

JUL•AUG '18

GREEN ISLANDS

SUMMIT METRO PARKS



BI-MONTHLY MAGAZINE

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Water Trail

Our parks are like green islands in an urban landscape.

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BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

- Tonya Block *Chair*
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- Herb Newman
- Mark A. Spisak
- Tina Ughrin
- Lisa M. King *Executive Director*

EDITORS

- Stephanie Walton *Chief of Marketing & Communications*
- Mike Greene *Education & Recreation Manager*
- Lindsay Smith *Marketing Specialist*

DESIGN & ART DIRECTION

- Jennie Levy *Graphic Designer*
- Karl Simonson *Graphic Designer*

Summit Metro Parks
975 Treaty Line Rd., Akron, OH 44313-5837

Administrative Offices: 330-867-5511
 F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm: 330-865-8065
 Liberty Park Nature Center: 330-487-0493
 Seasonal Information: 330-865-8060
 Volunteer Information: 330-865-8047

Photos contributed by:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Rob Blair | Jennie Levy |
| Jerry Cannon | Tim McGinnis |
| Christy Counterman | Eilert Ofstead |
| Debbie DiCarlo | JJ Prekop Jr. |
| Nathan Eppink | Robert Roach |
| Tami Hill | Danette Rushboldt |
| Tim Hite | Karl Simonson |
| Christine Hockman | Sharon Stump |

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Your Metro Parks are funded by a small Summit County real-estate tax. This magazine is an example of your public dollars at work.



BOARD of PARK commissioners



Joel D. Bailey Mark A. Spisak Herb Newman
 Tonya Block Tina Ughrin

The park district's governing body is appointed by the Summit County Probate Judge. Commissioners serve overlapping three-year terms and are assisted by the executive director, who oversees the work of full-time and part-time employees, seasonal workers and volunteers.

MIND, BODY & SOLE

LIBRARIES ROCK! June 4 – July 28, 2018

Make reading and exercise a part of your day — every day. Both have the power to brighten your spirit, stimulate your imagination and improve your health.

Mind, Body & Sole: Libraries Rock! is a **reading/wellness experience** for the whole family.

Sign up now at your nearest Akron-Summit County Public Library and receive your reading/exercise log and pedometer.

From June 4 – July 28, check off each day you read on your reading log. As you reach reading milestones, you'll be rewarded with fun incentives and be entered into drawings for great prizes.

On your exercise log, **record each day you participate in a movement activity** — running, walking, bicycling, yoga, gardening, outside play, physical therapy and more.

When you have reached **26 days of both reading AND exercise**, you will **receive a Mind, Body & Sole T-shirt** and be entered into our **Grand Prize Drawing**.

Find out more about **Mind, Body & Sole: Libraries Rock!** at akronlibrary.org or contact your local branch library.



DISCOVER

YOUR BACK YARD

THE AVERY LEGACY



*Lindsay Smith,
Marketing Specialist*

Summit Metro Parks was founded in 1921, and since 1967 there has been an Avery on staff — until now. This year, we bid farewell to Mark Avery, operations project manager, after 45 years of service to the park district.

Before Mark Avery, his father Kenneth “Ken” Avery began work in 1967 as chief landscape architect for what was then the Akron Metropolitan Park District. After 23 years of service, he retired in January of 1991.

His son Mark soon followed in his footsteps. “After graduating high school in 1973, I immediately began to search for a job. My father suggested I apply for a seasonal position with the park district. I was hired and was asked to report to Furnace Run Metro Park as a seasonal employee,” Avery recalled.

“Two weeks after my seasonal job ended, I received a phone call asking if I could

report for a full-time position at Virginia Kendall Park. I started that following Monday in 1973 and spent the next five years there. When the National Park Service took over Virginia Kendall Park, I was transferred to Sand Run Metro Park and then reassigned to Munroe Falls Metro Park as crew leader in 1978. In 1996, I went back to Sand Run Metro Park and was promoted to operations project manager in 2011,” he added.

Today, Mark reflects on his time at Summit Metro Parks: “I have enjoyed leading and mentoring others to achieve the best results no matter the task. I believe it’s the little details that make a big difference.”

“If there is anything I’d like to see after I retire, it’s that others will carry on with an ambition to give it their all to create the best experience for our visitors.”

We wish Mark and his family the best in this new chapter! 🍁



NAT

In early June, fireflies start lighting up the night sky with activity, peaking just around the Fourth of July.

NATURE'S FIREWORKS

Renata Wischt, Interpretive Naturalist

WHY DO THEY GLOW?

Fireflies emit light for a variety of reasons. Sometimes it is to warn one another of predators, and other times it is because they are defending their territories. The most important reason, however, is to attract mates. Typically, the male will fly around the sky at night emitting light while females perch in vegetation, sitting and waiting. When a female deems one of the males a suitable mate, she will signal him with a flash of her own.

WHERE DO THEY LIVE?

Fireflies live in various habitats such as forests, fields, or near ponds and streams. A moist and humid habitat is a welcoming home for fireflies. Unfortunately, firefly populations are on the decline. Scientists have narrowed down the cause of this decline to urban development and light pollution. As more

forests and fields are developed, there is less habitat for firefly larvae, which rely on rotting wood and leaf litter as their nursery. Increased pollution and pesticide use associated with development is hurting populations as well, with the biggest pollutant being artificial light.



The unique flashing patterns that fireflies use to communicate with one another are affected by each porch light, street-light and passing headlight. 

WAYS TO HELP

We can help fireflies thrive with a few simple steps.

- Consider planting a native tree and leave some of the leaf litter in the yard to help create more habitat.
- Avoid using pesticides in gardens and lawns.
- At night, consider turning off porch and garage lights and close the blinds on your windows to cut down on light pollution.
- Then, sit back and enjoy the natural “fireworks” display!

LIGHTNING BUGS

Species Spotlight

ENLIGHTENING FACTS

AKA ALSO KNOWN AS: **FIREFLY**

 **FIREFLY** and **LIGHTNING BUG** are two names for this creature, but it is neither a fly nor a true bug. **IT IS ACTUALLY A BEETLE.**

 The **COMMON EASTERN FIREFLY** is most abundant in Ohio.

 There are more than 2,000 species of fireflies in the world and **TWO DOZEN species** in **OHIO.**

 Fireflies hibernate over winter. Some burrow underground and some go under trees, depending on the species.

 Fireflies emit “cold light.” The yellow, green or orange light from their lower abdomen is chemically-produced and does not generate heat.

 **LARVAE** of fireflies are called **glowworms.** They also produce light, not to attract mates, but to warn predators that they taste bad.

 Researchers believe some are predators and others may feed on plant pollen or nectar.

 Scientists studied fireflies to help them develop brighter LED lights!

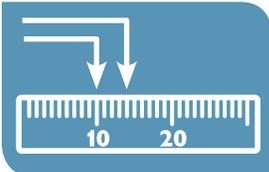
 Fireflies can produce their own light — a feature called bioluminescence. Some types of jellyfish, worms, seastars, fish, algae and even mushrooms are bioluminescent!

 Consider turning off outdoor lighting to help fireflies find their way.

Found throughout the **United States,** **EAST** of the **Rocky Mountains**



Various species can be seen in **SPRING** through **EARLY FALL**



They average 10 to 14 mm in length.

