



Your Back Yard for 100 Years

NEWS RELEASE

May 17, 2021

Stephanie Walton
Chief of Marketing & Communications
330-865-8040 x215
swalton@summitmetroparks.org

Claire Merrick
Marketing & Public Relations Manager
330-865-8040 x207
cmerrick@summitmetroparks.org

KICK OFF SUMMER WITH NATIVE PLANT FESTIVAL

Summit Metro Parks invites the community to kick off summer by welcoming wildlife into their yards with beautiful and beneficial native plants! Join Summit Metro Parks staff and local native plant nurseries at the Native Plant Festival on Saturday, May 28 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Valley View Area in Cascade Valley Metro Park (1212 Cuyahoga St. Akron).

Visitors will have the opportunity to discover the vital role of native plants in our ecosystem. Browse a wide variety of plants available for purchase or attend an educational session to learn how to incorporate native plants into your landscaping. Visitors can receive a FREE plant while supplies last!

Plant vendors include Auburn Native Plants, Companion Plants, Maple Leaf Gifts, Natives in Harmony, Native Roots, Powell's Native Wildflowers, Riverside Native Trees and Working Gardens. Food will be available for purchase from Slymans Food Truck and entertainment will be provided by CLE Music Group.

Why should we grow native plants? Humans are a part of nature, too. When our surrounding ecosystem is healthy, it helps us thrive as well. Together, we can provide habitats for our wildlife to counteract the effects of habitat loss and habitat fragmentation. At Summit Metro Parks, we're your back yard. And what you do in your yard can help us continue to improve the sustainable management of our natural resources.

* * * * *

Established in 1921, Summit Metro Parks celebrated its centennial anniversary in 2021. The park district manages more than 15,000 acres throughout 16 parks, three nature centers and over 150 miles of trails, including 22 miles of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. Annual attendance is approximately 5.5 million visits. Find us online at summitmetroparks.org.



#SMP100 #summitmetroparks