

The Voice of the Turtle



Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Monthly Newsletter

December, 2020

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Bill Walker

December Board Meeting Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Because Covid has still not left the building, we will not have an in-person Board of Directors meeting on Wednesday, 12/9. I am working with Craig Wiseman to choose software for teleconferencing. If possible, we will try to schedule an online conference for this Wednesday at 7 pm.

Stay healthy!



Letter from the President

It's amazing how many days of Thanksgiving leftovers result from attendance restrictions during the holiday. We finally wound up freezing enough sliced turkey to last most of December. Beef tastes wonderful after a week of white meat. Maybe after a few weeks we can endure turkey tacos without shuddering.

Covid vaccines are awaiting FDA approval this week (as promised by a lame-duck politician). Of course, the incoming regime will claim credit for this accomplishment. After seeing the large number of people gathering without wearing masks, or failing to cover the nose with the mask, I only wish that there was a vaccine for stupidity. Of course, many of the antivaccers wouldn't choose to take that vaccine either. Duct tape can't cure stupid, but it can muffle it somewhat. Let's all do our part to stop the pandemic: wear a mask (correctly) when in public, get the vaccine when it becomes available, limit group size, and socially distance. If we all work together, we may even be able to see one another indoors in the new year.

Amy Pellman has asked me to request that any unreported volunteer hours are turned in to her before the end of this year. For your convenience, a form is included to record those hours. Please complete the form and send it to Amy at your earliest convenience.

There is still plenty of time to visit our parks. See you there. Have safe and happy holidays!

Bill Walker



Like our Facebook Page for updates on:

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



November Volunteers



American Heritage Girls Service Day 11/7/2020
Rentschler Forest MetroPark – Timberhill 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 Pellman at apellman@YourMetroParks.net

Don't Forget!

- As 2020 winds down, don't forget to log or send in your volunteer hours!

Did You Know?

- Central Zone has split into North and South Zones. North Zone is managed by Sr. Park Manager Mark Hesse. South Zone is managed by Sr. Park Manager Ron Lairson

December Birthday Corner!

Ronald Aylward	12/1	Chris Tompkins	12/23
Jennifer Vanderhorst	12/2	Silas Birdsell	12/25
Jonathon Davis	12/5	Erich Laubenstein	12/25
Carl Ruble	12/5	Tracy Palma	12/25
Jerry Hall	12/6	Alisa Cox	12/27
Jeff Lehman	12/7	Logan Fitzwater	12/27
Cameron Bryant	12/10	Larry Gersbach	12/27
Adriane Beimesche	12/11	Natalie Horne	12/27
Sherri Profitt	12/14	Sharon Roggenkamp	12/28
Gary Stokes	12/19	Jessica Roten	12/28
Braden VanWinkle	12/20	Pamela Harper	12/31
Patrick McDonald	12/23		



"If you want to touch the past, touch a rock. If you want to touch the present, touch a flower. If you want to touch the future, touch a life." -
Author Unknown



MetroPark Staff Spotlight



Andrew Burch – Asst. Park Manager South Zone

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

I grew up in Hamilton close to Rentschler Forest and went there often as a child. As well as going to MetroParks programs there and at Governor Bebb. I attended Badin HS and graduated from The Ohio State with a bachelor's degree in Natural Resources Management. I started at MetroParks with an internship in 2015.

Tell us a little about your family:

I have an older brother and two younger sisters as well as great parents.

Do you have any hobbies?

I enjoy hiking, camping, and backpacking. I've gone to the Rockies every summer for years to spend a couple weeks in the Backcountry.

What do you like to do for fun or is there a fun fact about yourself you would like to share?

I'm a pretty big soccer fan. I still play recreationally when I can. Let's go FC Cincinnati and the Crew in Columbus! Fun fact: I'm currently reading a collection stories by H.P. Lovecraft.

What do you love most about working for MetroParks?

I'm glad I get to spend much of my time working outside and with my hands. In Operations it's satisfying to see a project come together and hopefully provide something people will enjoy.

Ongoing Service Opportunities

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. Contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information.

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. If interested contact Amy Pellman at apellman@YourMetroParks.net.

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 for more information. To comply with the current regulations surrounding groups, the maximum allowed attendees is 9. A complete listing of the requirements can be shared upon request.

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. If interested, please contact Amy Pellman at apellman@YourMetroParks.net.

