



Program Guide

APRIL | MAY | JUNE 2009

Do Something Different

Dozens of boredom-busting ways to spend your spring

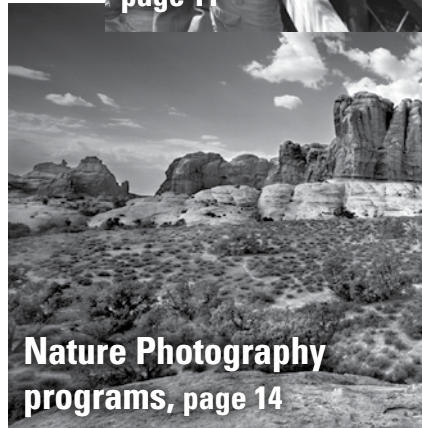
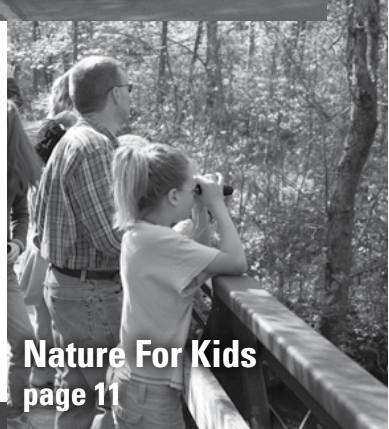


Look inside
for our
NEW!
programs

419-407-9700 | METROPARKSPROGRAMS.COM

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Reservations

- Phone reservations: 419-407-9700
- Online reservations: MetroparksPrograms.com
- Program hotline/Cancellations: 419-407-9771
- Facility Rentals, page 28
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Summer Camps

Memories Are Made At Metroparks Summer Camps

Nature Camp (Ages 7 to 12)

Nature Camp is a week of nature discovery and exploration for kids with fun activities, games, living history and stewardship projects. Each day has a different focus. It's a great educational experience for children who enjoy nature, history and the outdoors.

Home base is Wildwood Preserve, with two days of field trips to enjoy swimming, fishing, boating, wildlife watching, nature hiking and fossil hunting. Metroparks and program partners will provide exciting trips to Fossil Park, The Canal Experience at Providence Metropark and Olander Park.

Camp will be held rain or shine with plenty of rainy day options. Equipment, supplies and field trip transportation provided. Due to limited space, campers may only attend one session. Participants must be 7 to 12 years old during the session.

Wildwood Preserve, Metroparks Hall

All sessions Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fee: \$95 | Reservations begin April 1

- **Session 1:** June 15 - June 19
- **Session 2:** June 22 - June 26
- **Session 3:** July 6 - July 10
- **Session 4:** July 13 - July 17
- **Session 5:** July 27 - July 31
- **Session 6:** August 3 - August 7
- **Session 7:** August 10 - August 14
- **Session 8:** August 17 - August 21

NEW! Wee Workshop Preschool Summer Camp (Ages 3-5)

Accompany your preschooler for all the fun of our monthly Wee Workshop program in a fun summer day camp atmosphere. Enjoy multi-sensory, hands-on activities, crafts and outdoor exploration. Register child only.

Monday, June 8 - Friday, June 12

Wildwood Preserve, Metroparks Hall

Fee: \$45 | Reservations begin April 1

Morning Session, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Afternoon Session, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

NEW! Kids Nature Photo Camp

Kids will have an excellent adventure in exploring nature and capturing those wild moments with cameras. A limited number of cameras are available to borrow during camp. Hosted at the National Center for Nature Photography.

Secor, Secor Room

All sessions Monday - Thursday, 5 to 9 p.m.

Fee: \$125 | Reservations begin April 1

Session 1: June 22 - June 25, Ages 9-12

Session 2: July 6 - July 9, Ages 12-16

NEW! Teen Adventure Camp (Ages 12-16)

Challenge yourself through exciting outdoor activities, develop leadership skills and meet great new friends all while exploring the natural environment of northwest Ohio. Day themes will include wilderness survival, Maumee River exploration by canoe, habitat restoration and more.

Wildwood Preserve, Metroparks Hall

All sessions Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fee: \$125 | Reservations begin April 1

Session 1: June 29 - July 3

Session 2: July 13 - July 17

Applications for financial assistance are available for all summer camps. Call 419-407-9700.



Welcome

Finally, Spring!

Astronomers will tell you that spring begins on the Vernal Equinox (March 20 this year). But for most of us, spring is a state of mind triggered by the warm breeze through the car window or the music of the birds in the yard. It's that feeling in the air that makes us all sigh, "Finally!"

Any change of season stirs excitement, but none more than spring - especially after a long, cold, snowy, slushy winter.

| 4 | In the Metroparks, spring means not only the return of the wildflowers and migratory songbirds, but also the mules on the towpath at The Canal Experience, the walleye fishermen waist deep in the Maumee and the people on the porch of the Manor Housing gathering before a monthly Tea.

This Program Guide lists dozens of free or affordable ways for people of all ages to spend spring outdoors. Sign up now, and don't delay; our popular programs can fill up quickly, especially this time of year. Besides, according to the astronomers, spring only lasts until the Summer Solstice, June 21.

Scott Carpenter
Director of Public Relations
Metroparks of the Toledo Area

About Metroparks

Metroparks of the Toledo Area is a regional system of premier natural, historical and cultural parklands. A public agency serving Lucas County, Metroparks maintains parks and conservation areas totaling 10,500 acres. The park district's mission is to enhance our quality of life and inspire preservation efforts in this and future generations.

Hours of Operation

All Metroparks open daily, 7 a.m. until dark. Admission: Free. Other hours and fees apply to specific attractions.

Programs

Metroparks programs and activities encompass a wide variety of interests related to the park district's purpose. Programs are open to everyone. Children must be accompanied by adults unless noted as a drop-off program.



If you have a disabling condition and would like information and support for accessibility to programs, services, facilities or applying for a job at Metroparks, call 419-407-9700. Trail Partner volunteers or interpreters are available upon request.

Metroparks Trails

Trails in each of the Metroparks offer a variety of distances and experiences, from winding dirt paths through the woods and prairies, to hard-surface all-purpose trails suitable for bicycling and skating. Oak Openings Preserve also has horse trails.



2009 is the Year of the Trail
See page 16.

Open For The Season

Wildwood Manor House

Built in the 1930s in the Georgian Colonial style, the Manor House was the family estate of Robert A. Stranahan, co-founder of the Champion Spark Plug Co., and his wife, Page. Today, the home and grounds are part of Wildwood Preserve.

House Tour Hours: noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday, April through November and on Saturday and Sunday, December through March. (See Wildwood Manor House listing for programs and special events)

National Center for Nature Photography

Located inside Secor, the Photography Center is the only place of its kind in the country. Exhibits feature the work of some of the nation's premier nature photographers.

Hours: noon to 5 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays and during special events. (See Nature Photography listing for workshops and special exhibits.)

Oak Grove School

Located at the East Entrance to Wildwood Preserve, the restored, one-room schoolhouse is open seasonally for visitors to learn what it was like to attend school in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Hours: By reservation only.