LIFE SPAN

LARVAE: live 1 to 2 years. 



ADULTS: live 5 to 30 days. 



Both adult **males** and adult **females** **LIGHT UP.**

Males fly and produce their lighted pattern • **Females** of the same species see the signal from the ground and flash the same signal to attract their mates.

MATING SEASON is in late summer.



Females lay about **500 EGGS** in damp soil.

EXPLORE

PROGRAMS & EVENTS



JULY

DROP-IN NATURE CRAFTS

All ages can join a naturalist for nature-crafting fun. A new craft will be presented at each program this summer. Please dress for a mess.

1 – 2:30 p.m.

LP/Nature Center:
9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg

Sunday, July 1
Wednesday, July 18
Sunday, July 29

11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

FASN/Onondaga Deck:
1828 Smith Rd., Akron

Thursday, July 5
Thursday, July 12
Thursday, July 19
Thursday, July 26

Sunday, July 1, 2 – 4 p.m.

KITCHEN CLEANERS WORKSHOP

Making your own kitchen cleaning products is fun, frugal and a great way to “green-up” your cleaning practices. Learn about traditional kitchen cleaners, their alternatives, and make your own! Cost: \$10/person. **SR/Shady Hollow:** 1750 Sand Run Pkwy., Akron 📞 (6/22) \$

Sunday, July 1, 9 – 10:30 p.m.

ZODIAC EXPLORERS: GEMINI

At this monthly program series participants will explore the night sky for the zodiac constellation of the month with a mix of science, folklore and personal reflection through journaling. Program will take place rain or shine. **LP/Nature Center:** 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg



Tuesday, July 3, 3 – 7:30 p.m.

MUSIC BY THE LAKE

Enjoy free lake swimming from 3 to 6:45 p.m. and a one-hour concert by the Metro Parks Ensemble near Maple Beach Shelter at 6:30 p.m. Concert cancelled if it rains. Call 330-865-8060 if wet weather is in the forecast. **MF/Lake Area:** 521 S. River Rd., Munroe Falls

Wednesday, July 4, 8 – 9:30 a.m.

CARDIO HIKE

Hike about five miles at a vigorous pace on rugged trails. We will begin at the Nature Realm and will hike to Sand Run. Beginners are welcome, but talk to your doctor before beginning a new exercise routine. Drinking water is recommended. **FASN/Seneca Deck:** 1828 Smith Rd., Akron

ARCHERY

Tuesday, July 3, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

ARCHERY OPEN SHOOT

Here's your chance to practice your archery skills. Register for a half-hour time slot to improve your shot. Participants must have already taken one of our **Intro to Archery** programs. All equipment provided. 📞 (6/9) **FREE**

Monday, July 9, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

INTRO TO ARCHERY FOR ADULTS

Adults 16 and older join us to learn international-style target archery at our outdoor range. Program good for beginning and practiced archers. All equipment and hands-on instruction provided. Cost: \$10/person. 📞 (6/13) \$

Monday, July 9, 12:30 – 2 p.m.

INTRO TO ARCHERY FOR KIDS

Children 9 to 15 join us to learn international-style target archery at our outdoor range. Program good for beginning and practiced archers. All equipment and hands-on instruction provided. Must be 50 inches or taller. Cost: \$10/person. 📞 (6/13) \$



All programs at **LP/Tinkers Creek: 10303 Aurora-Hudson Rd., Streetsboro**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Programs with these icons require advance registration, beginning at 10 a.m. on the date in parentheses, by the method indicated.



Call: 330-865-8065



Web: 330tix.com

(date) Registration start date
\$ Fee

BHT Bike & Hike Trail
CVN Cascade Valley / North
CVS Cascade Valley / South
DLQ Deep Lock Quarry

FASN F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm
F Firestone
FR Furnace Run
FT Freedom Trail

GYH Goodyear Heights
G Gorge
HH Hampton Hills
LP Liberty Park

MF Munroe Falls
NR Nimisila Reservoir
ONW O'Neil Woods
SC Silver Creek

SFB Springfield Bog
SR Sand Run
TT Towpath Trail
WH Wood Hollow

For more information: Call 330-867-5511, visit summitmetroparks.org or email marketing@summitmetroparks.org



Wednesday, July 4, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

FIREWORKS IN FLIGHT

Search for vibrant and vivid day-time fireworks: butterflies, birds and dragonflies. Binoculars are recommended. Be prepared for full-sun conditions. **SFB: 1400 Portage Line Rd., Springfield Twp.**

Thursday, July 5, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

BEGINNER WILDFLOWER I.D.

Calling all beginners! Learn the basics of wildflower I.D., then hike Bluebird Trail to practice your identification skills. **LP/Twinsburg Ledges: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Friday, July 6, 9:30 – 10 a.m.

NATURE STORIES

Young children and their adult companions will enjoy this interactive, nature-inspired story time intended for ages 18 months to 3 years. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg ☎ (6/23)**

Friday, July 6, 8:30 – 9:30 p.m.

FIREFLIES: NATURE'S FIREWORKS

Learn how these amazing "bugs" light up the summer sky. After a short presentation, we'll take a walk to look for fireflies and other creatures of the night. Bring a bug jar, flashlight and insect repellent. **GYH/Pioneer: 550 Frazier Ave., Akron**

Saturday, July 7, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

SURVIVAL SKILLS

All ages can enjoy a morning of outdoor skills including basic land navigation, improvised fishing and fire-starting. Please dress for the weather and bring drinking water. **FR/Brushwood: 4955 Townsend Rd., Richfield ☎ (6/26)**

Saturday, July 7

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 1 – 3 p.m.

SUMMIT LAKE KAYAK

Paddle in the "Heart of Akron" on Summit Lake. Explore nature by water while discovering the marvelous history of the community which surrounds the lake. Led by a certified instructor and a naturalist. Minimum age is 13; ages 13 to 17 must be with an adult participant. Participants must wear closed-toe shoes and be able to swim. We suggest bringing water, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and wearing clothes that can get wet. Fee includes loan of kayak, paddle, life jacket and instruction. Space is limited. Cost: \$15/person. **TT/Summit Lake: 380 W. Crosier St., Akron 🗎 (6/16) \$**

Saturday, July 7, 1 – 3 p.m.

CREEK WALK FOR KIDS

Families with children: Cool off during a walk in the shallow water of Rock Creek. Search for macro-invertebrates, fish, amphibians and even fossils. No open-toe sandals. Waterproof boots or shoes that can get wet are required. **FR/Brushwood: 4955 Townsend Rd., Richfield**

Saturday, July 7, 9 – 10:30 p.m.

NIGHT HIKE & FIRE

Learn about animals that are active at night by enjoying a short hike, followed by a relaxing campfire. Participants may bring lanterns or flashlights for the hike. **LP/Twinsburg Ledges: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Sunday, July 8, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

LICHENS OF LIBERTY PARK

Join a naturalist to delve into the unique world of lichens. Learn about how fungus and algae take a "lichen" to one another. We will discover several colorful and unique species as we hike Buttonbush Trail. **LP/Pond Brook: 3973 E. Aurora Rd., Twinsburg**

Sunday, July 8, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

KIDS YOGA

Kids ages 7 to 12 and their adult companions join certified yoga instructors for this program focused on connecting with nature. Weather permitting, part of this class will take place outdoors and may include a short hike. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat or towel and drinking water. Some mats provided, while supplies last. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Sunday, July 8, 3 – 4:30 p.m.

