

2010 - 2011 Biennial Report Edition



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**Resident Registration Begins
Monday, May 14 at 10:00 a.m.**



Headquarters

Activity Center Park
221 North Main Street
Centerville, Ohio 45459-4617
(937) 433-5155
Fax: (937) 433-6564
Second Shift/Weekends: (937) 470-9246
mail@cwpd.org
www.cwpd.org

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Office Closed on July 4, 2012

Park Addresses

Addresses for the parks used in summer programs can be found on page 16. For a complete list of all 48 park addresses, visit www.cwpd.org.

Rain Out Line

(937) 433-2524
Option 1: Field Status
Option 2: Tennis Information
Option 3: Dog Park Closings

Athletic Field Conditions

www.cwpd.org/field_status.shtml

Youth Athletic Contacts

Centerville United Soccer Association
www.CUSASoccer.com
Hotline: (937) 864-4440

Centerville Wee Elk Football Association
www.weeelks.org

*Centerville Baseball League and
Centerville Noon Optimist Sof-T-Ball
Association*
www.cbltoday.org
cblstaff@woh.rr.com

Centerville Youth Lacrosse
www.centervillelacrosse.org

Save a Tree

To subscribe to the e-newsletter visit www.cwpd.org.

Here you can also stop home delivery of the printed newsletter.

Commissioners Corner



It has been my privilege to be a Commissioner for the last nine years. Term limits, which I firmly believe are important, ended my service in May.

During the time I have served, I have seen the Park District grow in programs and services and the parks themselves undergo massive improvements and additions. The Park District has a strong, committed, community focused staff and direction but the improvements I have seen during my tenure would not have been possible without the outstanding support of the community.

Recently while walking in one of our parks, I encountered an individual picking up litter along the trail. Realizing that he

wasn't one of our recognized volunteers I commented to him about his help. He assured me that he just wanted to make our parks a better place for everyone and this was one small way he could help.

This attitude is common throughout our community and something we can be proud of. Your support through tax dollars, hours of volunteerism, input at decision making events, expressions of comments and concerns, and your participation in activities of the Park District assure we continue to be recognized as one of the outstanding park districts in the state.

Thank you for your support during the last nine years and your continued support for our parks.

Garden Party to Include Two Dedications

The Park District is hosting a Community Garden Party on Sunday, May 20, 2012 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

A highlight of the party will be the dedication of the new Commissioners' Grove. The grove, a gift to former park commissioners, is made up of Eastern Redbud, Flowering Dogwood, Spring Snow Crab, Serviceberry, Red Maple, Tuliptree, Sweetgum, White Oak, and Red Oak trees. More than 13 individuals have served as park commissioners since the District's formation in 1959. The grove has been planted to honor the foresight, commitment, and dedication these volunteers provided in preserving open space and building a strong park system for the residents of Centerville and Washington Township.

The party will include a second dedication. A flower garden has been donated by the children of Victor & Mary Jane Smith. The garden is a tribute to the Smiths' love for gardens and nature. Other activities will include wildflower walks, a special art display from the Centerville High School ceramics class and Cline Elementary art students, face painting, tours of the historic Smith House, garden inspired crafts, a presentation on landscape beautification, as well as refreshments.

Please park at Forest Field Park.



Park District Mission:
To provide quality parks, outdoor education, and recreation while preserving open space.

Adopt-A-Park Program a Win-Win for All

A new Adopt-A-Park program has been designed to enhance the parks through community involvement and citizen partnerships. By participating, neighborhood organizations, civic and church groups, scout troops, businesses, schools, families, and individuals can take an active role in the beautification, maintenance, and improvement of our open spaces.

An entire park or trail can be adopted, or if preferred, a specific area inside a park such as the dog park, a sports field, tennis court, playground, or a flower bed, etc. Each group will work with the Park District in identifying the needs and developing plans for operating, maintaining, and improving their adopted park. Planting flowers, weeding, and clean-up days are examples of the activities your group can do.

Groups will be recognized with a certificate for completing a year of service. Recognition may also include a sign placed at their adopted park as well as being mentioned in the quarterly *News & Events*, social media outlets, and press releases.

Groups will complete meaningful projects according to their schedule, ability, and interest.

The Adopt-A-Park program will not be used in lieu of regular maintenance. It is designed to increase awareness and pride in all of the 48 parks within the community. If you wish to participate in the Adopt-a-Park program please call us at (937) 433-5155.

Dog Park on Facebook

A Facebook page has been created for the Dog Park at Oak Grove Park to share information on closings as well as events happening throughout the year.

The dog park recently underwent a major renovation to improve drainage, replace the turf, and enlarge the smaller side of the park. Therefore, **closure guidelines** have been established to help preserve the turf. The dog park will close when there is standing water, saturated or soggy ground, excessively muddy conditions, or any other extreme environmental conditions that would cause damage. It will also close the first Monday of the month for maintenance.

Visitors are encouraged to check if the dog park is closed prior to their visit at www.Facebook.com/DogParkAtOakGrovePark or (937) 433-2524, option three.

Staffing Updates



Catherine Ball joined the Park District last November as the new Communications Coordinator. She received a Bachelors in Communications from Purdue University. Catherine brings with her a background in marketing and design which will be useful in her new role. She lives with her husband, Jeremy, and their two dogs, Paisley and Hershey.



In March we welcomed **Katy Malcolm** as the new Naturalist. After receiving her Bachelors in Biology from Earlham College, Katy joined Five Rivers MetroParks where she was the Education Assistant. Katy specializes in birds and has travelled across the United States and internationally viewing local wildlife. She is looking forward to

exploring all of the different historical aspects our parks offer in relation to all things nature.

Welcome Catherine & Katy!



Barter Bazaar Crafting Supplies

Drop Off Items

April 23 - 25, 2012

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Park District Headquarters, 221 N. Main Street

Barter Bazaar

April 26, 2012

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Grant Park, Nature Nook, 6588 McEwen Road

All too often items are thrown away instead of being re-used. Bring the items you are willing to part with and then use your vouchers at the Bazaar to obtain items that others have made available.