The Canal Experience

Make reservations now for your class or group to visit the Canal Experience. The unique, educational attraction just across the Maumee River from Grand Rapids takes visitors back to 1876 during a 1-hour cruise aboard an authentic canal boat. Stop at the Isaac Ludwig Mill to see how water power is still used to saw logs and grind grain, and finish your visit with a stop at the General Store.

Hours: May - June, Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, noon to 4 p.m., Closed Sundays.

Prices: Canal boat tickets \$6 adults (Members \$5), \$5 seniors (60 and over), \$4 children (3 to 12); ages two and under Free. Mill tours Free.

Side Cut Explorer

Board a 12-passenger, wheelchair-accessible tram for a ride along the Maumee River and canal towpath at Side Cut Metropark in Maumee. Departs from the Riverview parking lot.

Tuesdays, May 5, 12, 19, 26, June 2, 9, 23, 30
Departure times: 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. (Group reservations can be scheduled at a separate time.)

Fee: \$2 | Reservations

A new season at the Canal Experience begins in May.



Special Events



Welcome Back Walleye Family Day

The third annual event is a chance for fishermen and non-fishermen alike to be part of the excitement of the famous Spring Walleye Run on the Maumee. Gather by the largest river on the Great Lakes for a day of fun, including fishing demonstrations, a kids' fishing rodeo, fishing competitions, food demonstrations, kids activities and crafts, educational displays and more. Pick up your Year of the Trail Passport during the event and receive your first stamp for completing a program.

Saturday, April 18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Side Cut, Riverview area



Welcome Back Walleye Fishing Competition

6 | Fish the Maumee and enter your best catch at the ZAP Lures stand for a chance to win daily prizes given for largest fish and heaviest stringer (four fish limit).

Monday, April 13-Sunday, April 19, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Happy Trails 5K Race/Walk

In its fifth year, one of the Toledo area's premier 5K running/walking events will include a new route through beautiful Wildwood Preserve. Proceeds from the event go toward maintenance and improvements to Metroparks trails. Awards for the top three male and female finishers plus various age groups. (Event occurs rain or shine. No refunds.)

Saturday, June 20, 9 a.m. to noon

New starting line: Metroparks Hall, Wildwood Main Entrance

Fee: \$18 (\$25 after June 14)

Special Family Entry Fee: \$65 for four or more family members (mail-in or phone registration only). Reservations.



The Happy Trails 5K is one of the region's premier walk/run events.

Community Resources Workshop for Educators

Visit local venues and discover how to access the educational services available in your region with many curriculum connections. Cosponsored by Metroparks of the Toledo Area, The Challenger Learning Center, Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo Mud Hens, The Blade, Lourdes College, Toledo Zoo, WGTE and Toledo Jazz Society. Call 419-255-8000, ext. 7432 for fees and reservations or visit <http://crw.byow.org>.

*Monday, June 15 - Friday, June 19,
8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.*

Fee: \$160

44th Crosby Festival Of The Arts

More than 230 artists from across the nation will display stunning works in a variety of media during this Toledo-area tradition, presented by The Andersons. Visitors to the 44th annual festival will enjoy works by new artists – along with returning favorites – selected through a competitive jury process.

*Friday, June 26, Gala Preview Party,
6 to 10 p.m.*

Saturday, June 27, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Sunday, June 28, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

TBG

Volunteers are needed to help with these special events. Call 419-407-9703.

NEW!

Free Sunday Sampler



Bring your picnic dinner and spend Sunday evenings with your family in one of northwest Ohio's most scenic settings. A different experience is offered each week. Wildwood Preserve, Visitor Center

Estate Tour

Explore the horse stables, pool cabanas and limousine garage at the former Stranahan estate. Historical photos and stories from former workers at the estate bring the grounds to life. See how Metroparks preserved the estate while adapting it for public use.

April 5, 5 to 6:30 p.m.

May 3, 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Birds On The Wing

Bring binoculars if you have them for this hike to discover what new migratory songbirds have recently landed in Wildwood.

April 12, 5 to 6 p.m.

Butterflies And More

Spring is nature's way of saying, "let's party." Celebrate it while searching for the earliest butterflies and other signs of the season.

April 19, 5 to 6 p.m.

Wildflowers!

Trees may dominate much of the year, but today's show is spring wildflowers that are knee high and below.

April 26, 5 to 6 p.m.

Mother's Day Walk

Mother Nature is sure to bring delight and beauty to this naturalist walk especially for mom's and their companions.

May 10, 5 to 6 p.m.

Herp, Herp, Hurray!

Search for frogs, turtles and snakes and learn tips for where to find them.

May 17, 5 to 6 p.m.

Wildwood Puppet Theater

Families enjoy a whimsical puppet show. After the show, enjoy an optional nature walk.

May 24, 5 to 6 p.m.

Lupine Hike

Take a relaxing stroll on the yellow trail to enjoy the signature flower of the Toledo area's famous Oak Openings region.

May 31, 5 to 6 p.m.

Beams 'n Bulbs

Building a house is more than just cement and steel I-beams. For the Stranahans, it also included a world class formal garden. Find out how the former home of Robert and Page Stranahan blends 1930s technology with Georgian Colonial architecture and the work of a pioneer landscape designer.

June 7, 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Backyard Wildlife

The hustle and bustle of easy summer living makes it a perfect time to observe nature. Look for signs of wildlife and learn ways of attracting friendly visitors.

June 14, 5 to 6 p.m.

Dads Of The Park

From daddy long legs to crawdads, this walk will celebrate Father's Day, as well as the first day of summer.

June 21, 5 to 6 p.m.

Music In The Courtyard

Come to listen, sing along or bring your acoustical instruments to fill Wildwood's courtyard with song.

June 28, 5 to 6 p.m.



Nature Programs

Dress for the weather and spend time in the field with Metroparks naturalists. Programs are canceled during inclement weather.

Springtime Geocache Egg Hunt

Families and adults of all ages can bring their GPS units to search for plastic eggs hidden in the park. Find them all and receive a springtime treat. Meet at the Buehner Center porch to get your coordinates and start the hunt. Don't have a GPS unit? A limited number of units will be available to borrow on a first come, first served basis with driver's license.

Saturday, April 4, 10 a.m. to noon

Oak Openings Preserve, Buehner Center
Fee: \$5 | Reservations

Metroparks Seniors

A monthly program especially for those 60 and older. Refreshments provided. Cosponsored by West Park Place.
Fee: \$2 | Reservations

■ Spring Fling

See what's green and happening in spring at the Metroparks.

Wednesday, April 8, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Pearson, Macomber Lodge

■ Wonderful Wildflowers

Review the beauty of wildflowers in bloom on slides then walk to see them in their natural setting.

Wednesday, May 13, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Pearson, Macomber Lodge

■ Hidden Treasurers

See how animals use cryptic coloration to stay hidden. Optional walk to follow.

Wednesday, June 3, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Secor, Secor Room



Spring wildflowers, such as bloodroot, are the topic of Senior and Accent on Accessibility programs.

Accent on Accessibility

A monthly easy-access program that pairs individuals with disabilities and trained volunteers for a variety of experiences in Metroparks.

Free | Reservations

■ Early Wildflowers

Learn about early blooming wildflowers.