COOKING WITH HERBS: DIPS

Add flavor, not calories to make delicious herbal dips perfect for veggies or chips. Samples will be available while supplies last. Meet at the Rock & Herb Garden. Program will move inside in the event of inclement weather. **FASN: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Tuesday, July 10, 3 – 7:30 p.m.

MUSIC BY THE LAKE

Enjoy free lake swimming from 3 to 6:45 p.m. and a one-hour concert by the Metro Parks Ensemble near Sherman Shelter at 6:30 p.m. Concert cancelled if it rains. Call 330-865-8060 if wet weather is in the forecast. **SC/Bathhouse: 5000 Hametown Rd., Norton**

SUMMER DAY CAMPS

*Wednesday, July 11 – Friday, July 13
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. daily*

CRAZY FOR CAMOUFLAGE

Kids 5 and 6 can register for this exciting three-day drop-off camp. We will explore the exciting world of camouflage with fun, hands-on experiences in the outdoors. Cost: \$50/child. Must have completed kindergarten. **FR/Brushwood: 4955 Townsend Rd., Richfield 🗎 \$
Registration ends June 27**

*Wednesday, July 25 – Friday, July 27
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. daily*

NATURE'S CLUES

Kids 7 and 8 can register for this exciting three-day drop-off camp. Investigate nature's clues using the five senses with fun, hands-on experiences in the outdoors. Cost: \$50/child. **FR/Brushwood: 4955 Townsend Rd., Richfield 🗎 \$
Registration ends July 11**



KINDEREALM: ANTS

Children 3 to 6 and their adult companions unearth the world of ants. Includes a hike and craft. Please make other arrangements for younger children unable to remain in infant seats or strollers. ☎ (6/12)

Friday, July 6

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

FASN/Visitors Center

1828 Smith Rd., Akron

Friday, July 6

1 – 2 p.m.

FASN/Visitors Center

1828 Smith Rd., Akron

Tuesday, July 10

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

LP/Nature Center

9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg

Thursday, July 12

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

GYH/Lodge

2077 Newton St., Akron

Wednesday, July 18

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

F/Coventry Oaks

40 Axline Ave., Akron

Tuesday, July 10, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

AKRON HISTORY HIKE: BEFORE EUROPEANS



Hike with leaders from Summit Metro Parks and the Summit County Historical Society on this tour of Deep Lock Quarry Metro Park, exploring both the nature and the human history of the Akron area before the arrival of Europeans. **DLQ: 5779 Riverview Rd., Peninsula**

Wednesday, July 11, 9 – 11 a.m.

DRAWING OUTDOORS

Bring your drawing pad and pencils for an outdoor lesson in drawing. Beginners are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the program. Portable chairs and drinking water are recommended. Program will be cancelled during inclement weather. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Friday, July 13, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

KIDS' FISHING

Kids 15 and younger can learn the basics of fishing, then drop a line at Little Turtle Pond. A few rods and reels will be available for use. Bait is provided. Adults must supervise their children but are not permitted to fish. **F/Little Turtle Pond: 2400 Harrington Rd., Akron**

Friday, July 13, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

LI'L SPROUTS: DIRT

Li'l Sprouts will learn what lives in and around dirt. Dress to get messy. Recommended for ages 3 and up. **FASN/Seneca Deck: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron ☎ (6/29)**

Saturday, July 14, 9 – 11 a.m.

WOODLAND MUSHROOMS

A walk in the woods often reveals wonders of nature otherwise overlooked. Join a naturalist on a rugged hike in search of woodland mushrooms. Wear sturdy shoes and bring drinking water. **ONW/Trail Lot: 2550 Martin Rd., Bath**

Saturday, July 14, 1 – 3 p.m.

ATLATL DEMONSTRATION

Join Summit Metro Parks and Paul Wischt from the Cuyahoga and Chippewa Valley Archaeology societies to learn how to hunt for woolly mammoths and mastodons with an atlatl, an ancient Indian spear tool. **F/Tuscarawas Meadows: 2620 Harrington Rd., Akron**



Sunday, July 15

9 – 11:30 a.m. & 12:30 – 3 p.m.

GORGE KAYAK

Paddle the Cuyahoga River at the Gorge to see towering rock ledges and breathtaking scenery from your kayak. Led by a certified instructor and a naturalist. Minimum age is 13; ages 13 to 17 must be with an adult participant. Participants must wear closed-toe shoes and be able to swim. We suggest bringing water, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and wearing clothes that can get wet. Fee includes loan of kayak, paddle, life jacket and instruction. Space is limited. Cost: \$15/person. **G/Main Entrance: 1160 Front St., Cuyahoga Falls**

☎ (6/27) \$

Monday, July 16, 10 – 11 a.m.

ANTS FOR KIDS

Explore the amazing world of ants with a naturalist. Meet at the shelter. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Monday, July 16, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

SAND RUN HISTORY HIKE

Hike with a naturalist to learn the history of Sand Run Metro Park. **SR/Wadsworth: 1400 Sand Run Pkwy., Akron**

Tuesday, July 17, 2 – 3:30 p.m.

WATER MONSTERS

Families will enjoy learning about the unique and irreplaceable "monsters" that live in our waters. Wear shoes that can get wet so you can have a closer peek. **FR/Brushwood: 4955 Townsend Rd., Richfield**

Tuesday, July 17, 2 – 3 p.m.

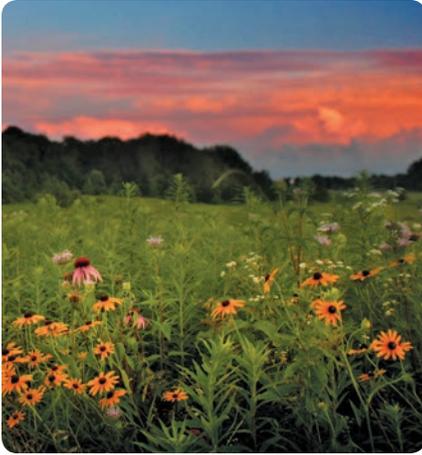
TREES FOR KIDS

Calling all kids! Learn all about trees through fun, hands-on outdoor activities! Learn basic identification, make leaf rubbings and more. **Summit Lake Reach Opportunity Center: 390 W. Crosier St., Akron**

Tuesday, July 17, 7 – 8 p.m.

RANDOM ACT OF MUSIC

Weather permitting, the all-volunteer Metro Parks Ensemble will perform an hour of traditional marches, big band standards and oldies. Concert cancelled if it rains. If wet weather is in the forecast, call 330-865-8060 after 4 p.m. for status. **LP/Twinsburg Ledges: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**



Wednesday, July 18, 9 – 11 p.m.

