

DECEMBER 2020 - FEBRUARY 2021

Centerville-Washington PARK DISTRICT NEWS & EVENTS



Bill Yeck Park



Explore your community's BIG backyard!



Headquarters

Activity Center Park
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Centerville, Ohio 45459-4617
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Fax: (937) 433-6564
Second Shift/Weekends:
(937) 470-9246
mail@cwpcd.org
www.cwpcd.org

Please
check our
website prior to
your visit. The office
may be closed to
visitors due to
COVID-19.

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Office Closed on December 24 & 25,
January 1 & 18

Park Addresses

For more information and each park's
address, visit www.cwpcd.org.



Dog Park Closures

www.cwpcd.org/parks/oak-grove/dog-park/dog-park-closure-status/



Athletic Field Conditions

www.cwpcd.org/field_status/

Area Youth

Athletic Organizations

Centerville Baseball Softball League
www.cbltoday.org

Centerville Recreational Soccer
www.centervillesoccer.com

Centerville United Soccer Association
www.cusasoccer.org

Centerville Wee Elks
Football Association
www.weeelks.org

Centerville Youth Lacrosse
www.cvlax.org

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Commissioners' Corner



Hello! This is my first time sharing a message with you. My name is Alex Pearl. I was appointed to the post of park commissioner in May. I am happy

to be working with our excellent team of volunteers and staff as we continue to deliver top-notch programs and parks!

During this time of COVID-19, we have been busy. In particular, we have been making parks much more accessible. Easier creek crossings, paved paths to playgrounds and a boardwalk on the **Bill Yeck Park** brown trail are just a few examples. As you read this, a new **Schoolhouse Park** playground is being finished. Not only does it have fun features, but it is now accessible to kids of all abilities.



Bill Yeck Park's new boardwalk.

In addition, the District and its partners have worked tirelessly to allow for youth sports to take place in the parks. The COVID-19 health requirements and restrictions are many, but the volunteers who run football, soccer and baseball met the challenge. As a result, thousands of children were able to play their sports this fall.

Save a Tree

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

To stop home delivery of the printed newsletter, email your name and address to mail@cwpcd.org.

The Centerville-Washington Park District Board of Park Commissioners holds public meetings once a month throughout the year. Visit

www.cwpcd.org/about/public-meeting-schedule/ to view the schedule!

We know it has been trying times for all of you since March. Our commitment to the community since then has been to make our parks, amenities, activities and programs both safe and available for you. In this newsletter, you will find many more fun and educational activities and opportunities for you and your family. Our commitment to you is to continue to provide not only top-notch green space, but also engaging programs. We are planning now for your park experiences next spring!

Winter is a great time to explore your community's BIG backyard! Whether you choose to hike a trail, pick up a "RecKit" or follow a self-directed activity, your Park District is ready for you. Please, enjoy all that you like.

Alex Pearl
Park Board Secretary



New Playground Coming to Schoolhouse Park



The Centerville-Washington Park District received a \$120,000 Ohio Department of Natural Resources NatureWorks grant to update the playground equipment at Schoolhouse Park! Goals for this project were identified by a community wide survey. An ADA safety surface, an ADA specific element, swings, a separate structure for ages 2 – 5 and a tall main structure to allow children to feel as if they are up in the large surrounding shade trees were the top priorities identified by the community. After identifying your priorities, we presented three options for the community's vote. More than 700 community members voted and gave additional feedback. The playground pictured above was selected. Construction began in early September!

Thank you for taking the time to help shape your community's BIG backyard! We appreciate your feedback!



Tree and Bench Dedications Discounted for the Remainder of 2020

Benches and trees are often purchased as a permanent dedication to a person, group or event – like an outstanding achievement, a birthday, an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. For the remainder of 2020, we will cover 50% of the cost of these dedications! If you've been considering it, now is the time!

More info and a request form are available on www.cwpd.org.

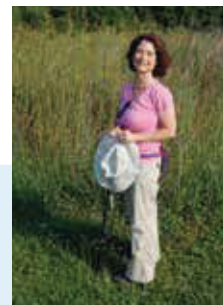


New Little Free Library

Pleasant Hill Park has a new Little Free Library! Patrick Hansford designed the Little Free Library to resemble the iconic sunscreen at Woodbourne Library. It was a gift from the Friends of Washington-Centerville Public Library to honor the contributions made by Kim Senft-Paras during her time as Director of Washington-Centerville Public Library, 2009 – 2019.

This is the sixth Little Free Library in your parks. Others are located at **Forest Field, Iron Horse, Robert F. Mays, Schoolhouse** and **Yankee Parks**. Stop by to find a book and leave a book to share!

Volunteer Spotlight



TARA DWYER

Tara developed a love of nature while growing up on a plant nursery in New Carlisle. When she was 17, she moved to California. In

California, she finished high school, went to college and got her psychology degree. She also spent a lot of time walking on the beach and hiking in the mountains!

Tara has had a variety of jobs — usually helping, teaching or caring for others. Her most recent positions have been as an occupational therapy assistant and as a caregiver for patients with dementia.

She enjoys hiking, bird watching, photography and traveling. She has a cat named Fletcher, also known as grumpy kitty. Tara and her husband Patrick have been married for three years. He shares her love for nature and traveling. On their honeymoon, they explored the Smoky Mountains and were thrilled to explore seven waterfalls.

"I started volunteering with CWPD because I wanted to be more involved with nature and the community. I have had some great experiences so far! While serving as a trail ambassador, I also get to dabble in nature photography while patrolling my section of trail. It is rewarding to see how the trail changes and to observe the different plant and animal life. Helping to care for the trail brings a sense of satisfaction. An unexpected neat experience was being a caterpillar nanny for the Polyphemus moth. I learned a lot and was amazed to watch the caterpillars develop. I look forward to more volunteer experiences with CWPD," Tara says.

The Centerville-Washington Park District would like to thank Tara, and all volunteers for giving their time and talents to our community! If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Community Engagement Coordinator Ginger Clark at 937-433-5155 x234 or gclark@cwpd.org.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Winter **PopUP** Park Challenge



All ages
Begins Tuesday, December 1

Are you up to the challenge?

