

The Voice of the Turtle



Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Monthly Newsletter

October, 2019

FOMPBC Officers

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Vice-President,

Nick Lengyel

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Robin James

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Craig Wiseman

Newsletter Editor:

Bill Walker

September Board Meeting Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Wednesday, October 9, 2019

River Center MetroPark

120 Carmody Blvd., Middletown, OH 45044

7:00-9:00 PM



Letter from the President

As I mentioned last month, while waiting to see what damage Hurricane Dorian would do to the US coast, we are presently vacationing at Nag's Head, NC. Luckily, damage to the Outer Banks was limited to flooding on Ocracoke Island and sand drifting across Hwy 12 on Hatteras Island. Our timeshare still has stacks of sandbags standing ready by the front door of each unit. I guess that they're ready for the next storm surge or attack by a pride of house cats. Please pardon me for dropping sand into your newsletter, but it's so hard to get it off one's feet when coming in from the beach.

I was sorry to receive the resignation of Abby Ison from the Board of Directors of Friends of MetroParks. Abby was one of the original board members of FoMPBC, and has been active in many of our activities. We wish Abby and Bill all the best, and hope to see them frequently in the parks.

On a related note, we welcome new board members. We now have three vacancies on the board, and would encourage our membership to volunteer. (Please note that, unlike our past president, I said "volunteer", not "voluntold".) Please submit nominations to bug_jock@yahoo.com.

Thanks to Friends of Chrisholm for their \$2500 contribution to the Farm Animal Fund. FoMPBC is working with MPX to become an approved vendor to facilitate animal acquisition for the farm.

Members of FoMPBC are invited to join us at MillerCoors Brewery, in Trenton, OH, on Saturday, October 12 for a tour of their wetlands, followed by a tasting opportunity. Meet in the parking lot at the brewery at 4:30pm for car-pooling to the wetlands. Attendees should be of legal drinking age and should come prepared for bird watching. Please RSVP to bug_jock@yahoo.com before Wednesday, 10/9, letting us know how many from your family will join us. Maria Cruset, Environment Officer from MillerCoors will share with us steps that the plant has taken to prevent pollution and reduce their environmental footprint.

There are lots of activities scheduled in the parks for October. Coming up are many more exciting programs for kids of all ages.

See you in the parks!

Bill Walker, President FOMPBC

Upcoming Events Show and Tell on the Farm



Come out and enjoy spring on the farm with Show and Tell on the Farm at Chrisholm MetroPark. Topics this month include: Leaf Changing Experiences, Insects Alive, Broom Swoosha Broom, Apples Galore, Sensational Seasons, ABC's of Farm Life, Backbone Bonanza, Nursery Rhymes, Pumpkin Hunt, .

Fun on the Farm is on Thursdays from 10:00-11:00am and Sunday's from 2:00-4:00pm

The Howl



“Bark” your calendars for a trick-or-treat trail designed for both dogs and children, the Doggy Dash 2.4 mile fun run, and a Pupper Parade!

The Trick-or-treat Trail will be open from 12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Doggy Dash takes off at 12:00 p.m.

The parade starts at 1:30 p.m.

Dog prizes for cutest, scariest, best duo/group, and most original categories are awarded in the parade. Photo opportunities, vendors, and a dog obstacle course will also be available. Rescue centers will have adoptable dogs to “rent” if you don’t have your own pet.

Pre-registration is available online. Day of registration for the Fun Run will begin at 11:00 a.m. and registration for all other activities will begin at 11:30 a.m.

Children are FREE with a paid canine. Price will increase to \$6/dog + \$6 for the Fun Run after 10/12/19 through the day of the event.

Ready to register your pupper? Sign up online TODAY by clicking "tickets" at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-howl-2019-tickets-66509322173>

Saturday. October 19, 12:00-3:00 PM

**Voice of America MetroPark - 7850 VOA Park
Dr. West Chester, OH**

Hikes, Hayrides, and Hotel Transylvania



Fall is just beginning, so why not start it off with a FREE fun-filled time at Elk Creek MetroPark’s Meadow Ridge Area? Climb on for a hayride or take a relaxing hike or both! Pack a picnic dinner and enjoy a movie in the park!

Hayrides will be available on a first come, first served basis at 5:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6:00 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. with a limit of 25 people per time slot.

Grab a map and take a hike on your own on the paved walking path or guided hikes will begin at 5:15 p.m. and 6:15 p.m.

End the evening by checking in at the hotel - Hotel Transylvania that is! The feature film will start at dark. We hope you’ll join us for a cornucopia of fall fun!

Saturday. October 5, 5:00-10:00 PM
Elk Creek MetroPark Meadow Ridge Area 5101
Circle Parkway Middletown OH 45042

Wild About Wildflowers Hike



Get ready for a Wild hunt on the trails... Wildflower hunt that is! Join us for a wildflower hike in search of nature’s gems like Purple Coneflower, Black Eyed Susan, and much more!

