



DELAWARE COUNTY

Plan It For the Planet

Volunteer Opportunity Newsletter

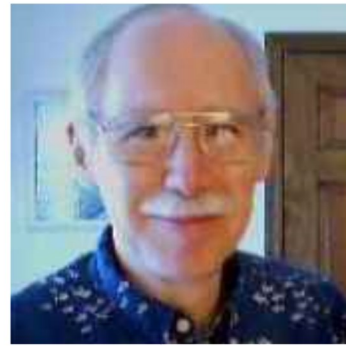
Summer/Fall 2014

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Rick Fisher is "Leaping Into Action"

Rick began volunteering with Preservation Parks in 2013, and has already served 300 hours in a variety of roles. Rick volunteers at special events, hosts nature centers, walks the Golden Marathon, and is a true asset to our team. Learn about Rick Fisher below.



Lives in: Powell, OH since 1987.

Originally from: Long Island, NY.

Family information: My wife Trish passed away in 2012. We have one son Bill who lives in Delaware.

Occupation: I am retired. Formerly, I was a Systems Consultant - teaching and consulting on systems development techniques.

What is your favorite Preservation Park? Deer Haven is my favorite, especially the trail that rises up into the woods. Every season has its own sights and sounds. I love spending time at the Lodge, meeting visitors and just being there.

What's your favorite activity in the parks? Walking/Hiking - by myself before or after a volunteer time, or with the Golden Marathon each Monday. The Golden Marathon starts off each week with some outdoors time, good exercise, and good fellowship.

How did you get involved with the park district? I found PPDC on Volunteer Match and remembered having lunches

in The Lodge parking area with my wife. Sandra got me started as a Deer Haven Lodge Attendant. From there I'm constantly finding new opportunities including helping at Gallant Farm, being a mascot, and telling people about Preserva-

tion Parks at parades, & festivals.

Why do you enjoy volunteering for Preservation Parks? I love sharing with others my experiences in Preservation Parks. I love acquainting them with opportunities for kids, families, couples and singles. In addition, every time that I take time to get outdoors in a Preservation Park, I feel my attitude rise and my blood pressure decline.

How else do you spend your free time? Play Pickleball with the Liberty Twp/Powell YMCA. Just started to volunteer with Delaware Historical Society. Help some friends with their computers. Attend an assortment of music performances and talks. Read mystery novels.

What else do you want people to know about you? Isn't that enough? I appreciate the help of the other volunteers and PPDC staff in teaching me about the natural world and its wonders. I very much appreciate the constant enthusiasm and encouragement that Sandra radiates as volunteer/ special events coordinator.

Mingle with Preservation Parks' new Director, Tom Curtin

Preservation Parks welcomes Tom Curtin, the Park District's new Executive Director. Tom joins us after serving as Director of Geauga Park District for the past 14 years. Prior to that, he spent 16 years with Lake Metro-parks, where he gained a wealth of experience holding various positions in marketing, special events, education, and park maintenance. Tom is thrilled to lead our outstanding park district as he takes over for Rita Au, who retired after 25 years of service.



Tom wants to meet you, hear your ideas, and get to know our amazing volunteer team! Volunteers are invited to attend an ice cream social and a number of hikes designed specifically for you to get acquainted with him.

Please come and enjoy an Ice Cream Social on June 18 at Shale Hollow Preserve at 7 p.m. Plus, accompany Tom as he leads three public hikes exploring the beautiful Preservation Parks' trails.

Ice Cream Social
June 18, 7 p.m.
Shale Hollow Preserve

Hikes with Tom Curtin
June 28, 9 a.m.
Shale Hollow Preserve
July 12, 1 p.m.
Char-Mar Ridge Preserve
August 23, 7 p.m.
Emily Traphagen Preserve

Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist (OCVN) Program

You can become an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist (OCVN), and be trained to promote awareness and citizen stewardship of Ohio's natural resources through science-based education and community service. Consider participating in this life changing program.

Preservation Parks is a key partner in a new Central Ohio OCVN Chapter. Park volunteers are encouraged to participate in this training which encompasses 40 hours of combined classroom and field instruction, covering a wide variety of natural history topics. The class runs from

August 19 through October 21. More than a dozen natural science topics are covered, each taught by experts in the field.

The class meets at varying locations every Tuesday evening for two months from 6 to 9 p.m. Some Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. are also scheduled.

