Summer 2019
Today, the vast majority of our community connects through the digital world. We asked you, the voters of Franklin County, how you currently find out about park programs and activities and what source you could count on for information.

In response to the 2016 survey conducted by a nationally recognized opinion pollster, more than 600 registered Franklin County voters said Metro Parks website is their preferred method for park program information. Notably, three out of four Franklin County residents prefer an online source (62 percent); few prefer print (8 percent).

I am pleased to tell you that we listened and will be doubling down on digital and transitioning to less print.

This will be the last issue of Parkscope as a source for programs. Visitors can now go to the website and hit the Find Your Program Pages view and/or download a printable version of all park programs or go to the Plan Your Visit web page and search by park or date or program type. Look for fall programs (September through November) on the website beginning mid-August.

We will also include programs in our enews and various social media sites, so be sure to follow us on these platforms. We will not completely abandon the print dinosaur so look for park programs on bulletin boards and in nature centers.

The transition to digital allows us to engage more quickly with visitors, interact in real time and get your feedback. Our staff can plan spontaneous programs, such as a late-night viewing of a meteor shower because the skies will be clear.

See you out in the parks this summer!

Tim Moloney, Executive Director
BUGSTRAVAGANZA

Walnut Woods Metro Park
Sat Aug 3, 10am-2pm

Discover the wide world of insects and their relatives with activities and displays for all ages. Catch and release bugs, take a tram ride, explore the creek, make crafts, see insects up close and more. Meet at Buckeye Area

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Front cover photo: Stephanie West

To learn more, visit metroparks.net 3
Metro Parks are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our Central Ohio community, ensuring the health of families and youth and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and a region.

Metro Parks attract nearly 11 million people per year and offer exceptional settings for renewal of the human spirit. Visitors can enjoy healthy, fun-filled interaction with the natural world every day of the year. Each year, Metro Parks naturalists offer over 4,000 free programs for individuals of all ages and abilities.

Established in 1945, Metro Parks operates 19 natural area parks in seven Central Ohio counties, and provides more than 230 miles of trails. The park system protects more than 27,500 acres of land and water and offers year-round recreational and educational opportunities for youth and adults. Facilities and programs are available to the public free-of-charge—made possible by voter support of the 2009 Metro Parks levy.

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

In accordance with its mission, Metro Parks works to conserve and enhance habitat for the more than 2,400 species of animals and plants that thrive within the parks.

Funding for Metro Parks comes from Franklin County property tax, local government funds, earned income, grants and partnerships.

Metro Parks is a separate political subdivision of the state of Ohio organized under Ohio Revised Code, Section 1545. Metro Parks’ Board of Park Commissioners, composed of three citizens who serve three-year terms without compensation, governs the Park District. Board members are appointed by the Judge of the Probate Court of Franklin County.

Metro Parks’ Board of Park Commissioners meets monthly. Meetings are open to the public. Visit metroparks.net for meeting time, dates and location.

**Board of Park Commissioners**
- JB Hadden
- Greg S Lashutka
- Jim McGregor

**Executive Director**
- Tim Moloney

Metro Parks is committed to conserving natural resources and providing places and opportunities that encourage people to discover and experience nature. To accomplish this goal, a well-trained, dedicated and talented staff is necessary. Job opportunities are very diverse and encompass a wide variety of positions ranging from park technician to naturalist and park ranger, as well as seasonal and internship opportunities.

Check frequently on the web at [tiny.cc/mp-jobs](http://tiny.cc/mp-jobs). The online application system makes the application process faster, easier, and more eco-friendly.
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE
awaits you in Metro Parks this summer

Dip your paddle in the water and float down the river or learn the basics of stand up paddle boarding at Prairie Oaks.

This activity is one of the many new and exciting offerings that you can enjoy as part of Metro Parks’ recently formed Outdoor Adventure initiative and get a new perspective on nature. Outdoor Adventure offers activities and opportunities for people to have fun as they learn new skills or hone and improve existing skills in a Metro Park.

This summer you’ll enjoy floats down the Scioto River while learning new kayaking skills. Soak up the sun and the views as you paddle board around Darby Bend Lakes. In these intro classes you’ll receive personalized instruction in small teacher to student ratios.

Outdoor Adventure is perfect for all skill levels, from the novice to the seasoned pro. Outdoor Adventure staff will be there each step of the way to help as you experience new adventures.

Reserve your spot at metroparks.net and check out Metro Parks’ Outdoor Adventure Facebook page to learn more about Outdoor Adventure and upcoming programs. We hope to see you out in the parks this summer!

PRAIRIE OAKS METRO PARK - DARBY BEND LAKES

Outdoor Adventure:
Intro to Stand Up Paddling Skills
Sat June 15, 1-3pm and 4-6pm
Sun June 23, 1-3pm
Thu June 27, 5-7pm

Outdoor Adventure:
Intro to Kayaking Skills
Thu June 6, 5-7pm
Thu June 20, 5-7pm
Sat June 22, 1-3pm

SCIOTO GROVE METRO PARK

Outdoor Adventure:
Scioto River Floats
Sat June 1, 1-7pm
(multiple float times available)
Sat June 8, 1-7pm
(multiple float times available)

All Outdoor Adventure programs are Free
Columbus & Franklin County METRO PARKS
Seven miles south of Lancaster on US 33
Battelle Darby Creek

is the largest Metro Park

Battelle Darby Creek boasts more than 7,000 acres of forests, prairies, bluffs, wetlands and streams.

Big and Little Darby creeks harbor about 100 species of fish and more than 40 species of mussels, including the federally endangered clubshell and northern riffleshell. A remarkable diversity of species of birds, butterflies and other wildlife are also found in the forests and remaining prairies that line the creek banks.

The park boasts more than 600 acres of lush prairies and 1,000 acres of restored wetlands and wet prairies. Bison have been reintroduced to the Darby Plains in one of the prairie areas intersected by the Darby Creek Greenway Trail.

A 14,000 sq-foot nature center features a 53-foot living stream, stocked with creatures found in Big Darby Creek, plus interactive exhibits that highlight the natural and cultural history of the area.

For information on the park’s rental facilities go to metroparks.net or phone 614.508.8111.

Battelle Darby Creek Drive, Galloway OH 43119

ACRES 7,103

TRAILS
Ancient (1.9 miles), Camp Chase (12.5 miles)
Cobshell (0.8 miles), Darby Creek
Greenway (5 miles), Dyer Mill (3.2 miles)
Edgewood, Lake & Prairie Way (2.3 miles)
Harrier Loop, Rail Way & Teal (3 miles)
Hawthorn (0.8 miles), Indian Ridge (0.6 miles)
Riffle Run (0.2 miles), Terrace (2 miles)
Turkey Foot (0.5 miles), Wagtail (1.6 miles)

ACTIVITIES
Biking, Canoeing & Kayaking, Cross-Country Skiing, Fishing, Hunting, Ice Skating, Natural Play Area, Nature Center, Pets, Picnicking, Sledding

details & directions on web tiny.cc/mp-bdc

hours & info
Cedar Ridge area: 6:30am to 10pm April–Sept
6:30am to 8pm October–March
All other park areas 6:30am to dark year-round

Cell phone 614.370.6254
Nature Center 614.878.7106

For information on the park’s rental facilities go to metroparks.net or phone 614.508.8111.

To learn more, visit metroparks.net
Blacklick Woods was the first Metro Park and features a 54-acre state nature preserve

Blacklick Woods opened in 1948 and boasts one of the best beech-maple forests in Franklin County, along with a swamp forest and buttonbush swamp.

A walk along the trails provides healthy exercise as well as an excellent opportunity to view white-tailed deer, coyotes, mink and other wildlife in a purely natural setting.

The park has numerous excellent vantage points for birding. Barred owls are a prominent attraction for birders in spring.

The nature center’s observation windows allow visitors to view birds and other wildlife at the feeders.

The Walter A Tucker State Nature Preserve is a heavily wooded 54-acre area featuring a buttonbush swamp. The seasonal swamp pools are prime locations for breeding salamanders and frogs.

For information on the park’s rental facilities go to metroparks.net or phone 614.508.8111.

Park details

ADDRESS:
6975 E Livingston Ave
Reynoldsburg OH 43068

ACRES: 643

TRAILS:
Beech (0.5 miles)
Blacklick Creek Greenway (16 miles)
Buttonbush (0.5 miles)
Maple Loop (0.9 miles)
Multipurpose (4.1 miles)
Walter A Tucker (0.1 miles)

ACTIVITIES:
Biking, Cross-Country Skiing, Golf Courses
Nature Center, Pets, Picnicking, Sledding

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB:
tiny.cc/mp-blk

HOURS & INFO:
6:30am to 10pm April to September
6:30am to 8pm October to March
Cell phone: 614.208.4247
Nature Center: 614.861.8759
Golf Course: 614.861.3193
Blacklick Woods Golf Course is spread over 235 acres of beautiful park land

Blacklick Woods Golf Course feature an 18-hole regulation course (par 72), a 9-hole executive course (par 30), a full-service driving range with a short game area, and three practice holes.

For tee times, golf outings or banquets, call 614.861.3193. Tee times can also be booked online.

Forty acres of the course’s 235 acres are natural area—a place where birds and birdies peace-fully coexist.

Audubon International has certified the golf courses as a Cooperative Sanctuary for their comprehensive environmental management and protection of wildlife habitats. Metro Parks has developed the courses with a long-range vision of protection and enhancement of the natural environment.

In addition to regular golf cart rentals, Metro Parks has two solo adaptive carts for rental by golfers who are physically challenged and can no longer play golf the conventional way. These carts allow you to play from tee to green without ever having to leave the cart.

As home to First Tee of Central Ohio, Metro Parks has turned a 10-week summer program at Blacklick Woods Golf Course into a year-round outreach program.

First Tee is an amazing program that teaches life skills and leadership through the game of golf to youth age 7 to 17. Last year more than 1,000 youth participated with us in this nationally recognized program.

For more on First Tee of Central Ohio visit their website: thefirstteecentralohio.org

Golf Course details

ADDRESS
7309 E Livingston Avenue, Reynoldsburg OH 43068

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB tiny.cc/mp-blkg

HOURS & INFO
6:30am to dark
Golf shop phone 614.861.3193
Blendon Woods features the 118-acre Waldon Waterfowl Refuge

Blendon Woods features 653 acres of gently rolling woods and open fields. More than 230 species of birds have been seen at the park.

At the heart of the Waldon Waterfowl Refuge, the 11-acre Thoreau Lake is a magnet for migrating waterfowl and shore birds. It includes two elevated observation shelters with spotting scopes that allow for a close-up view of waterfowl without disturbing them.

Birds frequently seen at Thoreau Lake include pied-billed grebes, great blue and green heron, wood duck, lesser scaup, American black duck, mallard, northern pintail, northern shoveler, American wigeon and hooded merganser.

The nature center’s wildlife observation window offers a view of The Creek, a 100-foot-long construction mirroring natural creeks in the park.

Ice skating enthusiasts can enjoy a safe 0.4-acre skating pond, only 18 to 24 inches deep. The park also features an 18-hole disc golf course. Loaner discs are available.

For information on the park’s rental facilities go to metroparks.net or phone 614.508.8111.
Chestnut Ridge is the first ridge in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains

The park is situated on a narrow outcropping of Blackhand sandstone, deposited more than 300 million years ago when Ohio’s ancient ocean drained from the land. The high hills that make up the ridge span about 4,500 feet and rise to 1,116 feet at the highest point.

Black oak, shagbark hickory and northern red oak trees along the upper slopes and ridge enhance the woodland beauty of the 486-acre Metro Park. Sugar maples and American beech trees are plentiful along the lower slopes.

MOUNTAIN BIKING
The 9-mile Mountain Bike Trail through the woods provides a terrific workout for mountain bike enthusiasts of all abilities. The 12- to 18-inch-wide trail is on an all-natural surface and features a 230-foot change in elevation. The trail was designed and built by volunteers with the Central Ohio Mountain Bike Organization (COMBO). There is also a Pump Track, a loop of dirt berms and rollers, great for cyclists of all ages and abilities.

Park details
ADDRESS
8445 Winchester Rd NW
Carroll OH 43112

ACRES 486

TRAILS
Homesite (0.4 miles)
Meadows (1 mile)
Milkweed (0.6 miles)
Ridge (1 mile)
Mountain Bike (9 miles)

ACTIVITIES
Fishing
Mountain Biking
Picnicking

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB
tiny.cc/mp-chr

HOURS & INFO
6:30am to dark
Cell phone 614.208.4298
Clear Creek is home to Ohio’s largest state nature preserve

Clear Creek Metro Park features over 5,300 acres of woodland interspersed with blackhand sandstone cliffs, ravines and creeks and is home to more than 2,200 species of plants and animals. Forested areas range from Canadian hemlocks and ferns, to oak and hickory, to Ohio’s last remaining colonies of rhododendron.

Ohio Audubon has recognized Clear Creek as an Important Bird Area. It is one of the few places in Ohio to observe 20 species of breeding warblers. The valley is home to nearly 100 species of breeding birds, including black vultures, scarlet tanager, veeries, wood thrush, hermit thrush and wild turkey.

About 40 species of plants and animals listed on Ohio’s rare and endangered species list have been found within the park. State threatened great rhododendron and a large variety of ferns can be seen in the ravines.

The topography of the park is extremely rugged. Centuries of glacial flooding have cut the present valley through the Black-hand sandstone leaving an array of spectacular cliffs, steep ravines and scenic outcroppings of rock overlooking the creek.

Park details

ADDRESS
23833 Clear Creek Rd
Rockbridge OH 43149

ACRES 5,390

TRAILS
Cemetery Ridge (2.5 miles)
Chestnut (2.5 miles)
Creekside Meadows (1.7 miles)
Fern (1.7 miles)
Good Prairie (0.3 miles)
Hemlock (1.5 miles)
Lake (0.9 miles)
Prairie Warbler (0.6 miles)
Tulip Tree (0.6 miles)

ACTIVITIES
Fishing
Pets
Picnicking

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB
tiny.cc/mp-clc

HOURS & INFO:
6:30am to dark
Office phone 740.969.8210
Glacier Ridge is named for the ridge or end moraine left when glaciers retreated 14,000 years ago

More than 50 species of birds have been seen at Glacier Ridge Metro Park’s restored wetlands in the Honda Wetland Education Area. The wetlands include a boardwalk and a 22-foot observation tower to see waterfowl and other animals. Mink have been seen frequently in the area.

The park has a bridle trail, the Savannah Trail, with a staging area for horse trailer parking. There is also a free 18-hole disc golf course, open year-round (bring your own discs).

A natural play area features cedar structures with towers, ramps, ropes, ladders and a zipline. A 3-acre obstacle course features 12 challenging stations surrounded by a half-mile paved trail. Visitors can crawl through tunnels, climb poles and ropes and go over logs and more.

The 2.5-acre dog park features an open field, drinking fountains, paved path and a wooded area for dogs to explore and is open to dogs of all sizes.

