

The Voice of the Turtle



Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Monthly Newsletter

August, 2019

FOMPBC Officers

President:

Bill Walker

Vice-President,

Nick Lengyel

Secretary:

Robin James

Treasurer:

Larry Gersbach

Nominating Chair:

Roger Koch

Publicity Chair:

Bill Walker

Outreach Chair:

Michel Price

Finance Chair:

Richard Burgstrom

Grants & Fund Raiser Chair

Robin James

Membership Chair:

Nick Lengyel

Events Chair

Carri Mosier

Web Master:

Craig Wiseman

Newsletter Editor:

Bill Walker

July Board Meeting! Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Wednesday, August 14, 2019

Voice of America MetroPark

7850 VOA Park Dr, West Chester, OH 45069

6:00-6:45 PM



Letter from the President

Strange that we're already 2/3 through summer. We have gone from cool and wet to warm and dry. I guess that it's nice not to have to mow the lawn twice a week, but I prefer moderation in all things (including moderation!). After all the years that I've spent in Ohio, I should know better.

I'd like to welcome Kathy Takanen to the FoMPBC board of directors. Kathy has coordinated photographer volunteers from the West Chester Photography Club at MPX activities for several years.

At least some of the park activities have, Cardboard Regatta last month and Mud Mania this month, involved water. After a wet spring and early summer, lately it's so dry that trees are following dogs down the street.

Speaking of dogs, work on the expansion of Wiggly Fields dog park at VOA is nearing completion. The Chuck Holliday memorial bench has recently been installed. Formal dedication is scheduled for early fall. Watch this newsletter next month for time and date.



We are down to the last Hump Day concert next week. Plan to join us next week to enjoy a concert by the Barefoot Movement. Bring your folding chairs and picnic dinner (or sample the selections available from the VOA kitchen) and join us lakeside next Wednesday. Who knows, you may even win the last Split-the-Pot drawing of the year. See you in the parks!

Bill Walker, President FOMPBC

Upcoming Events

Show and Tell on the Farm



Come out and enjoy spring on the farm with Show and Tell on the Farm at Chrisholm MetroPark.

Topics this month include: Ants Go Marching, Mudpies Mayhem, Pioneer Farmers, Herbalicious, ABC's of Farm Life, Cellar Food is survival, Goober Peas, Peanuts, and soybeans, Barnyard Boot-N-Scout.

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

Hump Day Concert Series



Need a little Mid-Week pick me up? Come out to Voice of America MetroPark and enjoy live Music, Food & Family Fun Wednesday August 7th and 14th at 7:00pm for the Hump Day concert series. The final concert will be the Barefoot Movement Band. Don't miss it!

Trail Yoga



Hiking and Yoga, what could be better? It is a great way to reduce stress through awareness and increase positive emotions. In fact, being present in nature has been proven to lower heart rate/blood pressure and even boost immunity! Join us on Tuesday evenings with Laura Lejeune for a time of relaxation in and around Rentschler Forest MetroPark.

Please note: Wear comfortable “old friend” closed-toed shoes, as we will be out on the trail. You will not need a yoga mat for this program. Open to all fitness levels.

Call (513) 867-5835 to register for all six classes at a discount. \$36.00 for the series!

Mud Mania



Slip, slide, climb and crawl your way from this year’s mud obstacle course!!! Mud volleyball tournaments, giant water slide, slimy obstacle

course, muddy pools, event merchandise, vendors, and more!

*****Shoes are Required, NO FLIP FLOPS

Duct Tape will be provided

Friday and Saturday August 9th and 10th from 11:00am-3:00PM at Rentschler Forest Metro Park.

MUTT Mania



Mud Mania has gone to the Dogs!!!! Bring your four-legged best Friend and try out the doggy obstacles. Visit with dog vendors, play in muddy pools, and mingle with other canines. \$5.00 Per dog or a donation of a 3+ pound of bag of dog food to be donated to a local animal shelter.

