

# Metro Parks E-Newsletter

Columbus & Franklin County



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June 15, 2009

## Try a round of disc golf at one of Metro Parks' two disc golf courses

Enjoy a round of disc golf at Glacier Ridge and Blendon Woods. The 18-hole course at Glacier Ridge is free and the course at Blendon Woods is \$1.50 for 18 holes or \$4.50 per day.

## Sunny Sundays return to Inniswood Metro Gardens

Members of the Central Ohio Unit of the Herb Society of America will be in the Herb Garden to answer your questions on every Sunday throughout summer, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.



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](mailto: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](http://www.metroparks.net)

**Infoline:** 614.508.8000

**Telephone:** 614.891.0700

## New Queen Bee rules the nature center

The beehive and colony at the nature center at Blendon Woods is again abuzz... [more](#)

## Summer work program provides training and education for Columbus City Schools youths

Metro Parks' Urban Conservation Corps starts its third year today (Monday, June 15) as more than 20 high school youth from Columbus City Schools begin a summer work program... [more](#)

## New features approved by park board for Scioto Audubon Metro Park

Metro Parks Board of Park Commissioners passed several resolutions at the June board meeting for work at Scioto Audubon Metro Park... [more](#)

## Take a rugged hike with dad for Father's Day

Take dad on a free Father's Day backcountry hike at Clear Creek, June 21 from 3 to 7 p.m.... [more](#)

## Three Creeks Fest

Join the fun at Three Creeks Park on Saturday June 27 for this annual family fun day event... [more](#)

## Five-acre dog park opens at Three Creeks

Columbus Recreation and Parks recently opened a 5-acre off-leash dog park at the Sycamore Fields Area at Three Creeks Park... [more](#)

## Join the Alum Creek float and clean-up

Friends of Alum Creek & Tributaries (FACT) will hold their annual creek float and clean up on Saturday June 20 at 9 a.m.... [more](#)

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## **New Queen Bee rules the nature center**

The beehive and colony at the nature center at Blendon Woods is again abuzz after staff acquired a new beehive and queen. Visit the nature center to see these amazing insects in action. Find out why a honeybee has five eyes and why a colony can only have one queen as you talk with our naturalists and volunteers at the center.

According to a Cornell University study, every third bite we consume in our diet is dependent on a honeybee to pollinate the food.

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## **Summer work program provides training and education for Columbus City Schools youth**

Metro Parks' Urban Conservation Corps starts its third year today (Monday, June 15) as more than 20 high school youth from Columbus City Schools begin a summer work program in the parks. The program provides jobs, training and conservation education for the teens who help park staff complete a variety of work projects such as painting, clearing trails and removing invasive species.

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## **New features approved for Scioto Audubon Metro Park**

Metro Parks Board of Park Commissioners passed several resolutions at the June board meeting for work at Scioto Audubon Metro Park that will be sure to enhance visitors' experiences. A 35-foot high climbing wall will accommodate the varying skills of climbers of all levels from beginners to advanced and provide endless free fun for the family. The park will also have a playground that will include a rope-climbing area. A shade structure that looks like the wings of a bird will provide a centralized gathering place for the proposed recreational facilities.

"One of the things we want to do with this is support the core of the city, and also have a fun and interesting park facility to attract people," said John O'Meara, Metro Parks Executive Director.

Mark your calendar for the official opening of the park and the Grange Insurance Audubon Center on Aug. 28 at 10 a.m.

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## **Take a rugged hike with dad for Father's Day**

Take dad on a free Father's Day backcountry hike at Clear Creek Metro Park, June 21 from 3 to 7 p.m. This 4-mile rugged hike will traverse Lost Father's Trail going through meadows and woods with hemlocks and sandstone outcrops. From the Memory Rock outlook you will get a great view of the Clear Creek Valley.

Meet at Creekside Meadows Parking Lot along Clear Creek Road.

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## Three Creeks Fest

Saturday June 27, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Join the fun at Three Creeks Park for this annual family fun day event. Enjoy canoeing, games, activities and crafts, bike safety checks and environmental exhibits. Meet live animals from the Ohio Wildlife Center.

Meet at the Confluence Trails Bulletin Board area, 3860 Bixby Road, Groveport.

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## **Five-acre dog park opens at Three Creeks**

Columbus Recreation and Parks recently opened a 5-acre off-leash dog park at the Sycamore Fields Area at Three Creeks Park. The park features an area for small dogs and one for larger dogs. The park is open in summer from 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. For your safety, dogs and people are not permitted to swim in the adjoining retention pond. For information about the park call 614.645.3300.

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## **Friends of Alum Creek & Tributaries leading free float on June 20**

Friends of Alum Creek & Tributaries (FACT) will hold their annual creek float and clean-up on Saturday June 20 at 9 a.m. Participants are requested to bring their own canoes, kayaks, rafts or inner tubes and meet at the lower parking lot of St. Mary of the Springs/Dominican Sisters of Peace, 2320 Airport Drive, Columbus.

Volunteers will get their legs wet by retrieving debris from out of the Alum Creek waterway, within a 2.5-mile section between St Mary's and Academy Park.

Those who need a canoe, please promptly contact FACT office 614.409.0511 or [kwilliams@friendsofalumcreek](mailto:kwilliams@friendsofalumcreek) to reserve a limited number of free loaners. Current FACT members get first choice—any remaining canoes as of June 15 will be released (based upon availability) to non-members who first made their request.

FACT activities are free and open to the public. The mission of FACT is to preserve and protect the quality and beauty of the Alum Creek watershed and promote environmentally responsible recreation, educational opportunities and citizen participation at many levels. For more information about FACT visit [www.friendsofalumcreek.org](http://www.friendsofalumcreek.org).

FACT is a local not-for-profit volunteer based organization serving as the environmental steward for the Alum Creek watershed within Franklin and southern Delaware counties.