

The Voice of the Turtle



Friends

of MetroParks of Butler County

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Monthly Newsletter

July, 2018

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Bill Walker

July Board Meeting Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

VOA MetroPark

Community Room, West Chester, OH 45069

6:00-6:45 PM

Members and interested parties are welcome to
attend



Letter from the President

Summertime and the living is sweaty. Seems like only a few weeks ago we were complaining about chilly weather. Kindly refrain from complaining about the heat, since it doesn't change the temperature and annoys the rest of us. Instead, look at all the fun activities scheduled for the parks, including the Crazy Cardboard Regatta, creek walks, and Hump Day Concerts.

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: Cornucopia, Water is life, Manure Mush, Painting with Veggies, Ants Go Marching, Bones, Stones and Saws, Treeriffic, Grass-head Friends

Fun on the Farm is on Thursdays from 6:30-7:30pm and Sunday's from 2:00-4:00pm except July 5th.



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 May 30th at 7:00pm for the start of the Hump Day concert series.

The Concert Series this month will feature: Frontier a harmony-driven rock band, the McCartney Project & Vinyl sunshine, Ryan Broshear who merges genuine Country with a hip fresh sound, and the SunBurners Cincinnati's favorite island party band,

Family Fun Friday



MetroParks of Butler County with partners Butler Soil and Water Conservation District and Ohio State University Extension are hosting Family Fun Fridays.

Family Fun Fridays are from 10:00-11:30 AM at various parks. Topics this month include Something Fishy, Kids Loco-Motion, All About Water, What's Outside,

Pioneer Life



Step back in time, to the Early 1800's and witness the life of the pioneers on Sunday July 8th, from 12:00-5:00pm at Governor Bebb. Visit with Interpreters and demonstrators. Make crafts during your visit at our authentic pioneer village.

Zombie Apocalypse Camp



July 9th-13th Campers who participate in this week long Zombie Apocalypse camp at Rentschler Forest Metro Park from 9:00am-4:00pm, will learn outdoor survival skills to survive a number of outdoor adventures (fire building, shelter building, geocaching, and more).

Creeking in the Park



Stop WATER-ever you are doing and Join MetroParks of Butler County and Butler Soil and Water Conservation District on Thursday's 10:00AM-12:00pm in July for an educational adventure. Learn about what lives in the creek and the fossils found in the area. All Ages are welcome. Each week participants will be able to explore a different creek.

Come dressed in clothes and close-toed shoes (No flip-flops) that can get wet and dirty.

Crazy Cardboard Boat Regatta



BOATS! BOATS! BOATS! Cardboard boats, that is. The MetroParks of Butler County presents the 9th Annual Crazy Cardboard Regatta on Saturday, July 14th from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM at the Voice of America Park in West Chester! Do you think you've got what it takes? Then, sign your team up to build your own cardboard boat and join the amazing race around the lake! Sea legs aren't quite ready; you say? No problem! Vendors, entertainment, activities, and more await you upon shore. So, come on out for some summer family fun, and don't forget to keep calm and boat on!

FOMBC will have a table at this event and need volunteers. If you would like to Volunteer email Carri Mosier at Carri.Mosier@gmail.com

Paddling Camp



Teens can spend their summer vacation meeting new friends and enjoy the great outdoors at Paddling Camp at Voice of America on July 24th from 9:00am-4:00pm. Paddling Camp is for teens who love water sports. Campers will explore

canoeing, kayaking, paddle boarding, as well as some land water activities.

Mountain music Jam



Join Warren and Judy Waldron in impromptu mountain music jam sessions at Indian Creek MetroPark Pioneer church Sunday June 24th, 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.

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County calendar of Events

| | | | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|------------------|
| July | 8th | 12:00 PM-5:00PM | Pioneer Life | Governor Bebb |
| | 9 th -13 th | 9:00AM-4:00PM | Zombie Apocalypse Camp | Voice of America |
| | 14 th | 11:00AM-3:00PM | Cardboard Regatta | Voice of America |
| | 24 th | 9:00AM-4:00PM | Paddling Camp | Voice of America |

Be on the Lookout for these future events

Trail Yoga, Mud Mania, Mutt Mania, Prairie Tour, Movies in the Park

Did You Know

Kroger Community Rewards Update

FOMPBC organization # 5599

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.

