Letter from the President

Just back from a family vacation to the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Sunday was a beautiful, sunny day with pleasant temperatures and gentle breezes – a perfect day for a wild horse safari. Bouncing along the sand dunes in the back of a Hummer beyond the end of paved roads is a good way to look for wild horses (or to send one off seeking a chiropractor).

As usual, we managed to schedule a visit at the same time that hurricane Maria was passing by offshore in a huff (and puff). Luckily, no significant storm damage or rains, just gusty winds. Trips to the beach were limited by high surf, rip tides, blowing seafoam, and risk of being sandblasted. (Good thing that the sun wasn't out or our shadows would have blown loose!) A few showers fell on Tuesday and Wednesday, but not enough to drown you if you looked up.
Letter from the President

In a news report from Pennsylvania, Phil the groundhog is being sued for false prophecy. Furthermore, the number of internet hits searching for recipes for groundhog stew has hit an all time high. Try to be brave, spring is really just around the corner. I know that it’s cold outside, but at least we didn’t have to shovel the drive after winter’s last hurrah. It won’t be too long before our complaints turn to how hot it is, and why do we have to mow the lawn twice a week.

We would appreciate your thoughts going out to two of our FoMPBC board members, Darryl Young and Don Eberwine. Darryl went through recent surgery with flying colors, and is ready to get back to work. Don has been admitted to Christ Hospital in his continuing fight with cancer. Please let both of them know that we’re thinking of them and wishing them well.

The select committee met this week to review fifty-two applicants for this year’s Hump Day concert series. This is the largest group of applications since Hump Day began. A wide spectrum of musical groups included many old favorites and a number of new entries. The resulting short list of candidates is in the hands of MPX to negotiate schedule and budget. Watch this space for the next few months to see which bands will perform in this year’s concerts.

A last piece of advice before March’s lion gives way to the lamb – dress in layers and be ready for anything Mother Nature can throw at us when we visit our parks.

Bill Walker, President FOMPBC

Upcoming Events

Show and Tell on the Farm

Come out and enjoy Show and Tell on the Farm at Chrisholm MetroPark. Topics this month include: Slow Food vs Fast Food, We are Rockin’, Nesting Wreaths, Luck of a 4-Leaf Clover, There’s a Cow in my marshmallow, ABC’s of farm life, Break Out of Your Shell, Little Red Hen, Horsing around.

Fun on the Farm is on Thursdays from 6:30-7:30pm and Sunday’s from 2:00-4:00pm

Let’s Go Hiking! Eastern Bluebirds

Bluebirds are a favorite of Ohioans. Enjoy a hike and learn about Bluebirds, their nesting boxes, while learning about nesting box monitoring and the role in their habitat.

FREE and open to all ages. Meet at Shelter A. Registration is requested by calling 513.867.5348. Walk-ups are welcome! Saturday, March 16, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM Huffman Park 2100 John Gray Road Fairfield Ohio 45014
Things that flutter series: Bird Banding and Rookeries.

Let’s talk birds! Join us at the beautiful Gilmore MetroPark for an unforgettable birding experience. Participate in bird banding with birding experts and observe communal nesting grounds called rookeries. You don’t have to be an experienced birder to enjoy this program. Come out to Gilmore and have a blast!

**Saturday, March 23, 7:00-9:30 AM**  
Gilmore Ponds MetroPark - Bilstein Boulevard  
Area 8300 Bilstein Boulevard Hamilton, OH  
45015

**Fossils!**

Did you know that Ohio has some very unique fossils that you can’t find anywhere else? Come learn about the different types of fossils found in the Southwest corner of Ohio. The program will include a lot of fun crafts and activities that may get messy- So dress appropriately!

Free and open to all ages. Meet at the shelter. Registration is requested by calling 513.867.5248. Walk-ups are welcome!

**Sunday, March 24, 2:00-3:30 PM**  
Point Pleasant Park, 2001 Resor Road Fairfield, OH 45014

**All about Water**

World water day is March 22 2019 so let’s celebrate. So join the celebration. Learn about the River Center. Read a story, engage in activity, and have fun. Free!

Saturday, March 30th, 1:00-2:00PM  
Bicentennial Commons

**Be on the Lookout for these future events**

Flashlight egg hunt, Photo walks, wildflower walks, Dog-Bone egg hunt.