The Pop-Up Park Challenge is back for more winter-themed fun! Throughout the winter months we'll be posting challenges on our Facebook and Twitter accounts. Complete ten out of 15 posted pop-up park challenges on your own, or with family and friends, and win a \$20 gift card to My Favorite Muffin! In addition, each winner will be entered into a grand prize drawing! This winter's grand prize is a one-year family membership to Dayton History.

View membership benefits on www.daytonhistory.org/.

Most challenges will involve visiting a specific park location to fulfill a task or to find a landmark. Other challenges will involve attending one of our winter events! You won't know the challenge until the challenge time clock begins, and then you'll have a deadline to complete it! Post a photo proving challenge completion with the tag **#itsaCWPDwinter**.

Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter to get more updates about this winter's Pop-Up Park Challenge!

Registration is not required. One prize per household. (GC)



Luminary Walk

All ages
Friday, December 4
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Bill Yeck and Forest Field Parks
Parking at 2100 E. Centerville Station Rd.
(Forest Field Park)

Enjoy a candlelit stroll through Bill Yeck Park. There will be a half-mile paved route or a longer, one-mile route along the purple trail. Several lighted features will add to your experience!

Registration is requested. (AD)

Attendees are encouraged to bring full-size toiletries or everyday household items for YWCA Dayton.

YWCA Dayton is the oldest women's organization in Dayton, providing the only domestic violence shelters in Montgomery and Preble counties. They address crucial needs in our community, including: domestic violence; homelessness; teen issues; affordable housing; racial justice; and self-sufficiency and personal development for women. For more information about YWCA Dayton visit www.ywcadayton.org or follow them on social media @ywcadayton.



Online resident registration begins Monday,
November 9, 10:00 a.m.

WINTER DAY CAMPS

Arctic Explorations Camp

Ages 6 – 12

Monday, December 28 – Thursday, December 31

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Bill Yeck Park, Smith House

2230 E. Centerville Station Rd.

Fee: \$52 residents, \$79 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Wednesday, December 23

A winter break camp experience to keep your children active while school is out! Much like our summer day camp, campers will explore the park, but this time for all things winter! Children will warm up in the Smith House with games, crafts and nature programs. All campers will receive a camp-themed winter hat.

This is part of the Nature Day Camp (NDC) program series that will take place throughout the year! New this year, campers will receive a certificate of completion for each NDC camp series they complete from December 2020 – November 2021. Camper prizes will be given out at the end of the year in celebration! (AP)



Registration closes 48 hours prior to all programs unless otherwise indicated.

Sugar Valley Discovery Camp

Ages 6 – 12

Friday, February 12; Saturday, February 13; and Monday, February 15

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Bill Yeck Park, Smith House

2230 E. Centerville Station Rd.

Fee: \$39 residents, \$59 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Friday, February 5

This President's Day weekend camp experience is the perfect way to keep your children active. Exploring the woods in the winter is a unique nature experience. Campers will experience all of the traditional camp games and activities with a twist to incorporate all the winter season has to offer. Campers will receive a camp-themed winter hat.

This is part of the Nature Day Camp (NDC) program series that will take place throughout the year! New this year, campers will receive a certificate of completion for each NDC camp series they complete from December 2020 – November 2021. Camper prizes will be given out at the end of the year in celebration! (AP)

Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise indicated.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS (AGES 6 AND UNDER)

Early Adventures

Ages 0 – 4 years with adult companion
Fee/session: \$2 nonresidents

December Adventures

Tuesday, December 1

5:15 – 6:15 p.m.

Forest Walk Park

7570 Forest Walk Blvd.

January Adventures

Tuesday, January 5

5:15 – 6:15 p.m.

Holes Creek Park

8575 Yankee St.

February Adventures

Tuesday, February 2

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Pleasant Hill Park

358 Zengel Dr.

Parents and little ones will experience nature in the dark during these winter months. These leisurely hikes provide great family time in nature. This program is limited to one adult companion per registrant. Bring a flashlight if you wish. We will have some available to borrow.

Backpacks and front carriers are appropriate if your child is not walking. Strollers are not recommended at parks with natural terrain. (KL)

To limit numbers and prevent the spread of COVID-19, please register all family members that fall within the age group.



Reading in the Wild

Ages 18 months – 4 years with adult companion

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Fee/session: \$2 nonresidents

December Storytime

Friday, December 11

Big Bend Park

1328 Spring Ash Dr.

Registration deadline: Monday,

December 7

January Storytime

Friday, January 22

Donnybrook Park

6161 Donnybrook Dr.

Registration deadline: Monday,

January 18

February Storytime

Friday, February 19

Greene Line Park

6774 Crossbrook Dr.

Registration deadline: Monday,

February 15

Let's get together to read a story! We will act out the plot with active games, sing songs with sensory themes and take a short hike in the park — sparking a love of nature in our youngest community members! This program is limited to one adult companion per registrant.

Backpacks and front carriers are appropriate if your child is not walking. Strollers are not recommended at parks with natural terrain. (AP)

To limit numbers and prevent the spread of COVID-19, please register all family members that fall within the age group.

Creative Kids Corner:

Take Home Kits

Recommended for ages 3 – 5

Thursdays, December 10, January 14 & February 11

Fee: \$9 residents, \$12 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Thursday, December 3

This take-home kit features crafts and activities revolving around a fun seasonal theme! There will be three different kits — one for each month! (AD)



Junior Forest Ranger Kit:

Winter Edition

Ages 3 – 6

Tuesday, December 1

Fee: \$8 residents, \$10 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Friday, November 27

Start your child's winter season off with some tools to get them thinking about how rangers spend their winter. They will become a ranger for a day, learn winter skills, complete an activity and add some neat things to their nature tool kit!

Kit includes a scavenger hunt, a hiking map of a CWPD trail, a winter hat, a star chart, a collection box for nature items, a flashlight and more! (KL)

Creature CommOTION

Ages 4 – 6

Fee/series: \$9 nonresidents

Video Series A

Wednesdays, December 2 – 30

Registration deadline: Wednesday, November 25

Video Series B

Wednesdays, January 6 – 27

Registration deadline: Wednesday, December 30

Video Series C

Wednesdays, February 3 – 24

Registration deadline: Wednesday, January 27

Little ones will grow in their large and fine motor skills development by moving like the animals during this virtual program. Participants will receive a kit that contains animal-themed activities to use with each week's engaging video full of songs and movement. (AP)

Online resident registration begins Monday, November 9, 10:00 a.m.