Volunteers Needed

The Board of Directors of Friends of MetroParks of Butler County presently has three vacancies. We ask interested members to contact your editor, Bill Walker, at bug_jock@yahoo.com .to volunteer to bring new blood and ideas to the board. If you are interested, please let us know. Interested parties are welcome to visit a board meeting to learn more.

**Hump Day Concert 3,
Parrots of the Caribbean**



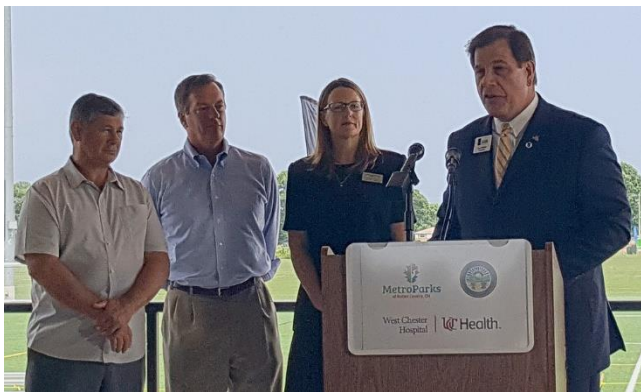
**Hump Day Concert 4,
The Kelsey Mira Band**



**Hump Day Concert 5,
The Dave Gerald Band**



**Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
VOA Health Building**



Chrisholm Historic Farmstead



There are exciting times ahead at Chrisholm Historic Farmstead this summer! Our Show & Tell programs have something to offer everyone - from animals to science to nature!

We had a lot of participation at our Goat Jamboree Show & Tell on May 20th with over 70 people in attendance! Mrs. Karen Rogers, an advisor for the Butler County Track & Treasures 4-H group, was one of our special guests and brought several different types of goats for the public to learn about and see. Along with the goats came several 4-H families who enjoyed teaching and sharing “goat life” with the public. They answered many questions, as well as, performed fun, informative demonstrations. We are very thankful to all of our volunteers that participated.

While all the goat cuddling was being done outside, Mrs. Betty Lowell was inside the Augspurgen House giving historical interpretation tours. Here, children were able to make goat headbands and even enjoy a snack! But the fun didn't stop there, park customers also enjoyed our new Natural Play

Scape at Chrisholm MetroPark! The park was full of contagious happiness and everyone had a smile on their face.

It is so great to see people of all ages taking part in all aspects of our program! I am so excited for the future of this great park!

Shannon Tinch, Agriculture Education Program Coordinator,
Chrisholm Historic Farmstead



Chuck Holliday Memorial Fund

Several members have asked about making contributions in Chuck's name. Checks should be made out to “Friends of MetroParks of Butler County”, with a memo line “Chuck Holliday Memorial”. Send to:

*Friends of MetroParks of Butler County
PO Box 691
Hamilton, OH 45012*

Suggestions of suitable memorials should be sent to your editor at bug_jock@yahoo.com.

Like our Facebook Page for updates on:

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





HUMP DAY CONCERT SERIES

WHEN Every Wednesday
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
May 30th – August 22nd
(excluding July 4th)

WHERE **Volce 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 30** The Belairs *(50s & 60s/Las Vegas Show Band)*
- JUNE 6** Jamison Road *(Modern Country)*
- JUNE 13** Parrots of the Caribbean *(Jimmy Buffett Tribute)*
- JUNE 20** The Kelsey Mira Band *(Pop/Top 40s)*
- JUNE 27** David Gerald *(Rock-N-Soul)*
- JULY 11** Frontier *(Soft Rock/Country)*

- JULY 18** The McCartney Project & Vinyl Sunshine *(Beatles/British Invasion)*
- JULY 25** Ryan Broshear *(Country)*
- AUG 1** The SunBurners *(Island Party/Steel Drum)*
- AUG 8** Dat Band *(Rock/Soul/Funk/R&B)*
- AUG 15** DV8 *(Rock)*
- AUG 22** Stagger Lee *(Country Rock)*



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



Volunteer News



July 2018

2018 Indian Creek Pioneer Church & Burial Ground Annual Salute to Our Pioneers



Thank you to all our volunteers who made this year's Salute such a great day!

