



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

Sprayground at Activity Center Park

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Headquarters

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Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Office Closed on July 4, 2013

Park Addresses

Addresses for all parks can be found on page 6. For more information on each park, visit www.cwpc.org.

Rain Out Line

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

Athletic Field Conditions

www.cwpc.org/field_status.shtml

Area Youth Athletic Organizations

Centerville United Soccer Association
www.CUSASoccer.com

Centerville Wee Elk Football Association
www.weeelks.org

Centerville Baseball Softball League
www.cbltoday.org

Centerville Youth Lacrosse
www.cvlax.org

Up and Running Juniors
www.upandrunningindayton.com/get-involved/training-groups/

Commissioners Corner



When an event is over, we tend to look back and see what was or was not accomplished. As my Park Commissioner final term comes to an end, I would rather spend time

reflecting on what the future will bring instead of revisiting past accomplishments, challenges and successes.

The Park District's future is filled with excitement and challenges from both within and outside our organization and community. As you read this article, we will be close to breaking ground on the 49th park in our District, the Robert F. Mays Park, on Social Row Road. This new park, where the Park District has partnered with a family in our community, is one example of how we will need to develop and operate our parkland in the future. Joint projects offer exciting opportunities to provide expanded services and recreation offerings to the community, while leveraging the use of public dollars with individuals and private entities. The result is a greater return for our taxpayers.

In the future, the Park District will continue to seek outside funding from private and public groups and individuals. We will also expand our use of grant funding and our government partnerships.

The future challenges will continue to be reduction in funding from the property tax base, funding from the State and reallocation of new property taxes designated for the Park District to fund other projects — such as the TIF legislation approved by the City of Centerville to finance roadway improvements around private developments within the city. Despite these challenges, the Park District will always be, now and in the future, your advocate to promote, preserve and expand open space in Centerville and Washington Township.

This summer, try to “unplug” with your family. Go outside and explore the many parks and recreational opportunities the Park District offers. Please let us know how we can provide you more opportunities to enjoy your parks, now and in the future!

Bill Williams



What is Turf Naturalization?

Turf Naturalization is a popular land management practice that converts regularly maintained, remote or hard to maintain turf areas to low maintenance native grassland and wildflower meadows. Turf Naturalization provides many environmental benefits to the community and supports the Park District's mission, vision and values. Natural area conversion is also an important tool that can be used to support sustainability practices within our park operations. This fall the Park District will be implementing a ten-year plan that will convert more than 50 acres of traditionally mowed, hard to maintain or remote turf areas to native grassland and wildflower meadows. You can find out

more about this and other Park District projects by visiting our website: www.cwpc.org

Benefits of Turf Naturalization:

- Reduced pollution/exhaust emissions
- Improved groundwater and air quality
- Reduced chemical applications
- Increased environmental education/awareness
- Reduced soil erosion
- Increased plant and wildlife diversity
- Reduced noise pollution
- Reduced maintenance cost
- Reduced equipment/fuel usage
- Enhanced park aesthetics

Save a Tree

To subscribe to the e-newsletter visit

www.cwpc.org/subscribe.html

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

Partners Come Together to Make New 23-acre Park a Reality

Open space preserved by the Centerville-Washington Park District has increased once again with the addition of a new community park in the southwest area of the district. "The Park District master plan called for community parks to be spread throughout the district to be convenient for the residents," said Park District Director, Carol Kennard. When the Park District became aware of Divided Ridge, Ltd.'s interest in selling property along Social Row Road, a plan came together. In January the Park District purchased 23 acres, using funds obligated for park land acquisition.

Around the same time, the Park District was contacted by a local family who was interested in making a donation to the Park District for the benefit of the community. Robert Mays raised his family in Washington Township, and the parks were a big part of their everyday lives. In his early years, Bob and his friends helped develop a new park in Sidney and now he was interested in helping create a "jewel in the crown of the parks" for the Centerville/Washington Township community. "My family spent many enjoyable hours in our local parks as the kids were growing up," said Bob Mays. "We have always felt



proud of the value our parks bring to the community, and I feel fortunate to be able to support park growth."

When the idea came up to develop a new park, Bob Mays was dedicated to helping make a difference. He made a substantial commitment to the Park District for the initial development of this new park. "This is the largest private donation ever received by the district," said Bill Williams, Park Board President. In recognition of Bob's generosity, the Park Board officially named the new park, Robert F. Mays Park at their January meeting.

The Park District also became aware of a new non-profit group, Washington Township Trails, Inc., dedicated to providing multi-use trails in the community. The approved multi-use trail master plan for providing community connections includes a trail along Social Row Road, with

connections to neighborhoods and activity centers. Divided Ridge, Ltd. donated land along the perimeter of the new park area to the trails group, establishing another partner in the development of this new park. By purchasing the new park land and partnering with the trails group, another section of multi-use trail will be developed for the community's use.

Next is the exciting process of developing a master plan for the park. As with other community parks in the district, basic plans will include athletic fields (identified need is for lacrosse/ soccer), adequate parking, picnic shelter with restrooms and storage, all-access playground for year-round use, multi-use trail, and trees/plantings to provide shade, natural beauty and an attractive buffer for the adjacent neighbors.

"The new Robert F. Mays Park is the district's 49th park," said Kennard, "and brings the total preserved open space in the Park District to 996 acres." The generosity of Bob Mays and the partnership with Washington Township Trails is the perfect combination for furthering our mission of providing quality parks, outdoor education, and recreation, while preserving open space.



Keeping it Green

It's time to start mowing the lawn again! Although we spend a lot of time keeping our yards looking nice, we don't always take time to think about what goes into maintaining healthy and happy turf. Here are some tips to a "greener" lawn.

