

WCPD Naturalist & Marketing Report

December 2024 & January 2025



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Community Connections

- In the past 28 days, **Facebook** posts have reached 12,394 people. **E-blasts** are reaching 2,979 subscribers.
- 12/11: **Nature Education Team Meeting** via Teams with **Matt**. (SP, LA)
- 12/17: **All Staff Meeting** at Jones Pavilion with Strategic Plan Update and opportunity to provide feedback on Goals and Objectives. (SP, LA)
- 12/17: **Story Time** at **Mason Public Library**. Six adults, eight children. (LA)
- 12/18: **Warren County Conservation Collaborative** meeting to share upcoming programming and partnership opportunities. (SP)
- 12/20: **Cincinnati Off-Road Alliance (CORA)** online meeting with Matt about potential grant opportunity for trail maintenance. (SP)
- 12/21: **Winter Solstice Bird Walk** at Landen-Deerfield Park in cooperation with **The Grail** in Loveland as part of an official **Christmas Bird Count** through the **National Audubon Society**. This community science program is in its 125th year and this is the first time Warren County Park District has participated. Professional ornithologists utilize this census data to track population trends across the northern hemisphere. 11 adult attendees. See attached. (SP, LA)



- 12/31: **Volunteer Honeysuckle Pull** at Hisey Park. 5 volunteers. (SP)
- 1/7: **Press Release** submitted to our media contacts. See attached. (SP)
- 1/8: **Nature Education Team Meeting**. (SP, LA)

Results from Winter Solstice Bird Walk, as reported to the National Audubon Society:

CHECKLIST S208479294

Sat 21 Dec 2024 8:49 AM [Edit date and effort](#)

Landen-Deerfield Park [Map](#) Warren County, Ohio, United States [Edit location](#)

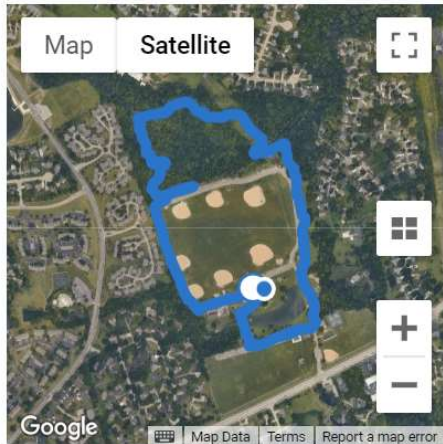
Shannon Pennington

[Share](#)

Aiden Hubbard [Map](#), Austin Langdon [Map](#),
Paul Korn [Map](#)

Traveling Complete [i](#)

[9](#) [2 hr, 13 min](#) [1.58 mi](#)



[i](#) eBird Mobile Tracks

Submitted from eBird for iOS, version 3.1.33

[Edit comments](#)

SUBMIT ANOTHER FOR...

Same location and date

Landen-Deerfield Park, Warren County, Ohio, US on Sat Dec 21, 2024

Same location

Landen-Deerfield Park, Warren County, Ohio, US

Same area and date

Another location near Landen-Deerfield Park, Warren County, Ohio, US on Sat Dec 21, 2024

Same area

Another location near Landen-Deerfield Park, Warren County, Ohio, US

Same date

Sat Dec 21, 2024

Different location and date

[Map](#) **27** Species Observed 186 individuals

- 9 Canada Goose
- 2 Mourning Dove
- 1 Red-shouldered Hawk
- 2 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
- 5 Red-bellied Woodpecker
- 5 Downy Woodpecker
- 1 Hairy Woodpecker
- 3 Northern Flicker
- 10 Blue Jay
- 3 American Crow
- 8 Carolina Chickadee
- 1 Tufted Titmouse
- 2 Golden-crowned Kinglet
- 8 White-breasted Nuthatch
- 1 Brown Creeper
- 8 Carolina Wren
- 30 European Starling *
- 4 Eastern Bluebird
- 30 American Robin
- 10 House Sparrow *
- 1 American Pipit
Flight call heard.
- 15 House Finch *
- 5 American Goldfinch
- 3 Dark-eyed Junco
- 4 White-throated Sparrow
- 2 Song Sparrow
- 13 Northern Cardinal