Saturday, October 12, 12:30-2:00 PM

Elk Creek MetroPark- Meadow Ridge Shelter-
5101 Circle Parkway, Middletown, OH 45042

Let's Go Hiking! Fall Wildflowers



The time for wild blooms is almost up! Get wild about wildflowers one last time before the winter cold settles in. Autumn wildflowers, such as asters, are vital to pollinators as one of the last remaining sources of nectar as they prepare for winter. Join us as we set out on a hike to identify these colorful fall blooms!

FREE and open to all ages. Meet at the Gazebo. Registration is requested by calling 513.867.5348. Walk-ups are welcome!

Saturday, October 19, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

Gilbert Farms Park 6181 Ross Road Fairfield OH 45014

Trail of Treats



Come dressed in costume for an adventure! This event, In partnership with Orienteering of Cincinnati, will include a full range of courses for all ages and skill levels. The Trail of Treats will be a short, easy course for kids with a choice of candy or a treat at the finish. Twilight courses with starts from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. The course will close at 8:00 p.m. Come before 6:00 p.m. to finish the course before dark or come by 7:00 p.m. for an extra challenge in the dark!

Friday, October 25, 5:00-8:00 PM

Rentschler Forest MetroPark Reigart Road Area
H.F. Walsh Shelter - 5701 Reigart Rd. Hamilton, OH

Did You Know

Kroger Community Rewards Update

FOMPBC organization # TM866

Kroger is committed to helping our communities grow and prosper. Year after year, local schools, churches and other nonprofit organizations earn \$4 million in Greater Cincinnati, Dayton and Northern Kentucky through their Community Rewards program. FOMPBC is one of the Many wonderful organizations that benefit from this program.

How Can YOU Help Us?

In April 2017 Kroger's updated their Community Rewards process and software. As of April, supporters will no longer have to re-enroll their Kroger Plus Card to earn dollars for your organization. This will make it easier for you to support us! Please take a moment and make sure you are enrolled and supporting FOMPBC.

<https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow>

Once you're enrolled you will earn rewards for FOMPBC every time you shop and use your Plus Card.



Amazon Smile

What is Amazon Smile?

Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you and your family to support FOMPBC every time you shop from Amazon, at no cost to you. Instead of shopping at Amazon.com you go to <https://smile.amazon.com>. You will find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to FOMPBC.

To make a reservation please see the annual meeting invitation in the April issue of the Voice. Or, call 513.593.2735, or email kochtrees@gmail.com.

Farm Animal Fund

Chrisholm Farmstead MetroPark is almost ready to begin adding livestock to the new pens. Because MPX can only make purchases from pre-approved vendors, this red tape makes it difficult to buy animals from individual farmers. Our status as a 501C3 tax-exempt non-profit group makes it possible to streamline livestock purchases for Chrisholm. We have set aside a special account for such purchases. Please send your tax-free donation to:
Friends of MetroParks of Butler County
PO Box 691, Hamilton, OH 45012

Please make sure to make a note on the memo line of your check "Chrisholm Animal Fund" to make sure your donation helps populate the new FarmScape..

Mess is Best

By Lara Askill, Ag Ed Farm Manager

When it comes to fall and early winter gardening cleanup have you ever heard the term "mess is best?" Many homeowners place their leaves in plastic garbage bags and set them out for the trash. Stop! It is much better to leave them in your yard in one way or another. Mulching leaves in place with your lawn mower will add natural fertilizer to help it stay healthy through the winter. Too many leaves to mulch? Just rake them up and throw into a pile in the back of your yard. Some of our moth and butterfly caterpillars and adults overwinter inside these leaves. Plus, several species of other insects, amphibians, reptiles and mammals rely on leaf litter for food and shelter throughout the entire year. The leaves will begin to decompose into natural fertilizer for other plants in your yard by springtime.

The same goes for tree or bush trimmings. Throwing them in the garbage takes up valuable landfill space. Instead, make a brush pile in your backyard and you'll see an increase in bird species. Many small birds will hide out in wood piles from hawks and other predators. Wood may take years to break down but remember, you are sequestering carbon dioxide in your yard for longer than if you had burned it.

If possible, leave the dead plant stalks standing all winter long. The hollow stems provide valuable refuge for insects. They can also provide life-saving wind protection for wildlife during winter storms. Many of our native birds continue to eat off the seed heads long into the winter. The plant stalks left standing during the harsh winter environment may be cut down in spring and placed in your brush pile.

If you recycle your plant debris every year in this manner it won't be long before you start seeing more wildlife in your yard. Plus, it's overall better for the Earth because it saves valuable landfill space, sequesters carbon dioxide longer and cuts down on fertilizer use. Try leaving a bit of a mess this fall and see the beautiful benefits in a short manner of time.

The Howl



Dead plants standing provide food and shelter during winter.



Our Fritillary butterfly caterpillars live in leaf piles.



Our Woolly Bear caterpillars hibernate in leaf piles.



