

Metro Parks E-Newsletter

Columbus & Franklin County



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Catch the Metro Parks Photo Exhibit at High Road Gallery

The Metro Parks Photo Exhibit is open now through Saturday September 27 at the High Road Gallery in Worthington. More than 60 Central Ohio photographers are featured in the exhibit, with photographs from the 15 Metro Parks, plus a display of handcrafted works by the Central Ohio Woodturners.

High Road Gallery is located in the Buttlers/Brown Historic Register building at 12 East Stafford Avenue in Worthington. The gallery is open from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, and from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.



If you have a question about some aspect of nature or about a Metro Park, the naturalists at Blendon Woods Metro Park can help. Email your question to enaturalist@metroparks.net. Most questions will be answered by the end of the next business day.

More on your Metro Parks

website: www.metroparks.net

Infoline: 614.508.8000

Telephone: 614.891.0700

September 12, 2008

Landscape architect is the “bees knees”

Metro Parks landscape architect Bill Buescher encountered a honey bee hive in the middle of a trail he was building ... ([more](#))



Saturday walks at Scioto Audubon

Join Paul Gledhill and Heather Raymond for a short walk around Whittier Peninsula to view wildlife as well as to watch the latest developments of Scioto Audubon Metro Park and the Grange Audubon Nature Center ... ([more](#))

How “SEED” grows

The Metro Parks SEED (Students Exploring Ecosystem Dynamics) program is growing for the fall 2008 season ... ([more](#))

Green family fun

Glacier Ridge Metro Park hosts a Green Family Fun Festival on Sunday September 21 from 1 to 4 p.m. ... ([more](#))

Commit To Be Fit and Full Moon hikes

Join us for three more Commit To Be Fit hikes in September, and our full moon hikes (with or without your furry friend) this Sunday and Monday ... ([more](#))

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Metro Parks landscape architect is the “bees knees”

Metro Parks landscape architect Bill Buescher encountered a honey bee hive in the middle of a trail he was building as part of the Blacklick Creek Greeway project near the Tussing Road bridge in Fairfield County. Bill and his colleagues didn't want to harm the bees who were in a cottonwood tree that had fallen on the pathway, but they could not continue their work if the bees remained. Buescher was aware that there has been a significant decline in the honeybee population and wanted to do his part to protect these wonderful and beneficial insects.

So Bill contacted a local beekeeper Mark Knight and asked him to help relocate the hive. One evening Bill, Mark and Todd Detty from Metro Parks Roving Crew cut a 12-foot long section of the tree and moved the log about 50 feet from the proposed trail. The beekeeper estimated that the log contained about 6,000 to 10,000 bees.



Steve Brown

The bees were nesting in a knot of the cottonwood tree where an old branch had fallen off.



Steve Brown

Bill Buescher and beekeeper, Mark Knight wear protective suits as they move the 12-foot section of log. The smoke seen at the bottom right was used to modify the behavior of the bees temporarily while the log was being moved.

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Saturday Walks at Scioto Audubon Metro Park

Saturday, September 27, 7:30 a.m.

Join Paul Gledhill and Heather Raymond for a short walk around Whittier Peninsula to view wildlife as well as to watch the latest developments of the Scioto Audubon Metro Park and the Grange Audubon Nature Center. Meet at Scioto Audubon Metro Park in the boat ramp parking lot (west of Front Street and south of Whittier Street).

More information: Contact [Paul Gledhill](#) (614.848.7666) or [Heather Raymond](#) (614.785.0342). Walks are held the fourth Saturday of every month.

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How SEED grows

The Metro Parks SEED (Students Exploring Ecosystem Dynamics) program is growing for the fall 2008 season. Throughout its various incarnations, Systems, SEE, and now SEED, the goal of the program has remained steadfast. Metro Parks is working hard to bring life science education to life for our Central Ohio school children.

SEED currently reaches 58 schools (3,930 students) in four Franklin County school systems: Columbus City Schools, Groveport Madison, Westerville and Southwest City. SEED's nine-week curriculum integrates hands-on activities, teacher training, supplies, an in-class program and a field trip to either Blacklick Woods Metro Park or Three Creeks Park.

The success of SEED can be measured in several ways. Academically, Metro Parks receives high marks from teachers who teach SEED. Teachers tell us that the program is both very thorough and easy to use.

Additionally, student scores improve on average 32 percent (this is a huge jump in terms of student knowledge gained over nine weeks). But the greatest gain can be assessed from reading the comments of SEED students in their thank you letters to Metro Parks' SEED sponsors.

Many students say that this was their first experience visiting a Metro Park. Students relate how much they have learned, appreciate and want to take care of the environment. As SEED grows, so too does the impact that Metro Parks has on future generations of Central Ohioans.

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Green Family Fun at Glacier Ridge Metro Park

Sunday, September 21, 1 to 4 p.m.

There is talk all over the country about ways to become more "green" at home. Partnering with Green Energy Ohio, Metro Parks presents this family festival highlighting the power of wind and sun. Come to this family event not only to learn about renewable energy, but also to pick up tips on energy efficiency. Several presentations will be given throughout the festival from 1:30–3:30 p.m. on renewable energy. Exhibitors from all over the state will be available to discuss energy efficiency, sustainable building and renewable energy. Some of the exhibitors include:

- Byrd Polar Center at The Ohio State University. Discover more about research at OSU on climate change
- Columbus Green Building Forum helping us understand sustainable building
- The Ohio State University Solar Decathlon project on the national green building competition
- Solar and wind installers

For the kids, visit hands-on activity stations:

- Eat snow cones made by renewable energy
- Race miniature solar cars
- Test your kite building skills
- Design your own "sun print" to take home
- Learn how to build a solar oven
- Live animals!

Meet at the Wind & Solar Learning Center in the north end of the park

For more information, please contact Chrissy Pheifer, Glacier Ridge Naturalist 614.873.2660 ext 2 or pheifer@metroparks.net.

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Commit To Be Fit Healthy Hikes

Join us at the next three hikes in the Commit To Be Fit series:

Sunday Sept. 14 at Glacier Ridge Metro Park

Sunday Sept. 21 at Prairie Oaks Metro Park (Darby Bend Lakes)

Sunday Sept. 28 at Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park

All of these 2-mile leisurely hikes begin at 1 p.m. and are led by park rangers.

Full moon walks

HARVEST FULL MOON HIKE

Monday Sept.15

Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park — a 4-mile hike beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Blacklick Woods Metro Park — a 2-mile stroll also beginning at 7:30 p.m.

ADULT FULL MOON HIKE

Monday Sept.15, 8 to 9:15 p.m.

Sharon Woods Metro Park — a fast-paced 4-mile hike along gravel, paved and natural surface trails.

HOWL AT THE MOON

Sunday Sept. 14 at 7 p.m.

Highbanks Metro Park — a 3.5-mile hike with your canine friend.

Sunday Sept. 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Prairie Oaks Metro Park — a 2-mile hike with or without your canine friend in the Darby Bend Lakes Area.

Monday Sept. 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Three Creeks Park — a 3-mile hike with your furry friend