- **Don't remove more than one-third of the total leaf surface at any one mowing.** Doing so can produce a rough appearance, weakens the grass, reduces or stops root growth and leaves a lot of clipping debris.

- **Don't bag clippings.** Instead, spread them evenly and return the nutrients contained in the clippings to the ground.
- **Cut grass at higher heights.** Cutting grass at lower heights reduces the rate of photosynthesis, reducing food production and effecting plant health. It also increases susceptibility to weed invasion, disease and injury from drought and summer heat. Higher mowing heights promote deeper roots and overall healthier grass.



Staffing Update

Carrie Dittman joined the Park District in January as the Communications Coordinator. She received a Bachelor of Arts and an MBA from the University of Dayton. She has previously held marketing positions at Alvernia University and University of Dayton. Carrie lives in Centerville with her husband, Jeff, and their 7-year-old son, Carter.

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAMS

Outer Space Odyssey

Ages 3 – 12 with an adult companion
10:00 a.m. – noon

Wednesday, June 26

Yankee Park, 7500 Yankee Street

Spaceships have landed at Yankee Park! Dodge aliens and UFOs, jump on the moon bounce and become an astronaut for the day. Game stations and crafts will be offered along with special contests. Advance registration is not required, but please sign-in your child and plan to stay at the event.



Summer
Recreation
and Summer Teen
Series are
FREE!

Inclement Weather

In case of rain or storms, please return to the park to pick up your children. Registrants will receive a phone message in the case of severe weather. Cancellations will also be posted on [facebook.com/cwpc.org](https://www.facebook.com/cwpc.org).

Also, in the event of extreme heat, activities may be modified.

Drop-in Programs

The SRP and 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. Parents should notify leaders of any changes in who will be dropping off or picking up their child.

Epi-Pen

If an epi-pen is required, please contact Kristen Marks at (937) 433-5155.

Summer Recreation Program

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. – noon

June 10 – August 1 (No SRP on June 26 or July 4)

Day	Park Option 1	Park Option 2	Park Option 3
Monday	Green Park	Iron Horse Park	Oak Grove Park
Tuesday	Rosewood Park	Yankee Park	Forest Field Park
Wednesday	Concept Park	Oak Creek South Park	Schoolhouse Park
Thursday	Rosewood Park	Yankee Park	Forest Field Park
Friday	Concept Park	Oak Creek South Park	Schoolhouse Park

Summer Recreation Program, led by trained recreation leaders, offers a variety of recreation activities, sports, games, arts and crafts, guest speakers and more. Choose whichever park location is best for you each day and please remember to bring a water bottle. Register based on age. Groups A and B will be at each park, each day, but separated for age appropriate activities. Don't miss out on this free program! Children can be registered online or the first time they attend.

Summer Teen Series

Ages 11 – 15

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Tuesdays & Thursdays, June 11 – August 1 (No STS on July 4)

Date	Park	Theme
June 11	Yankee Park	Sports Smash
June 13	Oak Creek South Park	Games Galore
June 18	Rosewood Park	Capture the Flag
June 20	Schoolhouse Park	Dodgeball Day
June 25	Yankee Park	Games Galore
June 27	Oak Creek South Park	Dodgeball Day
July 2	Rosewood Park	Capture the Flag
July 9	Schoolhouse Park	Sports Smash
July 11	Yankee Park	Dodgeball Day
July 16	Oak Creek South Park	Games Galore
July 18	Rosewood Park	Capture the Flag
July 23	Schoolhouse Park	Sports Smash
July 25	Yankee Park	Dodgeball Day
July 30	Rosewood Park	Capture the Flag
August 1	Oak Creek South Park	End-of-Summer Party

Join us at 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, sports, relays and more! To close out the summer, we will throw a party with an inflatable, tournaments and pizza to celebrate! Teens can be registered online or the first time they attend.

Sudsational

Ages 3 – 12 with an adult companion

10:00 a.m. – noon

Friday, August 2

Schoolhouse Park, 1875 Nutt Road

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. Advance registration is not required, but please sign-in your child and plan to stay at the event.

Resident registration begins
Monday, May 6, 10:00 a.m.

All programs are **FREE** unless otherwise indicated.

Hidden Meadows Day Camp

Ages 5 – 12, preschool weeks are ages 3 – 9
Grant Park, 501 Normandy Ridge Road

There may still be openings for Hidden Meadows Day Camp. Registration began on Monday, April 22 at 10:00 a.m. for residents and Monday, April 29 at 10:00 a.m. for nonresidents. Visit www.cwpd.org for further information about the camp.

World of Water, June 10 – 14

Water can be fun and refreshing but it is also a necessary part of everyday life. Celebrate water in all its forms as we study creek life, learn about water conservation and play water games that are bound to cool kids off.

Forest Friends, June 17– 21 (Preschool Week: ages 3 – 9, a.m. or p.m. only)

The forest is filled with woodland friends that are just waiting to be discovered. Campers will hike, play games and create crafts that teach about these creatures.

History's Mysteries, June 24 – 28

Every place has a history and every history has its mysteries. Search Grant Park to find hidden clues to the people, plants and animals that once called this park home.

Eco Adventures, July 1 – 5

From the hilltops to the creek beds, we will explore it all. Enjoy a variety of challenges, games and adventures that will quench a thirst for adventure and knowledge. No camp July 4.

Hydrohysteria, July 8 – 12

Water, water and more water. From the pond to the creek, campers will enjoy playing in, studying and appreciating water. If you are dry at the end of the week, then you were not at this camp!