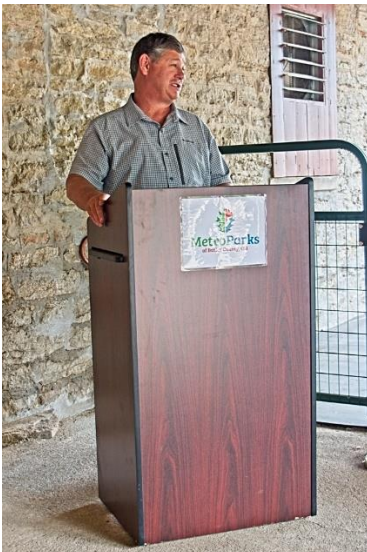
Do you and your pup love Halloween? Come and celebrate this spooky holiday with us at ‘The Howl’! This fun event is being held on Saturday, October 19 from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Voice of America MetroPark, 7850 VOA Park Dr. West Chester, OH.

There will be plenty of activities to keep both the two and four-legged members of your family entertained all afternoon! There will be a Trick-or-Treat trail open for dogs and kids from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., the Doggy Dash 2.4 mile Fun Run starts at noon and a Pupper Parade to show off those costumes will begin 1:30 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for multiple costume categories, including: cutest, scariest, best duo/group and most original. Take advantage of the many photo opportunities, vendors and the onsite obstacle course, too. If you don’t have your own dog, local rescues will be in attendance and can provide dogs for you to borrow during the celebration.

Pre-register online by going to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-howl-2019-tickets-66509322173> and clicking on ‘Tickets’. Day of registration for the Fun Run begins at 11:00 a.m. and all other activity registration will begin at 11:30 a.m. The price of registration goes up to \$6/dog plus \$6 for the Fun Run after October 12. Kids are free with a paid doggie participant. Don’t miss out on the fun!



FarmScape Ribbon Cutting



Fun on the Farm



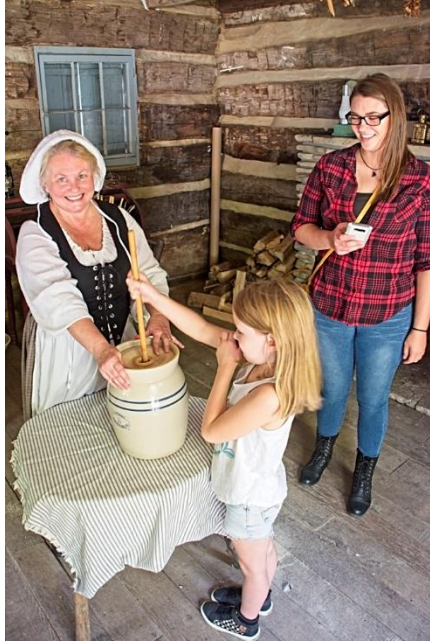


BOD Pizza Picnic





Pioneer Life







Critter Corner
He Who Shall Not Be Named



Thanks to Friends of Chrisholm for a \$2500 contribution to the Farm Animal Fund. Soon, the two pygmy goats, Nameless 1 and Nameless 2, will be joined by several new donkeys (also nameless). I was recently approached by a gentleman, who shall remain nameless, about the donation of a large snake. This probably does not meet the requirements as defined in the livestock procurement policy of MPX, but I promised to look into the matter and get back to him.

Like our Facebook Page for updates on:

- Upcoming members events & meetings
- Volunteering with MPX
- MPX programming



September Volunteers



Fun on the Farm 9/8/19



Fun on the Farm 9/8/19



Pioneer Life 9/21/19



Pioneer Life 9/21/19



Miami Regionals Service Day 9/27/19

Contact Us Give us a call or visit us on the web for more information about service opportunities.

MetroParks Of Butler County
2051 Timberman Road
Hamilton OH 45013
513.867.5835
www.YourMetroParks.net

Or email Amy Pellman at apellman@YourMetroParks.net

Did you know?

- You can redeem volunteer hours for rewards like a shelter rental, boat rental or a sweatshirt
- Visit www.YourMetroParks.net, select "Support Us", then "Volunteering". Scroll down to the Volunteer Policy. On page 8 is the list of all the rewards! Don't know how many hours you have? Just let me know!

October Birthday Corner!

Melinda Fuller	10/2	Benjamin Skelly	10/16
Alayna Meade	10/2	Grace Lee	10/18
Aidan Swarthwood	10/2	Anne Holbrook	10/20
Kerri McLaughlin	10/4	LaDeana Wilke	10/20
Alex Moore	10/6	James Wissel	10/25
Robert Gunn	10/7	William Lee	10/28
Thomas Van Horn	10/8	Thomas Serey	10/30
Bonnie Stokes	10/13		



MetroPark Staff Spotlight



Matt Latham – Park Planner/Project Manager

Tell us a little about your background and what brought you to MetroParks?

I have always had a passion for nature ever since my grandparents took me camping at Cowan Lake State Park as a child. I chose a career in Landscape Architecture specifically so I could design parks that enable people to access and connect with the natural world. I joined MetroParks almost four years ago after having served as Project Manager for the Mill Creek Watershed Council and holding other private and public-sector positions in Landscape Architecture for the past 18 years.

Tell us a little about your family:

My lovely wife is a clinical research manager for Cincinnati Children's Hospital working with a great team of researchers trying to reduce deaths from sickle cell disease in developing countries. We have two school-age boys, one of whom is very interested in aviation, and another who loves to play Pokemon cards.