Small items such as buttons, beads, and fabric scraps should be bundled and not treated as individual items. All items not claimed by the end of the bazaar will be donated to a non-profit charity. All trades are final.

Help the environment, your neighbors and yourself by re-using and reducing!

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAMS



Preschool Play Yard (PPY)

Ages 3-6

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

June 18 - August 9 (no PPY on July 17)

Day	Location
Tuesdays	Yankee Park
Thursdays	Schoolhouse Park

The activities at PPY, designed for ages 3-6, include active games, singing, story times, crafts, snacks, and more! All children must be toilet trained to attend.

Summer Recreation Program (SRP)

Group A: Ages 3-6 **OR** Group B: Ages 6-12

(6 year olds select either Group A or B for the duration of the summer)

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

June 18 - August 9 (No SRP on July 4 & July 17)

Day	Park Option 1	Park Option 2
Monday	Quail Run Park	Yankee Park
Tuesday	Rosewood Park	Forest Field Park
Wednesday	Village South Park	Oak Creek South Park
Thursday	Concept Park	Oak Grove Park (Group A: Rotary Shelter, Group B: Gebhart Shelter)
Friday	Green Park	Schoolhouse Park

SRP, led by trained recreation leaders, offers a variety of recreation activities, sports, games, arts and crafts, guest speakers, and more. A daily snack will be provided, and everyone should bring a water bottle. Choose whichever park location is best for you each day. Register based on age. Groups A and B will be at each park, each day, but separated for age appropriate activities.

Summer Teen Series (STS)

Ages 11 - 15

Wednesdays, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

June 18 - August 9 (No STS on July 4)

Date	Location	Theme
June 20	Grant Park, Normandy	Capture the Flag/Bonfire
June 27	Schoolhouse Park	Sports Smash
July 11	Yankee Park	Dodgeball Night
July 18	Schoolhouse Park	Sports Smash
July 25	Grant Park, Normandy	Capture the Flag /Bonfire
August 1	Oak Creek South Park	Dodgeball Night
August 8	Oak Creek South Park	End-of-Summer Party

Join us at this NEW Summer Teen Series! Each week we will play games based on the theme. Come to one or come to all of our fun-filled evenings for capture the flag, dodgeball games, sports, relay games, and more! To close out the summer, we will throw a party with an inflatable, a tournament, and pizza to celebrate!

PPY, SRP, and STS are

FREE.

Registration is required. See page 16 for details.

No PPY, STS, or SRP on rainy days.

Cancellations will be posted at [facebook.com/cwpd.org](https://www.facebook.com/cwpd.org).

Inclement Weather

In case of rain or storms, please return to the park to pick up your children as many locations do not provide shelter.

Drop-Off Programs

PPY, SRP, and the STS programs are led by trained recreation leaders. Parents are welcome to stay, but it is not required. However, the programs should not be used as a substitute for day camp or childcare.

Epi-Pen

If your child requires an epi-pen, please contact Kristen Marks at (937) 433-5155.

THESE FUN, FREE EVENTS ARE ALWAYS A HIT!

Super Safari

Ages 3-12

Adult supervision required for those ages 3-5

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Tuesday, July 17

Schoolhouse Park

Lions, tigers and bears, oh my! Schoolhouse Park is an animal kingdom! Come and safari with us at this special event! Game stations and crafts will be offered along with special contests. Registration is not required, but please sign-in your child at the event.

Splashtacular

Ages 3-12

Adult supervision required for those ages 3-5

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Friday, August 10

Yankee Park

You don't want to miss this annual end-of-summer special event! Come ready to play water-themed games and jump in the foam when the Washington Township Fire Department foam truck arrives at 11:30 a.m.

Registration is not required, but please sign-in your child at the event.



SUMMER CAMPS

Hidden Meadows Day Camp

Grant Park, 501 Normandy Ridge Road

There may still be openings for Hidden Meadows Day Camp. Visit www.cwpd.org for further information.

June 18-22: Just Add Water: Sometimes you just need to add water to create a whole lot of fun. Campers spend the hot summer days exploring creek beds and playing water activities that will keep them smiling all day.

June 25-29: Born to be Wild (Preschool Week): This fun week for ages 3-9 will get campers in touch with their wild side as they go in search of the wild residents of Grant Park. Learn how animals are born and grow through daily hikes, games, and crafts.

July 2-6: Mad Science University: Do your children like to mix things together to see what happens? Campers discover what makes the natural world tick by conducting fun experiments, studies, and games based on nature science and then use that knowledge to build their own scientific creations. Camp will not be held on July 4th in observance of the holiday.

July 9-13: Serious Survival: Have what it takes to be a wilderness survivor? Campers learn tricks of the trade enabling them to feel at home in nature allowing them to conquer challenges they may find along the way. Campers will go head to head to see who is a serious survivor.

July 16-20: Amazing Aquatics: Local water sources can be home to many forms of aquatic wildlife and hold clues to historic events. Explore the streams and ponds of Grant Park to find what kind of exciting things can be found. Aquatic investigation, crafts and activities will be sure to amaze campers this week.

July 23-27: Treasure Seekers (Preschool Week): Are your children between the ages 3-9? Do they want to know what treasures are hidden in nature? Campers will uncover the secrets and mysteries of the park through guided exploration of secluded areas while enjoying treasure hunts that will open their eyes to the natural world.

July 30 - August 3: Woodland Olympics: In honor of the 30th Olympiad, we will create our own Olympic Park and celebrate this historic event with fun-filled games and wacky competitions focused on nature and the spirit of the games.

August 6-10: Nature Quest: Campers will learn a variety of nature related topics while completing a series of challenges. Each day will bring new information and experiences aiding in obtaining the ultimate quest.