** *Dogs must remain on a leash and ALL humans must have proper Footwear (No Flip-Flops)

Sunday August 11th from 11:00am-3:00PM at Rentschler Forest Metro Park

Perseid Meteor Shower Watch



Come out on Saturday August 10th to Forest Run Metro Park and Join the meteor shower watch.

Explore the stars and enjoy all kinds of sensory activities during the night program.

Don't forget to bring a blanket/chair for your stargazing.

Saturday, August 10, 9:00 PM-12:00 AM
Forest Run Wildlife Preserve - 1810 New London Road, Hamilton, OH 45013

Dog-Gone Bone Hunt-Rescheduled



The weather didn't cooperate in April so join us for an egg hunt in August instead!

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

Don't forget to join us for Mutt Mania happening that day as well!

<http://reservations.yourmetroparks.net/programs/1983/>

The three open hunt times will be first come first serve with a maximum of 50 dogs per time:

- 11:30 a.m. - Registration/Check-In Opens
- 12:00 p.m. – Egg Hunt
- 12:45 p.m. – Egg Hunt
- 1:30 p.m. – Egg Hunt

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.

Sunday, August 11, 11:30 AM-2:00 PM
Rentschler Forest MetroPark Cummins Shelter - 5701 Reigart Rd. Hamilton OH

Movies in the Parks

Friday nights were made for the Movies!!! Bring the Family out for a **FREE** movie outdoors on a nice summer evening starting Friday August 16th thru September 20th at Rentschler Forest. Grab your lawn chair or blanket and join us for an evening out in the parks, and maybe even pack a picnic to make it a dinner and a movie! The movie will start at dark.

8:00-10:30 PM
Rentschler Forest MetroPark Reigart Road Area - Cummins Shelter - 5701 Reigart Rd. Hamilton, OH



Mountain music Jam



Join Warren and Judy Waldron in impromptu mountain music jam sessions at Indian Creek MetroPark Pioneer church Sunday August 25th,

2:00-4:00PM. Bring a blanket or chair and listen to the music or bring your own instrument and join in. The last Sundays of June, July and August.

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.

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

Farm Animal Fund

Chrisholm Farmstead MetroPark is almost ready to begin adding livestock to the new pens. Because MPX can only make purchases from pre-approved vendors, this red tape makes it difficult to buy animals from individual farmers. Our status as a 501C3 tax-exempt non-profit group makes it possible to streamline livestock purchases for Chrisholm. We have set aside a special account for such purchases. Please send your tax-free donation to: Friends of MetroParks of Butler County
PO Box 691, Hamilton, OH 45012

Please make sure to make a note on the memo line of your check "Chrisholm Animal Fund" to make sure your donation helps populate the new FarmScape..

Kayaking in MetroParks



Kayaking is one of the many family friendly opportunities that MetroParks has to offer. It's not only an excuse to get out of the house but can be a way to better connect with the nature around us. There are certain fishing spots that are only available via kayak. Kayaking gives you the opportunity to catch many local species such as: Largemouth Bass, Black Crappie, or Bluegill.