Creepy Crawlies, July 15 – 19

If you like bugs and worms and things that crawl in the dirt, you are in for a treat. We will have fun exploring all things creepy and crawly and learn how cool they really can be.

Eco Wizards, July 22 – 26 (Preschool Week: ages 3 – 9, a.m. or p.m. only)

Nature can be magical and mysterious. Take your first steps to becoming an eco wizard by learning how the forest works and what you can do to protect it during this enchanted week.

Junior Naturalists, July 29 – August 2

If you have a love for nature and want to learn more about the world around you, you might be a future naturalist. Discover hands on about animals, plants, weather, conservation and outdoor recreation while on your way to becoming a junior naturalist.

Adventure Camp

Various Parks

Monday – Thursday, 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Friday, 6:30 p.m. – Saturday, 9:00 a.m.

Fee: \$95 Resident, \$135 Nonresident

Junior Camp (Ages 10 – 11): June 17 – 22

Senior Camp (Ages 12 –14): July 22 – 27

Adventure Camp combines outdoor adventure and nature education at various parks and 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 s'mores over a campfire and make new friends. Campers need to bring a filled water bottle and a packed lunch that does not require refrigeration. All campers receive a T-shirt.

Registration for Hidden Meadows Day Camp and Adventure Camp has begun. Visit www.cwpd.org for details on how to register.

Hidden Meadows Camp Fees (per week)

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

July 1 – 5*: *Eco Adventures*

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

*Prorated because camp is not held on July 4.

Half Day (a.m.): 9:30 a.m. – noon		
Half Day (p.m.): 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.		
All Day: 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.		

Hidden Meadows is held rain or shine.



Registration begins May 6

WHY REGISTER ONLINE?

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It's convenient

The flexibility to register and pay at your convenience, anytime, from anywhere.



It saves time

In less than five minutes, you can setup your account and enroll for your program.



It's easy

Three simple steps, and you'll be enrolled in the program of your choice.



It's environmentally friendly

No need to burn gas driving over to register in person. And you'll save paper.

How to Register

Online

Visit activenet.active.com/cwpd to register. To expedite your registration, create an account prior to May 6 or May 13. A valid e-mail address is required. This site can be used for free programs and for fee-based programs with a debit or credit card. Payee will be shown as Active.com.

By Phone

Call us at (937) 433-5155 Monday – Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Please have credit card ready for fee-based programs.

In Person

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

Registration and Refund Policy

- Residents may register members of their family and one other resident 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 6
10:00 a.m.

Nonresident Registration Begins:

Monday, May 13
10:00 a.m.

PARK ADDRESSES

Activity Center: 221 N. Main Street

Beechwood Springs: 1141 Quiet Brook Trail

Big Bend: 1328 Spring Ash Drive

Bill Yeck (3 main entrances):

8798 Rooks Mill Lane

7893 Wilmington Dayton Road

(McGuffey Meadow)

2230 E. Centerville Station Road (Smith House)

Black Oak: 1552 Ambridge Road

Black Oak East: 7835 John Elwood Drive

Brittany Hills: 5825 Batsford Drive

Cherry Hill: 10244 Cherry Tree Terrace

Concept: 345 Clareridge Lane

Divided Ridge: 347 Beck Drive

Donnybrook: 6161 Donnybrook Drive

Elizabeth Hoy: 185 Hampton Drive

Fence Row: 1650 Haley Drive

Forest Field: 2100 E. Centerville Station Road

Forest Walk: 7570 Forest Brook Boulevard

Grant (3 main entrances):

501 Normandy Ridge Road

6588 McEwen Road (Nature Nook)

616 Grant's Trail

Green: 6661 Green Park Drive

Greene Line: 6774 Crossbrook Drive

Holes Creek: 8575 Yankee Street

Huffman: 1616 W. Alex-Bell Road

Iron Horse: 6161 Millshire Drive

Little Mound: 9490 Still Meadow Lane

Manor: 989 Thorndale Drive

Nutt Woods: 10188 Ashpark Court

Oak Creek South: 790 W. Miamisburg-Centerville Road

Oak Grove: 1790 E. Social Row Road

Old Lane: 500 Druewood Lane

Pelbrook: 7566 Cloverbrook Park Drive

Pleasant Hill: 358 Zengel Drive

Quail Run: 1180 Timberhawk Trail

Rahn: 223 W. Rahn Road

Red Coach: 5500 Royalwood Drive

Robert F. Mays: W. Social Row Road/Paragon Road

Rooks Ravine: 9100 Rooks Road

Rosewood: 475 Roselake Drive

Schoolhouse: 1875 Nutt Road

Silvercreek: 9369 Yankee Street

Stansel: 1304 Sarah Freeman Drive

Stringtown: 9191 Woodstream Lane

Trailways: 1165 W. Spring Valley Pike

Village South: 411 North Village Drive

Wagon Trail: 8450 Washington Village Drive

Waterbury Woods: 1250 W. Social Row Road

Watkins Glen: 825 Watkins Glen Drive

Weatherstone: 10998 Pennfield Road

Willowbrook: 10225 Park Edge Drive

Woodbourne Green: W. Whipp Road at Paddington Road

Woodbourne Springs: 220 W. Whipp Road

Yankee: 7500 Yankee Street



2012 Annual Report

“If you want to succeed you should strike out on new paths rather than travel the worn paths of accepted success.”

~ John D. Rockefeller

FROM THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

When we look back on 2012, many may remember the hot, dry summer, a Presidential election and drastic cuts to local government funding. But we hope your memories also include a fun, family outing at one of the local parks. As we travel through the seasons, we are pleased to see so many people outside enjoying a quiet moment in their neighborhood park, an exciting finish to a youth sports game at a community park or an invigorating hike in their favorite nature park.