Summer Adventure Camp

Various Parks

Fee (includes overnight campout): \$95 Resident / \$135 Nonresidents

Hidden Meadows is held rain or shine.

Hidden Meadows Camp Fees (per week)

	Resident	Nonresident
Half Day	\$ 55	\$ 85
All Day	\$110	\$170

July 2-6*: Mad Science University

Half Day	\$ 44	\$ 68
All Day	\$ 88	\$136

Half Day AM: 9:30 a.m. - 12 Noon

Half Day PM: 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.

All Day: 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

*Prorated because camp is not held on July 4.



Junior Adventure Camp

Ages 10 - 12

June 25 - 27 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Overnight: June 28, 6:00 p.m. - June 29, 1:00 p.m.

Senior Adventure Camp

Ages 12 - 14

July 23 - 25 from 10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Overnight: July 26, 6:00 p.m. - July 27, 1:00 p.m.

Combine outdoor adventure and nature education with this week-long camp at various parks that includes geocaching, hiking, fishing, archery, creeking, games, survival challenges, and an overnight at Grant Park. Learn to track animals in the woods, listen for the sound of owls in the night, pitch a tent, cook over a campfire, and make new friends.

Camp registration has begun. Visit www.cwpd.org for details on how to register for camp.



48 Parks for all to enjoy!

2010 - 2011 Biennial Report

FROM THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

The past two years have been busy with new facilities, additional technology for communicating with the public, and increased park attendance, all while dealing with funding reductions.

We held a grand opening of the community's first skatepark at Oak Creek South Park, providing a new type of recreation facility that became an instant success. A community celebration at the Smith entrance of Bill Yeck Park gave residents a first look at the historic home and grounds, while providing an opportunity for community input to the master plan for development of this new park area. A new nature literature trail at Grant Park, developed in cooperation with the Washington-Centerville Public Library with support from the Yeck Family Foundation, offered children a fun activity along the nature trail. The development at Oak Grove Park continued with more walking trails, expansion of the dog park, and completion of the baseball complex.

In an effort to provide more timely information, a Facebook page, Twitter site, and YouTube channel containing a series of videos were created. The website continues to provide updated information and serves as a valuable resource for recording our history along with current programs and park plans.

The District continues to look for new program ideas and has reaffirmed our focus on providing healthy lifestyle opportunities close to home. We partnered with the GetUp Montgomery County program and increased our opportunities for fitness and exercise in the outdoors by offering programs for all ages. All of our nature education, recreation, and fitness programs continue to grow in popularity.

While park visitation increased, we experienced funding challenges and acted quickly to reduce spending throughout the Park District while still providing the services residents have come to expect.

Some projects have been delayed while we evaluate other sources of funding or apply for grants. The development of Holes Creek and Silvercreek Parks along with the multi-use trail connecting the two and the construction of lighted tennis courts at Oak Creek South Park, the picnic shelter at Iron Horse Park, the large picnic shelter and basketball courts at Oak Grove Park, and some perimeter walking paths at community parks have been postponed.

We appreciate the support of Washington Township and Centerville residents. Watch for a community survey later this year where you can give feedback as well as share your thoughts and ideas on how we can better serve your park needs. Until then, we hope you take advantage of some of the 48 parks and the multitude of opportunities to improve your quality of life!



David Lee



Maggie Weisman



Bill Williams

The Mission of the Centerville-Washington Park District is to provide quality parks, outdoor education, and recreation while preserving open space.



NOTEWORTHY NEWS

BILL YECK PARK SMITH ENTRANCE MASTER PLAN

After 17 years of negotiations and planning, the Park District purchased the 37-acre Smith farm located at 2230 E. Centerville-Station Road to make Bill Yeck Park the District's largest nature park at 194 acres. A master concept plan was created to preserve the unique natural area, keep alive the history of early industry and of a major pioneer farm, and to encourage and support historical, ecological and land-oriented citizen organizations while interpreting nature in creative and experimental ways not offered elsewhere.

Identified as the central core in the master plan, the Smith entrance will be the keystone of the Bill Yeck Park complex. It is almost completely surrounded by parkland and lies in the center of the "big loop" formed by the Sugar Creek valley.

The Park District is working closely with the Yeck and Smith families to implement the vision of their parents. Once funding is secured, the park development will include:

- Education center
- Activity plaza
- Butterfly garden
- Picnic shelter
- Rain garden
- Natural amphitheater
- Community gardens
- Paved and natural trails
- Historic 1800's home
- Pine/evergreen grove
- Apple orchard
- Seed nursery
- Prairie & meadow habitats
- Small pond with waterfall



OWLEXANDER'S HOOT ROUTE

Thanks to the generosity of the William & Dorothy Yeck Family Foundation, the Park District along with the Washington-Centerville Public Library, created Owlexander's Hoot Route in Grant Park. This permanent adventure trail promotes nature exploration and education, early literacy skills, family bonding, and fun. The trail, geared toward ages 3 to 8, has signs along the route that represent storybook pages. The story combines nature, counting, alliteration, and rhyming with each having a riddle, activity, or fact about an animal. Owlexander, the Park District's mascot, uses his wing to point kids in the right direction to meet several animal friends who inhabit Grant Park.



STAFFING CHANGES

Staffing changes at the Park District do not happen often. But in 2010 and 2011, changes due to retirement or advancement opportunities resulted in a shift of several positions. Ken Carter was promoted to Park Operations Manager and Kristen Marks was promoted to Program Manager. New program staff include Recreation Coordinator Erin Morley and Outdoor Education Coordinator Chris Fife, and the administration department welcomed Dawn Osif as Full-Charge Bookkeeper and Catherine Ball as Communications Coordinator. The new personnel bring great ideas and enthusiasm and have jumped right in to learn about the community's park needs.

The skatepark was requested by residents.