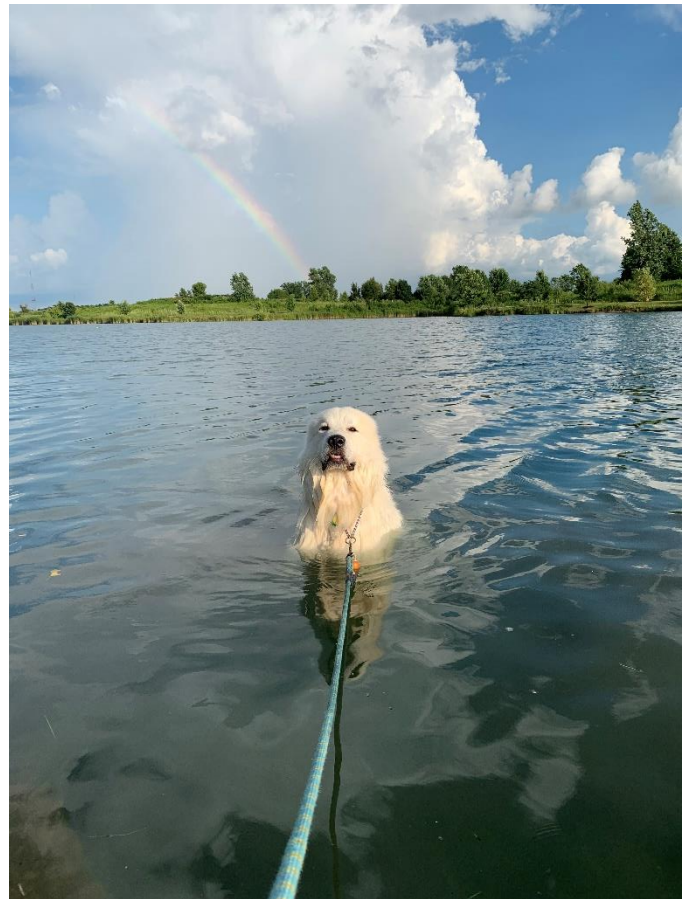
You'll also get a chance to see certain bird species that live on or near the water, such as Green Herons, Belted Kingfishers, and during migration, Common Loons. If you're looking for a way to get the family together during the weekend, kayaking can be a great reason to spend a few hours on the water exploring all the beauty that MetroParks has to offer. It's also a good workout for those looking to burn some extra calories.

While kayaking is not available at all locations of the MetroParks; several parks have accessibility to kayaking. Voice of America MetroPark is a great place to try out kayaking for the first time without having to commit to buying a kayak. Single or tandem kayak rentals are available during Wheelhouse hours for those who are interested. Rentschler Forest MetroPark is another great location to kayak for those that already have kayaks to get in the water for a few hours. The park is built alongside the old Miami-Erie canal, and offers terrific fishing opportunities for those willing to get on the water. Another location is Sycamore Bluffs, which has a boat launch for Four Mile Creek.

With all of the fun that kayaking offers, it is important to take into consideration all of the safety protocols that must be followed in order to ensure that everyone involved has a fun, yet safe experience. With how hot the weather is this time of year, please ensure that you have enough water to drink. Also, make sure that you have adequate sun protection gear, whether that be sunblock, sunhats, or SPF blocking clothing. Always follow the Ohio boating rules, and if you intend to kayak alone, make sure to tell someone when and where you plan to go. Another thing to be cautious of is to never exceed the weight capacity of your kayak. But most importantly, make sure that you are wearing your personal safety floatation device. Following these steps will ensure that you and your loved ones will be safe out there on the waves.

Lucas Young
Park Maintenance Technician

Critter Corner by Nicole Runges



There was a recent reporting of a polar bear sighting at the VOA lake. Judging by the photo, the "bear" was water skiing, and is a close friend of a unicorn (hence the rainbow above the critter). Either that, or the "bear" had pockets full of gold. It is also possible that the critter is just magically delicious. News at 11.



Hump Day 7 Concert The Sunburners Band



Crazy Cardboard Regatta



The Voice of the Turtle, August, 2019





Hump Day 8 – Kavan





Hump Day 9 – Roadtrip

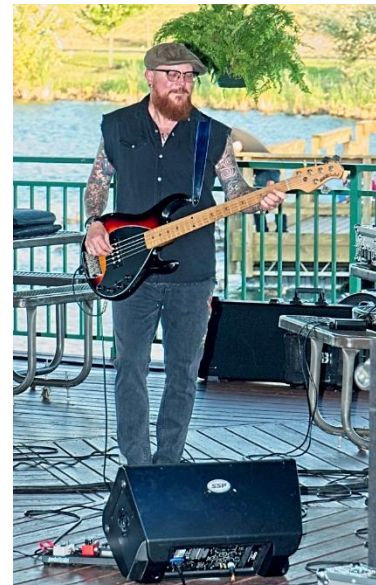


Hump Day 10 – The McCartney Experience





Hump Day Concert 11 – Ryan Broshear



Photos in the Parks – Summer Flowers



Meadow Ridge Ribbon Cutting



Like our Facebook Page for updates on:

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



June Service Days



Honda Service Day Forest Run MetroPark-Timberman Ridge 6/11/19



Kettering Health-Fort Hamilton Hospital Service Day Miami Woods 6/17/19

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 Pellman at apellman@YourMetroParks.net

In This Issue

- Upcoming Opportunities
- Recurring Opportunities


Did you know?

- Did you know that you can sign up online and view various opportunities to serve within MetroParks?
- Visit www.YourMetroParks.net, select "Support", then under "Current Volunteers" click the link. Once you sign in you can view openings to serve by month. Anywhere you see "Help Wanted" you can click to see opportunities.

June Birthday Corner!

Zachary Casto	7/1	Brad Bedel	7/14
Daniel Krazl	7/2	Miah Holman	7/15
Taylor Williams	7/2	Adam Hamilton	7/19
Harshita Ganga	7/4	Ricky Lux	7/20
Connor Perry	7/4	Suzanne Byrd	7/21
Sam Billisits	7/6	Kirsten Kalugyer	7/22
Justin Avery	7/7	Morgan Halstead	7/24
Matthew Banks	7/9	Michelle Hook	7/25
Diane Gudaitis	7/13	Joan Wolpin	7/26



We L  ve our Volunteers!!

MetroPark Staff Spotlight



Mark Hesse – Senior Park Manager, Central Zone

Tell us a little about your background and what brought you to MetroParks?

I graduated from the University of Toledo in 2005 with a degree in Recreation and Leisure Studies. I have worked in the field of Parks and Recreation since the age of 15. I'm a certified playground safety inspector and I'm also a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional. In my career, I have had the opportunity to plan and implement programs and events, lifeguard, manage swim lessons, open new facilities and parks, manage budgets and staff and much more. What brought me to MetroParks is the amazing parks system that I would have the opportunity to manage and grow for the future.

Tell us a little about your family:

I am married to my wife Kristen Hesse coming up on 10 years in August. We have 3 children, Paige who is 9, Lilly who is 6 and Blake who is 4. We live in Evendale, Ohio.

Do you have any hobbies?

My hobbies include playing golf, basketball, soccer and softball. I enjoy camping with my family and taking long hikes in the woods.

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 play sports or spend time with family.

What do you love most about working for MetroParks?

The people and the amazing parks I get to manage.

Upcoming Service Opportunities

Crazy Cardboard Regatta – 10th Anniversary

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

When: July 20, 2019

Multiple shifts available beginning at 8:00 a.m. and ending at 4:00 p.m. Contact Amy Pellman for details

Where: Voice of America MetroPark 7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester OH 45069

What: All hands on deck!! Looking for 50-60 volunteers to assist with setup, boat registration, boat inspection, concessions, children's activities, boat retriever/launchers, timers, gofers and cleanup. Come join us for this fun filled soggy day! Contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information.

Mud Mania/Mutt Mania

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

When: Mud Mania-August 9 & 10; Mutt Mania-August 11

Shifts available from: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.; 12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Where: Rentschler Forest MetroPark-Reigart Road Area (soccer fields)

5701 Reigart Road Fairfield Twp. OH 45011

What: Get ready for some good, not-so-clean, family fun! People from all over the Butler County community will be sliding, climbing, and crawling their way through the MetroParks of Butler County's Mud Mania obstacle course, and we need your help to keep them safe during their last blast of summer! Volunteers are needed for registration, to help participants on the course and to referee contestants of the mud volleyball tournament (Friday & Saturday). On Sunday, we will have Mutt Mania! A day of some good, not-so-clean, dog fun! Dogs (on leash) can climb, crawl and splash their way through MetroParks of Butler County's Mutt Mania obstacle course. We will need volunteers to assist with setup/cleanup, registration and to be helpers along the course. We will also need help with dog bathing stations for the pups that dare to get dirty!

