The Voice of the Turtle



Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Monthly Newsletter

October, 2017

FOMPBC Officers

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Vice-President,

Nick Lengyel

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Bill Walker

October Board Meeting

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Wednesday, October 11th

At

Butler County Historical Society

327 N 2nd Street, Hamilton, OH 45011

7:00-9:00 PM

Members and interested parties are welcome to attend



Happy Howloween!

-

Letter from the President

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

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

Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands were under mandatory evacuation orders for non-residents from Monday until 1pm Thursday, when the bridge from the north reopened. Insult was added to injury for residents of those islands, who had already suffered major power outages earlier in the tourist season due to construction workers accidentally cutting the power cable supplying electricity to the islands. Although the bridge opened too late in the day for a round trip to Ocracoke, we were able to visit the Pea Island bird sanctuary. A little early in the season for most migrants, but at least residual breezes kept predatory mosquitoes at bay.

On Friday, our last full day on OBX, we chartered a half-day pontoon boat cruise in the bay that included dolphin watching, hermit crab racing, lighthouse viewing, bridge construction supervision, visiting a shrimp boat harbor, and harvesting blue crabs. We came away from the ride with a 5-gallon bucket full of crabs – yummy! I've decided that I have no talent for crab shucking. In my humble opinion, crab is a negative-energy food since it takes more energy to extract the meat than calories contained therein. It still is delicious, though, with or without melted butter.

Home again, home again. We are now ready to enjoy autumn in the parks. Lots of activities to look

forward to in October: ground breaking ceremonies at Chrisholm MPX for the new Farmstead, grand opening of the Chrisholm Playscape, a fall confetti sunset hike at the Great Miami River, the Howl at VOA, and the Orienteering Trail of Treats at Rentschler MPX.

See you in the parks, Bill Walker, President FOMPBC

Touring MPX Expansion Projects

On September 14th, Kelly Barkley, Jason Shamblin, and other senior MPX managers led members of the FoMPBC board on a tour of currently active construction or expansion plans in the parks. Parks visited include River Center, Elk Creek, Chrisholm, and VOA.

River Center Park





The Voice of the Turtle, October, 2017





Elk Creek Park, Meadow Ridge Area









The Voice of the Turtle, October, 2017













Voice of America MPX, Medical Center







FOR OCTOBER -

CHRISHOLM

MetroParks is ready to play at Chrisholm MetroPark! Beginning Friday, October 20, 2017 the new Farm themed Nature Playscape will be open to the public for the first time at the Historic Farmstead at Chrisholm MetroPark. All Friends of MetroParks of Butler County are invited to join with the Friends of Chrisholm in the celebration as VIPs for the ribbon cutting event for the playscape at Chrisholm.

Additionally, our both Friends Groups are invited to be present at the ground breaking ceremony for the new Farmscape, which will house the future, feathered, hooved, and furry farm friends at Chrisholm which will provide a true farm experience for our farm park customer/owners who don't have access to daily working farms.

Please note that there will be a special recognition of a financial contribution for both the playscape and a chicken coop from the Friends of MetroParks of Butler County to the Board of Park Commissioners during the ribbon cutting /ground breaking ceremony for these new farm features. You won't want to miss the this FUN ON THE FARM!

Schedule for the day is as follows:

Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening - 3:00 to 4:00 pm

Family Fun Fall Friday at Chrisholm – 4:00 pm until 6:30 pm

- Preview plans for the Farmscape
- Enjoy live music by The Pineridge Partners
- Open Play on the new nature playscape
- Visit with Farm Animals
- Enjoy Smores, Cider and Water Firesideprovided by MetroParks while supplies last
- Pack your own picnic dinner and dine in the shelter or Rosemont Barn
- Enjoy a Tour of the Historic Augspurger House thanks to the Friends of Chrisholm

ELK CREEK METROPARK

Elk Creek MetroPark Restoration Preview

Sunday, October 14th &15th from 1:00-4:00 PM each day

Elk Creek MetroPark: Meadow Ridge Area - 5401 Mosiman Rd., Middletown, OH

Portions of the Meadow Ridge Area of Elk Creek MetroPark will be open to the public on Saturday, October 14th, and Sunday, October 15th, from 1 to 4 pm each day, to view and learn more about the restoration work that has been occurring on the land. During your visit you will have the chance to see examples of projects currently underway to return the land to its natural state.

This work began when grants were obtained from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and The Ohio Department of Natural Resource Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Fund to purchase the 456-acre parcel from the Trust for Public Land in November 2016.

There will be opportunities to learn more about the proposal of how this space will be used for future passive recreation use by park customer/owners and fun activities will be held at the property during your visit.

There will be two options to view the property. One option offered will be a ride around portions of the property.