**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.

Save the Date

Friends of MetroParks Butler County is pleased to announce it will be having its 2019 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, April 10, 6 pm, at the River Center – Bicentennial Commons MetroPark, 120 South Carmody Boulevard, Middletown, Ohio 45044. Please plan on attending. Ms. Emily Archibald, Private Lands Biologist, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife will present, “The Re-introduction of Quail in Ohio, Successes and Failures”. A delicious meal will be provided. The desserts will be homemade and fresh by the members of the Friends of MetroParks Board of Directors.

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

Things that Flutter Series

Flutter, you say? Why, yes!

Not only does your heart flutter when you see your loved one, but there are winged animals such as birds, bees, and butterflies who flutter to get around.

This brand new series will focus on these fluttering critters at different times throughout the year. This month will focus on bird banding and rookeries, as springtime is a great time to see the nesting sites of many birds (often called rookeries when many are gathered at one site). This summer, bees will be the central focus, as we learn what it takes to become a beekeeper. The theme this fall will be on butterflies and the migration of Monarchs down south to Mexico. Bring your butterfly nets and help us to tag the Monarchs as part of the 27th year of this citizen science project!

If this new series sounds like your “bread and flutter,” then join us on the following days:

Bird Banding & Rookeries • Saturday,
March 23, 2019 7:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Gilmore MetroPark
Bilstein Blvd. Area

Bees

• Saturday, June 8, 2019 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Forest Run MetroPark
Timberman Ridge
Butterfly Hunt & Monarch Tagging •
Saturday, September 14, 2019 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Forest Run MetroPark
Wildlife Preserve Area

Nature Walks
As part of the nature walk series in Fairfield parks, Stephanie McCabe led a walk at Harbin Park to identify wildlife by their tracks and scat. The signs most frequently encountered were deer and possum tracks. It’s nice to know that not all possums are flattened piles of fur in the middle of the road.

Keep an eye on the attached flyers of other nature walks in the parks, whether owls at Governor Bebb Park, amphibians at Salamander Run, or fossils at Point Pleasant Park.
Food Waste

Food waste is an issue here in the US as well as throughout the world. According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, 1/3 of all food produced globally is lost or wasted. This represents a waste of the resources used to create food including land, water, energy as well as carbon emissions produced in vain. In North America, about 40% of food loss and waste happens after the food is obtained by consumers. When greenhouse gas emissions are included, global food waste becomes more than a lost opportunity. Food waste generates greenhouse gas emissions at the equivalent of 3.3 billion tons of carbon. If food waste was a nation, it would be the third largest emitter of greenhouse gases after China and the US.

Action

The good news is that we can make meaningful change ourselves as both business owners and consumers.

Fourth Harvest is a local organization that takes food donations from grocers and helps them get tax benefits.

As a grocer, farmer, in-between or other food donor, you are protected from liability by the “Good Samaritan” law signed in 1996. This means that even if you are not the original manufacturer of an item you are protected from civil or criminal prosecution in the event that your donation provided in good faith later cause harm to the recipient.

As a member of your community you can volunteer to take food waste from produce terminals, farms, super markets, and other sources to give to shelters and other recipients. For example, a Meal Center in Hamilton takes food that would otherwise be wasted from Bob Evans, Starbucks and Fort Hamilton Hospital. Butler County United Way takes non-perishable food donations and places them in blessing boxes on campus.

As a shopper, buying local and at farmers markets reduces the number of hoops your food goes through to get to you. This reduces waste in the supply chain. Often time food with cosmetic blemishes is not advertised but you can ask farmers about “seconds” by the bushel or peck which can be heavily discounted.

Know what packaging information means. Don’t confuse dates meant for quality rather than safety to tell you whether food is or is not spoiled.

Try to reduce food waste at home. Changing your diet and preparing your own meals can also make keeping track of food easier. Meat and dairy products are more apt to spoil if your attention lapses. Unprocessed fruits, nuts, vegetables and grains are more forgiving and can be composted easily at home.

If you organize an event or meal, plan for what happens to the food after the event to ensure that it either gets eaten, saved for later, or composted. Planning a brown bag lunch or potluck can be a way to get ahead of the game on food waste.