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.

Trail Maintenance Steward

When: Flexible

Where: Assigned hiking trails within MetroParks

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

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.

"Act as if what you do makes a difference. IT DOES."
William James

SHOW AND TELL ON THE FARM



Show and Tell on the Farm

WHEN **Sundays 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**
Thursdays 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

WHERE **Chrisholm MetroPark**
Chrisholm Historic Farmstead
2070 Woodsdale Road
Trenton, OH 45067

PRICE **FREE programs for all ages**
No Registration Necessary

ABOUT

Come on over to Chrisholm Historic Farmstead for Show and Tell on the Farm. Each day will feature different themes with special guest stars — some furry & some feathery — crafts, and games! Come for any amount of time. Designed to delight kids and kids at heart.

July 7 Water is Life

July 11 Batty about Bats

July 14 Compost Chums & Brave Bacteria

July 18 Pizza Parts

July 21 ABC's of Farm Life

July 25 Grass-Head Friends

July 28 All Scream for Ice Cream

August 1 Painting with Veggies

August 4 Ants Go Marching

August 8 Mudpies Mayhem

August 11 Pioneer Farmers

August 15 Herbalicious

August 18 ABC's of Farm Life

August 22 Cellar Food is Survival

August 25 Goober Peas & Soybeans

August 29 Barnyard Boot N Scoot

*There will be no Show & Tell on the Farm program on July 4.

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.





HUMP DAY CONCERT SERIES

WHEN Every Wednesday
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
May 29th – August 22nd
(excluding July 4th)

WHERE Voice of America MetroPark
Gazebo on the Lake
7850 VOA Park Drive
West Chester, OH 45069

PRICE FREE TO THE PUBLIC

REGISTER YourMetroParks.net
Registration Not Required

FEATURING

- Free music
- Midweek relaxation
- Food & adult beverages for purchase
- Lake activities
- Bike & boat rentals
- Playground for the kids

May 29 Stagger Lee (*Country Rock*)

June 5 The Belairs (*50s, 60s, Vegas-style Show*)

June 12 JAYME (*Country, Classic Rock*)

June 19 Model Behavior (*80s Party Rock*)

June 26 Parrots of the Caribbean
(*Jimmy Buffett Tribute*)

July 3 Dat Band (*Funk, Soul, Rock & Roll*)

July 10 The SunBurners (*Island Party*)

July 17 KAVAN (*Elvis Tribute*)

July 24 RoadTrip (*Classic Rock*)

July 31 The McCartney Project (*Beatles Tribute*)

August 7 Ryan Broshear (*Country*)

August 14 The Barefoot Movement
(*Americana, Folk, Bluegrass*)



513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.





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 Creeking
- 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
- 1/26/19 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!



CREEKING IN THE PARKS



CO-SPONSORED EVENT

Creeking in the Parks

WHEN Every Thursday, June 6, 2019 -
August 1, 2019
Excluding July 4, 2019
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

WHERE See below

PRICE FREE

ABOUT

Partners MetroParks of Butler County and Butler Soil & Water Conservation District will be your hosts for this series. Learn what lives in the creeks and about fossils around the area. All ages are welcome!

Appropriate footwear required. No flip flops please.