Registration is \$150.00 and is due within two weeks of admission to the program.

Each participant commits 40 hours of approved volunteer service projects.

After certification, 20 hours of volunteer service and 8 hours of advanced training are required annually.

New and exciting leadership opportunities will be available to OCVN graduates.

Contact Sandra for an application, which is due July 1, 2014. Space is limited to 30 participants, who are accepted on a first come, first served basis, so apply today! You must be at least 18 years old to apply.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Sandra McBrearty, at saundras@preservationparks.com or (740) 524-8600, ext. 6.
Sign up for these opportunities on-line at the following link:
<https://www.volgistics.com/ex/portal.dll?FROM=14855>

Volunteer Expo Team and Mascot Opportunities

Letterbox sign up, community festivals in Powell, Sunbury & Galena, parades, and the Delaware County Fair – these are just some of the events we are asked to participate in!

As we grow, Preservation Parks is getting better known, and the requests for our presence keep pouring in. We want to be everywhere, because the exposure is great! However, sometimes all these festivals are tough to staff due to conflicting events.

This is where YOU come in!

Do you love talking to people? Are you knowledgeable about Preservation Parks? If so, can you spend a couple of hours at a festival with or without staff members present hosting a Preservation Parks

information booth? Visitors like to ask questions, but don't worry. We'll provide a "cheat sheet" with answers to typical questions, such as: Do you have lakes where we can fish? Do you have campgrounds? How are you funded? And so on. We'll also provide a short training session (in person, or over the phone).

Our adorable mascots are also invited to some of these events, and volunteers willing to get dressed in Preservation Parks' mascot costumes are needed. You can be the one who everyone wants to hug!

Does this sound like a fun way to volunteer? If so, look for these Information Booth or Mascot opportunities on the volunteer calendar. You can sign up for events listed, and we'll get in touch with details.



Represent Preservation Parks in our Community!

Event	Date	Location	Time	Task
Letterbox Signup in Sunbury	May 31	Sunbury Library	3:15-5:00 p.m.	Letterbox Booth
Ostrander EMS Touch-a-Truck	June 7	6457 Marysville Road (US 36)	10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Mascot
Powell Festival	June 27	Village Green Park, Powell	5-9 p.m.	Info booth
Powell Festival	June 28	Village Green Park, Powell	Noon-9 p.m.	Info booth shifts
Orange Township Parade	July 4	Old Powell Rd. at Polaris Pkwy	9:30 a.m.	Mascot & Walkers
Sunbury Parade	July 4	555 S. Old 3C in Sunbury	9:30 a.m.	Walkers
Delaware Parade	July 4	Delaware Fairgrounds	2:30 p.m.	Mascot & Walkers
Sunbury Sizzle and Sound	August 23	Village Square, Sunbury	Noon-6 p.m.	Info booth shifts
Delaware County Fair	September 14-21	Delaware Fairgrounds	9 a.m.-9 p.m.	Info booth shifts
Kilbourne Fall Fest	October 4	Village of Kilbourne	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	Info booth shifts

Fish Shocking- Volunteer Training on May 28

Volunteers are invited to participate in a Fish Shocking Study at River Run Preserve on Wednesday, May 28 at 11 a.m. at River Run Preserve located at 158 Main Road, Delaware.

Scientists from the Ohio EPA will be studying the diversity of fish species living at Preservation Parks' future site, River Run Preserve. They will send an electric shock through the waters of the Olentangy River which will temporarily paralyze the fish so that collection and identification

may occur. Electrofishing has proven to be the most comprehensive and effective single method for collecting stream fishes. Fish are temporarily stunned, netted, assessed and released.

This unique education opportunity aims to teach park staff and volunteers about wildlife within the water resource we are protecting at our future site, River Run Preserve. Come be a part of the fun!

This volunteer training will take place **Wednesday, May 28, at 11 a.m. at River Run Preserve located at: 158 Main Road, Delaware.**



This Saugeye was captured and released the last time the EPA assessed this site.

Litter Clean-up & Lunch - 10 a.m. June 11, 18, & 25

The snow has melted, hooray! Left, however, is unsightly litter which winter winds have blown in, revealing a dirty landscape in and around our parks. Preservation Parks has scheduled three litter clean up opportunities on consecutive **Wednesday mornings from 10 to 11:30 a.m.** After the dirty work, we will celebrate our accomplishments by going out to lunch together.