Do you have any hobbies?

I am blessed to have a hobby that is also my job! In my time off, I love to visit other parks, especially to go hiking in nature. This year, my family and I visited Glacier National Park. I also teach Sunday School at my local parish and volunteer with the Scouts.

What do you like to do for fun or is there a fun fact about yourself you would like to share?

A year ago, I summited Quandary Peak at 14,255 feet above sea level while vacationing in Colorado. On that same vacation, our family had to leave our cabin on the east side of Rocky Mountain National Park early due to a wildfire.

What do you love most about working for MetroParks?

I love providing additional ways for residents of Butler County and beyond to access and enjoy the great outdoors!

Upcoming Service Opportunities

The Howl

Event runs 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

When: October 19, 2019

Shifts available: 10:30 am – 1:00 pm & 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Where: Voice of America MetroPark 7850 VOA Park Drive West Chester OH 45069

What: 'Bark' your calendars! Volunteers are needed to assist with setup, the Doggy Dash, the Pupper Costume Parade and tear down. Doggy Dash Registration begins at 11:00 with the race starting at 12:00 pm. We are looking for volunteers to be race timers and scorekeepers. For the Pupper Costume Parade, we are looking for volunteers to be prize distributors and gofers. If interested contact Amy Pellman at apellman@YourMetroParks.net.

Timberhill Service Day

When: October 26, 2019 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Where: Rentschler Forest MetroPark-Timberhill area

3976 Hamilton-Middletown Road, Fairfield Twp OH 45011

What: Help us prepare camp for the winter! We have canvas cabin tents on platforms that we'll take down for storage. All necessary tools will be provided.

Voice of America-Athletic Complex Service Day

When: November 2, 2019 9:00 am – 12:10 pm

Where: Voice of America MetroPark – Athletic Complex

7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester OH 45069

What: Soccer season has ended. Come out to the complex and help us take down the nets! No tools necessary!

Ongoing Service Opportunities

Trail Ambassadors – Great Miami River Trail

When: Flexible

Where: Great Miami River Trail – Trenton to Middletown Section

What: Trail Ambassadors monitor the trail at least 4 hours a month on their bicycle. Trail Ambassadors report maintenance and safety concerns to MetroParks staff, assist trail users when necessary, provide information to trail users, and perform light trail maintenance. Contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information.

Trail Maintenance Steward

When: Flexible

Where: Assigned hiking trails within MetroParks

What: Trail Ambassador Stewards hike marked trails in assigned MetroPark at least 4 hours a month. Volunteers report any maintenance and safety concerns to MetroParks staff and pick up any trash. Contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information.

Group Service Projects

When: Flexible

Where: Flexible

What: MetroParks always has various projects for groups to complete! If you have a youth group, church group, student group, or business group that is interested in scheduling a private service day, contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information. Please allow 3-6 months for planning.

Program/Event & Preparation Support

When: Flexible

Where: Multiple Locations

What: Park Connections staff presents multiple education, recreation, and conservation programs and events throughout the year. Volunteers are needed to help with preparing for MetroParks events and programs. Volunteers may create crafts, prepare signage, organize materials and supplies, clean materials and supplies, and other general tasks, as well as, volunteer for the program itself. Contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net.

Administrative Office Support

When: Flexible

Where: Forest Run MetroPark-Administrative Office

2051 Timberman Road Hamilton OH 45013

What: Comfortable with spreadsheets and data entry? We are looking for a volunteer to help with entering information into our Motor Vehicle Permit database. If interested, please contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information.

Photography opportunity

Are you an amateur/professional/hobbyist photographer? Do you like to take pictures of people, places and special events? We are looking for high resolution photos with a dpi of 300 or more. If interested, please contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net

"With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts." ~ *Eleanor Roosevelt*

SHOW AND TELL ON THE FARM



Show and Tell on the Farm

WHEN **Sundays 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**
Thursdays in September
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Thursdays in October
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

WHERE **Chrisholm MetroPark**
Chrisholm Historic Farmstead
2070 Woodsdale Road
Trenton, OH 45067

PRICE **FREE programs for all ages**
No Registration Necessary

ABOUT

Come on over to Chrisholm Historic Farmstead for Show and Tell on the Farm. Each day will feature different themes with special guest stars — some furry & some feathery — crafts, and games! Come for any amount of time. Designed to delight kids and kids at heart.

September 5 Who Tastes with Their Feet?

September 12 Fossil Find

September 15 Sunflower Supreme

September 19 Let's Take a Spin

September 22 Awesome Asters

September 26 Spiders are our Friends

September 29 ABC's of Farm Life

October 3 Leaf Changing Experiences

October 6 Insects Alive

October 10 Broom Swoosha Broom

October 13 Apples Galore

October 17 Sensational Seasons

October 20 ABC's of Farm Life

October 24 Backbone Bonanza

October 27 Nursery Rhymes on the Farm

October 31 Pumpkin Hunt

*There will be no Show & Tell on the Farm program on September 1 & 8.