Wednesday, April 15, 10:30 a.m. to noon

Secor, Secor Room

■ Hummingbirds

See how to attract hummingbirds to your garden using native plants.

Wednesday, May 20, 10:30 a.m. to noon

Secor, Secor Room

■ Butterflies

Learn how to attract butterflies to your garden.

Wednesday, June 17, 10:30 a.m. to noon

Side Cut, Riverview Shelter

Wildwood Puppet Theater

Families can enjoy a whimsical puppet show featuring characters based on some of the amazing animals found in our parks. Optional nature walk follows.

Wednesday, April 15, 1 to 2 p.m.

Wildwood Preserve, Metroparks Hall

Fee: \$5 | Reservations

Bird Hike for Adults

Bird lovers will enjoy these monthly outings to explore the world of birds. Program participants develop a keen eye for spotting the wide variety of birds that live or migrate through the region. Bring your binoculars and field guides.

Free | Reservations

■ Bird Hike

Saturday, April 18, 9 to 11 a.m.

Secor, National Center for Nature Photography

■ Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day

Saturday, May 9, 8 to 9:30 a.m.

Oak Openings Preserve, Buehner Center

■ Bird Hike

Saturday, June 13, 9 to 11 a.m.

Swan Creek Preserve, Airport Highway parking lot

Calling All Gardeners and Wannabe Gardeners

Help prepare the native wildflower gardens at Oak Openings and Secor for the upcoming growing season. Help with trimming and clearing out the winter debris while learning how to use native wildflowers in your own garden. A great introduction to other volunteer opportunities.

Free | Reservations

Saturday, April 18, May 16, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Secor, National Center for Nature Photography parking lot

Saturday, June 13, 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Oak Openings Preserve, Buehner Center Porch

Star Watch

An astronomy presentation followed by an outdoor sky watch (or night hike if the sky is overcast). A telescope will be available.

Friday, April 24, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Oak Openings Preserve, Lodge

Fee: \$5 | Reservations

NEW! Meet Me At Metroparks

Join us for this new monthly program featuring a blend of nature and history seen by walking along the trails.

Fee: \$5 | Reservations

■ Redbuds in Bloom on the Historic Towpath

Hear stories of life along the Miami Erie Canal as you enjoy the blossoms of beautiful native Redbud trees.

Thursday, April 30, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Farnsworth, Boat Launch parking lot

■ Nature and History at Work in Oak Openings

From geology to ecological restoration to the WPA, discover what great combination of natural and human history has come together to form your largest Metropark.

Thursday, May 21, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Oak Openings Preserve, Buehner Center

■ The Great Black Swamp

A blend of nature and history is the perfect combination for experiencing the Great Black Swamp and its stories of settlement.

Thursday, June 18, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Pearson, Packer Hammersmith Center

Migratory Bird Self Guided Tour

Pick up your birding brochure and points-of-interest map at the Buehner Center. View the potential designated sighting areas for these migrating birds noted on the map. A naturalist will be on duty Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4:30 p.m., for updated bird sightings and to answer questions.

Friday, May 1-Sunday, May 31, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Oak Openings Preserve, Mallard Lake

Free | Reservations



Spring brings an abundance of migrating warblers, which can be seen in all the Metroparks in early May.



Bring your environmental club to Oak Openings June 26 to help collect seeds from the important lupine plant.



Starbucks™ Bird Watch

What winged jewels decorate the woods and Window on Wildlife? Treat yourself to a weekly sneak peek of migratory songbirds followed by a cup of brew a combination guaranteed to start your day right! Coffee provided by Starbucks.

Fridays, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 8 to 9 a.m.

Wildwood Preserve, Visitor Center
Free



In the Park after Dark

Glimpse nature at night by the light of the full moon on this guided exploration. Owl calling, storytelling and night sky interpretation are included.

April 9, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.; May 9, 9 to 10 p.m.; June 7, 9:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Swan Creek Preserve, Airport Highway parking lot
Fee: \$5 | Reservations

Blue Weekend

■ Take an opportunity to visit sites in the Oak Openings Region and learn more about the rare species that inhabit this unique ecosystem. Sponsored by The Nature Conservancy. For a list of events, go to www.oakopen.org.

Saturday, May 16 and Sunday, May 17

Create a Rain Garden presentation:
Oak Openings Lodge, 1 to 2 p.m.

Rain Garden Installation: Buehner Center
Windows on Wildlife, Oak Openings Preserve, 2-4 p.m.

Volunteers are needed.

■ Tour the “Oak Openings Blues” Photo Exhibit celebrating the many shades of blue found in the Oak Openings.

Saturday, May 16 and Sunday, May 17, Noon to 5 p.m.

Secor, National Center for Nature Photography
Free

Environmental Clubs: Lupine Day

Lupine is in bloom and we need your help counting these plants. Wild lupine is the only host plant and a source of food for the tiny, federally endangered Karner Blue butterfly caterpillar. Your assistance will help Metroparks monitor this critically important plant. Learn more about the Karner Blue and other rare species in the Oak Openings region.

Friday, May 15, 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Oak Openings Preserve, Mallard Lake
Free | Reservations

It's Mullein Pullin' Time!

Your help is needed to pull a fuzzy plant called mullein that has invaded areas recently opened in the Oak Openings region. Learn more about invasive plants and other ways you can help while having fun getting your hands dirty.

Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m. to noon

Oak Openings Preserve, Buehner Center Porch

Free | Reservations



Maumee River Canoe Float

Explore the scenic Maumee River from a perspective you may not have experienced before – by canoe. For adults and children 11 and older. All minors must be in the same canoe as their legal guardian. Two people per canoe.

Fee: \$10 | Reservations

Saturday, May 30, 1 to 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 20, 1 to 3:00 p.m.

Introduction to Canoeing

A six-hour, intensive American Canoe Association Level I course focusing on basic canoe skills for the tandem paddler. Participants will be provided with basic information on boat control, paddling apparel, potential hazards and simple rescues. Entry level paddling skills are demonstrated and practiced, allowing students to safely and effectively maneuver on flat water. Participants must be able to keep their head above water while wearing a properly-fitted PFD and be at least 15 years old.

Thursday, June 18, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fee: \$65 (Metroparks members \$55)

Reservations



Can you canoe? Introductory class June 18.

Lupine Seed Collecting Day

An event designed with environmental clubs and Adopt-An-Acre Groups in mind. Harvest seeds from Lupine plants, which are important for the survival of the Karner Blue butterfly. Come on your own or with a group and help Metroparks collect Lupine seeds for use in replenishing and maintaining the local Lupine population. Learn more about this tiny butterfly and other rare species in the Oak Openings region.

Friday, June 26, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Oak Openings Preserve, Mallard Lake

Free | Reservations

Nature Programs for Kids

Toddler Trails

(Ages 18 months to 3 years)

An outdoor, multi sensory nature adventure especially for young children and their adult companions.

Wednesday, April 1, May 6, June 3; 10 to 11 a.m.

Wildwood Preserve, Visitor Center

Free | Reservations (Register toddlers only.)



