



MetroParks

of Butler County

SUMMER 2024 PROGRAM GUIDE



Awakening The Explorer in Everyone

Welcome to MetroParks of Butler County! With 15 parks and regional trails and nearly 5,000 acres to explore, MetroParks is Butler County's largest greenspace provider.

In 2023, MetroParks launched our new vision statement "To Awaken the Explorer in Everyone". This guide is your invitation to get outside and awaken your inner explorer this season! Foster your curiosity and step into the wonderful world of programming with a night hike, nature journaling or letterboxing. There's no better way to discover YOUR MetroParks than during a summer program.

From Nature Explorers to Creeking in the Parks and scavenger hunts there are tons of opportunities for kids to play and explore away from screens this summer! Adults can hone their animal husbandry skills during our Farm Foundations programs, and humans and dogs alike can make new pals at our Tuesday Hound Hikes. We hope you join us for these programs and many more this summer.

We'll see you in the parks!

TO REGISTER FOR PROGRAMS:
YourMetroParks.net

PROGRAM REGISTRATION IS NOT
REQUIRED
UNLESS OTHERWISE
NOTED

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
(513) 867-5835
info@YourMetroParks.net






JUNE PROGRAMS

JUNE
1

Secret Stamps

 Voice of America MetroPark • 12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Uncover the secret world of Letterboxing at Voice of America MetroPark. Learn how Letterboxers around the world follow clues to find publicly accessible hidden boxes containing unique stamps and logbooks. Each participant will create their own stamp and logbook before heading out on a self-guided hunt.

Ages 6 & up • Registration is required • \$3/person

JUNE
2

Farm Foundations- Goats Part One


 Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead • 3:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Join us for an agricultural education program designed to give you a farming foundation you can build upon. Part one of the two-part series will introduce you to the Chrisholm Historic Farmstead resident goats. Through fun, hands-on activities you will learn basic information about goats including their different breeds, life cycle, husbandry practices, nutrition, and the goat's agricultural significance. Participants will practice grooming and feeding the goats, too.

Ages 8 & up, children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult • Registration is required by May 31 • \$10/person

JUNE
5

Wonder Wednesdays


 Marcum Park • 10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Join the McCloskey Museum and MetroParks' staff for summer nature programs at Marcum Park. We will supply craft materials to make and fill your very own nature journal. Use your senses to explore the park's natural areas while enjoying excerpts from the Caldecott Award winning local author Robert McCloskey's "Time of Wonder".

All ages, children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult • FREE

JUNE
6

Creeking in the Parks

 Sebald MetroPark • 10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Water isn't just fun to play in, it can also tell you a lot about our environment. Join MetroParks and Butler Soil and Water Conservation District for our first summer creek exploration! We'll find out about our watershed and the creatures call Elk Creek home. We'll supply everything you need to explore the water, the creek's fossils and aquatic wildlife.

All ages • FREE

JUNE
11

Tuesday Hound Hikes

 Voice of America MetroPark • 7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Join us for a tail-wagging, paw pattering hound hike. Bring your canine friend for a fun, stress-free walk at different parks throughout the summer. All dogs must be kept on a 6' leash and be animal and people friendly.

All ages • FREE



**JUNE
13**

Creeking in the Parks



Four Mile Creek MetroPark - Antenen Nature Preserve Area • 10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Water isn't just fun to play in, it can also tell you a lot about our environment. Join MetroParks and Butler Soil and Water Conservation District for our second summer creek exploration! We'll find out about our watershed and the creatures call Four Mile Creek home. We'll supply everything you need to explore the water, the creek's fossils and aquatic wildlife.

All ages • FREE

**JUNE
15**

107th Augspurgen Reunion and the Friends of Chrisholm Annual Meeting



Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead • 11:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

Guest speaker Fred Lutzi is an agronomist interested in long-term sustainability of agriculture and is a descendent of Butler County's Amish Mennonites. Mr. Lutzi will deliver a talk titled "Perennial Lessons from the Past for Agriculture of the Future." Hear updates on FOC's current activities including progress with their "Save Our Cellar" fundraiser, a tour of the cellar and lunch.

Adults • Registration is required by June 10 at ChrisholmHistoricFarmstead.org • \$15/person

**JUNE
15**

Secret Stamps



Governor Bebb MetroPark • 12:00 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

Uncover the secret world of Letterboxing at Governor Bebb MetroPark. Learn how Letterboxers around the world follow clues to find publicly accessible hidden boxes containing unique stamps and logbooks. Each participant will create their own stamp and logbook before heading out on a self-guided hunt.

Ages 6 & up • Registration is required • \$3/person

**JUNE
15**

Friends of Chrisholm Augspurgen & Historic Farmstead Open House



Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead • 2:00 P.M. - 3:0 P.M.