Park details

ADDRESS
9801 Hyland Croy Rd
Plain City OH 43064

ACRES 1,036

TRAILS
Ironweed (2.8 miles)
Marsh Hawk (3 miles)
Red Oak (0.8 miles)
Savannah (5 miles)

ACTIVITIES
Biking
Cross-Country Skiing
Disc Golf
Horseback Riding
Natural Play Area
Obstacle Course
Pets (including Dog Park)
Picnicking

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB
tiny.cc/mp-glr

HOURS & INFO
6:30am to dark
Cell phone 614.216.8859
Greenway trails connect scenic rivers with the diverse neighborhoods of Central Ohio

Metro Parks works with several agencies and communities to create and maintain parts or all of the Greenway trails shown on this page for the citizens of Central Ohio.

The Central Ohio Greenways are multi-use trails used for recreation and alternative transportation. They connect people to the places they live, work and play as well as preserve open space to promote air and water quality.

(More information at tiny.cc/mp-gtr or from MORPC at: www.centralohiogreenways.com).

Greenway Trails

**ALUM CREEK** (24.5 miles)
Runs south from Westerville to Three Creeks

**BLACKLICK CREEK** (16 miles)
Connects Pickerington Ponds, Blacklick Woods and Three Creeks Metro parks

**CAMP CHASE** (12.5 miles)
Part of the Ohio to Erie Trail, weaves through Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park

**DARBY CREEK** (8.5 miles)
Crushed gravel trail with separate sections that run through Battelle Darby Creek and Prairie Oaks Metro parks

**HERITAGE** (6.5 miles)
Runs from Old Hilliard to Plain City, through the Heritage Trail Park and along Homestead Metro Park

**DOWNTOWN CONNECTOR** (5 miles)
Metro Parks manages a 0.8-mile section of the trail, also known as the I-670 Trail

**OLENTANGY** (15 miles)
Scenic trail runs south from Worthington Hills Park to Confluence Park in downtown Columbus

**SCIOTO** (10 miles)
Stretches through the heart of Columbus and through Scioto Audubon Metro Park
Highbanks was named for the 110-foot shale bluffs on the Olentangy River

Highbanks Metro Park encompasses 1,200 acres of woodlands, fields and wetlands. Three miles of the Olentangy State Scenic River run along the park’s western boundary.

An observation deck sits atop a towering 110-foot shale bluff overlooking the river. Several prehistoric cultures used the bluffs as a lookout, including the Cole Culture who built the nearby 1,500-foot horseshoe-shaped earthwork about 800-1200 years ago.

Eagles have nested at the park and eaglets have fledged here since 2010. The nest can be seen from this same observation deck, or from the River Bluff Area west of the Olentangy.

Concretions are a noteworthy feature of the park’s geology. These round rocks developed around decaying animals on the ocean floor. The fossilized jawbone of a prehistoric fish, dinichthys, was found in one. See a life-size replica of this fish in the nature center.

For information on the park’s rental facilities go to metroparks.net or phone 614.508.8111.

Park details

ADDRESS: 9466 US23 N, Lewis Center OH 43035

ACRES: 1,200

TRAILS: Big Meadows Path (1 mile) Coyote Run (3.5 miles) Dripping Rock (2.5 miles), Eagle View (0.3 miles) Multi-Use (2.3 miles), Oak Coves Path (0.4 miles) Overlook (2.3 miles), Scenic River (0.6 miles) Sycamore (0.4 miles), Wetland Spur (0.4 miles)

ACTIVITIES: Biking, Canoeing & Kayaking, Cross-Country Skiing, Day Camps, Fishing, Natural Play Area, Nature Center, Pets, Picnicking, Sledding

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB: tiny.cc/mp-hbk

HOURS & INFO: 6:30am to 10pm April to September 6:30am to 8pm October to March Cell phone: 614.906.3149 Nature Center: 614.846.9962 (Nature Center hours 9am to 8pm April to September, 9am to 6pm October to March)
Homestead features two large playgrounds for kids

Homestead Metro Park offers a quiet, country atmosphere with a covered bridge, train station replica and two barns. Other features include shelters, a 2.5-acre fishing pond, play equipment and courts for sand volleyball and basketball. A 0.8-mile paved trail, great for hiking, biking, running, or walking your leashed pet, winds through the park and connects to the 6.1-mile Heritage Trail.

Heritage Trail is great for biking and horse riding

The 87-acre Heritage Trail Park is adjacent to the Heritage Rail Trail, a 6.1-mile multi-purpose trail converted from abandoned right-of-way. The paved trail starts in Old Hilliard off Main Street and continues toward Plain City.

A bridle trail runs parallel to the main trail for 3.6 miles.

Park details

ADDRESS
4675 Cosgray Rd, Hilliard OH 43026

ACRES 44

TRAILS
Outer Loop (0.8 miles)

ACTIVITIES
Fishing, Play Areas, Pets, Picnicking

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB
tiny.cc/mp-hom

HOURS & INFO
6:30am to dark, Cell phone 614.216.8859

Park details

ADDRESS
7262 Hayden Run Rd, Hilliard OH 43026

ACRES 87

TRAILS
Multipurpose (6.1 miles), Bridle (3.6 miles)

ACTIVITIES
Biking, Horse Riding

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB
tiny.cc/mp-htr

HOURS & INFO
6:30am to dark, Cell phone 614.216.8859
Inniswood boasts more than 2,000 species of plants and several feature gardens

The 123-acre Inniswood Metro Gardens is a continual source of inspiration for Central Ohioans. Streams and woodlands filled with wildflowers and wildlife provide a majestic backdrop to the beautifully landscaped gardens and lawns.

There are 10 feature gardens, and more than 2,000 species of plants, which include specialty collections of hostas, daffodils, daylilies and conifers.

Inniswood was once the 37-acre estate of sisters Grace and Mary Innis, who donated their home and property to Metro Parks in 1972.

Over 250 members strong, our fun, energetic and dedicated volunteers provide hundreds of hours of service each month and are crucial to the success of Inniswood Metro Gardens. For more information about volunteer service and to find out about the next volunteer training class, call 614.895.6226.

You can support Inniswood by becoming a member of the Inniswood Garden Society. Visit inniswood.org to learn about membership.

Garden details

**ADDRESS:**
940 S Hempstead Rd
Westerville OH 43081

**ACRES:** 123

**TRAILS:**
- Boardwalk (0.5 miles)
- Brookwood (0.5 miles)
- Chipmunk Chatter (0.6 miles)
- Frog Talk Walk (0.1 miles)
- Sisters’ Garden Loop (0.3 miles)
- Spring Run (0.3 miles)

**ACTIVITIES:**
- Biking/Pets (outside gardens on Chipmunk Chatter Trail)

**DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB:**
tiny.cc/mp-inn

**HOURS & INFO:**
7am to dark
Innis House: 614.895.6216
Cell phone: 614.208.4301
Pickerington Ponds is home to one of Franklin County’s largest remaining natural wetlands

Pickerington Ponds is a premier spot for bird-watching, with more than 260 species seen. The combination of seasonal ponds and rich wetland vegetation, with bordering woodlands, serve as a magnet for migrating waterfowl, shore birds and land birds.

Deer, beaver, fox and other wildlife can be seen near the ponds and adjoining woods and fields of this 1,608-acre park. More than 400 acres have been designated a state nature preserve.

Since 2000, Metro Parks has restored more than 750 acres of wetland and surrounding upland habitat, such as grassland and woodland, to reestablish the native wetland and plant communities that existed on the sites prior to their conversion for agriculture.

The park has been designated as one of Ohio’s Important Birding Areas by Audubon Ohio. Sandhill cranes are seen frequently flying over the ponds. Great blue heron and osprey nest here.

Park details

**ADDRESS**
7680 Wright Rd
Canal Winchester OH 43110

**ACRES** 1,608

**ACTIVITIES**
Biking
Nature Preserve
Pets
Picnicking

**TRAILS**
Arrowhead (1.7 miles)
Blacklick Creek Greenway (16 miles - connects with Three Creeks and Blacklick Woods)
Killdeer (1.1 miles)
Meadowlark (1 mile)
Yellowlegs (0.5 miles)

**DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB**
tiny.cc/mp-pkp

**HOURS & INFO**
6:30am to dark
Cell phone 614.208.4329

To learn more, visit metroparks.net
Prairie Oaks features nearly 500 acres of lush flowering prairies and grasslands

Big Darby Creek flows through the 2,203-acre park and provides a beautiful backdrop for outdoor adventure. The Darby Watershed is nationally recognized for its ecological diversity, and is home to nearly 100 species of fish and 44 species of mussels.

Darby Bend Lakes is a water recreational area, featuring three beautiful lakes. Visitors can enjoy trails, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, non-motorized boating and picnicking. There is even a doggie beach and dog-swimming area for your pet. The park features a natural play area around Beaver Lake.

Ashy sunflower, royal catchfly and other prairie flowers can be seen against a backdrop of big and little bluestem grasses. Northern harriers, meadowlarks, coyote, jumping mice and Henslow’s sparrow can be seen throughout the changing seasons. Metro Parks has restored 800 acres of prairies at the park, using only seed representing the native plant species of the Darby Plains.
Rocky Fork includes an off-leash trail for dogs and a dog park

Rocky Fork Metro Park features more than three miles of walking trails that wind through woods and fields.

The park features an off-leash dog trail, the first in the park system, plus a 2-acre dog park with splash pads.

The 2.5-mile bridle trail includes a separate park entrance on Bevelhymer Road for horse trailer parking.

There are two picnic areas plus a grill pad in the woods. The Millstone Picnic Area has a large shelter for family picnics and a play area for kids, featuring three large climbing boulders, with an elevated boardwalk to provide ADA access to the top of one boulder.

Enjoy sitting in the big wooden chairs behind the Millstone picnic shelter as you look for wildlife in the open fields.

Park details

ADDRESS
7180 Walnut St
Westerville OH 43081

ACRES 1,003

TRAILS
Beech Woodland (1.3 miles)
Bridle (2.5 miles)
Dog (0.3 miles)
Millstone Connector (0.5 miles)
North Meadow (1 mile)

ACTIVITIES
Biking
Horseback Riding
Pets
Picnicking
Swings

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB
tiny.cc/mp-rky

HOURS & INFO
6:30am to dark
Cell phone 614.595.9979
Scioto Audubon is the only downtown Metro Park and features a 35-foot climbing wall

An old industrial site on the Scioto River has been transformed into a 120-acre park that serves as a haven for wildlife and a place for the young at heart and urban professionals interested in active recreation.

The climbing wall covers 7,000 square feet and features bouldering, top rope and lead climbing. There are four auto belays, but climbers must bring their own climbing harness.

There is also a 9-station obstacle course that features nine challenging stations, including a tire run and flip, an eight-foot wall, tunnel crawl, balance beams and monkey bars, cargo climb, over/under, log run and belly crawl.

The area has been designated as an Important Bird Area (IBA) by Audubon and Birdlife International. More than 200 species of birds have been sighted within the IBA.

Fishing and boating are available on the river and the park also features a 2.5-acre dog park and a quarter-acre butterfly garden.

Park details

ADDRESS
400 W Whittier St
Columbus OH 43215

ACRES 120

ACTIVITIES
Biking
Boating
Canoeing/Kayaking
Fishing
Obstacle Course
Pets
Picnicking
Rock Climbing

TRAILS
Scioto Greenway (2 miles)
Hermit Thrush (0.1 miles)
Wetland (0.4 miles)
Connector Trails (2.5 miles)

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB
tiny.cc/mp-sio

HOURS & INFO
6:30am to 10pm April to September
6:30am to 8pm October to March
Cell phone 614.202.5197
Scioto Grove features mature forests and scenic bluffs

The 620-acre park has more than seven miles of trails, two picnic areas with shelters, tables and grills, a kids play area and several overlook decks. The park is located on a scenic bend of the Scioto River and is a great destination for canoeists, kayakers, anglers and people wanting to see waterfowl and other wildlife. Dogs on leashes are welcome throughout the park, which also features a sledding hill.

A 3D archery course (and a separate static or traditional archery course) makes the park the place to go for archery enthusiasts.

With support from outdoor retailer REI, we constructed a backpack trail along the river for those just getting into the sport, as well as those seasoned backpackers who want a quick overnight without having to journey several hours.

Backpacking is free and reservations can be made by calling 614.539.3339. Backpacking available for reservation every other weekend from mid-April to the end of October.

For information on the park’s rental facilities go to metroparks.net or phone 614.508.8111.

Park details

**ADDRESS**
5172 Jackson Pike
Grove City OH 43123

**ACRES** 620

**TRAILS**
Arrowhead (1.3 miles), Hickory (0.6 miles)
Mingo (2.5 miles), Overlook (1.7 miles)
REI River (1.2 miles)

**ACTIVITIES**
Archery
Backpacking
Canoeing/Kayaking
Drone Field
Fishing
Pets
Sledding

**DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB**
tiny.cc/mp-sgr

**HOURS & INFO**
6:30am to 10pm April to September
6:30am to 8pm October to March
Cell phone 614.949.1078

To learn more, visit metroparks.net
Sharon Woods features oak-hickory, beech-maple and swamp forests in its 761 acres

The park includes seven miles of trails, with two miles winding through the 320-acre Edward S Thomas State Nature Preserve, named in honor of a renowned Ohio naturalist and one of Metro Parks’ founding park board members.

The park has eight species of oaks, some more than 250 years old, plus large hickory, maple and beech trees.

The 11-acre Schrock Lake provides a scenic backdrop where you can enjoy the splashing of waterfowl, glimpse a painted turtle sunning on a rock or see a spectacular sunset. Catch and release fishing is allowed from the lake’s four docks.

The park boasts a 7.5-acre natural play area where you can wander off-trail, climb trees, dig in the mud and experience unstructured play in nature. There are two sledding hills for winter fun.

For information on the park’s rental facilities go to metroparks.net or phone 614.508.8111.

Park details

ADDRESS
6911 Cleveland Ave
Westerville OH 43081

Spring Hollow Lodge Lodge:
1069 W Main St, Westerville OH 43081

ACRES 761

ACTIVITIES
Biking, Fishing, Natural Play Area
Nature Preserve, Pets, Picnicking
Sledding

TRAILS
Edward S Thomas (1.1 miles)
Lake (0.4 miles)
Oak Openings (0.2 miles)
Spring Creek (1.8 miles)
Multipurpose (3.8 miles)
Connector (0.3 miles)

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB
tiny.cc/mp-shn

HOURS & INFO
6:30am to 10pm April to September
6:30am to 8pm October to March
Cell phone 614.315.5520
Slate Run Wetlands are the site of nesting sandhill cranes

A 156-acre wetland wildlife refuge features a mosaic of restored marshes, meadows and ponds. More than 150 species of birds have been recorded here, including northern harriers, sandhill cranes, green herons and nesting blue-winged teal.

The park's grassland area includes prairie grasses, cool-season grasses, hardwood forest and remnant wooded fence rows and is one of the premier butterfly and birding sites in Central Ohio. It is also home to savannah, grasshopper and Henslow's sparrows, bobolinks, eastern meadowlarks and other wildlife. The 14-acre Buzzard's Roost Lake is also a magnet for birds.

Slate Run Living Historical Farm

The historical farm provides opportunities for visitors to compare farm work and family life of the 1880s with their lives today.