Friends of Chrisholm Founder's Garden Donations

2020 marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of Friends of Chrisholm. Recently, two of the original founders and key contributors to its success over their years of service, Carl Jantzen and Doris L. Page passed away. The families of both Carl and Doris have designated the Friends of Chrisholm as a charitable organization for in memory donations. The board of the Friends of Chrisholm, partnering with MetroParks of Butler County, would like to use the proceeds from those donations toward funding a Pollinator Garden at the Chrisholm site in honor of all its original Founders. Planning efforts are underway. If you would like to make a donation to the Friends of Chrisholm to honor Carl, Doris, and its Founders and help make this installation a great addition to the Chrisholm MetroPark, you may donate on line at www.chrisholmhistoricfarmstead.org or send your donation to:

Friends of Chrisholm
P.O. Box 234
Trenton, OH 45067





2051 Timberman Road, Hamilton, OH 45013
 513-867-5835, fax 513-867-5954
www.yourmetroparks.net

Monthly Volunteer Time Sheet

(Please Print or Type)

Group/Individual Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone/E-mail: _____

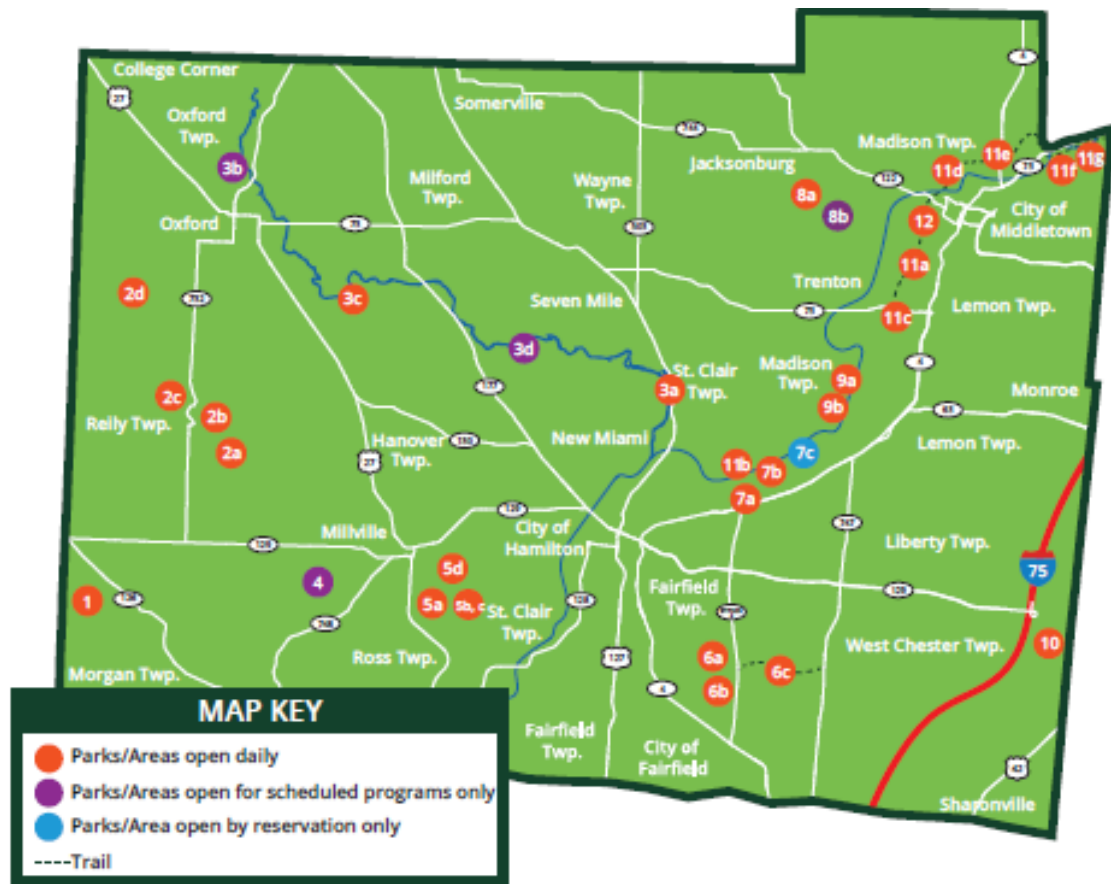
Month and Year: _____

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

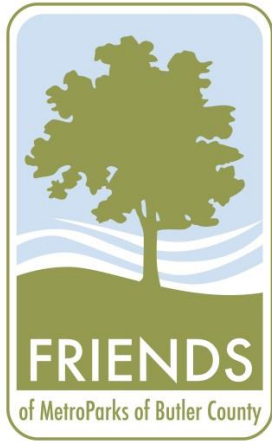
11. Great Miami River Trail

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"> • 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) _____