**TOP 5 THINGS TO DO In Your MetroParks This Season as selected by Chief of Public Safety Mark Hess**

1. **SNOW-COVERED TRAILS**
   For a more tranquil snow day activity, hike your favorite trails after a fresh snowfall. Bundle up and enjoy the peace and quiet of nature while you spot winter wildlife. Chief Hess encourages you to keep an eye out for bald eagles, blue heron, various waterfowl and perhaps even river otters. METROPARKS.ORG/WINTER

2. **LIFE ON THE FARM**
   Both Carriage Hill and Possum Creek MetroParks provide a unique perspective of life on a farm. Visit during the winter and spring months and explore the farm. Chief Hess encourages you to stay another day. METROPARKS.ORG/FLORA-FAUNA

3. **SPRING BLOOMS**
   From tulips and wildflowers to scenes of blues, find vibrant spring blooms in your Five Rivers MetroParks. Chief Hess recommends strolling through Cox Arboretum, Audubon Garden and Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark to find your favorite spring beauties — and perhaps inspiration for your own outdoor space. METROPARKS.ORG/GARDENING

4. **URBAN WILDLIFE**
   Many of MetroParks urban parks host unexpected views of wildlife. While at RiverScape MetroPark, enjoy a stroll along the paved trails that hug the Great Miami River. Chief Hess encourages you to keep an eye out for bald eagles, blue heron, various waterfowl and perhaps even river otters. METROPARKS.ORG/WINTER

5. **CHIEF’S “TRY SOMETHING NEW” CHALLENGE**
   With 18 clean, safe parks, plus the 2nd Street Market, there are many things to explore in your Five Rivers MetroParks. Challenge yourself to visit a new MetroPark, try a new activity or sign up for a program you haven’t experienced before. Chief Hess’ favorite hidden gem, Possum Creek MetroPark, is a must-visit destination. He suggests walking through the Argentine Forest and visiting the farm. METROPARKS.ORG/PLACES-TO-GO

**THANK YOU, READERS!**
We appreciate the hundreds of readers who completed a survey about ParkWays magazine. Look for changes in upcoming issues based on your feedback. Congratulations to the winners of our gift card drawing for survey participants: JoAnn Weisenbach, Veronica Ogletree, Beverly Martin, Ashley Wallace and Mika Bertke.

**OUR MISSION**
Five Rivers MetroParks is dedicated to protecting the area’s natural heritage and providing outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature.

**DEAR METROPARKS FRIENDS,**
A growing body of research on the park and recreation industry supports the economic value of open spaces and the wellness benefits of spending time in nature. During last year’s challenges, our community learned about another benefit of nature — its healing effects, providing solace during stressful times.

Many of you told us how much you appreciated having access to natural areas, how spending time outdoors helped you and your family cope with the tragedies our community faced last year. That is just one of the reasons why it’s so important your Five Rivers MetroParks aid in the ongoing efforts to recover from the 2019 Memorial Day tornados.

Your MetroParks is playing a specific long-term role in these efforts: restoring lost habitat. An untold number of trees, shrubs and other plants critical to our region’s wildlife and natural heritage were lost during the storms. It’s important we replant trees in the areas where so many were lost to tornado damage, including Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.

You will have an opportunity to do just that during Five Rivers MetroParks’ annual park cleanup event, which this year will focus on planting trees in the Montgomery County communities impacted by the tornados. Adopt-A-Park: Healing Nature will take place the morning of Saturday, April 18. Volunteers of all ages and accessibility levels are needed to plant thousands of native trees — and we hope you will join us. More information about this event is on page 25.

Yet this Healing Nature effort to restore lost trees and other habitat hardly ends this spring. Many trees that are now gone were hundreds of years old. It will take centuries for the landscape in certain areas to recover. Visit metroparks.org/healing-nature for the most current information on MetroParks’ tornado restoration efforts.

As spring unfolds, we encourage you to take a friend or family member to one of your 18 clean, safe MetroParks to share some healing nature — and imagine people, generations and the wellness benefits of spending time in nature.

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Best Regards,

Becky Benná
Executive Director
Five Rivers MetroParks received four awards from the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association (OPRA) this fall.

First, OPRA recognized seven MetroParks rangers as Professionals of the Year for their response to the Oregon District mass shooting last August. The rangers recognized are: Cory Reis, Elyzabeth McDonald, Amanda Chiles, Scott Janicki, Rebecca Dieker, Kyl Caldwell and Sgt. Eric Lane.

Because MetroParks rangers are professionally trained officers, they’re often first responders and provide support to law enforcement departments across Montgomery County. Such was the case in the early morning hours of Aug. 4, when MetroParks rangers responded to the mass shooting in Dayton’s Oregon District.

Five Rivers MetroParks is also being recognized for a conservation project: its fishing line recycling program.

MetroParks rangers noticed an uptick in calls about wildlife getting caught up in fishing line. To mitigate this, MetroParks fabricated 35 fishing line recycling receptacles next to popular fishing destinations in 11 MetroParks and conservation areas. Volunteers empty these receptacles and monitor the parks for discarded and potentially harmful waste.

Since this program began in 2018, 15.2 miles of discarded line has been sent to the Berkeley Conservation Institute to be recycled.

Another conservation project, a recycled tree sinking at Eastwood Lake, also received an OPRA award. In January 2019, MetroParks asked the community to donate its used holiday trees, to bundle and sink into Eastwood Lake. The community donated 700 trees.

Bundling and sinking the recycled trees bolstered the food chain, resulting in healthier fish populations.

With help from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, volunteers, and MetroParks’ rangers and staff, the bundled tree structures were sunk in Eastwood Lake last January. Though results won’t be fully apparent until spring, video footage indicates positive results. Read more on page 11.

A partnership between the 2nd Street Market and local nonprofit Homefull was recognized with an OPRA award for a program that provides broader access to wholesome foods and fresh, local produce.

The presence of Homefull at the Market allows many of the Market’s vendors to accept EBT/SNAP benefits, in addition to Produce Perks, a matching program for those who use these benefits to purchase produce. The Market also expanded bridge that connects the two parks.

The planning process began with a public meeting held on Nov. 5 to gather input about further development of these parks. The existing Sunrise MetroPark is in downtown Dayton, along the west bank of the Great Miami River by its confluence with Wolf Creek. The proposed future Sunset Park would be located across the Great Miami River closer to the downtown core. The Dayton Riverfront Plan’s vision for these parks calls for them to be connected by a new bridge park — a green space that also serves as a pedestrian bridge — spanning the river.

After the initial public meeting was held, project consultants (Human Nature, OBU and Architecture and community partners participated in a charrette. During this intensive design session, stakeholders used public feedback to synthesize ideas — ultimately creating a collaborative, community-based plan.

During the Nov. 6 public open house, design concepts were unveiled, which included a variety of ideas:

- Develop a landscape plan that connects the parks and features a variety of plants
- Continue the park experience over the river with an expanded bridge that connects the two parks
- Connect to surrounding parks, neighborhoods and downtown Dayton
- Create dynamic spaces at the I-75 underpasses with public art, lighting and gardens to connect downtown Dayton to the proposed Sunset Park

In 2018, Sunrise MetroPark and the proposed Sunset Park were identified as a priority of the 20-year Dayton Riverfront Plan. This plan harnesses the 12 miles of greater downtown Dayton river corridor as a catalyst for placemaking, economic development and more.

“Of all the projects proposed for the Dayton Riverfront Plan, Sunrise-Sunset is the one that we found to be the most exciting,” said Carrie Scarff, MetroParks chief of planning and projects. “The main idea is to create parks on both sides of the Great Miami River in downtown Dayton and have them speak to each other across the river. This will transform downtown’s west riverfront from a place that used to divide our city in terms of east and west, black and white, into a place where the city unites.”

To view the entire Sunrise-Sunset design presentation, visit DAYTONRIVERFRONTPLAN.ORG

FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT FOR SUNRISE METROPARK AND SUNSET PARK

Community partners — including Five Rivers MetroParks, the city of Dayton, the Miami Conservancy District and others — unveiled ideas for the design of Sunrise MetroPark and a proposed new Sunset Park during a public open house on Nov. 6.

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To view the entire Sunrise-Sunset design presentation, visit DAYTONRIVERFRONTPLAN.ORG
Parks provide versatile, inclusive outdoor experiences where everyone can find a personal connection with nature. Featuring 18 clean, safe parks and the 2nd Street Market, people of all ages and interests can discover something to enjoy in your Five Rivers MetroParks.

