

Metro Parks

School, Scout & Youth Group Programs



METRO PARKS' PROGRAMS

Metro Parks education staff offer a variety of free natural and cultural history programs and activities throughout the year for all ages, interests and ability levels. These programs help youth discover how to make environmentally responsible choices with learning experiences not available in the classroom or a formal setting. Participants will come face-to-face with live animals, explore fields, forests, ponds and gardens in a natural setting.

Metro Parks offer an outstanding opportunity for educators to become comfortable in using parks and other outdoor environments as extended classrooms for students. Most programs are designed with student achievement in mind, to help reinforce state science academic content standards. Some activities may meet the requirements for scout or group badge programs.

Metro Parks education staff can also bring fun and exciting nature programs directly into classrooms, senior centers and social service agencies, free of charge. Programs may be adapted for a group's special needs or interests.

During the months of April through October, groups may also schedule Metro Parks' 42-passenger tram. Participants will travel through a park with a naturalist and learn about the park's natural and cultural features. For tram location and availability call 614.508.8111.

SCHEDULING A PARK PROGRAM

Metro Parks' program staff schedules fill quickly. Please try to make your reservations at least one month in advance.

For programs at Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park

call 614.878.3711, Monday-Friday

For programs at Inniswood Metro Gardens

call 614.895.6216, 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m., Tuesday-Friday

For programs at all other Metro Parks

call 614.508.8111, 8 a.m.–4 p.m., Monday-Friday

When calling, please have ready:

- Several preferred dates already cleared with your administration and busses since we cannot hold dates
- Preferred program and park
- Number of children and adults attending. We prefer approximately 15–30 participants per group.
- School name and grade level
- Contact name, phone number, school address, and e-mail address

Curriculum enhancing studies in nature for groups of all ages

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Program listing and location

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			Battelle Darby Creek	Blacklick Woods	Blendon Woods	Chestnut Ridge	Clear Creek	Glacier Ridge	Highbanks	Inniswood	Pickerington Ponds	Prairie Oaks	Sharon Woods	Slare Run	Slare Run Farm	Three Creeks
<i>Animals</i>																
Animal Tracks & Signs	preschool-12	all year	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Animal Babies	preschool-5	Apr-May		X				X	X							
Bats	preschool-12	Apr-Sept	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		
Birds	preschool-12	all year	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Birds of Prey	K-12	all year						X	X				X			
Fishing	15 or younger	Apr-Sept				X	X					X	X	X		X
Honeybees	K-6	all year			X											
Insects	preschool-12	Apr-Sept	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Mammals	preschool-12	all year	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Monarch Butterflies	1-12	May-Sept			X											
Owls of Ohio	preschool-12	all year	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X
Reptiles & Amphibians	preschool-12	all year	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Waterfowl	1-12	Oct-Mar			X			X			X	X				
White-tailed Deer	preschool-12	all year					X					X	X			X
<i>Cultural History</i>																
Farm Life, guided	K-12															X
Farm Life, self-guided	preschool-12	Mar-Dec														X
Hands-on History	4															X
Prehistoric Peoples	3-12	all year	X						X			X				
Primitive Skills	4-12	all year						X	X							
<i>Plants</i>																
Science of Plants	K-6	Apr-Sept					X	X	X	X						X
Trees	preschool-12	all year	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X
Wildflowers	preschool-12	Apr-Sept	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X

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Life & Earth Science

			Bartelle Darby Creek	Blacklick Woods	Blendon Woods	Chestnut Ridge	Clear Creek	Glacier Ridge	Highbanks	Inniswood	Pickerington Ponds	Prairie Oaks	Sharon Woods	Slate Run	Slate Run Farm	Three Creeks
Discovery Hike	preschool-12	all year	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Forests	3-12	all year	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X		X
Geology	1-12	all year	X	X	X	X			X	X		X		X		
Nature in Winter	preschool-12	Nov-Feb		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Partners for Growing Science	K-6	all year					X			X						
Aquatic Studies	preschool-12	Apr-Oct		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Soil & Leaf Litter	2-12	Apr-Oct						X	X	X			X	X		X
Creek Study	3-12	Apr-Oct	X				X		X	X		X				X
Weather Lore	3-12	all year		X						X						

Special Interest

Wind & Solar Power	3-12	all year						X								
Conservation	6-12	all year			X				X	X						
Art	preschool-12	all year	X							X						
Journaling	2-12	all year		X								X	X			
Pollution Solutions	3-12	all year						X		X				X		

METRO PARKS

Established in 1945, Metro Parks features 15 outstanding natural area parks and protects more than 23,500 acres of land and water in seven Central Ohio counties. Metro Parks offers free educational and recreational opportunities every day of the year that will excite your senses and rekindle your spirit. Metro Parks is a separate political subdivision of the state of Ohio organized under Ohio Revised Code to conserve natural resources and provide natural area parks for people to enjoy. Setting Metro Parks' policy and directing its course is a three-citizen Board of Park Commissioners appointed to three year terms by the Judge of the Probate Court of Franklin County.

The tremendous growth and enduring popularity of Metro Parks is due to the strong support of the community - as voters, as volunteers and as visitors. Each year more than 5 million people escape from the hustle of their everyday world to enjoy the Metro Parks. For more information about your Metro Parks, call 614.891.0700 (TTY: 614.895.6240) 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, or Metro Parks' InfoLine at 614.508.8000, or log on to www.metroparks.net.

Mission Statement

The Mission of Metro Parks is to conserve open spaces, while providing places and opportunities that encourage people to discover and experience nature.