Park Pals (Ages 3 to 5)

Children and their adult companions read stories, play games, make a craft and take a nature walk with a Metroparks naturalist.

Oak Openings Preserve, Lodge

Fee : \$5 (Metroparks members \$4)

Reservations

■ White-footed Mice

Tuesday, April 21, 10 to 11:30 a.m. or Noon to 1:30 p.m.

■ Purple Lupine

Tuesday, May 19, 10 to 11:30 a.m. or Noon to 1:30 p.m.

■ Blue Butterflies

Tuesday, June 16, 10 to 11:30 a.m. or Noon to 1:30 p.m.



Kids will learn skills to begin a lifelong fascination with birding May 9, the peak of the best birding.

Wee Workshop (Ages 3 to 5)

| 12 | Children and their adult companions spend quality time outside in nature learning about a different topic every month at various Metroparks. Each program includes a fun activity, a nature walk and a craft.

Fee: \$5 | Reservations

■ **Our Friend, the Cottontail**

Discover the life of our native Eastern Cottontail rabbit.

Saturday, April 18, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Secor, Secor Room

■ **EGGS!**

Animals lay eggs of many colors and sizes. Learn which animals lay eggs in our parks and what they look like.

Saturday, May 2, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Wildwood Preserve, Metroparks Hall

■ **Trails and Tales**

Listen to stories about wildlife that live in our parks, then enjoy a nature walk along a woodland trail to search for signs of wildlife. After the nature walk, make some homemade trail mix.

Saturday, June 6, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Secor, National Center for Nature Photography



Eco Hikers (Ages 6 to 12)

Young nature lovers learn about the ecological and historical importance of stewardship through the Metroparks with games, activities and hands-on exploration. Free | Reservations

■ *Saturday, April 18, 1 to 2:30 p.m.*

Blue Creek Conservation Area

■ *Saturday, May 30, 1 to 2:30 p.m.*

Oak Openings Preserve, Pine Ridge Area

■ *Saturday, June 27, 1 to 2:30 p.m.*

Farnsworth, Roche de Bout parking lot



NEW! Kids Birding (Ages 6 to 13)

Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day, one of the biggest birding days of the year. Kids along with their families take a bird walk and learn basic birding skills. Some binoculars will be provided.

Saturday, May 9, 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Oak Openings Preserve, Buehner Center
Fee: \$5 | Reservations

Nature Programs for Scouts

Calling All Boy Scouts: Nature

Scouts will complete a minimum of nine requirements for this activity pin. Includes outdoor walk. Rain or shine. Refreshments provided. A drop-off program.

Thursday, April 16, 4 to 6:30 p.m.

Oak Openings Preserve, Lodge

Fee: \$2

Reservations



Special programs help scouts earn credit toward advancement.

Calling All Girl Scouts: Earth Connections

Junior Girl Scouts will complete all requirements to earn the Earth Connections merit badge. Includes outdoor walk.

Rain or shine. Refreshments provided.

A drop-off program.

Thursday, May 7, 4 to 6:30 p.m.

Side Cut, Riverview Shelter

Fee: \$2

Reservations

Calling All Webelos: Naturalist

Jump into summer break and earn an activity pin. Rain or shine. Refreshments provided. A drop-off program.

Thursday, June 11, 4 to 5:15 p.m.

Secor, National Center for Nature Photography parking lot

Fee: \$2

Reservations



Members Make a Difference

Become a member. Call 419-407-9700.

Join Today! By becoming a member, you place yourself in the fields and forests protecting wildlife; help restore natural areas; assist naturalists in classrooms and workshops to educate children and teachers. **Member dollars make a difference.**

As a Metroparks member you will receive two issues a year of Metroparks Magazine and the Program Guide mailed to your home, plus discounts on many facility and program reservation fees.



METROPARKS
TOLEDO AREA

Your Clean, Safe, Natural Places To Be



America's National Parks are captured in stunning black & white, large format images by Clyde Butcher, April 4 - June 28.



Nature Photography Programs

The National Center for Nature Photography located at Secor, holds workshops in the field at various parks and other locations. The center's exhibits are open Saturdays and Sundays, noon to 5 p.m., free of charge.



America's National Parks: A Monumental Vision

A new exhibit featuring black and white photographs by Clyde Butcher. Enjoy these exquisite images that draw the viewer into a relationship with nature. Butcher uses his photography as an inspiration for others to work together to save nature's places of spiritual sanctuary for future generations..

April 4 - June 28, noon to 5 p.m.

Secor, National Center for Nature Photography
Opening Reception: America's National Parks
Saturday, April 4, Noon to 5 p.m.
Free

Three Women in the Woods: Preservation and Conservation of Ohio's Woodlands

Jane Rogers, Jill Sell and Barbara Krans Jenkins have joined together to help preserve beautiful and endangered Ohio woodlands. Using photography, fine art and poetry, this exhibit educates and encourages others to express their own appreciation for nature, and to ultimately raise the level of caring for the natural world. This exhibit continues through June 28.

Saturday, April 4, noon to 5 p.m.

Secor, National Center for Nature Photography
Free

Outdoor Writers Photo Show

Winning entries in the Outdoor Writers Association of America annual photography contest will be on display through June 28.

Saturday, April 4, noon to 5 p.m.

Secor, National Center for Nature Photography
Free



Nature Shoot: Early Spring Wildflowers

A photo adventure in search of the first wildflowers of spring led by nature photographers Art Weber and Bob Jacksy, who will help you capture them in photographs.

Thursday, April 9, 6 to 8 p.m.

Swan Creek Preserve, Glendale parking lot
Fee: \$15 (Metroparks members \$10)
Reservations

Naturalists' Camera Club of Toledo

Monthly programs presented by the club are open to everyone and typically include a guest speaker, nature photography instruction and gallery tours. Light refreshments served.

Friday, April 10, May 13, and June 8

Photo gallery opens at 6:30 p.m.; program at 7:30 p.m.

Secor, Nature Photography Center
Free



Oak Openings Photo Primer: Mid Spring Wildflowers

A photo adventure into the Oak Openings to discover the spring wildflowers of this special region as well as receive tips on capturing them in photographs.

Thursday, April 23, 6 to 8 p.m.

Oak Openings Preserve, Buehner Center
Fee: \$15 (Metroparks members \$10)
Reservations

(programs continue on page 18)

Connecting The Community Is In Our Nature

Give Us An Hour To Tell Our Story

Everyone has a connection to the Metroparks. In our 80 years, the parks have meant many things to many people. Chances are, you have fond memories made in a Metropark, too.

We'd like to share some of those stories with you during our annual one-hour fundraising breakfast.

Please join us –
Wednesday, May 6
7:45 to 8:45 a.m.
Wildwood Preserve,
Ward Pavilion
Reservations: 419-407-9700

| 15 |

Be Part of History

75th Anniversary Celebration

Pearson Metropark • Coming in August



Buy an engraved brick, which will be incorporated into a walkway at the Pearson North addition.

For information, call 419-407-9700 or visit MetroparksToledo.com



Year of the Trail

Pick Up Your Passport To Document Your Experiences



Look for the Year of the Trail icon next to programs listed in this issue of the Program Guide. These events are part of this year's educational emphasis on trails. Then, pick up your Year of the Trail Passport to keep track of the programs you've attended.