OUTDOOR ENTHUSIASTS
National Geographic Travel recently named Dayton the nation’s newest outdoor adventure capital, due in part to the variety of recreation amenities you can experience in and around your Five Rivers MetroParks. Recreationalists of all levels can find something to get their hearts pumping and often utilize MetroParks as a springboard to tackle outdoor excursions far beyond the region.

Paddle the River Runs: Paddle the whitewater features at Mad River Run in Eastwood MetroPark and the RiverScape River Run at RiverScape MetroPark.

Hike the Twin Valley Trail (TVT): The TVT combines the network of trails in Germantown and Twin Creek MetroParks to create a longer, more integrated trail system totaling more than 43 miles through 2,600 acres.

MetroParks Mountain Biking Area (MoMBA): At Huffman MetroPark, MoMBA offers nine miles of mountain biking trails for those of all experience levels and ages.

Disc golf: Play 18 holes of disc golf at Englewood MetroPark’s Blue Heron Disc Golf Course.

Cycle local and beyond: The Dayton region is home to 340 miles of paved recreation trails — the nation’s largest paved trail network. Dayton’s paved trails also connect dots along the Great American Rail Trail, which stretches from Washington D.C. to Washington State.

NATURE LOVERS
A conservation agency, Five Rivers MetroParks protects more than 16,000 acres of greenspace in the region — 90% of which is undeveloped and in its natural state. In addition to MetroParks’ 18 clean, safe parks, three conservation areas are open to the public year-round.

Garden parks and those with robust networks of hiking trails and prairies offer unique opportunities to view flora and fauna. Even urban parks boast occasions to spot wildlife, such as blue heron, bald eagles and other birds of prey.

Spring birding: Englewood MetroPark is one of the best birding parks in the area. Visit the Benedict Blincoe Wildlife Observation Area to view a variety of migrating birds.

Warm weather blooms: See what’s sprouting at Cox Arboretum, Aullwood Garden and Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks, including buds on flowering trees and native spring blooms.

Get your hands dirty: If MetroParks’ spring blooms and demonstration gardens have provided you with some inspiration, consider renting a community gardening plot at Possum Creek or Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks to grow your own food. Or join one of the nearby 100 community gardens located throughout Montgomery County.

PEOPLE WITH MOBILITY CHALLENGES
Being in nature has benefits for those of all abilities. According to Connections Therapy Center, children with disabilities can experience reduced stress levels, increased self-awareness and better development of sensory skills from experiencing the natural world. People with mobility impairments can gain physical, mental health benefits and social health benefits from time in nature, ranging from passive contact to active involvement, according to a study published in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. People who use wheelchairs or other assisted mobility devices will find ADA-accessible parking, restrooms and shelters at many MetroParks, including those highlighted below.

Prairie and garden exploration: Sugarcreek MetroPark features a level, paved path that begins at the parking lot off Conference Road, which has several handicapped parking spots. The path makes a quarter-mile loop through the scenic prairie and travels by a picnic shelter with an accessible table. At Cox Arboretum MetroPark, all the buildings, gardens and paved paths are ADA-accessible. Cox Arboretum is a great place to discover spring flowers or just relax in nature.
Downtown Dayton adventure: RiverScape MetroPark is a great place to view spring blooms and relax along the riverfront. It’s also wheelchair accessible. Wheelchairs are welcome on the ice rink (open through March 1), and those who cannot wear skates also can enjoy the rink. RiverScape is located at the hub of the region’s 340-plus miles of recreation trails — the nation’s largest paved trail network. In downtown Dayton, those paved trails connect RiverScape to Island MetroPark, which features ADA-accessible restrooms and picnic shelters, and on to Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. All pathways in Wegerzyn’s formal gardens and the Children’s Discovery Garden are handicapped accessible. While you’re downtown, stop by the 2nd Street Market to shop for local food and grab a bite to eat. The Market building has three accessible ramps, parking and restrooms.

Other paved trail adventures: Enjoy numerous paved trails to experience nature. Those with ADA restrooms near the trail access include RiverScape, Island Englewood and Eastwood MetroParks. The Great-Little Trail at Medlar Conservation Area is an excellent 2.25-mile trail for experiencing a variety of habitat, from old growth forest to wetlands. It does include a rather steep hill, but it’s still a good option for those ready to take on a little more challenge.

On the boardwalk: Explore MetroParks’ Woodman Fen, a conservation area featuring 1,800 feet of ADA-accessible boardwalk and fishing pier at Cedar Lake is located adjacent to parking and a restroom. The boardwalk at Hills & Dales connecting Paw Paw and Dixieood Pon is accessible and the paved loop trail around the pond are also ADA-accessible.

On the farm: The farm and barn at Possum Creek MetroPark are accessible, as are the restrooms at the farm, reservable area, pond lot and the Argonne picnic area. The first fishing pond is connected to the parking lot by a handicapped-accessible asphalt path.

ACTIVE OLDER ADULTS

Time spent outdoors is important for those of all ages, including aging populations. The ElderCare Alliance lists improved mental health, energy and overall wellness as benefits for older adults who spend time outdoors. In addition, many active older adults volunteer for Five Rivers MetroParks, which also allows them to learn new skills and make new friends while helping MetroParks meet its mission.

Scape out scenic views: A short walk from the Cedar Lake parking lot at Carriage Hill MetroPark, the boardwalk offers views of the lake and tree lines along the trails. Head to Twin Creek MetroPark and park at the Eby Road lot for easy access to High View, a beautiful overlook of the Twin Valley. If you’re downtown, head to RiverScape MetroPark and settle down at the swings facing the Great Miami River to watch the sunset or paddlers in RiverScape River Run.

Take to the trails: Nearly all MetroParks feature loop trails and offer hikes of varying lengths. Head to Cox Arboretum MetroPark and hike the red trail for a half-mile adventure featuring a stop at the bird blind along the way. Enjoy the view of the prairie at Sugarcreek MetroPark before heading to the 0.7-mile yellow trail loop. For the option to embark on a longer hike, start at the Twin Valley Welcome Center at Germantown MetroPark. Take the red trail for a half-mile hike, or access the green and orange trails for a hike up to 7.5 miles.

Become a MetroParks volunteer: Volunteers are integral to MetroParks and needed in a variety of capacities, from gardening to administrative help. Volunteer orientations and skill development programs are held on a regular basis by MetroParks’ volunteer services staff and are a great way to find a new hobby and help connect people to nature. Because of similar interests, volunteers make lasting friendships while supporting MetroParks and serving the community.

HISTORY BUFFS

From some of the country’s most famous inventors to ancient native peoples, Dayton is home to a very rich history — some of which can be discovered in your MetroParks.

Argonne Forest at Possum Creek MetroPark: Hike the purple trail loop to explore the remnants of this former amusement park. A popular entertainment destination in the 1920s, you can view the old dancefloor and more. Winter and spring are great seasons to visit, as the sites can more easily be seen.

Carriage Hill MetroPark’s historical farm: Featuring period demonstrations, heritage farm animals and a blacksmith shop and farm house, the historical farm allows visitors to experience what life was like on the farm in the 1880s.

Earthworks at Twin Creek MetroPark: Some of the earliest natives, the Hopewell people, constructed Carlisle Fort 2,000 years ago.

2nd Street Market: Built in a historical freight house dating to 1911, the 2nd Street Market is reminiscent of European markets and features more than 40 vendors.

Hidden gems at Hills & Dales: Visit the Patterson Monument for beautiful views atop a vista. The memorial to John H. Patterson was erected in 1920 in honor of his leadership and belief that the outdoors was essential to good health. Visit Mary Miss’ Staged Gates sculpture, installed in 1979, and the Stone Tower, constructed in 1940.

YOUTH AND FAMILY

Many parents have fond memories of time spent exploring nature, which is often something they want their children to experience as well. In addition to simply having fun, time spent outdoors results in happier, healthier and smarter children, according to the World Wildlife Federation. MetroParks offers a variety of natural and child-focused spaces that provide immersive, nature-based experiences. Make lasting family memories and grow your kiddo’s mind and body at the following destinations:

Children’s Discovery Garden: Located at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark, learners of all ages will experience plenty of hands-on sensory opportunities and fun activities. (The garden is closed in January and February.)

The farms at Possum Creek and Carriage Hill MetroParks: Visit the historical farm at Carriage Hill MetroPark to experience farming practices from the 1880s, then visit Possum Creek MetroPark’s farm to learn about sustainable and food-to-table farming.