Preschool Nature Series

Ages 3 – 6 with adult companion

Fee: \$4 nonresidents

Weather Watchers

Thursday, December 17

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. **OR** 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Grant Park, Kennard Nature Nook

6588 McEwen Rd.

Fee: \$4 nonresidents

Weather is fascinating! Join us out in your parks to learn about the different weather patterns we experience in Centerville. This program is limited to one adult companion per registrant. (KL)

Weather Watchers Kit

Thursday, December 17

Fee: \$5 residents, \$7 nonresidents

Weather is fascinating! We will learn about the different weather patterns we experience in Centerville. Activities will be provided in a kit. An online video will be provided to assist with activities. (KL)

Oh, Deer Scavenger Hunt

Thursday, January 21 – Sunday, January 24

*Bill Yeck Park, Smith House Entrance
2230 E. Centerville-Station Rd.*

Oh, Deer! Can you find two deer hiding along the purple trail? While you are searching, take some time to learn about our local whitetail deer by completing a scavenger hunt. This is a self-guided program. (KL)

Chickadee-dee-dee

Thursday, February 18

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. **OR** 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Forest Walk Park

7570 Forest Brook Blvd.

Fee: \$4 nonresidents

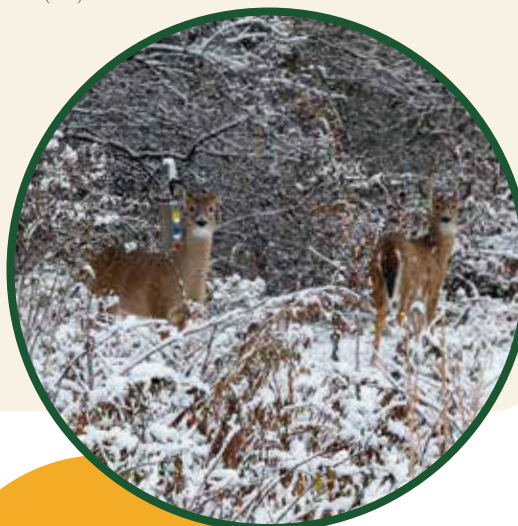
Chickadees are fun birds to search for on a winter day. We will learn all about their life history, create a craft and take a hike to search for them. This program is limited to one adult companion per registrant. (KL)

Chickadee-dee-dee Kit

Thursday, February 18

Fee: \$5 residents, \$7 nonresidents

Chickadees are fun birds to search for on a winter day. We will learn all about their life history, and create a craft. Activities will be provided in a kit. An online video will be provided to assist with activities. (KL)



Registration closes 48 hours prior to all programs unless otherwise indicated.

RecKits

Fee: \$8 residents, \$12 nonresidents

RecKits are back for winter! We prepare the activities and gather the materials and you just pick up and create! Pick up information will be emailed after the registration deadline. (AD)

Holiday Fun! Jr.

Recommended for ages 3 – 6

Monday, December 14

Registration deadline: Monday, December 7

With the holiday season kicking off, this RecKit is themed around the holidays! There are fun activities and an easy STEM challenge. The crafts can double as gifts or decorations!

Greeting Cards! Jr.

Recommended for ages 3 – 6

Monday, January 11

Registration deadline: Monday, January 4

It's a new year! Welcome 2021! This RecKit contains plenty of DIY greeting cards to get you started for the year. Cards will double as crafts and use a variety of simple, yet pretty, art techniques. Themes for the greeting cards include birthday, thank you and any occasion cards.

It's Valentine's Day! Jr.

Recommended for ages 3 – 6

Monday, February 1

Registration deadline: Monday, January 25

This RecKit has everything you need to make some awesome valentines for your friends! Plus, it also includes neat Valentine-themed science activities!

Mystery Design Challenges Jr.

Recommended for ages 5 – 7

Monday, February 15

Registration deadline: Monday, February 8

When you pick up your kit, there will be surprise supplies and a mystery design challenge from Owlexander!



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

(AGES 4 – 17)



Letters to Owlexander

New!

All ages

Friday, January 1 – Sunday, January 31

*Activity Center Park, Headquarters
221 N. Main St.*

Registration deadline: Friday,
January 15

Owlexander, our Park District mascot, loves keeping in touch with his park friends, but winter makes it a little bit harder to see everyone. He came up with a great way for you to keep in touch! He would love to receive a letter, drawing or card telling him all about your winter park adventures. He is a great pen-pal and will be sure to write you back and let you know all about his adventures, too. Letters can be dropped off at a special mailbox throughout January. Please address your letters to Owlexander Parks (no stamp necessary). (KM)

Cold Hands Warm Heart Hike

Ages 4 – 8

Thursday, February 11

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

*Bill Yeck Park, Smith House
2230 E. Centerville Station Rd.*

Fee: \$5 residents, \$7 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Monday,
February 8

We might have to wear gloves, but we can definitely keep our hearts warm by enjoying a short hike on the paved trail and creating a very special valentine for a sweet loved one! (AP)



All Around the Winter Garden: DIY Mini Greenhouse

Recommended for ages 5 – 9

Thursday, February 18

Fee: \$10 residents, \$12 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Wednesday,
February 10

With this take-home kit, children will learn all about how people keep gardens going throughout the winter! They will get materials to build their own mini greenhouse to test. (AD)

Art & Imagination: DIY

Recommended for ages 6 – 8

**Tuesdays, December 8, January 12 &
February 9**

Fee: \$9 residents, \$12 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Tuesday,
December 1

Does your child love art time? Each take-home kit is designed to give your child an opportunity to get creative! They will try new techniques and design unique projects based on a monthly theme. There will be three different kits — one for each month! (AD)

Explorers!