OAK CREEK SOUTH PARK OPENS SKATEPARK

If you build it, they will come...this certainly held true for the skate park which opened at Oak Creek South Park on Friday, May 7, 2010. Wally Hollyday of California whose company has built over 100 skate parks over the past 30 years, designed the park. The 9,000 square foot park consists of four concrete bowls ranging in depth from a few feet to nine feet.



The addition was part of a list of projects promised to voters in the 2004 Park Improvement Levy which passed by an overwhelming percentage of voters in Centerville and Washington Township. A donation by the Kettering/Centerville Kiwanis Club helped fund the project.

In 2010 the Park District received a third place award from the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association for the skatepark. This Award of Excellence was in the Park Area Development under \$1,000,000 category.

PROGRAMS

Twenty new programs were created in 2010 and 2011 including Adult Archery, Crafting Club, Fall Into Fitness, Homeschool Nature Academy, and Playdate Café to name a few. In addition, the Intergenerational Series was expanded to offer additional opportunities for grandparents and their little ones to spend time together.

Nearly 2,000 attended the following educational programs:

- Around the World in 9 days
- Eco-Explorers
- Homeschool Nature Academy
- Junior Nature Club
- Monthly Preschool Series
- Playdate Café *(New)*
- Junior & Senior Adventure Camps
- Volunteer Naturalist Guided Hikes
- Crafting Club *(New)*

Two nature camps were offered each year - Winter Woods Day Camp and Hidden Meadows Day Camp. More than 1,100 children discovered the wonders of nature at Grant Park thanks to these two programs.

The FREE Summer Recreation Program attracted record numbers in 2011 due to changes enabling preschool-age children to attend. This program and its associated special events attracted 5,357 attendees in 2010 and 2011.

Hike For Your Health walked a combined 300 miles in 2010 & 2011!

By encouraging families to get outdoors, 1,300 attended the following:

- Campfire Sing-along
- Passport to Nature Programs
- Family Camping
- Get Out and Play
- Adult Archery *(New)*
- Tree Climbing *(New)*
- Family Nature Night *(New)*
- Pioneer Woman
- Fairy & Gnome Home Festival *(New)*

Numerous FREE special events were offered including the Haunted Trail and the Halloween Mini Trail. Both attracted an average of 2,300 visitors. Other events included Big Rig Gig, Adventures in Camping, Day at the Beach, Earthy Evening, Capture the Flag Bonfire, and intergenerational programs which provided fun for over 1,000 children ages pre-K through teen.

Athletic programs attracted 550 participants for offerings including youth and adult tennis instruction, adult tennis leagues, and adult softball leagues.

Further enhancing our focus on wellness programming, we launched Spring and Fall Into Fitness, Mini Movers, Wellness Walk, Hike For Your Health, and Homeschool Fitness Academy. A total of 1,400 participated in these fitness programs close to home.



PARK IMPROVEMENTS

2010

Activity Center Park

- Park headquarters expanded

Bill Yeck Park

- Smith entrance master plan completed

Oak Creek South Park

- Skatepark completed

Oak Grove Park: Baseball Complex

- Hardscape & paths added
- Concrete seating added
- Parking lot completed

Weatherstone Park

- Playground equipment added

2011

Bill Yeck Park

- Trees planted at Smith House
- Commissioners' Grove established
- Bluebird Meadow observation deck completed
- Time trail year markers added along the trail

Divided Ridge Park

- Playground equipment added

Forest Field Park

- Parking lot & drive expanded
- West side of park graded & seeded
- Playground relocated

Oak Creek South Park

- Landscape enhancement plan & phase I planting completed
- Perimeter walking path added

Oak Grove Park

- Baseball field lighting added
- Multi-use trail added
- Dog park expanded & turf renovated

Stansel Park

- Interpretive sign installed



The Fairy & Gnome Home Festival won an award from the Ohio Parks & Recreation Association

FINANCIAL REPORT

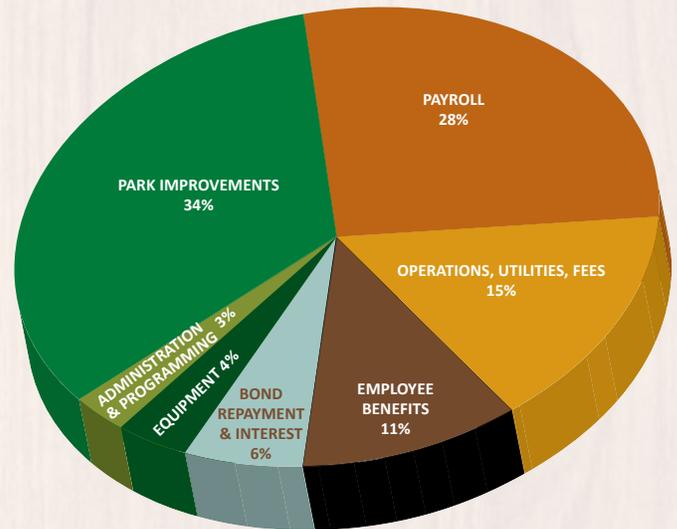
The residents of Centerville and Washington Township fund the Park District through the proceeds from two 10-year levies. Funds from the 0.9 mill levy approved in 2004 are used for park improvements and funds received from the 2.0 mill levy approved in 2007 provide the operating budget.

The recent decline in real estate values, reduced reimbursements from the State of Ohio, and lowered investment income have significantly impacted the annual revenue during the two-year reporting period and the levy years going forward. Because of this, measures have been taken to cut costs and to seek new revenue from donations as well as local, state, and federal grants.

Additional funding in 2010 and 2011 included a generous donation from the William & Dorothy Yeck Nature Fund for projects at Bill Yeck, Grant, and Stansel Parks; a grant from the William & Dorothy Yeck Family Foundation for Owlexander's Hoot Route (see page 6); a grant from the Montgomery County Solid Waste District for recycling projects; and grants from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to partially pay for improvements at Oak Creek South Park and to purchase archery equipment for park programming.