Join the Friends of Chrisholm (FOC) and learn more about the historic Augspurgen House at Chrisholm MetroPark. FOC docents will share about the history of the Augspurgen family family who once called this farm home. After you've explored the house, meet the Historic Farmstead's animal ambassadors during a behind-the-scenes look at farm life with MetroParks' staff.

All ages • FREE

**JUNE
20**

Creeking in the Parks



Indian Creek MetroPark - Oxford Reily Road Area • 10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Water isn't just fun to play in, it can also tell you a lot about our environment. Join MetroParks and Butler Soil and Water Conservation District for our third summer creek exploration! We'll find out about our watershed and the creatures call Indian Creek home. We'll supply everything you need to explore the water, the creek's fossils and aquatic wildlife.

All ages • FREE



BIG BACKYARD NATURE BASH


JUNE 22, 2024

Kickoff the Great American Campout with us in June! Don't know a trilobite from a damselfly? Want to see a box turtle in person? We've got you covered as your family samples some of our favorite nature activities to try in your own backyard. From your first step in the creek until the last dying campfire ember, this will be one bash to remember!

Sebald MetroPark


All Ages, Registration Required at YourMetroParks.net
\$5/Person, Ages 2 & Under FREE



**JUNE
22****Big Backyard Nature Bash** Sebald MetroPark • 7:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

Kickoff the Great American Campout with us in June! Don't know a trilobite from a damselfly? Want to see a box turtle in person? We've got you covered as your family samples some of our favorite nature activities to try in your own backyard. From your first step in the creek until the last dying campfire ember, this will be one bash to remember!

All ages • Registration is required • \$5/person, children under 2 years FREE

**JUNE
23****Farm Foundations- Goats Part Two** Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead • 3:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.


Join us for an agricultural education program designed to give you a farming foundation you can build upon. During part two of our Farm Foundations-Goats series we'll focus on the typical behavior of goats and learn tips and tricks of handling and training these animals. We'll practice reading goat body language and restraining, haltering and leading them.

Ages 8 and up, children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult • Registration is required by June 21 • \$10/person

**JUNE
27****Creeking in the Parks** Governor Bebb MetroPark • 10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Water isn't just fun to play in, it can also tell you a lot about our environment. Join MetroParks and Butler Soil and Water Conservation District for our fourth summer creek exploration! We'll find out about our watershed and the creatures call Dry Fork Creek home. We'll supply everything you need to explore the water, the creek's fossils and aquatic wildlife.


All ages • FREE

**JUNE
29****Fireflies** Harbin Park • 8:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

Fireflies or lightning bugs? No matter what you call them, come out and learn about nature's favorite flashy things with MetroParks of Butler County. We'll start in the shelter and learn a little about the insect's life cycle, why they flash, and how to attract more of them to your yard. Then we'll take an easy ½ mile hike to see lightning bugs in action under the stars.

All ages • FREE

JULY PROGRAMS

**JULY
6****Secret Stamps** Sebald MetroPark • 12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Uncover the secret world of Letterboxing at Sebald MetroPark. Learn how Letterboxers around the world follow clues to find publicly accessible hidden boxes containing unique stamps and logbooks. Each participant will create their own stamp and logbook before heading out on a self-guided hunt.

Ages 6 & up • Registration is required • \$3/person

NATURE EXPLORERS



AWAKEN YOUR INNER EXPLORER!

What better way to enjoy mid-summer than with fun programs in YOUR MetroParksParks! Join us on Friday mornings and explore a different park each week. Creek with Butler Soil & Water educator Lynn White, meet MetroParks' program animals, learn more about plants and explore art in the parks. For session locations visit YourMetroParks.net.

Due to the structure of the program, large groups like day camps, scouts, etc. can't be accommodated. To book your private program visit our website or call (513) 867-5835.

JULY 12TH
JULY 19TH
JULY 26TH
AUGUST 2ND

10:00 AM - 11:30
AM

ALL AGES


YOURMETROPARKS.NET

FREE!



**JULY
10**

Wonder Wednesdays

 Marcum Park • 10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Join the McCloskey Museum and MetroParks' staff for summer nature programs at Marcum Park. We will supply craft materials to make and fill your very own nature journal. Use your senses to explore the park's natural areas while enjoying excerpts from the Caldecott Award winning local author Robert McCloskey's "Time of Wonder".

All ages, children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult • FREE

**JULY
12**

Nature Explorers

 Four Mile Creek MetroPark - Mill Race Preserve Area • 10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Celebrate mid-summer with MetroParks and Butler Soil and Water Conservation District educator Lynn White. Join us for a fun creeking program exploring the beautiful habitat along Four Mile Creek. Wear appropriate shoes, clothing and hat.