As you stroll through the gardens, barns and farmhouse, you will see the farm's costumed staff and volunteers going about their daily chores. Pigs, geese, turkeys, sheep, Percheron horses and other heirloom animals can be seen.

Park details

ADDRESS: 1375 SR674 North
Canal Winchester OH 43110

ACRES: 1,705

TRAILS:
Bobolink (1.5 miles)
Camp Starview (2 miles)
Covered Bridge (0.5 miles)
Five Oaks (1.5 miles), Kokomo (1.5 miles)
Lake (0.4 miles)
Sassafras (2.5 miles - horseriding only)
Shagbark (0.5 miles), Sugar Maple (1.4 miles)

ACTIVITIES:
Day Camps, Fishing, Horseback Riding
Natural Play Area, Pets, Picnicking

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB:
tiny.cc/mp-slr
OR
tiny.cc/mp-srf

HOURS & INFO:
6:30am to dark
Cell phone: 614.329.1392
Farm phone: 614.833.1880

To learn more, visit metroparks.net
Three Creeks is named for the confluence of Alum, Blacklick and Big Walnut creeks

Three Creeks is made up of five distinct areas connected through the Alum Creek Greenway Trail. Metro Parks operates the Confluence Trails and Heron Pond areas and the City of Columbus Recreation and Parks Department operates the Madison Mills, Smith Farms and Sycamore Fields areas. This most creek-centric of Ohio’s parks is the major hub in the Franklin County Greenways program, an interconnected system of trails along the major streams in Central Ohio.

You can fish for bluegill, largemouth bass, catfish and crappie in Heron and Turtle ponds, and also fish in Alum, Big Walnut and Blacklick creeks, home to over 25 species of fish.

More than 100 species of birds have been sighted in the park. The ponds on the west side of the park along the Alum Creek Greenway Trail provide seasonal wetlands for waterfowl and shore birds.

The Bluebell and Confluence trails feature enormous cottonwoods and sycamores and produce one of the best displays of woodland wildflowers in spring.

Three Creeks

Park details

ADDRESS
3860 Bixby Road
Groveport OH 43125

ACRES 1,100

TRAILS
Alum Creek (24.5 miles)
Blacklick Creek (16 miles)
Bluebell (1 mile)
Confluence (1 mile)
Evergreen (0.5 miles)
Heron Pond (0.6 miles)
Madison Mills (0.2 miles)
Sycamore Fields & Smith Farm trails (1.2 miles)
Turtle Pond (0.4 miles)

ACTIVITIES
Biking, Canoeing/Kayaking, Fishing
Natural Play Area, Pets, Picnicking

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB
tiny.cc/mp-thc

HOURS & INFO
6:30am to 10pm April to September
6:30am to 8pm October to March
Cell phone 614.208.2874
Walnut Woods is bordered by Walnut Creek and features dramatic stands of pine trees

Walnut Woods includes restored wetlands that provide habitat for waterfowl such as geese, swans, mallards, wood ducks, mergansers and teals. Some of the wetlands dry out in summer and create a muddy habitat ideal for shorebirds and wading birds, such as killdeer, Wilson’s snipe, greater and lesser yellowlegs, bitterns, rails and various species of sandpipers.

Several vernal pools attract breeding amphibians in spring. There are numerous buckeye trees alongside the creek, and long rows of old nursery trees, such as serviceberry, crab apple and red maples. The Tall Pines Area is noted for pine and sweetgum trees.

There are two dog parks in the Buckeye Area, one for large dogs (20 pounds and over), and another for small dogs. The 3-acre large dog park includes a separate fenced doggie swimming pond, and a small shade shelter with a picnic table. The 1-acre small dog park also includes a shade shelter and picnic table.

Park details

ADDRESS
6716 Lithopolis Rd
Groveport OH 43125

ACRES 1,098

TRAILS
Buckeye (2 miles)
Kestrel (1.3 miles)
Monarch (1.4 miles)
Sweetgum (2.6 miles)

ACTIVITIES:
Biking
Canoeing/Kayaking
Fishing
Pets
Picnicking
Sledding

DETAILS & DIRECTIONS ON WEB
tiny.cc/mp-wal

HOURS & INFO
6:30am to dark
Cell phone 614.357.9375
metro parks programs

June, July, August 2019 (advanced registration opens May 22)

**METRO FIVE-0** programs for ages 50 and older are color-coded by degree of difficulty:

- **LEVEL 1** (easy, fully accessible)
- **LEVEL 2** (slow pace, less than 1-mile hike)
- **LEVEL 3** (up to 2-mile hike, moderate pace)
- **LEVEL 4** (hike over two miles at strenuous pace)

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**BATTELLE DARBY CREEK**

**JUNE**

**EVENING CAMPFIRE**

Come enjoy an evening campfire near the bison paddock. We will provide s’mores. Please bring your own chairs. *Nature Center*

JUNE 5 WED 8PM

**FIREFLIES**

Watch the fireflies talk to each other as we learn about their glow. *Indian Ridge*

JUNE 7 FRI 9:30PM

**PHOTO GROUP: WORKSHOP - BRING A CAMERA WITH FLASH!**

Hands-on workshop to teach you how to photograph in low-light, freeze motion and to improve your photos with simple light-modifiers. Beginner level. *Nature Center*

JUNE 8 SAT 10AM

**YOGA IN THE PARK**

Learn movements in an outdoor setting to help rejuvenate your mind and body. *Ranger Station*

JUNE 8 SAT 11:30AM

**FAMILY CREEKING ADVENTURE**

Get wet as we catch fish, bugs and crawdads in Big Darby Creek. *Ranger Station*

JUNE 9 SUN 3PM

**PRESCHOOLERS: GOING BATTY**

Learn about the world’s only flying mammal! *Nature Center*

JUNE 11 TUE 9:30 OR 11AM

**METRO FIVE-0: Level 3 WALK OF THE MONTH**

Take a 2-mile walk to discover the sights and sounds of the season. Ages 50 and older *Indian Ridge*

JUNE 11 TUE 11AM–12:30PM
WILDLIFE HIKE
Come and search for wildlife with a naturalist on a 1-mile hike along the Cobshell Trail. 
*Ranger Station*

JUNE 13  THU  10AM

DISNEYNATURE: OCEANS
Come join us and watch Disneynature’s “Oceans.” Explore the depths of the ocean and learn about marine life.  
*Nature Center*

JUNE 14  FRI  7PM

GAME NIGHT
Hang out in the nature center and play games! We will have a selection of board games and active games, but feel free to bring your favorite!

*Nature Center*

JUNE 15  SAT  6–9PM

FEED THE STREAM
Enjoy the fish feeding frenzy as you help feed them worms, crickets and minnows.  
*Nature Center*

JUNE 16  SUN  1PM

FULL MOON HIKE
Take a brisk 4-mile hike through fields and forest.  
*Ranger Station*

JUNE 17  MON  9PM

BROWN BAG SPECIAL: INSECTS
Pack a lunch and join us in learning about and meeting these busy bugs.  
*Ranger Station*

JUNE 19  WED  11:30AM

FIREFLIES
Watch the fireflies talk to each other as we learn about their glow.  
*Indian Ridge*

JUNE 21  FRI  9:30PM

OFF-TRAIL HIKE
Explore the forest and learn some local history on a 3-mile off-trail hike.  
*Ages 8 and older  Indian Ridge*

JUNE 22  SAT  9AM

BISON
See the bison herd on a 1-mile hike and learn all about our national mammal.  
*Nature Center*

JUNE 22  SAT  6PM

FAMILY CREEKING ADVENTURE
Get wet as we catch fish, bugs and crawdads in the creek. Get wet as we catch fish, bugs and crawdads in Big Darby Creek.  
*Ranger Station*

JUNE 23  SUN  1PM

PRESCHOOLERS: GOING BATTY
Learn about the world’s only flying mammal!  
*Nature Center*

JUNE 28  FRI  11AM OR 1PM

PRIMITIVE STYLE FAMILY CAMPOUT
Bring your tent and sleeping bag and join a park naturalist for an overnight campout. Enjoy hiking, fishing, night activities, creeking and campfire food with fellow campers.  
*Ages 5 and older Advance registration*

JUNE 28  FRI TO SAT ☎️ 30351401
**FEED THE STREAM**
Enjoy the fish feeding frenzy as you help feed them worms, crickets and minnows.  
*Nature Center*

JUNE 29 SAT  1PM

**JULY**

**SPIDERS AND SNAKES DISPLAY**
Come discover more about these misunderstood creatures.  
*Nature Center*

JULY 4  THU  1–4PM

**STREAM QUALITY MONITORING**
Wade into the river to explore stream life and determine stream health. Option to become a Stream Quality Monitoring volunteer for ODNR’s Scenic Rivers Program.  
*Indian Ridge*

JULY 6  SAT  10AM

**FEED THE STREAM**
Enjoy the fish feeding frenzy as you help feed them worms, crickets and minnows.  
*Nature Center*

JULY 6  SAT  1PM

**FAMILY CREEKING ADVENTURE**
Get wet as we catch fish, bugs and crawdads in Big Darby Creek.  
*Ranger Station*

JULY 7  SUN  3PM

**PRESCHOOLERS: CREEKING**
Wade in the creek and discover what critters live there.  
*Ranger Station*

JULY 9  TUE  9:30 OR 11AM

**WILDLIFE HIKE**
Come and search for wildlife with a naturalist on a 2-mile hike along the Terrace Trail.  
*Indian Ridge*

JULY 10  WED  10AM

**DISNEYNATURE: BORN IN CHINA**
Watch Disneynature’s “Born in China.” Follow the lives of three animal families - snow leopards, giant pandas and golden snub-nosed monkeys.  
*Nature Center*

JULY 12  FRI  7PM

**PHOTO GROUP: PHOTO STORAGE/RECOVERY OF LOST PHOTOS**
Learn the latest strategies and processes for the quickest access to your photos during editing, long term storage and recovering lost photos.  
*Nature Center*

JULY 13  SAT  10AM

**ALL ABOUT SLIME**
Help us in creating and decorating ooey gooey slime! Please dress for a mess!  
*Nature Center*

JULY 13  SAT  11AM

**YOGA IN THE PARK**
Learn movements in an outdoor setting to help rejuvenate your mind and body.  
*Ranger Station*

JULY 13  SAT  11:30AM

**DISCOVER FALCONRY**
Meet and learn about some amazing birds of prey from the Ohio School of Falconry. Learn about the ancient sport of falconry as you watch these raptors take flight.  
*Indian Ridge*

JULY 14  SUN  4:30PM
FULL MOON HIKE
Take a brisk 4-mile hike through fields and forest. Ranger Station
JULY 16 TUE 9PM

FAMILY CREEKING ADVENTURE
Get wet as we catch fish, bugs and crawdads in Big Darby Creek. Ranger Station
JULY 18 THU 1PM

EVENING CAMPFIRE
Come enjoy an evening campfire near the bison paddock. We will provide s’mores. Please bring your own chairs. Nature Center
JULY 18 THU 8PM

MOTH MANIA
Check out all the cool creatures that come to our light traps. Nature Center
JULY 20 SAT 9:30PM–12AM

NATIONAL MOTH WEEK
Celebrate National Moth Week and see a beautiful display of moths collected by one of our park volunteers. Nature Center
JULY 20-28 SAT-SUN 9AM–8PM

FEED THE STREAM
Enjoy the fish feeding frenzy as you help feed them worms, crickets and minnows. Nature Center
JULY 21 SUN 1PM

PRESCHOOLERS: CREEKING
Wade in the creek and discover what critters live there. Ranger Station
JULY 26 FRI 11AM OR 1PM

GAME NIGHT
Hang out in the nature center and play games! We will have a selection of board games and active games, but feel free to bring your favorite! Nature Center
JULY 26 FRI 6–9PM

PRAIRIE WALK
Take a 2-mile walk and discover native prairie wildflowers. Nature Center
JULY 27 SAT 8AM

BISON
See the bison herd on a 1-mile hike and learn all about our national mammal. Nature Center
JULY 27 SAT 6PM

ULTRAVIOLET NIGHT WALK
Use a blacklight to see the hidden colors of the night. Ranger Station
JULY 31 WED 9PM

AUGUST

ULTRAVIOLET NIGHT WALK
Use a blacklight to see the hidden colors of the night. Indian Ridge
AUG 2 FRI 9PM

FAMILY CREEKING ADVENTURE
Get wet as we catch fish, bugs and crawdads in Big Darby Creek. Ranger Station
AUG 3 SAT 11AM
GAME NIGHT
Hang out in the nature center and play games! We will have a selection of board games and active games, but feel free to bring your favorite!
*Nature Center*

AUG 3  SAT  6–9PM

BROWN BAG SPECIAL: COLD BLOODS
Pack a lunch and join us in learning about and meeting some reptiles and amphibians.
*Ranger Station*

AUG 7  WED  11:30AM

PHOTO GROUP: IMAGE REVIEW
Attendees are invited to share their photos and receive constructive feedback. All skill levels.
*Nature Center*

AUG 10  SAT  10AM

YOGA IN THE PARK
Learn movements in an outdoor setting to help rejuvenate your mind and body.
*Ranger Station*

AUG 10  SAT  11:30AM

POP NATURE SERIES: POKEMON INSPIRATIONS
Learn how real animals inspired the creation of your favorite pocket monsters.
*Nature Center*

AUG 10  SAT  2PM

FAMILY CREEKING ADVENTURE
Get wet as we catch fish, bugs and crawdads in Big Darby Creek.
*Ranger Station*

AUG 11  SUN  1PM

PRESCHOOLERS: BUTTERFLIES
Discover the different life stages of a butterfly through story, song and craft.
*Nature Center*

AUG 13  TUE  9:30 OR 11AM

FULL MOON HIKE
Take a brisk 4-mile hike through fields and forest.
*Ranger Station*

AUG 15  THU  8:30PM

DISNEYNATURE: AFRICAN CATS
Join us in watching Disneynature’s “African Cats.” Follow in the footsteps of two feline families - lions and cheetahs.
*Nature Center*

AUG 16  FRI  7PM

FAMILY CREEKING ADVENTURE
Get wet as we catch fish, bugs and crawdads in Big Darby Creek.
*Ranger Station*

AUG 17  SAT  1PM

FEED THE STREAM
Enjoy the fish feeding frenzy as you help feed them worms, crickets and minnows.
*Nature Center*

AUG 18  SUN  1PM

WILDLIFE HIKE
Come and search for wildlife with a naturalist on a 2-mile hike along the Dyer Mill Trail.
*Little Darby Picnic Area*

AUG 21  WED  10AM
**PRAIRIE WALK**
Ramble through the tall grass prairie to see colorful flowers and wildlife.

*Nature Center*

AUG 24 SAT 9AM

**BISON**
See the bison herd on a 1-mile hike and learn all about our national mammal.

*Nature Center*

AUG 25 SUN 10AM

**STREAM QUALITY MONITORING**
Wade into the river to explore stream life and determine stream health.
Option to become a Stream Quality Monitoring volunteer for ODNR’s Scenic Rivers Program.