In addition to funding donations, 2010 and 2011 saw two generous land donations as well. John & Ting Carlson and James & Deborah Heintz purchased and then donated the lot adjacent to Watkins Glen Park enlarging the park and creating additional access from the Hidden Creek neighborhood. Washington Township donated open space along Spring Valley Pike for the creation of Trailways Park, now a stop along the community's multi-use trail system.

2010 - 2011 EXPENDITURES



Park District financial records are subject to a biennial audit conducted by the Auditor of the State of Ohio. The audit report for 2009 and 2010 was again unqualified and revealed no findings for recovery and no citations. The clean audit report reflects the Park District staff's commitment to public stewardship and legal compliance.

“ **Every donation makes a difference. Whether land or money, each helps provide valuable park experiences for generations to come. We want to thank those below for their generosity.** ”

BOY SCOUTS

These scouts completed projects in the parks to earn their Eagle Scout award:

2010: Murry Chelette, Kyle Comer, Luke Conover, Paul Conover, Corwin Dickey, Kevin Farley, Robert Henderson, Brian Mann, Stephen Miller, Stewart Moss, Max Stout

2011: Nathan Braun, Mitch Cahill, Peter Gordnier, Jason Treadway

GIRL SCOUTS

Troop #30561 donated their time for the below projects during 2010-2011:

- Quarterly cleaning of Willowbrook Park
- Created decorations for and volunteered at the Luminary Hike
- Made birdseed pinecones for various parks

Great Job, Scouts!

DONATIONS

General Donations

- John Balazs
- Michelle Bruno
- Centerville Baseball League
- Centerville Garden Club
- Centerville Noon Optimist Club
- Centerville Rotary Club
- Centerville United Soccer Association
- Centerville Wee Elk Football Association
- Gerard Hall Memorial Fund
- Kettering Tennis Club/Quail Run Racquet Club
- Landmarks Foundation of Centerville Washington Township
- Modern Woodmen of America
- Penbrooke Garden Club
- Victor Smith Family
- Bob Streifhau
- United Way of Greater Dayton
- William & Dorothy Yeck Family Foundation

Land Donations

- John & Ting Carlson
- James & Deborah Heintz
- Washington Township

Memorials

- Tom Brandt
- Allyson Catanese
- David Cunningham
- Fred Kistner
- Cynthia Laipple
- Melissa Mikesell
- Marlene Orendorf
- Kathy Rosenbaum
- Kenneth Shawler
- Sharon Silverberg
- Sherry Silverberg
- Sharon Wright

Grants

- Montgomery County Solid Waste District
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources
- William & Dorothy Yeck Nature Fund



All preschool and children's programs are **FREE.**

Registration is required. See page 16 for details.

Playdate Café

Ages 18 months - 2 years with adult
10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

Grant Park, Nature Nook

Frog Frenzy: Wednesday, June 6

B is for Butterfly: Wednesday, July 11

In the Meadow: Wednesday, August 1

This program offers caregivers the chance to participate with their little one, as well as free time to socialize with the other adult companions. Each café begins with a 30 minute nature program followed by social time.

We will have puppets, storybooks, puzzles, and other fun learning stations. The café is designed to build sensory awareness, motor skills, and encourage social interaction.

Join us at the Playdate Café for some fun, socializing, and of course a light snack.

Adventures in Camping

Ages 5 - 8
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Friday, July 13

Grant Park, Normandy Entrance

Just like any other skill, camping takes practice. Adventures in Camping provides the opportunity to experience camping close to home but without the overnight commitment. During the evening, campers will have the opportunity to prepare a tent, play games, sing campfire songs, and roast marshmallows by the fire, but at the end of the evening, they go home to their own beds.

This is a drop-off program and parents are not required to stay.

Preschool Nature Series

Ages 3 - Pre K with adult companion
9:30 - 10:30 a.m. OR 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

2 B a Bee: Thursday, June 21

Bill Yeck Park, Rooks Mill Entrance

Have you ever thought of what it's like to be a bee? Pretend to be one as we explore what life is like flying among the flowers, collecting pollen and living with a queen.

Animal Homes: Thursday, July 19

Black Oak Park

Just like people, animals need homes. They may not look the same but if you look carefully you can find them all around. Explore the park and see what kinds of animal homes can be found.

Beautiful Butterflies: Thursday, Aug. 16

Bill Yeck, McGuffey Meadow Entrance

Butterflies are beautiful, graceful creatures but they don't start out that way. Examine how butterflies begin and the path they travel to become the butterfly we all love to watch.

Intergenerational Series:

Hike & Seek

Ages 3 - 6 with grandparent(s)
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Monday, July 30 OR Friday, August 3
Bill Yeck Park, Rooks Mill Entrance

At Hike & Seek, grandchildren and their grandparent(s) will explore nature together on a scavenger hunt. Seek out big leaves, bright butterflies, pebbles, and more while stopping to look for birds, skip rocks, and play along the way.

After the hunt, we will enjoy show & tell, a snack, and a story in the shade! Bring your cameras and wear comfortable close-toed shoes.

Intergenerational Series:

Grandparent's Geocaching

Ages 7 - 10 with grandparent(s)
10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, June 26

Bill Yeck Park, Rooks Mill Entrance

The Intergenerational Series has been expanded to include older grandchildren!

Geocaching is a real-world treasure-hunt using handheld GPS units. We will provide GPS units, but feel free to bring your own if you have one. For more information on this popular outdoor pursuit, visit www.geocaching.com.

Come with your hiking shoes and sense of adventure and be the first to find the prize!



The Intergenerational Series is only for grandparents and their grandchildren. Parents and other caregivers may attend any of our other programs.



SPECIAL EVENTS

All special events & family programs are **FREE** except tennis. Registration is required unless noted. See page 16 for details.