It is possible to make meaningful change as business owners and consumers to reduce food waste locally.
Like our Facebook Page for updates on:
- Upcoming members events & meetings
- Volunteering with MPX
- MPX programming
2019 Annual Meeting
Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

The River Center at Bicentennial Commons MetroPark
120 South Carmody Boulevard, Middletown, Ohio 45044
Wednesday, April 10, 2019, 6:00 – 8:30 pm
Dinner (6:30) - Business Meeting - Program

Dinner with Drinks and Homemade Dessert, $20/person, $5 under 12

Speaker:
Emily Archibald, “Re-Introduction of Quail in Ohio - Success and Failures"

Deadline for Reservations is Monday, April 8.

Please make your check payable to:
Friends of MetroParks of Butler County, PO Box 641, Hamilton, OH 45012

Name: __________________________________________________________
Address: _______________________________________________________
Email: ___________________________ Phone: _________________________

# Attending: ________ Amount Enclosed: ________ Pay at the Door________

*Or RSVP by responding to this email with name and number attending,

**Or e-mail your RSVP to kochtrees@gmail.com (state name, # attending)

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Annual Meeting 2019
February Service Day at
Forest Run MetroPark – Wildlife Preserve Area

Chi Psi Fraternity cleared non-native trees and shrubs from the meadow area.

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 Peilman at apeilman@YourMetroParks.net

March Birthday Corner!

Kim Lipscomb 3/3 Eric Hollins 3/14
Pamela Knudson 3/7 Maddie Deselms 3/16
Addison Kennedy 3/10 Rachael Weekley 3/16
Michael Smith 3/10 Patti McDonald 3/17
Thomas Lacerda 3/11 Katie Conrad 3/28
Kim Burkhart 3/12 Jennifer Roth 3/30
Susan Corthell 3/12

We Love our Volunteers!!
Bob Schutte-

**How long have you lived or worked in Butler County?** I have lived in Butler County all my life. I ran an advertising/printing business for several years. I retired from Hamilton City Schools, where I managed the printing operations for the district.

**Tell me a little about your family:** I have 5 children, 9 grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild. My oldest daughter worked summers at the parks with Bonny (Seegmueller). When Barb and I had a program at Bebb, the kids would joke with us about going out to be pioneers. All that old-time stuff.

**Do you have any hobbies?** Hobbies are blacksmithing, woodworking, camping, and outdoors. Since I retired, I have been able to work at blacksmithing more.

**What do you like to do for fun or is there a fun fact about yourself you would like to share?** For fun I like to go camping, hiking, and demonstrate blacksmithing.

**What do you love most about volunteering for MetroParks?** I have volunteered most at Gov. Bebb. I treasure the friends I made and the people I have met over the years in the village. I have been a volunteer since back in the 80’s just after they started the pioneer village at Gov. Bebb. I love meeting the people and sharing the history of the area.
Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

**Tree Planting**
When: March 30, 2019 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Where: Elk Creek MetroPark – Meadow Ridge Area
5101 Circle Parkway, Middletown OH 45042
What: Volunteers are needed to assist with planting 200 trees. Depending on weather conditions prior to the planting day, the holes will be pre-dug. Volunteers will place trees, backfill, and water the trees. Great opportunity for a small group! Contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information. Rainout date: March 31, 2019 or April 6, 2019.

**Service Day at VOA MetroPark - Athletic Complex**
When: March 30, 2019 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Where: Voice of America MetroPark – Athletic Complex
7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester OH 45069
What: Volunteers are needed to help put up the nets on goals at the Athletic Complex. Great opportunity for a small group! Contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information.

**Service Day at Rentschler Forest MetroPark – Timberhill Area**
When: March 23, 2019 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Where: Rentschler Forest MetroPark – Timberhill Area
3976 Hamilton-Middletown Road, Fairfield Twp. OH 45011
What: Volunteers are needed to help put up tents on platforms at the camp. Great opportunity for a small group! Contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information. Rainout date March 30, 2019 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.

**Feeder Fill**
When: Flexible-Year Round
Where: Forest Run Welcome Center & (Bothwell)
1976 Timberman Road, Hamilton OH 45013
What: Families & Adults who volunteer will fill bird feeders at the bird viewing area located at the Welcome Center in the Timberman Ridge Area of Forest Run MetroPark. Filling feeders takes approximately 30 minutes and should be done 1 or 2 days each week between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. By filling feeders and maintaining the feeder area, MetroParks is able to provide an excellent location for viewing birds. If interested, contact Joe Dumyahn at jdumyahn@YourMetroParks.net to schedule training.

