

# The Voice of the Turtle



# Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Monthly Newsletter

June, 2021

## FOMPBC Officers

**President:**

Bill Walker

**Vice-President,**

Nick Lengyel

**Secretary:**

Darryl Young

**Treasurer:**

Larry Gersbach

**Nominating Chair:**

Roger Koch

**Publicity Chair:**

Bill Walker

**Outreach Chair:**

**Finance Chair:**

Richard Burgstrom

**Grants & Fund Raiser Chair**

Kathy Takanen

**Membership Chair:**

Nick Lengyel

**Events Chair**

**Web Master:**

Craig Wiseman

**Newsletter Editor:**

Bill Walker

## June Board Meeting Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

### Also sprach Governor DeWine

(translation: "thus spoke Gov. DeWine")

### no more masks outdoors in public!

**It's once again Hump Day Concert Season, despite the fact that the first concert was called on account of rain. The June BOD meeting will be held at 6pm on Wednesday June 9, in the East Pond Shelter at VOA. We will meet rain or shine, concert or not. Be sure to bring a lawn chair and plan to stay for the Hump Day Concert.**

**Stay healthy! See you soon!**



## Letter from the President

Summertime, and the living is easy . . . Now all we have to do is get used to being face to face again without having our glasses fogged by mask breath. On the downside, traffic is getting substantially heavier as escape from cabin fever drives hordes of stay at homes onto the highways and airways. That makes it a good time to visit the parks.

After months of discussion, Brood X cicadas have finally emerged from their earthy slumbers. Although some neighborhoods are ankle deep in empty exoskeletons, others barely notice the cicadas' visit. In our neighborhood, we are seeing dozens instead of thousands. The song of the cicadas is audible, but not deafening. I suspect that many of the newer subdivisions were built after the last emergence, which interrupted egg laying. Just wait for another seventeen years.

MetroParks is reopening the parks for face-to-face interaction. Hump Day concerts are scheduled to start June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The final schedule of groups is attached at the end of this newsletter. Instead of the lakeside pavilion, this year's concerts will be held at the VOA Athletic Fields. Circles were painted on the lawn before the governor's announcement. Since the change in policy, it will no longer be necessary to make reservations for use of each circle. Seating is first come, first served. Don't forget to bring your lawn chairs. Food trucks will provide food and drink to concert goers. Volunteers are needed to help sell tickets for Split the Pot at this year's concerts.

It's a good time to return to the parks. Flowers are in bloom, birds are migrating, people are able to meet without benefit of Zoom.

See you in the parks,  
Bill Walker

## Be Tick Smart

by Amy Pellman

Protect – Check – Remove – Watch

With our mild winter, tick season started a little earlier than normal. And if you've had the chance to get outside this spring, you may have seen more of them crawling around. The 4 most common ticks in Ohio are the American Dog Tick, Blacklegged/Deer tick, Lone Star tick and the Brown Dog tick. Two newer species to Ohio are the Gulf Coast tick and the Asian Longhorn tick. All of them can carry harmful diseases to people and pets.

The best thing to do to **protect** yourself from bites:

- Wear long sleeves and pants,
- Use a tick repellent (25 -30% DEET is best)
- Wear shoes and clothes treated with Permethrin.
- Protect your pets with anti-tick medications/treatments from a veterinarian.
- Keep pets on a leash and out of high grassy areas.

After spending time outdoors, **check** for ticks before heading indoors. Ticks can hitch a ride inside on your clothes, gear as well as on pets. Tumble dry any clothing on high heat for 10 minutes to kill any ticks on clothing. If they need to be washed first, hot water is recommended. Check your whole body for ticks. It is recommended checks are completed within 2 hours as it is easier to find and wash off any that might be crawling on you. Conduct a full-body tick check after being in a tick-infested area. Parents should check children under their arms, in and around the ears, inside belly button, behind the knees, around the waist and especially in their hair.

**Remove** ticks as soon as you can. The best way is with tweezers or tick removers. Grasp as close to the skin as possible and pull up with steady, even pressure. Dispose of the live tick by putting in alcohol, placing in a sealed bag or container,



wrapping in tape or flushing down the toilet. Wash your hands and bite area with soap and water. It is not recommended to use a hot match, nail polish or petroleum jelly to remove ticks.