- June 6** Rentschler Forest MetroPark
Reigart Road Area
- June 13** Rentschler Forest MetroPark
Timberhill Area
- June 20** Forest Run MetroPark
Wildlife Preserve Area
- June 27** Pond Study - Forest Run MetroPark
Timberman Ridge

- July 11** Indian Creek MetroPark
Oxford-Reily Road Area
- July 18** Elk Creek MetroPark
Sebald Park Area
- July 25** Governor Bebb MetroPark
- August 1** Four Mile Creek MetroPark
Antenen Preserve

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.



bav/sjb 190225 approved

MUD MANIA



Rentschler Forest MetroPark

Reigart Road Area | 5701 Reigart Road Fairfield Twp OH 45011

MUD MANIA

- Obstacle Course
- Water Slide
- Muddy Pools
- Little Mudders' Area
- Vendors and MORE!

**Friday, August 9 &
Saturday, August 10**

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

\$5/day ages 5 & up
Under 5 years old/FREE

MUD VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENTS

- All the Fun of Mud Mania!
- Bandanna for each team member
- 1st & 2nd Place Awards each day

**Friday, August 9 &
Saturday, August 10**

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

\$50/day/6-player volleyball team

NEW! MUTT MANIA

- Doggy Obstacles
- Muddy Pools
- Dog Vendors

Sunday, August 11, 2019

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

\$5/dog OR 3-lb bag of dog food



PLEASE NOTE: Come prepared to get wet & dirty. All Participants must wear shoes (no flip flops). All dogs must be on a leash.

sjb 190503 approved

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.





BIKE AND SAFETY RALLY 2019

Calling All Kids In The Community!

You and your family are cordially invited to the Fifth Annual Bike and Safety Rally, presented by UC Health Public Safety and MetroParks of Butler County.



**Don't forget to bring your bicycle and
your helmet for FREE bike inspections
and helmet fittings!**

**Saturday, August 10
10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

UC Health Fieldhouse
7850 VOA Park Drive
West Chester, OH 45069



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.

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.



PHOTO WALKS



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.

COMPOSING A GREAT PHOTOGRAPH

Start the morning with a short presentation on compositional tools in the Welcome Center. Then we'll go outside and search for good photo opportunities in the fields and around the ponds. Learn tips on composition to help you frame and capture spring flowers and early morning light.

Saturday, April 13, 2019 | 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Forest Run MetroPark Welcome Center

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE LIGHT

Join us for a summer evening at VOA as we search for good compositions that capture the evening light. Learn tips on the different types of light, how that light can impact your image, and how to use light correctly to create great photographs.

Monday, June 17, 2019 | 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. | Voice of America MetroPark Ronald Reagan Lodge

SHOOTING CLOSE-UPS AND INTIMATE LANDSCAPES

Spend a summer evening looking for the "small stuff". When you start to look for the "small stuff", you'll discover all kinds of interesting new subjects on a summer evening.

Thursday, July 18, 2019 | 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. | Elk Creek MetroPark Meadow Ridge Area

PHOTOGRAPHING HISTORICAL BUILDINGS

Join us as we wander around the Pioneer Village and capture photographs of the historic buildings. Learn tips for telling a story with your photographs and capturing architectural features.

Saturday, September 7, 2019 | 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. | Governor Bebb MetroPark Pioneer Village

SHOOTING FALL COLORS

Embrace Autumn at Chrisholm Farm as we search for fall colors and capture photographs of the historic Farmstead. Learn tips for capturing fall colors and share a little about how to use color theory in your photography.

Saturday, November 9, 2019 | 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead

All programs are FREE. Registration is required by the Friday before each program.

cmw/sjb 190206 approved

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.



RIVER CENTER SERIES



River Center Series

WHERE **Bicentennial Commons River Center**
120 S. Carmody Boulevard Middletown OH 45044

PRICE **FREE**

All About Water

Saturday, March 30, 2019
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Let's get crazy about water! World Water Day is March 22nd, so let's celebrate. Learn about the importance of water and all that it does for us at the River Center. Read a story, engage in an activity, and have fun.

