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PROGRAM SETS SNAKE SUPERSTITIONS STRAIGHT

St. Patrick may have banished snakes from Ireland, but Naturalist Mike Greene wants our slithery friends to stick around.

Greene will expose the truth to some common snake folklore, **Sunday, March 16 at 2 p.m.**, at the visitors center at F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm, 1828 Smith Rd., Akron. Visitors will learn why snakes have forked tongues and how the milk snake got its name. Following a slide show about Summit County's native species, participants will have the opportunity to interact with a live snake.

People are often intimidated by snakes, but they're gentle and interesting creatures – at least the native ones. Over twenty species live throughout Ohio, including the black rat, northern water and ring-necked varieties. The eastern garter snake, the state's most common species, is found in all 13 Metro Parks.

For more information, call 330-865-8065.

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Metro Parks, Serving Summit County manages more than 9,000 acres, including 13 developed parks, six conservation areas and more than 120 miles of trails, with 16 miles of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. Annual attendance averages 4 million visitors.