If you've been bitten by a tick, **watch** for symptoms. The most common symptoms of tick-related illnesses are: fever/chills, aches and pains, rash. While most tickborne diseases can result in mild symptoms, they can be difficult to diagnose. So, it is important to speak to your healthcare provider immediately if bitten by a tick and experience the symptoms listed above.



References:

<https://spectrumnews1.com/oh/columbus/weather/2021/04/28/new-tick-to-look-out-for>

<https://www.wkyc.com/article/sports/outdoors/2021-bad-year-ticks-ohio/95-5c6bcab3-903e-4fa7-8144-0562cbb91f1b>

<https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-ourprograms/zoontic-disease-program/resources/tickbornediseases>

## Friends BOD Votes to Approve Funding Requests

Requests were made by MPX to help fund a project for building a hoop house for wild tree and flower propagation, and from Friends of the Pioneer Church to help underwrite the cost of repairs to the brickwork of the church. The board voted to give \$5000 toward the hoop house (sort of a love child of a greenhouse and a Quonset Hut), and \$2500 for masonry repairs at the church. These two projects will be funded in part from Hump Day Split-the-Pot earnings and tip jars, (hopefully) in part by grants, and from the treasury.







**Don't forget to pay your  
annual dues!**





# Like our Facebook Page for updates on:

- Upcoming members events & meetings
- Volunteering with MPX
- MPX programming





## May Volunteers



Chestnut Tree Planting at Chrisholm Historic Farmstead 5/5/2021



Perimeter Trash Pickup at VOA 5/6/2021



Quality Gold Service Day at Chrisholm Historic Farmstead 5/15/2021



Give Back Crew Service Day at Elk Creek MetroPark, Meadow Ridge area 5/18/2021



Troop 4269 Service Day, Chrisholm Historic Farmstead 5/ 23/2021



**\*\*Keep sending in your pictures! We love to see them...and share them!\*\***





Barn at Elk Creek MetroPark – Meadow Ridge area  
Photo by: Joshua French



Double rainbow at Elk Creek MetroPark – Meadow Ridge area. Photo by: Joshua French



Pond Trail, Rentschler Forest MetroPark – Line Hill area. Photo by Mark & Therese McGoron

**June Birthday Corner!**

Reed Winner	6/1	Gayle Legris	6/13
William Bentley	6/4	Mark Evan Miller	6/13
Peyton Thomsen	6/4	Greg Best	6/15
Tom Green	6/5	Jean Hoskins	6/17
Ethan Link	6/5	Kathryn Zeppernick	6/18
Zachary Savage	6/6	Allan Gerhart	6/21
Wendy Harbarger	6/8	Nancy Clark	6/23
Ross Loshier	6/10	Abigail Tito	6/26
Ryan Cain	6/11	Cole Sumner	6/27
Brian Greuel	6/12	Susan Bolser	6/30



"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." – Helen Keller

**Don't Forget!**

- Any questions about opportunities or volunteering with MetroParks? Email Amy at [apellman@YourMetroParks.net](mailto:apellman@YourMetroParks.net)
- If you haven't logged your hours, don't forget to send in your hours or timesheet.

**Did You Know?**

- Hump Day Concerts are coming back starting June 2! Watch our website for more details.

**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](http://www.YourMetroParks.net)

Or email Amy Pellman at [apellman@YourMetroParks.net](mailto:apellman@YourMetroParks.net)



## MetroPark Volunteer Spotlight



### **Stephanie Welling – Trail Maintenance Steward**

**How long have you lived or worked in Butler County?**

I have lived in butler county all of my life. I grew up in West Chester. Then to help further grow my dad business in recycling, my family moved to an old horse farm in Fairfield.

**Tell me a little about your family:**

I live with my parents and two younger sisters. We have one very spoiled cat, 33 chickens (29 Rhode Islands and 4 bantams), and 3 ducks.

**Do you have any hobbies?**

I enjoy reading many different books and watching shows. Though my biggest hobby is crafting. I am an avid knitter and crocheter and am currently working on a large blanket.

**What do you love most about volunteering for MetroParks?**

I like volunteering at MetroParks because it is flexible. The volunteer position helps me get more into nature, while being flexible with my schedule as a college student.

## Ongoing Service Opportunities

If you are interested in any of our opportunities, please contact Amy Pellman at [apellman@YourMetroParks.net](mailto:apellman@YourMetroParks.net) or by calling 513-867-5835 x 212 for more information.