*Indian Ridge*

AUG 29 THU 6:30PM

**PRESCHOOLERS: BUTTERFLIES**
Discover the different life stages of a butterfly through story, song and craft.

*Nature Center*

AUG 30 FRI 11AM OR 1PM

**FEED THE STREAM**
Enjoy the fish feeding frenzy as you help feed them worms, crickets and minnows.

*Nature Center*

AUG 31 SAT 1PM

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**BLACKLICK WOODS**

**JUNE**

**HIKE ALL THE TRAILS**
Join a naturalist for a fast-paced hike on the park’s 6 miles of trails.

*Nature Center*

JUNE 1 SAT 9AM

**YOU CAN EAT THAT**
Take a 1-mile walk to discover what wild edible plants are available in the summer.
Try some samples.

*Nature Center*

JUNE 2 SUN 2PM

**STORY TIME**
Learn about nature through stories and activities. Ages 2-6

*Nature Center*

JUNE 3 MON 10AM

**DOG WALK**
Bring your furry friend on a 2-mile walk.

*Nature Center*

JUNE 8 SAT 10AM

**SUMMER FUNGI**
Learn about the role of fungi in a forest and look for mushrooms on a 1.5-mile hike.

*Nature Center*

JUNE 9 SUN 3PM

**NATIVE BEE WORKSHOP**
Learn about these valuable native pollinators and make a bee house to attract them to your yard.

*Advance registration*

JUNE 10 MON  © 30150403
**PRESCHOOLERS — TINY TRAVELER SERIES: DESERTS**
Discover the unique wildlife that makes up this special area through discussions, books and activities. *Beech Maple Lodge*

**JUNE 12  WED  10AM OR 1PM**

**RANGER BIKE RIDE**
Join a park ranger on a 6-mile bike ride along the Blacklick Creek Greenway Trail. *Nature Center*

**JUNE 15  SAT  7PM**

**POLLINATOR DISPLAY**
View our display to learn about pollination and the critters that do the job. *Nature Center*

**JUNE 15-16  SAT-SUN  8AM–8PM**

**TREE ID: LEAVES**
Learn to identify trees by viewing their leaves on a half-mile hike. *Nature Center*

**JUNE 16  SUN  2PM**

**NATURE KIDS: INSECT HUNT**
Explore the grasses and flowers to catch and release butterflies, bees and beetles. Ages 6-12 *Nature Center*

**JUNE 17  MON  10AM OR 1PM**

**SO YOU WANT TO BE A VOLUNTEER**
Learn about the variety of volunteer opportunities at Metro Parks. Enjoy a guided hike, light refreshments and meet like-minded people. Volunteer applications will be available after the program. Ages 16 and older *Advance registration*

**JUNE 17  MON  ☎ 30131400**

**FISHING BASICS**
Kids will learn the basics of casting, knot tying and fish identification. We’ll also get a chance to catch goldfish at Ashton Pond. Ages 6-16 *Advance registration*

**JUNE 18  TUE  ☎ 30121401 (2 sessions)**

**METRO FIVE-0: Level 3 POLLINATOR WALK**
Take a 2-mile walk to search the fields for pollinators. Ages 50 and older *Nature Center*

**JUNE 19  WED  2PM**

**COYOTE CAMPFIRE**
Enjoy a campfire as we learn about these fascinating canines. *Ash Grove Picnic Area*

**JUNE 21  FRI  8PM**

**NATURAL PLAY AREA: BUILD A FAIRY HOUSE**
Construct a toad abode or a miniature fairy house, using natural items, to leave in the park on International Fairy Day. Ages 5-14 *Nature Center*

**JUNE 25  TUE  6PM**

**TOTS ON THE TRAILS**
Share a slow-paced half-mile walk with your toddler and discover nature together. Ages 1-4 *Nature Center*

**JUNE 28  FRI  10AM**

**NATURE SCHOOL: SQM**
Learn about the importance of water in an ecosystem while we catch critters and test water quality at Blacklick Creek. Ages 10 and older *Nature Center*

**JUNE 29  SAT  10AM–12PM**
LIFE IN A CREEK DISPLAY
View our display about the different sections of a creek and the animals that live in each. *Nature Center*
JUNE 29-30  SAT-SUN  8AM–8PM

SUMMER CRAFTS
Stop by the nature center to make some frog-themed crafts. Ages 4-14 *Nature Center*
JUNE 30  SUN  12–4PM

JULY

STORY TIME
Learn about nature through stories and activities. Ages 2-6 *Nature Center*
JULY 1  MON  10AM

NATURE KIDS: CRAZY CRAYFISH
Come learn about crayfish and take a 2-mile walk to the creek to catch them. Ages 6-12 *Nature Center*
JULY 2  TUE  10AM–12PM OR 1-3PM

ALL-AMERICAN SCAVENGER HUNT
Search for patriotic plants and animals in the park. *Nature Center*
JULY 4  THU  12–4PM

HIKE ALL THE TRAILS
Join a naturalist for a fast-paced hike on the park’s 6 miles of trails. *Nature Center*
JULY 6  SAT  9AM

GOING BATTY
Watch for bats flying and catching insects. *Ash Grove Picnic Area*
JULY 6  SAT  8:30PM

PRESCHOOLERS: BUGGIN’ OUT
Discover our six-legged friends through a craft and story. Take a short walk to find some. *Nature Center*
JULY 10  WED  10AM OR 1PM

FISHING BASICS
Kids will learn the basics of casting, knot tying and fish identification. We’ll also get a chance to catch goldfish at Ashton Pond. Ages 6-16 *Advance registration*
JULY 11  THU  30121401 (2 sessions)

DOG WALK
Bring your furry friend on a 2-mile walk. *Nature Center*
JULY 13  SAT  10AM

NATURE SCHOOL: INSECTS
Learn how to identify members of this diverse group and take a short walk to find some. *Nature Center*
JULY 14  SUN  3PM

NATURE BABIES
Enjoy stories about nature and learn some signs in American Sign Language to practice. Ages 2 and younger *Nature Center*
JULY 15  MON  10AM

METRO FIVE-0: Level 2 MORNING WALK
Join a naturalist on an early morning 1-mile walk through the woods. Ages 50 and older *Nature Center*
JULY 17  WED  8AM
**FIREFLIES**  
Learn about these incredible insects as we take a 2-mile walk to look for them.  
*Nature Center*  
**JULY 20 SAT 8:30**

**MOTH DISPLAY**  
View our display to learn about these nocturnal winged wonders.  
*Nature Center*  
**JULY 20-21 SAT-SUN 8AM-8PM**

**RANGER BIKE RIDE**  
Join a park ranger on a 6-mile bike ride along the Blacklick Creek Greenway Trail.  
*Nature Center*  
**JULY 21 SUN 3PM**

**TOTS ON THE TRAILS**  
Share a slow-paced half-mile walk with your toddler and discover nature together.  
Ages 1-4 *Nature Center*  
**JULY 26 FRI 10AM**

**MOTHS AND MAMMALS NIGHT**  
Look for nocturnal mammals through the viewing windows and check a moth sheet for night-flying insects. *Nature Center*  
**JULY 27 SAT 10PM**

**SUMMER CRAFTS**  
Stop by the nature center to make some moth-themed crafts. Ages 4-14  
*Nature Center*  
**JULY 28 SUN 12–4PM**

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**NATURE KIDS: SENSES AND DEFENSES**  
Could you escape a spider’s web, outfox a fox or blindly find a cricket in a cave? Find out as we put our senses and defenses to nature’s test. Excellent eyesight, creative camouflage, tongues that smell and stinky sprays are some of the animal adaptations we’ll explore. Ages 6-12  
*Nature Center*  
**JULY 31 WED 10AM OR 1PM**

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**AUGUST**

**BUGS AND BLOOMS DISPLAY**  
View our display to learn about summer flowers and the insects that visit them.  
*Nature Center*  
**AUG 3-4 SAT-SUN 8AM–8PM**

**HIKE ALL THE TRAILS**  
Join a naturalist for a fast-paced hike on the park’s 6 miles of trails.  
*Nature Center*  
**AUG 3 SAT 9AM**

**FISHING BASICS**  
Kids will learn the basics of casting, knot tying and fish identification. We’ll also get a chance to catch goldfish at Ashton Pond. Ages 6-16 *Advance registration*  
**AUG 5 MON & 30121401 (2 sessions)**

**STORY TIME**  
Learn about nature through stories and activities. Ages 2-6 *Nature Center*  
**AUG 5 MON 10AM**
METRO FIVE-0: Level 3
BUGS AND BLOOMS
Take a 2-mile walk to see summer flowers and the insects that visit them. Ages 50 and older Nature Center
AUG 7 WED 3PM

CAMPFIRE COOKOUT
Learn some basics about cooking over a campfire and how it can make your next camping trip something special. Ash Grove Picnic Area
AUG 9 FRI 6–8PM

INSECT CHORUS WALK
Learn what insects can be heard singing either during the day or at night, then take a half-mile walk to listen for them. Nature Center
AUG 10 SAT 1PM OR 9PM

DOG WALK
Bring your furry friend on a 2-mile walk. Nature Center
AUG 11 SUN 7PM

PRESCHOOLERS: STARRY NIGHT
Come explore the night sky with us during the day! We will learn about constellations and stars through activities, stories and a craft. Beech Maple Lodge
AUG 14 WED 10AM OR 1PM

RANGER BIKE RIDE
Join a park ranger on a 6-mile bike ride along the Blacklick Creek Greenway Trail. Nature Center
AUG 17 SAT 10AM

CATERPILLAR CRAWL
Take a half-mile walk to search trees and shrubs for caterpillars. Nature Center
AUG 17 SAT 9PM

SUMMER CRAFTS
Stop by the nature center to make some duck-themed crafts. Ages 4-14 Nature Center
AUG 18 SUN 12–4PM

NATURE KIDS: SEED DISPERSAL
Discover how seeds move and how forests and prairies begin. Ages 6-12 Nature Center
AUG 19 MON 10AM OR 1PM

MUD & MADNESS
Negotiate several muddy obstacles on a 1.5-mile, fun family adventure. Obstacles are a little challenging and a little muddy... a whole lot more FUN than RUN. Perfect for mud-loving children, adults and families. Sorry, no strollers or pets. Bring towels; we’ll help hose you off afterwards. Nature Center
AUG 24 SAT 10AM

MEET THE BEETLES DISPLAY
Come to the nature center to check out our display about the world’s largest insect group. Nature Center
AUG 24-25 SAT-SUN 8AM–8PM

FUN IN THE MUD
The mud run may be over, but the fun doesn’t have to be. Enjoy splashing around in the mud and exploring the obstacles of our Mud & Madness course. Ages 3-12 Nature Center
AUG 25 SUN 3PM

To learn more, visit metroparks.net
Blacklick Woods / Blendon Woods programs

**METRO FIVE-0: Level 3 PRAIRIE WALK**
Take a 2-mile walk to discover the plants and animals of the prairie.
Ages 50 and older *Nature Center*

**AUG 27 TUE 7PM**

**TOTS ON THE TRAILS**
Share a slow-paced half-mile walk with your toddler and discover nature together.
Ages 1-4 *Nature Center*

**AUG 30 FRI 10AM**

**MUD RUN WALK**
Join a naturalist for an off-trail walk as we follow the Mud & Madness course through fields of wildflowers and creeks.
*Nature Center*

**AUG 31 SAT 10AM**

**BLENDON WOODS**

**JUNE**

**ADVENTURE BACKPACK KICKOFF**
Borrow a backpack and go on an adventure with binoculars, nets, jars, ID guides, magnifying lense - everything you need to explore nature more deeply! Backpacks available at the nature center all summer long whenever building is staffed.
*Nature Center*

**JUNE 1 SAT 9AM–5PM**

**MORNING BIRDING**
Walk 2 miles on the woodland trails and look for the birds in the park.
*Nature Center*

**JUNE 2 SUN 8AM**

**2/4/6 FITNESS HIKE**
Take an invigorating fast-paced hike along gravel and natural surface trails; choose 2, 4 or 6 miles. Pace will be under a 20-minute mile. Ages 14 and older *Nature Center*

**JUNE 5 WED 6PM**

**TODDLERS IN NATURE: TURTLE SPLASH**
Introduce your little one to the natural world through literacy, sensory development and motor skills in this gentle, consistent format, including a story, activity and walk. Ages 1-3
*Nature Center*

**JUNE 6 THU 10AM**

**FIRST FRIDAY STORYTIME**
Join us for some good books featuring animals and nature! Ages 2-6
*Nature Center*

**JUNE 7 FRI 10AM**

**4-H MEETS THE METRO PARKS**
Join a Metro Parks naturalist and 4-H Educators as we complete fun activities from a few of the Natural Resources 4-H project books, including: Birdwatching, Tree ID and Creeking; program is for current 4-H members as well as those interested in learning more about 4-H membership. Ages 8-14
Advance registration

**JUNE 8 SAT © 30221401**

To learn more, visit metroparks.net
WILD WEEKENDS: AMPHIBIANS
Meet some live amphibians and learn more about this fascinating group of animals.
*Nature Center*

JUNE 14 FRI 10AM OR 2PM

HIDDEN CRITTERS
Use your observation skills to find toy critters hidden along the path for a chance to win a prize.
*Nature Center*

JUNE 15 SAT 10AM–2PM

DADS AND DOGS HIKE
Celebrate Father’s Day with a nature hike for the whole family - even Fido!
*Nature Center*

JUNE 16 SUN 1PM

RELAXING YOGA
Let the stress of the day melt away with an hour of outdoor yoga. Bring a mat or towel. Follow park signs in case of inclement weather.
*Picnic Area Lot at Ranger Station*

JUNE 17 MON 6:30PM

PRESCHOOL: SUMMERTIME TRAM RIDE
All Aboard! Tram departs on the hour for a fun-filled tour of the park. Ages 3-7
*Blendon Woods Natural Play Area Shelter*

JUNE 18 TUE 9AM–2PM
JUNE 20 THU 9AM–2PM

FIREFLY FIESTA
Have fun with the summer tradition of catching and releasing lightning bugs while you learn about these fascinating insects.
*Natural Play Area at Cherry Ridge*

JUNE 21 FRI 8:30PM

FAMILY TRAM
Hop on board at any green TRAM STOP sign for a tour of the park. Look for signs in parking lots.
*Natural Play Area at Cherry Ridge*

JUNE 22 SAT 2–5PM
JUNE 23 SUN 2–5PM

TODDLERS IN NATURE: LITTLE CLOUD IN THE SKY
Introduce your little one to the natural world through literacy, sensory development and motor skills in this gentle, consistent format, including a story, activity and walk. Ages 1-3
*Nature Center*

JUNE 27 THU 10AM

NOCTURNAL FAMILY TRAM RIDE
Look for wildlife on an evening tour of the park.
*Nature Center*

JUNE 28 FRI 7:30PM

INTERNATIONAL MUD DAY
If you are ready for some good, dirty entertainment, join us at our giant mud pit for activities and fun.
*Blendon Woods Group Shelter*

JUNE 29 SAT 12-2PM
FAMILY TRAM
Hop on board at any green TRAM STOP sign for a tour of the park. Look for signs in parking lots.
*Natural Play Area at Cherry Ridge*

JUNE 30  SUN  2–5PM

**JULY**

FIRST FRIDAY STORYTIME
Join us for some good books featuring animals and nature! Ages 2-6 *Nature Center*

