks on the job, building work skills and gaining experience.

The program is a benefit both to MetroParks and the youth enrolled in it.

“These young people spend time outdoors, build customer service skills, and spend time with MetroParks staff and visitors,” said James Carter, MetroParks business operations coordinator. “MetroParks benefits from having extra helping hands during our busiest seasons at no extra cost to the taxpayers.”

The YouthWorks program serves students ages 14 to 18 who live in low-income households in Montgomery County. When the program began in 1999, it served 25 participants. It has since grown to more than 2,500 youth.

YouthWorks students’ jobs at MetroParks include:
- Concessions at RiverScape MetroPark
- Barn and maintenance aides at Carriage Hill MetroPark
- Maintenance aids at Wesleyan MetroPark and Adventure Central
- Horticulture aides at Aullwood Garden MetroPark

“For some of these students, it’s their first real job,” said Carter. “We want them to learn a lot, build their confidence and their appreciation for the outdoors, and have a fun experience.”

GET OUT and PADDLE at Possum Creek

We’re ramped up about Argonne Lake’s newest addition.

The lake at Possum Creek MetroPark is a popular fishing and paddling destination. For some time, the community has asked for a boat ramp to facilitate easier access to the lake. MetroParks’ planning, recreation and operations staff collaborated to develop plans for a boat ramp that would be created in-house.

Possum Creek’s staff constructed the ramp, which is now available for public use. Because this project was completed by MetroParks staff, it saved taxpayer funds while addressing the community’s need for better lake access.

METROPARKS STAFF ARE WORKING ON A PLAN TO HELP plant trees in natural areas impacted by the Memorial Day tornados. Once the plan is finalized, details will be announced on metroparks.org and on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

“The loss of these trees and forests is devastating for local wildlife and will take 100 years or more to rebuild,” MetroParks biologist Grace Dietzsch said. “But we can start now. Five Rivers MetroParks has an important role in helping these areas recover from this natural disaster.”
BECOME A CHAMPION OF FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

Help support Five Rivers MetroParks in its mission to protect the region’s natural heritage.

Sign up for a monthly donation and receive a t-shirt and window cling.

METROPARKS.ORG/FOUNDATION

GET OUT & GIVE

The Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation secures philanthropic funding for special projects and programming, as well as an endowment. Charitable contributions can support all MetroParks or one specific park. Donations also can be directed to support MetroParks’ educational and recreational services, as well as conservation initiatives.

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.
- Shop for a Cause: Support MetroParks via Amazon Smile and at Kroger and Dorothy Lane Market.
- Access to Nature Scholarship: Help provide financial assistance for qualified children and adults who want to participate in MetroParks’ fee-based programs and camps.

The Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and your donations are 100% tax deductible.

METROPARKS.ORG/DONATE
PEACE of NATURE
OUR REGION HAS BEEN THROUGH A LOT THIS YEAR.

The Five Rivers MetroParks family empathizes with all those who are recovering from the traumas our community has faced this year. Nature can offer respite and solace during these challenging times. Whether you visit one of your 18 MetroParks, a favorite outdoor destination or simply your back yard, spending time in nature can have a tremendous healing effect.

Below, two Five Rivers MetroParks staff share the places where they really feel the healing power of nature. #daytonstrong

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**RON BICKNELL, regional manager for the northwest zone**

One place in MetroParks where I really feel the healing power of nature is sitting on the bench at the intersection of the silver and orange trails at Germantown MetroPark, west of intersection eight. The view of the Twin Creek Valley is my favorite view in MetroParks. It’s always quiet and serene and is my go-to spot to disconnect.

Two nature-based activities provide me the most relaxation and stress relief, and they vary depending on the time of year. I’ve been an avid birder for five years. While most birds you will see are common, we occasionally have a rarity show up in one of the MetroParks. To me, it’s like a treasure hunt, as I am always looking to add birds to my list of those living in Montgomery County. It gives me something to concentrate on other than the day-to-day stresses, and I am always amazed at the migratory journeys that very small, seemingly delicate birds make each year. I usually get up early and am in the MetroParks as soon as the gates open.

The birding slows a bit during the summer, as most birds are on their breeding grounds. This summer, I purchased a kayak and have found peace and solitude floating on the Stillwater River anywhere from Covington Community Park to Island MetroPark. Conditions have been perfect for just hitting the river and letting the current take me downstream.

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**DEBORAH SPENCER, education specialist at Carriage Hill MetroPark Farm**

At the farm, I can enjoy what the seasons bring. Fall, oh beautiful fall, and the bounty of colors and aromas, the crispness that creeps into the air, the beauty of the migrating birds in flight, the end of the harvest in the garden put safely away into jars and cellars for the winter, and the color of the leaves before they fall to the ground and become part of nature in a new life-giving way. Lying down among tall grasses to let the wind catch the tops while the sun warms the body and soul.

And, winter, though cold and harsh at times, bring a peacefulness to the farm. The snow blankets all it touches and quiets surrounding traffic sounds. The winds have changed to be a bit more brisk (a reminder to add one more layer). But the aromas each season brings, as well as the sights and sounds, bring such a quiet joy to my heart. So much nature, right in front of us, to see, to hear, to smell, to touch, and to marvel to at its wondrous beauty.
ISLAND METROPARK
Adventure along the Great Miami River paved trail near Island MetroPark to view black-crowned night herons, greater and lesser black-backed and glaucous gulls, sandpipers, and great egrets.

ENGLEWOOD METROPARK
Visit Englewood MetroPark’s green trail between the parking lot and river to catch a glimpse of water thrush and spring warblers. Mink have been observed there as well.

Take the short loop around the wildlife pond in the North Park of Englewood MetroPark to see if you can spot yellow warblers, orchard orioles and various waterfowl. This is also a great location to see purple martins in the spring.

Take the trail from Patty’s Falls to Martindale Falls in Englewood MetroPark to view woodland birds and picturesque waterfalls.

TWIN CREEK METROPARK
Twin Creek MetroPark’s orange trail at highview down to the creek is a home to grasshopper sparrows, meadowlarks, blue grosbeaks, bobolinks, tanagers and prairie warblers. There was even a reported bear sighting within the last few years.

HILLS & DALES METROPARK
Stroll across the boardwalk at Hills & Dales MetroPark to see if you can spot golden-winged, blue-winged, Canada and black-throated blue warblers. Also, keep an eye out for red-breasted grosbeaks, thrushes and cuckoos. Numerous dragon flies, damselflies and ruby-throated hummingbirds can be seen as well.

MEDLAR CONSERVATION AREA
Hike along the Medlar Conservation Area’s Great Little paved trail for your chance to see red foxes, blue birds, red-tailed hawks and pileated woodpeckers. Ospreys have been spotted along the nearby Great Miami River Trail. Also, wood ducks, blue-winged teal and leopard frogs can be seen near the wetlands close to the crossing of Medlar Road.

WOODMAN FEN
Take the short Woodman Fen loop to view gray-cheeked thrush, Connecticut and mourning warblers, and Philadelphia vireos. Deer, nesting Cooper’s hawks and great horned owls also may be in sight.

RIVERSCAPE AND DEEDS POINT METROPARKS
View great blue heron and great white egrets wading in the river along the Great Miami River paved trail at Deeds Point MetroPark. This is also a great spot to see bald eagles perched in trees along the Great Miami and Mad rivers and soaring over the water. Trail travelers may also see osprey at RiverScape and Deeds Point MetroParks, in addition to the peregrine falcons that nest on the downtown buildings and perch on the fountain towers.

RIVERS
All the water trails provide opportunities to see ducks, such as mallards and wood ducks.
HIT THE TRAILS AND DISCOVER LOCAL WILDLIFE

VISIT THE FOLLOWING METROPARKS TO SEE WHAT YOU CAN SPOT

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK
The Taylorsville MetroPark dam parking area is the perfect spot to look for red-tailed hawks. You may even see their courtship displays!

GERMANTOWN METROPARK
Germantown MetroPark is a must for those interested in birding. The silver trail allows hikers to experience a variety of habitats, such as old growth forest, large grasslands, edge thickets, cedar glades, ponds and wetlands. Several types of woodpeckers can be seen, including pileated, red-bellied, downy and yellow-bellied sapsuckers. Numerous warblers, wood thrush, vireos, red-shouldered hawks, Cooper’s hawks and northern harriers can be seen over the prairies in the winter months. The trail is ideal for those looking to spot migrating warblers and beautiful wildflowers.

TWIN VALLEY TRAIL
Hike the Twin Valley Trail from Old Mill Road to Cedar Ridge campsite for beautiful views and woodland bird-watching opportunities.

SUGARCREEK METROPARK
See how many spotted salamanders you can find when spring arrives along the trails and waterways at Sugarcreek MetroPark.

Travel the Taylorsville MetroPark orange trail to the CCC picnic shelter and past the rock fall to view open woodlands, deer, forest birds and remnant stone work of Roosevelt-era citizen employment efforts.

Nature is around every turn of Five Rivers MetroParks’ hiking, water and paved trails. This season’s bare trees provide onlookers ample opportunity to view local wildlife in action.
TREE PLANTING TIPS

WHETHER YOU WANT TO ADD SOME GREENERY TO YOUR LANDSCAPE OR REPLACE TREES AND SHRUBS you may have lost during the Memorial Day tornados, Five Rivers MetroParks wants to provide you with some tips for selecting and planting native foliage.