Ages 6 – 12

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Grant Park

501 Normandy Ridge Rd.

Fee: \$9 residents, \$12 nonresidents

Junior Explorers

Ages 6 – 9

Wednesdays, January 6 – February 10

Outdoor Explorers

Ages 9 – 12

Mondays, January 4 – February 8

Outdoor play is vital to child development and well-being. Children will learn about nature and the outdoors in this program designed to allow children to interact with nature in unique ways. Activities include discovery, challenges and games. Make sure to send them dressed for outdoor play! (KL)



Forest Ranger Kit: Winter Edition

Ages 7 – 12

Tuesday, December 1

Fee: \$8 residents, \$10 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Friday,
November 27

Start your child's winter season off with some tools to get them thinking about how rangers spend their winter. They will become a ranger for a day, learn winter skills, complete an activity and add some neat things to their nature tool kit!

Kit includes a scavenger hunt, a hiking map of a CWPD trail, a winter hat, a star chart, a winter tree identification guide, a flashlight and more! (KL)

Online resident registration begins Monday,
November 9, 10:00 a.m.



Nature Design Challenges: DIY!

Recommended for ages 7 – 13

Tuesdays, December 1, January 5 & February 2

Fee: \$9 residents, \$12 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Tuesday, November 24

All engineers on deck! These kits are a fun-filled afternoon of science and engineering using materials from nature. Participants will receive a surprise STEM challenge in the kit that will have them plan, build and test their own designs. There will be one kit per month that will feature a new challenge. (AD)

Pay it Forward with CWPD Kit

Recommended for ages 7 – 13

Tuesday, December 1

Registration deadline: Wednesday, November 25

It's the season of giving! Pick up a kit filled with projects designed to help you give back to the community. Some things can be done on your own and others you will turn in to CWPD. We will deliver them to the nonprofit for you! Projects and ideas are appropriate for all ages, but some may need adult assistance. (AD)

New!

“Of all the
paths you
take in life,
make sure a
few of them
are dirt.”

-John Muir



RecKits

Fee: \$8 residents, \$12 nonresidents

RecKits are back for winter! We prepare the activities and gather the materials and you just pick up and create! Pick up information will be emailed after the registration deadline. (AD)

Holiday Fun!

Recommended for ages 7 – 13

Monday, December 14

Registration deadline: Monday, December 7

With the holiday season kicking off, this RecKit is themed around the holidays! There are fun activities and an easy STEM challenge. The crafts can double as gifts or decorations!

Greeting Cards!

Recommended for ages 7 – 13

Monday, January 11

Registration deadline: Monday, January 4

It's a new year! Welcome 2021! This RecKit contains plenty of DIY greeting cards to get you started for the year. Cards will double as crafts and use a variety of simple, yet pretty, art techniques. Themes for the greeting cards include birthday, thank you and any occasion cards.

It's Valentine's Day!

Recommended for ages 7 – 13

Monday, February 1

Registration deadline: Monday, January 25

This RecKit has everything you need to make some awesome valentines for your friends! Plus, it also includes neat Valentine-themed science activities!

Mystery Design Challenges

Recommended for ages 8 – 13

Monday, February 15

Registration deadline: Monday, February 8

When you pick up your kit, there will be surprise supplies and a mystery design challenge from Owlexander!



Registration closes 48 hours prior to all programs unless otherwise indicated.

Fire & Ice Party

Ages 8 – 12

Saturday, January 16

4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

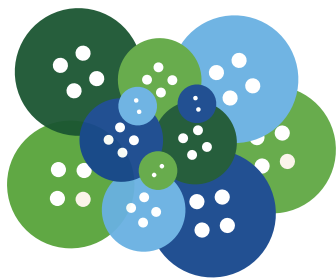
Bill Yeck Park, Smith House

2230 E. Centerville Station Rd.

Fee: \$6 residents, \$9 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Monday, January 11

We will combine the elements of fire and ice during a winter hike and campfire. We will search for icicles, icy puddles and snowy patches that we can paint! Afterwards we will warm up around the campfire and make s'mores. (AP)



Crafting Club

Ages 9 – 13

Thursdays, December 3, January 7 & February 4

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Grant Park, Kennard Nature Nook

6588 McEwen Rd.

Fee: \$9 residents, \$12 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Friday, November 27

This fun after-school program covers basic crafting skills and techniques used to create handmade decorations and keepsakes — all while making friends. We provide everything needed with no mess, prep or fuss at home! Crafters are encouraged to wear old clothes or bring an apron or smock. (AD)



Knitting in Nature Jr.

Ages 9 – 17

Tuesday, December 15

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Activity Center Park, Community Room
221 N. Main St.

Fee: \$35 residents, \$45 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Thursday, December 10

Knitting is a great activity to calm the mind and relax — whether you are outside on a park bench or relaxing by the fire during winter break. We will use natural fibers to learn the basics of knitting. Begin a scarf to wear all winter long! All supplies for the project are included. (AP)

Recycle and Re-purpose Club

Ages 10 – 15

Thursdays, December 10, January 14 & February 11

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Activity Center Park, Community Room
221 N. Main St.

Fee: \$15 residents, \$20 nonresidents

Take some time to be creative while helping the Earth. We will use materials destined for the trash to make useful and beautiful treasures. (KL)

History Rocks!

Ages 12 – 14

Saturday, January 30

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. **OR** 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

The Asahel Wright Schoolhouse
26 N. Main St.

Fee: \$6 residents, \$8 nonresidents

Limestone is an integral part of Centerville and Washington Township history. Participants will investigate Ohio's geological timeline, learn about Centerville's collection of early stone houses and explore the impact of the quarry industry on our community. Each participant will take home a limestone sample and a geode. This program will take place indoors. (KL)

Young Birders Club

Ages 12 – 17

Tuesdays, December 8, January 12 AND/OR February 9

4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Bill Yeck Park, Smith Entrance
2230 E. Centerville-Station Rd.

Fee/session: \$4 nonresidents

A monthly program that focuses on bird identification and ecology. Other nature topics and skills will be taught as they are encountered upon the trail! During the winter months, we will use the daylight to search for birds in the field before returning to the Smith House for indoor activities. (KL)



Online resident registration begins Monday, November 9, 10:00 a.m.

Conservation Crew:

Prairie Seeds

Ages 12 – 17

Friday, January 8

4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Activity Center Park, Community Room
221 N. Main St.

Volunteers needed! Help us plant flats of seeds, create seed balls for programs, and weigh seeds for dispersal in no-mow zones. Accumulate volunteer hours! Please dress in clothing that can get dirty. This session will take place indoors. (KL)

New!