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about service opportunities.

MetroParks Of Butler County
2051 Timberman Road
Hamilton OH 45013
513.867.5835

Or email Amy Pellman at apellman@YourMetroParks.net

Visit us on the web at www.YourMetroParks.net

July Birthday Corner!

| | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----------------|------|
| Zachary Casto | 7/1 | Kody Kirby | 7/10 |
| Grace Francour | 7/1 | Emma Shibley | 7/11 |
| Daniel Krazl | 7/2 | Diane Gudaitis | 7/13 |
| John Dabbelt | 7/3 | Brad Bedel | 7/14 |
| Harshita Ganga | 7/4 | Miah Holman | 7/15 |
| Daniella Barbeta | 7/5 | Ron Gulino | 7/19 |
| Matthew Banks | 7/9 | Adam Hamilton | 7/19 |
| James Parsons | 7/9 | Morgan Halstead | 7/24 |
| | | Joan Wolpin | 7/26 |





We recently said goodbye to a dear friend of MetroParks of Butler County. Chuck Holliday was a founder and past president of the Friends of MetroParks of Butler County. Chuck had an insatiable love of nature and an utter disdain for invasive species, such as honeysuckle and garlic mustard. He could identify with and educate all age ranges on plants, insects, trees, and invasive species. He volunteered at more events than we can count and was a great friend of MetroParks! He will be sorely missed.



We L♥ve our Volunteers!!

July Volunteer Opportunities

Zombie Apocalypse Camp

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Shifts available: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; 12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

When: July 9, 2018-July 13, 2018

Where: Rentschler Forest MetroPark
5701 Reigart Road, Fairfield, Ohio 45011

What: Volunteers are needed to assist with activities during this week-long camp where campers will learn outdoor survival skills such as fire building, shelter building, navigation (geocaching) and more.

Butterfly Garden Weeding

When: May through September

Where: Forest Run MetroPark, Timberman Ridge Area
1976 Timberman Road, Hamilton OH 45013

What: A volunteer is needed to help care for the butterfly garden at the Timberman Ridge Area of Forest Run MetroPark. The butterfly garden volunteer will be responsible for removing weeds from the garden every 1-2 weeks and watering during dry periods, as needed. Strong skills in native prairie plant identification is **required** in order to successfully differentiate weeds from desired pollinator plants. This is an ongoing opportunity that would require a commitment from May-September.

Adopt-A-Prairie

When: Flexible; Ongoing

Where: Forest Run MetroPark – Timberman Ridge Area
1976 Timberman Road Hamilton, OH 45013

What: The prairies at MetroParks offer beautiful color displays for us during the summer and provide much needed resources for pollinators, and other wildlife. However, the prairies, like other natural areas, are threatened by non-native invasive plants and noxious weeds. These undesired plants create competition for the native forbs and grasses that make up the prairies and grasslands. Adopt-A-Prairie volunteers will be assigned a prairie, or a section of a prairie, which they will monitor for invasive plants. The volunteer will walk their assigned area and remove the invasive plants with hand tools. This volunteer opportunity requires walking through thick grass and brush where ticks, poison ivy, and other irritants found in nature may be encountered. This is an ongoing opportunity that would require the volunteer to monitor their assigned location from June-September.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

Crazy Cardboard Regatta

When: **Saturday, July 14, 2018**

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Shifts available: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.; 12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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, go-fers and cleanup.

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.