Due to the structure of Nature Explorers, large groups (day camps, scouts, etc.) can't be accommodated. If your group is interested in booking a private program, visit YourMetroParks.net.

All ages • FREE

**JULY
13**

Creeking in the Parks

 Behind the Fairfield Family YMCA • 10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Water isn't just fun to play in, it can also tell you a lot about the environment. Join MetroParks of Butler County to see what we can learn about your watershed. We'll find out where we are in the watershed and what creatures we can find in it. Then we'll use nets and our hands to explore the creek and see just how good the water quality is.

All ages • FREE

**JULY
13**

Christmas in July with the Friends of Chrisholm

 Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead • 1:00 P.M.- 3:00 P.M.

Start your Christmas crafting early with the Friends of Chrisholm! Bring your imagination and creativity with you and create some unique ornaments for the upcoming holiday season. All materials provided with program registration.

Ages 16 & up unless accompanied by an adult • Registration is required by July 11 • \$5/person

**JULY
14**

Farm Foundations- Donkeys Part One

 Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead • 3:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Join us for an agricultural education program designed to give you a farming foundation you can build upon. Part one of the two-part series will introduce you to the Chrisholm Historic Farmstead resident donkeys Juniper and Magnolia.

Through fun, hands-on activities you will learn basic information about donkeys including their different breeds, life cycle, husbandry practices, nutrition, and the donkey's agricultural significance. Participants will practice grooming and feeding the donkeys, too.

Ages 8 and up, children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult • Registration is required by July 12 • \$10/person

**JULY
19**

Nature Explorers

 Meadow Ridge MetroPark • 10:00 A.M.- 11:30 A.M.

What better way to enjoy mid-summer than with fun programs in YOUR MetroParksParks! Join us on Friday mornings and explore a different park each week. This week's topic is PLANTS-it's summer which means plants, trees and more are blooming and growing all around us! Investigate some interesting local flora, explore what the plants are made of and what it takes for them to grow.

Due to the structure of Nature Explorers, large groups (day camps, scouts, etc.) can't be accommodated. If your group is interested in booking a private program, visit YourMetroParks.net.

All ages • FREE

**JULY
20**

Secret Stamps

 Rentschler Forest MetroPark • 12:00 P.M.- 2:00 P.M.

Uncover the secret world of Letterboxing at Rentschler Forest MetroPark. Learn how Letterboxers around the world follow clues to find publicly accessible hidden boxes containing unique stamps and logbooks. Each participant will create their own stamp and logbook before heading out on a self-guided hunt.

All 6 & up • Registration is required • \$3/person

**JULY
20**

Friends of Chrisholm Augspurger & Historic Farmstead Open House

 Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead • 1:00 P.M.- 3:00 P.M.

Join the Friends of Chrisholm (FOC) and learn more about the historic Augspurger House at Chrisholm MetroPark. FOC docents will share about the history of the Augspurger family family who once called this farm home. After you've explored the house, meet the Historic Farmstead's animal ambassadors during a behind-the-scenes look at farm life with MetroParks' staff.

All ages • FREE

**JULY
26**

Nature Explorers

 Forest Run MetroPark - Timberman Ridge Area • 10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

What better way to enjoy mid-summer than with fun programs in YOUR MetroParksParks! Join us on Friday mornings and explore a different park each week. This week's topic is ARTS IN THE PARK. Bring your imagination and we'll supply the materials you'll need to bring home a masterpiece.

Due to the structure of Nature Explorers, large groups (day camps, scouts, etc.) can't be accommodated. If your group is interested in booking a private program, visit YourMetroParks.net.

All ages • FREE

**JULY
27**

Exploring Nature Journaling

 Forest Run MetroPark - Timberman Ridge Area • 9:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Nature journaling is a fantastic way to observe and deepen your connection with nature, it's a lens to help focus your attention, enrich your outdoor experiences and expand your thinking. Join Pamela Knudson and learn a simple approach to capture the wonders of natural world in your nature journal.

Ages 16 & up unless accompanied by an adult • Registration is required by July 25 • \$20/kit includes journals, pencils and bag



JULY
30

Tuesday Hound Hikes

 Rentschler Forest MetroPark • 7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.


Join us for a tail-wagging, paw pattering hound hike. Bring your canine friend for a fun, stress-free walk at different parks throughout the summer. All dogs must be kept on a 6' leash and be animal and people friendly.

All ages • FREE

AUGUST PROGRAMS

AUG
2

Nature Explorers

 Rentschler Forest MetroPark • 10:00 A.M.- 11:30 A.M.