Fishing adventures: Families of anglers can cast a line in more than 10 MetroParks locations. Fish without a license at designated locations in Carriage Hill, Eastwood, Germantown, Possum Creek and Twin Creek MetroParks.

Explore Cox Arboretum MetroPark: Climb the 65-foot Tree Tower for expansive views of the Dayton area, walk through the Bell Children’s Maze, look for spring-blooming wildflowers and watch wildlife at the bird blind.

Sleep under the stars: MetroParks offers camping facilities at Possum Creek, Englewood, Germantown and Twin Creek MetroParks. Front country camping sites come with amenities, such as picnic tables and firepits, whereas backcountry sites in Germantown and Twin Creek MetroPark are more immersed in nature along the Twin Valley Backpacking Trail.
WHEN IN BLOOM, callery pear (Pyrus calleryana) trees look harmless enough: white blossoms, brown fruit and glossy leaves. However, this species — which is often used to adorn landscapes — is considered invasive. Taking over large swaths of our forests, grasslands and parks, callery pear can grow to 45 feet tall and survive in a variety of soil conditions.

Because callery pear is a threat to the delicate balance of flora and fauna in local habitats, MetroParks — in conjunction with local partners — is conducting research to mitigate the spread of this invasive species.

University of Dayton (UD) graduate student Meg Maloney is working with Five Rivers MetroParks’ parks and conservation staff to research ways to stave off callery, which crowds native plants needed for a healthy, diverse ecosystem.

At the Shiloh Woods Conservation Area, Maloney has tried cutting the trees to ground level and burning the stumps. At the Medlar Conservation Area, her approach is to use liquid nitrogen to freeze the tree’s cambium layer (the growing part of the trunk) because the trees can’t thrive in cooler temperatures.

Initial results are unclear as to how effective these methods will be for a plant that seems to adapt, and even thrive, under attack. For example, a callery that’s mowed to the ground will drop up to six dormant buds, which can take root and grow as tall as six feet in just one year. The callery pear tree is also one of the more under-studied invasives, so there is little data on how to manage its growth.

MetroParks’ conservation team believes invasions tend to occur more frequently when prairie restorations are close to residential areas and roads. Therefore, research will continue in additional parks and conservation areas, such as the Great Miami Mitigation Bank and Germantown MetroPark.

Additionally, UD doctoral student Michaela Woods will be working with MetroParks and some of her peers on a study to see if certain soil conditions are a good predictor of the spread of callery pear. Findings could help inform land management decisions, resources used for prairie restoration and what proactive steps can be taken to reduce the likelihood of callery invasion.

WHAT’S HAPPENING ONE YEAR AFTER 700 TREES WERE SUNK IN EASTWOOD LAKE

In January 2019, MetroParks put out a call for the community’s soon-to-be-tossed holiday trees for an important conservation project to address the undernourished bass population in Eastwood Lake.

The community answered resoundingly by donating 700 trees, which were then bundled into structures and sunk in the lake with help from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), volunteers, and MetroParks rangers and staff.

Because Eastwood Lake was once a quarry, there is a lack of natural foliage surrounding it. Sinking tree structures created food at the lowest levels of the aquatic habitat’s food chain, eventually resulting in healthier bass populations.

Indeed, it already has made a difference in the aquatic habitat at Eastwood Lake. Recent video taken by biologists at ODNR captured footage of fish using the sunken tree structures to find food. ODNR fisheries biologist Mike Porto caught a few perch near the structures and expects the perch and crappies will congregate around the structures during the winter to access aquatic vegetation. Anglers can expect to fully see results this spring.

To stay up-to-date about conservation projects happening in your Five Rivers MetroParks, sign up for digital newsletters at metroparks.org/newsletters.
LIFELONG LEARNING

Building skills, learning new things and finding new hobbies can enrich your life at any age. Five Rivers MetroParks offers an extensive menu of classes that allow people to do just that.

GROW YOUR OWN, MAKE YOUR OWN: Creating a beautiful landscape and growing your own food can provide a sense of accomplishment and benefit the environment. Take it full circle and use your home-grown produce in recipes. Because growing your own food is often healthier and less taxing on the environment, MetroParks offers a variety of programs that take you from earth to table.

• Develop a greener thumb and a grow beautiful plants and flowers by learning seasonal techniques, how to attract pollinators and more. Page 31
• Fill your garden with fresh veggies with help from MetroParks educators, from companion planting to starting seeds. Page 31
• Grow your palate with a taste of the past and present. Traditional cooking programs incorporate methods from simpler times, such as sausage and bread making. Add more veggies to your diet with cooking demonstrations at the 2nd Street Market and make nightshade-themed meals. Page 28
• For those who don’t have extra greenspace — or simply want more room to grow — community garden plots are available at Possum Creek and Wegerzyn Gardens MetroParks, as well as in neighborhoods throughout Montgomery County. metroparks.org/community-gardening

SPEND TIME IN NATURE: According to a story in the New York Times, doctors are recommending at least two hours of outdoor time a week to increase health and well-being. The natural world can spark curiosity at any age, so pick a program that piques your interest and let it inspire you to get outdoors more often.

• Learn how to spot and appreciate all things native, from wildflowers to common birds. MetroParks educators take you on adventures through the parks so you can identify trees, birds, mammals and plants. Once you learn something new, take to the trails to see what you can find. Page 32
• Conservation Kids offers an array of nature-based programs that empower children ages 3-13 to become young naturalists. Children who progress through the program learn about a variety of subjects, from the importance of pollinators to amphibian friends. Pages 34-35

EARTH FRIENDLY LIVING: According to HeadStuff.org, recent concerns about food and the environment have many Americans headed back to the basics, learning home-based DIY skills. Learning such techniques can cut down on waste, lessen your carbon footprint and save your family money.

• 19th century farming demonstrations offered at Carriage Hill MetroPark are perfect for those who want to learn more about butchering, livestock, traditional recipes and crops from simpler times. Perhaps the sweetest program this winter, be sure not to miss Maple Sugaring on the Farm. Page 32
• Compost Kitchen is an opportunity to learn how to be more sustainable at home by being purposeful with food waste. Bonus: adding compost to your garden’s soil is an inexpensive, natural way to keep your plants happy and thriving. Page 31
• For those looking to raise their own meat — such as rabbits, goats and more — MetroParks offers a variety of programs that can get you started. Page 28

Grounded and Growing participants check in on what’s growing at Possum Creek MetroPark
BETWEEN WORK, FAMILY AND LIMITED VACATION TIME, scheduling outdoor adventures can be challenging for Jeremy Cox. The husband and father of two is a regular at The Adventure Summit, where he finds inspiration from men and women just like him.

“Personally, I enjoy the talks where everyday people with day jobs and families come up with ways to be outside or adventurous,” said Cox, whose last adventure included a 330-mile bike excursion from Washington, D.C. to Pittsburgh along the C&O Towpath and Great Allegheny Passage trails.

A Five Rivers MetroParks and Wright State University event presented by Wagner Subaru, The Adventure Summit is a two-day celebration of outdoor skill, culture and experience. Speakers from across the nation and your own backyard will share their experiences in the great outdoors.

Cox, who has attended all nine Summits (and been a speaker himself), has been inspired to take multiple adventures, from a five-day kayak trip down the Little Miami River to RV camping with his family. He found inspiration for his bike trip after hearing Mike Crider present “Family Bikepacking on the Great Allegheny Passage: 3 Generations, 1 Trail” at the 2016 Adventure Summit.

“Mike Crider triggered the initial idea,” Cox said. “I kept it on the backburner to sneak in whenever I was able to work around other things. I ordered the trail guide and familiarized myself with the trail network. I figured out how long I could be gone, did the math on how far we needed to go per day to be back to work in a week, bought the train ticket and walked out the door.”

Though Cox is now an experienced outdoorsman, he wants people to understand The Adventure Summit has something for everyone — even those who aren’t interested in bikepacking across the country.

“The speakers cover the entire spectrum,” Cox said. “Anybody can take something away because the speakers are so inspirational. You’ll also learn there’s so much to do right here in the Dayton area.”

THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT OFFERS INSPIRATION FOR ALL

PEDAL YOUR WAY THROUGH MAY

National Bike to Work Week starts Monday, May 11, and culminates with National Bike to Work Day on Friday, May 15, when Five Rivers MetroParks hosts its annual pancake breakfast. The event, presented by MVRPC, celebrates human-powered transportation and its many benefits.

