



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Shannon Pennington
Warren County Park District
1223 North State Route 741
Lebanon, OH 45036
(513) 695-3980 ext. 4
spennington@warrencountyparks.com

Construction to Begin Mid-June on Simpson Creek Headwaters Restoration at Landen-Deerfield Park

Project Will Improve Water Quality, Reduce Flooding Risk, and Expand Public Access

WARREN COUNTY, OH — June 9, 2025 — Construction will begin in mid-June on the Simpson Creek Headwaters Restoration project at Landen-Deerfield Park, located on US 22&3 in Deerfield Township near Maineville. The project will transform the aging, manmade pond into a more natural stream and wetland system—improving water quality, reducing flooding risk, and enhancing habitat for native wildlife.

This restoration effort is designed to strengthen the health of the Little Miami River Watershed, while also improving the park experience for visitors. Plans include new trails, a nature play area, educational signage, and a half-acre fishing pond.

Key benefits of the project include:

- **Cleaner Water and Healthier Habitat** – Stream and wetland systems filter pollutants more effectively and support greater biodiversity than artificial ponds.
- **New and Improved Recreation** – Visitors can enjoy expanded trails, nature play features, and a smaller redesigned fishing pond.
- **Lower Maintenance and Less Flooding** – The project removes the need for future dredging, substantially reducing long-term maintenance costs, and lessening the risk of downstream flooding by managing stormwater more naturally.
- **Educational Value** – The restored area will support field trips, volunteer programs, and hands-on environmental learning.

The Park District is offering a temporary “Catch and Keep” fishing opportunity at the existing pond until the temporary construction fence is put up. No license or registration is required. Fish that remain after construction begins will not survive the transition, an unfortunate but necessary step to establishing a more natural and sustainable habitat. Turtles and other mobile wildlife are expected to self-relocate as conditions change.

What to Expect During Construction

To complete the restoration, crews will drain the pond, move soil, and plant native vegetation—activities that may temporarily cause noise and unpleasant odors. These are normal and short-term aspects of a wetland restoration project. Landen-Deerfield Park will remain open throughout construction. Temporary fencing will be in place around the construction area – Park guests are asked to remain outside the fence to keep guests and workers safe.

"While we recognize that construction can be inconvenient in the short term, the long-term benefits for the park and the environment will be substantial," said Matt Latham, CEO of the Warren County Park District. "We appreciate your patience as we complete this important restoration effort."

The project is funded through grants from the H2Ohio initiative and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Major construction is expected to wrap up by the end of 2025, with native plantings and habitat stabilization continuing into 2026.

For project updates, plans, and FAQs, visit www.warrencountyparks.com.

About Warren County Park District - Warren County Park District is a county-wide park and green space provider, managing 1,716 acres in 12 parks across the County including its flagship parks, Armco and Landen-Deerfield. Our mission is to enhance our community's well-being by preserving quality natural spaces where all are invited to discover and experience the great outdoors. For information, see www.warrencountyparks.com, email parks@warrencountyparks.com, or call (513) 695-3980.

##