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.



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RIVER CENTER SERIES



River Center Series

WHERE **Bicentennial Commons River Center**
120 S. Carmody Boulevard Middletown OH 45044

PRICE **FREE**

All About Water

Saturday, March 30, 2019
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Let's get crazy about water! World Water Day is March 22nd, so let's celebrate. Learn about the importance of water and all that it does for us at the River Center. Read a story, engage in an activity, and have fun.

Amazing Animals

Saturday, June 1, 2019
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Want to learn all about Ohio Wildlife? Come check out the River Center while you experience an animal story and see a live animal presentation with our native program ambassadors!

Build a Butterfly Garden

Saturday, August 24, 2019
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Can't miss the butterflies when they are out and about. Their vibrant colors always catch your eyes. Let's learn how to build a garden to support our beautiful butterflies. Join us at the River Center for a fun program on How to Build a Butterfly Garden including a craft.

Ready...Set...Recycle!

Saturday, November 9, 2019
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Happy America Recycles Day! America Recycles Day is November 15th and we are ready to celebrate. Join us at the River Center for some fun recycling-based activities and a craft.

* Pre-registration required by the Friday before program

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.



swb/sjb 190222 approved



Join MetroParks of Butler County and the City of Fairfield for some exciting programming at Fairfield Parks!

LET'S GO HIKING SERIES

Free & Open to the Public
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
2019 Locations to be determined

- 10/20/18 Fall Blooms
Harbin Park
- 11/17/18 Habitat Hike
Huffman Park
- 12/15/18 Surviving Winter
Harbin Park
- 1/19/19 Winter Tree ID
- 2/16/19 Tracks, Scats & Signs
- 3/16/19 Eastern Bluebirds
- 4/20/19 Spring Wildflowers
- 5/18/19 Spring Birding Hike
- 6/15/19 Creeking
- 7/20/19 Summer Wildflowers
- 8/17/19 Invasive Species
- 9/21/19 Autumn Birding Hike
- 10/19/19 Fall Wildflowers
- 11/16/19 Animal Homes
- 12/21/19 Surviving Winter

PRE-SMARTIES & SMARTIES

Programming for City of Fairfield Registered Preschool Students Only

- 11/13/18 Amazing Animals
- 2/5/19 Calling All Farm Hands
- 4/9/19 Animal Games



NATURE PROGRAMS

Free & Open to the Public
2019 Locations to be determined

- 11/3/18 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Autumn Leaves
Huffman Park
- 1/26/19 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Owl Hike
- 3/24/19 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Fossils
- 4/6/19 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Spring Babies
- 6/1/19 9:00 – 10:30 p.m.
Night Hike
- 7/2/19 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Water Conservation
- 9/7/19 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Amazing Animals
- 10/6/19 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Nature Craft

Registration is requested for the Let's Go Hiking Series and Nature Programming. Call 513.867.5348 to save your spot!



OCTOBER EVENTS



OCTOBER 2019

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM LEAF CHANGING EXPERIENCE

Chrisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Thurs., October 3, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
FREE

HIKES, HAYRIDES & HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA

Elk Creek MetroPark
Meadow Ridge Area
Sat., October 5, 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
FREE

NATURE CRAFT

Huffman Park
2100 John Gray Road, Fairfield 45014
Sun., October 6, 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Pre-register by calling 513.867.5348
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM INSECTS ALIVE

Chrisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Sun., October 6, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM BROOM SWOOSHA BROOM

Chrisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Thurs., October 10, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
FREE

WILD ABOUT WILDFLOWERS

Elk Creek MetroPark
Meadow Ridge Area
Sat., October 12, 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM APPLES GALORE

Chrisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Sun., October 13, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM SENSATIONAL SEASONS

Chrisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Thurs., October 17, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
FREE

LET'S GO HIKING SERIES FALL WILDFLOWERS

Gilbert Farms Park
6181 Ross Road, Fairfield 45014
Sat., October 19, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Pre-register by calling 513.867.5348
FREE

THE HOWL

Voice of America MetroPark
Sat., October 19, 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
\$5/dog by 10/12/19, \$6/dog after 10/12/19
Doggy Dash \$5/dog by 10/12/19,
\$6/dog after 10/12/19

STAR SERIES: ORIONID METEOR SHOWER WATCH

Governor Bebb MetroPark
Sat., October 19, 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Registration required by 10/18/19
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM ABC'S OF FARM LIFE

Chrisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Sun., October 20, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM BACKBONE BONANZA

Chrisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Thurs., October 24, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
FREE

TRAIL OF TREATS

Rentschler Forest MetroPark
Reigart Road Area
Fri., October 25, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Beginner Course: \$4/person,
\$10 max/family
Advanced Course: \$10/OCIN Member,
\$15/Non-member

FALL LEAVES: TREES

Rentschler Forest MetroPark
Reigart Road Area
Sat., October 26, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
FREE

TRAIL OF TREATS

Voice of America MetroPark
Sun., October 27, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Beginner Course: \$4/person,
\$10 max/family
Advanced Course: \$10/OCIN Member,
\$15/Non-member

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM NURSERY RHYMES ON THE FARM

Chrisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Sun., October 27, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM PUMPKIN HUNT

Chrisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Thurs., October 31, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
FREE

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The mission of the MetroParks of Butler County is to provide a superior park system that maximizes the community's quality of life through conservation, education, and recreation. For more information visit us at www.YourMetroParks.net or call 513.867.5835

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.