TOP 5 REASONS YOU SHOULD BIKE TO WORK

1 GET IN SHAPE: According to the Atlanta Bicycle Coalition, the average person will lose 13 pounds in their first year of riding to work.

2 COST SAVINGS: Those who opt to cycle instead of drive can save about $10 per round trip on average.

3 FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE: According to Bike Hint, 1.2 billion cubic yards of polluted air and millions of tons of solid waste are produced simply by manufacturing cars. A passenger car produces about 0.96 pounds of carbon emissions, whereas bikes produce 0.074 pounds — and that’s only because of human respiration!

4 SMART CYCLERS: According to Momentum Mag, research has proven that moderate, daily exercise — such as cycling — can prevent cognitive decline and sharpen memory and learning.

5 SKIP GETTING STUCK: Live in an urban area? Cyclists are rarely affected by traffic jams and other delays. Plus, it’s easy to find somewhere to park a bike, especially with ample (and free) bike parking in downtown Dayton.
Game nights, Sunday dinner, trips to the movies — family time can be as dynamic as families themselves. But if you ask Earl McDaniel, family time is about sharing experiences on the trails with his son, Tim McDaniel.

The father-son duo are MetroParks Volunteer Patrol (MVP) members, who are trained to patrol and assist people on portions of the paved and natural surface trails that MetroParks manages. Earl was the first to become an MVP in 2016, with Tim following in his footsteps last year.

Avid cyclists, Earl, 52, is on the trails 300 days a year and Tim, 24, is no stranger to 100-mile cycling adventures with his friends. While they patrol different sections of the trails, they meet on Friday evenings for a family dinner to share their stories. In addition to cycling, Earl and Tim share the desire to give back to the community.

“If you want to keep your home to be a good place to live — and I consider Dayton my home — you have to put in the effort,” said Earl. “If you don’t care, who’s going to?”

Having grown up in rural Tennessee, Tearlinda Rhoton is no stranger to the pastures, but her son, Aden Rhoton, was until last April. The mother-son team started volunteering at the Carriage Hill MetroPark Riding Center after reading ParkWays magazine.

A military family, the Rhotons moved frequently before coming to Dayton. Tearlinda was eager for Aden, a junior at the Dayton Regional STEM School, to have the same experiences she did growing up.

“It’s nice to get a little taste of home,” said Tearlinda. She also enjoys seeing her son experience new things. “One day, he looked at me and said, ‘Wow, there’s nothing like leading a horse.’”

The volunteer team enjoys leading pony rides most of all.

“We see everybody — young, old, all different cultures,” said Tearlinda. “The look on a kid’s face when they get their first lap in — their eyes just light up.”

To learn more about these volunteer opportunities and others at MetroParks, visit metroparks.org/volunteer or sign up for a volunteer orientation. See pages 32 & 33.
The Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation funded the seed money to start kayak and stand up paddleboard rentals at RiverScape MetroPark.

The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation funded the rebuilding of the stone wall at the edge of the pond and steps leading to the pond.

The Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation funded the restoration of 45 teak benches within the park.
**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**EnJOY TIME WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY AT THESE COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS.**

**EVENTS ARRANGED BY DATE**

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**FEBRUARY**

**FREE** THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT
FRI. FEB. 14, 5:00-9:00 PM Di90
2ND STREET MARKET, Parken, 600 E. Second St.
Celebrate the spirit of outdoor adventure by showcasing the lifestyle and culture of human-powered endeavors through inspiration, education and experience. Presenters include National Geographic’s 2019 Adventurers of the Year Heather Anderson and Maureen Beck, and solo climber Ryan Bicknell. No registration required. theadventuresummit.com All ages. See page 25 for info on volunteering for this event.

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**APRIL**

**FREE** THE CAROLYN KIMES TREE SEEDLING GIVEAWAY
FRI. APR 17, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM Di95
2ND STREET MARKET, Parken, 600 E. Second St.
Celebrate the spirit of outdoor adventure by showcasing the lifestyle and culture of human-powered endeavors through inspiration, education and experience. Presenters include National Geographic’s 2019 Adventurers of the Year Heather Anderson and Maureen Beck, and solo climber Ryan Bicknell. No registration required. theadventuresummit.com All ages. See page 25 for info on volunteering for this event.

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**MAY**

**FREE** PICKIN’ IN THE PARK
SAT. MAY 2, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM Di97
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Join thousands of volunteers during MetroPark’s annual clean up event. This year’s focus will be on tree planting to aid tornado recovery (see pg. 32). Volunteers are needed for this and other projects. There’s something for everyone. Advanced registration is required online at metroparks.org/adopt. Groups should register early. All ages and abilities.

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**JUNE**

**FREE** DAYTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ALL CITY ARTS FESTIVAL
SAT. MAY 3, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM Di95
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Join us for a day of music, art and food featuring the talents of Dayton Public Schools’ students from all elementary, middle and high school buildings. Students are selected to perform this annual festival of the arts. No registration required. Contact (937) 542-3532 or jjeaves@daytonpublic.com for details.

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**JULY**

**FREE** NATIONAL BIKE TO WORK DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST
FRI. MAY 15, 7:00-9:00 AM Di96
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Leave your car in the garage and support National Bike to Work Day. Ride in on your own or with a group to RiverScape Metropark for a free pancake breakfast before you head to work. Live music, cycling-related exhibitors and a team challenge are all part of the fun. No registration required. metroparks.org/biketowork. All ages.

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**AUGUST**

**FREE** ANNUAL MAYFAIR PLANT SALE
SAT. MAY 2, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM Di97
2ND STREET MARKET, Parken, 600 E. Second St.
Celebrate the spirit of outdoor adventure by showcasing the lifestyle and culture of human-powered endeavors through inspiration, education and experience. Presenters include National Geographic’s 2019 Adventurers of the Year Heather Anderson and Maureen Beck, and solo climber Ryan Bicknell. No registration required. theadventuresummit.com All ages. See page 25 for info on volunteering for this event.

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**SEPTEMBER**

**FREE** DAYTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ALL CITY ARTS FESTIVAL
SAT. MAY 3, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM Di95
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Join us for a day of music, art and food featuring the talents of Dayton Public Schools’ students from all elementary, middle and high school buildings. Students are selected to perform this annual festival of the arts. No registration required. Contact (937) 542-3532 or jjeaves@daytonpublic.com for details.

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**OCTOBER**

**FREE** TAB-A-PULL-OOZA
SAT. MAY 16, 9:00 AM-11:00 PM Di95
2ND STREET MARKET, Parken, 600 E. Second St.
Celebrate the spirit of outdoor adventure by showcasing the lifestyle and culture of human-powered endeavors through inspiration, education and experience. Presenters include National Geographic’s 2019 Adventurers of the Year Heather Anderson and Maureen Beck, and solo climber Ryan Bicknell. No registration required. theadventuresummit.com All ages. See page 25 for info on volunteering for this event.

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**NOVEMBER**

**FREE** UNDER THE SKY – DAYTON SPOKES TO THE WORLD
SAT. MAY 16, 9:00 AM-11:00 PM Di95
2ND STREET MARKET, Parken, 600 E. Second St.
Celebrate the spirit of outdoor adventure by showcasing the lifestyle and culture of human-powered endeavors through inspiration, education and experience. Presenters include National Geographic’s 2019 Adventurers of the Year Heather Anderson and Maureen Beck, and solo climber Ryan Bicknell. No registration required. theadventuresummit.com All ages. See page 25 for info on volunteering for this event.

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**DECEMBER**

**FREE** DAYTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ALL CITY ARTS FESTIVAL
SAT. MAY 3, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM Di95
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, 237 E. Monument Ave.
Join us for a day of music, art and food featuring the talents of Dayton Public Schools’ students from all elementary, middle and high school buildings. Students are selected to perform this annual festival of the arts. No registration required. Contact (937) 542-3532 or jjeaves@daytonpublic.com for details.

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**2019-2020 SPONSORSHIP SPOTS**

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**PASSPORT TO METROPARKS**

Get a sneak peek at what summer has to offer during downtown’s newest festival!