Conservation Crew:

The Great Backyard Bird Count

Ages 12 – 17

Friday, February 12

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Grant Park

501 Normandy Ridge Rd.

Birdwatchers are needed to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count! We will divide into teams and create a list of birds to contribute data from your parks to the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Please dress for the weather. Bring binoculars and an identification guide if you have one. You can also borrow binoculars and guide books from the Park District.

For additional volunteer hours you can help over the weekend on your own. We will assign you your own park to survey! (KL)

FAMILY PROGRAMS



Let's Meet Up: Nature Playce

All ages

Tuesdays, December 1, January 5,
February 2

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Grant Park, Mark Kreusch Nature Playce
6588 McEwen Rd.

Enjoy fresh air and nature playtime. Meet other parents/caregivers and their children. Stop by the Kennard Nature Nook for free hot chocolate then explore the Mark Kreusch Nature Playce during an unstructured and casual meet up! Staff will have one activity planned for each session that children can participate in before or after unstructured playtime.

Attend as few or as many sessions as you like. The meet-up will not be held in inclement weather. This is not a drop off program; parents/caregivers are required to stay with their children. Please register each person attending. (AD)



Tools to Trek

Attend Tools to Trek programs to earn a free Trek Pack! Print your Tools to Trek tracking sheet on www.cwpd.org. Bring your tracking sheet to Tools to Trek programs to collect stamps. Once your sheet is full, turn it in to collect your prize!

Winter Hiking Club

All ages

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Fee/session: \$2 nonresidents



Saturday, December 5

Woodbourne Springs Park (natural path)
220 W. Whipp Rd. (Parking at school)

Saturday, December 19

Bill Yeck Park, Smith Entrance
(crushed limestone path)
2230 E Centerville Station Rd.

Saturday, January 9

Grant Park, McEwen Entrance
(natural path)
6588 McEwen Rd.

Saturday, January 30

Schoolhouse Park (paved path)
1875 Nutt Rd.

Saturday, February 6

Forest Walk Park (natural path)
7570 Forest Brook Blvd.

Saturday, February 27

Oak Creek South Park (paved path)
790 Miamisburg Centerville Rd.



Join us for winter nature hikes! Getting outdoors makes us happy and healthy, especially in the wintertime! Get motivated to interact with nature on these guided hikes around CWPd! Different topics will be addressed each week. Individuals attending three or more hikes will receive a Winter Hiking Club patch. This is a "Tools to Trek" program.

Please register all family members. (KL)



Registration closes 48 hours prior to all programs unless otherwise indicated.

Nocturnal Nature Series

All ages



Explore nature at night with this series! We will focus on different topics each month and observe seasonal changes. Please dress for a hike on a natural path. Flashlights are optional.

Talking Trees

Tuesday, December 15

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

*Bill Yeck Park, Smith House
2230 E. Centerville Station Rd.*

Fee: \$2 nonresidents

Nighttime in winter can be quiet and peaceful. It's a perfect time to learn how our trees spend the winter! We will discuss different strategies trees have to get through the winter months, then investigate how trees benefit hibernating wildlife. This is a "Tools to Trek" program. (KL)

Winter Meadows

Friday, January 22

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

*Grant Park
501 Normandy Ridge Rd.*

Fee: \$2 nonresidents

Meadows also support dormant wildlife during the winter. We will investigate the meadow from the perspective of night and see what secrets it holds! This is a "Tools to Trek" program. (KL)



“Teaching children
about the
natural world
should be seen as
one of the most
important events
in their lives.”

-Thomas Berry

Let's Build a Snowman!

Recommended for families with children
ages 5 – 12

Thursday, January 21

Fee: \$15 residents, \$20 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Monday,
January 11

It's time for a snow day! This take-home kit will have the supplies to make gear for your very own snowman! Instructions on making a top hat, no-sew scarf and mittens, eyes, buttons and a carrot nose will be included! Then, after you build your snowman, look through the hot chocolate recipes from all around the world! (AD)



Feeding Backyard Birds

Ages 5 and up

Thursday, January 28

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

*Activity Center Park, Community Room
221 N. Main St.*

Fee/family: \$4 residents, \$6 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Monday,
January 21

The expression “eat like a bird” generally refers to someone that eats small amounts of food, but birds need a lot of food to survive our cold Ohio winters! Learn about the birds that live in our backyards and how to keep them happy and healthy all winter long! Each family will make three suet cake feeders to take home. (AP)

Winter Hike & Seek

All ages

Monday, February 1

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

*Grant Park, Kennard Nature Nook
6588 McEwen Rd.*

Registration deadline: Wednesday,
January 27

There is so much to see in Grant Park on winter days! Meet at the Kennard Nature Nook to pick up a scavenger hunt, free hot chocolate and a bag to pick up any trash you might see! Be sure to socially distance from other families within the park. Families that find at least half of the scavenger hunt items will be entered in a prize drawing!

The meet-up will not be held in inclement weather. This is not a drop off program, parents/caregivers are required to stay with their children. (AD)

New!

Online resident registration begins Monday,
November 9, 10:00 a.m.

S'more Snow Please!

All ages

Friday, February 5

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

*Bill Yeck Park, Smith House
2230 E. Centerville Station Rd.*

Fee: \$4 nonresidents



Learn all about the life cycle of a snowflake from cloud to water table. How far does this tiny drop of frozen water rotate around our world? Learn about how water builds around us while we build s'mores around a campfire! This program is limited to one adult companion per registrant. (AP)

The Great Backyard Bird Count

Ages 8 and up (children must be accompanied by an adult)

Saturday, February 13

10:30 a.m. – noon

*Bill Yeck Park, Smith House
2230 E. Centerville Station Rd.*

Fee: \$2 nonresidents



Birdwatchers needed! We will be creating a list of birds to contribute data from your parks to the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Please dress for the weather. Bring binoculars and an identification guide if you have them. You can also borrow binoculars from the Park District. This is a “Tools to Trek” program. (KL)



Registration closes 48 hours prior to all programs unless otherwise indicated.