JULY 5  FRI  10AM

PHOTO PROWL
Explore the trails as we walk 2 miles looking for subjects to photograph. *Nature Center*

JULY 6  SAT  9AM

MORNING BIRD HIKE
Walk 2 miles as we look for resident birds. *Nature Center*

JULY 7  SUN  8AM

2/4/6 FITNESS HIKE
Take an invigorating fast-paced hike along gravel and natural surface trails; choose 2, 4 or 6 miles. Pace will be under a 20-minute mile. Ages 14 and older *Nature Center*

JULY 10  WED  6PM

TODDLERS IN NATURE:
TEN LITTLE CATERPILLARS
Introduce your little one to the natural world through literacy, sensory development and motor skills in this gentle, consistent format, including a story, activity and walk. Ages 1-3 *Nature Center*

JULY 11 THU  10AM

WILD WEEKENDS: TURTLES
Meet live turtles and learn about these amazing reptiles! *Nature Center*

JULY 12  FRI  10AM OR 2PM

FAMILY FISHING
Cast a line into Thoreau Lake and try to catch a big one! Ages 4 and older
Advance registration

JULY 14  SUN  ☀️ 30251402

PRESCHOOL: MINI POND STUDY
Discover all of the neat critters that call the pond their home. *Nature Center*

JULY 15  MON  9:30AM, 11AM OR 1PM
JULY 16  TUE  9AM, 11AM OR 1PM

SUNRISE/MOONSET HIKE TO THE LAKE
Join us for an early morning hike as we watch both the moon set and the sun rise! *Nature Center*

JULY 17  WED  6:30AM

CAMPFIRE WITH THE RANGER
Check out the ranger station, ranger truck and roast marshmallows over a roaring fire. *Picnic Area Lot at Ranger Station*

JULY 19  FRI  6:30–8:30PM

HIDDEN CRITTERS
Use your observation skills to find toy critters hidden along the path for a chance to win a prize. *Nature Center*

JULY 20  SAT  10AM–2PM
CREEKING THE RAVINE
Come prepared for a 2 mile off-trail hike through the creek at the new Blendon Ravines property. Meet at 5280 Cambria Way, Westerville. Park along the street. Ages 5 and older Blendon Ravines

JULY 21 SUN 2PM

RELAXING YOGA
Let the stress of the day melt away with an hour of outdoor yoga. Bring a mat or towel. Follow park signs in case of inclement weather. Ages 3 and older Picnic Area Lot at Ranger Station

JULY 22 MON 6:30PM

KIDS & CANVAS
Paint a nature scene along with us or design your own masterpiece. Ages 8-12 Advance registration

JULY 24 WED 30220401

TODDLERS IN NATURE: IF I WERE A TREE
Introduce your little one to the natural world through literacy, sensory development and motor skills in this gentle, consistent format, including a story, activity and walk. Ages 1-3 Nature Center

JULY 25 THU 10AM

ADULTS ONLY ARCHERY
Learn to shoot a compound bow. Ages 18 and older Blendon Woods Group Shelter

JULY 26 FRI 6:30PM

FAMILY ARCHERY
Learn to shoot a compound bow. Ages 8 and older Blendon Woods Group Shelter

JULY 27-28 SAT-SUN 1-2PM

JUST FOR SCOUTS: ARCHERY
Learn to shoot a compound bow. Ages 8-12 Advance registration

JULY 27 SAT 30221402

AUGUST

FAMILY CAMPOUT
Reserve your spot for a special camping opportunity at Blendon Woods Sugarbush Day Camp area. Call Blendon Woods Nature Center at 614.895.6221 to register. Advance registration

AUG 2 FRI to SAT 30251405

FIRST FRIDAY STORYTIME
Join us for some good books featuring animals and nature! Ages 2-6 Nature Center

AUG 2 FRI 10AM

MORNING BIRD HIKE
Walk 2 miles as we look for resident birds. Nature Center

AUG 4 SUN 8AM

KIDS & CANVAS
Paint a nature scene along with us or design your own masterpiece. Ages 8-12 Advance registration

AUG 6 TUE 30220401
**TODDLERS IN NATURE: OVER IN THE FOREST**
Introduce your little one to the natural world through literacy, sensory development and motor skills in this gentle, consistent format, including a story, activity and walk. Ages 1-3 *Nature Center*

AUG 8  THU  10AM

**WILD WEEKENDS: SNAKES**
Meet live snakes and discover these sssssslithery reptiles. *Nature Center*

AUG 9  FRI  10AM OR 2PM

**MUD & MADNESS**
Negotiate several muddy obstacles on a 1.5-mile family fun adventure. *Blendon Woods Group Shelter*

AUG 10  SAT  12PM

**HIDDEN CRITTERS**
Use your observation skills to find toy critters hidden along the path for a chance to win a prize. *Nature Center*

AUG 11  SUN  10AM–2PM

**RAPTOR SUNDAY**
Ohio Wildlife Center will be here with a few of their live birds of prey for a presentation about these amazing predators. *Nature Center*

AUG 11  SUN  2PM

**BEEKEEPING**
See how we maintain our honeybee hive and learn how to start one of your own. Ages 8 and older *Nature Center*

AUG 13  TUE  6PM

**2/4/6 FITNESS HIKE**
Take an invigorating fast-paced hike along gravel and natural surface trails; choose 2, 4 or 6 miles. Pace will be under a 20-minute mile. Ages 14 and older *Nature Center*

AUG 14  WED  6PM

**NIGHT SOUNDS**
Listen for animals who sing after dark! *Nature Center*

AUG 17  SAT  8:30PM

**FAMILY CREEKING**
Look for salamanders and other creatures that live in the stream. *Nature Center*

AUG 18  SUN  2PM

**RELAXING YOGA**
Let the stress of the day melt away with an hour of outdoor yoga. Bring a mat or towel. Follow park signs in case of inclement weather. *Picnic Area Lot at Ranger Station*

AUG 19  MON  6:30PM

**PRESCHOOL: B IS FOR BUTTERFLY**
Beautiful butterflies abound at Blendon Woods! *Nature Center*

AUG 21  WED  9:30AM, 11AM OR 1PM

**MOVIE NIGHT: MARY POPPINS RETURNS**
Movie will start at dark. *Natural Play Area at Cherry Ridge*

AUG 24  SAT  9–11:30PM
**TODDLERS IN NATURE: VULTURE VIEW**
Introduce your little one to the natural world through literacy, sensory development and motor skills in this gentle, consistent format, including a story, activity and walk. Ages 1-3 *Nature Center*

AUG 29 THU 10AM

**CLEAR CREEK**

**JUNE**

**METRO FIVE-0: Level 4**
**CAVES HIKE**
Enjoy views of caves and crevices on an extremely rugged 4-mile backcountry hike. Long pants recommended. Ages 50 and older *Maintenance Shop*

JUNE 13 THU 9AM–12PM

**CAVES HIKE**
Enjoy views of caves and crevices on an extremely rugged 4-mile backcountry hike. Long pants recommended. *Maintenance Shop*

JUNE 15 SAT 9AM–12PM

**JULY**

**BACKCOUNTRY DOG HIKE**
Bring your furry friend along on a rugged 3.5-mile backcountry hike to view Lake Emily. *Park Office*

JULY 13 SAT 7:30–9PM

**METRO FIVE-0: Level 4**
**EDIBLE PLANT HIKE**
Take a 2-mile rugged hike to learn what wild edible plants are available in summer. Try some samples after the hike. Ages 50 and older *Barnebey-Hambelton Picnic Area*

JULY 20 SAT 9–11AM

**AUGUST**

**METRO FIVE-0: Level 4**
**MEMORY ROCK SUNRISE HIKE**
Join us for a rugged 5-mile backcountry hike to view the sunrise from Memory Rock. Ages 50 and older *Park Office*

AUG 15 THU 5:30–8:30AM

**SUNRISE MEMORY ROCK HIKE**
Join us for a rugged 5-mile backcountry hike to view the sunrise from Memory Rock. *Park Office*

AUG 17 SAT 5:30–8:30AM

**METRO FIVE-0: Level 3**
**WALK OF THE MONTH**
Take a 1.5-mile walk to discover the sights and sounds of the season. Ages 50 and older *Barnebey-Hambelton Picnic Area*

AUG 21 WED 11AM–12:30PM
MOTH MADNESS
Join the Mothing Mavericks to discover what moths live in Clear Creek.
*Barnebey-Hambelton Picnic Area*
AUG 24 SAT 8:30–11PM

ARCHERY
Learn how to use a simple compound bow and shoot arrows. Ages 8-17
*Glacier Ridge Energy Center (at the windmill)*
JUNE 17 MON 10AM OR 1PM
JUNE 20 THU 10AM OR 1PM

SNakes & Such HIKe
Take a 1-mile hike to look for reptiles and amphibians. Ages 5 and older
*Glacier Ridge Energy Center (at the windmill)*
JUNE 22 SAT 3PM

WALK AND WOOF
Enjoy a 2.5-mile hike with your dog. Ages 6 and older
*Glacier Ridge Dog Park*
JUNE 24 MON 7PM

MOmING DISOVERY HIKe
Get up early with the animals to go on a 1-mile hike and see what we can find!
*Shelter House*
JUNE 30 SUN 9AM

JUNE

GRAssLAND BIRD HIKe
Search for birds on a 2.5-mile walk through the grasslands. Ages 8 and older
*Shelter House*
JUNE 1 SAT 8AM

EVENING BIKE RIDE
Go on an 8.5-mile ride through grasslands and forests as we search for wildlife. Ages 8 and older
*Shelter House*
JUNE 6 THU 7:30PM

FAMILY CAMPOUT
Bring your tent and camping supplies and spend the night at the park. Ages 5 and older
Advance registration
JUNE 8 SAT TO SUN ☎ 31551401

BIRD NESTS
Take a 1-mile hike to find bird nests and learn how birds take care of their young. Ages 5-12
*Shelter House*
JUNE 13 THU 10AM OR 1PM

JULY

ANIMAL ATHLETES
Test your strength and agility on the obstacle course and learn about animals who have superior athletic abilities. *Shelter House*
JULY 6 SAT 3PM

BAT HIKE
Learn about why bats are important and take a 1-mile hike to watch them foraging for insects.
*Glacier Ridge Energy Center (at the windmill)*
JULY 10 WED 8PM
OFF-TRAIL WETLAND BIRD HIKE
Explore uncharted areas of the wetlands to find birds on a 2-mile off-trail hike!
Ages 18 and older Wetland
JULY 14 SUN 8AM

HIKE TO THE BEAVER DAM
Take a 2.5-mile off-trail hike to see the beaver dam. Ages 12 and older Wetland
JULY 17 WED 10AM

MOVIE IN THE PARK: COCO
Watch Pixar’s Coco (2017) on a big outdoor screen. Bring blanket or lawn chairs. Rated PG.
Glacier Ridge Energy Center (at the windmill)
JULY 20 SAT 9–11:45PM

WALK AND WOOF
Enjoy a 2.5-mile hike with your dog.
Ages 6 and older Glacier Ridge Dog Park
JULY 23 TUE 7PM

SUMMER STARGAZING
Look at planets and constellations using telescopes and binoculars.
Glacier Ridge Energy Center (at the windmill)
JULY 26 FRI 9PM

TALEBLAZER: THE ADVENTURE APP
Utilize the unique Taleblazer app to go on an adventure through the park. Please bring your smartphone. Ages 8-15
Glacier Ridge Energy Center (at the windmill)
JULY 28 SUN 3PM

AUGUST

FANTASTIC NIGHT CREATURES AND WHERE TO FIND THEM
Join us on a fun Harry Potter themed night hike as we look for nocturnal animals.
Glacier Ridge Energy Center (at the windmill)
AUG 1 THU 9PM

MOVIE IN THE PARK: HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN
Glacier Ridge Energy Center (at the windmill)
AUG 3 SAT 9–11:45PM

TRAM AND SCAVENGER HUNT
Hop on the tram for a 30 minute tram ride and go for a scavenger hunt before or after your ride. Ages 3-12 Shelter House
AUG 6-7 TUE-WED 9AM–12PM

TRAM AND CAMPFIRE
Enjoy a 45-minute tram ride and make a s’more before or after your ride.
Shelter House
AUG 11 SUN 5PM

EARLY MORNING METEOR VIEWING
Get great views of meteor showers before the sun rises. Park gates open at 3:15am.
Glacier Ridge Energy Center (at the windmill)
AUG 13 TUE 3:30AM
MORNING TRAM RIDE
Wake up with the animals and enjoy a peaceful ride through the forest and grassland. Enjoy coffee and a small breakfast before or after your ride. *Shelter House*
AUG 17 SAT 8:30AM

WALK AND WOOF
Enjoy a 2.5-mile hike with your dog. Ages 6 and older *Glacier Ridge Dog Park*
AUG 22 THU 7PM

EVENING DISCOVERY HIKE
Take a 1-mile hike to find animals active during the evening. *Shelter House*
AUG 27 TUE 7PM

FOR KIDS: SCAVENGER HUNT
Stop by the nature center to pick up a nature scavenger hunt. Complete scavenger hunt for a small prize. Ages 3-12 *Nature Center*
JUNE 8 SAT 2–4PM

TAE KWON DO IN THE PARK
Join the Black Belt Instructors from “Tiger Woo’s World Class Tae Kwon Do” for a 40-minute lesson on the theme Focus. No experience needed. *Nature Center*
JUNE 10 MON 10AM

FOSSILS OF OHIO: OPEN HOUSE
Join the Ohio Geological Survey and explore fossils from around Ohio. *Nature Center*
JUNE 11 TUE 11AM–2PM

PRESCHOOLERS: FROGGY FUN
Meet amphibians and learn about them through books, games and crafts. *Nature Center*
JUNE 12 WED 11AM OR 1PM
JUNE 13 THU 9:30AM OR 11AM

CREATURE FEATURE: REPTILES
Visit with live reptiles and learn how we take care of these animals. *Nature Center*
JUNE 14 FRI 1PM

FOR ADULTS: BIRD HIKE
Take a 1.5-mile bird hike to look for birds, with a special visit to a cavity nest box. Ages 18 and older *Big Meadows Picnic Area*
JUNE 15 SAT 9AM

FOR ADULTS: FITNESS HIKE
Get fit and take a 4-mile, moderately-paced hike with a naturalist on the Multi-Use Trail. Ages 18 and older *Nature Center*
JUNE 5 WED 10AM

FOR FAMILIES: GO CREEKING
Explore the Olentangy River for some of the animals that live there. *Big Meadows Picnic Area*
JUNE 4 TUE 11AM

JUNE
**Highbanks programs**

**FISHING WITH THE RANGERS**
Enjoy fishing in the Daycamp pond. Bait and poles provided.
*Dragonfly Day Camp*

**JUNE 16 SUN 2–4PM**

**TAE KWON DO IN THE PARK**
Join the Black Belt Instructors from “Tiger Woo’s World Class Tae Kwon Do” for a 40-minute lesson on the theme Cooperation. No experience needed.
*Nature Center*