Get Out & Play

All Ages
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, July 26
Oak Grove Park

Spend a summer evening in the park with family and friends! We will provide everything needed for a fun-filled night out, including giant games, corn hole, a bounce house, soccer balls, and more.

Park District Passport to Fishing instructors will help you catch a fish. Bait and some poles will be provided. Bring your own pole if you have one.

Kettering Tennis Center and Quail Run Racquet Club tennis pros will give free tennis instruction. Racquets and balls will be provided.

Registration is not required.

MVRAC Talent Contest

19 and under can compete, all ages can attend
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 1

Fraze Pavilion for the Performing Arts



Join us in celebrating the talents of youth in the Miami Valley! This annual contest

showcases the best talent in vocal, instrumental, dance, and more.

Only those 19 and under can perform and all must qualify at a preliminary contest.

For contest information and preliminary locations, visit mvraconline.weebly.com or call Kristen Marks at (937) 433-5155. The Miami Valley Recreation Activities Council (MVRAC) is comprised of representatives from area parks and recreation departments.

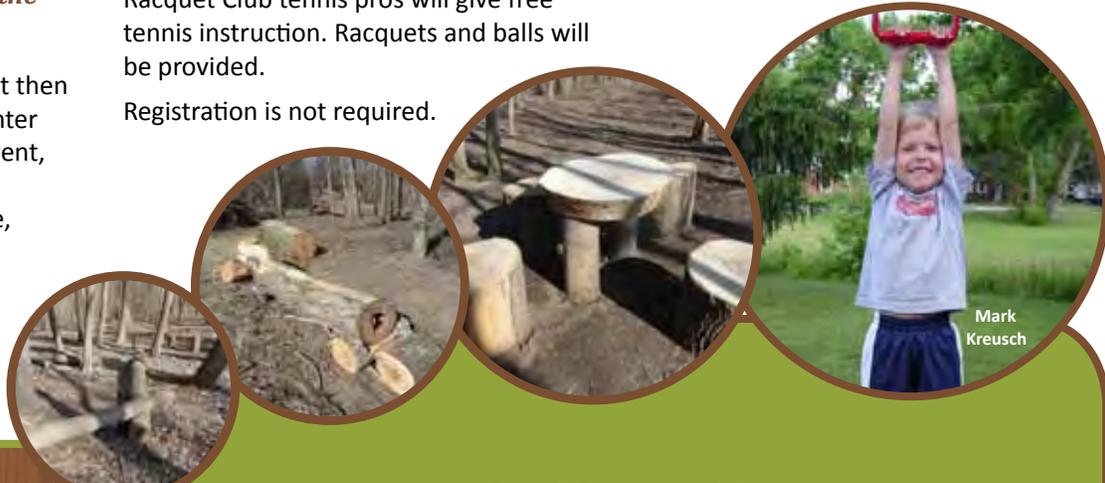
Americana Festival:

Children's Area

All ages
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, July 4
Activity Center Park

Celebrate Independence Day at the 39th Americana Festival!

Visit us at our booth on Main Street then walk down the drive to Activity Center Park to enjoy children's entertainment, food and craft vendors, inflatables, pony rides, a petting zoo, and more, all for FREE! For the most up-to-date information on this year's festival, visit www.americanafestival.org. Registration is not required.



Mark Kreusch

Grand Opening of the

MARK KREUSCH NATURE PLAYCE

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 24

Grant Park, Nature Nook

Thanks to a generous grant from the Mark Andrew Kreusch Memorial Fund of the Dayton Foundation, the Park District has established its first natural playground.

Join us at the grand opening and be one of the first to try out the stump jumps, climbing logs, teeter totters, digging pit, fort building area, and more. All elements of this play area are built with natural materials making it a truly outdoor experience in the woods.

Help us dedicate this "naturally fun" playground in Mark's memory. Registration is not required.

The **Mark Andrew Kreusch Memorial Fund** was founded by his family to honor his life and spirit.

Mark was four years old when his life suddenly ended in a boating accident on August 11, 2007. Mark loved his family, his friends, and embraced life by enjoying all that he did. His zest for life shined through his smile and giggle.

Mark's parents vowed to keep his spirit alive by enriching the lives of other children. Their dream is to continue his legacy through various projects that the fund will "Leave a MARK on a child's life."

Summer Tennis Instruction

June 25 – August 9

Registration Deadline: June 15

Ages 6-9: \$60 Resident / \$82 Nonresident

Ages 10+: \$85 Resident / \$116 Nonresident

Drill & Play: \$110 Resident / \$150 Nonresident

Tennis is taught by instructors from the Kettering Tennis Center/Quail Run Racquet Club. Each has experience working with individuals of all ages and abilities allowing them to provide a high level of instruction. Class ratio is one instructor for 10 participants. Tennis balls are provided. No class July 4.

Monday/Wednesday: Oak Grove Park

6-9 years	Beginner	8:30 - 9:10 a.m.
6-9 years	Beginner	9:15 - 9:55 a.m.
10-13 years	Advanced Beginner	10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Adult (18+)	Intermediate	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Adult (18+)	Drill & Play	7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday/Thursday: Activity Center Park

6-9 years	Beginner	8:30 - 9:10 a.m.
10-13 years	Beginner	9:15 - 10:15 a.m.
7-9 years	Intermediate	10:20 - 11:00 a.m.
10-13 years	Intermediate	11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Adult (18+)	Beginner	6:15 - 7:15 p.m.
Adult (18+)	Intermediate	7:15 - 8:15 p.m.

Bad Weather: Due to the unpredictable nature of weather, we cannot guarantee the completion of all scheduled classes. An additional week has been scheduled at no added cost in lieu of make-up classes.

Passport to Nature

All ages

Fossil Hike: Wednesday, June 20

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Bill Yeck Park, Rooks Mill Entrance

The preserved record of ancient animals and plants, known as fossils, are constantly being uncovered near creek beds and eroding banks. Join us as we search for signs of prehistoric life and learn how fossils came to be. Those wishing to explore the creek up close should wear closed-toed shoes, no sandals please.

