

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

Your support guarantees great parks!

In November, 78.3% of voters agreed to renew the Park District levy. That is the highest yes vote percentage in our 58-year history! It was also the highest of all Ohio park districts on the ballot in November. This levy will fund park operations for another 10 years. We are thrilled to continue to work on park improvements and park programs for you to enjoy!

The year 2017 brought many changes to your parks; take a look!

PARK IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETED IN 2017

- Installed life-saving outdoor AED stations in **Activity Center, Iron Horse, Oak Creek South, Oak Grove, Robert F. Mays, Schoolhouse** and **Yankee Parks**
- Added half-mile paved path connecting **Forest Field** and **Bill Yeck Parks**
- Built flush restroom building at **Forest Field Park**
- Expanded **Village South Park** by 6.7 acres, removing invasive plants and dead or dying trees from the wooded area
- Cleared invasive plants and dead or dying ash trees from new addition of **Pleasant Hill Park**
- Upgraded **Iron Horse Park** playground to an all-weather, all-accessible safety surface with all new playground equipment with accessible play pieces
- Added Little Free Libraries to **Iron Horse** and **Robert F. Mays Park** thanks to donations and community partnerships
- Planted 175+ trees throughout your parks and 500 seedlings at **Yankee Park**
- Upgraded playground amenities at **Cherry Hill, Forest Walk** and **Greene Line Parks**
- Added new park signage at **Bill Yeck** (Smith House), **Holes Creek, Iron Horse** and **Little Woods Parks** making for easier park identification
- Placed two shade structures at **Robert F. Mays Park**

We are serious about stretching your tax dollars! We sought and received these grant awards in 2017:

**Clean Ohio Fund Green Space
Conservation (\$564,000)**

**Ohio Department of Natural Resources
NatureWorks (\$93,000)**



AED Grand Opening Event



Paved trail connecting Bill Yeck & Forest Field Parks



Iron Horse Park Playground



Iron Horse Park Little Free Library



CWPD has adopted a **new mission statement** to better align with your preferences for our services. We based the revision on feedback received via multiple surveys and focus groups, and internal strategic planning:

**Deliver fun, healthy, and outstanding park experiences
that connect the community with the outdoors.**

2017 Annual Report

Every
year there's
something more creative
than the last year!
- CWPD Program
Participant

INCREASED PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

We continue to receive feedback that you would like to see more park programs! In 2017, we made even more progress!

- Created 63 new programs, 66% of which were held in evenings or on weekends
- Increased fitness and wellness programming by 49%, including evening options like HIIT the Park and Trail Trekking
- Offered additional family programming such as Family Nature Play, Family Camping, Nocturnal Nature Series, Go Fishing Day, EarthJoy Tree Climb and Family Storytime Yoga! These are all great ways to connect with family and nature at the same time!
- Held even more community events! Introduced Amazing Race, Meet and Play Mascot Day, Pull Your Weight Garlic Mustard Challenge, Dayton Diggers Hunt, and an additional evening of the popular Fall Family Fun Night.
- Added more camp experiences, such as Preschool Play Yard, Energy Exploration STEM and Kids' Culinary Concoctions.
- Reached 3,247 people through visits to schools, scout groups and other special interest groups.

SELF-DIRECTED ACTIVITIES POPULAR IN 2017



We know busy families don't always have time to attend scheduled programs, but our mission is to connect the community with the outdoors! Our solution? Pop-up park challenges you can complete on your schedule. We were thrilled when almost 50 families went out to place colorful ice spheres in your parks – on days temperatures were below 10 degrees! In 2017 alone, more than 150 families “popped up” in parks with [#itsaCWPDSummer](#) and [#itsaCWPDWinter](#).

The [#CWPDRocks](#) movement has encouraged families to spend time together painting, hiding and seeking rocks within your 50 parks. We launched a Facebook group in March 2017 for people to share their adventures. Far exceeding our expectations, it has grown to 1,200 members in only one year, sparking six new programs and the [#50parkchallenge](#) to visit every park in the district. The first to bring this nationwide trend to our area, it has had a major impact on our community, getting more people than ever visiting the parks!



In August, we introduced [#BigChairBigBackyard](#) to your parks. The Big Chair is touring your 50 parks and moves every few weeks. When you find it, sit down, relax, post a photo and tell your friends where they can find [#BigChairBigBackyard](#)! Watch for a “remodel” of the Big Chair in early 2018!

Please keep sharing your ideas, suggestions, and even complaints with us! All communication is valuable, and the more we hear from you, the better. We want to hear what is important to the community, so we can better serve you!

We will continue to strive to meet your outdoor recreation needs. Many thanks from the park board to the hundreds of volunteers who supported dozens of park improvement projects and invested thousands of hours in programs and activities. The Centerville-Washington Park District would not be the same without your selfless contributions!



Dan H. Monahan
President



David R. Lee
Vice President



Lucy M. Sánchez
Secretary