**JUNE 17 MON 10AM**

**HOWL AT THE MOON**
Hike 3.5 miles with your dog. Bring a flashlight.
*Nature Center*

**JUNE 17 MON 8:30PM**

**FOR KIDS: SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS**
Explore science with some fun experiments. Plan to get messy.
*Ages 6-10 Nature Center*

**JUNE 19 WED 11AM OR 1PM**

**METRO PARKS SUMMER MOVIE SERIES: HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER’S STONE**
Watch the epic Harry Potter movie on the Big Screen. Movie Rated PG. Movie begins 30 minutes after dusk. Popcorn provided. Please bring seating, snacks and bug repellent. No alcohol. Ages 8 and older
*Big Meadows Picnic Area*

**JUNE 21 FRI 9PM**

**CREATURE FEATURE: REPTILES**
Visit with live reptiles and learn how we take care of these animals.
*Nature Center*

**JUNE 22 SAT 2PM**

**FOR FAMILIES: WILDLIFE HIKE**
Search for wildlife on a 1-mile hike along the Scenic River Trail.
*Big Meadows Picnic Area*

**JUNE 23 SUN 2PM**

**MUD DAY**
Get down and dirty as you make mud pies, dig for worms and play in the giant mud pit.
*Big Meadows Picnic Area*

**JUNE 26 WED 10AM–12PM**

**MAMMALS OF OHIO DISPLAY**
Learn how mammals survive through games, activities, videos and displays.
*Nature Center*

**JUNE 28 FRI 12PM**

**FAMILY FUN NIGHT**
Enjoy a campfire and explore nature at night through a variety of activities.
*Nature Center*

**JUNE 29 SAT 6–8PM**

**BUTTERFLY PURSUIT**
Take a 2.5-mile hike to find some of the most beautiful butterflies of the season and learn how to identify them.
*Nature Center*

**JUNE 29 SAT 11AM**

To learn more, visit [metroparks.net](http://metroparks.net)
FOR KIDS: SCAVENGER HUNT
Stop by the nature center to pick up a nature scavenger hunt. Complete scavenger hunt for a small prize. Ages 3-12
Nature Center
JUNE 30  SUN  2–4PM

FOR KIDS: SCAVENGER HUNT
Stop by the nature center and complete a nature scavenger hunt to win a small prize. Ages 3-12
Nature Center
JULY 7  SUN  2–4PM

TAE KWON DO IN THE PARK
Join the Black Belt Instructors from “Tiger Woo’s World Class Tae Kwon Do” for a 40-minute lesson on the theme of Self Control. No experience needed.
Nature Center
JULY 8  MON  10AM

CREATURE FEATURE: AMPHIBIANS
Visit with live amphibians and learn how we take care of these animals.
Nature Center
JULY 11  THU  1PM

10TV & METRO PARKS OUTDOOR ADVENTURE
Bring your family for a free celebration of summer, help your kids connect with nature and put smiles on their faces. Enjoy playing in the creek, climbing a rock wall, sack races, facepainting, archery, live animals and other outdoor activities. Channel 10 news anchors will be on hand throughout the day.
Big Meadows Picnic Area
JULY 13  SAT  10AM–4PM

HOWL AT THE MOON
Hike 3.5 miles with your dog. Bring a flashlight.
Nature Center
JULY 16  TUE  8:30PM

FOR KIDS: SCAVENGER HUNT
Stop by the nature center to pick up a nature scavenger hunt. Complete scavenger hunt for a small prize. Ages 3-12
Nature Center
JULY 7  SUN  2–4PM

TAE KWON DO IN THE PARK
Join the Black Belt Instructors from “Tiger Woo’s World Class Tae Kwon Do” for a 40-minute lesson on the theme of Self Control. No experience needed.
Nature Center
JULY 8  MON  10AM

CREATURE FEATURE: AMPHIBIANS
Visit with live amphibians and learn how we take care of these animals.
Nature Center
JULY 11  THU  1PM

10TV & METRO PARKS OUTDOOR ADVENTURE
Bring your family for a free celebration of summer, help your kids connect with nature and put smiles on their faces. Enjoy playing in the creek, climbing a rock wall, sack races, facepainting, archery, live animals and other outdoor activities. Channel 10 news anchors will be on hand throughout the day.
Big Meadows Picnic Area
JULY 13  SAT  10AM–4PM

HOWL AT THE MOON
Hike 3.5 miles with your dog. Bring a flashlight.
Nature Center
JULY 16  TUE  8:30PM

FOR KIDS: SCAVENGER HUNT
Stop by the nature center and complete a nature scavenger hunt to win a small prize. Ages 3-12
Nature Center
JULY 7  SUN  2–4PM

TAE KWON DO IN THE PARK
Join the Black Belt Instructors from “Tiger Woo’s World Class Tae Kwon Do” for a 40-minute lesson on the theme of Self Control. No experience needed.
Nature Center
JULY 8  MON  10AM

CREATURE FEATURE: AMPHIBIANS
Visit with live amphibians and learn how we take care of these animals.
Nature Center
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10TV & METRO PARKS OUTDOOR ADVENTURE
Bring your family for a free celebration of summer, help your kids connect with nature and put smiles on their faces. Enjoy playing in the creek, climbing a rock wall, sack races, facepainting, archery, live animals and other outdoor activities. Channel 10 news anchors will be on hand throughout the day.
Big Meadows Picnic Area
JULY 13  SAT  10AM–4PM

HOWL AT THE MOON
Hike 3.5 miles with your dog. Bring a flashlight.
Nature Center
JULY 16  TUE  8:30PM
FOR KIDS: NATURE CRAFTS
Drop by the nature center to make some crafts to take home. Ages 6-10
Nature Center
JULY 16 TUE 12–2PM

NATIONAL HOTDOG DAY CAMPFIRE
Bring your dinner to cook over the campfire to celebrate National Hotdog Day.
Nature Center
JULY 17 WED 6:30PM

FOR KIDS: BUGS
Come learn about insects that help pollinate through games, scavenger hunts and bug collection. Ages 6-12
Big Meadows Picnic Area
JULY 24 WED 11AM

FOR FAMILIES: SENSORY NIGHT HIKE
Use all your senses on a 1.5-mile night hike through forest and field.
Nature Center
JULY 27 SAT 8:30PM

FOR FAMILIES: RIVER EXPLORERS
Wade into the river for a closer look at its creatures. Big Meadows Picnic Area
JULY 18 THU 11AM OR 1PM
JULY 19 FRI 9:30 OR 11AM

BUTTERFLY PURSUIT
Take a 2.5-mile hike to find some of the most beautiful butterflies of the season and learn how to identify them.
Nature Center
JULY 20 SAT 11AM

FAMILY FUN NIGHT
Enjoy a campfire and explore nature at night through a variety of activities.
Nature Center
JULY 20 SAT 6–8PM

CREATURE FEATURE: AMPHIBIANS
Visit with live amphibians and learn how we take care of these animals.
Nature Center
JULY 21 SUN 2PM

FOR FAMILIES: RAVINE EXPLORATION
Get in the water and take 1-mile hike as we look for animals. Ages 5 and older
Nature Center
JULY 28 SUN 2PM

CREATURE FEATURE: REPTILES
Visit with live reptiles and learn how we take care of these animals. Nature Center
JULY 30 TUE 1PM

FOR FAMILIES: GO CREEKING
Explore the Olentangy River for some of the animals that live there.
Big Meadows Picnic Area
JULY 31 WED 10AM OR 1PM
AUGUST

FOR KIDS: EXPLORE NATURAL PLAY AREA
Explore off-trail to look for signs of wildlife. Ages 6-12 Big Meadows Picnic Area
AUG 2 FRI 10AM

SNAKE SEARCH
Search off-trail for snakes' special hiding spots. Ages 6 and older Nature Center
AUG 4 SUN 2PM

FOR ADULTS: FITNESS HIKE
Get fit and take a 2.5-mile, moderately paced hike with a naturalist on the Overlook Trail. Ages 18 and older Oak Coves Picnic Area
AUG 6 TUE 10AM

FOR KIDS: NATURE GAMES
Celebrate summer with fun outdoor games. Ages 6-12 Big Meadows Picnic Area
AUG 7 WED 10AM

FOR FAMILIES: GO CREEKING
Explore the Olentangy River for some of the animals that live there. Big Meadows Picnic Area
AUG 8 THU 10AM OR 1PM

NATIONAL S'MORES DAY CAMPFIRE
Come celebrate everyone's favorite campfire snack. Nature Center
AUG 10 SAT 7–9PM

FOR FAMILIES: HIKE TO THE GIANTS
Take a rugged 4-mile off-trail hike to the 300-year-old giant sycamores along the Olentangy River. Ages 10 and older Advance registration
AUG 11 SUN ☎ 30450903

TAE KWON DO IN THE PARK
Join the Black Belt Instructors from “Tiger Woo's World Class Tae Kwon Do” for a 40-minute lesson on the theme Responsibility. No experience needed. Nature Center
AUG 12 MON 10AM

PRE-SCHOOLERS: BUTTERFLIES
Learn about butterflies and caterpillars through games, crafts and hike. Nature Center
AUG 14 WED 11AM OR 1PM
AUG 15 THU 9:30 OR 11AM

HOWL AT THE MOON
Hike 3.5 miles with your dog. Bring a flashlight. Nature Center
AUG 15 THU 8:30PM

CREATURE FEATURE: FRIDAY FEEDING
Visit with the animals and learn how different animals find food. Nature Center
AUG 16 FRI 11AM

SUNSET HIKE
Take a 1-mile hike to look for animals going to bed, while others are waking up. Ages 6 and older Nature Center
AUG 16 FRI 8:30PM
EVENING FISHING & CAMPFIRE WITH RANGERS
Enjoy fishing in the pond, then roast s’mores over a campfire. Bait provided for fishing. Poles and roasting sticks available. Ages 5 and older Dragonfly Day Camp
AUG 17 SAT 6–8PM

FOR KIDS: MONARCHS!
Learn about the monarch butterfly and help us look for caterpillars in the meadows. Ages 6-12 Nature Center
AUG 18 SUN 2PM

STORYTIME: HUNGRY CATERPILLAR
Listen to stories to learn about caterpillars and butterflies. Ages 2-6 Nature Center
AUG 19 MON 10AM

FOR KIDS: TRAM RIDES
Learn about animals as we zoom around the park on the tram. Ages 2-10 Nature Center
AUG 22 THU 11AM OR 1PM

FOR FAMILIES: TRAM RIDE
Hop aboard the tram for a tour of the park. Big Meadows Picnic Area
AUG 24 SAT 1PM

BUTTERFLY PURSUIT
Take a 2.5-mile hike to find some of the most beautiful butterflies of the season and learn how to identify them. Nature Center
AUG 24 SAT 11AM

METRO FIVE-0: Level 1 TRAM RIDE
Learn about the historical cultures and wildlife of the park during a tram ride. Ages 50 and older Advance registration
AUG 27 TUE ☎️ 30442100

HOMESTEAD

JUNE

SUNSET S’MORES
Enjoy watching the sun set while relaxing by the campfire and making s’mores. You may also bring your own food to cook. Nature Center
JUNE 3 MON 8:30PM

INTRO TO BIRD WATCHING
Learn how to find and identify some of Ohio’s common birds. Ages 5-12 Pine Pavilion
JUNE 12 WED 10AM OR 1PM

FATHERS DAY FISHING
Bring your dads & granddads for some quality fishing time! Poles and bait available. Covered Bridge
JUNE 16 SUN 10AM–12PM
MEET THE ANIMALS
Stop by the nature center and get acquainted with our live education animals.
*Nature Center*

JUNE 23  SUN  1 OR 5PM

TYKE HIKE
Bring your infants and toddlers for some sensory activities and a short hike.
Ages 3 and younger
*Pine Pavilion*

JUNE 25  TUE  10AM

SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT SERIES: COSI ON WHEELS
Enjoy a performance by COSI on Wheels all about Energy. Sponsored by Giant Eagle.
*Lakeside Pavilion*

JUNE 27  THU  7PM

SUMMER SCAVENGER HUNT
Pick up a scavenger hunt and search for signs of animals that live in the park. Find everything on your list and earn a prize!
Ages 3-12 *Nature Center*

JUNE 29  SAT  12–2PM

**JULY**

MEET THE ANIMALS
Stop by the nature center and get acquainted with our live education animals.
*Nature Center*

JULY 2  TUE  10AM OR 1PM

RED WHITE & BLUE SCAVENGER HUNT
Celebrate the 4th of July by picking up a scavenger hunt to search for items and earn a prize.
*Nature Center*

JULY 4  THU  12–2PM

NATURE TRIVIA NIGHT
Bring some friends to answer nature-related trivia. The winning team earns a prize! Check out Homestead Facebook page for more details.
*Lakeside Pavilion*

JULY 9  TUE  7PM

SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT SERIES: THE SHAZZBOTS
Enjoy a performance by the popular kids rock band, The Shazzbots. Please bring your own outdoor seating. Sponsored by Giant Eagle. *Amphitheater*

JULY 11  THU  7PM

MARVELOUS METAMORPHS
Learn about the amazing animals who transform as part of their life journey.
Ages 5-12 *Pine Pavilion*

JULY 15  MON  10AM OR 1PM

WILD WATER GAMES
Learn about aquatic animals through fun water games. Please bring a towel and a change of clothes. Ages 2-12
*Lakeside Pavilion*

JULY 18  THU  10AM OR 1PM
SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT SERIES: I'M NO DUMMY
Enjoy a magician ventriloquist show by performer David Crone. Please bring outdoor seating and snacks. Sponsored by Giant Eagle. Amphitheater
JULY 25 THU 7PM

HOG-STEAD WIZARD ACADEMY
Celebrate Harry Potter’s birthday with us as we go on an adventurous journey and discover the magic in nature. Ages 7-15
Advance registration
JULY 31 WED 31622201 (2 sessions)

SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT SERIES: COLUMBUS ZOO
Enjoy a 1-hour performance featuring animals from the Columbus Zoo. Please bring outdoor seating and snacks. Sponsored by Giant Eagle. Amphitheater
AUG 8 THU 7PM

TALEBLAZER: THE ADVENTURE APP
Utilize the unique Taleblazer app to go on an adventure through the park. Please bring your smartphone. Ages 8-15
Nature Center
AUG 12 MON 10AM OR 1PM

SING ALONG WITH JOANIE
Bring your youngsters to enjoy an interactive performance by Joanie Calem. Ages 5 and younger
Nature Center
AUG 18 SUN 10AM

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY 101
Take a walk around the park and learn how to get that perfect shot! Please bring your own camera or smartphone to take pictures. Ages 8-12
Nature Center
AUG 25 SUN 3PM

CAMPFIRE & S'MORES
Enjoy making s'mores around the campfire or bring your own food to cook.
Nature Center
AUG 30 FRI 7PM

INNISWOOD
SUNNY SUNDAYS
EVERY SUNDAY, 1:30-3:30PM
Members of the Herb Society of America, Central Ohio Unit will be in the garden throughout summer to answer questions.
Herb Garden

JUNE
JUNIOR GARDEN VOLUNTEERS
Help with summer garden cleanup. Ages 11-17
Advance registration
JUNE 1 SAT 30821801