Program registration and attendance increased by 88% in 2012 as people embraced the opportunities for recreation close to home. Picnic shelter reservations were up by 12%, too — a sign that people are rediscovering their local parks for gatherings with family, friends and co-workers. Our staff work hard year-round to provide quality facilities and programs for our residents, but we can't do it alone.

As with other local governments, the Park District was faced with reduced revenue from the State of Ohio and property taxes. We adjusted by delaying projects and equipment replacement, tightening our belt on everyday operating costs and asking employees to assume a greater share of insurance costs.

We developed several partnerships throughout the community — like the Mark Andrew Kreuzsch Memorial Fund, the Washington-Centerville Public Library and the William & Dorothy Yeck Family Foundation — enabling us to stretch resources. Late in the year, we received a commitment from a local family for a significant contribution for the development of the new Robert F. Mays Park. In addition, the children of Mary Jane and Victor W. Smith provided a memorial garden at the Smith House and the scouts continued to complete projects in the parks. We also partnered with many local businesses for donations to enhance numerous park programs.

We continue to submit grant applications and were successful again in 2012. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources awarded us a Wildlife Restoration Grant to complete the construction of a new archery range at Oak Grove Park. The Montgomery County Solid Waste District provided a Recycling Incentive Grant to add recycling centers at the community park shelters. And in December, we received word that we have been awarded a NatureWorks Grant for a new fitness trail at Oak Grove Park and another Recycling Incentive Grant to help replace the worn safety surface at the Activity Center Park playground.

All of these partnerships are imperative to the success of the Park District. They bring people together to make the parks a special and important part of our community. We hope you continue to enjoy the benefits of your local parks and help us thank these special partners!



**David
Lee**



**Lucy
Siefker**



**Bill
Williams**

*49 parks for
all to enjoy!*

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



2012 NOTEWORTHY NEWS

COMMUNITY GARDEN PARTY

Saturday, May 20, we held the Community Garden Party at the Smith Entrance of Bill Yeck Park. We dedicated the new Commissioners Grove, a gift to former commissioners, and the Victor and Mary Jane Smith Memorial Garden. Other activities included an art display from the Centerville High School Ceramics class and Cline Elementary art students, a craft area, a garden-themed presentation and refreshments. Members from the Smith Family were on hand to dedicate the garden and answer questions about the historic home.



MARK KREUSCH NATURE PLAYCE GRAND OPENING

The Mark Kreusch Nature Playce Grand Opening was held Sunday, June 24. Nearly 100 people were in attendance to recognize the generous contribution from the Mark A. Kreusch Memorial Fund of the Dayton Foundation and to officially open the new play area. The Mark Kreusch Nature Playce, the first of its kind in the Centerville and Washington Township community, is an area for children to experience the outdoors in an unstructured manner. Through interaction with the natural environment, children learn how to build forts, skip rocks, climb trees, walk along the trunk of a fallen tree and let their imaginations take over. Play features are all made from items found naturally in the park. The area is open during daylight hours 365 days a year and has become extremely popular with both children and adults.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK PARTIES

We hosted our first round of Neighborhood Park Parties during summer and fall 2012. We were fortunate to receive a \$500 Community Giving Grant from Walmart for the program. Nearly 1,000 park neighbors attended the parties at 14 neighborhood and community parks throughout the Park District. Each party included giant games, crafts, inflatables, seasonal treats and fun times with family and neighbors. We will continue to host Neighborhood Park Parties in 2013 and 2014.

Special thanks to Archer's Tavern, LongHorn Steakhouse, Chili's and Fricker's for donating raffle prizes and giveaways, as well as Huff Corporation for donating two bikes for the grand prize drawing held at the conclusion of the parties. Congratulations to Connor Larimer and Gracie Huff for winning the grand prize bicycles!

Introducing Oakley, the Dog Park mascot, and his new friends!

OAK GROVE ARCHERY RANGE GRAND OPENING

The Park District opened the archery range Saturday, September 15 at Oak Grove Park. Basic instruction, crossbow demonstrations and exhibition shoots were part of the festivities, as well as open range times for experienced archers. The archery range was made possible by Ohio Sportsmen and Sportswomen and a cooperative partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife Restoration, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Ohio Division of Wildlife. The grand opening attracted more than 150 people.

PAWS IN THE PARK

This fun fall event, co-sponsored with the Washington-Centerville Public Library, included contests, giveaways, demonstrations, and the unveiling of our Dog Park mascot. A contest was held to choose the mascot's name, and the five winners — who all chose the same name, Oakley — were invited to the event and given a prize. Awards were given for best costume, best trick, best dog/owner look-alike and best Oakley look-alike. Twenty-one vendors were on hand to demonstrate their dog-related products and services. An estimated 250 people attended with their canine pals.

WETLAND WALK GRAND OPENING

Owlexander's Wetland Walk is our second nature literature trail exploring the wetland habitat, and is located along a half-mile, wheelchair and stroller accessible, paved path. The trail signage was made possible through a partnership with the Washington-Centerville Public Library and is fully funded by the William & Dorothy Yeck Family Foundation. The trail focuses on blending scientific observations with language arts skills. The grand opening was Saturday, September 29. The event included a short dedication, refreshments and door prizes.



PROGRAMS

The Park District enrolled 7,520 participants in our 2012 programs – up 88% from 2011! Including special events like Big Rig Gig, Haunted Trail, Luminary Walk and the grand opening events, we reached well over 11,000 total participants.

