

The Centerville-Washington Park District Board has a vision:

To be the outdoor recreation destination of choice for the community we serve.

To reach this vision, the Park Board knows it must be continually responsive to the needs, wants and suggestions of the residents of Centerville and Washington Township. The year 2015 at the Centerville-Washington Park District could be summarized as

being responsive to you!

Being responsive to the community was started by initiating, and following through with, many promises of the 2014 levy vote. Take a look at the many park improvements of 2015 that were funded by the levy vote.

PARK IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETED OR INITIATED IN 2015

Mays Park and shelter/restroom
Little Woods Park

Oak Grove Dog Park shade structures, trees and expansion
Oak Grove Park batting cages opened
Concept Park basketball court re-paved
Smith House in Bill Yeck Park opened
150+ new trees planted
Oak Creek South Skatepark expanded
Holes Creek trail started

While the projects are important, tangible and enjoyable, the Park Board is always working to be responsive in other ways, as well.

In the summer of 2015, hundreds of residents shared their ideas via an online survey, focus groups, stakeholder interviews and public meetings. Many thanks to all who took time to give advice. In a nutshell, the Board learned that these items were very important to the community:



You like trails and walking paths and want to see more of them.



You really like the many, varied program opportunities ... and would like more of every kind.



You want restrooms at Oak Grove that have flushing toilets and running water.



You want more natural areas in parks, and support preserving more natural areas.



You welcome nonresidents to your parks and programs, but support them paying a fair share.



You would like programs and activities offered at times convenient to working parents.



Your opinion of the Park District is that we are family-focused, a good investment, safe, and well-maintained.



You like to be asked your opinion, and want to be asked regularly!



Smith House opened for use



Hiking on Grant Park trails



New shade structures at the Dog Park at Oak Grove Park

2015 Annual Report

BEING RESPONSIVE WITH PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

The fall of 2015 showed a **55% increase** in program opportunities over the previous fall! More evening and weekend program times were offered, for example:

- Early Adventures moved from mornings to evenings.
- Preschool Nature Series and Intergenerational Series added evening options.
- Weekend programs more than tripled!

Nominal nonresidents fees were added to programs for fairness and equity.

New programs came about from partnering with Raise Your Brush, Up and Running, Spark Art Studio, the Washington-Centerville Public Library, Metro Dayton Hikers and more.

BEING RESPONSIVE WITH PARK IMPROVEMENTS

All of the previously noted park projects were supplemented with the following:

- Upgraded the Schoolhouse Park sidelines
- Received a 75% match grant for the Donnybrook Park fen restoration
- Built an outdoor-access restroom at the Smith House for Bill Yeck Park visitors
- Removed or felled 1,500 dead ash trees for visitor safety
- Initiated talks with Montgomery County regarding sewer to Oak Grove Park
- Prepared plans for native plant gardens in several parks (planting will take place in 2016)

Centerville-Washington Park District strives to provide quality parks, outdoor education, and recreation while preserving open space.



Partnership with Raise Your Brush



Mays Park Shelter completed

BEING RESPONSIVE WITH EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

- Received the highest marks on State of Ohio financial audit
- Upgraded to broadband internet service
- Automated manual administrative functions such as budget development, work request system and online availability of shelters
- Added ability to refund via credit to bank cards
- Developed capital improvement budget linked to project vs. fiscal year
- Developed a three-year strategic plan for parks, service and administration improvement

IT'S THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE A PARK SYSTEM GREAT!

The Park District is building upon the successes and initiatives of 2015 for the current and future years. None of the planning or delivery would be possible without the involvement of so many dedicated and devoted people in the community.

Many, many volunteers contribute 1000's of hours to bring programs, improvements and safe, fun places to enjoy the outdoors. On behalf of the entire community, the Park Commissioners extend their sincere gratitude to these wonderful people.

The Commissioners are equally appreciative of the unselfish, hard-working men and women of the Park District staff. Full-time, part-time and seasonal employees at CWPD are as good as can be found anywhere in the state.

And, no one is more important than our friends and neighbors who visit and enjoy the many parks and activities in the Park District. Please, continue to enjoy the services and sites, and, whenever you have a comment or idea, pass it along. We enjoy hearing from you!



David Lee
President



Lucy Sánchez
Secretary



Dan Monahan
Vice President