The second option will be a walk in marked designated areas.

Park Customer/Owners can take advantage of both if desired, time permitting, There will be educational FUN stops along the path for all ages.

MOST IMPORTANTLY Please come and review the *proposed* Master Concept Plan that will be on display for the site and provide input after your visit.

MetroParks asks the Friends to assist in any way you can to get others to voice their opinions about what they want to see Elk Creek MetroPark used for in the future (both at the Sebald Park Area and Meadow Ridge Area of the park.)

I look forward to working with you all in the future. Thanks again for the clean slate!

My best-

Kelly Barkley Senior Manager of Community Relations MetroParks of Butler County

O: (513) 867-5835 ext 211 C: (513) 720-5474 2051 Timberman Road Hamilton, OH 45013 kbarkley@YourMetroParks.net



HORSEDAZE was again celebrated on September 16th at the Sebald Area of Elk Creek MPX. Thanks to the Horsemen's Council of Ohio, MPX staff, and volunteers for making this year's event one to remember. (No rain, for one thing!)





















Upcoming Events



Fall Confetti Sunset Hike

Nothing says fall like your favorite sweatshirt, a pumpkin spiced treat, and fall colors. Grab your favorite sweatshirt and pumpkin spiced treat and enjoy the beautiful fall colors on a sunset nature hike along the Great Miami River.

Saturday, October 21st, 6:30-8:00pm Meet in the parking lot along the Great Miami River Riverside Fire Pit 5701 Reigart Rd, Hamilton OH 45011

The HOWL



Bark your calendars for The HOWL!!!

The Howl is back this year and promises to be Pawsitively a good time for the whole family. There will be a Pupper Costume Parade, trick-ortreat for both the dogs and children, ruff-ruff obstacle course. You and your best friend and use some of your tail wagging teamwork by participating in the 2.4mile Doggy Dash around the lake.

Don't have a canine companion that's ok, local rescue centers will have adoptable dogs to borrow.

*Doggy Dash participants will receive a t-shirt. Register by 10/13/17 to guarantee t-shirt size and availability.

This year Friends will be offing easy to apply and removable temporary tattoos free for the kids and treats for their 4 legged friends. Friends will also have an informational booth. To Volunteer for this event please contact Carri.Mosier@Gmail.com

Sunday October 22, 12:00-4:00pm Voice of America Metro Park Lake and Surrounding Area



Orienteering-Trail of Treats

Trail of Treats Twilight Orienteering: Come in your Halloween Costume on Friday October 27, 5:00pm-7:00pm at Rentschler forest Metro Park. You will bet a map showing the location of several "treat" baskets. Use the map an your wits to find each basket and collect a token. At the finish, turn in your tokens for candy or toy.

Friday October 27, 5:00-7:00pm

Rentschler Forest MetroPark: RFM-H.F. Walsh Shelter-5701 Reigert Rd Hamilton, Ohio

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

FOMPBC 2017 Calendar of Events

	OWN DO 2017 Calcindar of Events				
Oct	20	3:00 – 6:30 pm	Farmstead Ground Breaking, Playscape Grand Opening	Chrisholm	
Oct	21	6:30 pm- 8:00pm	Fall Confetti Sunset Hike	Great Miami River	
Oct	22	10:00am- 4:00pm	The Howl	VOA	
Oct	27	5:00- 7:00pm	Orienteering-Trail of Treats	Rentschler Forest	
Dec	1	5:00- 9:00pm	Brilliant Bebb	Gov Bebb	
	2	5:00- 9:00pm			
	3	4:00-8:00 pm	Brilliant Bebb	Gov Bebb	

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/enrollCommunity RewardsNow

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.

Park Spotlight

"I Haven't Been everywhere, but it's on my List"
Susan Sontag

Voice of America Metro Park Wiggly Field Dog Park



Wiggly Field Dog Park

Wiggly Field is a fenced-in dog park that is located near the Athletic Field Complex with in Voice of America MetroPark.

This Park contains two fenced areas (one for large dogs and one for small dogs), benches, and shade structures. Dog Owners must remain with dogs and carry a leash in the fenced area. Plastic bags are provided at Wiggly field. All dogs must be licensed, have current vaccinations, wear a collar with identification, and not show signs of aggression. Wiggly Field Dog Park is open daily 8:00am until dark.

Location

7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester OH 45069

Available recreation

Birding & Wildlife Geocaching

Facilities & Amenities

Picnic Tables

Grant Updates

We are pleased to announce that we have completed the purchases for the 2017 Spring Grant from the Smith Family Charitable Trust. Items that were purchased include the following:

8'x11' oval braided rug for Governor Bebb Cabin.