Bring your passport to any Year of the Trail program to be stamped. At the end of the year, turn in a passport with 10 stamps and you will be invited to a special event

with food and entertainment, plus a t-shirt, all at no cost. (The event and t-shirt will be available to others for a fee depending on the number of stamps they turn in.)

Get your passport now at any Metropark or from the program leader at any Year of the Trail program. You can also sign up at MetroparksToledo.com to receive periodic Year of the Trail email newsletters, which will list related programs and provide other trail tips.

16 | Trails In Every Park Offer A Variety Of Experiences

From a 0.3 mile trail around a woodland pond at Secor to the 16-mile hiking trail at Oak Openings, trails are a common ingredient in every Metropark. Trails vary in length and are marked with a color "blaze" system. Most trails loop back to where they began and some have short

and long loops to choose from. The starting point for a trail is called a trailhead. Often in the Metroparks, a trailhead will lead walkers to multiple trail options.

Find a list of trails and lengths at MetroparksToledo.com. On the front page, select Park Trails from the Explore menu.





More Online
Visit MetroparksToledo.com
for more about
Year of the Trail.

Try These Trails

All Purpose

All-purpose trails at five Metroparks are mixed-use trails for walking, running and bicycling. Lengths vary by park: Wildwood, 1.6 miles; Swan Creek Preserve, 3.3 miles; Secor, 3.4 miles with a 2.7 mile loop; Oak Openings Preserve, 5.3 miles; and Pearson, 3 miles. Three greenway trails – the University/Parks Trails, Wabash Cannonball Trail and Towpath Trail, are also marked as “all purpose.”

Many Options

If you're looking to spend a day away, consider the many trail options available at Oak Openings Preserve, the region's largest Metropark. Trails there range from just over one-half mile around Mallard Lake to the 16 mile hiking trail. There's also a 14.5 mile horse trail – the only bridle path in the Metroparks.

Hoof It To Bend View

Bend View is the least-known Metropark, partly because it requires a little extra effort to get there. But it's worth it for the view of a dramatic 90-degree bend in the scenic Maumee River. From Farnsworth Metropark Boat Launch Area in Waterville,

it's a 2.2 mile hike or bike ride on the Towpath Trail to the Bend View shelter. The Towpath continues for another 6.1 miles to Providence, passing through The Canal Experience and ending at the Providence Dam.

For more information, pick up a Greenways brochure at any Metropark, or visit MetroparksToledo.com.

Bike Week Family Fun Ride

Celebrate Bike Week with an escorted ride exploring the University/Parks Trail. Your bike guide will provide tips for riding safely on the park trails and on the road. This fun trip is appropriate for bike riders of all ages and abilities. All riders should wear helmets. Bike Week is a project of the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG). Pick up your Year of the Trail passport and earn a stamp for participating.

Tuesday, May 12, 6-7 p.m.

Wildwood Preserve, Visitor Center
Free

(programs continued from page 14)

Oak Openings Photo Primer: Wet Sand Prairie

The wet sand prairies of the Oak Openings Region are among the rarest habitats on earth. Join nature photographers Art Weber and Bob Jacksy as they explore these special wet areas at one of their best times of year, along the way they'll help you capture these special scenes in photographs.

Thursday, April 30, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Fee: \$15 (Metroparks members \$10)

Reservations

Nature Shoot: Migrating Songbirds

Visit the Black Swamp Bird Observatory bird banding station in Navarre Marsh along the Lake Erie shore. Spring migration should keep the capture nets bustling with songbirds, including some of the very colorful warblers. Registration required since space is limited to 12 photographers. A portion of the program fees will benefit BSBO and its research efforts. Upon registration specific program details will be provided.

Thursday, May 14, 9 a.m. to noon

Fee: \$40 (Metroparks/BSBO members \$30)

Reservations

Nature Shoot: Oak Savanna

Oak Savannas, or Oak Openings, are a key and rare habitat of our Oak Openings Region. Lupine should be at its best along with a host of other spring species in one of our area's best savannas located in The Nature Conservancy's Kitty Todd Preserve.

Thursday, June 4, 6 to 9 p.m.

Kitty Todd Preserve

Fee: \$15 (Metroparks members \$10)

Reservations

Nature Shoot: Summer Solstice

Activity in nature hits a peak with the longest day of the year. Kitty Todd will have a different look than it did during the early June program as photographers seek out the rare wildflowers and animals of June.

Monday, June 22, 6 to 9 p.m.

Kitty Todd Preserve

Fee: \$20 (Metroparks members \$15)

Reservations



History Programs



Launch Into Providence

Journey along the banks of the restored Miami and Erie Canal in the mule-drawn canal boat, The Volunteer; visit the Isaac Ludwig Mill for some stone ground cornmeal; and shop at the General Store. Metroparks members invited to ride the canal boat for free to celebrate opening day.

Saturday, May 2, noon to 5 p.m.

Providence, Kimble's Landing
Canal Boat Tickets: Adults \$6, \$5 Seniors (60 and over), \$4 children (3 to 12); ages two and under Free.

Canal Boat Cruise: Moms Ride Free

Celebrate Mother's Day early by taking a ride on the canal boat. Free for moms today!

Saturday, May 9, noon to 4 p.m.

Providence, Kimble's Landing
Canal Boat Tickets: Adults \$6 (Members \$5), \$5 Seniors (60 and over), \$4 children (3 to 12); ages two and under Free.



Behind the Scenes

Explore parts of the Wildwood Manor House typically out of sight to the public, from the attic through the maids' quarters, to the boiler room. Space is limited.

Friday, May 15, 6 to 8 p.m.

Wildwood Preserve, Manor House

Fee: \$9 (Metroparks members \$7)

Reservations



See the Manor House from a new perspective during a Behind The Scenes Tour.



The dramatic stories of slaves and the families who sheltered them come to life during the Underground Railroad Lantern Tour.



Underground Railroad Lantern Tour

Experience a night of dramatic history and discover northwest Ohio's important role in battling slavery. On this walking tour, historical figures transport you back in time to share two very different stories. Both tales span generations as one follows a slave family from Africa to Canada, while the other chronicles an abolitionist family's difficult journey from England to Sylvania, Ohio. These very different stories are fated to collide in northwest Ohio.

Saturday, May 16, 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Fee: \$5 (Metroparks members \$4)

Reservations

Tomahawks And Tinsmithing

Visit with expert blacksmith Butch Sheely as he demonstrates how to make tomahawks at the Isaac Ludwig Mill. Sheely's work, including Damascus Steel, pipe hawks, hatchets, and knives will be displayed. Stop by the tinshop to watch expert tinsmith Don Rasmusson work with tin making tools used by early Ohioans.

Saturday, June 6, 1 to 4 p.m.

Providence, Isaac Ludwig Mill

Free

One-Room School Open House

Children of all ages are invited to visit Oak Grove School to experience an authentic 1890s one-room school.

Schoolmarms dressed in period clothing will explain the methods of teaching during the end of the nineteenth century. You are welcome to slide into the desks, work on slate boards, and open a McGuffey reader to practice your spelling skills. Just remember to behave – discipline had to be strict when dealing with eight grades in one building.

