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DISCOVER CRYSTAL CLIFFS AND COPING CRITTERS

Three outdoor programs will let visitors take advantage of what's left of winter.

First, see huge, colorful icicles dripping from rock cliffs during two hikes:

Sunday, February 10 at 2 p.m. and **Saturday, February 16 at 10 a.m.**, at Gorge Metro Park, 1160 Front St., Cuyahoga Falls. Naturalist Mike Greene leads visitors along the rugged 1.8-mile Glens Trail to a breathtaking view of the "Crystal Palace." Greene will interpret some of the park's geology, the history of the Chuckery Race – a man-made waterway – and the amusement park that stood near the Gorge in the late 1800s.

Then, visitors can look for "Signs of Winter," **Saturday, February 16 at 2 p.m.**, at the Oxbow Area at Cascade Valley Metro Park, 1061 Cuyahoga St., Akron. Hike along the 1.2-mile Oxbow Trail with Naturalist Dee Casteel to search for signs of animal activity such as tracks, homes, chews and scat, while learning how critters cope with cold weather.

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.

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