We were delighted to offer the following new programs in 2012:

SUMMER TEEN SERIES

The Summer Teen Series was a revamp of our Summer Recreation Program II for 11 – 15-year-olds. We offered this program once a week on Wednesday evenings with themes like capture the flag bonfire, sports smash and dodge ball night. The Summer Teen Series ended with a party that included a bounce house and other exciting activities. The program offered an abundance of physical activity and was a wonderful addition to our summer programs. It will be offered two times a week in summer 2013.

BARTER BAZAARS

The idea for this program came from Park District Eco-Crew, the green initiatives group made up of Park District staff. Members of the community could trade items in good condition that they no longer wanted or needed, for items that they could use. Barter Bazaars keep things out of landfills and give them a new purpose. We hosted two Barter Bazaars in 2012, both focused on lightly used or an unwanted surplus of crafting supplies. Participants could drop items off in exchange for vouchers and then return the next day with their vouchers to “purchase” items in which they were interested.

SWEET TREATS

The Sweet Treats Doggie Ice Cream Social was held at the Dog Park at Oak Grove Park on June 21. The event, sponsored by Club K-9 Doggy Day Care, included a make-your-own dog toy station, wading pool for pooches, a presentation on dog park safety and, of course, ice cream! The delicious ice cream was donated and served by MaggieMoo’s Ice Cream and Treatery. One hundred people and their dogs attended the event. It was fun to watch dogs and owners lapping up a refreshing ice cream treat!

ADOPT-A-PARK

Centerville-Washington Park District designed a new Adopt-A-Park program 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 any one of our 49 open spaces. For more information, please contact Chris Fife at (937) 433-5155.



Troop 30651 dressed for story time at Eggstravaganza!

SCOUTS IN THE PARKS

Girl Scout Troop 30651 has helped us with various projects in an effort to earn their Girl Scout Bronze Award. In 2012, they assisted at Eggstravaganza, the Community Garden Party, the Prairie Seed Nursery and by doing litter sweeps at Willowbrook Park.

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

- Ben Ferdelman
- Andy Ford
- Doug Haney
- John Kopicky
- Matt Osbourne
- Andy Pitrof

Well done, Scouts!

Wow!
Park District
Volunteers logged
over 2,666 hours
in 2012 — a 45%
increase over 2011.
Thank you!



2012 PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Bill Yeck Park

- Native seed nursery planting

Forest Field Park

- Rain garden planting
- Drinking fountain relocation

Oak Grove Park

- Social Row Road entrance widening
- Archery range
- Signage at the dog park
- Walking path through the woods

Oak Creek South Park

- Bridge installation
- Landscape enhancements
- Nature literature trail

Schoolhouse Park

- West parking lot construction
- Perimeter walking path

Yankee Park

- Perimeter walking path



FINANCIAL REPORT

The residents of Centerville and Washington Township fund the Park District with the proceeds from two 10-year levies. Funds from the 0.9 mill levy approved in 2004 are used for improvements in the parks and funds received from the 2.0 mill levy approved in 2007 provide the operating budget for the 49 parks.

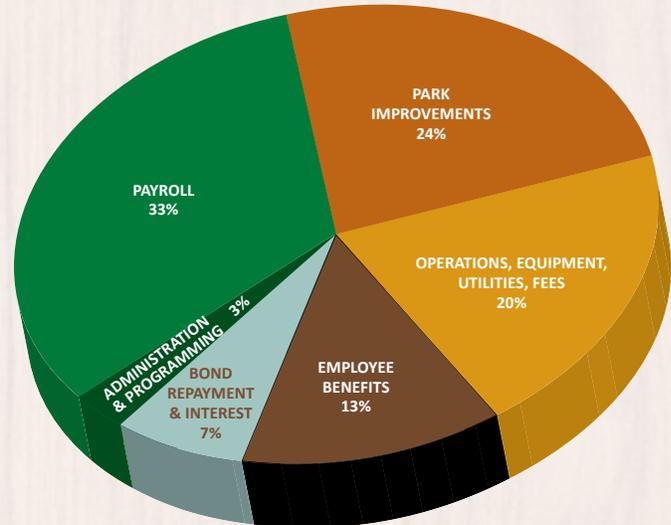
The decline in real estate values, reductions to reimbursements from the State of Ohio and lowered investment income in recent years significantly impacted the annual revenue of the Park District in 2012 and will for the levy years going forward. The Park District has taken action to cut costs and seek additional revenue from donations and local, state and federal grants.

Operational cost-cutting measures include contracting for lower electrical rates; reducing utility usage by implementing recommendations of an energy audit and closing facilities in the winter; and delaying equipment replacement. Administrative belt tightening measures include staff paying a greater share of employee insurance expenditures and eliminating planned staff hiring. Park improvement projects have also been delayed.

Additional funding during 2012 included generous donations from the William & Dorothy Yeck Nature Fund for projects at Bill Yeck Park; grant funding from the Mark Andrew Kreuzsch Memorial Fund of the Dayton Foundation for the construction of the Mark Kreuzsch Nature Playce at Grant Park; funds awarded from the Montgomery County Solid Waste District for recycling projects in the parks; and grant funding from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for the construction of the archery range at Oak Grove Park.

Partnerships with community organizations and other local governments contributed to financial efficiencies. The Park District partnered with the Washington-Centerville Public

2012 EXPENDITURES



Library to create Owlexander's Wetland Walk which was fully funded by the William & Dorothy Yeck Family Foundation. The two organizations also worked together to provide the Paws in the Park event at Oak Grove Park in September. The Centerville Noon Optimist Club again funded the Mini Trail and Haunted Trail in October and volunteers from throughout the community made these programs possible with their performances. At Grant Park, the Centerville Rotary Club maintained the evergreen forest at the McEwen Road entrance and the Centerville Schools and the Park District shared facilities at the Normandy School entrance.