Before selecting and planting a tree, there are a few things to take into consideration. MetroParks horticulturalist Kelly Wood suggests knowing the type of soil in your greenspace, in addition to being aware of the tree’s potential size and any hazards you might run into, such as overhead wires.

WHEN SELECTING A TREE TO PLANT, it’s a great idea to opt for one that’s native to Ohio. Meredith Cobb, MetroParks conservation supervisor, and Wood picked their favorites, all of which MetroParks grows at the Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture:

- Redbud
- Tuliptree
- Burr Oak
- Black Cherry
- Paw Paw
- Allegheny Serviceberry
- Black Gum

IF YOU OPT FOR A DIFFERENT TREE, MAKE SURE IT ISN’T ON THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES’ INVASIVE SPECIES LIST BY VISITING OHIODNR.GOV/INVASIVESPECIES.
BEFORE YOU PLANT:
Make sure trees are protected against drying and damage while handling them. The tree’s size, shape and root system should be representative of the species.

Find an area of your yard with good water drainage — meaning it isn’t muddy or covered with puddled water after an average rainfall. Next, clear the planting area of weeds and other debris. Dig a hole twice the width of your tree’s root ball. Retain the soil from the hole to secure the tree once it’s planted.

PLANTING YOUR TREE:
When placing the tree in the planting hole, be sure its best side is facing the direction where it will be viewed the most. Fill the hole with soil 1/3 up the sides of the root ball. Pack the soil firmly, assuring there are no air pockets. Pack in the process until the hole is filled. Once planted, your tree should be even with the ground with no roots exposed, as if it was growing in a field. Water deeply and evenly.

AFTER YOU PLANT:
If soil has settled, add additional soil to level your tree. Be sure to dispose of rocks and clay. Use a spade or edger to create a circular ring surrounding your tree that is two inches deep. Add mulch to this area, surrounding the tree’s root ball, but be mindful not to mound the mulch against the trunk of a tree. Treat this area to prevent weeds before mulching if you are planting your tree in a new area of your yard.

Newly planted trees will require additional water for up to three years and should receive the equivalent of once inch of rainfall per week. Keep tabs on the weather and make sure you provide additional watering if needed.

SOME GREEN INSPIRATION
LOOK NO FURTHER THAN YOUR FAVORITE METROPARK IF YOU NEED SOME INSPIRATION BEFORE YOU START ADDING TREES TO YOUR LANDSCAPE.

- Cox Arboretum MetroPark boasts some of MetroParks’ most beautiful trees. Head to the hardwood glade — beyond the lakes between the Butterfly House and the Edible Landscape Garden, at the end of the Allée (the area with the covered arbor and two rows of London plane trees) — to see impressive bottlebrush buckeyes, white chestnut and oak trees.
- Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark is home to stunning foliage throughout the park, including a variety of native trees.
- Natural park areas, including Germantown and Englewood MetroParks, allow visitors to experience the respite that forests provide, inspiring you to take the leap and plant even more trees on your property.
- Visit Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark, the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery or travel the paved recreation trail through Deweese Parkway and look at the trees — all are native to Ohio and on the list of Wood and Cobb’s top picks.

TREE PLANTING BENEFITS BREAKDOWN
If you’re on the fence about adding or replacing trees on your property, know there are many benefits — both practical and environmental — to enhancing your landscape. According to Cobb and Wood, adding native trees and shrubs to your greenspace can:

- Create habitat for wildlife
- Prevent ground erosion
- Increase property values
- Provide shade and protection for existing structures
- Produce oxygen to increase air quality
- Improve your health and wellbeing
- Help remove carbon from the air
DAYTON CONNECTS THE DOTS ALONG THE GREAT AMERICAN RAIL-TRAIL

Grab your bike and get ready to see the sights because Dayton is now a part of the Great American Rail-Trail. The Rails to Trails Conservancy allows adventurers to experience the entire country from coast to coast by connecting existing rail-trails, greenways and multi-use paths. The Great American Rail-Trail – currently 52 percent complete – includes 1,900 miles of trail stretching from Washington D.C. to Washington State. Dayton area trails located along its route include:

- Creekside Trail: 15.2 miles
- Mad River Trail: 7.1 miles
- Great Miami River Trail: 86.2 miles
- Wolf Creek Trail: 16.2 miles

Though a 5-mile gap exists along the Wolf Creek Trail, there are plans to connect Dayton to the Trotwood extension.

Plan your adventure at www.railstotrails.org.

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF OHIO’S BUCKEYE TRAIL

MetroParks is celebrating 60 years of adventures with special programs that showcase the Buckeye Trail, identified by its signature Blue Blazes on trees or poles. The 1,400-mile trail reaches every corner of the state.

The 12th longest trail in the country, the Buckeye Trail runs through 47 counties. Along the way are designated “Trail Towns,” destinations where backpackers can find campsites, restaurants and more. The Miami Valley is home to 5 Trail Towns along the Buckeye Trail: Dayton, Piqua, Troy, Xenia and Yellow Springs.

This fall, join MetroParks’ experts during the Buckeye Trails 60th Anniversary Hiking Series programs. Visit Wright Memorial, Huffman Prairie Interpretive Center, Tadmor ghost town and more. Visit page 27 for more information.

PADDLE RESPONSIBLY: WATER SAFETY TIPS

BUT FIRST, A LIFEJACKET: One of the most important elements to water safety is wearing a lifejacket – which can be a literal lifesaver in case of emergency. Be sure you have a lifejacket that is snug and fits properly, and encourage your friends, family and fellow paddlers to wear a lifejacket as well.

BUDDY UP: Always paddle with a group of at least three boats. Before you embark on your adventure, be sure to leave a float plan with someone you trust.

DRESS TO BE WARM: Be sure to wear synthetic materials when paddling in cooler weather. Also, consider the 120-degree rule: If the air and water temperatures add up to less than 120 degrees, wear a wet or dry suit. For any cold-weather adventure, wear wicking and warm clothing in layers. Pack a dry bag with extra clothes.

ADVENTURE ESSENTIALS: Pack things to fuel your body, including drinking water and snacks.

Learn more about paddling safety, programs and more at metroparks.org/paddle.
PLentiful trees that hug the region’s waterways make for beautiful autumn views.

Explore 265 miles of water trails in the greater Dayton region for unique vantage points. MetroParks paddling coordinator, Erik Dahlstrom, suggests the following adventures for those who want a relaxing day on the water accompanied by stunning views.

COOLER-WEATHER MONTHS PROVIDE THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THE OUTDOORS ON FOOT, BIKE OR PADDLE CRAFT.

TAKE TO THE TRAILS

FIND FALL COLOR ON THE WATER

STILLWATER RIVER
Put in at Aullwood Garden MetroPark and paddle to Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark
(5.5 MILES)

MAD RIVER
Put in at Eastwood MetroPark and paddle to River-Scape MetroPark
(4 MILES)

GREAT MIAMI RIVER
Put in at Taylorsville MetroPark and paddle to Island MetroPark
(9 MILES)

GREAT MIAMI RIVER
Put in at the boat ramp on the downstream side of the low head dam in West Carrollton and paddle to Case Landing on Linden Avenue in Miamisburg
(5.7 MILES)

TWIN CREEK
Put in at Germantown MetroPark and paddle to Twin Creek MetroPark
(7 MILES)
POND PATROL VOLUNTEERS ENJOY NATURE WHILE HELPING KEEP WILDLIFE SAFE.

You can find husband-and-wife volunteer team Chris and Laura Straka patrolling the waters at Englewood and Possum Creek MetroParks, recycling discarded fishing line and clearing debris that could be harmful to local wildlife.

Recent empty nesters, the Strakas decided to volunteer with MetroParks’ Pond Patrol program, which allows them to enjoy their natural surroundings while supporting aquatic habitats.

“We were impressed to hear a Five Rivers MetroParks ranger implemented a plan to protect wildlife by setting up recycling stations for fishing line,” Laura Straka said.

Pond Patrol volunteers visit these recycling stations to collect fishing line, and then patrol the waterway edges to assist with waste removal. The program began in 2018 as a response to repeated calls to MetroParks rangers about wildlife being entangled in fishing line. MetroParks Ranger Scott Rowe spearheaded the project with help from parks and conservation staff to set up recycling stations adjacent to popular fishing destinations. Volunteers like the Strakas were then recruited to patrol these high-traffic areas.

Since the program began, more than 15 miles of fishing line have been sent to the Berkley Conservation Institute to be recycled. Additionally, volunteers spent a total of 149 hours patrolling the ponds and lakes in Carriage Hill, Eastwood, Englewood, Germantown, Twin Creek and Possum Creek MetroParks in 2018.

For the Strakas, volunteering is an opportunity to spend time together, help beautify the parks for guests and wildlife, and enjoy the amenities in some of their favorite parks.

“The opportunity to do something we’re passionate about, to assist each other in our work, to experience the beauty of the parks and to discover wildlife together — it’s just so enriching,” said Laura.

The Strakas encourage other families to enjoy MetroParks’ natural spaces together.

“For guests, keep your eyes and ears open — you never know what you might discover,” Laura said. “Take with you or properly dispose of whatever you bring with you so the herons, turtles, snakes and fish can be safe, and we can all enjoy nature in its relatively unspoiled state.”