**SAVE THE DATE**

June 5, from 6 to 10 PM at RiverScape MetroPark
CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE
(VOLUNTEER: SEEDLING SATURDAYS
SAT. MAR 28, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM D107
SAT. APR 25, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM D108
SAT. MAY 23, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM D109

Join Five Rivers Metroparks’ conservation efforts and plant seedlings in the ground! Restoration is a vital part of building a habitat, and Metroparks could use your help planting hundreds of native trees and shrubs – especially after so many trees were lost to tornado damage, including at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.

This year, Five Rivers Metroparks’ annual park clean up event will focus on planting trees in the Montgomery County communities impacted by the 2019 Memorial Day tornados. Metroparks has thousands of native trees to plant – and needs your help to get them in the ground.

Nature provides habitat for wildlife, offers healing respite during challenging times, and heals body, mind and soul – which is why it’s critical we begin to replant trees in the areas where so many were lost to tornado damage, including at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.

Volunteers of all ages and accessibility levels are needed to help with tree planting and other projects. Supplies are provided, and volunteers receive a free T-shirt.

Online registration is required and open March 1 to April 10. Groups should register early to ensure space.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
9 AM TO NOON

NATURE APPRECIATION
(URBAN BIRD WALK IN DOWNTOWN DAYTON
SAT. APR 25, 8:30-10:30 AM D154
2ND STREET MARKET, 600 E. Second St.

Saturday, April 18 – 8 AM to 10 AM

Meet at the 2nd Street Market main entrance and enjoy a spring time walk with a passionate bird lover. Ron Bicknell, as you walk to Deeds Point and Island Park identifying birds in the downtown area along the way. The walk is 1.7 miles so dress appropriately. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Contact (937) 228-2088 or marketinfo@metroparks.org for details. metroparks.org. All ages. ☑

SKATING
QUEEN
FRI, APR 7, 7:00-10:00 PM D162
RIVERSCAPES METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Do you love the rock anthems of Queen? Then come to Metroparks Ice Rink to skate to the sounds of the legendary vocalist with family and friends. No registration required. All ages. Admission & Skate Rental: $8

SATURDAY / commalining/spacelining/APRIL/spacelining/onelining/eightlining

Visitors are urged to help reforest our region this spring.

METROPARKS.ORG/HEALING-NATURE

There are other ways to help reforest our region this spring:

SEEDLING SATURDAYS
March 28, April 25 & May 23, 9 AM to NOON
Great Miami Mitigation Bank, 8401 Little Richmond Rd.
Volunteer to plant seedlings at this conservation area. Registration is required, see page 22 for details.

TREE SEEDLING GIVEAWAY
Friday, April 17 — 11 AM to 4 PM
Saturday, April 18 — 8 AM to 3 PM
2nd Street Market, 600 E. Second St.

Pick up a free tree seedling while supplies last.

You also can support the Healing Nature tree restoration effort by making a donation. Visit metroparks.org/healing-nature to learn how.

SATURDAY / commalining/spacelining/APRIL/spacelining/onelining/eightlining

SATURDAY / commalining/spacelining/APRIL/spacelining/onelining/eightlining

Illustrations have been cropped to fit page arrangements. Programs and events arranged by topic.
BACKPACKING

APPLACHIAN TRAIL TRIP PLANNING
THU, MAR 5, 6:00-8:30 PM D19
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springfield Pk.

(BACKPACKING)

FREE) VOLUNTEER: BACKPACKING
TRAIL WORK DAYS
SAT, MAY 9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM D103
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Park Office, 6673 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. Free.

BICYCLE TOURING

BICYCLE TOURING IN THE MILWAUKEE VALLEY
TUE, APR 25, 6:00-8:00 PM D123
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springfield Pk.
Have you ever thought about going on a bicycle touring trip, but aren’t sure where to start? Learn about opportunities right here in the Miami Valley to take a trip on your bicycle. Well cover local routes, resources and where to stay. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: $5.

BICYCLE TOURING

TUE, MAR 24, 6:00-8:00 PM D123
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 301 S. Siebenthaler Ave.
Learn the basics of traveling by bicycle, whether you call it bikepacking, bicycling or camping by bicycle. Topics covered will include gear, food, trip planning, and other tips and tricks. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: $5.

FISHING

NYMPHS, EMERGERS, DRIES
WED, FEB 9, 6:00-7:30 PM D19
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springfield Pk.
What is the difference between an emerger, a nymph, and a dry fly? Learn all about various flies, how they imitate nature and when to use them during this program designed for those with some knowledge about fly fishing. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: $20.

ACTIVITY OUTDOORS PROGRAMMING

MOUNTAIN BIKEING

FREE) TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING
THU, APR 4, 7:00-9:00 PM D16
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd. West to try mountain biking! 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 PLAY

FREE) VOLUNTEER, THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT
WED, FEB 5, 6:00-7:00 PM D105 OSETTE
Be part of The Adventure Summit team! Join Five Rivers Metroparks and Wright State University as an event volunteer to support information, exhibitor, event set-up & tear-down, presentation, and other services during this two-day program! Contact jenny.hymans@metroparks.org for details. theadventuresummit.com. Age: 14Y and up.

OUTDOOR SKILLS AND SAFETY

BACKCOUNTRY KNOTS
THU, FEB. 6, 6:00-8:00 PM D18
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 301 S. Siebenthaler Ave.
Learn some of the best knots for use in the outdoors as we take a hands-on approach to knot tying and how to use it. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: Free.

WILDERNESS FIRST AID
SAT, SUN, MAR 7-8, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM D14
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Park Office, 6673 Springfield Pk.
This two-day introduction to general medical concepts and basic life support skills is targeted for outdoor enthusiasts, campers, and outdoorspeople. Registration is required. Age: 16Y and up. Fee: $150.

GARDEN GODDESS YOGA CIRCLE
WED. MAR 13, 6:15-8:15 PM D24
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Farm Garden Field, 4700 Frytown Rd.
This class is open to all women 18 years and older. You do not need to be a yogi to join in, you will learn many poses, breathing techniques, and grounding exercises for a well-rounded yoga practice. Prerequisites: Completion of any prior yoga experience and an introduction to yoga philosophy. Age: 18Y and up. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: $10.

FITNESS

FITNESS IN THE PARK
SAT, MAY 9, 10:00-11:00 AM D31
SAT, MAY 16, 10:00-11:00 AM D32
SAT, MAY 30, 10:00-11:00 AM D34
RIVERSDALE METROPARK, RiverScape Pavilion, 351 S. Monument Ave.
This outdoor fitness activity is intended for all ages. No registration required. All ages.  

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, 4700 FRYTOWN RD.
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, 237 E. MONUMENT AVE.
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, 4790 FRYTOWN RD.
HUFFMAN METROPARK, 4485 UNION RD.
FRASER METROPARK, 4485 UNION RD.
MOUNTAIN BIKING

FREE) TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING
THU, APR 4, 7:00-9:00 PM D16
HUFFMAN METROPARK, MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd. West to try mountain biking! 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 PLAY

FREE) VOLUNTEER, THE ADVENTURE SUMMIT
WED, FEB 5, 6:00-7:00 PM D105 OSETTE
Be part of The Adventure Summit team! Join Five Rivers Metroparks and Wright State University as an event volunteer to support information, exhibitor, event set-up & tear-down, presentation, and other services during this two-day program! Contact jenny.hymans@metroparks.org for details. theadventuresummit.com. Age: 14Y and up.

OUTDOOR SKILLS AND SAFETY

BACKCOUNTRY KNOTS
THU, FEB. 6, 6:00-8:00 PM D18
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 301 S. Siebenthaler Ave.
Learn some of the best knots for use in the outdoors as we take a hands-on approach to knot tying and how to use it. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: Free.