The support of the taxpayers along with contributions from many groups and individuals within our community enable the Park District to stretch your tax dollars for the benefit of the community.

Every donation makes a difference. Each helps provide park experiences for generations to come. We wish to thank the following donors for their generosity.

GENERAL DONATIONS

- Robert Corbin
- George Greenleaf
- Louise Nelson
- George Schenk
- Centerville Noon Optimist Club
- Centerville United Soccer Association
- Centerville Wee Elk Football Association
- Centerville Youth Lacrosse Club
- Kettering-Centerville Kiwanis Club
- Penbrooke Garden Club
- United Way of Greater Dayton
- Walmart Foundation

MEMORIALS

- Lucas Shear
- Mary Jane and Victor W. Smith Garden

GRANTS (provided 80–100% of project costs)

- Mark Andrew Kreuzsch Memorial Fund - The Dayton Foundation
- Montgomery County Solid Waste District
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources
- William & Dorothy Yeck Family Foundation

VENDORS

- Archer's Tavern
- Chick-fil-A
- Chili's
- Club K-9 Doggy Daycare
- Fricker's
- Huff Corporation
- LongHorn Steakhouse
- MaggieMoo's Ice Cream and Treatery



**Resident registration begins
Monday, May 6, 10:00 a.m.**

**All programs are FREE
unless otherwise indicated.**

Playdate Café

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

Grant Park, Nature Nook, 6588 McEwen Road

Hippity Hoppity: Wednesday, June 12
Who's Under There?: Wednesday, July 10
Bug Bonanza: Wednesday, August 7

This program offers caregivers the chance to participate with their little one, as well as free time to socialize with the other adults. Each café begins and ends with learning stations, such as puzzles, blocks, art or sensory table. After our beginning free play, we come together for a short program about our theme, which may include a story, song, activities and outdoor time. The café is designed to build sensory awareness, build motor skills and encourage social interaction. Join us at the Playdate Café for lots of fun and a light snack. Registration is required.



Nature Play for New Naturalists

Ages 3 – 5
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, June 27
Thursday, July 18
Thursday, August 8

Grant Park, Nature Nook, 6588 McEwen Road

Come out for a nature play meet-up at the Mark Kreuzsch Nature Playce! Studies have shown that unstructured outdoor play benefits young children in many ways. Take a hike, play in the creek, dig a hole or interact with nature in a way all your own. The Park District Naturalist will provide tools and toys for this station-based nature program. Playtime begins at 9:00 a.m. Stay the entire time or leave earlier if needed. Registration is required.

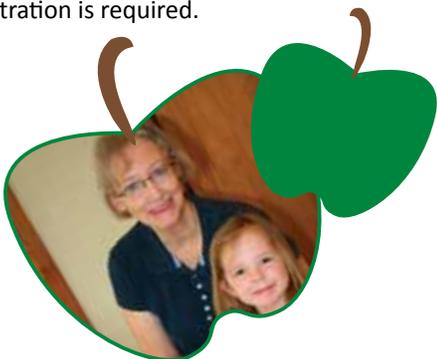
Adventures in Camping

Ages 5 – 8
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Friday, July 12
Grant Park, Normandy Entrance, 501 Normandy Ridge Road

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 pitch a tent, play games, sing campfire songs and roast marshmallows over 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. Registration is required.



Intergenerational Series:

Grandparent's Geocaching

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

Friday, July 19
Forest Field Park, 2100 E. Centerville Station Rd.

The Intergenerational Series has been expanded to include older grandchildren! Come with your hiking shoes and sense of adventure and be the first to find the prize!

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.

Registration is required.

Intergenerational Series:

Hike & Seek

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

Thursday, July 25 OR Friday, July 26
Bill Yeck Park, Rooks Mill Entrance, 8798 Rooks Mill Lane

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 and tell, a snack and a story in the shade! Bring your cameras and wear comfortable close-toed shoes. Registration is required.

Both intergenerational programs will require hiking. If you have mobility or health concerns, contact Erin Morley at 433-5155 for accommodations.



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

SPECIAL EVENTS

BioBlitz

All Ages
 Shift 1: 6:00 – 11:00 a.m.
 Shift 2: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 Shift 3: 3:00 – 8:00 p.m.
 Shift 4: 8:00 p.m. – midnight
Saturday, June 8

Forest Field Park, 2100 E. Centerville Station Road

Local scout, Tyler Gillette, is pursuing his Eagle Scout rank, and his project will be a BioBlitz of Bill Yeck Park. A BioBlitz is a study in biodiversity. The goal is to spend several hours in a natural area and survey the local flora and fauna. Those who wish to participate will count and identify as many species as possible over the 16-hour BioBlitz. The information is valuable to identify what plants and animals call the park home, which helps with habitat management.

There will be four shifts in which to participate, and refreshments will be provided throughout the day, including lunch for those involved in surveying at that time. Groups and individuals can sign in at the Forest Field Park shelter upon arrival and then will be placed into teams based on interest area. An expert will lead each group. Please arrive at the beginning of the shift times listed above. Registration is not required.



**Resident registration begins
 Monday, May 6, 10:00 a.m.**

Volunteer Opportunity: Butterfly Monitoring

Ages 10 and up (*15 and under must be accompanied by an adult*)

Grant Park, 501 Normandy Ridge Road

- Session 1: May 6 & 20, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.**
- Session 2: June 3 & 24, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.**
- Session 3: July 1 & 15, 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.**
- Session 4: August 5, 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.**
- Session 5: August 19, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.**
- Session 6: Sept. 9 & 30, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.**

Would you or your group be interested in helping the Park District with some biological surveys? The Naturalist needs assistance catching, identifying and recording the beautiful butterflies that call Grant Park home. No experience or equipment necessary. Those who assist four or more times will receive a certificate. Groups or individuals that need recognition for their volunteer hours, please contact the Park District before the monitoring session. Terrain is uneven and approximately one mile in length. Weather dependent. Registration is required and you may sign up for more than one session.