EVENING GARDEN WALK
Take a guided stroll through the gardens.
Gardens Entrance
JUNE 2 SUN 7PM
SUMMER CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS: MYSTERIOUS MINKS
Learn about this elusive hunter and how they survive in the garden and around the water. Ages 8 and younger
Education Pavilion
JUNE 4 TUE 10AM OR 1PM
JUNE 5 WED 10AM OR 1PM

WELLNESS IN THE GARDENS: LINE DANCING
Join line dancing instructor, Roger Neff, for an introductory class. Education Pavilion
JUNE 8 SAT 10AM

GARDEN RENOVATION
The Inniswood Garden Society invites you to attend their annual meeting with author Bobbie Schwartz. She will teach how to evaluate plants and features in yards, determine what to keep and what to remove, choose the right plants for the space, design plans for successful remodels, and how to know when to hire help. Bobbie will sign copies of her book “Garden Renovation.” Ages 17 and older Innis House
JUNE 9 SUN 2–4PM

METRO FIVE-0: Level 2 INTRODUCTORY TAI CHI
Learn the first few moves of this ancient Chinese moving meditation from Taoist Tai Chi instructor, Midge Krause, in an introductory lesson. All fitness levels welcome. Ages 50 and older Education Pavilion
JUNE 10 MON 1PM

SUMMER CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS: DUCKS IN THE WETLAND
Get a little wet as we discover how ducks survive in their homes near the water. Ages 8 and younger Education Pavilion
JUNE 11 TUE 10AM OR 1PM
JUNE 12 WED 10AM OR 1PM

MUSIC IN THE GARDENS: HONEY AND BLUE
Enjoy a mix of pop, blues and soul with singer/songwriters Adam Darling and Stephanie Amber. Honey and Blue combines Darling’s sultry bluesy sounds with Amber’s syrupy and raw take on lyrics and harmony. Education Pavilion
JUNE 16 SUN 3–5PM

EVENING GARDEN WALK
Take a guided stroll through the gardens. Gardens Entrance
JUNE 16 SUN 7PM

SUMMER CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS: TREE SQUIRRELS
Climb into the secret world of squirrels and discover how they are prepared for life in the trees. Ages 8 and younger Education Pavilion
JUNE 18 TUE 10AM OR 1PM
JUNE 19 WED 10AM OR 1PM

HUMMINGBIRDS IN THE GARDEN
Make your own hummingbird feeder and learn how to make your garden an inviting space for hummingbirds. Greenhouse Multipurpose Center
JUNE 22 SAT 2PM
MEET THE ARTISTS
Join the Community Quilters and view their fiber artwork at a reception. Innis House
JUNE 23  SUN  2–4PM

HERB GARDEN TOURS
Join members of the Herb Society of America, Central Ohio Unit, in the Herb Garden for historical and botanical tours plus demonstrations focused on relevant herb garden tasks. Herb Garden
JUNE 23  SUN  1:30–3:30PM

INTRODUCTORY TAI CHI
Learn the first few moves of this ancient Chinese moving meditation from Taoist Tai Chi instructor, Midge Krause, in an introductory lesson. All fitness levels welcome. Education Pavilion
JUNE 24  MON  1PM

SUMMER CHILDREN’S PROGRAM:
OWLS OF THE FOREST
From feathers to feet, discover the features of barred owls that help them survive in the forest. Ages 8 and younger Education Pavilion
JUNE 25  TUE  10AM OR 1PM
JUNE 26  WED  10AM OR 1PM

WEED WITH YOUR FORK
Learn how to identify, harvest and prepare edible weeds. Ages 17 and older Innis House
JUNE 29  SAT  2PM

EVENING GARDEN WALK
Take a guided stroll through the gardens. Gardens Entrance
JUNE 30  SUN  7PM

JULY

JUNIOR GARDEN VOLUNTEERS
Help with summer garden cleanup. Ages 11-17 Advance registration
JULY 6  SAT  © 30821801

METRO FIVE-0: Level 2
INTRODUCTORY TAI CHI
Learn the first few moves of this ancient Chinese moving meditation from Taoist Tai Chi instructor, Midge Krause, in an introductory lesson. All fitness levels welcome. Ages 50 and older Greenhouse Multipurpose Center
JULY 8  MON  1PM

SUMMER CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS:
MYSTERIOUS MINKS
Learn about this elusive hunter and how they survive in the garden and around the water. Ages 8 and younger Education Pavilion
JULY 9  TUE  10AM OR 1PM
JULY 10  WED  10AM OR 1PM

WELLNESS IN THE GARDENS: YOGA
Be in balance with nature as Joy Lawrence, registered yoga teacher & licensed massage therapist of Pure Joy Massage and Yoga, presents a gentle hatha yoga class. Please wear comfortable clothes and bring a yoga mat. Education Pavilion
JULY 13  SAT  10AM

EVENING GARDEN WALK
Take a guided stroll through the gardens. Gardens Entrance
JULY 14  SUN  7PM
FAIRY GARDEN WORKSHOP
Get ideas for setting up fairy gardens and get tips on which plants to use. Make decorations to put in a fairy garden.
Greenhouse Multipurpose Center
JULY 14  SUN  2–4PM

SUMMER CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS: DUCKS IN THE WETLAND
Get a little wet as we discover how ducks survive in their homes near the water.
Ages 8 and younger Education Pavilion
JULY 16  TUE  10AM OR 1PM
JULY 17  WED  10AM OR 1PM

INNIS WOOF
Join an educator with your dog for a guided walk along Inniswood's Chipmunk Chatter Trail.
Gardens Entrance
JULY 20  SAT  10AM

MUSIC IN THE GARDENS: 23 SOUTHBOUND
Join us for an afternoon of popular music with Columbus’ premier country band, 23 Southbound.
Education Pavilion
JULY 21  SUN  3–5PM

INTRODUCTORY TAI CHI
Learn the first few moves of this ancient Chinese moving meditation from Taoist Tai Chi instructor, Midge Krause, in an introductory lesson. All fitness levels welcome.
Education Pavilion
JULY 22  MON  1PM

SUMMER CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS: TREE SQUIRRELS
Climb into the secret world of squirrels and discover how they are prepared for life in the trees. Ages 8 and younger
Education Pavilion
JULY 23  TUE  10AM OR 1PM
JULY 24  WED  10AM OR 1PM

WILDFLOWER WALK
Join an educator in the gardens as we search for summer wildflowers.
Gardens Entrance
JULY 27  SAT  2PM

EVENING GARDEN WALK
Take a guided stroll through the gardens.
Gardens Entrance
JULY 28  SUN  7PM

SUMMER CHILDREN’S PROGRAM: OWLS OF THE FOREST
From feathers to feet, discover the features of barred owls that help them survive in the forest. Ages 8 and younger
Education Pavilion
JULY 30  TUE  10AM OR 1PM
JULY 31  WED  10AM OR 1PM

AUGUST

JUNIOR GARDEN VOLUNTEERS
Help with summer garden cleanup. Ages 11-17 Advance registration
AUG 3  SAT  © 30821801
METRO FIVE-0: Level 2
INTRODUCTORY TAI CHI
Learn the first few moves of this ancient Chinese moving meditation from Taoist Tai Chi instructor, Midge Krause, in an introductory lesson. All fitness levels welcome.
Ages 50 and older Education Pavilion
AUG 5 MON 1PM

WELLNESS IN THE GARDENS: TAI CHI
The Taoist Tai Chi Society of the USA invites you to a “try it session” and demonstration of Taoist Tai Chi internal arts of health. This ancient Chinese moving meditation incorporates slow natural movements that promote balance, flexibility, strength and relaxation.
Education Pavilion
AUG 10 SAT 10AM

MEET THE ARTIST
View the oil paintings of Joyce Fisher at a reception.
Innis House
AUG 11 SUN 2–4PM

EVENING GARDEN WALK
Take a guided stroll through the gardens.
Gardens Entrance
AUG 11 SUN 7PM

METRO FIVE-0: Level 2
SUMMER TREE ID
Take a walk with an educator as we identify some common trees at Inniswood.
Ages 50 and older Gardens Entrance
AUG 17 SAT 2PM

MUSIC IN THE GARDENS:
HIGH STREET STOMPERS
This New Orleans-style Dixieland jazz band is sure to keep your toes tapping and your fingers snapping.
Education Pavilion
AUG 18 SUN 3–5PM

INTRODUCTORY TAI CHI
Learn the first few moves of this ancient Chinese moving meditation from Taoist Tai Chi instructor, Midge Krause, in an introductory lesson. All fitness levels welcome.
Education Pavilion
AUG 19 MON 1PM

INNISWOOD BOOK CLUB
Join us for a discussion of this quarter’s book, “How Carrots Won the Trojan War” by Rebecca Rupp. Ages 17 and older
Innis House
AUG 24 SAT 2PM

EVENING GARDEN WALK
Take a guided stroll through the gardens.
Gardens Entrance
AUG 25 SUN 7PM

STROLLER STROLL
Join us for a slow stroll through the gardens as we explore nature.
Ages 1-4 Gardens Entrance
AUG 28 WED 10AM
PRAIRIE OAKS

JUNE

LATE NIGHT FISHING
Fish Darby Bend Lakes and Beaver Lake.
*Darby Bend Lakes*

JUNE 29 SAT 9–11:45PM

JULY

CANOE THE LAKES
Stop by anytime and take a canoe out for a ride around Darby Bend Lakes. Limited canoes and equipment available. Children must fit in a life jacket to ride. Park staff may arrange people in boats based on age, size and experience for safety purposes.
*Darby Bend Lakes*

JULY 4 THU 1–4PM

LATE NIGHT FISHING
Fish Darby Bend Lakes and Beaver Lake.
*Darby Bend Lakes*

JULY 27 SAT 9–11:45PM

AUGUST

WAG FEST
Grab your best furry friend and enjoy treats and activities for the entire family, including Fido. *Darby Bend Lakes*

AUG 17 SAT 10AM–5PM

LATE NIGHT FISHING
Fish Darby Bend Lakes and Beaver Lake.
*Darby Bend Lakes*

AUG 31 SAT 9–11:45PM

ROCKY FORK

JUNE

RUN WITH THE SUN
Join the naturalist for an early morning 1.5-mile jog on paved and unimproved trails. *Rocky Fork Bulletin Board*

JUNE 7 FRI 6:30AM

BLUEBIRDS
Join us to monitor the bluebird trail as we check boxes and eggs for nestlings. *Rocky Fork Bulletin Board*

JUNE 9 SUN 2PM

JULY

RUN WITH THE SUN
Join the naturalist for an early morning 1.5-mile jog on paved and unimproved trails. *Rocky Fork Bulletin Board*

JULY 19 FRI 6:30AM
AUGUST

RUN WITH THE SUN
Join the naturalist for an early morning 1.5-mile jog on paved and unimproved trails. Rocky Fork Bulletin Board
AUG 9 FRI 6:30AM

METRO FIVE-0: Level 2 WILDFLOWER WANDER
Take a 1.5-mile walk along the field trail to look for late summer blooms. Ages 50 and older Millstone Shelter
AUG 22 THU 9AM

JUNE

LATE NIGHTS AT THE CLIMBING WALL
See page 54, first column Climbing Wall
JUNE 14 FRI 8PM-12AM

LEARN THE ROPES
Instructors will guide participants through the basics of climbing the 35-foot wall. Equipment provided. Advance registration
JUNE 26 WED 31751403

LATE NIGHTS AT THE CLIMBING WALL
See page 54, first column Climbing Wall
JUNE 28 FRI 8PM-12AM

JULY

LATE NIGHTS AT THE CLIMBING WALL
See page 54, first column Climbing Wall
JULY 12 FRI 8PM-12AM
JULY 26 FRI 8PM-12AM

LEARN THE ROPES
Instructors will guide participants through the basics of climbing the 35-foot wall. Equipment provided. Advance registration
JULY 31 WED 31751403

AUGUST

LATE NIGHTS AT THE CLIMBING WALL
See page 54, first column Climbing Wall
AUG 9 FRI 8PM-12AM
AUG 23 FRI 8PM-12AM
LEARN THE ROPES
Instructors will guide participants through the basics of climbing the 35-foot wall. Equipment provided. *Advance registration*

AUG 28 WED  ☎ 31751403

SCIOTO GROVE

JUNE

FAIRY GARDEN BUILDING
Build a fairy garden using things found in nature. Bring your own container, no bigger than 24”x8.” Topsoil and supplies provided. *Hickory Lot B*

JUNE 2 SUN 2PM

JULY

METRO FIVE-0: Level 1 ARCHERY ADVENTURE
Learn how to use a compound bow and take aim at a traditional target. You can also practice your skills along a 3D course with full-size animal models. All equipment provided. Ages 50 and older *Archery Range*

JULY 17 WED 10AM–12PM

AUGUST

FULL MOON CANOE FLOAT
Enjoy a night float down the Scioto River. Canoes, equipment and return transportation provided. If you have your own canoe, no need to register to join us. Ages 7 and older *Advance registration*

AUG 30 FRI ☎ 32031400

SHARON WOODS

JUNE

FAMILY TRAM RIDES
Catch the tram at any of the “tram stop” signs and enjoy a tour of the park.