Amazing Animals

Saturday, June 1, 2019
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Want to learn all about Ohio Wildlife? Come check out the River Center while you experience an animal story and see a live animal presentation with our native program ambassadors!

Build a Butterfly Garden

Saturday, August 24, 2019
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Can't miss the butterflies when they are out and about. Their vibrant colors always catch your eyes. Let's learn how to build a garden to support our beautiful butterflies. Join us at the River Center for a fun program on How to Build a Butterfly Garden including a craft.

Ready...Set...Recycle!

Saturday, November 9, 2019
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Happy America Recycles Day! America Recycles Day is November 15th and we are ready to celebrate. Join us at the River Center for some fun recycling-based activities and a craft.

* Pre-registration required by the Friday before program

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.



swb/sjb 190222 approved

FUN ON THE FARM



FUN ON THE FARM

WHEN Sunday, September 8, 2019
12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

WHERE Chrisholm MetroPark
Chrisholm Historic Farmstead
2070 Woodsdale Road
Trenton, OH 45067

PRICE \$5 per vehicle

Experience life and activities away from the city and down on the farm at this year's Fun on the Farm—farm fun the old fashion way!

Featuring:

- Petting zoo with the opportunity to feed the animals
- Farmer's market
- Wagon rides
- Samples of open hearth cooking
- Tours of the 1874 Amish-Mennonite Augspurger Home
- And MORE!



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



sjb 180511 approved



MOVIES IN THE PARKS



Movies in the Parks

ABOUT

What's better than going out to a movie on Friday night? How about a FREE movie outdoors on a nice summer evening! Grab your lawn chair or blanket and join us for an evening out in the parks. Feel free to pack your dinner to make it a dinner and a movie. The movie will begin at dark.

WHEN

Every Friday from August 16, 2019 to September 20, 2019

PRICE

FREE TO THE PUBLIC
Registration Not Required



MARY POPPINS RETURNS
August 16, 2019
Rentschler Forest MetroPark
5701 Reigart Rd.
Fairfield Township, OH 45011



HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON: THE HIDDEN WORLD
August 23, 2019
Rentschler Forest MetroPark
5701 Reigart Rd.
Fairfield Township, OH 45011



CHRISTOPHER ROBIN
August 30, 2019
Rentschler Forest MetroPark
5701 Reigart Rd.
Fairfield Township, OH 45011



CHARLOTTE'S WEB
September 6, 2019
Rentschler Forest MetroPark
5701 Reigart Rd.
Fairfield Township, OH 45011



THE INCREDIBLES 2
September 13, 2019
Rentschler Forest MetroPark
5701 Reigart Rd.
Fairfield Township, OH 45011



SPIRIT: STALLION OF THE CIMARRON
September 20, 2019
Rentschler Forest MetroPark
5701 Reigart Rd.
Fairfield Township, OH 45011

cmw/sjb 190206 approved

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.



DOG-GONE BONE HUNT



Dog-Gone Bone Hunt

WHEN Sunday, August 11, 2019
11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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

PRICE \$6/Dog

ABOUT

The weather didn't cooperate in April so join us for an egg hunt in August instead!

Bring your pooch for an egg hunt designed for dogs! Put their nose to the test as they sniff out a dozen treat 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!

First Come First Serve Hunt Times are:

11:30 a.m. – Registration/Check-In Opens
12:00 p.m. – Hunt #1
12:45 p.m. – Hunt #2
1:30 p.m. – Hunt #3

Maximum of 50 dogs per hunt time.

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.



cmw/sjb 190206 approved

Mountain Music Jams



Mountain Music Jams

WHEN Sundays, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
June 30, July 28, and August 25, 2019

WHERE Indian Creek MetroPark
Pioneer Church Area
3000 Indian Creek Road
Oxford OH 45056

PRICE FREE
No registration required

ABOUT

Welcome the Waldrons! Warren and Judy Waldron will lead everyone in impromptu, mountain music jam sessions at the Pioneer Church.