MOTHS OF LIBERTY PARK

Join a naturalist to learn how to use black lights to attract these amazing creatures, and for a chance to observe their beautiful colors, shapes and patterns up close. Bring a flashlight and camera for photos. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Thursday, July 19, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

GOOD GARDENS

Join a representative from Let's Grow Akron to learn about basic composting techniques. **GYH/Lodge: 2077 Newton St., Akron**

Thursday, July 19, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

ANTS UNEARTHED

Did you know there are ant colonies that can fit in an acorn or that some ants smell like citronella? Take a closer look through microscopes and learn about their behaviors and identification. A portion of this program will be outside. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Friday, July 20, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

LET'S BUG OUT

Kids accompanied by an adult companion join a naturalist to search for the many different kinds of crawling, jumping and flying bugs. **SC/Bathhouse: 5000 Hametown Rd., Norton**

Friday, July 20, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

MEADOW HIKE

Join a naturalist for a leisurely, early evening hike along Meadow Trail and discover nature and history along the way. **MF/Tallmadge Meadows: 1088 North Ave., Tallmadge**

Friday, July 20, 8:30 – 9:30 p.m.

FIREFLIES: NATURE'S NIGHTLIGHTS

Learn how these amazing "bugs" light up the summer sky while we enjoy the glow of a campfire. Bring a bug jar, flashlight and insect repellent. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Saturday, July 21, 10 – 11 a.m.

SNAKES FOR KIDS

Join a naturalist to learn about and look for snakes! Includes fun crafts and a hike outside to look for signs of wild snakes. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Saturday, July 21

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 1 – 3 p.m.

BEGINNER STAND-UP PADDLEBOARDING

Try stand-up paddleboarding, the fastest growing water sport, to get a workout and enjoy nature. A certified instructor and a naturalist will guide you. No experience needed. Minimum age is 13; ages 13 to 17 must be with an adult participant. Participants must wear closed-toe shoes and be able to swim. We suggest bringing water, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and wearing clothes that can get wet. Fee includes loan of paddleboard, paddle, life jacket and instruction. Space is limited. Cost: \$15/person. **NR/Lot C6: 6194 Christman Rd., Green 🇺🇸 (7/6) \$**

Saturday, July 21, 2 – 3:30 p.m.

THYME FOR DINNER: CAMPFIRE COOKING

Learn how to spice up your outdoor cooking using herbs. Participants will learn how to make different foods using pie irons and Dutch ovens. Samples will be available, while supplies last. **FASN/Campfire Area: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Saturday, July 21, 9 – 11 p.m.

NATIONAL MOTH WEEK

July 21 begins National Moth Week, a global celebration of moths and biodiversity. Join a naturalist for an up-close look at the beautiful colors, shapes and patterns of these amazing creatures. Bring a flashlight and camera. **SFB: 1400 Portage Line Rd., Springfield Twp.**



Sunday, July 22

10 – 11:30 a.m.

GARDENING FOR HUMMINGBIRDS

Learn how to attract these beautiful flying creatures to your own back yard using native plants. Then take a short stroll to search for hummingbirds and the flowers they like best. **FASN/Seneca Deck: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Sunday, July 22, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

NATURE PLAY: DIRT

Families with young children can stop by our Nature Play area along Maple Loop Trail to engage in fun, hands-on activities about dirt. Dress to get messy! **LP/Twinsburg Ledges: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**



Sunday, July 22, 1 – 3 p.m.

NATIVE SHRUBS IN THE LANDSCAPE

Native shrubs are an essential component to attract wildlife and pollinators to your yard. Join a naturalist to learn the where and how to use dogwoods, viburnums and other species of shrubs in your landscape. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Monday, July 23, 9 – 10:30 a.m.

CARDIO HIKE

Hike more than 3 miles at a vigorous pace with few, if any, stops. Beginners are welcome, but talk to your doctor before beginning a new exercise routine. **CVN/Schumacher Valley: 1690 Cuyahoga St., Akron**

Tuesday, July 24, 3 – 4:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY WALKERS

Enjoy a leisurely stroll along Old Mill Trail, with frequent stops to discover history and nature along the way. **FR/Brushwood: 4955 Townsend Rd., Richfield**



Wednesday, July 25, 9 – 11 a.m.

DRAWING OUTDOORS

Bring your drawing pad and pencils for an outdoor lesson in drawing. Beginners are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the program. Portable chairs and drinking water are recommended. Program will be cancelled during inclement weather. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Wednesday, July 25, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY WALKERS

Enjoy a leisurely stroll with a naturalist on Spring Hollow Trail with frequent stops to discover nature along the way. **HH/Main Entrance: 2925 Akron-Peninsula Rd., Akron**

Wednesday, July 25, 7 – 9 p.m.

MEET ME IN THE GARDEN

Join the Master Gardeners of Summit County to learn about composting. Presented by Dave Daly, Let's Grow Akron. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Thursday, July 26, 7 – 8 p.m.

YOGA IN THE PARK: HATHA

Enjoy a slower hatha yoga practice outdoors with a certified instructor. Wear comfortable clothing, bring a yoga mat or towel and drinking water. Program will be moved indoors in case of inclement weather. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron ☎ (7/13)**

Thursday, July 26, 8:30 – 10 p.m.

NIGHT HIKE

Join a naturalist to enjoy looking and listening for wildlife on this moonlit hike. **SC/Pheasant Run: 5000 Hametown Rd., Norton**



Friday, July 27, 9 – 11 a.m.

PRAIRIE HIKE

Join a naturalist for a walk through the prairie to look and listen for birds, blossoms, butterflies and more! Participants may wish to bring a water bottle, sunscreen, a hat and binoculars. **SFB: 1400 Portage Line Rd., Springfield Twp.**

Friday, July 27, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

LI'L SPROUTS: LEAVES

Li'l Sprouts will learn how leaves make food for plants. Dress to get messy. Recommended for ages 3 and up. **FASN/Seneca Deck: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron ☎ (6/29)**

Saturday, July 28, 9 – 11 a.m.

WOODLAND MUSHROOMS

A walk in the woods often reveals wonders of nature otherwise overlooked. Join a naturalist on a rugged hike in search of woodland mushrooms. Wear sturdy shoes and bring drinking water. **G/Main Entrance: 1160 Front St., Cuyahoga Falls**



Saturday, July 28

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 1 – 3 p.m.

NIMISILA RESERVOIR KAYAK

Paddle a portion of Nimisila Reservoir with a certified instructor and a naturalist to learn paddle strokes, safety and see wildlife around the water. Minimum age is 13; ages 13 to 17 must be with an adult participant. Participants must wear closed-toe shoes and be able to swim. We suggest bringing water, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and wearing clothes that can get wet. Fee includes loan of kayak, paddle, life jacket and instruction. Space is limited. Cost: \$15/person. **NR/Lot C6: 6194 Christman Rd., Green ☎ (7/10) \$**

Saturday, July 28, 1 – 3 p.m.

SNAKES OF LIBERTY PARK

Join a naturalist to explore the ledges and look for indigenous snakes of Liberty Park. Learn why these "scary" serpents are important to the health of the ecosystem and why they should be respected, not feared. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Sunday, July 29

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 1 – 3 p.m.

BEGINNER STAND-UP PADDLEBOARDING

Try stand-up paddleboarding, the fastest growing water sport, to get a workout and enjoy nature. A certified instructor and a naturalist will guide you. No experience needed. Minimum age is 13; ages 13 to 17 must be with an adult participant. Participants must wear closed-toe shoes and be able to swim. We suggest bringing water, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and wearing clothes that can get wet. Fee includes loan of paddleboard, paddle, life jacket and instruction. Space is limited. Cost: \$15/person. **SC/Boathouse: 5171 S. Medina Line Rd., Norton ☎ (7/12) \$**

Sunday, July 29, 7 – 8 p.m.