### Feeder Fill Monitor

When: Saturday or Sunday; during park hours 8:00 am – dusk

Where: Forest Run MetroPark – Timberman Ridge area, Welcome Center

What: This opportunity is for the birds. Literally! Become a Feeder Fill Monitor and help keep our birds happy and full. Monitors fill up to eight (8) feeders in a central location at the Welcome Center and clean the bird bath on a weekly basis. Volunteers in this position will need to successfully complete a background check prior to starting the position.

### Nest Box Monitor

When: **March – August**

Where: Forest Run MetroPark

Register: by March 31, 2020.

What: Learn about becoming a volunteer Nest Box Monitor with MetroParks! Volunteers are needed to monitor nest boxes every 3-4 days 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.

### Trail Maintenance Steward

When: Flexible; during park hours 8:00 am - dusk

Where: Assigned hiking trails within MetroParks

What: Trail Ambassador Stewards hike marked trails in an assigned MetroPark at least 4 hours a month. Stewards report any maintenance and safety concerns to MetroParks staff and pick up any trash.

### Campground Host

When: Mid-April through mid-October

Where: Governor Bebb MetroPark – Dry Fork Campground

What: Like to camp and help others? We are looking for some friendly faces who like to camp and have their own equipment to setup camp at the Dry Fork Campground-on us! The Campground host will greet other campers, answer questions, and periodically check the restroom facilities. In return, camping fees would be waived. Training and background check required.

### Long-term Survey Project

When: flexible

Where: Governor Bebb MetroPark, Voice of America MetroPark, Forest Run MetroPark & Rentschler Forest MetroPark

What: We are looking for volunteers to assist staff by collecting data. Counting passengers in vehicles will help us see how many people visit the parks. This information will help guide us where we need to focus our efforts. Timing can be flexible in 1-2 hour increments. We will provide equipment and training.

### Group Service Projects

When: Flexible

Where: Various

What: MetroParks always has a variety of 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](mailto:apellman@YourMetroParks.net) for more information.

### Photography Opportunity

Are you an amateur/professional/hobbyist photographer? Do you like to take pictures of people, places and special events? We are looking for high resolution photos with a dpi of 300 or more.





# HUMP DAY CONCERT SERIES

## WHEN

**Every Wednesday**  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**  
 June 2, 2021 - August 25, 2021  
 (excluding June 16, 2021)

## WHERE

**Voice of America MetroPark  
 Athletic Complex** **\*\*NEW LOCATION\*\***  
 7850 VOA Park Drive  
 West Chester, OH 45069

## PRICE

**FREE TO THE PUBLIC**

## ABOUT

- Free music
- Midweek relaxation
- Socially distanced audience space
- Bring chairs and/or blanket to sit on
- Family friendly

**June 2 Fleetwood Gold** *(Fleetwood Mac Tribute)*

**June 9 Lisa Biales**  
*(Blues, Folk, Original, Family Fun)*

**June 23 Michelle Robinson Band**  
*(Country, Rock, Pop, Originals)*

**June 30 The McCartney Project w/Vinyl Sunshine**  
*(Beatles/British Invasion)*

**July 7 Model Behavior** *(80's Party Rock Tribute)*

**July 14 Ryan Broshear** *(Country, Rock, Pop, Originals)*

**July 21 Dat Band** *(Funk, Soul, Rock & Roll)*

**July 28 Stagger Lee** *(Country Rock)*

**August 4 The Sunburners** *(Island Party)*

**August 11 Amy Newhart** *(Country Classic Rock)*

**August 18 KAVAN** *(Elvis Tribute)*

**August 25 Saffire Express**  
*(Pop, Motown, Country, Classic Rock)*



513.867.5835 | [YourMetroParks.net](http://YourMetroParks.net)

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$8/daily and \$15 annually.



2051 Timberman Road, Hamilton, OH 45013  
 513-867-5835, fax 513-867-5954  
[www.yourmetroparks.net](http://www.yourmetroparks.net)

## Monthly Volunteer Time Sheet

(Please Print or Type)

Group/Individual Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Month and Year: \_\_\_\_\_