JUNE 1-2 SAT-SUN 3–6PM

LUNCHE TIME CHAT: LANDSCAPING FOR WILDLIFE
Join certified arborist Brian Goodall from Bartlett Tree Experts to learn about making your yard wildlife-friendly. *Schrock Lake Picnic Shelter*

JUNE 11 TUE 12PM

FRIDAY NIGHT FLOAT
Stop by anytime and take a canoe out for a ride on the lake. Canoes and equipment provided. Kids must fit into a life jacket to ride. *Schrock Lake West Bulletin Board*

JUNE 14 FRI 6–9PM

CANOE THE LAKE
Stop by anytime and take a canoe out for a ride on the lake. Canoes and equipment provided. Kids must fit into a life jacket to ride. *Schrock Lake West Bulletin Board*

JUNE 15 SAT 9AM–12PM OR 2–5PM

FATHER’S DAY SPECIAL: CANOE THE LAKE
Stop by anytime and take a canoe out for a ride on the lake. Canoes and equipment provided. Kids must fit into a life jacket to ride. *Schrock Lake West Bulletin Board*

JUNE 16 SUN 9AM–12PM OR 2–5PM

To learn more, visit metroparks.net
FAST-PACED ADULT FULL MOON HIKE
Take a fast-paced 2.8-mile hike along gravel, paved and natural surface trails.
Ages 18 and older
Apple Ridge Bulletin Board
JUNE 16  SUN  9:15PM

GO WILD KIDS CLUB: CAMPFIRE & CRAFTS
Enjoy a tasty campfire snack while making a few fun crafts. Bring a dark colored T-shirt.
Ages 5-12
Apple Ridge Picnic Shelter
JUNE 18  TUE  7PM

HAPPY TAILS-N-TRAITS
Bring your canine companion for a 2-mile hike followed by a doggie treat.
Apple Ridge Bulletin Board
JUNE 22  SAT  9AM

PRESCHOOLERS: TURTLE TIME
Explore the world of these shelled reptiles through a story, craft and other activities.
Schrock Lake Picnic Shelter
JUNE 25  TUE  9:30AM, 11AM OR 1PM
JUNE 26  WED  9:30AM, 11AM OR 1PM

FAMILY CAMPOUT
Bring your camping gear and enjoy a relaxing evening in the park. We’ll have a campfire, night hikes and star gazing.
Only one member of your party needs to register. For questions, please contact Sharon Woods naturalists at 614.865.4507.
Advance registration
JUNE 28  FRI TO SAT  © 30551403

JULY

FRIDAY NIGHT FLOAT
Stop by anytime and take a canoe out for a ride on the lake. Canoes and equipment provided. Kids must fit into a life jacket to ride. Schrock Lake West Bulletin Board
JULY 5  FRI  6–9PM

CANOE THE LAKE
Stop by anytime and take a canoe out for a ride on the lake. Canoes and equipment provided. Kids must fit into a life jacket to ride. Schrock Lake West Bulletin Board
JULY 6  SAT  9AM–12PM OR 2–5PM
JULY 7  SUN  9AM–12PM OR 2–5PM

GO WILD KIDS CLUB: FISHING
Drop a line in Schrock Lake and try to catch a big fish. Bait and poles provided.
Ages 5-12
Schrock Lake West Bulletin Board
JULY 12  FRI  7PM

FAST-PACED ADULT FULL MOON HIKE
Take a fast-paced 2.8-mile hike along gravel, paved and natural surface trails.
Ages 18 and older
Apple Ridge Bulletin Board
JULY 15  MON  8:45PM

FAMILY TRAM RIDES
Catch the tram at any of the “tram stop” signs and enjoy a tour of the park.
JULY 20  SAT  3–6PM
HAPPY TAILS-N-TRAILS
Bring your canine companion for a 2-mile hike followed by a doggie treat.
*Apple Ridge Bulletin Board*

JULY 21  SUN  8PM

LUNCHTIME CHAT: TIME MACHINE TRAM RIDE
Travel back in time to uncover the history of the park. *Schrock Lake Picnic Shelter*

JULY 24  WED  12PM

FAMILY TRAM RIDES
Catch the tram at any of the “tram stop” signs and enjoy a tour of the park.

JULY 28  SUN  3–6PM

PRESCHOOLERS: SUMMER FUN TRAM RIDE
Join us for a tram ride and wear your swimsuit for some water fun before and after.
*Schrock Lake Picnic Shelter*

JULY 30 TUE  9:30AM, 11AM OR 1PM
JULY 31 WED  9:30AM, 11AM OR 1PM

AUGUST

TALKING WITH THE TREES
Join certified arborist Brian Goodall from Bartlett Tree Experts on a 1.5-mile stroll to learn the importance of trees in our environment. *Apple Ridge Picnic Shelter*

AUG 3 SAT  10AM

FAMILY TRAM RIDES
Catch the tram at any of the “tram stop” signs and enjoy a tour of the park.

AUG 4 SUN  3–6PM

LUNCHTIME CHAT: BATS INCREDIBLE
Learn about these amazing flying mammals and how you can help them.
*Schrock Lake Picnic Shelter*

AUG 8 THU  12PM

MOVIE IN THE PARK: HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON - HIDDEN WORLD
*Apple Ridge Bulletin Board*

AUG 9 FRI  8–11PM

GO WILD KIDS CLUB: CREEK EXPLORERS
Plan to get wet as we explore Spring Creek. Ages 5-12 *Natural Play Area*

AUG 10 SAT  10AM

FAST-PACED ADULT FULL MOON HIKE
Take a fast-paced 2.8-mile hike along gravel, paved and natural surface trails. Ages 18 and older
*Apple Ridge Bulletin Board*

AUG 14 WED  8:15PM

MUD & MADNESS
Negotiate several muddy obstacles on a 1.5-mile, fun family adventure. Obstacles are a little challenging and a little muddy… a whole lot more FUN than RUN. Perfect for mud-loving children, adults and families. Sorry, no strollers or pets. Bring towels; we’ll help hose you off afterward.
*Apple Ridge Bulletin Board*

AUG 17 SAT  10AM–12PM
HAPPY TAILS-N-TRAILS
Bring your canine companion for a 2-mile hike followed by a doggie treat. 
*Apple Ridge Bulletin Board*
AUG 18 SUN 10AM

FRIDAY NIGHT FLOAT
Stop by anytime and take a canoe out for a ride on the lake. Canoes and equipment provided. Kids must fit into a life jacket to ride. 
*Schrock Lake West Bulletin Board*
AUG 23 FRI 6–8PM

CANOE THE LAKE
Stop by anytime and take a canoe out for a ride on the lake. Canoes and equipment provided. Kids must fit into a life jacket to ride. 
*Schrock Lake West Bulletin Board*
AUG 24 SAT 9AM–12PM OR 2–5PM
AUG 25 SUN 9AM–12PM OR 2–5PM

PRESCHOOLERS: CREEK ADVENTURE
Enjoy a wet-n-wild time as you explore Spring Creek. 
*Spring Hollow*
AUG 28 WED 9:30AM, 11AM OR 1PM
AUG 29 THU 9:30AM, 11AM OR 1PM

WHAT IS IT?
Everyday objects familiar to people in the 1880s are a mystery to modern folks. Guess how ours work and what they do. 
*Farmhouse*
JUNE 4-9 TUE-SUN 11AM–3PM

MORNING ChORES
Join the farmer in feeding animals and other barnyard chores. 
*Advance registration*
JUNE 8 SAT ☎ 31251017

CHEERS AND ChORES
Discover what farm kids did for work and play in the 1880s. 
*Advance registration*
JUNE 11 TUE ☎ 31221022

TEENS ON THE FARM: LIFE ON AN 1880S FARM
Meet and care for farm animals, try your hand at making a snack on the woodstove and participate in some entertainment available in the 1880s. Age 12-17 
*Advance registration*
JUNE 14 FRI ☎ 31221023

DRAFT HORSE DRIVER’S ED
Learn about horse care as you groom, harness and ground drive the horses. Ages 12-17 
*Advance registration*
JUNE 18 TUE ☎ 31221018

KID’S WORK DAY
Pump water, do laundry and help with other chores that children did on an 1880s farm. 
*Farmhouse*
JUNE 21-22 FRI-SAT 10:30AM–12PM

SLATE RUN FARM

JUNE

MORNING CHORES
Join the farmer in feeding animals and other barnyard chores. 
*Advance registration*
JUNE 1 SAT ☎ 31251017
**Slate Run Farm programs**

**CHEERS AND CHORES**
Discover what farm kids did for work and play in the 1880s. *Advance registration*

JUNE 26 WED  Ⓥ 31221022

**FAMILY STORYTIME: THE LITTLE RED HEN**
Enjoy a classic story and activities that show how grain becomes bread. *Farmhouse*

JUNE 28-29 FRI-SAT  11AM

**BUILT TO BAKE**
Learn how a wood burning stove works and browse through our collection of 19th-century cookbooks, while we prepare baked goods. *Farmhouse*

JUNE 29 SAT  2–4PM

**JULY**

**A HUNTING WE WILL GO**
Pick up a scavenger hunt list at the farmhouse and enjoy searching around the farm. *Farmhouse*

JULY 2-7 TUE-SUN  11AM–3PM

**TEENS ON THE FARM: LIFE ON AN 1880S FARM**
Meet and care for farm animals, try your hand at making a snack on the woodstove and participate in some entertainment available in the 1880s. *Advance registration*

JULY 3 WED  Ⓥ 31221023

**MORNING CHORES**
Join the farmer in feeding animals and other barnyard chores. *Advance registration*

JULY 6 SAT  Ⓥ 31251017

**HORSE-POWERED GRAIN THRESHING**
See how horses power machinery that separates grain from straw. Weather and crop permitting. *Farmhouse*

JULY 13-14 SAT-SUN  1–3PM

**DRAFT HORSE DRIVER’S ED**
Learn about horse care as you groom, harness and ground drive the horses. Ages 12-17 *Advance registration*

JULY 17 WED  Ⓥ 31221018

**MORNING CHORES**
See July 6 *Advance registration*

JULY 20 SAT  Ⓥ 31251017

**CANNING, PICKLING AND PRESERVING**
The farm ladies will have a display about how to preserve the garden produce using traditional 19th-century methods. *Farmhouse*

JULY 20 SAT  2–4PM

**A DAY TO PLAY**
Bring a friend and join in some traditional games and activities. *Farmhouse*

JULY 26 FRI  10:30AM–12PM

**RIDDEL ME THESE, PLEASE**
Pick up a list of riddles at the farmhouse that will have you thinking your way around the farm. *Farmhouse*

JULY 30-31 TUE  11AM–3PM

**METRO FIVE-0: Level 3 WALK OF THE MONTH**
Take a 1.4-mile walk on the Sugar Maple trail to discover sights and sounds of the season. Ages 50 and older *Entrance Shelter*

JULY 31 WED  11AM–12:30PM

To learn more, visit metroparks.net
AUGUST

RIDDLE ME THESE, PLEASE
Pick up a list of riddles at the farmhouse that will have you thinking your way around the farm. Farmhouse
AUG 1-4 THU-SUN 11AM–3PM

MORNING CHORES
See June 26 Advance registration
AUG 3 SAT 31251017

ALPHABET WALK
Explore the farm while learning 26 facts about tools, animals and life in the 1880s. Farmhouse
AUG 9-11 FRI-SUN 11AM–3PM

PASTIMES, PUZZLES AND PLAY
Try games, riddles and activities that Victorian families did for fun and relaxation. Farmhouse
AUG 16-18 FRI-SUN 1–3PM

MORNING CHORES
See June 26 Advance registration
AUG 24 SAT 31251017

BROOMCORN HARVEST
Help harvest and clean broom corn (weather and crop permitting) and watch broom making. Farmhouse
AUG 25 SUN 2–4PM

PRESCHOOLERS AT THE FARM: NURSERY RHYMES
Learn about farm life and animals through traditional rhymes. Farmhouse
AUG 29 THU 10:30AM

THREE CREEKS

JUNE

IN THE CREEK
Take a half-mile walk to the creek and search for critters using nets, buckets and other tools. Confluence Area
JUNE 1 SAT 1:30PM

PRESCHOOLERS: BATS
Learn about bats through games, activities and stories. Confluence Area
JUNE 6 THU 10AM

BATS BY THE POND
Discover fun facts about bats and take a short stroll to the pond to watch them hunting. Confluence Area
JUNE 8 SAT 8:30PM

BARKING AND BREAKFAST
Enjoy breakfast snacks for you and your dog then take a 2.5-mile walk. Confluence Area
JUNE 9 SUN 9AM

SWAMP THINGS
Take a half-mile walk to a wetland then wade in to look for frogs, bugs and more. Confluence Area
JUNE 9 SUN 2PM

HOMESCHOOLERS: FISHING
Learn the basics of fishing. Poles and bait available. Ages 6-15 Heron Pond
JUNE 11 TUE 10AM OR 1PM

To learn more, visit metroparks.net
THE BIG SPLASH
Enjoy canoeing, a water slide, discovering pond life, a squirt gun zone and other water-related activities as you get wet and wild. Free snacks will be served from 11-12:30. Children must fit into a life jacket to ride in a canoe. Confluence Area
JUNE 15 SAT 10AM–1PM

CALLING ALL KIDS: SCAVENGER HUNT
Look for natural and unnatural items as we explore the natural play area. Ages 3-12 Confluence Area
JUNE 25 TUE 10AM

STORIES AROUND THE FIRE
Toast marshmallows over the fire then listen to stories from around the world. Confluence Area
JUNE 29 SAT 7PM

MAKE A BIRDFEEDER
Bring a plastic water bottle and re-purpose it as a bird feeder. Confluence Area
JUNE 30 SUN 2PM

JULY

BATS AND LIGHTNING BUGS
Observe hunting bats and learn how to call-in lightning bugs. Bring a small flashlight. Confluence Area
JULY 6 SAT 8:30PM

BARKING AND BREAKFAST
Enjoy breakfast snacks for you and your dog then take a 2.5-mile walk. Confluence Area
JULY 7 SUN 9AM

PRESCHOOLERS: ALL ABOUT POLLINATORS
Learn about bees, butterflies and hummingbirds with games and activities. Confluence Area
JULY 9 TUE 10AM

FISHING AROUND THE POND
Kids can cast a line and try to catch a fish. Poles and bait available. Ages 6-15 Heron Pond
JULY 16 TUE 7PM

PRESCHOOLERS: ALL ABOUT POLLINATORS
Learn about bees, butterflies and hummingbirds with games and activities. Confluence Area
JULY 18 THU 10AM

CREEKING AND CAMPFIRE
Take a half-mile walk to the creek to look for critters then toast hot dogs and marshmallows over a campfire. Confluence Area
JULY 20 SAT 5:30PM

CREEKING AND CAMPFIRE
Take a half-mile walk to the creek to look for critters then toast hot dogs and marshmallows over a campfire. Confluence Area
JULY 27 SAT 1PM OR 5:30PM

GREEN LEAVES TREE ID
Learn to identify trees by their leaves on an easy 1-mile walk. Confluence Area
JULY 28 SUN 2PM
CALLING ALL KIDS: NATURE GAMES
Have fun playing games with a nature theme then enjoy a lunchtime snack and lemonade. _Confluence Area_

JULY 30 TUE  10AM

AUGUST

CALLING ALL KIDS: MUD DAY
Celebrate the joy of mud by playing in our giant mud pit. _Confluence Area_

AUG 6 TUE  10AM–12PM

METRO FIVE-0: Level 3 NATURE RAMBLE
Enjoy a classic 2-mile naturalist’s ramble through woods and along creeks. Ages 50 and older _Confluence Area_

AUG 11 SUN  2PM

CALLING ALL KIDS: CRAFTSTRAVAGANZA
Kids can visit stations to make different nature-themed crafts. _Confluence Area_

AUG 13 TUE  10AM

HOMESCHOOLERS: EXPLORING INSECTS
Catch, identify and release insects while discovering their vital role in the world. Ages 6-17 _Confluence Area_

AUG 15 THU  10AM

FAMILY FUN WALK
Use your senses to explore nature on a fun 1-mile walk. _Confluence Area_

AUG 17 SAT  7PM

PRESCHOOLERS: CREEPY CRAWLIES
Catch and learn about insects, spiders and other tiny creatures. _Confluence Area_

AUG 20 TUE  10AM

HOMESCHOOLERS: EXPLORING INSECTS
Catch, identify and release insects while discovering their vital role in the world. Ages 6-17 _Confluence Area_

AUG 20 TUE  1PM

BACKYARD CHICKENS
Meet some real chickens as you learn how to keep hens in your backyard. _Heritage Nature Center_

AUG 24 SAT  2PM

WALNUT WOODS

JUNE

YAPPY HOUR
Food, dogs and beer - enjoy a great night with your best furry friends. A Friends of Metro Parks event. _Buckeye Area Dog Park_

JUNE 6 THU  6-8PM

AUGUST

BUGSTRAVAGANZA
Discover the wide world of insects and their relatives with activities and displays for all ages. Catch and release bugs, take a tram ride, explore the creek, make crafts, see insects up close and more. _Buckeye Area_

AUG 3 SAT  10AM–2PM