YOGA IN THE PARK: VINYASA

Enjoy a vinyasa yoga practice outdoors with a certified instructor. Wear comfortable clothing, bring a yoga mat or towel and drinking water. Program will be moved indoors in case of inclement weather. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron ☎ (7/13)**

Tuesday, July 31, 3 – 7:30 p.m.

MUSIC BY THE LAKE

Enjoy free lake swimming from 3 to 6:45 p.m. and a one-hour concert by the Metro Parks Ensemble near Maple Beach Shelter at 6:30 p.m. Concert cancelled if it rains. Call 330-865-8060 if wet weather is in the forecast. **MF/Lake Area: 521 S. River Rd., Munroe Falls**

GOODYEAR HEIGHTS

METRO PARK



Visit our website for details about **summer concerts** at Goodyear Heights Metro Park, presented by the City of Akron: summitmetroparks.org

AUGUST



Wednesday, August 1, 10 – 11:30 a.m.
REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS FOR KIDS

Kids join a naturalist to learn about the crawling and slithering creatures found in our parks. Get up close and personal with some of our resident education animals before taking a walk in search of turtles, frogs and more in their natural habitat. **FASN/Seneca Deck: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Thursday, August 2, 8:30 – 10 p.m.
BATS: CREATURES OF THE NIGHT

Mysterious and often misunderstood, bats are some of the most fascinating creatures of the night. Join staff to learn about these flying mammals. Nets will be set up to try to catch live bats for observation and data collection. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Friday, August 3, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
WOODLAND MUSHROOMS

From mid-summer to late-autumn, a great variety of mushrooms may be found throughout Ohio. Enjoy an educational and fun walk with a naturalist to discover which mushrooms are out this time of year. **SR/Shady Hollow: 1750 Sand Run Pkwy., Akron**

Saturday, August 4, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

KIDS' FISHING

Kids 15 and younger can learn the basics of fishing, then drop a line at Little Turtle Pond. A few rods and reels will be available for use. Bait is provided. Adults must supervise their children but are not permitted to fish. **F/Little Turtle Pond: 2400 Harrington Rd., Akron**

Sunday, August 5, 9 – 10:30 a.m.

CARDIO HIKE

Hike Deer Run Trail twice at a vigorous pace. Beginners are welcome, but talk to your doctor before beginning a new exercise routine. Drinking water is recommended. **ONW/Trail Lot: 2550 Martin Rd., Bath**

Sunday, August 5
10 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 1 – 3 p.m.

NIMISILA RESERVOIR KAYAK

Paddle a portion of Nimisila Reservoir with a certified instructor and a naturalist to learn paddle strokes, safety and see wildlife around the water. Minimum age is 13; ages 13 to 17 must be with an adult participant. Participants must wear closed-toe shoes and be able to swim. We suggest bringing water, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and wearing clothes that can get wet. Fee includes loan of kayak, paddle, life jacket and instruction. Space is limited. **Cost: \$15/person. NR/Lot C6: 6194 Christman Rd., Green 🇺🇸 (7/26) \$**

Sunday, August 5, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

DROP-IN NATURE CRAFT

All ages can join a naturalist for nature-crafting fun in the shelter. A new craft will be presented each program this summer. Please dress for a mess. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Sunday, August 5, 9 – 10:30 p.m.

ZODIAC EXPLORERS: CANCER

This monthly program series explores the night sky for the zodiac constellation of the month with a mix of science, folklore, and personal reflection through journaling. The program takes place even if it is cloudy or raining. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Monday, August 6, 10 – 11 a.m.

CREEK CRITTERS FOR KIDS

Explore Rock Creek looking for the critters that live there. Closed-toe shoes that can get wet and dirty recommended. **FR/Brushwood: 4955 Townsend Rd., Richfield**

Tuesday, August 7, 3 – 7:30 p.m.

MUSIC BY THE LAKE

Enjoy free lake swimming from 3 to 6:45 p.m. and a one-hour concert by the Metro Parks Ensemble near Sherman Shelter at 6:30 p.m. Concert cancelled if it rains. Call 330-865-8060 if wet weather is in the forecast. **SC/Bathhouse: 5000 Hametown Rd., Norton**

Wednesday, August 8, 9 – 11 a.m.

DRAWING OUTDOORS

Bring your drawing pad and pencils for an outdoor lesson in drawing. Beginners are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the program. Portable chairs and drinking water are recommended. Program will be cancelled during inclement weather. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**



INTRO TO ARCHERY

Join us to learn international-style target archery at our outdoor range. Program good for beginning and practiced archers. All equipment and hands-on instruction provided.

Friday, August 3, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

FOR KIDS (ages 9-15)

Must be 50 inches or taller. **Cost: \$10/person. 🇺🇸 (7/18) \$**

Friday, August 3, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

FOR ADULTS (ages 16+)

Cost: \$10/person. 🇺🇸 (7/18) \$

Thursday, August 23, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

FOR SENIORS (ages 55+)

Cost: \$10/person. 🇺🇸 (8/9) \$

Thursday, August 23, 12:30 – 2 p.m.

FOR ADULTS (ages 16+)

Cost: \$10/person. 🇺🇸 (8/9) \$

All programs at **SC/Archery Range: 89 Eastern Rd., Doylestown**



KINDEREALM: OPOSSUMS

Children 3 to 6 and their adult companions discover the wild and wonderful world of opossums. Includes a hike and craft. Please make other arrangements for younger children unable to remain in infant seats or strollers. ☎ (7/24)

Thursday, August 2
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
GYH/Lodge
2077 Newton St., Akron

Friday, August 3
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
FASN/Visitors Center
1828 Smith Rd., Akron

Friday, August 3
1 – 2 p.m.
FASN/Visitors Center
1828 Smith Rd., Akron

Tuesday, August 14
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
LP/Nature Center
9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg

Wednesday, August 15
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
F/Coventry Oaks
40 Axline Ave., Akron

Wednesday, August 8, 2 – 4 p.m.

AFTERNOON STROLL

Join a naturalist for a stroll along Piney Woods Trail with stops to discover nature and history along the way. **GYH/Pioneer: 550 Frazier Ave., Akron**

Wednesday, August 8 – Friday, August 10
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. daily

SUMMER DAY CAMP: WILD THINGS

Kids ages 9 and 10 can register for this exciting three-day drop-off camp. We will explore the exciting world of critters with fun, hands-on experiences in the outdoors. Cost: \$50/child. **F/Coventry Oaks: 40 Axline Ave., Akron** 🗳️ \$ **Registration ends July 25**

Thursday, August 9, 9 – 10:30 a.m.