Nature Quest

Recommended for families with children ages 6 and up

Saturday, February 20

1:00 – 4:00 p.m., staggered start times available

*Grant Park, Kennard Nature Nook
6588 McEwen Rd.*

Fee/team: \$6 residents, \$9 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Monday, February 1

Are you ready to brave the cold and compete in the Ultimate Nature Challenge? We will test your team's knowledge and skills on survival, wildlife, forestry and more! You will move around the park, visiting stations and picking up points as you complete challenges. It will take approximately one hour to complete this program. Who will get the top score? (KL)



Forts in the Forest

All ages

Saturday, February 27

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

*Forest Walk Park
7570 Forest Brook Blvd.*

Fee: \$4 nonresidents

Build forts with what nature provides — sticks, leaves, mud or snow! Discover the fun of using nature to make a shelter as a family. Home tweet home, as the birds would say! Prizes will be awarded for most creative use of materials, most livable and most woodland fairy-tastic. At the end of the program, we will take a commemorative picture and learn the proper way to give your creation back to nature. (AP)

ADULT PROGRAMS



Glass Fusing: Holiday Ornaments

Ages 16 and up

Tuesday, December 1 AND/OR

Monday, December 7

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

*Activity Center Park, Community Room
221 N. Main St.*

Fee: \$37 residents, \$53 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Friday, November 27

Get a head start on decorating or making your own holiday gifts! Instructor Kathy Woodruff will lead the class in creating a variety of fused glass ornaments. You can make 4 – 6 ornaments per class depending on the level of detail you choose. Kathy will have a variety of options. Ornaments will be available for pick up from Park District headquarters during office hours approximately one week after class. (AD)



Booked for Lunch

Ages 18 and up

Wednesdays, December 2, January 6 & February 3

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



A collaborative program with Centerville-Washington History and the Washington-Centerville Public

Library, Booked for Lunch is a monthly lunchtime discussion on a historical fiction or nonfiction book. The library will advance order copies for participants to borrow while supplies last. (AP)

Due to COVID-19, Booked for Lunch will meet virtually this winter. See the book list and register on www.wclibrary.info/bookdiscussion/



Stitches and Sparrows

Ages 14 and up

Wednesdays, December 2 & 9

6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

*Activity Center Park, Community Room
221 N. Main St.*

Fee: \$15 residents, \$19 nonresidents

Learn two skills in two sessions! We will get you started with an adorable pattern and while you stitch away, a discussion on sparrow song identification and life histories will take place. We will gather again the following week to make more progress and learn even more about this beautiful group of birds. All items will be provided including a counted cross stitch pattern. (KL)

Winter Canvas Ornaments

Ages 16 and up

Thursday, December 3

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

*Activity Center Park, Community Room
221 N. Main St.*

Fee: \$9 residents, \$15 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Monday, November 30

Create three canvases perfect for seasonal home decor. Each canvas will have a different design — pinecone, snowflake and cardinal — that we will learn step by step. All supplies included. (AP)



New!

RecKits

RecKits are back for winter! We prepare the activities and gather the materials and you just pick up and create! Pick up information will be emailed after the registration deadline. (AD)

Holiday Wreath

Recommended for ages 14 and up

Friday, December 11

Fee: \$30 residents, \$39 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Monday, December 7

A RecKit designed with teenagers and adults in mind! December marks the start of the holiday season, and this kit has the supplies you need to make a festive deco mesh wreath for your door or wall! Choose one of two themes for your wreath. The kit will consist of a wreath frame, deco mesh and ribbon. Add any additional embellishments to further tailor it to your style.

Greeting Cards

Recommended for ages 14 and up

Monday, January 11

Fee: \$10 residents, \$15 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Monday, January 4

It's a new year! Welcome 2021! This RecKit contains plenty of made-by-hand greeting cards to get you started for the year. They will be made using a variety of different art techniques to create sophisticated DIY cards without too much effort. Themes for the greeting cards include birthday, thank you, and any occasion cards.

Request a "Chat With a Naturalist"

Does your special interest group want to learn more about Centerville and Washington Township wildlife? Groups of 10 or more can book a naturalist to speak at their gatherings for 45 minutes to an hour. Groups are limited to two requests per year and six weeks notice is required for planning purposes. Please call us at (937) 433-5155 for a list of topics.

Online resident registration begins Monday, November 9, 10:00 a.m.

Knitting in Nature

Ages 18 and up

Tuesday, December 15

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

*Activity Center Park, Community Room
221 N. Main St.*

Fee: \$35 residents, \$45 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Thursday,
December 10

Knitting is a great activity to calm the mind and relax — especially outside on a nice day. You can take a knitting project practically anywhere! We will use natural fibers to learn the basics of knitting. Begin a scarf to wear all winter long! All supplies for the project are included. (AP)

Hike With a Naturalist

Ages 14 and up (*under 18 must be accompanied by an adult*)

Fee: \$4 nonresidents

Blacklight Hike

Thursday, January 7

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Grant Park

501 Normandy Ridge Rd.

What glows under a blacklight? We will have fun looking at lichens and other living things under the light. Wear glow in the dark apparel if you have it! Nature doesn't have to be the only thing that glows this evening! (KL)

All About Owls

Wednesday, February 3

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

*Grant Park, Kennard Nature Nook
6588 McEwen Rd.*

Owls are really cool! We will discuss their adaptations while dissecting owl pellets. After that, we will venture into Grant Park to listen for their songs. Flashlights optional. (KL)



Stitching with the Weather

Ages 18 and up

Second Tuesday of the month,

January 12 – December 14

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

*Activity Center Park, Community Room
221 N. Main St.*

Optional Kit Fee: \$110, includes 16 skeins (8 colors) of yarn and a 48" circular knitting needle or a crochet hook.

Registration deadline: Monday,
January 4

This unique, year-long program will chronicle the year's daily high temperature using various yarn colors to represent different temperature ranges. This monthly program will help you create a unique piece of fiber art, a functional and memorable blanket. Learn basic weather topics each month — quick facts on pressure systems, tornadoes, cloud patterns, lightning safety, etc.