Back in Time: Sunday, July 15

2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Bill Yeck Park, park at Forest Field Park

Bill Yeck Park has undergone many changes in the past 200 years. As families settled and developed the area, they left markers telling a story. On this hike we will explore former sites of homesteads and industry and look at the growth of the forest we see today. We will explore Bill Yeck Park, but please meet at the Forest Field Park shelter.

Summer Night Hike: Friday, August 3

8:30 - 9:45 p.m.

Grant Park, Normandy Entrance

The park is full of wonders as the sun sets and the moon rises. Join us as we learn about the insects filling the meadow with song and the nocturnal creatures scampering around the forest. Look, listen, and feel for the changes the night air brings.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK PARTY

Fridays, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

So here's the scoop, throughout 2012-2013 we will be coming to your neighborhood park!

Join us at the park in your neighborhood for family, fun, friends, giveaways, games, raffles, inflatables, and, of course, dessert. Look in future issues of *News & Events* for the date of your neighborhood park party. Don't forget chairs or a picnic blanket. Registration is appreciated so food quantities can be predicted.

June 8	<i>Rosewood Park</i>
June 15	<i>Green Park</i>
June 22	<i>Brittany Hills Park</i>
July 6	<i>Stringtown Park</i>
July 13	<i>Red Coach Park</i>
July 20	<i>Village South Park</i>
August 3	<i>Yankee Park</i>
August 10	<i>Cherry Hill Park</i>
August 17	<i>Concept Park</i>

Sweet Treats: Ice Cream Social

Ages 8 and up

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 21

The Dog Park at Oak Grove Park

To help beat the heat, bring your canine BFF to the dog park for some sweet treats for you both. Don't forget to keep your dog on its leash while you both enjoy your treat and before entering the dog park. Registration is requested so quantities can be predicted.

Family Camping

August 17, 5:00 p.m. - August 18, 9:30 a.m.

Rain date: August 18, 5:00 p.m. - August 19, 9:30 a.m.

Fee/Family: \$20 resident, \$30 nonresident
Grant Park, Normandy Entrance

Don't let the summer pass you by without taking a family vacation - close to home. This overnight excursion includes a campfire, snacks, stargazing, a night hike, and creek time. A light breakfast will be provided. Families are responsible for their own camping gear and must include at least one adult.

ADULT PROGRAMS

“Don’t ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive, and then go do that.”

~ Harold Thurman Whitmanx

Pioneer Woman: Basket Weaving

Ages 14 and up

Saturday, August

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Grant Park, Nature Nook

Weaving techniques have been used to make a wide variety of items from containers to ceremonial pieces. Learn how common materials can and have been used to make these items and practice weaving a basket under the instruction of the Heritage Basketry Guild. Materials will be provided for this session.

Butterfly Monitoring

Mondays

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

June 11, July 9, and August 13

Grant Park, Normandy Entrance

This program is a citizen scientist project monitoring the health of butterfly populations at Grant Park. Through this project we hope to gain a greater knowledge of the species present in our park system. Join the Park District Naturalist, volunteers, and other butterfly enthusiasts on a walk through the park learning to locate, identify, and record species.



All adult programs are

FREE

except tennis. Registration is required for all except the Hound Hike. See page 16 for details.

Summer Tennis Leagues

July 8 – September 13

6:00 p.m.

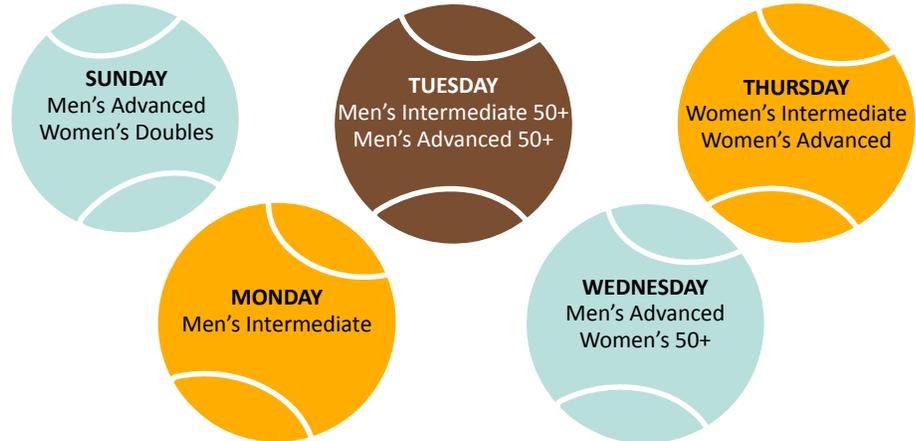
Registration Deadline: June 22

Fee: \$25 Residents, \$35 Nonresidents

Age: 19+

Various Locations

Join a Park District tennis league! Several levels of play allow opportunities for all abilities. League schedules and rules are mailed out prior to league play.



Hound Hike

Fridays

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

June - August

Forest Field Park

Join a dedicated group of dogs and their owners as they explore the park in summertime. These self-guided hikes provide the opportunity to socialize, exercise your dog, and enjoy the outdoors. Registration is not required.

Adult Nature Discovery Walks *(formerly Tuesday Trek)*

Tuesdays

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

June 5 & 19: *Willowbrook Park*

July 10 & 24: *Grant Park, McEwen Entrance*

August 14 & 28: *Bill Yeck Park, McGuffey Meadow Entrance*

Take an hour to enjoy what nature has to offer. This leisurely-paced walk provides a chance to explore the ever-changing landscape in the summer season. Learn more about the natural environment from the Park District Naturalist.

Hike for Your Health Series

Summer is a great time to get outside and hike in the park! Join us as we lead these self-paced hikes designed to get you moving and your heart rate up. Below are three options to hit the trails, and the path descriptions to help you choose the most comfortable shoe attire. No hike on July 4.

