

# WCPD Naturalist & Marketing Report

## March and April 2022



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### Community Connections

- **E-blasts** to 934 subscribers, communicating upcoming events, job openings, and volunteer opportunities. **Facebook posts** reached over 15,000 people last month alone.
- **Great Horned Owl** at Armco Park has hatched two chicks. We were advised by Raptor, Inc. to rope off the nesting area after reports that park patrons were (both purposefully and inadvertently) disturbing the nest, which raised concerns that the mother may abandon the chicks. While it's unfortunate that the birds are exposed to so much human interaction, this has been an invaluable learning opportunity for a huge number of community members. Thank you to Rick Frye and his staff for putting up the barrier, and Vicky Von Holle for adding educational signage to the fence. Wildlife Officer Jason Keller added signage as well. We expect the chicks to fledge soon, so the office may get concerned calls about the babies being on the ground. This is generally normal behavior. **Please feel free to direct any inquiries to me at 513-833-7360.**
- **Birdsong Landscapes** was hired by Friends of WCPD to treat Armco Solar Pollinator Habitat and Landen-Deerfield Pollinator Planting areas for invasive plants and to reseed with native plant species. He used the seed mixes we obtained through the Pollinator Partnership grants I completed. Park staff will no longer have to maintain these areas with the exception of keeping the SPH path mowed.
- **New Wildflower Project** is underway in cooperation with Friends of WCPD. We have started adding short recordings to our YouTube Channel featuring the different wildflowers in the Parks. [www.FWCPDOH.com/wildflowers](http://www.FWCPDOH.com/wildflowers)
- 3/13: **Scout troop** volunteered 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



- 3/21: **“Cops and Bobbers” planning meeting.** This will be an awesome summer kick-off event at Armco on 6/4 (see attached flyer).
- 4/2: **Backyard Wildlife** program for retirees.
- 4/2: **Fred Bay Observatory** at Hisey Park Open. The weather was uncooperative, but we were able to have the Night Sky program in the barn.
- 4/6: **Field Trip to Armco** with 6th gr Hunter El. re invasive plants - pulled garlic mustard and honeysuckle.
- 4/8: Zoom Meeting re. **Little Miami River Float** on 7/8 for local leaders in cooperation with WC Soil and Water Conservation District and Hope Taft. We will be launching from Clint Fultz river access.
- 4/10: **Early Spring Wildflower Hike** at Hisey Park. Around 20 community members attended, most of whom had never visited the park before.
- 4/12: Meeting with **“Warren County Nature Lovers”** Melissa Proffitt (WCSWCD), 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. Casey Burdick was ill and was not able to attend but Laura shared a flyer from Lebanon City Parks for their upcoming events.
- 4/14: **Smallmouth Sonny** program with Bill Schroeder and Little Miami Conservancy with 181 students from JF Burns Elementary School. I introduced the students to taxidermy animals and Noodle, one of our program reptiles, so they could understand some of the animals that rely on the Little Miami.

### Upcoming Events

- 4/22-4/24: **Scout Camporee at Armco Park** with 116 youth and 20 adults. We will be removing invasive plants from the Solar Pollinator Habitat (SPH) and Hiking Trail and planting around 150 native seedlings that were donated by WCSWCD.
- 4/23: Eagle Scout candidate Tyler Harris will be installing bluebird houses at the Armco SPH
- 4/24: **Exclusive Friends of WCPD outing** to local heron rookery. Please contact Jim Prickett for details at 513-897-6098.
- 4/28: Friends to **plant donated seedlings** at Landen-Deerfield Park
- 5/14: **Monarch butterfly program** for Daughters of the American Revolution
- **Tech-Free Tuesdays** are being planned now! We will be at Landen Deerfield on the first and third Tuesdays and Armco in the second and fourth Tuesdays, June 7-Aug. 23.

### 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

- **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!**

**JUNE 4, 8AM-NOON, RAIN OR SHINE!**

# **COPS & BOBBERS®**

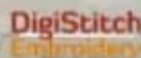
**FREE PUBLIC EVENT, NO RSVP NEEDED  
WARREN CO. ARMCO PARK  
1223 SR 741, LEBANON OH 45036**

- Free Bank Fishing for Kids 16 and Younger
- Three Free Bounce Houses
- Free Archery and WC Sheriff Community Trailers
- Free Visits with Live Reptiles and Police K9
- Free Hot Dog Lunch for Participants
- Free "Fishing Fun" Activity with WC Soil and Water
- Free Newport Aquarium Stingray Exhibit
- Kona Ice Available for Purchase
- Visit the Free Ace Car Show While You're Here!

**THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS:**



**WARREN COUNTY**



**HAMILTON  
Bait & Tackle**



## **AWESOME PRIZES**

- Grab bags for first 100 kids
- Biggest blue gill, bass, catfish, other
- Age Groups: 6 and under, 7-11, 12-16
- Additional raffle prizes!

## **TIMELINE OF EVENTS**

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

## **SCAN FOR MORE INFO**