Volunteers are needed to make this task quick, easy, and fun. Wear closed toe shoes or boots that can get wet, bring some clean clothes to change into, and lunch money.

10:00 a.m. - Locations below:

June 11 at Blues Creek Preserve
Lunch will be at Horsey Hall.

June 18 at Emily Traphagen Preserve. We will clean up a two-mile stretch of Seldom Seen Road, and have pizza at Iocono's.

June 25 at Hoover Scenic Trail Meet in the parking lot on Plumb Road. We will have lunch at Mudflats Grill.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Sandra McBrearty, at saundras@preservationparks.com or (740) 524-8600, ext. 6.
Sign up for these opportunities on-line at the following link:
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Summer Solstice Sleep Out at Shale Hollow– June 21



Celebrate the longest day of the year by assisting at this campout program. Thirty people will sleep under the stars amid the natural beauty of Shale Hollow

Preserve. Space is limited, so just a few volunteers are needed throughout the night. Volunteers should arrive at Shale Hollow Preserve at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 21, and should plan to sleep in a tent.

Of course you are welcome to simply participate in this event for fun too. Register by June 14, by contacting Rich Niccum at the email below:
rniccum@preservationparks.com

Shale Hollow Off Trail Hike to Waterfall– June 29 at 1:00

Shale Hollow Preserve, which opened last December, has become Preservation Parks' most visited park. Visitors enjoy the natural play area and loop trail. However, more than 100 acres of this park are protected under a conservation easement and are accessible only during programs.

Volunteers are invited to enjoy a special off-trail hike led by

Geologist, Eric Mumper. This rugged hike begins at 1 p.m. on Sunday, June 29.

Please be advised that this is an advanced hike, and participants may get wet as we traverse the stream bed and wind our way up and down the steep shale cliffs that skirt the southern half of Shale Hollow Preserve. Closed toe shoes and long pants should be worn.



Concerts at Gallant Woods Preserve– Thursday evenings

The Thursday Evening Concert series is back at Gallant Woods Preserve, and we brought back the best of the best and some new names as well. Volunteers are needed at the refreshment stand and to assist with other tasks and should plan to assist from 6 to 9 p.m.



<u>DATES</u>	<u>BANDS</u>	<u>MUSICAL GENRE</u>
July 10	Marquis 66	60's Classic Rock
July 17	Z# Big Band	Big Band
July 24	The Zen Band	Motown & Blues
July 31	Rachel Karryn Band	Country Soul
August 7	Muleskinner Band	Bluegrass
August 14	Agent 99	80's Classic Rock

Antique Tractor Show at Gallant Farm – Saturday, August 2

Do you have an antique tractor that you would like to show off? Participate in this Antique Tractor show at Gallant Farm Preserve and help us celebrate the machines that made life on the farm easier, and enabled the farmer to accomplish a variety of tasks in less time.

Tractor registration begins at 8 a.m. and the show opens to

the public at 10 a.m.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the show. Volunteers may help at the registration table, greet guests within the farmhouse, lead activities with kids, and more. Volunteer for shifts from 7:30 a.m. to noon or from noon to 4:30 p.m.



Perseid Meteor Shower Campout– Saturday, August 9



Assist at Preservation Parks' annual Perseid Meteor Shower Campout. The event takes place at Blues Creek Preserve, Saturday, August 9. Enjoy an evening under the stars and make this a night to remember. Volunteers assist at the registration table, campfire, stargazing program, and night hike.

Volunteers arrive at Blues Creek

Preserve at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 9 and may leave late that night, or may camp out. The event ends at 9 a.m. Sunday morning.

Of course, you are welcome to simply participate in this event for fun too. Participants must pre-register for this event by e-mailing:

saundras@preservationparks.com

Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Sandra McBrearty, at saundras@preservationparks.com or (740) 524-8600, ext. 6. Sign up for these opportunities on-line at the following link: <https://www.volgistics.com/ex/portal.dll?FROM=14855>

VOLUNTEERS ARE LOVE IN MOTION

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Shale Hollow Preserve

Sunday, August 31, 2014

6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Delaware County Fair– September 14 -21



The Delaware County Fair is a great opportunity for face-to-face interaction with residents of our community. Sharing your enthusiasm about your Preservation Parks preserves, programs and events, and future plans will help our organization attract new fans.