LICHENS & MOSSES OF DEEP LOCK QUARRY

Hike Quarry Trail and discover the lichens and mosses that are found among the old stone quarries. **DLQ: 5779 Riverview Rd., Peninsula**

Thursday, August 9, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

SHIRTS TO DYE FOR

Learn about natural dyes from local plants with a naturalist, then tie-dye a shirt using RIT dye. Bring a plain T-shirt and wear clothes that can get stained. **GYH/Pioneer: 550 Frazier Ave., Akron**

Friday, August 10, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

LI'L SPROUTS: SUN

Li'l Sprouts will learn why all living things need the sun. Recommended for ages 3 and up. Dress to get messy! **FASN/Seneca Deck: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron** ☎ (8/3)

Friday, August 10, 8 – 9:30 p.m.

CALLING ALL COYOTES

Join a naturalist for a short presentation to learn all about a misunderstood mammal, the coyote. Afterward, we will go on a quiet hike to listen for their calls. **SC/Pheasant Run: 5000 Hametown Rd., Norton**

Saturday, August 11
9 – 11:30 a.m. & 12:30 – 3 p.m.

GORGE KAYAK

Paddle the Cuyahoga River at the Gorge to see towering rock ledges and breathtaking scenery from your kayak. Led by a certified instructor and a naturalist. Minimum age is 13; ages 13 to 17 must be with an adult participant. Participants must wear closed-toe shoes and be able to swim. We suggest bringing water, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and wearing clothes that can get wet. Fee includes loan of kayak, paddle, life jacket and instruction. Space is limited. Cost: \$15/person. **G/Main Entrance: 1160 Front St., Cuyahoga Falls** 🗳️ (8/1) \$



Saturday, August 11, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

TOUCH-A-TRUCK EVENT

All ages can touch and sit in more than 12 different Summit Metro Parks vehicles. Local law enforcement agencies will be present, too. **MF/Lake Area: 521 S. River Rd., Munroe Falls**



Saturday, August 11, 1 – 3 p.m.

DRAGONFLIES OF TINKERS CREEK

Join a naturalist to document dragonflies for the Ohio Dragonfly Survey using iNaturalist. We'll search the Seven Ponds area of the nature preserve to see how many species we can find. **LP/Tinkers Creek SNP: 1230 Old Mill Rd., Aurora** ☎ (7/27)

Saturday, August 11, 9 – 11 p.m.

ASTRONOMY: PERSEID METEOR SHOWER

Witness the Perseid meteor shower, one of nature's best shows in the sky. A program will occur on only one of these three nights, pending clear skies: 8/11, 8/12 or 8/13. Call 330-865-8060 after 4 p.m. to learn if a program is taking place that night. Bring a flashlight and chairs or blankets. **SC/Bathhouse: 5000 Hametown Rd., Norton**

Sunday, August 12, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

FAIRY KIDS

Children 5 to 9 are invited to explore the Rock & Herb Garden in search of fairies. Each child will create their own fairy wand to take home and continue the fun! Meet at the Rock & Herb Garden. **FASN: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron** ☎ (7/28)

Sunday, August 12, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

YELLOW NATIVE FLOWERS

Join a naturalist on a stroll outdoors at Liberty Park Nature Center looking at goldenrods, sunflowers and other yellow native wildflowers. We also will be on the lookout for the native pollinators that help these plants. LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg

Sunday, August 12, 7 – 8 p.m.

YOGA IN THE PARK: VINYASA

Enjoy a vinyasa yoga practice outdoors with a certified instructor. Wear comfortable clothing, bring a yoga mat or towel and drinking water. Program will be moved indoors in case of inclement weather. FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron ☎ (7/31)

Tuesday, August 14, 7 – 8 p.m.

RANDOM ACT OF MUSIC

Weather permitting, the all-volunteer Metro Parks Ensemble will perform an hour of traditional marches, big band standards and oldies. Concert cancelled if it rains. If wet weather is in the forecast, call 330-865-8060 after 4 p.m. for status. NR/Lot C1: 5034 Christman Rd., Green

Wednesday, August 15, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

DROP-IN NATURE CRAFT

All ages can join a naturalist for nature-crafting fun in the shelter. A new craft will be presented each program this summer. Please dress for a mess. LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg

Wednesday, August 15, 3 – 4:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY WALKERS

Enjoy a leisurely stroll along the 1.2-mile Downy Loop Trail with frequent stops to discover nature along the way. WH: 2121 Barlow Rd., Hudson

Wednesday, August 15, 3 – 4 p.m.

NATURE PLAY: LET'S DIG!

Families with young children can stop by our Nature Play Area across from Pioneer Shelter to dig and look for critters in the soil. Dress to get messy! GYH/Pioneer: 550 Frazier Ave., Akron



Thursday, August 16, 9:30 – 10 a.m.

NATURE STORIES

Young children and their adult companions will enjoy this interactive, nature-inspired story time intended for ages 18 months to 3 years. LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg ☎ (8/7)

Thursday, August 16, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

BUGS FOR KIDS

Learn the basics of catching and identifying bugs. Some nets and jars will be provided. Adults must accompany their children. LP/Twinsburg Ledges: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg

Thursday, August 16, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

GOOD GARDENS: POLLINATORS

Discover the importance of pollinators and how to attract them to your garden. Tour the Community Garden to see our very own "insect condos." GYH/Lodge: 2077 Newton St., Akron

Thursday, August 16, 8 – 9:30 p.m.

NIGHT HIKE

Join a naturalist to enter the world of nocturnal creatures as we explore the trail at sunset. MF/Tallmadge Meadows: 1088 North Ave., Tallmadge

Friday, August 17, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

HIKE & FIRE

Join a naturalist for a hike along Cherry Lane Trail to discover nature. Afterward, warm up by the fire. Marshmallows will be provided, while supplies last. FASN/Campfire Area: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron

Friday, August 17, 9 – 11 p.m.

BUGS OF THE NIGHT

Join a naturalist to hunt the fields and forest edges for hidden bugs. We hope to find tree crickets, coneheads and katydids, among other insects. Bring a flashlight and bug spray. LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg

Saturday, August 18, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

LATE SUMMER WILDFLOWERS

Experience the kaleidoscope of color at Springfield Bog as we hike and discover which late summer wildflowers are blooming. Participants may wish to bring a water bottle, sunscreen and a hat. SFB: 1400 Portage Line Rd., Springfield Twp.

Saturday, August 18, 1 – 3 p.m.

FLINT KNAPPING DEMONSTRATION

Paul Wischt from the Cuyahoga and Chippewa Valley Archaeology societies will demonstrate the ancient skill of flint knapping and share the different spear points used by early Native Americans. F/Tuscarawas Meadows: 2620 Harrington Rd., Akron

Saturday, August 18, 9 – 11 p.m.

MARVELOUS MOTHS

Join a naturalist to learn how to use black lights to attract these amazing creatures, and for a chance to observe their beautiful colors, shapes and patterns up close. Bring a flashlight and camera for photos. LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg

Sunday, August 19, 9 – 11 a.m.

SUMMER TREE IDENTIFICATION

Learn to I.D. trees by leaf, bark and twig arrangement along the river and in upland forests. Tree guides or dichotomous keys are recommended. **CVS/Oxbow: 1061 Cuyahoga St., Akron**

Sunday, August 19

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 1 – 3 p.m.