Saturday, June 13, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wildwood Preserve, Oak Grove School
Free

Canal Boat Cruise: Dads Ride Free

Celebrate Father's Day by taking a ride on The Volunteer. Free for dads today.

Sunday, June 21, noon to 4 p.m.

Providence, Kimble's Landing

Canal Boat Tickets: Adults \$6 (Members \$5), \$5 Seniors (60 and over), \$4 children (3 to 12); ages two and under Free.

Kindred Spirits – 1893

Our one-room schoolhouse program will capture the imagination of every child who enjoys reading the stories of Laura Ingalls Wilder. If you have an historical dreamer between the ages of 8 and 11, the Oak Grove School experience is a must. A costumed school marm will lead academic lessons, teach proper manners, introduce school yard games at recess, instruct girls in sewing a doll, and help boys build a wooden toy. The fun-filled day will conclude with the students hand-cranking their own ice cream. Bring your own lunch – we provide the pail!

Class size limited to 12 students.

Wednesday, June 24, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fee: \$7



Relive History at
The Canal Experience



**Providence Metropark
Grand Rapids, Ohio**

- Living history characters.
- Trips aboard a real canal boat.
- Tours of the historic Ludwig Mill.
- Shopping in The General Store.

Hours: May - June, Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.,
Saturday, noon to 4 p.m., Closed Sundays.

Prices: Canal boat tickets \$6 adults, \$5 seniors (60 and over),
\$4 children (3 to 12); ages two and under Free. Mill tours Free.

MetroparksToledo.com



This year, Macy's Franklin Park will partner with Metroparks to raise funds for new programs and projects in our community during the Turn Over a New Leaf campaign.

In celebration of Earth Week, Macy's customers will have the opportunity to make a \$5 donation to Metroparks.

In return, customers will receive an exclusive Macy's savings pass entitling them to 10-20% off most purchases storewide on One Good Turn Charity Shopping Day, April 25th.

Visit Macy's Franklin Park beginning in mid-March for more details.



Manor House Programs

Tea In The Solarium

Enjoy a delightful spring afternoon complete with delicious sandwiches and desserts served in an elegant manner. Sponsored by the Manor House Volunteers.

Wildwood Preserve

Fee: \$7, additional items 60 cents each (Some prepaid reservations available, but not required, by calling 419 508 0951.)

- Come to the first tea of the season and visit the sales table for an Easter or Mother's Day gift.

Friday, April 3, noon to 3 p.m.

- Take time to relax with family and friends.

Friday, May 1, noon to 3 p.m.

- Beautiful spring gardens, what a setting for tea!

Friday, June 5, noon to 3 p.m.

BGSU Concert

Relax and enjoy Tuesday evenings at the Manor House while listening to talented musicians perform in the beautiful living room.

Wildwood Preserve

Free

- **Award Winning Talents**

Winners of the Marjorie Conrad Peatee Art Song Competition will share their award winning styles.

Tuesday, April 7, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

- **Encore!**

The Graduate String Quartet will close the season with an encore performance.

Tuesday, April 14, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.



Enjoy a morning of music in the elegant Manor House living room.

Music In The Grand Manor

Start your day with a delightful morning concert. Ticket price includes the popular Manor House salad buffet lunch. Sponsored by the Manor House Volunteers.

Friday, April 17, 10:30 a.m. to noon

Wildwood Preserve, Manor House

Fee: \$10 | Reservations

Collectibles

Enjoy this monthly program learning about various collectibles. Join us for coffee or tea and mini-muffins at 9:30 a.m. Presented by the Manor House Volunteers.

Wildwood Preserve

Free

- **Charming Toppers**

Remember when you didn't go anywhere without wearing a hat? Rebecca Ott and Marie Garlick will share their extensive collection.

Tuesday, April 28, 10 to 11 a.m.

- **A Pictorial History of Metroparks During The Great Depression**

Do you know what the W.P.A. and C.C.C. accomplished for our Metroparks during the Great Depression? Janet Rozick, Historical Programs Manager, will share her research.

Tuesday, May 26, 10 to 11 a.m.



Time for tea – monthly in the Manor House.

Flower Show:

Hit Me with Your Best Shot

Members of the Anthony Wayne Garden Club will use personal photographs as inspiration of flower designs. Horticulture classes will include: *Your Best Shot on Vacation; Sunset; In the Back Yard with the Family; At the Beach; and In the Garden.* Horticulture will feature spring blooming flowers and shrubs.

Saturday, May 23 and Sunday, May 24, noon to 5 p.m.

Wildwood Preserve

Free

Ice Cream Social

The Polish American Concert Band will keep your toes tappin' as you feast on ice cream and delicious cakes and brownies. Sponsored by the Manor House Volunteers.

In case of rain, meet at the Ward Pavilion.
Monday, June 15, 6 to 8 p.m.

Wildwood Preserve, Manor House

Fee: Refreshments \$0.50

Family Fun Fest

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Decorate your trike, bike, wagon or yourself and meet at the Visitor Center at 11 a.m. Participants will show off their unique style in a parade to the Manor House where Family Fun Fest awaits with a variety of games, crafts and refreshments to celebrate summer.

Saturday, June 20, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Wildwood Preserve

Free



Kids will decorate their bikes and parade to the Manor House lawn June 20.



TBG Programs

Toledo Botanical Garden is open daily. Admission is free. Now part of Metroparks, the garden is operated by a non-profit organization and also hosts a variety of educational programs and special events. The Garden is open year-round during daylight hours. Admission is free.

First Sunday Open Arts Days

Visit the Artists Village to see what talented Toledo-area artists have created this year.

Sunday, May 4 and June 7, noon to 4 p.m.

TBG

Spring Plant Sale

Plant shoppers can select from a variety of plants, many of which cannot be found elsewhere in the region, including a large selection of perennials, assorted herbs, Oak Openings Natives, vegetables, roses, shrubs and hanging baskets. Activities for children, live entertainment and the expert advice of staff and Master Gardeners will make it a productive day for any gardener.

Thursday, May 7, TBG Members Preview, 4 to 8 p.m.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, May 8, 9, 10,

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Crosby Award Luncheon

The 6th Annual Crosby Award Luncheon. Space is limited.

Wednesday, May 20, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

TBG

Reservations 419-536-5597



See animals under the care of Nature's Nursery at monthly open houses.



Nature's Nursery

Nature's Nursery is a non-profit wildlife rehabilitation and conservation education organization located at the Blue Creek Conservation Area, a Metroparks property in Whitehouse. Found an injured animal? Call 419-877-0060. Education programs for adults and youth may be scheduled at your classroom or assembly, community group, church or business for meetings, keynotes and in-service. Many presentations include slides and wildlife demonstrations. For details, call 419-877-0060 or visit our website at www.natures-nursery.org

Open Houses

A great opportunity to get to know Nature's Nursery and Blue Creek.

Second Sunday of each month, May through September, 1 to 5 p.m.

NEW! Walk for Wildlife

Help wildlife and have fun walking with your friends and family! This unique one-mile walk-a-thon features stations to view native wildlife close up, and conservation education displays. Anyone can participate. Individuals, groups and families are asked to take pledges to raise funds to care for injured, ailing and orphaned wildlife.