STAR SERIES



Star Series

WHEN

Saturday Evenings

Starting in February and running through November of 2019
See dates below

PRICE

FREE programs for all ages

Registration required by the Friday before each program

ABOUT

Enjoy the night sky at MetroParks! A few nights this year, we will be exploring the stars with local astronomers. You'll have the chance to observe the planets, moon, stars, and a few meteor showers through the lens of some amazing telescopes. Plus, you'll be able to participate in fun family crafts at our Meet the Planet programs! Bring a blanket or chair, relax, and enjoy the night like you have never before!

MEET THE PLANET: MOON & MARS

Rentschler Forest MetroPark
Riegart Road Area
Saturday, February 16, 2019
5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

MEET THE PLANET: JUPITER

Elk Creek MetroPark
Sebald Park Area
Saturday, June 8, 2019
8:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.

PERSEID METEOR SHOWER WATCH

Forest Run MetroPark
Wildlife Preserve Area
Saturday, August 10, 2019
9:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

MEET THE PLANET: SATURN

Forest Run MetroPark
Timberman Ridge
Saturday, September 7, 2019
7:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

ORIONID METEOR SHOWER WATCH

Governor Bebb MetroPark
Saturday, October 19, 2019
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

LEONID METEOR SHOWER WATCH

Elk Creek MetroPark
Meadow Ridge Area
Saturday, November 16, 2019
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.



PHOTO WALKS



Photo Walks: Seasons in MetroParks

Join Photographer Susan Milinkovich as she shares different tips on photography in nature in a hands-on setting. Bring your mobile phone, Point-and-shoot or DSLR camera – no photography experience needed.

COMPOSING A GREAT PHOTOGRAPH

Start the morning with a short presentation on compositional tools in the Welcome Center. Then we'll go outside and search for good photo opportunities in the fields and around the ponds. Learn tips on composition to help you frame and capture spring flowers and early morning light.

Saturday, April 13, 2019 | 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Forest Run MetroPark Welcome Center

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE LIGHT

Join us for a summer evening at VOA as we search for good compositions that capture the evening light. Learn tips on the different types of light, how that light can impact your image, and how to use light correctly to create great photographs.

Monday, June 17, 2019 | 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. | Voice of America MetroPark Ronald Reagan Lodge

SHOOTING CLOSE-UPS AND INTIMATE LANDSCAPES

Spend a summer evening looking for the "small stuff". When you start to look for the "small stuff", you'll discover all kinds of interesting new subjects on a summer evening.

Thursday, July 18, 2019 | 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. | Elk Creek MetroPark Meadow Ridge Area

PHOTOGRAPHING HISTORICAL BUILDINGS

Join us as we wander around the Pioneer Village and capture photographs of the historic buildings. Learn tips for telling a story with your photographs and capturing architectural features.

Saturday, September 7, 2019 | 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. | Governor Bebb MetroPark Pioneer Village

SHOOTING FALL COLORS

Embrace Autumn at Chrisholm Farm as we search for fall colors and capture photographs of the historic Farmstead. Learn tips for capturing fall colors and share a little about how to use color theory in your photography.

Saturday, November 9, 2019 | 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead

All programs are FREE. Registration is required by the Friday before each program.

cmw/sjb 190206 approved

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.



Hikes, Hayrides, and Hotel Transylvania



Hikes, Hayrides, and Hotel Transylvania

WHEN Saturday, October 5, 2019
5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Hayrides:
5:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m.,
6:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Guided Hikes:
5:15 p.m. & 6:15 p.m.

WHERE Elk Creek MetroPark
Meadow Ridge Area
5101 Circle Parkway
Middletown, OH 45042

PRICE FREE
No Registration Required

ABOUT

Fall is just beginning, so why not start it off with a FREE fun-filled time at Elk Creek MetroPark's Meadow Ridge Area? Climb on for a hayride, grab a map for a relaxing hike or both! Pack a picnic dinner and enjoy a movie in the park!

Hayrides will be available on a first come, first served basis with a limit of 25 people per time slot.

End the evening by checking in at the hotel - *Hotel Transylvania* that is! The feature film will start at dark. We hope you'll join us for a cornucopia of fall fun!



513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.



cmw/sjb 180904 approved



The HOWL

WHEN **Saturday, October 19, 2019**
12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Walk-up Registration	11:00 a.m.
Doggy Dash	12:00 p.m.
Pupper Costume Parade	1:30 p.m.
Trick-or-Treat	12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

WHERE **Voice of America MetroPark**
 7850 Voice of America Park Drive
 West Chester OH 45069

PRICE **\$5.00/dog + \$5.00/Doggy Dash**
Participant before 10/13/19

\$6.00/dog + \$6.00/Doggy Dash
Participant on or after 10/13/19

Register online or in person the day of the event

ABOUT

Bark your calendars for a Pupper Costume Parade, a trick-or-treat trail designed for both dogs and children, ruff-ruff obstacle course, vendors, and more. Use tail wagging teamwork by adding the 2.4 mile Doggy Dash around the lake. Rescue centers will have adoptable dogs to borrow if you do not have your own pet.