Volunteers such as the Strakas support the work of Five Rivers MetroParks staff, who also help keep wildlife safe.
Take Jeremy Barkley, for example. Last April, Barkley—a Notre Dame Mission Volunteers AmeriCorps member serving at Five Rivers MetroParks—was birding at Eastwood MetroPark when he noticed a ring-necked duck in the lagoon struggling, as it was tangled in fishing line.

Despite the brisk weather and lack of a knife, Barkley waded into the water to free the entangled duck—using his teeth. The 10-minute rescue resulted in a very appreciative duck returning to its habitat and an AmeriCorps member returning to the shore a wildlife hero.

“My whole life, I’ve been around nature,” Barkley said. “It’s something I love to be out in, and I truly care for it.”

While he doesn’t encourage the average person to enter chilly water to make an impromptu animal rescue, Barkley does encourage parkgoers to remove any snagged fishing line from the water to dispose of at the recycling stations, which are monitored by MetroParks’ Pond Patrol volunteers.

**TO VOLUNTEER FOR METROPARKS’ POND PATROL PROGRAM,**
email allison.zimmerman@metroparks.org. If you are in a MetroPark and see wildlife tangled in fishing line, call the MetroParks Rangers at 937-225-HELP (4357).

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAMS**

Find a new interest, build unique skills and give back to your community with help from Five Rivers MetroParks’ experts. Service learning programs teach you something new—then you put it into practice while volunteering in your favorite MetroPark.

Details about service learning programs will be covered during upcoming introductory sessions. Orientation is required and scheduled before classes begin in February. Contact volunteer coordinator Yvonne Dunphee at 937-275-PARK or yvonne.dunphee@metroparks.org for more information.

1. **HISTORICAL INTERPRETER & HERITAGE SKILLS PROGRAM**
   Introduction at Carriage Hill MetroPark Visitor Center
   • Friday, Oct. 11, from 9 AM to noon
   • Saturday, Jan. 11, from 1 to 4 PM.

   Join us for an intro to a new service learning program devoted to 19th century skills. During sessions, participants will learn such skills as canning, sewing, blacksmithing, woodworking, sausage making, farm chores, hearth cooking and more.

2. **METROPARKS NATURALIST PROGRAM**
   Introduction at Five Rivers MetroParks main office
   • Tuesday, Nov. 19, from 9 to 11 AM
   • Saturday, Jan. 18, from 9 to 11 AM

   Share your love of nature with the public by becoming a MetroParks volunteer naturalist. Naturalists focus on natural history, interpretation, storytelling and use fun ways to help others connect to the natural world.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT THE CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK RIDING CENTER**

Help care for and work with the horses at the Carriage Hill Riding Center, 8111 Shull Rd., in Huber Heights. No prior experience is required, and volunteers will learn new skills while helping out. Begin as a barn aide, then train to assist with pony rides, trail rides, lessons and more.

Contact Janelle Leonard@metroparks.org by Oct. 1 for fall training information.
WHAT'S COOKING AT ADVENTURE CENTRAL?

KITCHEN RENOVATIONS WILL IMPROVE YOUTH'S ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD.

ADVENTURE CENTRAL, LOCATED AT WESLEYAN METROPARK, is dedicated to growing the minds, bodies and character of children in west Dayton. Serving 95 youth during the school year and 140 during the summer, Adventure Central (AC) offers a free after-school program and seven-week summer camp, with meals and snacks served on a regular basis.

Yet with 600 meals served per week, the wear and tear on AC’s existing kitchen is significant. There’s a great need for more space, storage, updated kitchen amenities and more.

A fundraising effort is underway to support a new kitchen space that will act as an environment to nourish both minds and bodies.

“For the youth we serve, the kitchen isn’t just a place to prepare fuel that feeds the body,” said Nate Arnett, director of Adventure Central. “The kids use their minds in our kitchen — they grow skills, learn about healthy eating habits and really understand how important access to fresh food is for the community.”

The professionals at AC plan and prepare menus and meals that intentionally include more fresh fruits and vegetables. They also utilize produce grown by the youth and volunteers in AC’s raised garden beds.

Service is a key component of AC’s food program: Youth and parent volunteers support meal preparation, service and clean up. Under the guidance of the cook, at least a dozen volunteers help provide a safe, clean, healthy meal process.

Displays, lessons and activities are used throughout the year to help youth better understand ways to improve their healthy lifestyles.

Thanks to the generosity of community organizations and businesses, $349,660 has been raised to reconstruct AC’s kitchen, accounting for 71 percent of the project’s total fundraising goal. Major donors include:

- The Kettering Fund
- Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation
- The Dayton Foundation
- PNC Foundation
- Dayton Power & Light Foundation

The Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation continues to seek philanthropic support to reach the $494,000 goal to complete the project. For additional information, visit metroparks.org/kitchen or contact Beth Redden, chief of philanthropy, at 937-277-4369. Learn more about Adventure Central, which will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2020, by visiting metroparks.org/adventure-central.
Five Rivers MetroParks operates 25 outstanding public facilities. Founded in 1963 to serve the greater Dayton area, MetroParks protects nearly 16,000 acres of open space and provides year-round recreation, education and conservation opportunities. Facilities are available to the public free of charge — made possible by Montgomery County citizen support of a property tax levy.

**Program Guide**

**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**

1. **Special Events and Programs for Everyone**
   Enjoy time with friends and family at these community celebrations.

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

3. **Earth Friendly Living**
   Learn how to live more sustainably and make better choices for the environment.

4. **Adult Nature Exploration**
   Enjoy and learn about the splendor of the natural world.

5. **Programs for Families and Children**
   Spend quality time outdoors with family.

6. **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

OCTOBER EVENTS

(FREE) WAGNER SUBARU OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE
SAT. OCT 5, 11:00 AM - 10:00 PM  C37
SUN. OCT 6, 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM  C37
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Eastwood Park, 1385 Harshman Rd.
The Wagner Subaru Outdoor Experience is the Midwest’s premier outdoor adventure festival. This family and dog friendly FREE event features over 25 Try It activities, camping, competitions, live music, food trucks, youth adventure zone, demos and much more! This is a WASTE FREE event so bring your own beverage vessel or plan to buy a steel cup. No registration required. www.metroparks.org/outdoorx. All ages.

(FREE) SPOOKY GARDEN CELEBRATION
FRI. OCT 25, 3:00-7:00 PM  C89
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Enjoy games, crafts, music, face painting and a not-so-spooky trick-or-treat trail in the formal gardens and on the garden green. Visit with MetroParks’ Animal Ambassadors and, as the sun sets, enjoy more crafts and games, a storyteller & marshmallow roast in the Children’s Discovery Garden. Sponsored in part by the Wegezyn Gardens Foundation. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages.

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: METROPARKS’ MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY
SAT. OCT 26, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  C5
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor
Make a Difference Day is the largest national day of community service. It’s a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors and the power of people coming together to make a difference. Help MetroParks with a variety of Earth-friendly activities. Required registration closes Oct. 18. Register at metroparks.org/make-difference-day/. Registration required. Contact yvonne.dunphe@metroparks.org for details. All ages.

MetroParks Ice Rink! Warm up with hot chocolate from our food concession and enjoy our outdoor warming stations. No registration required. All ages. Fee: $8

DECEMBER EVENTS

(FREE) CHRISTMAS ON THE FARM
SUN. DEC 1, 12:00-4:00 PM  C92
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
String cranberries and popcorn for the farm-grown cedar tree, just like families did a century ago. Enjoy fresh-baked gingerbread and sample chestnuts hot from the fireplace. Play some period parlor games. At our Visitor Center you can make a Victorian Christmas decoration to take home. No registration required. All ages.

NOVEMBER EVENTS

(FREE) NATURE AT NIGHT
SAT. NOV 9, 6:00-9:00 PM  C150
COX ADBORETUM METROPARK, Education Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Don’t let the dark keep you away! Join us in exploring and celebrating the creatures that come to life at night by participating in activities throughout the park, including night hikes, crafts, campfires and much more! Bring flashlights if you desire. No registration required. All ages.

ICE RINK OPENING WEEKEND
FRI. NOV 29, 11:00 AM - 10:00 PM  C183
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Spend the holiday weekend creating lasting memories with friends and family at the

(937) 275-PARK
CHRISTMAS DAY SKATE
WED. DEC 25, 10:00-8:00 PM C189
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Make a visit to the MetroParks Ice Rink part of your family Christmas tradition and skate to holiday music under the pavilion. Enjoy the winter scenes along the Great Miami River and warm up with a hot chocolate. No registration required. All ages. Fee: $8

FREE) AULLWOOD WINTER LUMINARY WALK
SUN. DEC 1, 6:00-8:30 PM C102
AULLWOOD GARDEN METROPARK, 955 Aullwood Rd.
Enjoy the feel of winter on this special evening walk. Luminaries line the pathways, and when you reach the house you’ll find hot chocolate, cookies and Santa waiting! This walk is a soothing, gentle beginning to the holiday season for everyone. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages.

FREE) A HOLIDAY EVENING AT CARRIAGE HILL
SAT. DEC 7, 6:00-8:30 PM C94
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7890 E. Shull Rd.
Come join us for a candlelit stroll through the farm and experience what it was like at night in the 1880s. Listen to holiday music, play some parlor games or watch some historical craft demos. Experience an old-fashioned Victorian Christmas come to life. Concessions will be available. No registration required. All ages.