Kenmore Stackable Washer/Dryer Chrisholm



Also purchased for MetroParks usage Plow/cultivator for gardening 2 Men's 19th century trade shirts 1 Men's 19th century work smock 1 pair of fingerless gloves.

Critter Corner

By Bill Walker

During our recent trip to the Outer Banks we noticed that the wild persimmon trees were full of ripe fruits. We had noticed during an earlier trip that groups of wild horses are frequently found gathered beneath these trees. Our guide during this year's tour informed us that it is not the ripe fruit that draws the horses, but rather the leaves. Turns out that horses, especially wild ones, easily get colic when fed items not usually part of their natural diet.

Since horses cannot vomit, colic can result in gas buildup which can lead to death. Turns out that it is not the fruit which attracts the herd, but rather the leaves. To further complicate things, until the fruit ripens, the leaves are also toxic. It seems likely that sugars present in the leaves when the leaves change color after the fruit ripens may cause the attraction. I asked one of the horses if this was true, but he replied "nay".



The breezy weather during the next few days proved a minor inconvenience to the avian inhabitants of the OBX. As you can see in the following picture of a group of willets, Maria ruffled a few feathers.



See you in the parks! Bill Walker

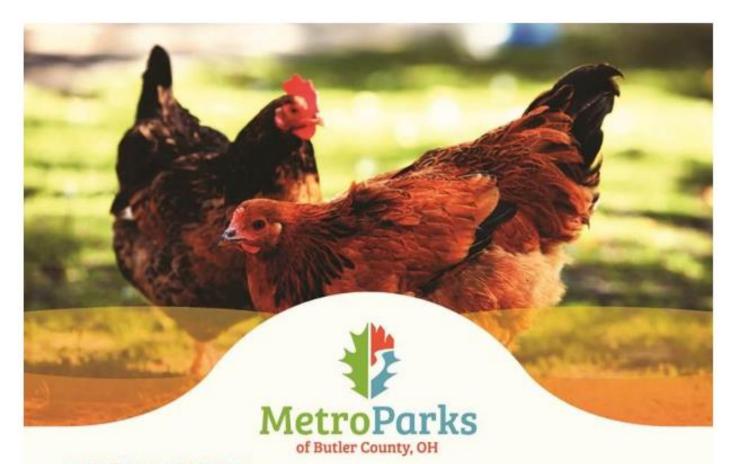
Like our Facebook Page for updates on:

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









GROUND BREAKING

for Chisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead Farmscape

GRAND OPENING

of Farm Themed Nature Playscape

WHEN

Friday, October 20, 2017

Ribbon Cutting & Groundbreaking 3:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Family Fun Fall Friday at Chrisholm

4:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

WHERE

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

RSVP

Email bvanderpool@YourMetroParks.net by October 16, 2017

ABOUT

- Open Play on the new nature playscape
 Visit with Farm Animals
- provided by MetroParks while supplies last
- Pack your own picnic dinner and dine in the shelter or Rosemont Barn
- House thanks to the Friends of Chrisholm







NOVEMBER 2017

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM - PILGRIM ADVENTURE

Chrisholm MetroPark
- Historic Farmstead
Thurs., November 2, 10:00 a.m. –
11:00 a.m. **New Time**
FREE

HARVEST HAYRIDE

Forest Run MetroPark
- Timberman Ridge
Sat., November 4, 3:00 p.m. –
6:00 p.m.
\$75/half hour reserved hayride

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Chrisholm MetroPark
- Historic Farmstead
Sun., November 5, 2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM - SENSATIONAL SCAVENGER HUNT

Chrisholm MetroPark
- Historic Farmstead
Thurs., November 9, 10:00 a.m. –
11:00 a.m. **New Time**
FREE

HARVEST HAYRIDE

Forest Run MetroPark
- Timberman Ridge
Sat., November 11, 3:00 p.m. –
6:00 p.m.
\$75/half hour reserved hayride

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM - BETWEEN THE FENCES

Chrisholm MetroPark
- Historic Farmstead
Sun., November 12, 2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.
FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM - TURKEY TALK

Chrisholm MetroPark
- Historic Farmstead
Thurs., November 16, 10:00 a.m. –
11:00 a.m. **New Time**
FREE

NIGHT TIME EXPLORATION

Governor Bebb MetroPark Fri., November 17, 6:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m. FREE

STEPPING FORWARD SERVICE DAY

Voice of America MetroPark - Athletic Complex Sat., November 18, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. FREE

HARVEST DAY

Forest Run MetroPark - Timberman Ridge Sat., November 18, 11:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. \$5/ person

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM - SLOW FOOD VS. FAST FOOD

Chrisholm MetroPark
- Historic Farmstead
Sun., November 19, 2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.
FREE