WILDERNESS FIRST AID
SAT, SUN, MAR 7-8, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM D14
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Park Office, 6673 Springfield Pk.
This two-day introduction to general medical concepts and basic life support skills is targeted for outdoor enthusiasts, campers, and outdoorspeople. Registration is required. Age: 16Y and up. Fee: $150.
WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER MON., TUE., WED., THU., FRI., SAT., SUN. MAR. 9, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 2000 8:00 AM-6:00 PM D5 GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Germantown Education Building, 4710 Frytown Rd. Through lectures, discussions and scenarios, you’ll learn the essential principles and skills required to assess and manage medical problems in isolated and extreme environments for days and weeks if necessary. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 395-5358 or coloradooutside@gmail.com for details. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $175

WILDERNESS MEDICINE OPEN RECERTIFICATION FRI., SAT., SUN. MAR. 20-22, 8:00 AM-4:00 PM D5 GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Germantown Education Building, 4710 Frytown Rd. This course is open to graduates of all wilderness medical training courses of 64 hours or longer with a current WFR certification. WMA WFR graduates with a current EMT-B or Paramedic certificate may also recertify the wilderness portion of their WFR with this course. See contact info to register. Contact (937) 395-5358 or coloradooutside@gmail.com for details. wildmed.com. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $375

RIVER ACCESS VAN TOUR: GREAT MIAMI RIVER THU. APR 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 25, 26, 29, 30, 2000 8:00 AM-3:30 PM D111 METROPARKS.ORG, Germantown Metropark, Program Parking Area, 1501 S. Siebenthaler Ave. Join us for a driving tour, stopping at different river access points along the Great Miami River to help plan your next paddling adventure. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $5

ACA KAYAK INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION TUE., WED., THU., FRI., SAT., SUN. APR 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 2000 8:00 AM-3:00 PM D101 WEGNER GARDENS METROPARK, Wegerzyn Gardens Metropark, Program Parking Area, 5001 E. Normandy Ave. American Canoe Association Level 1 Kayak certification gives you a good foundation in the skills and knowledge needed to instruct kayaking on flatwater. This course will be a combination classroom and on-the-water skills, including participants teaching topics and skills. Prerequisites: ACA membership & SEIC dues paid, current CPR and First Aid certifications. Registration required. Contact angie.sheeldon@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $125

KAYAK EXPLORING: TWIN CREEK WED. MAY 27, 5:30-8:30 PM D109 GERMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Creek Access & Dam Overlook, 747 Boat Rd. Enjoy a pleasant float down the Twin Creek with a Five Rivers MetroParks naturalist and learn about the wildlife that exists here. We will kayak from the Germantown Dam to Cherry Street in Germantown. Prior kayaking experience is strongly recommended. Equipment provided. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: $10

LEARN TO ICE SKATE! ADULT COURSE SUNK, FEB 3, 9 & 16 12:30-1:30 PM D110 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 5155 Riverport Dr. Skills include skating forward and backward edges on a circle, three-turns, backward stops, bunny hop, lunges, and crossovers. Registration fee includes two free skating admissions, use of skates and lessons on February 2, 9 and 16. Make-up date in the event of closure will be Feb. 23. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Registration required. Contact (937) 278-2672 or riverscape@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $5

NEW THIS YEAR! VAULTING Keep active this winter with MetroParks’ new vaulting lessons. This sport of gymnastics/adventure on horseback is open to riders of all levels, including beginners. Vaulting helps riders’ flexibility and balance and improves their relationship with their horses through trust and mutual understanding. Lessons available every Saturday. Ages 8Y and up.

SUMMER HORSE CAMPS Learn to lead, groom, saddle, take care of a horse, and ride English and Western styles. These half-day, week-long camps are for ages 8-17 and include multiple skill levels. Camps run June 2–Aug. 7 Registration opens March 1. Fee: $260

TRAIL RIDE RESERVATIONS The Carriage Hill Riding Center starts taking reservations on May 1 for the summer riding season that begins June 6. METROPARKS.ORG/ RIDINGCENTER

See page 25 to learn how you can volunteer to support this event!

BIKE TO WORK DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

FRIDAY, MAY 15 • 7 TO 9 AM AT RIVERSCAP METROPARK

Celebrate National Bike Month during the region’s largest Bike to Work Day event. Join hundreds of cyclists for a free pancake breakfast and check out cycling-related exhibitors and live music. Participate in the team challenge for a chance to win sweet prizes!

METROPARKS.ORG/BIKETOWORKDAY

GET INSPIRED TO TACKLE YOUR OWN BUCKET LIST ADVENTURES DURING THIS FREE, FAMILY-FRIENDLY SPEAKER SERIES AND EXPO

Friday, Feb. 14, 5 to 9 PM
• Featured speaker: Heather Anich Anderson, 2019 National Geographic Adventurer of the Year and first female Triple Crown hiker.
• Enjoy fire/solve, live music and beverages, and meet the presenters during the Summit Savor from 6 to 8 PM.

Saturday, Feb. 15, 9 to 6 PM
• Featured speakers: Ryan Richardson, renowned rock climber and ice climber, and Maureen Beck, 2019 National Geographic Adventurer of the year and differently abled rock climber.
DEMONSTRATION WITH INVOLVE CUISINE: A MARKET COOKING HERITAGE BAKING SERIES
up Fee: $50 for two people. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Enjoy fresh, local vegetables and do some simple baking techniques. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $35
GETTING STARTED RAISING SMALL LIVESTOCK AT HOME
THUR, MAR 26, 6:00-8:00 PM D40
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 6470 Frytown Rd.
Interested in raising your own animals for food, fiber, or hobby, but don’t know where to start or even if it’s right for you? Then join us as we talk about a variety of small livestock and what you will need to know before spending time and money on animals, food, and other needs. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $10
HOW TO MAKE GOETTA
SUN, MAR 29, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM D31
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Meeting Room, 7800 S. Shull Rd.
Goetta is a historic regional dish that used pork and beef sausage as well as pin oats and seasonings. Join us as we trace its origins and discuss its history. Instructions on how to make goetta at home will be provided during this hands-on class. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $15
BACKYARD RABBITS: TASTE AND LEARN
THU, APR 23, 6:00-8:00 PM D43
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 6470 Frytown Rd.
You are interested in raising rabbits for food, fiber, manure or pelts? In this program staff will walk you through what you need to know about space requirements, feeding and breeds. Taste a rabbit dish and see fiber products from rabbits. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $7
BACKYARD GOATS: TASTE AND LEARN
THU, MAY 21, 6:00-8:00 PM D45
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 6470 Frytown Rd.
Are you interested in keeping goats for food, fiber, manure or pelts? In this program staff will walk you through what you need to know about space requirements, feeding and breeds. Taste a goat dish and see fiber products from goats. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $7
HERITAGE BAKING SERIES
Using 19th century recipes and methods, students will learn to bake using a wood-fired oven.
SOURDOUGH 101
SAT, MAR 21, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM D30
CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage Hill
Bagels and other local foods. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up. Fee: $50
STAY TUNED FOR SPRING BLOOMS
When they bloom in April, the thousands of bluebells originally planted by conservation pioneer Marie Aull are an amazing sight to behold. Spring blooms create stunning displays in all your MetroParks – but they’re only around for a short time. Sign up to be notified when flowers bloom at Aullwood Garden, Cox Arboretum and Germantown MetroParks so you can take a self-guided tour. You’ll receive an email with park maps, instructions on what to look for and information about how long the blooms will last.
To sign up, contact: Betty Hoevel, Education Coordinator, (937) 275-PARK
Bear Jetton, Education Coordinator, (937) 275-PARK
METROPARKS.ORG

3.6 MILLION ANNUAL VISITS
18 CLEAN, SAFE PARKS
2ND STREET MARKET
11 CONSERVATION AREAS
16,112 ACRES OF PROTECTED LAND
90 percent of the land is maintained in its natural state, meaning the land is managed so habitat for plants and wildlife is a priority. Do so preserves clean water and air, supports plant and wildlife biodiversity, and provides beautiful places where people can connect with nature.

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS OVERVIEW

160 MILES OF RIVER CORRIDOR
270 MILES OF RIVER TRAILS
8 OUTDOOR RECREATION FEATURES
• Outdoor Recreation (with manta, DSC, 4000)
• 320 MILES OF MANAGED BIKE TRAILS
• 42 MILES MANAGED BY FIVE RIVERS
27 MILES OF RIVER TRAILS

METROPAKNS.ORG/EXPLORE

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS FOUNDATION

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

To learn more and apply for an Access to Nature Scholarship, visit metroparks.org/scholarships.

NEW IN 2020!
You now can use the Access to Nature Scholarship to rent Five Rivers Metroparks’ shelters and campsites! Now is the perfect time to plan your spring or summertime gathering or outdoor adventure with family and friends.

Try a new outdoor adventure this summer!
• Youth and Teen Summer Camps
• Kayaking
• Mountain Biking

Opportunities for ages 9-17
Registration opens Feb. 1

Visit metroparks.org/scholarships to learn about Metroparks’ Access to Nature Scholarship that can cover a portion of camp fees for qualified applicants!