FREE) ARTISAN NIGHT AT THE MARKET
WED. DEC 11, 6:00-9:00 PM C132
2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. Second St.
Enjoy an evening of holiday shopping, music and gift creation at the 2nd Street Market. In addition to selling their wares, many artisan vendors will teach make-it-yourself holiday gift projects, including ornaments, wreaths, jewelry and more. Pricing varies by vendor. No registration required. All ages.

CHRISTMAS EVE SKATE
TUE. DEC 24, 11:00 AM-8:00 PM C175
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Start a holiday tradition by skating with your friends and family at MetroParks Ice Rink! Enjoy splendid scenery, outdoor warming stations and hot chocolate from our food concession. No registration required. All ages. Fee: $8

NEW YEAR’S EVE SKATE
TUE. DEC 31, 11:00 AM-10:00 PM C176
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Looking for something fun to do before the ball drops? Start your New Year’s Eve party at the MetroParks Ice Rink! No registration required. All ages. Fee: $8

FREE) MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY SKATE
MON. JAN 20, 11:00 AM-5:00 PM C181
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Celebrate the holiday at MetroParks Ice Rink! No registration required. All ages. Fee: $8

SIGN UP FOR METROPARKS’ MONTHLY DIGITAL NEWSLETTER
Check your inbox to learn how you can Get Out & Explore your MetroParks. A monthly newsletter is packed with highlights, and newsletters for special interests such as gardening, outdoor recreation and volunteerism also are popular. All are designed to help you make the most of your Five Rivers MetroParks!

METROPARKS.ORG/NEWSLETTERS
CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: GO NUTS GATHERING EXPEDITIONS
SAT. OCT 5, 1:00-3:00 PM C159
OFFSITE, Waldruhe Park, 10000 N Springboro Pike
THU. OCT 17, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM C158
OFFSITE, DeWeese Park.
Preserve our forests by volunteering for Five Rivers MetroParks' reforestation efforts. This effort focuses on harvesting seeds and nuts to grow plant and nurture within your MetroParks! Registration required. Contact (937) 275-7275 or allison.zimmerman@metroparks.org for details. All ages.

HERITAGE & HISTORY

HAY RIDES THRU POSSUM CREEK
SAT. OCT 19, 9:00-11:00 AM C110
SAT. OCT 19, 12:00-2:00 PM C184
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Edible Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Get to know Possum Creek MetroPark from a hay wagon! Learn about the history of the park and everything that you can do there. We’ll start with a tour of the farm and then visit the rest of the park. Registration required. All ages. Fee: $5.

(N) A NEW COUNTRY: GERMAN FARM LIFE
SUN. OCT 20, 12:00-4:00 PM C184
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
German farmers helped shape the Miami Valley, including the Arnold Family at Carriage Hill. Join us for a day when we explore their various ethnic contributions, including making sauerkraut, homemade sausage and beer. Throughout the day, informal demonstrations will be given, including smoking meats and making buckshot. No registration required. All ages.

(FREE) BIRDS OF A FEATHER
SUN. NOV 17, 12:00-4:00 PM C91
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Various informal talks and demonstrations will be given throughout the day focusing on poultry and its place on the farm. Watch as we prepare different types of poultry using historical recipes and techniques. No registration required. All ages.

19TH CENTURY FARMING DEMONSTRATIONS
Join us for ongoing drop-in demonstrations of 19th century farm life. Typical farm chores will be recreated to demonstrate daily life in the 1860s.

(FREE) WINTER CHORES
SAT. JAN 11, 12:00-4:00 PM C95
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Winter is the time of year to catch up on chores around the farm. If the weather is right, we will be harvesting ice from our lake. If not, we will be grinding corn for feed for the animals. No registration required. All ages.

NATURE APPRECIATION

(FREE) WINDOW ON WILDLIFE
THU. OCT 17, 12:00-2:00 PM C155
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6010 Boomershine Rd.
Watch birds from a cozy spot and learn about them from an expert naturalist. Binoculars and books will be available to borrow, and one of MetroParks’ Animal Ambassadors might make an appearance. No registration required. All ages.

(S) OPEN HOUSE WITH WILD ANIMAL AMBASSADORS
SUN. OCT 27, 2:00-4:00 PM C154
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6010 Boomershine Rd.
Visit with our Red-Tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Screech Owl, reptiles and salamanders as you enjoy activities and tours at the Twin Valley Welcome Center. Enjoy a hike on your own at this beautiful time of year in the woods before or after the open house. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages.

SKATING

DAYTON FUNK NIGHT
FRI. JAN 17, 7:00-10:00 PM C117
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Represent your city and skate to funk music at the MetroParks Ice Rink. A DJ will play songs from regional funk acts that made Dayton famous. Children younger than 3 are free with a paying adult. No registration required. All ages. Fee: Admission & Skate rental: $8.

FROZEN ON ICE
FRI. JAN 24, 7:00-10:00 PM C186
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Bring the family out for a magical evening of ice skating! Glide the night away as the DJ plays your favorite Disney songs! No registration required. All ages. Fee: Admission & Skate rental: $8.

TOP 40 HITS SKATE
FRI. JAN 31, 7:00-10:00 PM C185
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Come to MetroParks Ice Rink and skate as an onsite DJ plays Top 40 hits! No registration required. All ages. Fee: Admission & Skate rental: $8.

SPECIAL EVENTS

(FREE) SANTA VISITS THE MARKET
SAT. DEC 14, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM C133
2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. Second St.
SUN. DEC 15, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM C149
2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.
Bring a camera and snap a photo of Santa with your friends and family. It won’t be too late to tell Santa what is on your wish list, including Market goodies. Santa will have a treat for everyone who stops by. No registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. All ages.
The Market features more than 50 vendors — all locally owned — offering:

- Fresh produce
- Kitchen staples
- Locally produced meat and dairy
- Artisan goods

Grab lunch from one of the many prepared food vendors while you shop!

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- **Pumpkin Decorating:** Saturday, Oct. 26, from 10 AM to 1 PM (pg. 35)
- **Creative Costume Day:** Sunday, Oct. 27, from 11 AM to 2 PM (pg. 35)
- **Mexican Cuisine:** A cooking class with Chef Santiago of the Market’s Mexican street food vendor Nápoles; Thursday, Nov. 14, from 11 to 11:45 AM (pg. 30)
- **Artisan Night at the Market:** Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 6 to 9 PM (pg. 23)
- **Santa Visits the Market:** Saturday, Dec. 14, from 10 AM to 1 PM and Sunday, Dec. 15, from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM (pg. 24)
- **Breakfast with Santa:** Sunday, Dec. 15, from 9:30 to 11 AM (pg. 35)

Pick up last-minute ingredients and goodies for Thanksgiving during

**STOCK UP WEDNESDAY**

Wednesday, Nov. 27: 11 AM to 3 PM

**2ND STREET MARKET HOURS:**

Thursday & Friday: 11 AM to 3 PM
Saturday: 8 AM to 3 PM
Sunday: 11 AM to 3 PM (through Dec. 31)

**METROPARKS.ORG/LOCALFOOD**

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

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: BACKPACKING TRAIL WORK DAYS SAT. OCT 12, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM C3 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. Fee: $15

BACKCOUNTRY COOKING WED. DEC 11, 6:00-8:30 PM C30 2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.
Spice up your backcountry meals. Experiment with a variety of cooking methods from fast and light freezer bag meals to more elaborate gourmet entrées and desserts using different types of backpacking stoves. Ingredients and utensils provided. Come hungry! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $15

BICYCLE MAINTENANCE 2: BRAKES WED. NOV 13, 6:00-8:30 PM C114 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
This hands-on class will offer instruction and guided practice in brake maintenance. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $15

FISHING

FLY FISHING 2: RIVER SAT. OCT 12, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM C188 GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Creek Access & Dam Overlook, 7481 Creek Rd.
Fly Fishing 1 got you started and now you’re ready for the next step. Learn about habitat, how to read the water and casting techniques needed for fishing in the current. Equipment available upon request. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Bring a water bottle. Ohio fishing license required. Park in Springfield Street entrance lot. Prerequisites: Fly Fishing 1. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: $55

FLY FISHING 3: SMALLMOUTH BASS SAT. OCT 19, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM C1 OFFSITE.
Ready to take the next step in fly fishing? Students will learn tips on reading water, casting techniques, flies to use and gear needed for smallmouth bass in our local rivers. Equipment available upon request. A valid Ohio fishing license is required. Prerequisites: Fly Fishing 1. Fishing 2: Lake / Fly Fishing 2. River. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $30

Patriot Fly Tying Class THU. NOV 7, 6:00-8:30 PM C36 FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 406 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor.
Love to fly fish? Like to tie your own flies? Learn the art of spinning beautiful and functional fishing flies made from deer hair, and show your patriotism with this red, white and blue beauty! Materials and tools provided. Prerequisites. Should have some previous fly tying experience. Registration required. Age: 21Y and up. Fee: $20

ADULT FLY TYING COURSE TUE. NOV 19-DEC. 17, 6:00-8:00 PM C2 FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 406 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor.
Learn the basic steps to all fly tying, as well as how to tie one bug pattern through all its stages, spin deer hair, and make popper flies. Fees include use of vice, tools, materials and take-home handouts on Nov. 19, Dec. 3, Dec. 10 and Dec. 17. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $75

CHRISTMAS FLY TYING CLASS TUE. DEC 17, 6:00-8:00 PM C143 FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 406 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor.
Love to fly fish? Like to tie your own flies? Materials and tools provided. Prerequisites: Need to have some previous fly tying experience. Registration required. Age: 21Y and up. Fee: $20

FITNESS

GARDEN GODDESS YOGA CIRCLE WED. OCT 9, 6:00-8:00 PM C140 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Join certified yoga instructor, Robyn Moore, in the Possum Creek Farm Garden for a gentle, women centered yoga practice. Come bask in the waning light of the season with friends both old and new. The program will conclude with a sampling of herbal teas and a healthy soup. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $20

SHINE YOUR LIGHT 5K SAT. OCT 12, 6:45-10:00 AM C61 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Artemis Center and YWCA Dayton will host a fundraiser to promote awareness of domestic violence and raise funds to support domestic violence victims. Activities include a community vigil to honor those lost to domestic violence.
and celebrate survivors, followed by an evening 5K run/walk/stroll. Vigil is at 6:45 PM and race at 7 PM. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 461-5550 for details. https://www.keysports.net/2019-races. All ages. Fee: Student Pre-Registration: $20, General Public Pre-Registration: $35. Race Day Registration: $40.

