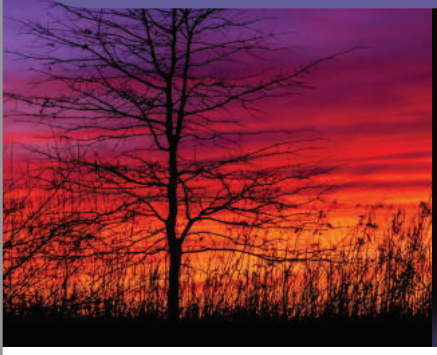
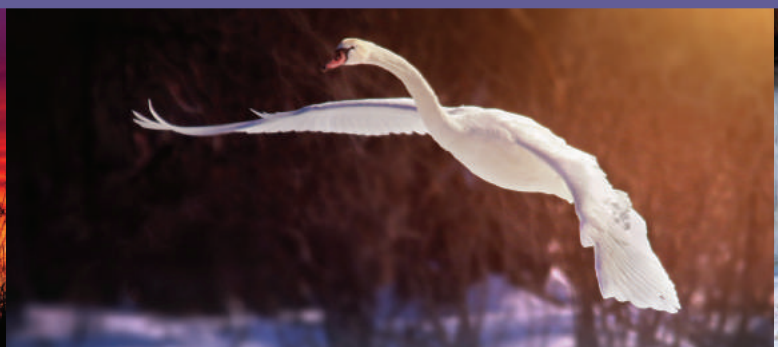
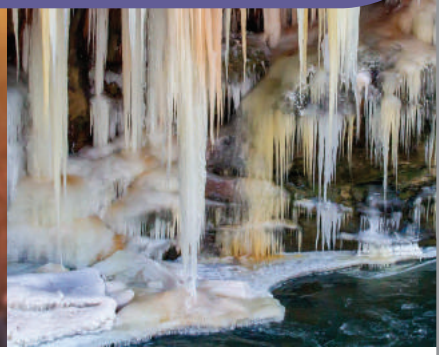
FEB '17
vol. 17 no. 2

PROGRAMS & EVENTS GUIDE

A MONTHLY SCHEDULE FROM SUMMIT METRO PARKS

DISCOVER! THIS MONTH:

☎ Programs with this icon require advance registration, beginning on the date in parentheses, by calling 330-865-8065.

Wednesday, February 1, 9:30 – 10 a.m.

NATURE STORIES

Young children and their adult companions will enjoy this interactive, nature-inspired story time intended for ages 18 months to 3 years. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg** ☎ **(1/19)**

Thursday, February 2, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY WALKERS

Join a naturalist for a leisurely stroll on Quarry Trail, with stops along the way to discover nature and history. **DLQ: 5779 Riverview Rd., Peninsula**

Thursday, February 2, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

SMALL FOOTPRINT: PLASTIC

Learn about and discuss all things plastic: bags, bottles, and the Great Pacific Garbage Patch (yes, it exists). Bring a notebook and a head full of ideas. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Friday, February 3
10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 1 – 2:30 p.m.

HOMESCHOOLERS: STATIC ELECTRICITY

Homeschoolers, ages 7 to 10, join a naturalist to learn about static electricity and how it relates to day-to-day experiences in life. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron** ☎ **(1/21)**

Friday, February 3, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

OWL PROWL

Explore for owls with a naturalist. Patience and silence are essential. Program for ages 6 and older. No dogs, please. **WH: 2121 Barlow Rd., Hudson**

Saturday, February 4, 9 – 11 a.m.

COFFEE WITH THE BIRDS

Join us for a peaceful morning discussion at the wildlife viewing area, and find out why it's a favorite of our winged winter residents. Bring a mug. Coffee is provided. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Saturday, February 4, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD BIRD WALK

Join a naturalist to search for the beautiful yellow eyes of the rusty blackbird, a declining species that winters in Firestone Metro Park. All other birds will be a bonus. Binoculars recommended. **F/Tuscarawas Meadows: 2620 Harrington Rd., Akron**

INTRO TO ARCHERY

Learn international-style target archery together at our indoor range. Program good for beginning and practiced archers. All equipment and hands-on instruction provided. Must be 50 inches or taller.
F/Coventry Oaks: 40 Axline Ave., Akron

Saturday, February 4, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.
FOR FAMILIES *(ages 9+)* ☎ (1/21)

Saturday, February 4, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
FOR FAMILIES *(ages 9+)* ☎ (1/21)

Sunday, February 5, 12:30 – 2 p.m.
FOR COUPLES *(ages 18+)* ☎ (1/21)

Sunday, February 5, 2:30 – 4 p.m.
FOR COUPLES *(ages 18+)* ☎ (1/21)

Summit Metro Parks

Your Metro Parks are funded by a small Summit County real-estate tax.
These programs and events are examples of your public dollars at work.

