Trailside Eye Spy
Check off each item as you see it along Rock Creek Trail. Good Luck!

1. **A WATCHFUL EYE:**
   When a beech tree loses a branch, an eye-shaped scar is left behind. As they age, beech trees often become hollow, creating perfect cavities where animals can hide.

2. **QUARRIED STONE:**
   Brushwood Lodge was constructed during the Great Depression by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Take a close look at the stone, likely excavated from Deep Lock Quarry. Can you see evidence of hand-carving?

3. **SYCAMORE BARK:**
   These trees may look “sick,” but their naturally shedding bark is no cause for concern. From a distance, their beautiful white branches are a sure sign that water is near.

4. **CONFLUENCE:**
   What’s a confluence? The coming together of two waterways. As you walk, notice Rock Creek running beside you. This tributary flows into the Cuyahoga River. How many smaller streams join with it?

5. **TURKEY TAIL:**
   This colorful fungi comes in many shades of brown, orange, black and even blue. To confirm its identity, look for a bright white underside speckled with tiny holes called pores.

6. **RED SQUIRREL:**
   These tiny squirrels love to feast on the seeds of pinecones. Rather than bury their food for winter, they store their cones in a large pile called a cache.

7. **VIOLET TOOTHED POLYPORE:**
   This turkey tail look-alike has lavender colored “teeth” on its underside. As they age, their tops may fade to white or begin to turn green from algae.

8. **SCOURING RUSH:**
   This primitive plant has no leaves, but its tissues are filled with abrasive silica. Pioneers used it to scour and clean their tin pots and pans.

9. **WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH:**
   These small birds have a distinctive habit of perching on tree trunks facing downward. Listen for their nasally call that sounds like laughter in the trees.

Summit Metro Parks