If you do not wish to purchase the optional kit, you can choose your own yarn colors. You will need 8 different colors of yarn labeled with gauge: 4 in = 18 stitches on size US 8 needles (knit) or 5mm (crochet). You will need at least 750 yards of each color to last throughout the year. Amount will vary based on your gauge and the weather. Blanket can be knit or crochet and personalized to your taste. (AP)

Glass Fusing:

Let's Go to the Beach

Ages 16 and up

Thursday, February 25

6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

*Activity Center Park, Community Room
221 N. Main St.*

Fee: \$72 residents, \$89 nonresidents

Registration deadline: Friday,
February 19

Start dreaming of warmer weather and get creative with glass art! During this class, you will create a relaxing beach scene on a 10.75" square of glass which includes a metal hanger. All materials, except a stand for your project, are included. Instructor Kathy Woodruff will provide glass fusing instruction and creative ideas. (AD)



Take the Grant Park Natural History Hike!

We have a new hiking experience for all ages! Grab a Grant Park Natural History Hike brochure at the park's Normandy Entrance (501 Normandy Ridge Rd.) and follow the 1.1-mile trail to learn a little about the park's history! If the kiosk box is empty, pull up a copy on your phone to follow along. Or, print a copy before you go to the park (for best results print on legal size paper). Brochures are also available at park headquarters.

www.cwpd.org/2020/03/20/natural-history-hike/

Registration closes 48 hours prior to all programs unless otherwise indicated.

ADULT WELLNESS

A Walk in the Park

Ages 18 and up

Tuesdays & Thursdays, December 1 – February 25

(no walk December 24)

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Get outdoors, enjoy sunshine and fresh air while meeting other walking enthusiasts. These are self-guided walks around your community parks! Walking helps maintain a healthy weight, increases energy, lifts your spirits, strengthens memory and protects from heart disease and high blood pressure. Enjoy reduced stress, improved quality of sleep and the many benefits from an improved quality of life. It will be 'A Walk in the Park!'

There is no registration deadline for this program. Join anytime! (JH)

Date	Park
December 1	Oak Grove
December 3	Forest Field
December 8	Schoolhouse
December 10	Iron Horse
December 15	Forest Field
December 17	Yankee
December 22	Iron Horse
December 29	Yankee
December 31	Schoolhouse
January 5	Oak Creek South
January 7	Forest Field
January 12	Holes Creek*
January 14	Iron Horse
January 19	Robert F. Mays
January 21	Yankee
January 26	Oak Grove
January 28	Oak Creek South
February 2	Schoolhouse
February 4	Holes Creek*
February 9	Forest Field
February 11	Robert F. Mays
February 16	Iron Horse
February 18	Oak Grove
February 23	Yankee
February 25	Schoolhouse

*Overflow parking at The Gathering Church at 8911 Yankee Street.



Hike for Your Health

Ages 18 and up

Wednesdays, December 2 – February 24

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Fee: \$15 nonresidents

Designed to get your heart rate up and get you moving outdoors this winter! Staff and volunteers will lead you on these guided, self-paced hikes. Hike for Your Health is a wonderful opportunity to get to know your parks better.

There is no registration deadline for this program. Join anytime! (JH)

Date	Park
December 2	Bill Yeck, Smith House
December 9	Forest Field
December 16	Grant, Normandy
December 23	Forest Field
December 30	Grant, Watts
January 6	Bill Yeck, Rooks Mill
January 13	Forest Field
January 20	Grant, Normandy
January 27	Bill Yeck, Smith House
February 3	Grant, Watts
February 10	Bill Yeck, McGuffey Meadow
February 17	Forest Field
February 24	Grant, Normandy

Hike cancellations due to inclement weather will be posted on www.cwpd.org.

Walking groups are worth it!

Researchers have found, on average, participants who join walking groups experience meaningful improvements in lung power, overall physical functioning and general fitness, in addition to changes in blood pressure, body mass index and other important risk factor measures.

Participants also tend to be less depressed after joining walking groups!

SOURCE: British Journal of Sports Medicine, January 19, 2015

Online resident registration begins Monday, November 9, 10:00 a.m.



Looking for more opportunities? Check out the many offerings from the Washington Township Recreation Center and the Rec West Enrichment Center! Look for their program guide, or, visit

www.washingtontwp.org/recreation

Trail Trekking

Ages 18 and up

Fridays, December 4 – February 26

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

(no trekkings December 25 or January 1)

Fee: \$15 nonresidents

Trekking with Nordic poles is a wonderful way to cross-train or try something new. The Cooper Institute research studies showed that Nordic walking burns more calories, increases oxygen consumption and can be 46% more efficient than normal walking. It's a great workout!

Please wear shoes comfortable for paved paths and bring a bottle of water. Nordic poles provided are adjustable to your height.

There is no registration deadline for this program. Join anytime! (JH)

Date	Park
December 4	Iron Horse
December 11	Yankee
December 18	Oak Creek South
January 8	Oak Grove
January 15	Schoolhouse
January 22	Forest Field
January 29	Iron Horse
February 5	Yankee
February 12	Oak Creek South
February 19	Holes Creek*
February 26	Robert F. Mays

*Overflow parking at The Gathering Church at 8911 Yankee Street.

CWPD adult wellness programs have been reduced this winter in order to avoid indoor programs during the current health crisis. We hope to return to normal levels soon!

Registration closes 48 hours prior to all programs unless otherwise indicated.



Hit the Paved Trails this Winter!

Don't hibernate! Instead, spend this winter exploring your parks. These paved paths are wonderful for running, walking and dog walking. Remember, dogs must be on leash at all times in your parks.

- **Bill Yeck/Forest Field Park:** 0.5 mile paved loop and additional limestone trails
- **Black Oak Park:** 0.2 mile (one way) up steep hill from Ambridge Rd. to Braewood Tr. *No bicycles permitted.*
- **Hithergreen Park:** 0.25 mile loop
- **Holes Creek/Silvercreek Parks:** 1.3 miles one way
- **Iron Horse Park:** 2 miles one way
- **Oak Creek South Park:** 0.4 mile perimeter path
- **Oak Grove Park:** 1.5 mile perimeter path (shorter loops are also available)
- **Robert F. Mays Park:** 0.75 mile perimeter path
- **Schoolhouse Park:** 0.75 mile perimeter path
- **Yankee Park:** 0.82 mile perimeter path (including sidewalk along Yankee St.), center path is 0.19 mile

The Park District is made up of 51 community, nature and neighborhood parks. Visit www.cwpd.org for detailed information and a map to each park.