Summit Metro Parks

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
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Summit Metro Parks
975 Treaty Line Rd., Akron, OH 44313-5837
330-867-5511

F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm: 330-865-8065
Visitors Center: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday

Liberty Park: 330-487-0493
Nature Center: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday

Seasonal Information: 330-865-8060

Volunteer Information: 330-865-8047

Photos contributed by:
Rob Blair, Jerry Cannon, Christy Counterman, Debbie DiCarlo, Jeff Hill, Kevin Lanterman, Bob Roach

This guide is mailed free of charge to Summit County residents. To join the mailing list, send your name and mailing address to marketing@summitmetroparks.org or call 330-867-5511.

The Programs & Events Guide can be downloaded online: summitmetroparks.org

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FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 4, 2 – 3 p.m.

METRO PARKS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

We'll hike a different trail each month, taking a photographic record of the seasonal changes that happen. In December we'll come in from the cold and review the year in pictures. You can take your own pictures or just enjoy the hikes. **TT/Manchester Road: 2740 Manchester Rd., Akron**

Sunday, February 5
12 – 1:30 p.m. & 2:30 – 4 p.m.

NATURE DRAWING FOR KIDS

Ages 6 to 12 join a naturalist-artist for this lesson in nature drawing. Paper and pencils will be provided. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron** ☎ **(1/27)**

Wednesday, February 8, 1 – 3 p.m.

WILDLIFE IN WINTER

Join a naturalist to discover how wildlife living on land or under water survive the winter. Meet at the Indian Spring Trailhead. **MF/Lake Area: 521 S. River Rd., Munroe Falls**

Thursday, February 9, 7 – 8 p.m.

YOGA IN THE PARK

Enjoy an active yoga practice with a certified instructor. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron** ☎ **(1/31)**

CARDIO HIKE

Join a naturalist for healthy outdoor exercise by hiking at a vigorous pace with few, if any, rest stops. Beginners are welcome, but talk to your doctor before beginning a new exercise routine. Drinking water is recommended.

Sunday, February 5, 1 – 3 p.m.
MF/Lake Area: 521 S. River Rd., Munroe Falls
Meet at Indian Spring trailhead *(4.5 mi.)*

Tuesday, February 7, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
SC/Pheasant Run: 5000 Hametown Rd., Norton
Meet at Pheasant Run trailhead *(3.2 mi.)*

Sunday, February 19, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
ONW/Trail Lot: 2550 Martin Rd., Bath
Hike Deer Run Trail twice *(3.6 mi.)*

Monday, February 27, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
GYH/Pioneer: 550 Frazier Ave., Akron
Meet at Alder trailhead *(5+ mi.)*

Saturday, February 11, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

SNOWSHOE HIKE

Get a brief how-to lesson, followed by a moderate snowshoe hike. If there's not enough snow, we will still hike the area. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg** ☎ **(1/29)**

Saturday, February 11, 2 – 3:30 p.m.

THRUSH AND FLYCATCHER I.D.

Brush up on thrushes and their flycatcher look-a-likes. Join a naturalist for identification tips, songs and habitats. Good for new and experienced birders to refresh their skills. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Saturday, February 11, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

UNUSUAL OHIO ANIMALS

This program highlights Ohio's unusual and sometimes uncommon wildlife such as freshwater jellyfish, paddlefish, badgers, flying squirrels, hellbender salamanders, lamprey, eels, porcupines and more. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Sunday, February 12, 12 – 1 p.m.

FEEDING TIME

Ever wonder what we feed our display animals at the Nature Realm? Ages 5 and older can help us feed the animals and learn more about them. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron** ☎ **(2/2)**

Sunday, February 12, 12 – 2 p.m.

PINECONE BIRD FEEDERS

Join a naturalist to make pinecone feeders for the birds. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Sunday, February 12, 1 – 3 p.m.

WINTER TREE I.D.

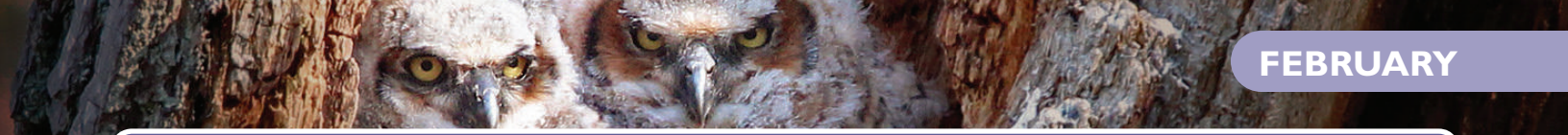
Join a naturalist to learn the best way to identify tree species without looking at leaves! We will be looking at bark patterns, twigs and buds. **MF/Lake Area: 521 S. River Rd., Munroe Falls**

Sunday, February 12, 1 – 3 p.m.

