

WCPD Naturalist & Marketing Report February and March 2022



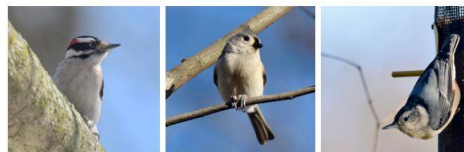
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Community Connections

- 2/11: **Resumed weekly e-blasts** to 960+ subscribers, communicating upcoming events, job openings, and volunteer opportunities.
- 2/13: **DIY Birding station** set up for all park visitors to go birding on their own during the Great Backyard Bird Count. A park patron stopped me and said he had just seen the bald eagles by the lake. Exciting!
- 2/18-2/21: The **Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC)** weekend at Armco Park was a HUGE success. We moved it to Armco this year instead of Hisey because of the construction there and it was very well attended and provided different habitats to observe.
 - 2/18: "Winter Birds," an Exclusive event for Friends of the WCPD, Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists and Master Gardeners was presented by Connor Fox from Wild Birds Unlimited of West Chester. Several new members and OCVNs attended.
 - 2/19: morning GBBC at Jones Pavilion; Girl Scout meeting re. birding. 32 species identified.
 - 2/20: afternoon GBBC at Jones Pavilion. 34 species identified, including a great horned owl that is nesting in a hollowed out tree.
- **Please note that it is a federal offense to disturb active bird nests; if the owl feels threatened in any way, she will abandon the nest.** I spoke with someone at Raptor, Inc. to see if they had any advice and they recommended NOT roping the area off, as that would actually draw more attention to the nest. Park staff have done a great job of reminding patrons not to get too close. Please do not share the exact location on social media or with large groups, and take care to only enjoy from afar!
- 2/19 and 2/20: **Fred Bay Observatory** at Hisey Park open to the public. Chris Celak reports many of the attendees are learning about the events from our e-blasts and Facebook posts.



**Great Backyard Bird Count
2022 at WC Armco Park**



- **3/9: Friends of WCPD meeting** via Zoom.
 - OCVN David Milender will be hosting a Friends of WCPD informational table at the Landen-Deerfield “Run for the Green” this weekend.
 - OCVN Dave Woehr continues to provide content for our Species Spotlights that are featured in e-blasts and social media
 - OCVNs Kathy Schroeder, Dave Woehr, and Bill Lindauer and Friend Cindy Glorius will be working on temporary educational spring wildflower signage for the parks. (Hisey Park is a real wildflower hot spot!)
 - Friends will be hiring someone to take care of maintenance of the Pollinator Plantings at Armco and Landen-Deerfield to alleviate extra work for park staff.
- **3/10: Scout Camporee meeting** re. weekend camp-out at Armco Park in April with approximately 200 campers plus adult volunteers. In addition to renting out shelters, they will be participating in a service project to clear invasive species and plant native trees donated by WCSWCD.
- **3/11: Little Miami River Float** Zoom meeting with Hope Taft and staff from Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District re. planning a river trip with local political leaders this summer to educate them about the importance of clean water.

Coming up:

- **3/13: Scout troop** volunteering at Armco Park Solar Pollinator Habitat to plant plants provided by Friends of WCPD.
- **3/19: Project Learning Tree** teacher workshop at Armco Jones Pavilion in partnership with Melissa Proffitt and Soil and Water Conservation Districts from Warren, Butler, and Hamilton counties (rescheduled from 2/26).
- **3/21: “Cops and Bobbers” planning meeting** at Pavilion, 9:30am. Join us if you are free! This will be an awesome summer kick-off event at Armco on 6/4 (see attached draft of flyer).
- **4/2: Backyard Wildlife** program for retirees.
- **4/2: Fred Bay Observatory** at Hisey Park Open.
- **4/6: Field Trip to Armco** with 6th gr Hunter El. re invasive plants - pull garlic mustard.
- **4/12: Meeting with “Warren County Nature Lovers”** Melissa Proffitt (WCSWCD), Casey Burdick (City of Lebanon), Erin Shaw (Caesar Creek State Park), and Laura Stanton (OSU Extension) to discuss upcoming events in all of our programs and see how we can help each other promote environmental education efforts within the county.

Volunteer Opportunities

- **Trash and Stick Pick-Up:** This is an ongoing need and is a wonderful opportunity for students needing community service hours. <https://tinyurl.com/ParkPickupVolunteer>
- **Solar Pollinator Habitat Adopt-a-Spot?** I’d like to partner with area garden clubs and individuals who may be interested in adopting the native plants around the SPH signs this summer. If you have connections with area gardeners, please let me know!

Long-Term Projects

- **Eagle Scout** candidate, Tyler Harris has received approval from the Council to do the **bluebird trail construction at the Solar Pollinator Habitat**; he is currently raising funds and purchasing supplies and plans to be finished by mid-summer.
- **OCVN Training at WCPD**: I am almost finished with weekly host orientation through OSU extension. When that is complete, I will work towards offering this at our Parks.

KICK OFF SUMMER with Warren County Park District and Local Heroes!

COPS & BOBBERS®

**June 4th, 8am – noon,
Warren Co. Armco Park
1223 SR 741, Lebanon OH 45036**

Free Bank Fishing for Kids 16 and Younger
Raffle Prizes at the Top of Each Hour
Three Bounce Houses
Archery & WC Sheriff Community Trailers
Live Reptiles and Police K9
Free Hot Dog Lunch for Participants
"Fishing Fun" Activity
Newport Aquarium Stingrays 10:30-11:30 only!
Grab Bags for First 100 Participants

THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS!

DRAFT
Updated 2/16/22

Warren County
PARK DISTRICT
Enjoy. Play. Preserve.


AWESOME PRIZES
Biggest Blue Gill, Bass, Catfish, Other
Age Groups: 6 and under, 7-11, 12-16

DETAILS
Event will run **RAIN OR SHINE**
No RSVP required
Raffle prizes at the top of every hour
Winners do not need to be present

TIMELINE

8am	Check-in begins
8:30am	Fishing derby begins
10am-12:30pm	Kona Ice for purchase
10:30-11:30am	Stingray exhibit
11am	Fishing derby ends
11:30am	Lunch is served
Noon	Winners announced

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



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