Mondays

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Wind down after a busy day and walk at your own pace as the sun and the temperatures drop.

Date	Park	Meeting Point	Path
June 4	Grant	6588 McEwen Road	Natural
June 18	Oak Grove	1790 E. Social Row Road, Rotary Shelter	Paved
July 2	Bill Yeck	8798 Rooks Mill Lane	Natural
July 16	Grant	501 Normandy Ridge Road	Natural
August 6	Oak Grove	1790 E. Social Row Road, Rotary Shelter	Paved
August 20	Bill Yeck	7893 Wilmington Dayton Road, McGuffey Meadow	Natural

Tuesdays

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Enjoy the beauty of our two largest nature parks before the summer heat builds.

Date	Park	Meeting Point	Path
June 5	Bill Yeck	7893 Wilmington Dayton Road, McGuffey Meadow	Natural
June 12	Grant	501 Normandy Ridge Road	Natural
June 19	Bill Yeck	8798 Rooks Mill Lane	Natural
June 26	Bill Yeck	7893 Wilmington Dayton Road, McGuffey Meadow	Natural
July 3	Grant	501 Normandy Ridge Road	Natural
July 10	Bill Yeck	8798 Rooks Mill Lane	Natural
July 17	Bill Yeck	7893 Wilmington Dayton Road, McGuffey Meadow	Natural
July 24	Grant	501 Normandy Ridge Road	Natural
July 31	Bill Yeck	8798 Rooks Mill Lane	Natural
August 7	Bill Yeck	7893 Wilmington Dayton Road, McGuffey Meadow	Natural
August 14	Grant	501 Normandy Ridge Road	Natural

Wednesdays

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

This hike, a long time favorite, is a great way to get to know your parks.

Date	Park	Meeting Point	Path
June 6	Iron Horse	6161 Millshire Drive	Paved
June 13	Grant	501 Normandy Ridge Road	Natural
June 20	Oak Grove	1790 E. Social Row Road	Paved
June 27	Bill Yeck	7893 Wilmington Dayton Road, McGuffey Meadow	Natural
July 11	Oak Creek South	790 W. Miamisburg-Centerville Road	Paved
July 18	Bill Yeck	8798 Rooks Mill Lane	Natural
July 25	Iron Horse	6161 Millshire Drive	Paved
August 1	Grant	501 Normandy Ridge Road	Natural
August 8	Oak Grove	1790 E. Social Row Road	Paved
August 15	Bill Yeck	7893 Wilmington Dayton Road, McGuffey Meadow	Natural
August 22	Oak Creek South	790 W. Miamisburg-Centerville Road	Paved
August 29	Bill Yeck	8798 Rooks Mill Lane	Natural

Stroller Strength

Adult caregivers with child 6 weeks-Pre K Mondays & Thursdays
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

June 4 - August 23

Schoolhouse Park

Join other caregivers and their children in strollers for an invigorating morning exercise session. Upper and lower body resistance training (resistance tubing provided) and a cool-down stretch at the end. Make friends, exercise and no need to pay for childcare! Stroller Strength is led by a nationally certified group exercise instructor.



“A vigorous five-mile walk will do more good for an unhappy but otherwise healthy adult than all the medicine and psychology in the world.”

~ Paul Dudley White

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Online

Visit www.activenet.active.com/cwpd to register. To expedite your registration, create an account prior to May 14. A valid e-mail address is required. This site can be used for free and fee-based programs with a debit or credit card. Payee will be shown as Active.com.

By Phone

Call us at (937) 433-5155 during scheduled office hours. Please have credit card ready for fee-based programs.

In Person

Visit Park District headquarters at 221 N. Main Street in Centerville between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. if you prefer to pay with cash or check. Make checks payable to CWPD or Centerville-Washington Park District.

Registration and Refund Policy:

- You may register members of your family and one other family.
- To be eligible for the resident fee, proof of residency must be provided.
- Credit toward future fees will be issued in lieu of refunds. Credit will not be issued after the registration deadline or, if by doing so, it reduces the participation level below the required minimum. A full monetary refund will be issued for programs cancelled by the Park District.

Resident Registration Begins:

**Monday, May 14
10:00 a.m.**

Nonresident Registration Begins:

**Monday, May 21
10:00 a.m.**

PROGRAM LOCATIONS

The Park District is made up of 48 neighborhood, nature, and community parks. The list below shows only those used for summer programs. To learn about all 48 parks visit www.cwpd.org.

Activity Center Park: 221 North Main Street

Beechwood Springs Park: 1141 Quiet Brook Trail

Big Bend Park: 1328 Spring Ash Drive

Bill Yeck Park: 3 entrances

- 8798 Rooks Mill Lane
- 7893 Wilmington Dayton Road (*McGuffey Meadow*)
- 2230 E. Centerville Station Road

Black Oak Park: 1552 Ambridge Road

Brittany Hills Park: 5825 Batsford Drive

Cherry Hill Park: 10244 Cherry Tree Terrace

Concept Park: 345 Clareridge Lane

Forest Field Park: 2100 E. Centerville Station Rd.

Grant Park: 2 entrances

- 501 Normandy Ridge Road
- 6588 McEwen Road (*Nature Nook*)

Green Park: 6661 Green Park Drive

Iron Horse Park: 6161 Millshire Drive

Nutt Woods Park: 10188 Ashpark Court

Oak Creek South Park: 790 W. Miamisburg-Centerville Rd.

Oak Grove Park: 1790 E. Social Row Road

Quail Run Park: 1180 Timber Hawk Trail

Red Coach Park: 5500 Royalwood Drive

Rosewood Park: 475 Roselake Drive

Schoolhouse Park: 1875 Nutt Road

Stringtown Park: 9191 Woodstream Lane

Village South Park: 411 North Village Drive

Yankee Park: 7500 Yankee Street

Willowbrook Park: 10225 Park Edge Drive