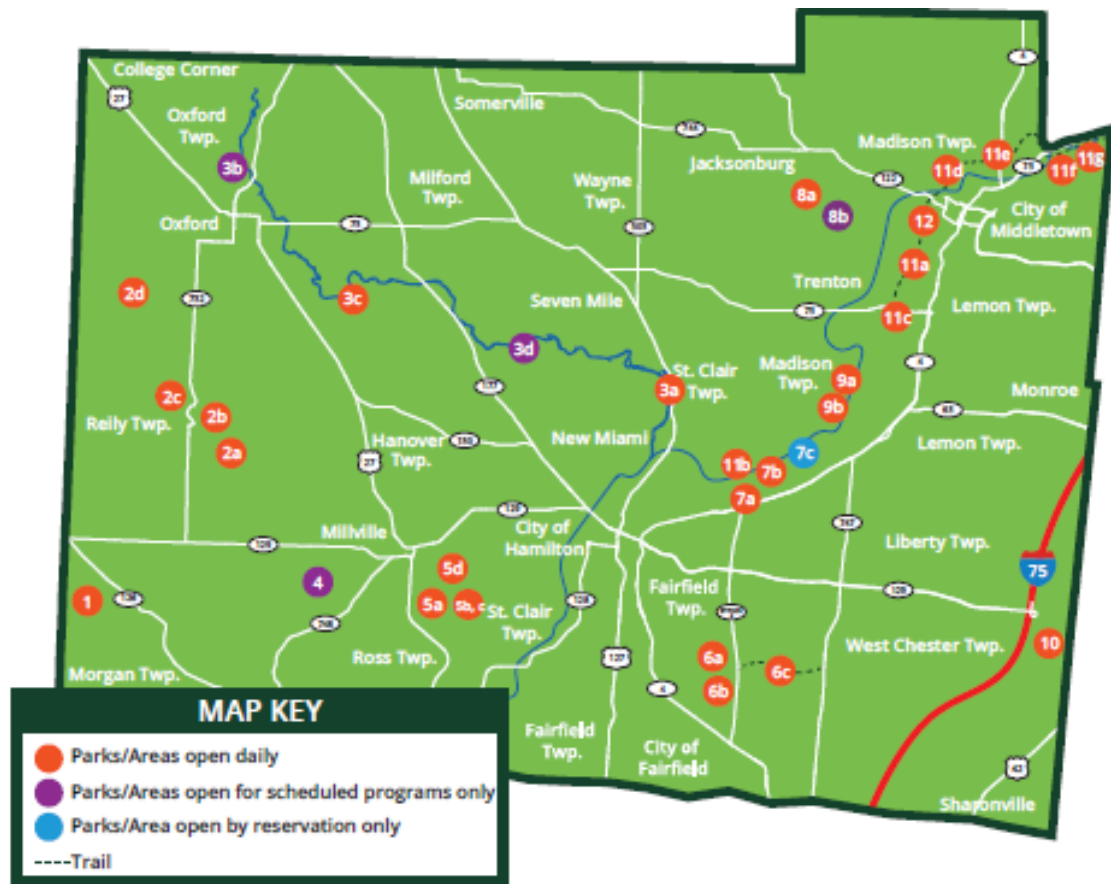
Bring a chair or blanket to sit it back & enjoy the talented local musicians. Pack your own instrument and join in the fun!

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annually.

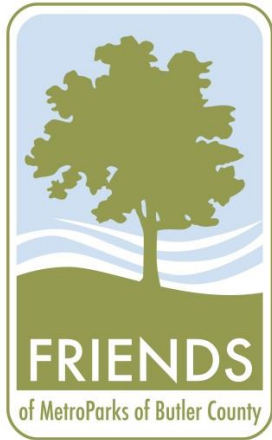


SWB/bav 180220 approved



- 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"> • 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?	<p><i>Private citizens who have come together to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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

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) _____