Upcoming Events and Projects

- 1/9: **Preschool Story Time** at Springboro Library
- 1/11: **Friends of WCPD Annual Meeting** and setting up feeders for Great Backyard Bird Count program at Armco Park
- 1/13: **Winter Wellness Walk** with Laura Stanton from OSU Extension and Melissa Proffitt from Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District at Landen-Deerfield Park
- 1/16: **Preschool Story Time** at Mary L Cook Library in Waynesville
- 1/18: **Winter Tree Identification** at Armco Park with Caesar Creek State Park Naturalist Erin Shaw
- 1/18: **Winter Tree Identification** at Kingswood Park
- 1/25: **Winter Workshop: Milk Jug Greenhouses** at Armco Park
- 1/25: **Tree-Tapping Basics Workshop** at Armco Park
- 2/1: **Homeschool Hangout** at Lebanon Library
- 2/1: **STEAM Saturday** at Lebanon Library
- 2/3: **Winter Wellness Walk** with OSU Extension at Gulley Park
- 2/3: **Owl Pellets** at Mary L Cook Library in Waynesville
- 2/8: **Healthy Family Day** at Countryside YMCA
- 2/10: **Family Story Time** at Salem Twp Library
- 2/12: **Tree-Tapping Basics Workshop** at Kingswood Park
- 2/15: **Great Backyard Bird Count** at Armco Park
- 2/15: **Tree-Tapping Basics Workshop** at Armco
- This spring: **“Walk and Learn”** series with OCVN Kathie Bowers at Hisey Park



Winter Workshops
Milk Jug Greenhouses
Gardening for Birds, Butterflies, and Bees
Intro to Community Science



www.WarrenCountyParks.com/Events

PRESS RELEASE

Contact:

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Warren County Park District
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shannon.pennington@co.warren.oh.us

Release Date: January 7, 2025 – For Immediate Release

Warren County Park District Thanks Commissioner Jeff Blazey for 12 Years of Service

[Warren County, OH, January 7] – Warren County Park District congratulates Jeff Blazey on 12 years of service as a Park Commissioner. His term ended on December 31, 2024 and he has decided not to seek re-appointment.

The Board of Park Commissioners is the three-member board that governs the Warren County Park District. Park Commissioners are volunteers who oversee the policies, finances, and projects of the Park District, providing overall direction, big-picture leadership, and vision, so that the Park District can provide excellent service to county residents and visitors. Commissioners serve staggered three-year terms and are appointed by the County Probate Judge.

"Jeff has been a key asset to the Warren County Park District since joining the Board in 2012," commented Board President Ben Yoder. "From personally donating and helping to bring a world-class telescope and two observatories to Warren County, to shepherding a solar array into existence at Armco Park, to encouraging rocketry and other science-based nature programs and activities throughout the parks, Jeff has worked tirelessly and selflessly to better our community. We can't thank Jeff enough for his valuable time and community service and wish him nothing but the best in his future endeavors."

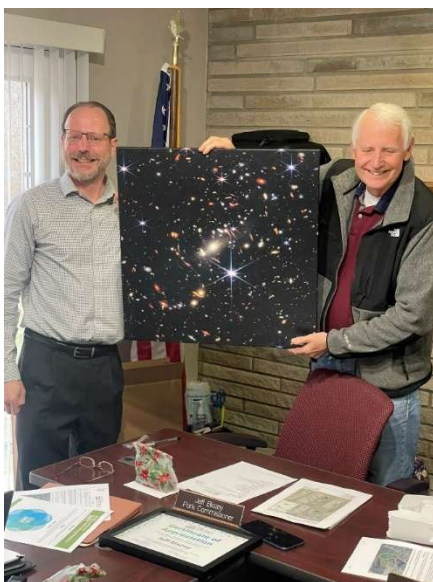
Located at Hisey Park in Waynesville and named for another former Park Commissioner and astronomy enthusiast, the Fred Bay Observatory was opened under Blazey's leadership and guidance. It is the largest public observatory in Warren County and is the location of free monthly stargazing events. The Solar Pollinator Habitat at Armco Park in Lebanon generates clean energy and was installed through a power purchase agreement at no cost to taxpayers. An on-site native restoration prairie and self-guided nature trail allow the public to learn about the benefits of native plants and alternative energy. Both projects were conceived and implemented under Jeff Blazey's tenure as a Park Commissioner and complement the Warren County Park District's vision of being a leader in natural resource conservation, outdoor recreation, and nature education.

"It has been my total honor and privilege to serve on the Warren County Board of Park Commissioners," said Blazey. "I have completely enjoyed these past years, working side-by-side with the extraordinary Board and Parks staff and crews, all dedicated to providing us folks here in Warren County with top-notch parks, experiences, and facilities. I wish my replacement on the Board and the Parks the very best of fortunes in the times ahead. I will miss you all and Well Done!"

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@co.warren.oh.us, or call 513-695-3980.

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1223 North State Route 741 – Lebanon, OH 45036 – (513) 695-3980 – www.warrencountyparks.com



Winter LIBRARY PROGRAMS



Join Warren County Park District Naturalists as we team up with libraries throughout Warren County for programs based around The Mitten by Jan Brett. We will bring mammal furs and track examples that relate to the story as well as furs from other mammals that call Ohio home. Please check with each library for any registration information, if it's required, and children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.