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 and volunteer for the program itself. Contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net.

Welcome Center - Voice of America MetroPark

When: Weekends

Where: Voice of America MetroPark

Ronald Reagan Lodge, 7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester OH 45069

What: Volunteers are needed at the Welcome Center at Voice of America MetroPark. Welcome park customer/owners with a smile, provide information about programs and the parks. Training provided. Contact Sara Schapman sschapman@YourMetroParks.net.



VOICE OF AMERICA METROPARK Fishing Information



| Fish | Daily Limit | Size |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Bluegill | 15 | none |
| Channel Cat | 4 | 14 in.- 22 in. |
| Crappie | 5 | > 8 in. |
| Hybrid Striped Bass | 2 | 14 in. - 18 in. |
| Largemouth Bass | 2 | 14 in.- 18 in. |
| Shovelhead Cat | 2 | 12 in.- 18 in. |
| Redear Sunfish | 8 | > 8 in. |
| Tilapia | 2 | > 8 in. |

Daily Permit

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Single | \$8.00 |
| Child (6 & under) | Free |
| Group/Family | \$20.00 |

Annual Permit

| | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Adult | \$100.00 |
| Youth (7-16) | \$50.00 |
| Group/Family | \$135.00 per year |

Fishing Permit Discounts

| | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| Senior | 20% (\$6.40 daily, \$80.00 annually) |
| Military | 20% (\$6.40 daily, \$80.00 annually) |

Fishing Pole Rental (Does not include Fishing Permit)

| | |
|---------|---------|
| 1 Hour | \$7.00 |
| 3 Hours | \$12.00 |
| Daily | \$20.00 |

Live Bait

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Night Crawlers, Red Worms, Wax Worms | \$4.00 |
|--------------------------------------|--------|

Rules and Regulations

Bank fishing is permitted from the south, east, and north shores, and east of the boat launch ramp.

No fishing from the west shore, boat docks, bridges, Gazebo, or immediately below the Gazebo.

No purchasing or trading fish.

All vehicles must be parked in the parking lot.

All fish must be checked in at the Wheelhouse prior to leaving the park.

Each person fishing is limited to two poles.

Persons possessing fish over the daily limit may be charged with a minor misdemeanor.

Cleaning of fish on VOA MetroPark Property is prohibited.

Throw nets and lines are prohibited. Use of live fish as bait is prohibited.

No alcoholic beverages may be into the park

For more information, call (513) 755-4402.



2018 WHEELHOUSE OPERATING DATES AND HOURS

March 31, 2018 Wheelhouse opens for **weekend** operation.

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| | <u>Monday-Thursday</u> | <u>Friday-Saturday</u> | <u>Sunday</u> |
| March 31 – May 25 | Closed | 11:00am – 6:30pm | 12:00pm – 5:00pm |

May 25, 2018 Wheelhouse opens for **daily** operation.

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| | <u>Monday-Thursday</u> | <u>Friday-Saturday</u> | <u>Sunday</u> |
| May 25 – Aug 16 | 11:00am – 8:00pm | 9:30am – 8:30pm | 11:00am – 6:30pm |

Aug 17, 2018 Wheelhouse ends Monday-Thursday daily operation.

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| | <u>Monday-Thursday</u> | <u>Friday-Saturday</u> | <u>Sunday</u> |
| Aug 17 – Sept 9 | Closed | 11:00am – 6:30pm | 12:00pm – 5:00pm |

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | <u>Monday-Friday</u> | <u>Saturday</u> | <u>Sunday</u> |
| Sept 10 – Sept 30 | Closed | 11:30am – 6:00pm | 12:00pm – 5:00pm |