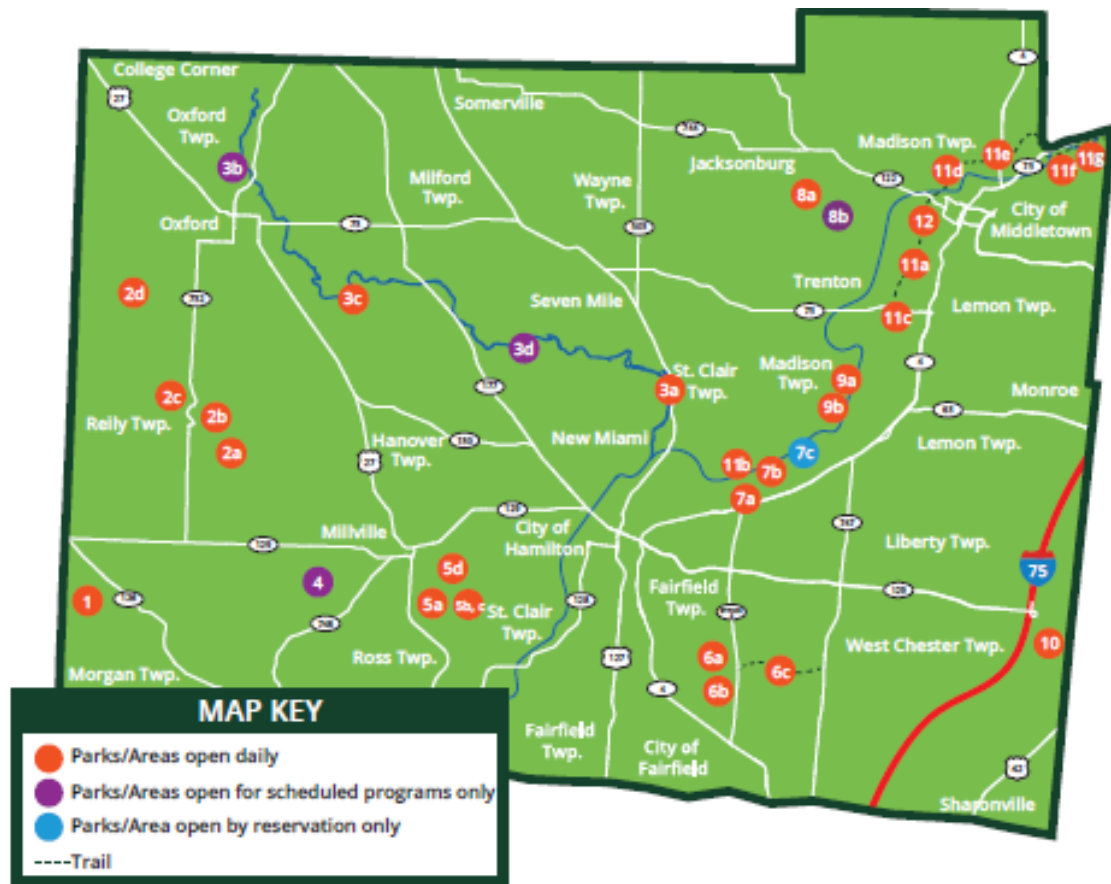
Date	Location of Project or Event	Description of Work Being Performed	Time Worked
Total:			

Please sign below and turn in your form at the end of each month to a supervising staff member or the Administrative Office.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

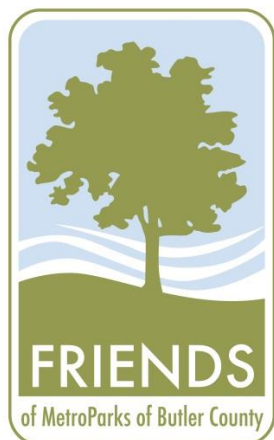
I recognize there are certain risks of injury as a result of my (or my child's) participation in this volunteer activity. I agree to assume the full risk of any injuries, damages, or loss which I (or my child may) sustain as a result of participating in any and all of the activities connected with or associated with this program, or products provided, including allergic reactions to foods consumed. I agree to waive and relinquish all claims I may have, as a result of my (or my child's) participation in this program, against MetroParks of Butler County and their agents, employees, and volunteers and against any co-sponsors of the program. I understand that neither MetroParks of Butler County, its staff, nor its volunteers assume responsibility for accident or injury to participants during this activity. MetroParks of Butler County Staff photographers may document the programs and events. MetroParks of Butler County reserves the right to use photographs of participants taken for the purposes of advertising and promoting its programs. I agree to these conditions.