**Nest Box Monitor**
When: March – August 2019
Where: Monitoring sites throughout MetroParks
Register: by emailing Madeline Pruszenski at mpruszenski@YourMetroParks.net.
What: Learn about becoming a volunteer Nest Box Monitor with MetroParks! Volunteers are needed to monitor nest boxes twice per week with 3-4 days between visits from the beginning of March through the end of August. Monitors will record data to be submitted to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Monitoring sites are available in several parks. Nest Box Monitoring is a great way to learn about nesting birds and enjoy the outdoors.
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.

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.

Welcome Center - Voice of America MetroPark
When: Mondays, Fridays & Weekends
Where: Voice of America MetroPark
Ronald Reagan Lodge, 7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester OH 45069
What: Volunteers (age 18+) are needed at the Welcome Center of Voice of America MetroPark. Duties include welcoming park customer/owners with a smile and providing information about programs and the parks. Training provided. Contact Sara Schapman sschapman@YourMetroParks.net. This position will require a background check. Details will be provided during interview.

Wheelhouse and Concessions - Voice of America MetroPark
When: evenings and weekends end of April through the summer.
Where: Voice of America MetroPark
Ronald Reagan Lodge, 7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester OH 45069
What: Volunteers are needed to assist at the Wheelhouse with rental(s) and information. We are also looking for volunteers to assist with concessions on the Wednesday evening Hump Day Concert series and occasional weekends. Please indicate if you are interested in either or both when responding. Contact Amy Pellman at apellman@YourMetroParks.net.

“If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”
African proverb
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 Creaking
- 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
- 1/25/19 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!
春豊道とアマビリアンズ with Jeff Davis

WHO

WHAT

WHERE

PRICE

ABOUT

Experience salamanders and amphibians like never before with Jeff Davis, one of Ohio’s most well-known herpetologists. Join him at MetroParks' otherwise closed park, Salamander Run Preserve, to learn all about the species. Wear your muck boots and go on an adventure spotting salamanders and other amphibians.

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

MARCH 2019

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM
IN LIKE A LION, OUT LIKE A LAMB
Chisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Sun., March 3, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM
SLOW FOOD VS FAST FOOD
Chisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Thurs., March 7, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
FREE

SPRING SALAMANDERS & AMPHIBIANS
WITH JEFF DAVIS
Salamander Run Preserve MetroPark
Sat., March 9, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Rain date – March 16.
FREE – Pre-registration Required
by March 8th

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM
WE ARE ROCKIN’
Chisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Sun., March 10, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM
NESTING WREATHES
Chisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Thurs., March 14, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
FREE

LET’S GO HIKING SERIES
EASTERN BLUEBIRDS
Huffman Park
2100 John Gray Road, Fairfield 45014
Sat., March 16, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Pre-register by calling 513.887.5348
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM
LUCK OF A 4-LEAF CLOVER
Chisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Sun., March 17, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM
THERE’S A COW IN MY MARSHMALLOW
Chisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Thurs., March 21, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
FREE

THINGS THAT FLUTTER SERIES
BIRD BANDING & ROOKERIES
Gilmore MetroPark
Blitzen Boulevard Area
Sat., March 23, 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Ages 10 and up
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM
ABC’S OF FARM LIFE
Chisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Sun., March 24, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
FREE

FOSSILS!
Point Pleasant Park
2001 Resor Road, Fairfield 45014
Sun., March 24, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Pre-register by calling 513.887.5348
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM
BREAK OUT OF THE SHELL
Chisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Thurs., March 28, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
FREE

ALL ABOUT WATER
Bicentennial Commons
River Center
Sat., March 30, 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM
HORSING AROUND
Chisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
Thurs., March 31, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
FREE

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.MetroParks.net or call 513.887.5345

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non Residents $5/daily or $10/annually.
BECOME A NEST BOX MONITOR

Nest Box Monitor Volunteer

Want to learn more about the birds in your area while earning volunteer hours? Become a nest box monitor for one of our numerous park locations! Boxes are monitored from March through August, and are checked every 3-4 days. The data that you record will be submitted to Cornell Lab of Ornithology. If you would like more information, please email Madeline Pruszenski at mpruszenski@YourMetroParks.net.
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.