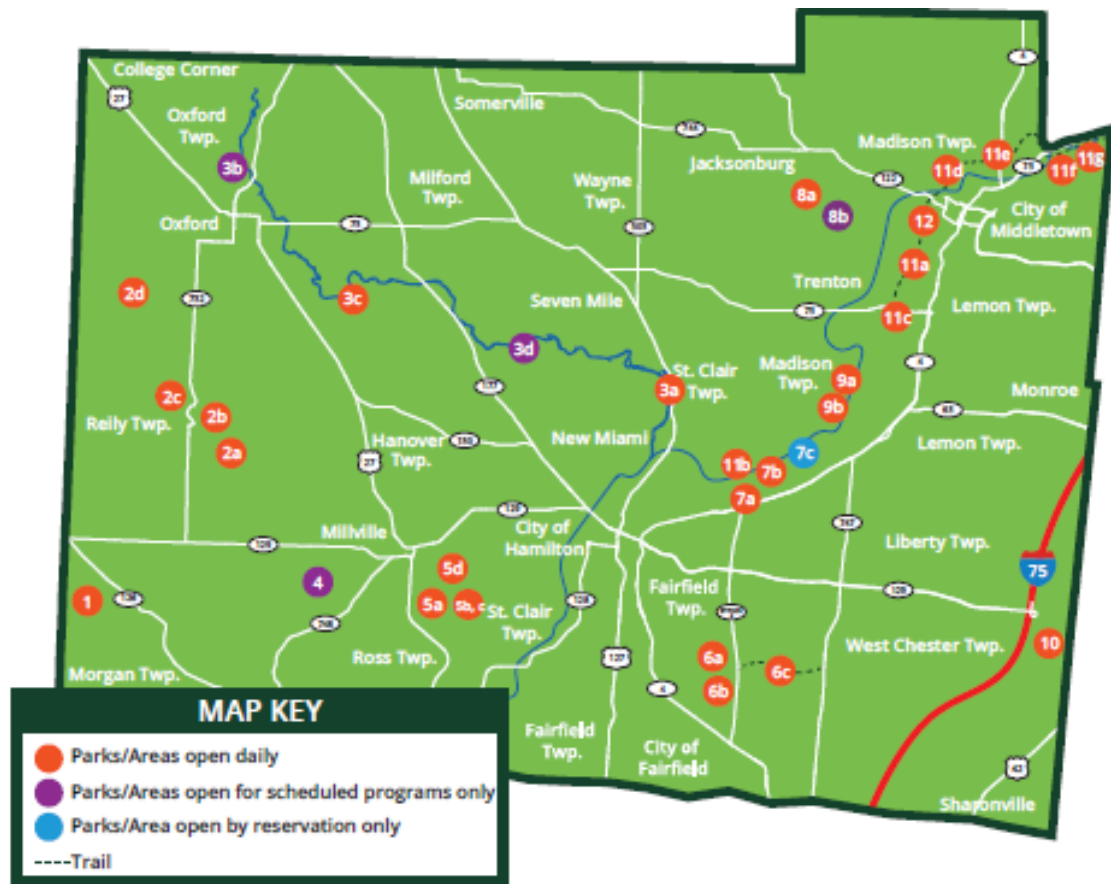
October operating hours TBD

HOLIDAY HOURS

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Memorial Day (Monday, May 28 th) | 11:00am – 6:30pm |
| Independence Day (Wednesday, July 4 th) | 11:00am – 6:30pm |
| Labor Day (Monday, Sept 3 th) | 11:00am – 6:30pm |

Wheelhouse operation is weather dependent.

- For rental questions, lake conditions, or if inclement weather is expected, please contact the VOA Welcome Center Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:00pm or call 513-755-4402.
- Live bait and tackle machine located at the Ronald Reagan Lodge open dawn to dusk.
- Wheelhouse closed during MetroParks Special Events



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

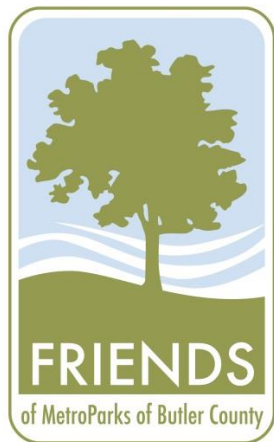
11. Great Miami River Trail

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) _____