

Metro Parks E-Newsletter

Columbus & Franklin County



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May 1, 2009

Metro Parks levy

On Tuesday May 5 voters in Franklin County will be asked to approve a 10-year park levy. The levy will cost the owner of a \$100,000 home about three cents a day and allow Metro Parks to continue to provide the best quality programs and services at our existing 15 parks. Passage of the levy will mean about 50 miles of new trails, three new parks and a nature center along Big Darby Creek. For more info go to vote4metroparks.com.



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

Osprey incubating at Pickerington Ponds Metro Park

A new pair of osprey have constructed a nest at a nesting platform on Ellis Pond at Pickerington Ponds Metro Park... [more](#)

Summer teacher workshops at Metro Parks

Teachers can register now for Metro Parks' ever popular summer teacher workshops targeting Academic Content Standards... [more](#)

Hop aboard the Metro Parks tram

See beautiful wildflowers, discover animals awakening from hibernation, enjoy the melodies of migrating songbirds... [more](#)

Enjoy a Metro Park walk in the moonlight

A shining full moon turns an ordinary night into something special.... [more](#)

Events this weekend

Central Ohio Folk Festival

Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park

Sat May 2, 1 to 5 p.m. and Sun May 3, 1 to 4 p.m.

Spring Plant Sale

Inniswood Metro Gardens

Sat May 2, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sun May 3, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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Osprey incubating at Pickerington Ponds Metro Park

A new pair of osprey have constructed a nest at a nesting platform on Ellis Pond at Pickerington Ponds Metro Park, so now there are two osprey nests in the park.

Osprey have been nesting at a platform on Arrowhead Marsh, near the Glacier Knoll Picnic Area, since 2005. In March the nest was occupied again and the female is now sitting on eggs that will probably hatch in late May.

The new pair, at Ellis Pond, are probably 3- or 4-year-old birds. They have fully constructed their nest, but there is no indication that this second pair is incubating. They are likely “playing house,” which osprey often do in the first year of nest building. They will usually return and brood in succeeding years.

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Summer Teacher Workshops at Metro Parks

Metro Parks will offer four 2-day teacher training workshops in June and July. Workshops target Academic Content Standards and process skills for several age groups. Workshops are conducted by various state and local agencies and school district representatives and are presented at a Metro Park or other Central Ohio Agency site. Teachers work mostly in an outdoor setting to find ways to develop meaningful field trips and classroom and hands-on activities with little or no classroom funding.

Workshops and Dates:

Ohio Farming: The Land, Work and Culture, June 18 & 19, \$50

Getting the Dirt on Rocks, Minerals and Soil, June 24 & 25, \$50

Physical Education in an Outdoor Setting, July 14 & 15, \$50

Nature's Weird and Wonderful, July 21 & 22, \$50

You may register for these workshops online at www.metroparks.net. For each 2-day workshop completed, a teacher may earn one semester hour of credit through Ashland University. Registration and payment for tuition is separate and can be done at the workshop.

For more information contact Susan Boggs at 614.895.6211 or sboggs@metroparks.net

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Hop aboard the Metro Parks tram

See beautiful wildflowers, discover animals awakening from hibernation, enjoy the melodies of migrating songbirds, or listen for the wild chorus of mating frogs and toads—all from the comfort of Metro Parks' 42-passenger tram. Check out the following programs:

BLACKLICK WOODS METRO PARK

NATURE BY TRAM

Sat May 9, 2 p.m.

Enjoy the flowers, birds and creek on a 4-mile tram tour. Meet at Ash Grove Picnic Area

MOTHER'S DAY TRAM TOUR

Sun May 10, 1–3:30 p.m.

Bring your mom for a leisurely half-hour tram ride through the park. The tram runs continuously for multiple trips. Meet at Ash Grove Picnic Area

SENIOR SHINDIG

Tue May 12, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Enjoy a tram tour, a game of nature bingo and a guided stroll. Groups and individuals welcome. Bring a picnic lunch. Meet at Reservable Picnic Area: Buttonbush Shelter

Besides regularly scheduled tram programs, youth, adult and senior groups can also arrange their own free tram program by calling 614.891.0700. Check the schedule of where the 42-passenger tram will be located during spring, summer and fall: [tram schedule](#).

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Enjoy a Metro Park walk in the moonlight

A shining full moon turns an ordinary night into something special. It's the perfect time to go exploring with one of Metro Parks' naturalists. You might hear owls hooting or coyotes howling and see other wildlife along the trail.

Battelle Darby Creek

Full Moon of Returning Frogs Hike (4 miles)
Sat May 9, 8:30 p.m. (Meet at naturalist office)

Blacklick Woods

Flower Moon Walk (2 miles)
Fri May 8, 8:30 p.m. (Meet at nature center)

Chestnut Ridge

Rising Moon Hike (2 miles)
Fri May 8, 8:30 p.m. (Meet at Springhouse Program Area)

Sharon Woods

Adult Full Moon Hike (3.5 miles, adults only)
Fri May 8, 8:45 p.m. (Meet at Apple Ridge Bulletin Board)

In addition, you might like to take your favorite canine friend along for one of the **HOWL AT THE MOON** hikes:

Battelle Darby Creek

Mon May 11, 8:30 p.m. (2 miles) [Meet at Pet Trail Parking Lot]

Highbanks

Fri May 8, 8 p.m. (3.5 miles) [Meet at Nature Center]

Prairie Oaks

Fri May 8, 8:15 p.m. (2 miles) [Meet at Darby Bend Lakes]