Benefiting *The Wiggly Field Dog Park Fund* at The Community Foundation of West Chester & Liberty.



513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net
 Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.



WILD ABOUT WILDFLOWERS SERIES



Wild About Wildflowers Series

WHEN See Dates & Times Below

PRICE FREE

REGISTER Registration Requested,
Walk-Ins Welcome
YourMetroParks.net

ABOUT

Let's kick off opening day on the trails with the first wildflower hike on 4/13/19. Join us each season for additional hikes and learn all about wildflowers that bloom in Spring, Summer, and Fall. Grab your hiking boots and explore various MetroPark locations in search of these hidden gems.

Spring
Indian Creek MetroPark
Springfield Road Area
Saturday, April 13, 2019
11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Summer
Governor Bebb MetroPark
Saturday, July 6, 2019
11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Fall
Elk Creek MetroPark
Meadow Ridge Area
Saturday, October 12, 2019
12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.



swb/sjb 190222 approved

TREE ID SERIES



Tree ID Series

Have you ever been curious about the various types of trees we have in Ohio? Wonder no further. Join the MetroParks for two relaxing hikes where we will learn how to identify trees in both Spring and Fall. Who knew blossoms and leaves could be so interesting?

REGISTER

Registration Requested, Walk-Ins Welcome.
YourMetroParks.net

PRICE

FREE

Spring Blossoms: Trees
Forest Run MetroPark
Timberman Ridge
Saturday, April 6, 2019
10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

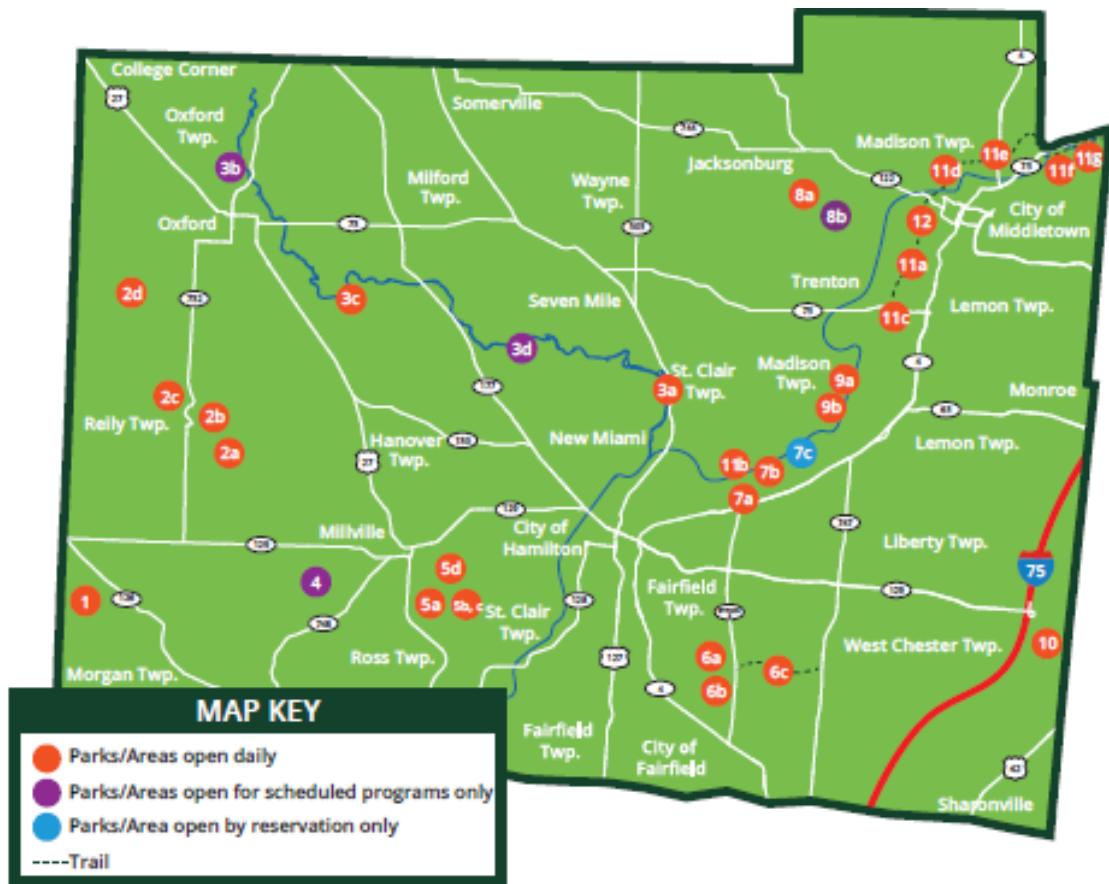
Fall Leaves: Trees
Rentschler Forest MetroPark
Reigart Road Area
Saturday, October 26, 2019
10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.