Americana Festival:

Children's Area

All ages
 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 4

Activity Center Park, 221 N. Main Street

Celebrate Independence Day at the 40th 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 and more. All activities are free!



For the most up-to-date information on this year's festival, visit www.americanafestival.org.

Registration is not required.

MVRAC Talent Contest

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

Wednesday, July 31

Fraze Pavilion for the Performing Arts, 695 Lincoln Park Boulevard



Join us in celebrating the talented youth of 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 Erin Morley at (937) 433-5155. The Miami Valley Recreation Activities Council (MVRAC) is comprised of representatives from area parks and recreation departments.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK PARTIES

Fridays, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Throughout 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. Don't forget chairs or a picnic blanket. Special thanks to Huffy Corporation for providing the raffle prizes again this year. Registration is appreciated so food quantities can be predicted.

- | | | | |
|----------------|---|------------------|------------------------------------|
| June 7 | <i>Little Mound Park</i> | July 26 | <i>Weatherstone Park</i> |
| June 14 | <i>Watkins Glen Park</i> | August 2 | <i>Greene Line Park</i> |
| June 21 | <i>Pleasant Hill Park</i> | August 9 | <i>Oak Creek South Park</i> |
| July 12 | <i>Bill Yeck Park - Parkhaven Entrance</i> | August 16 | <i>Fence Row Park</i> |
| July 19 | <i>Forest Field Park</i> | | |

If you live in one of these neighborhoods and would be willing to advertise the Park Party with a small sign in your yard the week prior, please contact Kristen Marks at (937) 433-5155.



All programs are **FREE** unless otherwise indicated.



Summer Tennis Instruction

June 24 – August 8

Registration deadline: June 14

40-minute class: \$60 Resident, \$82 Nonresident

60-minute class: \$85 Resident, \$116 Nonresident

90-minute class: \$110 Resident, \$150 Nonresident

Come learn tennis with us! Classes are led 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 to a maximum of 10 participants. Tennis balls are provided.

Monday/Wednesday: Forest Field Park

Ages	Level	Time	Minutes
6 – 10 years	Beginner	8:30 – 9:10 a.m.	40
9 – 13 years	Advanced Beginner	9:15 – 10:15 a.m.	60
9 – 13 years	Intermediate	10:20 – 11:20 a.m.	60
Adults 18 & up	Intermediate	6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	60
Adults 18 & up	Drill & Play	7:10 – 8:40 p.m.	90

Tuesday/Thursday: Yankee Park

Ages	Level	Time	Minutes
6 – 10 years	Beginner	8:30 – 9:10 a.m.	40
9 – 13 years	Beginner	9:15 – 9:55 a.m.	40
6 – 10 years	Advanced Beginner	10:00 – 11:00 a.m.	60
Adults 18 & up	Drill & Play	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	90
Adults 18 & up	Beginner	7:35 – 8:35 p.m.	60

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

Archery Clinics

Ages 8 and up (ages 8 – 17 must be accompanied by an adult 21 or older)

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Oak Grove Park, Archery Range, 1790 E. Social Row Road

Beginner Clinic: Tuesday, June 4 or 18

The beginner clinic is recommended for those who have no experience, are still getting comfortable with archery or are looking for a review of the basics.

Please select only one date for the beginner clinic.

Intermediate Clinic: Wednesday, June 12 or 26

To attend the intermediate clinic, participants should have previous archery experience, know all range rules, be familiar with equipment and feel comfortable shooting.

These clinics are designed to provide interested youth and adults with the basic knowledge required to participate safely in archery. Participants should use a conservative assessment of their skill level and/or their child's skill level when selecting the clinic they would like to attend. Parents are welcome to observe youth but must be registered to participate. All equipment is provided but participants may bring their own with approval of the instructor. Registration is required.

Passport to Nature

All ages

Habitat Helpers: Saturday, June 15

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Grant Park, 501 Normandy Ridge Road

A habitat is a place that has everything an animal needs to survive. We will learn how to make our backyard a home for wildlife and see if we can find some familiar backyard friends along the trail. We will also be making our own component of a habitat for you to try in your own yard!

Registration is required.

Crazy Creeking: Thursday, July 18

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Grant Park, 501 Normandy Ridge Road

Spend an evening exploring Holes Creek. Build a raft, search for fossils and catch some creek critters. Please wear close-toed shoes for creek walking. Registration is required.

To Be a Bat: Thursday, August 1

8:00 – 9:30 p.m.

Grant Park, Nature Nook, 6588 McEwen Road

Bats are really beneficial, but being one can be difficult. Learn about the different types of bats we have in Centerville and the ways they help out humans. After a brief hike to check the bat boxes, we will search the skies for these flying friends. Bring a blanket or lawn chair for bat watching as the sun goes down. Registration is required.

Sweet Treats: Doggie Ice Cream Social

All ages (8 and up inside the Dog Park)

6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Friday, June 28

The Dog Park at Oak Grove Park, 1790 E. Social Row Road



Bring your canine BFFs to the Oak Grove Dog Park for some sweet treats to beat the heat, brought to you by Maggie Moo's Ice Cream. We'll have ice cream for you and your furry companions. Dogs and owners can enjoy their ice cream just outside the entrance of the Dog Park. Please remember to leash your dogs while they enjoy their treat. Registration is requested so food quantities can be predicted.