Sign up on-line to volunteer at the Preservation Parks' information booth during the fair from September 14 through 21. Admission passes will be sent to participating volunteers.

Trick-or-Treat Trail—October 26 at Gallant Woods Preserve

Dress in a Halloween costume and make the Trick-or-Treat Trail spectacular for hundreds of children. Thirty volunteers are needed to make this event successful, so come be part of the fun!

Volunteers will meet at Gallant Woods Preserve from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, October 25 to help set up the trail.

The Trick-or-Treat Trail event takes place on Sunday, October 26 and volunteers are needed from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Volunteers are needed for the following tasks:

- Decorating the trail on Saturday, October 25, from 9 a.m.-noon.
- Organizing candy, selling concessions, and overseeing activities on Sunday, October 26, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Assisting with hay rides.
- Greeting kids along trail.
- Helping kids decorate a pumpkin.
- Tearing down decorations at 4 p.m.

A Holiday Evening at The Farm- Saturday, December 6

Volunteer to bring the holiday spirit to the farm during this festive special event!

1. **Decorate** the Farm House for the holidays using items appropriate to the time period. This activity will be done the week before the event.
2. **Donate cookies.** Cookies can be homemade or store bought (no peanut butter cookies, please). Please deliver cookies to Gallant Farm on Friday or Saturday, noon to 5 p.m.
3. **Assist Saturday evening 5- 9 p.m.** Bake or serve cookies and hot wassail, facilitate craft stations, roast chestnuts around the fire, and assist various choirs coming to sing.

Bringing forth the 1930s/40s look:

Women should wear a simple cotton dress or skirt with stockings. Feel free to cover up with a sweater. Bring what you have that you think might work. We have extra dresses and aprons at the farm and can pull a period look together.

Men should wear bib overalls or clothes with the farm hand look. Men will assist with the camp fire outside, so dress for the weather.



Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Sandra McBrearty, at saundras@preservationparks.com or (740) 524-8600, ext. 6.

Sign up for these opportunities by logging in on-line at the following link:

Upload your Photo to the Volunteer Information Web Site

Preservation Parks' team of volunteers and employees is constantly growing, and it is important for us to connect and know one another. One easy way to help the team know your face is to upload a photo of yourself on the Volunteer Information web site. It is easy to do; simply follow these steps:



1. Log in to the volunteer website.
2. Click the My Profile tab.
3. Scroll to the photo square. Click Upload.
4. Click Browse. From your picture files, click on a photo showing your beautiful face.
5. Crop the photo to center your face.
6. Click Upload.

Please take a moment to upload your photo!

Nature Center Attendants Make the Difference!

Nature Center Attendants are vital to Preservation Parks' daily operation. By spending a few hours each month hosting a nature center, ensuring the facility is open, and providing excellent guest services to our visitors, a volunteer makes a huge contribution to the park district.

Nature Center Attendants are needed at The Lodge at Deer Haven Preserve and The McCoy Nature Center at Hogback Ridge Preserve. Shifts run from noon to 2:30 and 2:30 to 5 p.m. Nature Center Attendants are responsible for opening and closing the building, recording visitation, and sharing information about park trails, programs, volunteering, and other opportunities. Training is provided.

Scheduling shifts as a Nature Center Attendant is easy. Utilizing the on-line calendar to schedule shifts makes this opportunity flexible enough to fit into any schedule.

We'd love to have you join this team!



**Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Sandra McBrearty, at
sandras@preservationparks.com or (740) 524-8600, ext. 6.**

Sign up for these opportunities by logging in on-line at the following link:

Dates of Volunteer Opportunities

May 28	Fish Shocking at River Run Preserve
June 11, 18, 25	Litter Clean-up & out to Lunch
June 18	Ice Cream Social– meet Tom Curtin
June 21	Summer Solstice Sleep Out
June 28, July 12, Aug. 23	Hikes with Tom Curtin
June 29	Shale Hollow Off-Trail Volunteer Hike
July 10,17, 24 & Aug. 7, 14	Summer Concert Series
August 2	Antique Tractor Show
August 9	Perseid Meteor Shower Campout
August 31	Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
September 14 - 21	Delaware County Fair
October 25 & 26	Trick-or-Treat Trail
December 6	A Holiday Evening at The Farm



Sign up to volunteer on-line at

<https://www.volgistics.com/ex/portal.dll/?FROM=14855>