Swb/sjb 190222 approved



1. GOVERNOR BEBB METROPARK

1979 Bebb Park Lane Okeana OH 45053
Bebb Natural Area
Dry Fork Campground
Pioneer Village

2. INDIAN CREEK METROPARK

2A. Bunker Hill Cemetery
 5351 Reily-Millville Road Oxford OH 45056
2b. Oxford Road Area
 1899 Oxford-Reily Road (SR 732)
 Oxford OH 45056
2C. Springfield Road Area
 6500 Springfield Road Oxford OH 45056
2D. Pioneer Church
 3000 Indian Creek Road Oxford OH 45056

3. FOUR MILE CREEK METROPARK

3A. Antenen Preserve
 2385 Treiber Road Hamilton OH 45011
3B. Mill Race Area
 5911 Morning Sun Road Oxford OH 45056
3C. Sycamore Bluffs Area
 3742 Lane: Mills Road Hamilton OH 45011
3D. Davidson Woods Area
 1200 HogUe Road Hamilton OH 45013

4. SALAMANDER RUN PRESERVE

4821 Layhigh Road Hamilton OH 45013

5. Forest Run MetroPark

5A. Engle House - Little Dry Run - Administrative Office
 2051 Timberman Road Hamilton OH 45013
5B. Welcome Center
 1976 Timberman Road Hamilton OH 45013
5C. Timberman Ridge
 1976 Timberman Road Hamilton OH 45013
5D. Wildlife Preserve Area
 1810 New London Road Hamilton OH 45013

6. GILMORE METROPARK

6A. Gilmore Road Area
 7950 Gilmore Road Hamilton OH 45015
6B. Bilstein Boulevard Area
 8500 Bilstein Boulevard Hamilton OH 45015
6C. Port Union Trail Area

7. RENTSCHLER FOREST METROPARK

7A. Riegart Road Area
 5701 Riegart Road Fairfield Township OH 45011
7B. Line Hill Mound Area
 3620 Hamilton-Middletown Road Fairfield Township OH 45011
7C. Timberhill Area
 3976 Hamilton-Middletown Road Fairfield Township OH 45011

8. Elk Creek MetroPark

8A. Sebald Park Area
 5580 Elk Creek Road Middletown OH 45042
8B. Meadow Ridge Area
 5101 Circle Parkway Middletown OH 45042

9. Chrisholm MetroPark

9A. Chrisholm Historic Farmstead
 2070 Woodsdale Road Trenton OH 45067
9B. Woodsdale Regional Park
 1917 Woodsdale Road Trenton OH 45067

10. Voice of America MetroPark

7850 VOA Park Drive West Chester OH 45069
Athletic Complex
Ronald Reagan Lodge
Natural Areas & Chill Hill Sledding Hill
Wiggly Field Dog Park
Wheelhouse Outdoor Area

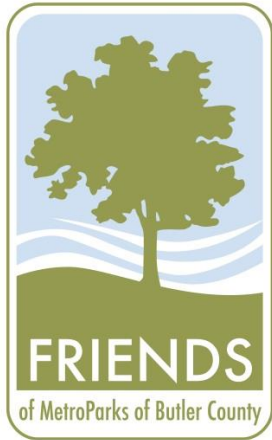
11. Great Miami River Trail

11A. North Section
 50 Oxford State Road Middletown OH 45044
11B. South Section
 5701 Riegart Road Fairfield Township OH 45011
11C. Parking Areas
 50 Oxford State Road, Middletown OH 45044
 26 North. Carmody Boulevard,
 Middletown OH 45044
 2399 North Carmody Boulevard,
 Middletown OH 45042
 3801 North Verity Parkway,
 Middletown OH 45042
 4401 North Verity Parkway,
 Middletown OH 45042

12. Bicentennial Commons

Carmody Boulevard at Central Avenue

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County



Our Mission	To improve and preserve the parks for future generations, to educate and inform the public about the unique qualities of each MetroPark, and to encourage individuals and groups to participate in volunteer programs
Member Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitations to Member-only events • Opportunity to apply for funding to support MetroParks programs and projects • Attend Annual Meeting and have a voice in Friends activities and direction
Who Are We?	<p><i>Private citizens who have come together to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsor programs & activities, promoting the use of MetroParks for conservation, education and recreation • Encourage volunteerism toward support of MetroParks of Butler County • Identify and implement improvements to the park • Assist in raising funds, securing donations, and obtaining grants monies to further MetroParks' mission

Yes, I/We want to be a member of Friends of MetroParks of Butler County!

Detach the form below and Mail it with your check to the address below

Become a Friend!

Simply fill in this form, detach and mail it with your check. Made payable to:

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County
PO Box 691
Hamilton, OH 45012

Pick an Annual Membership

- Individual - \$10
- Family - \$15
- Group/Business - \$100
- Donation - \$ _____

Name(s)/Contact _____ Date _____

Name(s)/Contact _____ Date _____

Group or Business Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home/Business Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email (required to receive newsletter) _____