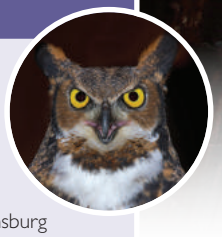
HIKING SPREE SHIELD ASSISTANCE

You hiked eight trails to earn the 2016 Fall Hiking Spree shield, but attaching it to your hiking staff was harder than completing the hikes. Volunteers will gladly attach it for you at no charge. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Summit Metro Parks



KINDEREALM: **OWLS**



Children 3 to 6 and their adult companions discover the owls "whooo" are raising young this time of year. Includes a hike and craft. Please make other arrangements for younger children unable to remain in infant seats or strollers.

Wednesday, February 8
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
F/Coventry Oaks
40 Axline Ave., Akron
☎ (1/28)

Friday, February 10
10:30 – 11:30 a.m. & 1 – 2 p.m.
FASN/Visitors Center
1828 Smith Rd., Akron
☎ (1/28)

Saturday, February 11
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
FASN/Visitors Center
1828 Smith Rd., Akron
☎ (1/28)

Monday, February 20
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
GYH/Lodge
2077 Newton St., Akron
☎ (1/28)

Tuesday, February 21
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
LP/Nature Center
9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg
☎ (1/28)

Sunday, February 12, 1 – 2 p.m.

DOG WALKING HIKE

Follow a naturalist with your furry friend on a leash (8-foot max) for a walk around Rock Creek Trail. **FR/Brushwood: 4955 Townsend Rd., Richfield**

Monday, February 13, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY WALKERS

Hike with a naturalist and discover the nature and history of the Cuyahoga River watershed. **CVS/Oxbow: 1061 Cuyahoga St., Akron**

Tuesday, February 14, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

T-SHIRT YARN

Learn how to make T-shirt yarn and create simple crafts using the yarn you've made. Please bring two blank, old T-shirts for use. Space is limited. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Wednesday, February 15
10 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 1 – 3 p.m.

NATURE DRAWING FOR ADULTS

Join a naturalist-artist for this entertaining lesson in nature drawing. Bring a sketchbook, pencil and a sense of humor. Beginners are welcome. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron ☎ (2/3)**

Thursday, February 16, 7 – 8 p.m.

"COUCH TO 5K" INFO SESSION

Learn about our training series that, in just 10 weeks, will get you off the couch and completing a 5K! During this info session, you will have an opportunity to meet your trainer, ask questions and sign up for the program. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Friday, February 17, 1 – 3 p.m.

HOMESCHOOLERS: STATIC ELECTRICITY

Homeschoolers, ages 11 to 14, join a naturalist to learn about static electricity and how it relates to day-to-day experiences in life. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron ☎ (1/21)**

Friday, February 17, 2 – 3:30 p.m.

THE BEAR TRUTH

Learn the truth about our biggest and furriest neighbor, the black bear. Hike to a cave before enjoying hot cocoa (while supplies last) in the nature center. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Saturday, February 18, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

REPURPOSED BIRD FEEDER WORKSHOP

Join a naturalist to learn how to attract birds to your yard in winter, and to create a take-home bird feeder out of repurposed materials. Bring an old coffee mug or tea cup if possible; some will be provided. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Saturday, February 18, 2 – 3:30 p.m.

SNOW ART

Don't let the snow get you down! Come out and learn new, creative ways to brighten your days and enjoy the snowy weather. Dress to play outdoors. **F/Tuscarawas Meadows: 2620 Harrington Rd., Akron**

Sunday, February 19, 1 – 3:30 p.m.

THE BEAUTY OF MOTHS

Moths are in the same order as butterflies, and also have beautiful patterns and colors. However, since moths are nocturnal, we don't experience their glory. Enjoy an afternoon of the fabulous moths that live in Northeast Ohio. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Sunday, February 19, 1 – 3 p.m.

BALD EAGLE OPEN HOUSE

Swing by any time between 1 and 3 p.m. to learn about bald eagles, and hopefully catch a glimpse! **LP/Tinkers Creek SNP: 1230 Old Mill Rd., Aurora**

Sunday, February 19, 2 – 3 p.m.