Family Camping

August 9, 5:00 p.m. – August 10, 9:30 a.m.

Fee/Family: \$20 Resident, \$30 Nonresident

Grant Park, 501 Normandy Ridge Road

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

Resident registration begins
Monday, May 6, 10:00 a.m.

“Me thinks that the moment my legs begin to move, my thoughts begin to flow.”

~ Henry David Thoreau

Pioneer Woman: Quilting

Ages 14 and up
1:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 17

Grant Park, Nature Nook, 6588 McEwen Rd.

Join us for a relaxing afternoon as Barbara Schimming and friends return to teach the Dresden Wheel quilt patch. All materials will be provided for this project. Registration is required.

Adult Archery League

Ages 18 and up
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Tuesdays, June 4 – August 6

Fee: \$25 Residents, \$35 Nonresidents
Oak Grove Park, Archery Range, 1790 E. Social Row Road

Join in on this 10-week league. Teams of two will shoot three rounds of five spot targets once a week. Points will be calculated weekly with handicap factored in. Awards will be presented to the top three teams at the end of the season. All targets are provided but each participant must provide his/her own equipment. To view league rules, visit www.cwpd.org.

Registration is required.



Summer Tennis Leagues

Ages 18 and up

July 7 – September 12

Registration deadline: June 21

Fee: \$25 Residents, \$35 Nonresidents

Various Locations

Join a Park District tennis league and play tennis in the parks! Several levels of play allow opportunities for all abilities. All leagues are 10 weeks long. League schedules and rules are mailed out prior to league play.

Day	Time	Level of Play	
Sunday	6:00 p.m.	Men's Advanced	
Monday	6:00 p.m.	Men's Intermediate	Women's Doubles
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Women's Advanced	
Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Men's Intermediate 50+	Men's Advanced 50+
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Men's Advanced	Women's 50+
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Women's Intermediate	Women's Advanced

Hound Hikes

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Fridays, June 7 – August 30

Grant Park, 501 Normandy Ridge Road

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

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Tuesdays

June 11 & 25: *Bill Yeck Park, 8798 Rooks Mill Lane (Natural Path)*

July 9 & 30: *Iron Horse Park, 6161 Millshire Drive (Paved Path)*

August 13 & 27: *Forest Field Park, 2100 E. Centerville Station Road (Natural Path)*

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. Registration is required.



All programs are **FREE** unless otherwise indicated.

Hike for Your Health

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, June 5 – August 28

Various parks

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 get your heart rate up. It is also a wonderful opportunity to get to know the parks better and meet new people. Below are the path descriptions to help you choose the most comfortable shoe attire. Registration is required.

Date	Park	Meeting Point	Path
June 5	Oak Grove	1790 E. Social Row Road	Paved
June 12	Forest Field	2100 E. Centerville Station Road	Natural
June 19	Yankee	7500 Yankee Street	Paved
June 26	Bill Yeck	7893 Wilmington Dayton Road, McGuffey Meadow	Natural
July 3	Oak Creek South	790 W. Miamisburg-Centerville Road	Paved
July 10	Iron Horse	6161 Millshire Drive	Paved
July 17	Bill Yeck	8798 Rooks Mill Lane	Natural
July 24	Schoolhouse	1875 Nutt Road	Paved
July 31	Forest Field	2100 E. Centerville Station Road	Natural
August 7	Bill Yeck	7893 Wilmington Dayton Road, McGuffey Meadow	Natural
August 14	Oak Grove	1790 E. Social Row Road	Paved
August 21	Iron Horse	6161 Millshire Drive	Paved
August 28	Bill Yeck	8798 Rooks Mill Lane	Natural

Trail Trekking: Nordic Pole Workout

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Tuesdays, June 4 – August 6

Trekking with Nordic poles increases endurance, works the entire body and revs up the metabolism — you can burn up to 40% more calories than walking without poles.

Our Nordic poles are adaptable for both natural and paved trails. Please wear comfortable shoes and bring a bottle of water. Nordic poles are provided thanks to a generous donation from Bob Corbin.

Trail Trekking is led by a nationally certified group exercise instructor. Registration is required.

Date	Park	Meeting Point	Path
June 4	Iron Horse	6161 Millshire Drive	Paved
June 11	Oak Creek South	790 W. Miamisburg-Centerville Road	Paved
June 18	Iron Horse	6161 Millshire Drive	Paved
June 25	Oak Grove	1790 E. Social Row Road	Paved
July 2	Yankee	7500 Yankee Street	Paved
July 9	Schoolhouse	1875 Nutt Road	Paved
July 16	Iron Horse	6161 Millshire Drive	Paved
July 23	Oak Creek South	790 W. Miamisburg-Centerville Road	Paved
July 30	Oak Grove	1790 E. Social Row Road	Paved
August 6	Yankee	7500 Yankee Street	Paved

Trail
Trekking sites
updated on
6/3/2013



Stroller Strength

Adult caregivers with child 6 weeks – Pre K
9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Mondays & Thursdays, June 3 – August 15
Schoolhouse Park, 1875 Nutt Road

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. Registration is required.





Mark Kreusch Nature Playce

Provided by the Mark Andrew Kreusch Fund of the Dayton Foundation

The Mark Kreusch Nature Playce, the first of its kind in the Centerville and Washington Township community, is an area for children to experience the outdoors in an unstructured manner. Through interaction with the natural environment, children learn how to build forts, skip rocks, climb trees, walk along the trunk of a fallen tree and let their imaginations take over. Play features are all made from items found naturally in the park. The area is open during daylight hours 365 days a year and is located at the Nature Nook entrance (6588 McEwen Road) of Grant Park.