**A FORCE AGAINST CANCER 5K**

**SUN. OCT 20, 9:30-11:00 AM C5B**

RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 257 E. Monument Ave., 5K walk/run benefiting the Pan Can Action Network. 100% of the funds raised are donated to the Pan Can Action Network. See contact info to register. Contact lueCwa5k@gmail.com for details. https://www.facebook.com/lie-CWA-5k-A-Force-Against-Cancer-220191227497153/. All ages. Fee: $30.

**FREE** CHRISTMAS WALK IN DAYTON

**SUN. DEC 1, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM C141**

2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. Second St.

This outdoor community recreation opportunity is presented by Ohio Wander Friends Volkswalk Club. Between 9 AM and noon, finish by 3 PM. Contact Carol Yegerlehner. No registration required. Contact (937) 878-8081 or klochusa@aol.com for details. All ages.

**HIKING**

**BUCKEYE TRAIL 60TH ANNIVERSARY HIKING SERIES**

Celebrate 60 years of Ohio's state trail by hiking the Buckeye Trail during this three-part series. Hike every step of the trail on the Montgomery County portion, which runs through five MetroParks. Learn about the local, state and national connectivity of your trail system from a MetroParks expert. Observe exciting features along the way, including Wright Memorial, Huffman Prairie Interpretive Center, Radavinsky Bridge, Tadmor ghost town and river corridors.

**HIKE FROM HUFFMAN PRAIRIE INTERPRETIVE CENTER TO DEEDS POINT METROPARK**

**SUN. OCT 13, 1:00-5:00 PM C110**

MAD RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 8
Meet at Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center Parking Lot, 2530 Memorial Rd., Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433 (7 Miles), Registration required. All ages. Fee: $5.

**HIKE FROM DEEDS POINT METROPARK TO RIP RAP PARK**

**SUN. OCT 20, 1:00-6:00 PM C120**

GREAT MIAMI RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 25 Meet at Deeds Point MetroPark, 510 Webster St. (8.6 Miles) Registration required. All ages. Fee: $5.

**HIKE FROM RIP RAP PARK TO TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK**

**SUN. OCT 27, 1:00-4:00 PM C122**

GREAT MIAMI RIVER TRAIL, Ohio Bike Route 25 Meet at Rip Rap Park, at the intersection of Little York Rd. and Rip Rap Rd. (5 miles) Registration required. All ages. Fee: $5.

**TRY WINTER HIKING**

Just because it's cold outside doesn't mean you have to stay indoors. Enjoy casual winter hiking experiences on Five Rivers MetroParks' beautiful trails during this series of guided hikes. Learn about winter hiking, meet other hikers, stay active and start the new year by getting outside. Be prepared with multiple layers of clothing, water and sturdy shoes.

**FREE** WINTER HIKE AT ENGLEWOOD METROPARK

**SAT. JAN 11, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM C145**

ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Shelter, Patty/Ext Park, 4351 National Rd.

This roughly 3-mile hike will explore the hidden gems of Enfield MetroPark from waterfalls to rock outcrops. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages.

**FREE** WINTER HIKE AT TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK

**SAT. JAN 18, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM C146**

TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter, CCC/Ext Park Parking Lot, 2310 U.S. 40

This roughly 3-mile hike will explore the local history of the CCC while strolling through the shadow of the Miami Conservancy District's Enfield Dam. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages.

**FREE** WINTER HIKE AT HILLS & DALES METROPARK

**SAT. JAN 25, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM C147**

HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter, Paw Paw Parking Lot, 2271 Deep Hollow Rd.

Meander a couple of miles on the Adirondack Trail over the hills and across the dales as you explore the fascinating history of Hills & Dales MetroPark. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages.

**MOUNTAIN BIKING**

**FREE** TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING

**SUN. JAN 12, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM C144**

HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

Want to try mountain biking in the winter? 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.

**OUTDOOR SKILLS AND SAFETY**

**LAND NAVIGATION**

**SAT. NOV 9, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM C29**

GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6900 Boomerish Rd.

Would you like to learn how to use a map and compass in the backcountry or maybe dust off some little-used skills? Then this is the program for you. We will spend the morning in the classroom learning the basics and ways to use maps and compasses. Then we'll get out and learn how to use them together in the field. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: $30.

**FREE** LEAVE NO TRACE AWARENESS WORKSHOP

**THU. JAN 30, 6:30-8:00 PM C148**

COX ARBoretum METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pl.

This Leave No Trace Awareness Workshop will introduce you to the 7 principles of Leave No Trace with a focus on paddling, hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, and fishing. Each participant will receive a certificate of participation. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages.

**PADDLING**

**KAYAK CAMPING**

**THU. OCT 24, 6:00-8:00 PM C121**

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

Have you ever wanted to go camping from a kayak or a canoe? Join Five Rivers MetroParks as we explore the equipment and provide tips for camping out of a boat. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: $10.

**RIVER RESCUE KNOTS**

**WED. DEC 4, 6:00-8:00 PM C123**

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

Learn and practice the major knots used in river rescue during this hands-on program in an indoor setting. Prerequisites: none. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: $15.

**FREE** DISCOVER PADDLESPORTS

**WED. JAN 8, 6:00-7:00 PM C142**

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

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

LEARN TO ICE SKATE TEEN COURSE
SUN DEC. 1-15, 11:40 AM-12:10 PM C163
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Skills include skating forward and backward edges on a circle, backward stops, bunny hop, lunges, and front and back crossovers. Register for this program and receive two free skating admissions! Fee includes use of skates and lessons on 12/1, 12/8 and 12/15. Make-up date in the event of closure will be 12/22. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $50

LEARN TO ICE SKATE ADULT COURSE
SUN DEC. 1-15, 12:20-12:50 PM C164
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Skills include skating forward and backward edges on a circle, three-turns, backward stops, bunny hop, lunges, and front and back crossovers. Register for this program and receive two free skating admissions! Fee includes use of skates and lessons on 12/1, 12/8, and 12/15. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Makeup lessons will be held 12/22. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $50

TRY BROOMBALL
SUN. DEC 1, 6:00-8:00 PM C174
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Grab your friends, come to the MetroParks Ice Rink and let the Dayton Broomball Association take you through the broomball basics! Learn the rules, get on-ice instruction and scrimmage with other participants. Please wear gloves and gym shoes. No experience necessary. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $10

LEARN TO CURL
THU. DEC. 5-19, 6:00-8:00 PM C166
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Enjoy an evening of curling at MetroParks Ice Rink! Participants can choose between a Learn to Curl session led by Curl Troy or a recreational pickup game against other local curlers. Register as a team of four players or as an individual by visiting curltroy.org/learn-curl. See contact info to register. www.curltroy.org/venues/riverscape. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $25

LEARN TO ICE SKATE: ADULT COURSE
SUN JAN. 5-19, 12:20-12:50 PM C178
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Skills include skating forward and backward edges on a circle, three-turns, backward stops, bunny hop, lunges, and front and back crossovers. Register for this program and receive two free skating admissions! Fee includes use of skates and lessons on January 5, 12, and 19. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $50

CURLING LEAGUE
TUE., THU. JAN. 7-27, 6:00-9:00 PM C182
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Sign up with friends for Curl Troy’s co-ed league at the MetroParks Ice Rink! Curling is accessible to all skill levels and no experience is required. Visit curltroy.org to learn more and register your team. Curl Troy will accept the first 18 teams: 4 players per team. Register at www.curltroy.org/venues/riverscape. See contact info to register. Contact http://www.curltroy.org/venues/riverscape for details. www.curltroy.org. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: Per League: $480
THE MIDWEST’S PREMIER OUTDOOR ADVENTURE FESTIVAL

WAGNER SUBARU

OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE

OCTOBER
SATURDAY 5 & 6
11 AM to 10 PM
SUNDAY
11 AM to 4 PM

FREE outdoor fun for all ages

EASTWOOD METROPARK - METROPARKS.ORG/OUTDOORX

ACTIVITIES - FOR EVERYONE, PLUS YOUR DOG!
Canoe, kayak, climb, backpack, slackline, bike, pumptrack and disc golf are some of more than 20 activities to try. Visit the Huffy Youth Adventure Zone and Osprey Backcountry Zone.

EXHIBITORS - FIND, TRY, BUY AND JOIN!
Check out the latest gear from leading retailers and manufacturers, including Osprey, Grand Trunk, Leave No Trace, Seek Dry Goods and more. Meet representatives from local clubs and organizations. Buy or sell in the used gear area.