Mason Public Library

Family Story Time <https://masonpl.libcal.com/event/12838967>
December 17, 2024 7:00pm
200 Reading Rd. Mason, OH 45040



Franklin-Springboro Public Library

Preschool Story Time <https://www.fspl.org/storytimes>
January 8, 2025 11:30am
Franklin Library- 44 E.4th St. Franklin, OH 45005
January 9, 2025 11:30am
Springboro Library- 125 Park Ln. Springboro, OH 45066



Mary L. Cook Public Library

Preschool Story Time <https://www.mlcook.lib.oh.us/content/storytime-0>
January 16, 2025 10:30am
381 Old Stage Rd. Waynesville, OH 45068



Lebanon Public Library

Homeschool Hangout https://lebanonlibrary.org/event/homeschool-hangout-4/?instance_id=16864
February 1, 2025 10:00am
101 S Broadway St, Lebanon, OH 45036
STEAM Saturday https://lebanonlibrary.org/event/steam-saturday-4/?instance_id=16866
February 1, 2025 11:30am
101 S Broadway St, Lebanon, OH 45036



Salem Township Public Library

Family Story Time <https://www.salem-township.lib.oh.us/calendar/month>
February 10, 2025 6:30pm
535 W Pike St, Morrow, OH 45152



SEE YOU THIS WINTER!

For questions call 513-409-1389
or email
Lauren.asquith@co.warren.oh.us



www.warrencountyparks.com

Maple Sugaring for Beginners

Join us for winter tree identification and tree tapping basics to learn how to make your own maple syrup at home, then enjoy a community celebration to see the process in action!



Winter Tree ID Walks

Sat., 11/2/24, 10-11:30am, led by Casey Burdick at Armco Park, 1223 N SR 741, Lebanon. Registration required at www.WarrenCountyParks.com

Sat., 12/7/24, 1-3pm, led by Erin Shaw at Caesar Creek State Park Nature Center, 4006 Pioneer Village Rd, Waynesville. No registration required.

Sat., 1/11/25, 1-3pm, led by Erin Shaw at Caesar Creek State Park Nature Center, 4006 Pioneer Village Rd, Waynesville. No registration required.

Sat., 1/18/25, 10-11:30am, led by Casey Burdick at Armco Park, 1223 N SR 741, Lebanon. Registration required at www.WarrenCountyParks.com

Sat., 1/18/25, 1-2:30pm, led by Lauren Asquith at Deerfield Twp Kingswood Park, 4188 Irwin-Simpson Rd, Mason. Registration required at www.DeerfieldRec.com



Tree-Tapping Basics

Sat., 1/25/25, 3-4:30pm, led by Erin Shaw at Armco Park 1223 N SR 741, Lebanon. Registration required at www.WarrenCountyParks.com

Wed., 2/12/25, 6-7:30pm, led by Shannon Pennington at Kingswood Park, 4188 Irwin-Simpson Rd, Mason. Registration required at www.DeerfieldRec.com

Sat., 2/15/25, 1-2:30pm, led by Shannon Pennington at Armco Park, 1223 N SR 741, Lebanon. Registration required at www.WarrenCountyParks.com

Community Celebration

Sat., 3/1/25 Open House 10am-12:30pm, led by Naturalists and Volunteers at the Countryside YMCA's PUBLIC Hewett P. Mulford Nature Trail. (North Entrance) 1699 Deerfield Rd., Lebanon. Registration required at www.WarrenCountyParks.com

You may attend just one event or as many as you would like. These FREE community events are being provided with support from:



Maple Sugaring Community Celebration

Sat., 3/1/25, Open House Style: 10am-12:30pm

Countryside YMCA PUBLIC Hewett P. Mulford Nature Trail,
North Entrance, 1699 Deerfield Rd., Lebanon, OH 45036

- Join us for this FREE community celebration as we wrap up our maple sugaring series.
- Visit with YMCA volunteers as they make maple syrup.
- Explore the Countryside YMCA's Hewett P. Mulford Nature Trail and learn how you can visit this area even if you're not a YMCA member!
- Join a stroll with a naturalist starting at the maple boil site every 30 minutes.
- Tour the Countryside YMCA.
- Learn about winter birds.
- Enjoy some "Vitamin N" by getting outside.
- Check out a "glamping" tent with *Our Open Home*.
- Learn about upcoming programs from conservation organizations in Warren County.



REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Scan the QR code or go to
www.WarrenCountyParks.com



This FREE community event is being provided with support from:



GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT



Warren County
PARK DISTRICT
Enjoy. Play. Preserve.
www.WarrenCountyParks.com/Events

Sat., 2/15/25, 8am-1pm
Free Public Open House Event

- **All Day:** bird walks, chat with experts, watch feeders, do indoor activities, explore the park
- **9-10:30am:** bird walk with Connor Fox from Wild Birds Unlimited West Chester & Springboro
- **1pm:** Submit official tally to birdcount.org

This is a great activity for scout groups,
individuals, families, and seniors.
No previous birding experience needed!

Questions? Contact Naturalist Shannon
shannon.pennington@co.warren.oh.us



FRIENDS OF
WARREN COUNTY
PARK DISTRICT



Inside the heated Armco Park Jones Pavilion
1223 SR 741, Lebanon, OH 45036