NO PROGRAMS DUE TO HOLIDAY - SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM

Chrisholm MetroPark
- Historic Farmstead
Thurs, November 23 & Sun.,
November 26

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM - BROOM SHAKE A BROOM

Chrisholm MetroPark
- Historic Farmstead
Thurs., November 30 10:00 a.m. –
11:00 a.m. **New Time**
FREE



DECEMBER 2017

BRILLIANT BEBB

Governor Bebb MetroPark Fri., December 1, 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. \$10/ Vehicle

BRILLIANT BEBB

Governor Bebb MetroPark Sat., December 2, 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. \$10/ Vehicle

BRILLIANT BEBB

Governor Bebb MetroPark Sun., December 3, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. \$10/ Vehicle

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM HOW DO ANIMALS STAY WARM?

Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead Sun., December 3, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM WINTER IS FOR THE BIRDS

Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead Thurs., December 7, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. FREE

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THE MOST WONDERFUL CRIME OF THE YEAR

Voice of America MetroPark Ronald Reagan Lodge Sat., December 9, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. \$35/person \$30/person for groups of 8 or more

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM FARM THAUMATROPES

Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead Sun., December 10, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. FRFF

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM HOLIDAY TIME

Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead Thurs., December 14, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. FREE

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT WITH MIAMI VALLEY AUDOBON

Various MetroParks locations Contact Larry Gersbach at 513-310-0195 Sat., December 16, 7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. FREE

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Voice of America MetroPark Ronald Reagan Lodge Sat., December 16, 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. \$14.95/ person ages 8 & up \$12.95/ person ages 3-7 FREE Ages 2 & under

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM SOAP ON A ROPE

Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead Sun., December 17, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. FRFF

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM PRESENTS FOR THE ANIMALS

Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead Thurs., December 21, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. FREE

NO PROGRAM TODAY -SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM

Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead Sun., December 24

WINTER BREAK NIGHT HIKE

Forest Run MetroPark Wildlife Preserve Wed., December 27, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. FREE

SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM HIBERNATION HIDEAWAYS

Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead Thurs., December 28, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. FREE

NO PROGRAM TODAY -SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM

Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead Sun., December 31

ADVANCED ORIENTEERING

Rentschler Forest MetroPark Timberhill Area Sun., December 31, 7:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. \$7/ OCIN Member, \$10/ Non-member

The mission of the MetroParks of Butler County is to provide a superior park system that maximizes the community's quality of life through conservation, education, and recreation. For more information visit us at www.YourMetroParks.net or call 513.867.5835

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



BRILLIANT BEBB

WHEN Friday, December 1, 2017

5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 2, 2017

5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Sunday December 3, 2017

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

WHERE Governor Bebb MetroPark

Pioneer Village

1979 Bebb Park Lane, Okeana OH 45053

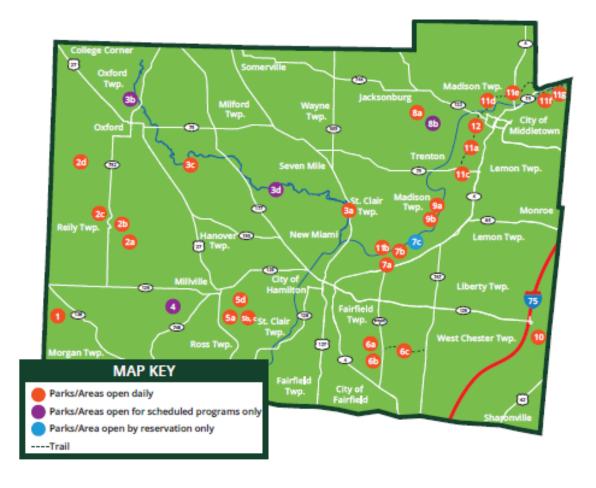
PRICE / REGISTER \$10 per car/van

FEATURING

Illuminated Pioneer Village, Father Christmas, Carriage Rides, Live Animals, Arts & Crafts Vendors, Musicians, Demonstrations, Family Photo Opportunities, Food & Drinks, and MORE!







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 Lanes 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 Bouldvard 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	 Invitations to Member-only events Opportunity to apply for funding to support MetroParks programs and projects Attend Annual Meeting and have a voice in Friends activities and direction
Who Are We?	Private citizens who have come together to: Sponsor programs & activities, promoting the use of MetroParks for conservation, education and recreation Encourage volunteerism toward support of MetroParks of Butler County Identify and implement improvements to the park Assist in raising funds, securing donations, and obtaining grants monies to further MetroParks' mission

Yes, I/We want to be a member of Friends of MetroParks of Butler County!

Detach the form below and Mail it with your check to the address below

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		
Group or Business Name		