DEMONSTRATIONS - WATCH THE PROS!
Watch the pros take on the whitewater, bounce on the slackline and ride the rails. Featuring Dialed Action Sports bike stunt shows. Demos all day Saturday and Sunday!

COMPETITIONS - BE A SPECTATOR OR A COMPETITOR!
Tackle a whitewater paddling challenge or 12-hour endurance run. Team up with your pup for the Ruff Run 5K or Dock Dog Competition.

Delicious food, live music and much more
FREE CAMPING FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHTS

SAVE THE DATE the ADVENTURE SUMMIT

Wright State University’s Student Union
Friday, Feb. 14 from 5 to 10 PM
Saturday, Feb. 15 from 9 to 6 PM
A Five Rivers MetroParks and Wright State University event
EARTH FRIENDLY LIVING
Learn how to live more sustainably and make better choices for the environment.

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

FOOD: EARTH TO TABLE

19TH CENTURY COOKERY CLASS FOR COUPLES
SAT. OCT 12, 6:00-8:00 PM C85
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
Couples are invited to join us for an evening of historical cooking lessons and parlor entertainments. Participants will learn how to prepare fresh, local vegetables and do some simple baking. Afterward, participants will join us in the candlelit parlor for some historical games and entertainment. Fee will cover one couple. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $50

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

BEYOND THE BASICS: MUSTARD AND GERMAN SOFT PRETZELS
SAT. OCT 19, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM C96
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shull Rd.
This class goes beyond the basics of canning. Here, students learn to prepare and can homemade mustards. We will also learn to make German soft pretzels to go with the mustard. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $30

(THE) MEXICAN CUISINE: A COOKING CLASS WITH CHEF SANTIAGO
THU. NOV 14, 11:00-11:45 AM B450
2ND STREET MARKET, Pavilion, 600 E. Second St.
First in a series of cooking with the 2nd Street Markets Chefs. Meet with the Market’s very own Chef Santiago as he introduces you to some of his delicious, healthy food from his native country of Mexico! He will also show you how to make some of his specialties at home. Registration required. All ages.

THE COMFORT CAULDRON
Make seasonal soups utilizing fresh, local produce grown at Possum Creek MetroPark Farm or other local farms.

THE COMFORT CAULDRON: AUTUMN SOUPS
WED. NOV 20, 6:00-8:00 PM C136
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Soups are a wonderful way to utilize the harvest and provide the eater with that warm and cozy feeling only the autumn inspires. Participants will prepare and enjoy three different soups. Recipes (and leftovers) will be sent home with the participating soup-chefs. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $20

THE COMFORT CAULDRON: WINTER SOUPS
WED. JAN 15, 6:00-8:00 PM C137
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
The new year is a great time to set intentions to eat healthier. Soups are a great way to pack in plenty of the nutrients that help keep us healthy during these colder, darker months. Participants will prepare and enjoy three different winter-inspired soups. Recipes (and leftovers) will be sent home with the soup-chefs. Registration required. All ages. Fee: $20

HERBAL WINTER WELLNESS
THU. DEC 12, 6:00-8:00 PM C139
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Local herbalist Janet Lawson will provide a friendly lecture on using herbs for winter wellness. Participants will make herbal tea blends and an elderberry syrup that encourage wellbeing. Be prepared to take notes! Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $20

BEES 101
SAT. JAN 18, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM C129
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
If you are interested in getting started with your own backyard hives, then join Mike Osborne, 4th generation beekeeper, as he discusses what you need to get started with bees. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $10

GARDENING

FALL PRUNING WITH AN EXPERT
SAT. OCT 12, 10:00-11:30 AM C172
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Cox House Parking lot, 6725 Springboro Pl.
Fall pruning can make all the difference in how successful your trees and shrubs are next spring. Watch and listen as retired horticulturist Chris Jensen demonstrates the tools, techniques, and guidelines to correctly prune your landscape. Your plants will be very grateful you came. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $15

TRY IT: LASAGNA BEDS
SAT. OCT 12, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM C135
SAT. NOV 9, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM C162
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Edible Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn how to use a tried and true organic gardening method to create fluffy, beautiful, nutrient-dense garden soil. Participants will help MetroParks staff build lasagna beds in the garden through the process of layering brown and green compostable materials as if building the tasty Italian-style dish this method is named for. Dress to get dirty. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $5
FALL DECORATIONS FROM NATURE—WREATHS OR CONTAINERS
SAT. NOV 2, 10:00-11:30 AM C97
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Get ready for fall entertaining with great natural decorations for your home. Bring either a plain straw or grape vine wreath or a 10-inch round container. We'll supply decorations, expertise and inspiration as you create a beautiful decoration for your home or porch. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $15

SURPRISE HOUSEPLANTS
SAT. NOV 16, 10:00-11:30 AM C106
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Ferns and philodendron may be the most common houseplants, but today we'll talk about other interesting and colorful ones which can add to the beauty indoors during winter and how to care for them. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $10

BUS TRIP: KROHN CONSERVATORY, BERN'S GARDEN CENTER & MORE
TUE. DEC 3, 7:30 AM-4:30 PM C38
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Parking Lot Event Staging Area.
This tour to Cincinnati begins at Rookwood Pottery, followed by lunch at Findlay Market. Next, we'll tour Krohn Conservatory's holiday displays and end with a stop at Bern's Garden Center to shop for holiday plants and decorations. This trip is 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: $50, Wegerzyn Foundation Members: $44

HOLIDAY GREENS CONTAINER
SAT. DEC 7, 10:00-11:30 AM C100
Cox Arboretum METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6723 Springboro Pk.
Evergreens are great for the winter, providing color and fragrance to the home or porch. Bring a 10-inch container, and we'll supply fresh-cut greens and accents and helpful tips so you can create a beautiful addition to your holiday décor. This is a wonderful class for moms and daughters, friends and neighbors, and garden groups. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $15

LANDSCAPE RECOVERY: FLOWERING TREES AND SHRUBS
SAT. JAN 4, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM C103
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Last year's tornadoes destroyed many landscapes. Today we'll talk about the types of flowering trees and shrubs you may want to use in recreating your space. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $10

LANDSCAPE RECOVERY: SHADE TREES AND EVERGREENS
SAT. JAN 11, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM C105
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Last year's tornadoes destroyed many trees. Today we'll talk about shade and evergreen tree varieties to help rebuild your home landscape. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $10

SUSTAINABLE HOME
(FREE) COMPOST KITCHEN
THU. NOV 7, 6:00-8:00 PM C117
THU. NOV 14, 6:00-8:00 PM
THU. NOV 21, 6:00-8:00 PM OFFSITE, Montgomery County Solid Waste District, 2550 Sandridge Dr.
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: 18Y and up

AN AROMA HOLIDAY
SAT. DEC 7, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM C138
POSSLUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Bayberry, balsam, cinnamon, clove, fresh baked sugar cookies...these are the scents of the season. Join us for a jolly crafting session where participants will make fragrance jars and other aromatic crafts perfect for setting the holiday mood. Registration required. All ages. Fee: $20

GET OUT & DISCOVER DURING TOUR DE WAY
Adventure awaits along the 99 miles of river corridor connecting communities along the Great Miami Riverway. Take the Tour De Way challenge and explore more than 100 locations in our region that promise to pique the interests of everyone from aviation enthusiasts to art lovers — and, of course, those who enjoy being active outdoors. Plus, you’ll be entered for the chance to win cool prizes!

How to Tackle the Tour De Way:
1) Visit bit.ly/TourDeWay to create your account so you can start filling your digital passport.
2) Visit one of the many stops, and scan the QR code you’ll find there.
3) Keep visiting locations! Every QR code you scan will be saved in your digital passport.
4) Take fun, family-friendly pictures and use the hashtag #RiverwayGiveaway when posting to social media.

You also can get a paper copy of the passport at the Miami Conservancy District, 38 E. Monument Ave. in downtown Dayton. The Tour De Way ends on March 1, 2020, with prize winners announced at the Riverway Summit in the spring.
ADULT NATURE EXPLORATION
Enjoy and learn about the splendor of the natural world.

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: METROPARKS NATURALIST PROGRAM INTRODUCTION
TUE, NOV 19, 9:00-11:00 AM C152
SAT, JAN 18, 9:00-11:00 AM C153
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS MAIN OFFICE, 409 E. Monument Ave., 3rd Floor
MetroParks is taking applications for the 2020 volunteer naturalist service learning classes. Volunteers will focus on natural history & the interpretive, or storytelling, aspects of conservation. Discover program details, decide if this is the leadership opportunity for you & get started on next steps to participate. Registration required. Contact info@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up  ☀

BIRD FEEDER COFFEE BREAK
Sip bird-friendly coffee and learn about how birds interact while taking part in Project FeederWatch, a citizen-science initiative through Cornell University’s Lab of Ornithology. Bring binoculars and your favorite field guide; a limited supply will be provided.