What better way to enjoy the end of summer than with fun programs in YOUR MetroParksParks! Join us on Friday mornings and explore a different park each week. This week's topic is ANIMALS-get up close and personal with live animal guests and learn about the web of life, animal tracking and habitats.

Due to the structure of Nature Explorers, large groups (day camps, scouts, etc.) can't be accommodated. If your group is interested in booking a private program, visit YourMetroParks.net.

All ages • FREE

AUG
4

Farm Foundations - Donkeys Part Two


 Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead • 3:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Join us for an agricultural education program designed to give you a farming foundation you can build upon. During part two of our Farm Foundations-Donkeys series we'll focus on the typical behavior of donkeys and learn tips and tricks of handling and training these animals. We'll practice reading donkey body language and restraining, haltering and leading them.

Ages 8 and up, children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult • Registration is required by August 2 • \$10/person

AUG
6

Tuesday Hound Hike


 Gilmore MetroPark • 7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Join us for a tail-wagging, paw pattering hound hike. Bring your canine friend for a fun, stress-free walk at different parks throughout the summer. All dogs must be kept on a 6' leash and be animal and people friendly.

All ages • FREE

AUG
7

Wonder Wednesdays

 Marcum Park • 10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Join the McCloskey Museum and MetroParks' staff for summer nature programs at Marcum Park. We will supply craft materials to make and fill your very own nature journal. Use your senses to explore the park's natural areas while enjoying excerpts from the Caldecott Award winning local author Robert McCloskey's "Time of Wonder".

All ages, children 16 & under must be accompanied by an adult • FREE



MetroParks
of Butler County



FUN ON THE FARM

AUGUST 24

12 - 4 P.M.

**CHRISHOLM METROPARK
HISTORIC FARMSTEAD**


Celebrate historic farm life and discover Butler County's thriving farming communities of today at Fun on the Farm. Shop local vendors, see interactive homesteading demonstrations like blacksmithing, beekeeping, foraging, and much more. Tour the Augspurger House with the Friends of Chrisholm and learn about the unique history of this special 1800's farmstead. Visit with MetroParks' superstar farm animal ambassadors as well as special guest animals from around the area and take a wagon ride around Chrisholm MetroPark.

ALL AGES

\$5/PERSON, CHILDREN 2 & UNDER FREE!

**AUG
10**

Summer Scavenger Hunt


 Forest Run MetroPark - Timberman Ridge Area • 12:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

It's time to peruse the parks! Bring your best observational skills and we'll supply the clues for this self-guided scavenger hunt. Explore the park at your own pace and make new discoveries along the way. Any adventurer who returns a completed scavenger hunt to the starting area will receive a prize.

All ages • FREE

**AUG
17**

Fossil Find

 Point Pleasant Park • 10:00 A.M.- 11:00 A.M.

Think rocks are boring? Join MetroParks and we'll change your mind! We'll go on a short hike to search the creek for fossils that will tell an epic tale of how Cincinnati looked 450 million years ago. From animals to the environment and everything in between, there's lots of things you can learn from a simple rock on the ground.

All ages • FREE

**AUG
17**

Summer Scavenger Hunt

 Rentschler Forest MetroPark • 12:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

It's time to peruse the parks! Bring your best observational skills and we'll supply the clues for this self-guided scavenger hunt. Explore the park at your own pace and make new discoveries along the way. Any adventurer who returns a completed scavenger hunt to the starting area will receive a prize.

All ages • FREE

**AUG
17**

Friends of Chrisholm Augspurger and Historic Farmstead Open House

 Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead • 1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Join the Friends of Chrisholm (FOC) and learn more about the historic Augspurger House at Chrisholm MetroPark. FOC docents will share about the history of the Augspurger family who once called this farm home. After you've explored the house, meet the Historic Farmstead's animal ambassadors during a behind-the-scenes look at farm life with MetroParks' staff.

All ages • FREE

**AUG
24**

Fun on the Farm

 Chrisholm MetroPark Historic Farmstead • 12:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Celebrate historic farm life and discover Butler County's thriving farming communities of today at Fun on the Farm. Shop local vendors, see interactive homesteading demonstrations like blacksmithing, beekeeping, foraging, and much more. Tour the Augspurger House with the Friends of Chrisholm and learn about the unique history of this special 1800's farmstead. Visit with MetroParks' superstar farm animal ambassadors as well as special guest animals from around the area and take a wagon ride around Chrisholm MetroPark.

All ages • \$5/person, children ages 2 & under FREE



Stay Connected!

YOURMETROPARKS.NET

(513) 867-5835

2051 TIMBERMAN RD.
HAMILTON, OH 45013