I DREAM OF SPRING

Wildflowers, butterflies and birds are on their way. Cheer up with a slideshow of all things spring. **F/Coventry Oaks: 40 Axline Ave., Akron**

Monday, February 20, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

PRE-TEEN YOGA

Ages 9 to 13: Disconnect from the stresses of school and extracurricular activities by reconnecting to nature through yoga. Weather permitting, program will include a short walk. Wear comfortable clothing, bring a yoga mat or towel, and water. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Monday, February 20, 3 – 4:30 p.m.

MIGRATORS & HIBERNATORS

Hike with a naturalist on Indian Spring Trail while learning about the animals that migrate and those that stick it out through cold winter months. **MF/Lake Area: 521 S. River Rd., Munroe Falls**

☎ **Registration required: 330-865-8065**
(date) Registration start date
$ Fee

BHT Bike & Hike Trail
CVN Cascade Valley / North
CVS Cascade Valley / South
DLQ Deep Lock Quarry
FASN F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm
F Firestone
FR Furnace Run
FT Freedom Trail
GYH Goodyear Heights
G Gorge
HH Hampton Hills
LP Liberty Park
MF Munroe Falls
NR Nimisila Reservoir
ONW O'Neil Woods
SC Silver Creek
SFB Springfield Bog
SR Sand Run
TT Towpath Trail
WH Wood Hollow

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FREE THE FALLS

Join Summit Metro Parks this year for special programs in and about Gorge Metro Park, where there is a push to remove the dam. **#FreeTheFalls**

Saturday, February 18, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

GEOLOGY OF THE GORGE

Join a naturalist to learn how the different rock layers in the park were formed, and about the forces that have shaped those rocks ever since. **G/Main Entrance: 1160 Front St., Cuyahoga Falls**

Thursday, February 23, 1 – 3 p.m.
Sunday, February 26, 1 – 3 p.m.

CRYSTAL PALACE HIKE

Every year beautiful, colorful icicles form along the Cuyahoga River, creating a "Crystal Palace." Join a naturalist and discover first-hand the beauty of water in winter. We'll still hike if there's no snow or ice. **G/Main Entrance: 1160 Front St., Cuyahoga Falls**

Wednesday, February 22, 7 – 9 p.m.

MEET ME IN THE GARDEN

Join the Master Gardeners of Summit County to learn pruning techniques for healthy plant growth. Presented by Laura Esposito, F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm park manager. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Thursday, February 23
11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY WALKERS

Enjoy this leisurely stroll along Buttonbush Trail, with frequent stops to discover nature along the way. **LP/Pond Brook: 3973 E. Aurora Rd., Twinsburg**

Friday, February 24, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

TAILING NIGHT TALONS

A naturalist will attempt to call owls using recordings, with hope that owls will respond. Patience and silence are essential. For ages 6 and older. No dogs, please. **SC/Pheasant Run: 5000 Hametown Rd., Norton**

Saturday, February 25, 8 – 10:30 a.m.

'HEARTFUL' HIKE & BREAKFAST

Join us for a brisk winter hike and hearty breakfast. Participants will be asked to contribute to the feast. **GYH/Lodge: 2077 Newton St., Akron** (2/7)

ARCHERY GAMES

Play different games to build archery skills. Participants must have already taken one of our **Intro to Archery** programs. All equipment and hands-on instruction provided. Must be 50 inches or taller. **F/Coventry Oaks: 40 Axline Ave., Akron**

Saturday, February 25, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.
FOR COUPLES *(ages 18+)* (2/10)

Saturday, February 25, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
FOR FAMILIES *(ages 9+)* (2/10)

Saturday, February 25, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

A HOPPING GOOD TIME FOR KIDS

Children learn about our local frogs and toads and what makes them so interesting. Program includes a craft that allows youngsters to better understand these creatures in a fun way. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Saturday, February 25, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

WATERY WINTER WARRIORS

Do you have what it takes to survive the winter . . . underwater? Stroll along the Towpath Trail to learn how aquatic creatures battle the cold. **TT/Manchester: 2740 Manchester Rd., Akron**

Sunday, February 26, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

TRACKING: THE ART OF SEEING

Join a naturalist to hone your skills, tracking animals through the mud or snow. **LP/Pond Brook: 3973 E. Aurora Rd., Twinsburg**

Sunday, February 26, 12 – 2 p.m.

COFFEE WITH THE BIRDS

Join us for a peaceful discussion at the wildlife viewing area, and find out why it's a favorite of our winged winter residents. Bring a mug. Coffee is provided. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Sunday, February 26, 12:30 – 3:30 p.m.

ARCHERY OPEN SHOOT

Register for a half-hour time slot to improve your shot. Participants must have already taken our **Intro to Archery** and **Archery Games** programs. All equipment provided. **F/Coventry Oaks: 40 Axline Ave., Akron** (2/10)

Summit Metro Parks