Saturday, June 6

Blue Creek Conservation Area

9 a.m. check in; 10 a.m. walk

Fee: at least \$20 in pledges

Reservations required: 419-877-0060



Volunteer Programs

Helping Hands

Show how green you can be by helping naturalists and land management staff restore natural areas to preserve rare and endangered plants. Canceled if weather is stormy. Long pants, work gloves and sturdy shoes recommended. Great for service hours. Groups welcome.

Free | Reservations

■ *Saturday, April 11, 2 to 4 p.m.*

Oak Openings Preserve, Buehner Center Porch

■ **Extreme Earth Day Edition**

Saturday, April 18, 12 to 4 p.m.

Side Cut, Riverview Parking lot

■ *Saturday, April 25, 2 to 4 p.m.*

Oak Openings Preserve, Buehner Center Porch

■ *Saturday, May 2, 2 to 4 p.m.*

Oak Openings Preserve, Buehner Center Porch

■ *Saturday, May 23, 1 to 4 p.m.*

Side Cut, Silver Lake Parking lot

■ *Saturday, June 6, 9 to 11 a.m.*

Oak Openings Preserve, Buehner Center Porch

■ *Sunday, June 7, 9 to 11 a.m.*

Oak Openings Preserve, Buehner Center Porch

■ *Saturday, June 13, 2 to 4 p.m.*

Side Cut, Riverview Parking lot

Volunteer Naturalist Training

Nature interpretation, seasonal plant and animal cycles and Northwest Ohio natural history are the focus of this monthly field study. Recommended for Metroparks walk leaders, Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists and Volunteer Trail Patrol members.

Free

■ *Saturday, April 18, 1 to 3:30 p.m.*

Secor, National Center for Nature Photography parking lot

(program description continues on page 25)

Make A Difference



Volunteer At Metroparks

Help preserve and protect the natural heritage of northwest Ohio, a rewarding way to contribute to the community. What you'll get in return is a greater understanding of the area's nature, history and culture. The view is pretty good, too.

ADMINISTRATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

MANOR HOUSE

NATURE PROGRAMMING

VOLUNTEER TRAIL PATROL

SPECIAL EVENTS

HISTORY

STEWARDSHIPS AND BEAUTIFICATION

Learn more about how to get involved.

Call 419-407-9703.

(program continued from page 23)

- **Saturday, May 16, 1 to 3:30 p.m.**
Swan Creek Preserve, Yager Center parking lot
- **Saturday, June 20, 1 to 3:30 p.m.**
Side Cut, Riverview Area



Global Youth Service Day

Mark the 5th annual Global Youth Service Day / Earth Day Work Day by volunteering to keep Metroparks clean and green. A variety of work projects are available, including natural area restoration, plantings and general park clean up. A celebration will be held for all participating youth at the Toledo Zoo. Several park locations available including Fallen Timbers Battlefield in Maumee. Bring work gloves. Groups, families and individuals welcome. Reservations: 419-407-9846 or email alice.pawlowicz@metroparkstoledo.com
Saturday, April 25, 9 a.m. to noon
Various Metroparks
Free

Friends Groups

Friends groups support Metroparks in many ways, from work projects to fundraising to hosting educational programs and special events. All meetings and programs by Friends groups are open to everyone.

Friends of Pearson

Join the Friends of Pearson for a monthly planning meeting.
Pearson, Packer Hammersmith Center
Free

- **Wednesday, April 1, 7 to 8 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, May 6, 7 to 8 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, June 3, 7 to 8 p.m.**

Pancake Breakfast

Enjoy a spring morning in the beautiful surroundings of Pearson while enjoying a pancake breakfast by Friends of Pearson.
Saturday, April 25, 7:30 to 10:30 a.m.
Pearson, Macomber Lodge
Fee: \$5.00 | Children (Under 12) \$2.75

Friends of Side Cut

Everyone is welcome to join Friends of Side Cut at their meetings and activities.
Free

■ Gardening

If you have a green thumb, help the Friends maintain the gardens of the parks.
Saturday, May 2, 9 to 10 a.m.
Saturday, June 6, 9 to 10 a.m.
Side Cut, Lamb Center

■ Adopt-A-Road

Make a new friend while helping to keep the park beautiful. Meet on River Road just west of I-475 overpass.
Saturday, May 9, 9 to 10 a.m.
Saturday, June 27, 9 to 10 a.m.
Side Cut, Riverview Area

■ Deer Resistant Plants

See our test garden and get lots of tips on plants and techniques to minimize deer damage, presented by Alaina Meister. Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.
Monday, May 11, 7 to 8 p.m.
Side Cut, Lamb Center

■ Annual Picnic Featuring a Green Theme

A rain barrel demonstration and a hand out sheet for innovative uses of vinegar. Refreshments provided. Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, June 16, 7 to 8 p.m.
Side Cut, Riverview Shelter

Friends of Secor

Everyone is welcome to join Friends of Secor at their meetings and activities.
Free

■ Wildflower Walk and Trail Audit

Observe the beautiful wildflowers in the woods and help to improve trail conditions by joining us for a trail audit. Monthly meeting begins at 7 p.m.
Tuesday, April 21, 6 to 8 p.m.
Secor, Secor Room

■ Native Plant Sale

Stock up on Oak Openings Region native plants and help support the Friends of Secor volunteer group's efforts at Secor.
Sunday, May 17, noon to 4 p.m.
Secor, National Center for Nature Photography

(program description continues on next page)

(program continued from previous page)

■ **Cook Out and Nature Walk**

Come for a cook out and a nature walk, stay for the monthly meeting.

Tuesday, May 19, 6 to 8 p.m.

Side Cut, Rotary Pavilion

■ **Tour of the Middlegrounds**

Reserve your space on the Explorer Tram for a tour of this future Metropark in downtown Toledo. The Tram leaves promptly at 6 p.m. Park at the Martin Luther King Plaza upper level parking lot, 300 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. Space on the tram is limited so register online now for this program.

The tram is wheelchair accessible.

Tuesday, June 16, 6 to 8 p.m.

Reservations

Friends of Lathrop House

Join the Friends of Lathrop for their bi-monthly meeting and learn about the restoration process of the Lathrop House.

Tuesday, May 5, 7 to 8 p.m.

Wildwood Preserve, Manor House

Free

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TAARS

Join members of the Toledo Area Aboriginal Research Society for their monthly meeting and activities.

■ *Thursday, April 23, 7 to 9:30 p.m.*

Wildwood Preserve, Manor House

Free

See a future Metropark, the Middlegrounds in downtown Toledo, June 16.

■ **The Danbury Site: A Lecture by Dr. Brian Redmond, Cleveland Museum of Natural History**

Learn about the fascinating findings at the Danbury site in Ottawa County where evidence of a palisade was uncovered in 2008.

Thursday, May 28, 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Wildwood Preserve, Manor House

Free

Volunteers in Parks

The VIPS do many things to support Metroparks. Everyone is welcome at all VIP meetings and activities.