513.867.3835 | YourMetroParks.net
Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents $5/daily or $10/annually.
Flashlight Egg Hunt

**WHEN**
- Friday, April 12, 2019
  - 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**WHERE**
- Forest Run MetroPark
  - Wildlife Preserve Area
  - 1810 New London Road
  - Hamilton, OH 45013

**PRICE**
- $5.00 per participant
- Pre-registration required by April 16th

**FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2019**
- 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**ELK CREEK METROPARK**
- Sobald Park Area
  - 5580 Elk Creek Road
  - Middletown, OH 45042

**PRICE**
- $5.00 per participant
- Pre-registration required by April 17th

**ABOUT**
When the park is dark, your flashlight will be your guide! Bring your own flashlight and join in the fun! Egg cartons will be provided for collecting. All participants will hunt for one dozen eggs to turn in for a goodie bag. Check-in opens at 8:00 p.m. Crafts will be available in between hunt times.

8:30 p.m.: 3- to 5-year-old hunt
8:45 p.m.: 6- to 8-year-old hunt
9:00 p.m.: 9- to 12-year-old hunt
9:15 p.m.: Family Hunt (if you have multiple aged children that want to participate together)
Dog-Gone Bone Hunt

**WHEN**
Sunday, April 14, 2019
12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**WHERE**
Rentschler Forest MetroPark
Reigart Road Area
5701 Reigart Road
Fairfield Township OH 45011

**PRICE**
$5/dog through April 7, 2019
$6/dog on and after April 8, 2019
Pre-registration Requested,
Walk-ups Welcome

**ABOUT**
Bring your pooch for an egg hunt designed for dogs!
Put their nose to the test as they sniff out a dozen treats filled plastic eggs. They will even receive a new toy as an extra reward. Some activities include shopping at dog-friendly vendors, concessions, dog obstacle course, socializing time, and photo opportunities!

Hunt times are scheduled by weight:
12:00 p.m. – Registration/Check-in Opens
1:00 p.m. – Dogs Under 30 pounds
1:15 p.m. – Dogs 30-50 pounds
1:30 p.m. – Dogs 50 pounds and over

Event Rules: We ask that all dogs are well-behaved, socialized, and current on vaccinations. One dog per handler. Stoop and scoop rules apply – we will provide poop bags and garbage cans at the event for your use. Dogs must remain on a leash at all times during the event.

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

**WHEN**
Sunday, April 28, 2019
12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**WHERE**
Voice of America MetroPark
7850 VOA Park Dr.,
West Chester OH 45069

**PRICE**
FREE

**REGISTER**
YourMetroParks.net
Reduce-Reuse-Recycle art competition, Vendor, & Sponsorship information under About. Special Event Forms

**ABOUT**
NEWW! Celebrate Earth Day and get closer to nature at Earthstock | Earth Day Festival! Guests will have the chance to experience lectures and demonstrations on a variety of environmental topics, try out various recreation equipment and activities, view natural artwork in the Reduce-Reuse-Recycle art competition, check out all the Earth-friendly vendors and opportunities for service around MetroParks... plus MORE!

Want to enter the Reduce-Reuse-Recycle art competition? Just head to Special Event Forms at www.YourMetroParks.net for rules and registration.
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Location Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMPOSING A GREAT PHOTOGRAPH</td>
<td>Saturday, April 13, 2019</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Forest Run MetroPark Welcome Center</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>IT'S ALL ABOUT THE LIGHT</td>
<td>Monday, June 17, 2019</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Voice of America MetroPark Ronald Reagan Lodge</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHOOTING CLOSE-UPS AND INTIMATE LANDSCAPES</td>
<td>Thursday, July 18, 2019</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Elk Creek MetroPark Meadow Ridge Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHOTOGRAPHING HISTORICAL BUILDINGS</td>
<td>Saturday, September 7, 2019</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Governor Bebb MetroPark Pioneer Village</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHOOTING FALL COLORS</td>
<td>Saturday, November 9, 2019</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead</td>
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All programs are FREE. Registration is required by the Friday before each program.
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**
- 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?**
Private citizens who have come together to:
- 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

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**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

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<thead>
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<td>Group or Business Name</td>
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<td>Email (required to receive newsletter)</td>
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**Pick an Annual Membership**
- Individual - $10
- Family - $15
- Group/Business - $100
- Donation - $ _____________