



*Your Back Yard for 100 Years*

## NEWS RELEASE

March 16, 2021

Stephanie Walton  
Chief of Marketing & Communications  
330-865-8040 x215  
[swalton@summitmetroparks.org](mailto:swalton@summitmetroparks.org)

Lindsay Smith  
Marketing & Public Relations Manager  
330-865-8040 x207  
[lsmith@summitmetroparks.org](mailto:lsmith@summitmetroparks.org)

### SUMMIT METRO PARKS ANNOUNCES REWARD PICK-UP DATES, RECORD YEAR FOR 2020 FALL HIKING SPREE

Following a record-breaking Fall Hiking Spree in 2020, Summit Metro Parks staff will host several in-person pick-up dates for spree and Centennial Tour finishers to collect rewards while respecting COVID-19 guidelines.

Park visitors who completed the 2020 [Fall Hiking Spree](#), this season's [Spree for All](#) or the [Centennial Tour](#) may visit any of these locations from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the following dates:

- **F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm (1828 Smith Rd., Akron):** March 30; each Tuesday and Friday in April; Saturdays April 10 and April 24; each Tuesday in May; Fridays May 14, 21 & 28; May 8 & 16
- **Liberty Park Nature Center (9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg):** April 18; May 7, 22 & 30
- **Summit Lake Nature Center (411 Ira Ave., Akron):** May 2 & 29

All sessions will be held outdoors. In the event of inclement weather, sessions at Summit Lake Nature Center and Liberty Park Nature Center will be canceled, and sessions at F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm will be moved into the Visitors Center foyer. Visitors may follow the park district on social media or call 330-865-8060 for weather updates. Masks are requested for outdoor sessions and required for ages 10 and over for indoor sessions. A limited selection of gift shop merchandise may be also available for purchase by credit card only.

Based on a record-breaking number of Fall Hiking Spree finishers in 2020, the reward pick-up sessions are likely to be popular. Summit Metro Parks has already recorded nearly 17,000 visitors who earned Fall Hiking Spree rewards – that’s approximately 6,000 more than in a typical year, where the park district sees between 11,000 and 12,000 hikers earn rewards. March 31 is the last date to collect 2020 Fall Hiking Spree rewards.

“We are thrilled to see the overwhelming number of participants who completed the Fall Hiking Spree – many for the first time – as an option during a year when public health advisories created an increased desire for family-friendly outdoor activities,” said Chief of Marketing & Communications Stephanie Walton. “Summit Metro Parks has been helping people connect to nature for 100 years and we hope that those who joined us for the first time in 2020 will continue to enjoy all the parks have to offer,” she said.

To learn more about rewards pick-up dates or Summit Metro Parks programs and events, please call 330-865-8065 or email [nrcsrs@summitmetroparks.org](mailto:nrcsrs@summitmetroparks.org).

\* \* \* \* \*

Established in 1921, Summit Metro Parks is celebrating its centennial anniversary in 2021. The park district manages more than 14,000 acres throughout 16 parks, several conservation areas and more than 150 miles of trails, including 22 miles of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. Annual attendance in 2020 was 6 million visits. Visit us online at [summitmetroparks.org](http://summitmetroparks.org).



#SMP100 #summitmetroparks