GARDENING

HOUSEPLANT HOW-TO AND SWAP SATURDAY, 10:00-11:30 AM
WEGERZYNS GARDENS METROPARK, Adult Classroom, 150 S. Shoblen Ave.
Love your houseplants? Want to know more and have more? We’ll talk about varieties, care, and propagation. Join us for an information filled meeting and bring along a houseplant or cutting to share or swap. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

GREENING YOUR GARDEN: PRODUCTS AND PLANTS SATURDAY, 10:00-11:30 AM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Healthy plants make a healthy environment. We’ll discuss methods, plants, products, and how to get the best results from your garden without harming soil, water or pollinators. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

GARDENING BY THE MOON WEDNESDAY, 5:00-6:00 PM
POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 2700 Frytown Rd.
Come out for an evening of lunar learning as we delve into the ancient practice of using the moon’s cycles as way to produce higher yields in the vegetable garden. We will also discuss our gardens and set intentions for a successful season. Participants will enjoy a cup of moon tea, make an herbal moon bath soak, and take home moon flower seeds. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

GREAT NATIVES SATURDAY, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Head Westworst Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Join Ohio Native Plant Month and Nancy Linz, one of the leaders of this cause, will talk about the native plants of Ohio, where to find them, and how to use them in your garden. Each attendee receives a native plant tour. Tours of the wildflower area and prairie garden will follow the talk. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $10

HERITAGE & HISTORY

DRAFT HORSE DRIVING CLASS SATURDAY, 9:00-10:00 AM
D156 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Visitor Center Meeting Room, 306N E. Shill Rd.
In the 1880s, draft horses were used for a wide variety of chores on the farm. In this modern era, draft horses can still be used as a sustainable way of doing farm work. Join us for this two-part class on basic draft horse driving. Students will learn about draft horse safety, the basics of harnesses and do basic ground driving. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $50

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM EXPANDED TO COVER RENTALS
Visit metroparks.org/scholarships for details.

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

BLACKSMITHING THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1:00-2:00 PM
D52 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Carriage hill Historical Farm, 7850 E. Shill Rd.
Have you ever wanted to try your hand at blacksmithing? Join us each month as we focus on a different heritage skill. Basic principles and skills will be taught and participants will work on a simple project. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $15

SUSTAINABLE HOME

FREE! MASTER RECYCLING CLASS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 6:00-8:00 PM
D65 HIGHSIDE, Montgomery County Solid Waste District, 3550 Sandridge Dr.
Presented in partnership with Montgomery County Environmental Services, learn how to reduce, reuse and recycle and become advocates in waste reduction. Attend 5 classes and commit to 20 volunteer hours. Join us February 19 from 5:30-7:30 pm at Metroparks’ main office (408 Monument Ave., 3rd floor) for an informational session to learn more. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

FREE! COMPOST KITCHEN WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 6:00-8:00 PM
D65 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Fifth Third Conference Room, 6733 Springboro Pk.
This open house 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 will receive a free compost starter. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up

EARTH FRIENDLY LIVING PROGRAMMING
ADULT NATURE EXPLORATION

Enjoy and learn about the splendor of the natural world.

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY TOPIC

CONSERVATION & CITIZEN SCIENCE

(FREE) VOLUNTEER: CONSERVATION SEASON OPENER
SAT. FEB 8, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM
D17 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, D143 Halls Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Discover the art and science of animal tracking as we learn how to identify mammal tracks and scat. We will explore collections, make plaster casts of animal tracks and explore animal signs in the field. Dress warmly. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: $0

MAMMAL TRACKING
SAT. FEB 22, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
D70 GERMANMOUTH METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Explore Ohio’s eight owl species during a presentation about their courtship rituals, feeding behaviors, identification characteristics, songs, and interactions with people. Take a slow-paced night hike into the forest in search of owls. Each participant will receive an ODNR field guide to Ohio owls. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: $0

BIRD FEEDER COFFEE BREAK
SIP coffee (made from beans grown using bird-friendly methods) and chat with a MetroParks bird while taking part in Project FeederWatch, a citizen-science initiative through Cornell University’s Lab of Ornithology.

FREE) OUR COMMON BIRDS
FRI, MAR 13, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM
D2 GERMANMOUTH METROPARK, Twin Valley Welcome Center, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Explore bird diversity while learning courtship displays, nest types, diet, and other details of our common birds, like Blue Jays, Cardinals, Mourning Doves, and more! Bring binoculars and field guide if you have them. A limited supply will be available. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. All ages

BEGINNING BIRDING
SAT. MAY 9, 10:00-5:00 PM
D77 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Get started with the basics of birding, including identification, field guide and binocular use, identifying bird song and behavior. The 2-hour indoor session will be followed by a 2-hour field study. Participants receive an ODNR birding handbook and field guides. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up. Fee: $15

HERITAGE & HISTORY

(FREE) CARLISLE FORT-A-HOPPELWELL SITE WORKSHOP
THU. APR 2, 6:30-8:30 PM
D67 TWIN CREEK METROPARK, Hopewell Parking Lot, 6000 Chamberlin Rd.
Discover the remnants of a culture from 2,000 years ago. Explore the Twin Creek MetroPark trails on this guided hike to a unique round mound built by the Hopewell people. Learn what’s been learned about this culture and enjoy exciting activities from MetroParks’ new Hopewell Education Kit, which you can rent. Trails are moderately difficult. Registration required. Contact d70@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

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 will also discuss humans’ role in nature and how we can minimize our impacts and get involved with conservation efforts. It’s our natural environment.

FLOWER & FAUNA

WINTER TREE ID WORKSHOP
SAT. FEB 8, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
D73 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
Learn how to identify more than 20 native trees by their beam, bark, and other winter characteristics. Discover pioneer, wildlife and commercial uses for each tree while sharing stories of folklore. Each participant will receive a winter tree identification workbook with everything needed to get started identifying trees. Registration required. Age: 14Y and up Fee: $10

FREE) VOLUNTEER: FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION
WED. FEB 8, 9:00-11:00 AM
D39 METROPARKS.ORG

PHOTOGRAPHY & ART

PHOTOGRAPHY BOOT CAMP
SUN. FEB 16, 1:00-4:00 PM
D8 WEGZEYR GARDEN’S METROPARK, Auditorium, 1501 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Bring your camera and instruction manual to this hands-on program and learn about the capabilities of your equipment and how to quickly adjust settings for different shooting situations. Each participant will receive individual attention from the instructor and learn about the capabilities of your equipment and how to quickly adjust settings for different shooting situations. Each participant will receive individual attention from the instructor and leave the class with a customized quick reference guide. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT
SUN. MAR 15, 10:00-1:00 PM
D79 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6733 Springboro Pk.
The instructor will present participants with challenging photography assignments regarding light, blurriness and motion. Together, you’ll learn to take good pictures in difficult situations. Bring a tripod and a flash if possible. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

BEAUTY IN OUR OWN BACKYARD
SUN. APR 19, 1:00-3:00 PM
D71 CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK, Cedar Lake Program Area, 7881 E. Shull Rd.
The instructor will present participants with challenging photography assignments regarding light, blurriness and motion. Together, you’ll learn to take good pictures in difficult situations. Bring a tripod and a flash if possible. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

SUN. MAY 20, 10:00-11:30 AM
D69 HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Five Points Farm Program Area, 4371 Deep Hollow Rd.
Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 18Y and up

SPRING INTO ACTION
SUN. MAY 10, 10:00-1:30 PM
D55 WEGZEYR GARDEN’S METROPARK, Auditorium, 1501 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Nature offers so much for photographers to enjoy at this time of year. Spend some time taking pictures of colorful flowers, insects and birds. Learn techniques for taking close-up photos of small treasures in the garden. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $20

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 green space. 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 MetroParks. You can name trees for 100% tax deduction.
• 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/FOUNDATION

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

METROPARKS.ORG/NEWSLETTERS
CONSERVATION KIDS
This series nurtures kids’ desire to explore nature and encourages 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 receive a special Metroparks Conservation Kids medal. You may also become eligible to sign up for future high level programs. Visit metroparks.org/kids.

(FREE) FOREST BIRD SEARCH SAT. FEB 8, 10:00-11:30 AM D74 ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Program at Patsy Shelter Parking Lot, 4540 National Rd. Test your bird finding abilities as we track down some of the forest’s most beautiful birds. Discover why forests and birds depend on each other for survival, and how you can help. Bring binoculars if you have them. Registration required. Ages: 5Y-13Y.