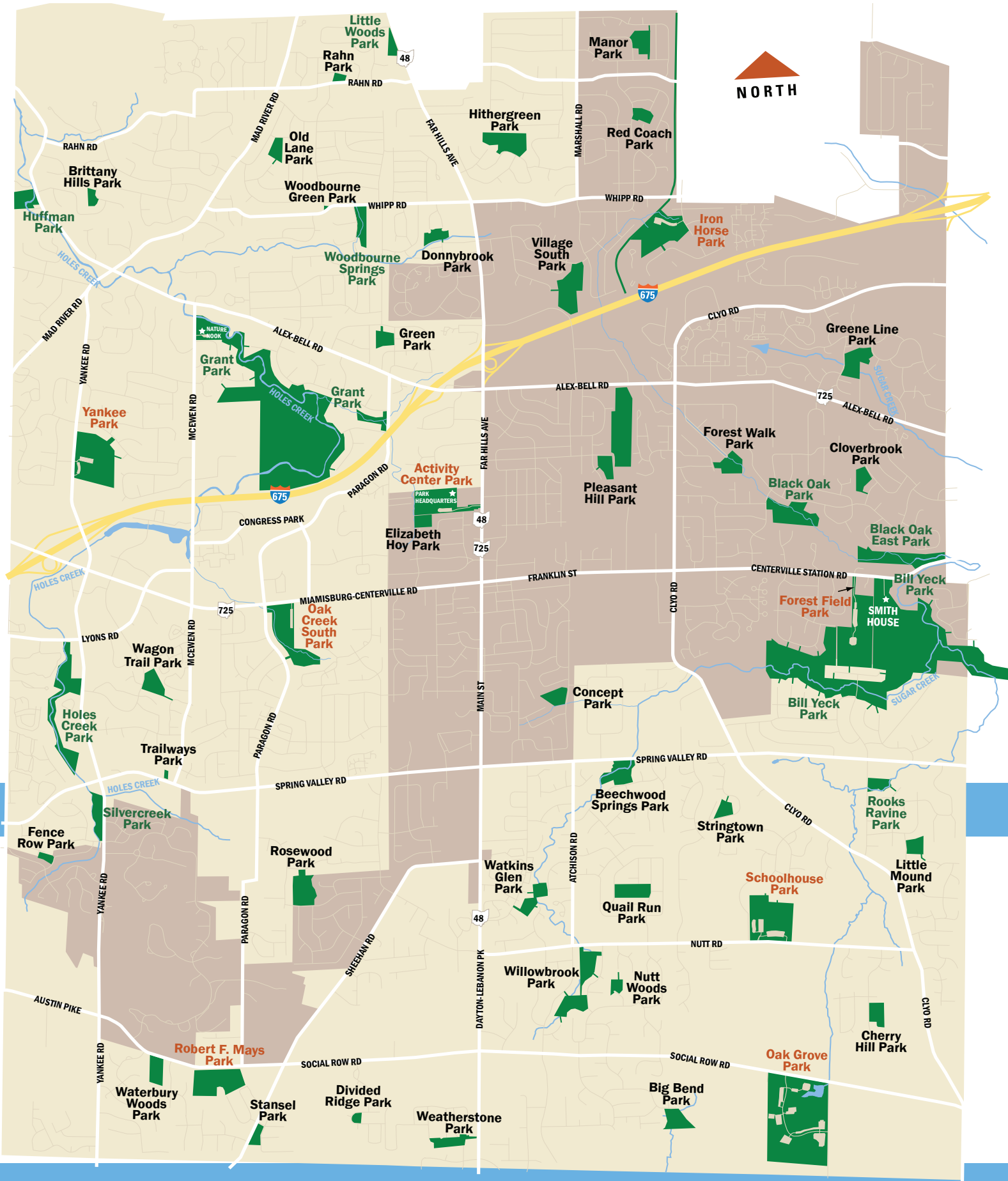
Community Park

Nature Park

Neighborhood Park

City of Centerville

Washington Township



HOW TO REGISTER

WHY REGISTER ONLINE?

#1

You're first in line!

Online registration takes place the day before phone or walk-in registration.

24

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 use gas driving over to register in person. And it saves paper.

Online resident registration begins November 9.

Online

Visit <https://cwpd.recdesk.com> to register. To expedite your registration, create an account prior to 10:00 a.m. on November 9. Centerville and Washington Township residents, please list Dayton as the city in your address or the site will not recognize you as a resident. This website can be used for free programs and for fee-based programs with a debit or credit card.

By Phone

Call us at (937) 433-5155 Monday – Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Please have your credit card ready for fee-based programs. **Phone registration begins one day later than online registration.**

In Person

Visit Park District headquarters at 221 N. Main Street Monday – Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. You may pay with cash, check or credit card. Make checks payable to CWPDP or Centerville-Washington Park District. In person registration begins one day later than online registration. **Please check our website notices prior to visiting. Our office may be closed to visitors due to COVID-19.**

Registration and Refund Policy

- Residents may register members of their family and one other resident family.
- Our intent is that program participants be completely satisfied with their experience! If participants are not satisfied with their program experience, or they are unable to participate in a program for any reason, they may repeat the program at no charge, receive credit toward future fees or receive a refund.

Access for All

We are committed to providing programs, services and facilities that ensure inclusive and adapted access for all. Please contact us for a personalized approach to individual accommodations.

Centerville-Washington Park District Program Release

When registering for or attending any Park District program, you are required to agree to the following statement:

In consideration of your accepting my entry or my child's entry, I hereby, for myself or my child, release, indemnify, and hold harmless the Centerville-Washington Park District, its Commissioners, Agents, Employees and Assignees from any and all liability claims, actions, demands and judgments arising out of injury or loss sustained by me or my child while participating in activities or using facilities of the Centerville-Washington Park District.

**Online Resident Registration Begins
Monday, November 9
at 10:00 a.m.**

**Online Nonresident Registration Begins
Monday, November 16
at 10:00 a.m.**



Please recycle this issue of News & Events when it is no longer of use to you. Thank you!

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Look inside for our popular take-home kit options! We have kits for all ages this winter!