

The Centerville-Washington Park Board invites all residents to... **Explore Your Community's BIG Backyard!**

Living in the Centerville-Washington Park District means that you have numerous, excellent opportunities to explore ... to play ... to learn... all in your community's BIG backyard — 1,059 acres of park in 50 locations.

Did you know that there is a park within ½ mile of almost every home in Centerville and Washington Township? It's true! When compared with the typical community in the National Recreation and Park Association database, you have almost twice as many parks and double the average park acreage per 1,000 residents.

Your park board and staff are privileged to care for your parks and to bring you hundreds of opportunities to enjoy them. We pledge to continually strive to meet your needs and desires for recreation, environmental education and outdoor experiences. Taking a look back at 2016, we have summarized what those efforts, with your support, have brought to the community.

Giving feedback on your community's BIG backyard!

The Centerville-Washington Park District conducted a community needs assessment survey and a round of focus groups with residents in 2016. This is what you told us:

88% of residents say their overall opinion of the Centerville-Washington Park District is good or very good. (Thank you, we appreciate your support!)

Park amenity you are most interested in seeing added to your parks:

**SHADE
STRUCTURES!**

87% of residents feel it is important or very important that the Centerville-Washington Park District preserve green space.

Park programs you are most interested in seeing expanded:

**SUMMER CAMPS
AND FITNESS
PROGRAMS**

76% of residents say parks are important or very important to them.

We appreciate your feedback and will continue seeking your guidance in the future!



CENTERVILLE-WASHINGTON PARK DISTRICT MISSION

Provide quality parks, outdoor education and recreation while preserving open space.



Oak Creek South skatepark



Holes Creek Trail



Robert F. Mays Park



Ohio School of Falconry

2016 Annual Report

BUILDING IN YOUR BIG BACKYARD!

With the input of avid skaters and bikers, the Oak Creek South skatepark addition was completed. The addition was built with beginner and intermediate skaters in mind!

Holes Creek Trail opened in the fall, adding 1.2 miles of paved path along the natural stream corridor.

The ribbon was cut, officially opening Robert F. Mays Park in September. Your newest community park features an accessible playground, 3/4-mile loop trail, acres of native prairie and wildflowers, sport fields, a hitting wall and a picnic shelter with restrooms.

Donnybrook fen (the rarest type of wetland) was restored to its natural state, thanks to supportive park neighbors. The district landed a grant to cover 75% of the cost. The project repaired the stream bank, added native trees and plants, and removed non-native, invasive plants. With the installation of boardwalk, the Donnybrook Park fen is now a unique environmental education destination!

MANAGING IN YOUR BIG BACKYARD!

Awarded almost \$2 million in grants over the last two years — exceeding the previous 15 years of grant awards.

Launched a new website that is easy to navigate on mobile devices and home computers!

Created comprehensive branding guidelines.

Conducted a comprehensive, statistically-accurate needs assessment survey to learn what our community wants in their BIG backyard! Thanks to all who responded!

Completed the 2016 fiscal year solidly in the black, keeping expenditures well within budget.

Upgraded accounting software improving the efficiency and accuracy of tracking your money!

PLAYING & LEARNING IN YOUR BIG BACKYARD!

128 new programs in 2016! A 30% increase in opportunities from 2015.

Environmental and nature programs delivered to 2,268 students in Centerville City Schools.

More than 2,980 residents and friends were delighted by outreach programming to homeschool groups, childcare facilities, after school programs, clubs, scouts, seniors and more!

Formed new partnerships with Centerville CrossFit, CHS Culinary Studies Program, Golf Club at Yankee Trace, Institute for Holistic Leadership, OSU Extension, Ohio School of Falconry, ReelFlyRod.com, The Reiki Room and Valor Martial Arts.

Like to get healthy in the parks? In 2016, 25 new fitness and wellness programs were made available to the community.

IMPROVING YOUR BIG BACKYARD!

A \$22,000 grant allowed for the enlargement of the Oak Grove Park Archery Range.

Playgrounds were updated at Rosewood and Wagon Trail Parks, and all-new playgrounds are at Mays and Beechwood Springs Parks.

Pickleball — one of the Nation's fastest growing sports — now has permanent courts at Activity Center Park.

Responding to residents' call for more and more natural areas, we installed over 50 new acres of pollinator habitats districtwide.

Built and maintained an apiary that houses three active honey bee hives at Bill Yeck Park.

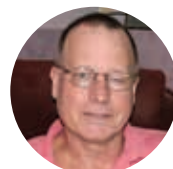
Restored a wetland in the McGuffey Meadow area of Bill Yeck Park.

Planted approximately 100 trees.

Implemented an ADA transition plan to improve park access for all abilities.



Many thanks from the park board and residents to the hundreds of volunteers who supported dozens of park improvement projects and countless programs and activities. The parks and programs would not be the same without your selfless contributions!



Dan Monahan
President



Lucy Sánchez,
Vice President



David Lee
Secretary