■ **Annual Meeting**

Enjoy a program by naturalist Kim High. Coffee and cookies.

Tuesday, May 5, 7 to 9 p.m.

■ **Spring Pancake Breakfast**

Two sausage links, orange juice, coffee, hot chocolate and all you can eat pancakes. Indoor seating available.

Proceeds used for Metroparks projects.

Saturday, June 20, 8 to 11 a.m.

Wildwood, Metroparks Hall

Fee: \$4.95 | children under 12 \$2.50

Fallen Timbers Preservation Commission

Monthly planning meeting. For more information, email President Randy Brown at bgcurator@gmail.com or call 567-336-6012. Side Cut, Lamb Center

Free

■ *Tuesday, May 5, 7 to 8 p.m.*

■ *Tuesday, June 2, 7 to 8 p.m.*





Board the Explorer for a relaxing ride along the river Tuesdays in May and June.



Members Programs

In the Park After Dark

Glimpse nature at night by the light of the full moon on this naturalist guided exploration. Owl calling, storytelling and night sky interpretation included. Members attend this program for free.

Swan Creek Preserve, Airport Highway parking lot

Thursday, April 9, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Free | Reservations

Pups & Pancakes Breakfast

Enjoy breakfast outdoors with your dog. Pancakes, sausage, orange juice and coffee or hot chocolate. Indoor seating available. Sponsored by Volunteers In Parks. Proceeds used for Metroparks projects.

Wildwood Preserve, Metroparks Hall

Saturday, May 16, 8 to 11 a.m.

Fee: \$4.95 | children under 12 \$2.50

Side Cut Explorer: Members Day

Board a 12-passenger, wheelchair-accessible tram for a ride along the Maumee River and canal towpath at Side Cut Metropark in Maumee. Departs from the Riverview Parking lot.

Tuesday, June 16

Departure times: 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Free | Reservations

Members Reception: America the Beautiful

See stunning images of America's national parks captured in black and white by Clyde Butcher. Members are invited to a special opening reception to enjoy this beautiful new exhibit, which will be on display through June 28. Hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Friday, April 3, 6-8 p.m.

National Center for Nature Photography

Members Ride Free

As a special thank-you for your support, members are invited to board the authentic canal boat The Volunteer, at The Canal Experience, for one of our scheduled, 45-minute, narrated rides. While at Providence, take a tour of the water-powered mill and stop by The General Store. Providence Metropark

Friday, May 2

Open: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Ward Pavilion, Wildwood

Facility Rentals

Whether you're planning a board meeting or a baby shower, a team banquet or a family reunion, Metroparks offers a variety of meeting rooms and open shelters to suit your needs.

Metroparks members receive a 20 percent discount on the cost of all facility rentals, any day of the week. Other discounts may be available on weekdays only for non-profit and senior citizens organizations, and other government agencies.

**Only one discount per rental may be applied.*

Manor House

Reserve all or part of the Wildwood Manor House for your wedding or other special occasion. Rooms can accommodate as few as 8 to as many as 80 people. The Manor House has several unique wedding packages to choose from.

Outdoor Weddings

Weddings are welcome in the Metroparks public areas by reservation.

For reservations, availability and complete terms and regulations, call the Metroparks reservations number: 419-407-9700 or visit MetroparksToledo.com. Reservations can be made online.



METROPARKS TOLEDO AREA

Your Clean, Safe, Natural Places To Be

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Lera Doneghy, Fritz Byers, vice-presidents

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Jim Spengler

Associate Directors

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Cathy Marinelli, human resources and customer service | Carla Westbrook, finance/treasurer

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Editor, Dawn Dickerson, 419-407-9769

Art direction by Jesse Mireles

Production/mailing by Valerie Juhasz

Graphic design by Tamie Spears

Nature photography by Art Weber

Additional photography by Mary Pencheff, Bob Jacksy,

Mark Plessner and Howard Camp.



How To Get The Guide

Metroparks publishes this quarterly Program Guide which is distributed directly by mail to members and frequent users, and by request. Programs and news are also sent by email.

Sign up here. It's free.

Name: _____ Your age: _____

Street address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Phone Number (optional): _____

Please:

- Put me on your Program Guide mailing list.
- Contact me about Volunteer opportunities.
- Add me to your "This Week At Metroparks" email list (sent every Monday).
- Add me to your "Metroparks Friday Update" email newsletter (sent every Friday).
- I am interested in more information about the following park or topic: _____

Return to: Metroparks Marketing
5100 W. Central Ave.
Toledo, OH 43615

Or email: webmaster@metroparkstoledo.com

Directory

Metroparks of the Toledo Area

Headquarters

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday
5100 W. Central Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43615

Headquarters, Facility and Program
Reservations, Weddings and Group Permits:

419-407-9700

Metz Visitors Center: 419-407-9701

Online Program and Facility

Reservations:

MetroparksToledo.com

Special group and educational programs can be arranged by calling the program departments directly:

Nature programs: 419-407-9701

History programs: 419-407-9849

Special Events: 419-407-9727

Nature Photography Center: 419-407-9757

Manor House: 419-407-9849

Canal Experience: 419-407-9741

Your Metroparks:

Bend View

Blue Creek Conservation Area

Fallen Timbers

Farnsworth

Middlegrounds

Oak Openings Preserve

Pearson

Providence

Secor

Side Cut

Swan Creek Preserve
Toledo Botanical Garden
Wildwood Preserve

Greenways:

University/Parks Trail
Wabash Cannonball Trail
Towpath Trail

Windows On Wildlife:

Oak Openings Preserve, Pearson, Secor, Side Cut, Wildwood Preserve, Swan Creek Preserve

Attractions:

Buehner Center for the Oak Openings
The Canal Experience at Providence
Lathrop House, Sylvania
National Center for Nature Photography at Secor
Oak Grove School at Wildwood Preserve
Pearson Pedal Boats
Wildwood Manor House

Retail:

Farmhouse Gift Shop, Wildwood Preserve
General Store, Providence

Rental Facilities:

Picnic shelters and indoor facilities
available by reservation

Visit MetroparksToledo.com for hours, prices, maps, directions, and to make program and facility reservations.



5 Ways To Sign Up For Programs

Many programs require no advance reservations. For those programs where reservations are needed, there are five ways to sign up.

Online: Register and pay by credit card online at MetroparksToledo.com

By Phone: Call 419-407-9700. An operator or voicemail system will connect you with the appropriate program department.

In Person: Come to the Visitor Center at Wildwood Preserve, 5100 W. Central Avenue, weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m., weekends 1 to 5 p.m.

By Mail: Use form below.

By Fax: Use form below.

** Reservations are made in the order they are received; some programs have limited openings.*

PROGRAM RESERVATION FORM

Name _____

Group Name _____

Attending _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email address (to be added to our email list) _____

Metroparks Membership: Family \$40 Individual \$30 Senior \$25

MetroBarks Family \$45 MetroBarks Individual \$35

Program	Date	Age of attendee	Cost (if any)

Total amount enclosed _____

Please add me to the Program Guide mailing list.

Contact me about Volunteer opportunities.

Mail to: Metroparks Visitor Center, 5100 W. Central Ave., Toledo, OH 43616

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