- 1. GOVERNOR BEBB METROPARK**  
 1979 Bebb Park Lane Okeana OH 45053  
**Bebb Natural Area**  
 Dry Fork Campground  
 Pioneer Village
- 2. INDIAN CREEK METROPARK**  
**2A. Bunker Hill Cemetery**  
 5351 Reily-Millville Road Oxford OH 45056  
**2b. Oxford Road Area**  
 1899 Oxford-Reily Road (SR 732)  
 Oxford OH 45056  
**2C. Springfield Road Area**  
 6500 Springfield Road Oxford OH 45056  
**2D. Pioneer Church**  
 3000 Indian Creek Road Oxford OH 45056
- 3. FOUR MILE CREEK METROPARK**  
**3A. Antenen Preserve**  
 2385 Treiber Road Hamilton OH 45011  
**3B. Mill Race Area**  
 5911 Morning Sun Road Oxford OH 45056  
**3C. Sycamore Bluffs Area**  
 3742 Lane: Mills Road Hamilton OH 45011  
**3D. Davidson Woods Area**  
 1200 HogUe Road Hamilton OH 45013
- 4. SALAMANDER RUN PRESERVE**  
 4821 Layhigh Road Hamilton OH 45013
- 5. Forest Run MetroPark**  
**5A. Engle House - Little Dry Run - Administrative Office**  
 2051 Timberman Road Hamilton OH 45013  
**5B. Welcome Center**  
 1976 Timberman Road Hamilton OH 45013  
**5C. Timberman Ridge**  
 1976 Timberman Road Hamilton OH 45013  
**5D. Wildlife Preserve Area**  
 1810 New London Road Hamilton OH 45013
- 6. GILMORE METROPARK**  
**6A. Gilmore Road Area**  
 7950 Gilmore Road Hamilton OH 45015  
**6B. Bilstein Boulevard Area**  
 8500 Bilstein Boulevard Hamilton OH 45015  
**6C. Port Union Trail Area**
- 7. RENTSCHLER FOREST METROPARK**  
**7A. Riegart Road Area**  
 5701 Riegart Road Fairfield Township OH 45011  
**7B. Line Hill Mound Area**  
 3620 Hamilton-Middletown Road Fairfield Township OH 45011  
**7C. Timberhill Area**  
 3976 Hamilton-Middletown Road Fairfield Township OH 45011
- 8. Elk Creek MetroPark**  
**8A. Sebald Park Area**  
 5580 Elk Creek Road Middletown OH 45042  
**8B. Meadow Ridge Area**  
 5101 Circle Parkway Middletown OH 45042
- 9. Chrisholm MetroPark**  
**9A. Chrisholm Historic Farmstead**  
 2070 Woodsdale Road Trenton OH 45067  
**9B. Woodsdale Regional Park**  
 1917 Woodsdale Road Trenton OH 45067
- 10. Voice of America MetroPark**  
 7850 VOA Park Drive West Chester OH 45069  
**Athletic Complex**  
**Ronald Reagan Lodge**  
**Natural Areas & Chill Hill Sledding Hill**  
**Wiggly Field Dog Park**  
**Wheelhouse Outdoor Area**
- 11. Great Miami River Trail**  
**11A. North Section**  
 50 Oxford State Road Middletown OH 45044  
**11B. South Section**  
 5701 Riegart Road Fairfield Township OH 45011  
**11C. Parking Areas**  
 50 Oxford State Road, Middletown OH 45044  
 26 North. Carmody Boulevard, Middletown OH 45044  
 2399 North Carmody Boulevard, Middletown OH 45042  
 3801 North Verity Parkway, Middletown OH 45042  
 4401 North Verity Parkway, Middletown OH 45042
- 12. Bicentennial Commons**  
 Carmody Boulevard at Central Avenue

# 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invitations to Member-only events</li> <li>• Opportunity to apply for funding to support MetroParks programs and projects</li> <li>• Attend Annual Meeting and have a voice in Friends activities and direction</li> </ul>
Who Are We?	<p><i>Private citizens who have come together to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sponsor programs &amp; activities, promoting the use of MetroParks for conservation, education and recreation</li> <li>• Encourage volunteerism toward support of MetroParks of Butler County</li> <li>• Identify and implement improvements to the park</li> <li>• Assist in raising funds, securing donations, and obtaining grants monies to further MetroParks' mission</li> </ul>

***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*

## 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*

## Pick an Annual Membership

- Individual - \$10
- Family - \$15
- Group/Business - \$100
- Donation - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s)/Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name(s)/Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Group or Business Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home/Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email (required to receive newsletter) \_\_\_\_\_