BEGINNER STAND-UP PADDLEBOARDING

Try stand-up paddleboarding, the fastest growing water sport, to get a workout and enjoy nature. A certified instructor and a naturalist will guide you. No experience needed. Minimum age is 13; ages 13 to 17 must be with an adult participant. Participants must wear closed-toe shoes and be able to swim. We suggest bringing water, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and wearing clothes that can get wet. Fee includes loan of paddleboard, paddle, life jacket and instruction. Space is limited. Cost: \$15/person. **NR/Lot C6: 6194 Christman Rd., Green** 🇺🇸 (8/2) \$

Monday, August 20, 9 – 10:30 a.m.

SENSORY HIKE

Enjoy some outdoor therapy on a sensory hike! Savor a short, silent hike during which we focus our senses to hear bird songs, smell wildflowers and feel the earth underfoot. **DLQ: 5779 Riverview Rd., Peninsula**

Monday, August 20, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

INSECTS AND SPIDERS HIKE

Discover the park's beneficial "bugs" and use magnification aides to get close-up views. Program will begin in the shelter and include a hike on the accessible Meadow Loop Trail. Nets and jars provided for insect collection and observation. **MF/Tallmadge Meadows: 1088 North Ave., Tallmadge**



Monday, August 20, 6 – 8 p.m.

BACK YARD WATER CONSERVATION

Help protect your local environment starting right in your back yard! Join Summit Metro Parks staff to learn how native plants, composting, rain gardens and more can control erosion and enhance water quality. **SR/Mingo: 1501 Sand Run Pkwy., Akron**

Tuesday, August 21, 2 – 4 p.m.

INTRO TO JOURNALING YOUR HIKING EXPERIENCE

Remember your hiking experiences through journaling. Learn some basic techniques to get started. Bring a journal and camera (optional). **F/Coventry Oaks: 40 Axline Ave., Akron** 🇺🇸 (8/10)

Tuesday, August 21, 7 – 8 p.m.

RANDOM ACT OF MUSIC

Weather permitting, the all-volunteer Metro Parks Ensemble will perform an hour of traditional marches, big band standards and oldies. Concert cancelled if it rains. If wet weather is in the forecast, call 330-865-8060 after 4 p.m. for status. **WH: 2121 Barlow Rd., Hudson**

Wednesday, August 22, 9 – 11 a.m.

DRAWING OUTDOORS

Bring your drawing pad and pencils for an outdoor lesson in drawing. Beginners are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the program. Portable chairs and drinking water are recommended. Program will be cancelled during inclement weather. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Wednesday, August 22, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

HOW ANIMALS SURVIVE

Kids come out and learn through games and activities how animals survive using their senses. **GYH/Pioneer: 550 Frazier Ave., Akron**

Wednesday, August 22, 7 – 9 p.m.

MEET ME IN THE GARDEN

Join the Master Gardeners of Summit County to learn how to incorporate herbs into the landscape, and into your cooking. Presented by Elizabeth Kresse, Summit Metro Parks naturalist. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Thursday, August 23, 7 – 8 p.m.

YOGA IN THE PARK: HATHA

Enjoy a slower hatha yoga practice outdoors with a certified instructor. Wear comfortable clothing, bring a yoga mat or towel and drinking water. Program will be moved indoors in case of inclement weather. **FASN/Visitors Center: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron** 🇺🇸 (7/31)

Thursday, August 23, 9 – 11 p.m.

MOTHS OF MANY COLORS

Join a naturalist to learn how to use black lights to attract these amazing creatures, and for a chance to observe their beautiful colors, shapes and patterns up close. Bring a flashlight and camera for photos. **WH: 2121 Barlow Rd., Hudson**



Friday, August 24, 9 – 10:30 a.m.

CARDIO HIKE

Join a naturalist for healthy outdoor exercise by hiking at a vigorous pace with few, if any, rest stops. Beginners are welcome, but talk to your doctor before beginning a new exercise routine. Drinking water is recommended. **HH/Main Entrance: 2925 Akron-Peninsula Rd., Akron**

Friday, August 24, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

HIKE THE HOLLOW

Summer days are quickly coming to a close. Join a naturalist on a leisurely hike to discover what is out and about this time of the year. **WH: 2121 Barlow Rd., Hudson**



Saturday, August 25, 9 – 11 a.m.

BEGINNER STAND-UP PADDLEBOARDING

Try stand-up paddleboarding, the fastest growing water sport, to get a workout and enjoy nature. A certified instructor and a naturalist will guide you. No experience needed. Minimum age is 13; ages 13 to 17 must be with an adult participant. Participants must wear closed-toe shoes and be able to swim. We suggest bringing water, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and wearing clothes that can get wet. Fee includes loan of paddleboard, paddle, life jacket and instruction. Space is limited. Cost: \$15/person. **NR/Lot C6: 6194 Christman Rd., Green** 🇺🇸 (8/16) \$

Saturday, August 25, 12 – 3 p.m.

INTERMEDIATE STAND-UP PADDLEBOARDING

Join a certified instructor and naturalist to learn moving on the board, advanced paddle strokes and rescue techniques. *Participants are required to have already completed a Summit Metro Parks Stand-up Paddleboarding Beginner class.* Minimum age is 13; ages 13 to 17 must be with an adult participant. Participants must wear closed-toe shoes and be able to swim. We suggest bringing water, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and wear clothes that can get wet. Fee includes; loan of paddleboard, paddle, life jacket and instruction. Space is limited. Cost: \$15/person. **NR/Lot C6: 6194 Christman Rd., Green** 🇺🇸 (8/16) \$

Saturday, August 25, 1 – 3 p.m.

WOODLAND MUSHROOMS

From mid-summer to late-autumn, a great variety of mushrooms may be found throughout Ohio. Enjoy an educational and fun walk with a naturalist to discover which mushrooms are out this time of year. **FASN/Campfire Area: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Saturday, August 25, 8 – 9:30 p.m.

COYOTE CALLING CAMPFIRE

Join a naturalist to learn the natural and cultural history behind some of the park district's most elusive and misunderstood residents: coyotes. We will roast marshmallows and play coyote calls, hoping that some might call back. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Sunday, August 26, 11:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

NATURE CRAFTING FOR ADULTS: BUSHEL BASKET

Participants will create a bushel-style basket. Skill level: intermediate. Please bring a flat-head screwdriver, needle-nose pliers, towel and 2-gallon bucket, if you can. Cost: \$35/person. **F/Coventry Oaks: 40 Axline Ave., Akron** 🇺🇸 (8/18) \$



Sunday, August 26, 12 – 3 p.m.

FALL HIKING SPREE KICKOFF

Get a head start on the 55th annual Fall Hiking Spree and meet a naturalist and mascots at Firestone Metro Park. Hiking forms will be available and Fall Hiking Spree T-shirts will be for sale. To receive your hiking shield, all other hikes must be completed 9/1 through 11/30. **F/Tuscarawas Meadows: 2620 Harrington Rd., Akron**

Sunday, August 26, 1 – 3 p.m.

WOODLAND MUSHROOMS

A great variety of mushrooms may be found throughout our parks in late summer. Join a naturalist on a hike to discover which mushrooms are out this time of year. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Monday, August 27, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

LATE SUMMER WILDFLOWERS

Stroll with a naturalist to discover the late summer blooms of Liberty Park. **LP/Nature Center: 9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg**

Tuesday, August 28, 7 – 8 p.m.