(FREE) SLEEPING NATURE SAT. FEB 8, 6:00-7:30 PM D75 SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 6733 Springfield Rd. Join a national network of citizen scientists responsible for keeping track of the timing of plant growth, from leaving to fruiting! We will venture out, collect data, then submit to Project Budburst and continue monitoring through the year. Registration required. Age: 5Y-13Y.

(FREE) GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT SAT. FEB 15, 10:00-11:30 AM D71 GISDMANTOWN METROPARK, Twin Valley Wel¬come Center, 4706 West River Rd. People all across the country will be counting the birds they see this weekend and reporting their sightings online, and you can be a part of the story! Bring binoculars if you have them, a limited supply will be available. Registration required. Age: 5Y-13Y.

(FREE) BIRDS AND COMMUNITY SAT. FEB 22, 10:00-11:30 AM D69 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6735 Springfield Rd. Learn your local birds’ how to attract them to your yard, and how to get other kids excited about nature. Registration required. Age: 5Y-13Y.

(FREE) WOODCOCK WATCH FRI. MAR 6, 8:00-9:30 PM D79 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Parking Lot, 6733 Springfield Rd. Come join us as we watch the woodcock’s extravagant mating display of circles, spirals, and swirls while enjoying the crisp night. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 5Y-13Y.

(FREE) SIGNS OF SPRING SAT. MAR 14, 10:00-11:00 AM D79 HILLS & DALES METROPARK, Pewl Park/Parking Lot, 2471 Deep Hollow Rd. See what the birds are up to as we get outside after a long winter. Find a spring tree to watch for new growth! Help us look for signs of spring! We’ll discuss seasonal changes, and explore native trees for signs of spring. Registration required, walk-ins welcome. Age: 5Y-13Y.

(FREE) PROJECT BUDBURST SAT. MAR 14, 10:00-2:00 PM D78 SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Parking Lot, 4786 Conference Rd. Join a national network of citizen scientists responsible for keeping track of the timing of plant growth, from leaving to fruiting! We will venture out, collect data, then submit to Project Budburst and continue monitoring through the year. Registration required. Age: 5Y-13Y.

(FREE) BECOME A GARDENER SAT. MAR 21, 10:00-12:00 PM D80 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6735 Springfield Rd. Learn what it takes to be a gardener and all plants need in order to survive. Get tools to help a gardening party with your friends. Registration required. Age: 5Y-13Y.

(FREE) AMPHIBIAN NATURALIST TRAINING FRI. APR 3, 7:00-9:00 PM D65 COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Mead Westvaco Theatre, 6735 Springfield Rd. Learn about amphibians and practice techniques in searching for them and sharing them with others. We’ll venture out into the

FAMILY
Spend quality time outdoors with everyone in your family.

PROGRAMS ARRANGED BY DATE

PARKWAYS
34 PARKWAYS
35
FRIDAY, MAY 1
concert of 2020 kicks off at MetroParks’ first outdoor Summer unofficially starts with Enjoy RiverScape Rentals, the fountains, free fitness programs and more

SATURDAY, MAY 9
LEARN TO ICE SKATE!
CHILDREN’S COURSE
SUN. MAR 25, 10:00-11:00 AM D32 POSSUM CREEK METROPARK, Eddie’s Farm, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn how to fall and get up, get safely across the ice; fall safely, and get up on your own. Fee includes use of skates and lessons on Feb. 2, 9 and 16, as well as two free skate admissions so you can return to the rink to practice your new skills. Makeup date is Feb. 23. Registration required. Age: 3-5 yrs Fee: $50  

FREE) WHAT’S HAPPENING ON THE FARM
THU. FEB 6, 10:00-11:00 AM D320 THU. MAR 5, 10:00-11:00 AM D320 THU. APR 2, 10:00-11:00 AM D320
POSNUM CREEK METROPARK, Possum Creek Education Building, 4790 Frytown Rd.
Learn how to get across the ice. Things are always changing at the farm, whether it’s the season, what’s growing in the garden or pasture or how the different animals are changing to adapt to the weather. Life on the farm is always in motion. Each month there will be different fun subjects to learn about from stories to activities. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 2Y-5Y

FREE) LEARN TO ICE SKATE! YOUTH/TEEN COURSE
SUN. FEB 1, 10:00-11:30 AM D319 RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave.
Learn how to fall and get up, get safely across the ice; fall safely, and get up on your own. Fee includes use of skates and lessons on Feb. 2, 9 and 16, as well as two free skate admissions so you can return to the rink to practice your new skills. Makeup date is Feb. 23. Registration required. Age: 8Y-12Y Fee per preschooler: $5  

FREE) SALAMANDER SEARCH
THU. APR 30, 10:00-11:00 AM D310 ENGLEWOOD METROPARK, Shelter, 202 E. Monument Ave.
Learn to look for the rink to practice your new skills. Makeup date is Feb. 23. Registration required. Age: 3-5 yrs Fee: $50  

FREE) WOODLAND ADVENTURE
TUE, MAY 12, 10:00-11:00 AM D335 SUGARCREEK METROPARK, Trailhead Program Parking, 4108 Conner Road
Get out for crisp, fresh air and take an adventurous nature hike through the woodlands, exploring the trees, plants, and wildlife. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Age: 3-5 yrs

FREE) LITTLE SPROUTS
WED. MAR 25, 10:00-11:00 AM D32 LITTLE & DALLAS METROPARK, Shelter, 202 E. Monument Ave.
PARKWAYS

LEARN TO ICE SKATE!
SUN. MAR 25, 10:00-11:00 AM D32
RIVERSCAPE METROPARK, MetroParks Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument Ave. Learn the basics of skating, including how to get on and off the ice, fall safely, and get up on your own. Fee includes use of skates and lessons on Feb. 2, 9 and 16, as well as two free skate admissions so you can return to the rink to practice your new skills. Makeup date is Feb. 23. Registration required. Age: 3-5 yrs Fee: $50  

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PARKWAYS
GARDENING

(FREE) COMMUNITY GARDEN COORDINATORS DINNER
THU. MAR 12, 6:00-8:00 PM D55
WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK, Auditorium, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave.
Everyone who works with a community garden in Montgomery County is invited to join MetroParks’ community gardening program staff and fellow community gardeners for our annual kick-off dinner. Discover essential resources and information and meet your gardening colleagues. Registration required. Contact kaitlyn.lowry@metroparks.org for details. Age: 18Y and up

NATURE APPRECIATION

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

PROJECT WILD & INQUIRY ADVENTURES WORKSHOP
SUN. MAR 15, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM D129
COX ARBORETUM METROPARK, Kettering Learning Lab, 6733 Springboro Pk.
This workshop certifies classroom teachers in the nationally recognized Project Wild curricula, engage educators in outdoor inquiry, and demonstrate how to utilize Five Rivers MetroParks’ resources to make science come alive for students. Graduate degree (0.5) and 6 hours of Ohio approved credit is available, with no homework or papers to write. Registration required. Age: 18Y and up Fee: $25

CELEBRATE TEACHERS WHO INSPIRE YOU TO GET OUTDOORS

DO YOU KNOW EDUCATORS WHO USE NATURE AS A CLASSROOM?
Nominate them for a 2020 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. Winners will be announced at this 2020 Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Summit.

NATURE APPRECIATION

KITCHEN STAPLES
Locally Produced Meat and Dairy
Fresh Produce
Artisan Goods
SWEET TREATS AND PREPARED FOODS
Nearly 30 Market vendors now accept SNAP/EBT tokens and Produce Perks!

CELEBRATE TEACHERS WHO INSPIRE YOU TO GET OUTDOORS

METROPARKS.ORG/OUTSTANDING

THE MARKET

The Market features more than 50 local vendors offering:

- Kitchen Staples
- Locally Produced Meat and Dairy
- Fresh Produce
- Artisan Goods
- Sweet Treats and Prepared Foods

HOURS
Thursday & Friday – 11 AM to 3 PM
Saturday – 8 AM to 3 PM

METROPARKS.ORG/LOCALFOOD
HOLD ON TO YOUR PARKWAYS!
This issue covers programs from February through May 2020. View this ParkWays publication online at metroparks.org/parkways.

RESERVATIONS MADE EASY
RENT A METROPARKS SHELTER OR CAMPSITE NOW FOR THE BEST SELECTION OF DATES AND LOCATIONS — BOTH EASY TO RESERVE ONLINE.
Shelters and campsites are located in beautiful natural settings and near park activities, such as hiking, play areas, fishing, paddling and cycling.

METROPARKS.ORG/EASY

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