(FREE) NEW ARRIVALS
SAT, NOV 23, 12:30-2:30 PM C169
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boornshina Rd.
Explore bird diversity while learning our new arrivals from Canada, and how to identify them. Bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them. A limited supply will be available. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages. ☀ ☀

HERITAGE & HISTORY

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: HISTORICAL INTERPRETER & HERITAGE SKILLS PROGRAM INTRODUCTION
FRI, OCT 11, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM C160
SAT, JAN 11, 1:00-4:00 PM C161
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Meeting Room, 7800 E. Shull Rd.
Join us for an intro to a new service learning program devoted to 19th century skills. During sessions, participants will learn such skills as canning, sewing, blacksmithing, woodworking, sausage making, farm chores, hearth cooking and more. Service learning includes both class and practicum. Details covered at this intro. Registration required. Contact info@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up ☀

HERITAGE & HISTORY

(FREE) CARLISLE FORT: A HOPEWELL SITE WORKSHOP
WED, OCT 30, 4:00-6:00 PM C156
TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Hopewell Parking Lot, 8502 Chamberlain Rd.
Discover the remnants of a culture from 2,000 years ago. Explore the Twin Creek MetroPark trails on this guided hike that will lead you to a unique mound built by the hands of the Hopewell people. Share in clues we have on this culture, and enjoy exciting activities from our NEW and rentale Hopewell Education Kit. Trails are moderately difficult. Registration required. Contact dhorvath@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up ☀ ☀

FLORA & FAUNA

BEGINNING BIRDING
SUN, OCT 13, 1:00-5:00 PM C107
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Get started with the basics of birding, including identification, field guide and binocular use, bird song, biology, and behavior. The 2-hour indoor session will be followed by a 2-hour field study. Participants receive a birding handbook, OHNR field guides and bird song CDs. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: $15 ☀

NATURE APPRECIATION

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

(FREE) ADULT NATURE WALK
TUE, OCT 1, 9:00-11:00 AM C69
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2301 US 40
TUE, NOV 12, 9:00-11:00 AM C71
ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Program Parking at Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.
TUE, DEC 17, 9:00-11:00 AM C75
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake Program Parking Area, 7891 E. Shull Rd.
TUE, JAN 28, 9:00-11:00 AM C81
EASTWOOD METROPARK, Third Parking Lot, 1385 Harshman Rd.
Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up ☀ ☀

(FREE) DISCOVERY STROLL
WED, OCT 2, 10:00-11:30 AM C4
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Program Parking, 2471 Deep Hollow Rd.
WED, OCT 9, 10:00-11:30 AM C65
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Paw Paw Program Parking, 2471 Deep Hollow Rd.

32 PARKWAYS
patient photographer can capture the blooming of a flower or the movement of clouds across the sky. This class will introduce creative techniques to convey a sense of time in your pictures. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $20

**INDOOR PORTRAITURE**

SAT. DEC 7, 10:00-11:30 AM C101
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Wetland Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
When the weather's too cold to shoot outdoors, it's still possible to capture impressive portraits inside. This class will introduce equipment and techniques for indoor portraits, and participants can practice by taking pictures of a model. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $20

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

SHARE YOUR OPINION ABOUT COX ARBORETUM AND WESLEYAN METROPARKS

As the next step in implementing its 10-year comprehensive master plan, Five Rivers MetroParks is developing site plans for each of its parks and facilities. Attend an open house this fall and share your thoughts about Cox Arboretum and Wesleyan MetroParks.

Two sessions will be held on each day. Stop in any time during the open house.

**MONDAY, OCT. 28**
- 11:30 AM TO 1:30 PM or 6 TO 8 PM
  - Cox Arboretum MetroPark, 6733 Springboro Pike

**THURSDAY, NOV. 21**
- 11:30 AM TO 1:30 PM or 6 TO 8 PM
  - Adventure Central, 2222 N. James H. McGee Blvd.

Those who cannot attend an open house may provide their feedback by visiting metroparks.org/plan or by calling 937-275-PARK.
FAMILY
Spend quality time outdoors with everyone in your family.

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY DATE

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.

(FREE) NOCTURNAL ADVENTURE
FRI. OCT 11, 8:00-9:00 PM C41
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw Parking Lot, 2471 Deep Hollow Rd.
Join us on a night hike just for families. We’ll discuss our fears of the night, explore nocturnal animals, and search for Screech Owls. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

(FREE) FOREST FRENZY
SAT. OCT 12, 1:00-2:30 PM C43
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Program Parking, 4178 Conference Rd.
Explore the changing season, search for local wildlife, and learn why forests are crucial to human survival. Registration required, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

(FREE) BECOME A NIGHT HIKE GUIDE
SAT. OCT 12, 7:00-9:00 PM C55
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Fall is the perfect time to take friends on a night hike! Learn to find spiders, frogs, and other signs of nocturnal creatures. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y

(FREE) CREEPY CREATURES
SAT. OCT 26, 11:00-2:30 PM C42
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomsrshere Rd.
Spiders, snakes, & bats: Learn about these commonly misunderstood animals, then venture on the trail to meet a few of them. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

(FREE) RAPTOR EXCURSION
SAT. NOV 23, 1:00-2:30 PM C44
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Flying high above us are so many birds looking down at their prey. Learn about the different raptors that make Dayton their home and get a chance to meet our raptor ambassadors! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

(FREE) COYOTE SEARCH
FRI. DEC 6, 7:00-8:30 PM C47
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Meadow Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn more about wild canines, and discover their adaptations, allowing them to survive in our developing world. Later, journey into the night, and use sounds to try to lure them in for a closer look. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

(FREE) WINTER MYSTERIES
SAT. DEC 7, 1:00-2:30 PM C45
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter: CCC/East Park Parking Lot, 2101 U.S. 40
Bundle up for a winter adventure through the forest, where we will search for nature’s mysteries of survival. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

(FREE) ANIMAL KEEPERS
SAT. DEC 14, 1:00-2:30 PM C53
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6910 Boomsrshere Rd.
Be a wild animal keeper for a day, learn what animals need to live, and how MetroParks care for our captive animals. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y

(FREE) OWL PROWL
SAT. DEC 14, 7:00-8:30 PM C48
HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Shelter: Paw Paw Parking Lot, 2471 Deep Hollow Rd.
Escape on a night walk in search of Screech Owls, while learning about their interactions with our forests. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y


(FREE) BECOME A TRACKING GUIDE
SAT. JAN 4, 1:00-3:00 PM C57
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6735 Springfield Pk.
Learn how to spot animal signs, and get others excited about exploring winter! Participants will receive knowledge and tools to help them lead their own tracking adventure for friends. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y

(FREE) ANIMAL TRACKING EXCURSION
SAT. JAN 18, 1:00-2:30 PM C46
INGLEWOOD METROPARK, Program Parking at Patty Shelter Parking Lot, 4361 National Rd.
If you have ever wanted to become an animal tracker, come discover the art and science of tracking on this hands-on excursion. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

(FREE) WINTER HABITAT HIKE
SAT. JAN 25, 10:00-11:30 AM C50
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Shelter Cedar Lake/Parking Lot, 7691 E. Shull Rd.
Explore a variety of habitats with your family, while searching for signs of animal life. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-13Y

(FREE) GREENHOUSE HELPERS
SAT. JAN 25, 1:00-2:30 PM C54
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Green House, 6233 Springfield Pk.
Be part of conservation efforts while discovering what a horticulturist must do to care for seeds and plants in the winter. The plants we start will be planted in the park by Conservation Kids later this spring. Registration required. Age: 3Y-13Y

TURKEY IN THE STRAW
SAT. NOV 9, 10:00-11:30 AM C115
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Visit the farm for some fun while learning about turkeys. Then dig right into a pile of straw to find hidden prizes! Complete a craft to take home. Come prepared to play in straw! Registration required. All ages. Fee per family: $5

HOMEMADE SOCK Gnomes FOR THE HOLIDAY
SAT. NOV 16, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM C118
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Transform a pair of socks into a fun-loving gnome for the holidays! You supply the pair of socks, and we'll provide all the supplies you need to make a gnome, from fur for its beard or hair to bells and bobbles for its hat. Registration required. All ages. Fee per family: $10

SOapy FAMILY FUN
SAT. DEC 14, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM C157
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Come have some clean fun making re-batched soap. You will pour soap into molds and add coloring and scent to personalize your soap. Each family will make at least three bars of soap to take home. Great holiday gifts for kids’ friends and teachers. Registration required. All ages. Fee per family: $15

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
SUN. DEC 15, 9:30-11:00 AM C134
2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. Second St.
Join Santa and his elves for a tasty buffet breakfast prepared by 2nd Street Market vendors. Watch for more details on the Market's Facebook page. Registration required. Contact (937) 228-2088 for details. All ages. Fee per person: $5

CRAFTING ON THE FARM
SAT. JAN 25, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM C130
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Create a woven masterpiece to hang on your wall using items found in nature and on the farm. You'll be provided wood to make your weaving frame and dried grasses and wool to create a work of art. Registration required. All ages. Fee per family: $10
GET OUTSIDE BOOK CLUB
Five Rivers MetroParks and the Dayton Metro Library have partnered to develop a special reading club for preschoolers! Gatherings at your local library and in the parks will get you and your child excited for reading and exploring nature adventures in your backyard. Visit metroparks.org/bookclub.

