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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Date: April 1, 2014
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Subject: **Issue 4: Park Levy Will Not Increase Taxes**

CENTERVILLE, OH: A 0.9 mill renewal levy on the ballot May 6 will fund Centerville-Washington Park District operations for another 10 years with no increase in taxes. Twenty-four full-time park professionals and up to 50 seasonal (primarily summer) staff provide the day-to day care and management of 49 parks that encompass nearly 1,000 acres of open space in Centerville and Washington Township.

The Park District's primary source of revenue is from property tax levies provided by Centerville and Washington Township residents. "The community support is essential to enable us to provide top-rated, award-winning parks and facilities and insure the future of one of our community's greatest assets," said Dave Lee, Park Board President. The Park District receives no funding from Washington Township or the City of Centerville but does have a history of securing outside grants and private donations to help stretch tax dollars.

"The 2004 levy provided funds to add many new park amenities such as the sprayground, skatepark, Nature Nook, and development of Oak Grove Park," said Carol Kennard, Director of the Park District. "The renewal levy will provide funds to keep those new facilities in top shape, while adding a few more requested improvements." Planned improvements include developing the Smith Farm master plan at Bill Yeck Park, completing the final phase at Robert F. Mays Park, replacing portable toilets with permanent restrooms at Forest Field and Oak Grove Parks, expanding parking at the Grant Nature Nook, expanding skatepark and shade structures at Oak Creek South Park, expanding multi-use trail connections throughout the parks and community, updating 24 neighborhood parks, and acquiring parks in new plat development or adding acreage to existing parks.

Additional information about the levy can be found at www.yesforparksCW.com. The Yes for Parks Committee is co-chaired by Jon and Suzie Kreuzsch, who recently said, "we are so proud of the parks in our community. They bring a smile to our faces when we get to go out and enjoy them. Please vote yes for issue 4 to allow Centerville and Washington Township residents (and our out of town guests) more smiles for many years to come."

The Centerville-Washington Park District has played a vital role in improving the quality of life for Washington Township and Centerville residents since 1959 -- providing opportunities to explore nature and historic sites, educating children and adults, and providing access to healthier lifestyles through active outdoor recreation. The Park District operates eight community parks, eight nature parks, and 33 neighborhood parks in Centerville and Washington Township. For more information about the Centerville-Washington Park District, please call (937) 433-5155 or visit www.cwpd.org.