

TRAILSIDE EYE SPY

See if you can spot each item along Parcours Trail,
Sand Run Metro Park, 995 Treaty Line Rd., Akron OH 44313

PORTAGE PATH MARKER

50 of these markers trace the eight-mile trail used by Native Americans traveling between the Tuscarawas and Cuyahoga rivers. One could travel from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico using natural waterways, save for this relatively short overland stretch.



EXERCISE STATIONS

If you're looking for an exercise experience beyond a casual hike, challenge yourself on this "parcours" trail, the first of its kind in the state of Ohio. Initially popularized in the 1960s, such fitness trails are a great way to enjoy nature while working out!



SKUNK CABBAGE

In its full glory this month, look for the luscious, dark green leaves of skunk cabbage in low-lying areas. Named for their stinky smell, these greens are inedible to most vertebrate species, though they are munched on by a handful of caterpillars, snails and slugs.



BEECH LEAF DISEASE

Do you see any leaves that appear to have dark striping? This eye-catching pattern is the symptom of a yet-to-be understood infection plaguing our local beech trees. Help stop its spread by cleaning shoes and hiking gear before traveling from one place to another.

GRAY CATBIRD

This robin-sized bird sports a black cap and a rusty patch beneath its tail. A relative of the mockingbird, these songsters are known to warble a variety of melodies, most notably their cat-like mewing call.



IRONWOOD TREE

Because of its smooth, silvery bark, this tree's nickname is "musclewood." Look for this species especially in the moist bottomlands of the trail and consider flexing your own muscles by stopping at some of the exercise stations along your walk.



HARVESTMEN

Although they are arachnids, these "daddy long legs" are not spiders, nor do they possess venom! They are primarily scavengers and occasionally prey on small insects, helping to keep the forest ecosystem in balance.



OHIO HISTORICAL MARKER

Find and read the plaque in the parking lot to learn how Treaty Line Road got its name. Placed by the Ohio History Connection, this is one of over 1,700 markers in the state aimed at connecting residents to local history.

CAMOUFLAGE

Can you find an example of an animal trying not to be seen? Bumps, spots, stripes, drab coloration, and even the act of sitting very still like the moth pictured here are all ways animals can survive predation.



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