RANDOM ACT OF MUSIC

Weather permitting, the all-volunteer Metro Parks Ensemble will perform an hour of traditional marches, big band standards and oldies. Concert cancelled if it rains. If wet weather is in the forecast, call 330-865-8060 after 4 p.m. for status. **FASN/Onondaga Deck: 1828 Smith Rd., Akron**

Wednesday, August 29

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 1 – 3 p.m.

SUMMIT LAKE KAYAK

Paddle in the "Heart of Akron" on Summit Lake. Explore nature by water while discovering the marvelous history of the community, which surrounds the lake. Led by a certified instructor and a naturalist. Minimum age is 13; ages 13 to 17 must be with an adult participant. Participants must wear closed-toe shoes and be able to swim. We suggest bringing water, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and wearing clothes that can get wet. Fee includes loan of kayak, paddle, life jacket and instruction. Space is limited. Cost: \$15/person. **TT/Summit Lake: 380 W. Crosier St., Akron** 🇺🇸 (8/2) \$

Friday, August 31, 9 – 11 a.m.

FERN WALK

Join a naturalist to learn about some of Ohio's native ferns and discover how to identify them by their structure and habitat. **SR/Shady Hollow: 1750 Sand Run Pkwy., Akron**



Friday, August 31, 5 – 7 p.m.

KIDS' FISHING

Kids 15 and younger can learn the basics of fishing, then drop a line at Alder Pond. A few rods and reels will be available for use. Bait is provided. Adults must supervise their children but are not permitted to fish. **GYH/Pioneer: 550 Frazier Ave., Akron**

Friday, August 31, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

FUNGI & LICHENS

Join a naturalist on a hike to find and identify species of fungi and lichens along Deer Run Trail. Edibles are not a part of this program. **ONW/Trail Lot: 2550 Martin Rd., Bath**

CUYAHOGA RIVER WATER TRAIL

Mark Szeremet, Land Acquisition Specialist

Our region has an amazing resource in its network of rivers, streams and lakes. Summit Metro Parks is working to create better access to these assets by establishing access points to the Cuyahoga River Water Trail.



Trails aren't just for hiking anymore! Summit Metro Parks is helping turn the Cuyahoga River into an official water trail.

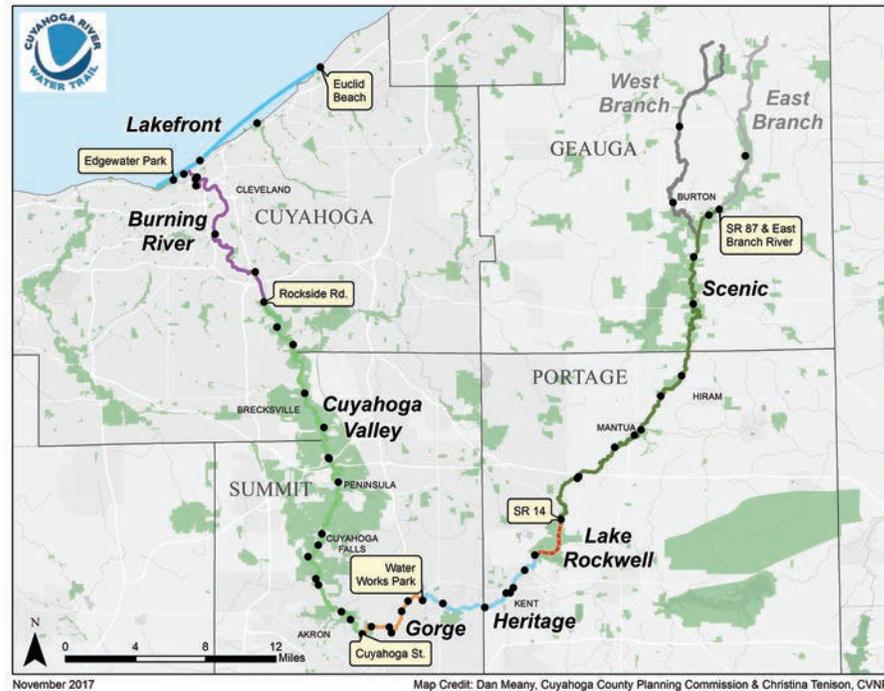
WHAT IS A WATER TRAIL?

Imagine a vibrant recreational trail network which takes advantage of natural amenities and allows people to experience portions of the county they have never seen. That's what water trails provide. A water trail is a recreational boating route along a waterway

with strategically located access points, similar to trailheads for a hiking or multipurpose trail.

The Cuyahoga River Water Trail Partners, a group of which Summit Metro Parks is a member, has been working since February of 2011 to develop a plan to allow the Cuyahoga River to become an official water trail. For a stretch of water to garner official state designation as a water trail, the river or creek has to be primarily used for recreational canoeing and kayaking

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The Cuyahoga River Water Trail will be 100 miles long and will extend into Lake Erie.

and must include a comprehensive planning and communication strategy. Most importantly, put-ins must be constructed at regular intervals and in different jurisdictions.

the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas rivers, **Nimisila Reservoir** and **Summit Lake**. In the future, the new **Valley View Area** of **Cascade Valley Metro Park** will be river-centered with the potential for livery service both up and down river.

ACCESS WITHIN SUMMIT METRO PARKS

The park district has constructed access points to the Cuyahoga River at **Brust Park** in **Munroe Falls** adjacent to the **Bike & Hike Trail** and at the **Oxbow Area** of **Cascade Valley Metro Park** where paddlers can access the river directly from Oxbow Trail. In 2018 the park district will add more access to

GET OUT ON THE WATER!

Join Summit Metro Parks at a naturalist-led kayak or paddle program. Please see the *Programs and Events* section of this publication for upcoming opportunities.

To learn more about the Cuyahoga River Water Trail visit facebook.com/cuyahogariverwatertrail.

CRAFT: MAKING NATURE'S MUSIC



Danette Rushboldt, Interpretive Artist

Rattles and shakers are one of the oldest tools used to make music. Found around the world, rattles are an important part of ceremonies and healing rites. They were used to give thanks and to symbolize status and rank by ancient peoples in Egypt all the way to the modern Native American tribes of North America.

You can create your own rattle using easy-to-find materials, and let the music begin!

GATHER YOUR MATERIALS:

- A "Y" branch, cut from a tree or shrub (invasive honeysuckle works great)
- Thin wire
- Yarn scraps, various old beads, buttons, bells, bottle caps and anything that will hang loosely from the wire



1



2



3

Step 1: Tightly wrap yarn around the stick beginning at the bottom and working your way up both sides. Changing colors throughout can add a lot of interest; simply overlap 1" of the last color with the next to keep it in place.

Step 2: Cut your wire so that it will fit midway up the "Y" of the branch.

Step 3: String on a variety of beads, buttons and bells, making sure to allow for free movement of the objects. Don't over-string.

Step 4: Wrap the ends of the wire tightly around the branch and give it a shake. Hey, you're making music!

Summit
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**Saturday,
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10 a.m. – 2 P.m.

MUNROE FALLS METRO PARK
521 S. River Rd.
Munroe Falls 44262

All ages can touch and sit in more than a dozen Summit Metro Parks vehicles — including a dump truck, law enforcement cruiser, backhoe, excavator and more.

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Hands-on FUN!



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