(FREE) POND EXPLORATION
WED. OCT 2, 10:00-11:00 AM C51
TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK, Shelter Hilltop / Sledding Hill/Parking Lot, 1200 Brown School Rd.
Read stories with a Dayton Metro Librarian, and discover that we are all made of water! Later, explore the pond in search of frogs, dragonflies, and other life. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y ☑

(FREE) NATURE PLAY
MON. OCT 7, 10:00-11:00 AM C52
INGLEWOOD METROPARK, Shelter Patty/East Park, 4364 National Rd.
Read stories of nature exploration, then embark on your own adventures and discover life and imagination. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y ☑

(FREE) PRAIRIE LIFE
FRI. OCT 18, 10:00-11:00 AM C33
SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4778 Conference Rd.
Explore towering plantlife, filled with colorful wildflowers and creatures of diverse shapes and sizes! Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y ☑

(FREE) BIRD LIFE
TUE. OCT 22, 10:00-11:00 AM C34
GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6300 Boomsheind Rd.
Explore local bird diversity through stories and hikes while exploring what it would be like to fly through the sky. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y ☑

(FREE) FOREST OF LEAVES
MON. OCT 28, 10:00-11:00 AM C35
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Edible Landscape Garden/Pavilion, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Explore the colors, sizes, and shapes of leaves through stories, songs, and puppets as Dayton Metro Library and MetroParks naturalists guide your little one on a journey through books and forests. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3Y-6Y ☑

LEARN TO ICE SKATE CHILDREN’S COURSE
SUN. JAN 5 11:00-11:30 AM C180
SUN. JAN 12, 11:00-11:30 AM C180
SUN. JAN 19, 11:00-11:30 AM C180
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Learn the basics needed to skate on your own. This three-course program will cover how to get on and off the ice, fall safely, and get up on your own. Skills learned include skating forward and backward edges on a circle, three-turns, backward stops, bunny hop, lunges, and forward and backward crossovers. Fee includes use of skates & two admissions. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y. Fee: $50 ☑

LEARN TO ICE SKATE: CHILDREN’S COURSE
SUN. DEC 1, 11:00-11:30 AM C165
SUN. DEC 8, 11:00-11:30 AM C165
SUN. DEC 15, 11:00-11:30 AM C165
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Learn the basics needed to skate on your own. This three-course program will cover how to get on and off the ice, fall safely, and get up on your own. Skills learned include skating forward and backward edges on a circle, three-turns, backward stops, bunny hop, lunges, and forward and backward crossovers. Fee includes use of skates & two admissions. Registration required. Age: 3Y-5Y. Fee: $50 ☑

GET OUT & SKATE
ALL SEASON LONG
Make the most out of your time on the ice with MetroParks Ice Rink season passes. Season pass holders enjoy unlimited skate rentals and admission to the rink, and a 25 percent discount at the Café. Family season passes include up to five people and are $90. Individual season passes are $30.

Purchase your season passes before Nov. 29 to receive a 20 percent discount.

METROPARKS.ORG/ICERINK

SEASON PASS
ICE SKATING
GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT

makes a great holiday gift
MORNING CHORES
SAT. OCT 19, 8:30-10:00 AM C86
SAT. NOV 16, 8:30-10:00 AM C87
SAT. DEC 14, 8:30-10:00 AM C88
SAT. JAN 18, 8:30-10:00 AM C90
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

LEARN TO ICE SKATE YOUTH/TEEN COURSE
SUN. NOV 5, 11:40 AM-12:10 PM C179
SUN. NOV 12, 11:40 AM-12:10 PM C179
SUN. NOV 19, 11:40 AM-12:10 PM C179
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Each student will learn how to fall and get up as well as get safely across the ice, and skate forward and backward. Register for this program and receive two free admissions to skate! Fee includes use of skates and lessons on January 5, 12, and 19. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Registration required. Age: 6Y-17Y. Fee: $50

DO YOU KNOW EDUCATORS WHO USE NATURE AS A CLASSROOM?
Nominate them for a 2019 OUTstanding Teacher Award. Winners receive a plant kit, classroom materials and more. Dayton-area classroom educators who teach any subject from kindergarten through high school are eligible.

Submit nominations by Jan. 31, 2020. Winners will be announced at the 2020 Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Summit.

CELEBRATE TEACHERS WHO INSPIRE YOU TO GET OUTDOORS
Congratulations to the 2018 OUTstanding Teacher Award recipients:
Rising Star: Kelly George
(less than 10 years of experience)
Leader: Laura Peterson
(10-20 years of experience)
Lifetime Achievement: Darla Myers
(more than 20 years of experience)

Funded through the James M. Cox Jr. Arboretum Foundation, the award is for teachers providing students with outdoor, environmental experiences that inspire interest in and positive attitudes about nature.

METROPARKS.ORG/OUTSTANDING

SPOOKY GARDEN CELEBRATION
FRIDAY, OCT 25
3 TO 7:00 PM
Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark
Enjoy games, costumes, crafts, music, tricks, treats and more during this fall celebration at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. This free, family-friendly event is suitable for kids of all ages, including little ones. Sponsored in part by the Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation.

SEE PAGE 22
COMMUNITY GROUPS & TRAINING
Share the benefits of an active, nature-based lifestyle with your community and future generations.

CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

NAI CERTIFIED INTERPRETIVE GUIDE TRAINING
SAT. NOV 2, 8:00 AM-4:30 PM C108
SUN. NOV 3, 8:00 AM-4:30 PM
SAT. NOV 16, 8:00 AM-4:30 PM
SUN. NOV 17, 8:00 AM-4:30 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springfield Pk.
Five Rivers MetroParks and National Association for Interpretation are offering a 32-hour certification course for anyone who delivers programs. It combines both the theoretical foundations of the profession with practical skills in delivering quality interactive programming to visitors. For more information, see our website description. See contact info to register. https://www.interpret.com/naic/naic_events/Event_Display.aspx?EventKey=CI110219. Age: 18Y and up Fee: Registration with certification: $390. Registration without certification: $230

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!

BUILD PRESCHOOL NATURE PLAY BENEFITS NOW
SUN. OCT 13, 2:30-4:30 PM C39
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4799 Frytown Rd.
Preschool teachers and directors can take steps to bring the benefits of nature play to their facility today. Review studies and our collective experience to build a case for your plan. Experience practical techniques that guide children’s behavior to positively interact in a nature rich world. Training will be Inside and outside this day. Registration required. Contact (937) 275-7725 for details. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $5

(FREE) CREATE A GREEN SCHOOLYARD
SAT. NOV 9, 8:00 AM-12:30 PM C40
OFFSITE. West Carrollton High School, 5833 Student St.
Learn the steps to establishing a successful green schoolyard, draw up preliminary sketches, learn about incorporating curriculum in the garden, and tour a successful Green Schoolyard. This training is designed for teachers, who will receive a certificate of participation. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up.

HEALTHY WATER, HEALTHY PEOPLE WORKSHOP
SAT. JAN 11, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM C60
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springfield Pk.
This workshop will introduce classroom teachers to the Healthy Water, Healthy People curriculum guide, help educators become comfortable teaching outdoors, and demonstrate how to utilize Five Rivers MetroParks’ resources to make your curriculum come alive for students! Graduate credit (0.5) is available if attending this workshop. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $20

PROJECT WILD & INQUIRY ADVENTURES WORKSHOP
SUN. JAN 12, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM C59
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springfield Pk.
This workshop will certify classroom teachers in the nationally recognized Project Wild curriculum, engage educators in outdoor inquiry, and demonstrate how to utilize Five Rivers MetroParks’ resources to make science come alive for students. Graduate (5) and 6 hours of Ohio approved credit is available, with no “homework” or papers to write. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $25

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY
GET OUT & VOLUNTEER
Help MetroParks protect the region’s natural heritage by assisting with a variety of Earth-friendly tasks during the 2017 Make a Difference Day!
SATURDAY, OCT. 26
9 AM TO NOON various MetroParks locations
Lend a helping hand and care for your favorite MetroPark on Make a Difference Day. Help with a variety of Earth-friendly activities that will beautify the parks and prepare them for the cold weather season.
All ages are welcome.
Registration is required and available online until Oct. 18 at metroparks.org/difference.
# Metroparks Ice Rink

$6 Admission  
$2 Skate Rental  

Presented by

## 2019 - 2020 Hours
Nov. 29 to March 1

### Opening Day Hours (Nov. 29)
Friday 11 AM - 10 PM

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nov. 29 - Dec. 20</th>
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<td>Sunday 1 - 5 PM</td>
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### Jan. 4 - March 1

| Sunday 1 - 5 PM               | Christmas Eve (Dec. 24)       |
| Monday 2:30 - 5 PM            | 11 AM - 5 PM                  |
| Tuesday 2:30 - 5 PM           | Christmas Day (Dec. 25)       |
| Wednesday 2:30 - 5 PM         | 1 - 8 PM                      |
| Thursday 2:30 - 5 PM          | New Year’s Eve (Dec. 31)      |
| Friday 2:30 - 10 PM           | 11 AM - 10 PM                 |
| Saturday 11 AM - 10 PM        | New Year’s Day (Jan. 1)      |
|                               | 1 - 8 PM                      |
|                               | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day   |
|                               | 11 AM - 5 PM                  |
|                               | Presidents Day (Feb. 17)      |
|                               | 11 AM - 5 PM                  |

### Holiday Hours

-Warm up in the Kettering Health Network Comfort Tent

Presented by: Butler Heating & Air Conditioning

Call 278-2607 for rink information after 5 PM on weekdays, weekends and holidays.

937-275-PARK (7275) • Metroparks.org/Icerink

Season passes and private rink rentals available.
HOLD ON TO YOUR PARKWAYS!
This issue covers programs from October 2019 through January 2020. View this ParkWAYS publication online at metroparks.org/parkways.

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

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

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

METROPARKS.ORG/EASY

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