

# Preservation Parks of Delaware County



Preserve. Conserve. Connect.



[www.preservationparks.com](http://www.preservationparks.com)

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**Preservation Parks  
of Delaware County**  
2656 Hogback Road  
Sunbury, OH 43074  
740.524.8600

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**Tom Curtin**

BOARD OF PARK  
COMMISSIONERS  
**John Bader**  
**Dan Boysel**  
**Bruce Ruhl**

## AUTUMN 2015 Programs & Events

### Message from the Director

The world has completed its expansion through the seasons of spring and summer, and now begins its annual contraction, the gathering in of fall. Life is mobilizing for harvests, hibernation and migration. This preparatory positioning of the human and animal inhabitants of our hemisphere is a synchronous movement that counts down with the diminishing light of the season. While the fading light adds a sense of urgency to the transfer of food, lodging requirements and relocation efforts, it also signals a time of sheltered security and compatible gatherings of like souls.

The parks provide a down-to-earth venue for flocking up with friends and family to observe and participate in this period of conversion. While the weather can be changeable, it does provide a comfortable atmosphere for picnics and trail rambling. Late season wildflowers and the transforming deciduous foliage extend a palette of pigments accenting this chapter of our almanac, offering us the chance to photo bomb fall.

Many of the program offerings within the pages of this issue speak to the natural world's groundwork during the transition toward winter. From farm garden, to the fields and forests of the parks, you will encounter opportunities to join in nature's seasonal metamorphosis.

Tom Curtin, executive director

Preservation Parks' mission is to protect and conserve the natural and historic features of Delaware County and to inspire outdoor exploration and learning.

# Preservation Parks of Delaware County

## SEPTEMBER

### Friday, September 4 – Storytime on the Farm

Bring your youngsters to Gallant Farm for an afternoon of fun. Listen to a story book from the 1930s or 1940s, and complete an easy craft or coloring page.

1 p.m. GF — ages 3+

### Sunday, September 6 – Terrific Tomatoes (Homesteading Series)

While tomatoes are arguably one of the most popular home garden plants today, this hasn't always been the case. Learn more about tomato history as we harvest, cook and can our crop. *Learn more about the Homesteading Series on p. 4.*

2 p.m. GF — adults, ages 18+

### Tuesday, September 8 – Preschool Park Pals: Magical Monarchs

Flutter in to the Lodge as we explore the marvelous Monarch Butterfly. Registration required by Sept. 1.

10 a.m. and 1 p.m. DHP — ages 4 & 5, accompanied by an adult

### Wednesday, September 9 – Hound Hike

Bring your socialized canine for a walk with a naturalist. Guest presenter: Delaware Dog Jogger. (See box on p. 5 for more Hound Hike details.)

6:30 p.m. CMRP — all ages

### Thursday, September 10 – Homeschool Adventures:

#### Learning about Lepidoptera

Fly in and discover the difference between moths and butterflies. Join a naturalist in catching moths and get the chance to see live butterflies. A campfire with s'mores will end the program. Weather dependent program. Register by Sept. 3.

8 p.m. ETP — ages 7-12, accompanied by an adult

### Saturday, September 12 & Sunday, September 13 – Monarch Magic Weekend

Celebrate the world of the Monarch Butterfly! Play games, watch a movie, make crafts and enjoy refreshments, as we learn about these magnificent insects. **We will tag and release live Monarchs, if available, at 2 p.m. each day.** Attendees, if they wish, may participate in a fundraiser to raise money to help save monarchs.

Noon - 5 p.m. DHP — all ages

## Park Key

### Big Walnut Community Trail (BWCT)

168 S. Vernon St., Sunbury

### Blues Creek Preserve (BCP)

9627 Fontanelle Road, Ostander

### Char-Mar Ridge Preserve (CMRP)

7741 Lewis Center Road, Westerville

### Deer Haven Preserve (DHP)

4183 Liberty Road, Delaware

### Emily Traphagan Preserve (ETP)

5094 Seldom Seen Road, Powell

### Gallant Farm (GF)

2150 Buttermilk Hill Road, Delaware

### Gallant Woods Preserve (GWP)

2151 Buttermilk Hill Road, Delaware

### Hogback Ridge Preserve (HRP)

2656 Hogback Road, Sunbury

### Hoover Scenic Trail (HST)

8405 Plumb Road, Galena

### Shale Hollow Preserve (SHP)

6320 Artesian Run, Lewis Center

### Monday, September 14 – Storytime in the Park

Join us for a nature-themed story, songs and sensory fun. Preservation Parks Volunteer Amy Walters will lead you and your little one on a discovery of the natural world!

9 a.m. DHP — ages 0-3

### Monday, September 21 – Hound Hike

Bring your socialized canine for a walk with a naturalist. Guest presenter: Patricia Getha Fine Arts & Photography. (See box on p. 5 for more Hound Hike details.)

6:30 p.m. SHP — all ages

### Saturday, September 26 – Hike for Health! \$

Walk into fall during our healthy hike series. Collect iron-on patches at each hike to complete your unique t-shirt. The hike is free, and there is a \$5 fee for the hike series tee-shirt. If this is your first Healthy Hike, register by Sept. 21.

10 a.m. BCP — all ages

### Wednesday, September 30 – Gallant Farm Book Club

We'll read *Flight Behavior*, by Barbara Kingsolver. Naturalist Liz Neroni will visit and compare the life of a Monarch in the 1930s with local efforts to aid the declining Monarch population today. Read in advance and come for the fun, lively discussion.

6:30 p.m. GF — ages 14+



2014 Trick or Treat Trail

## Trick or Treat Trail

Sunday, October 25, 1 – 4 p.m.

Gallant Woods Preserve, 2151 Buttermilk Hill Road

Children, come in costume to gather treats from costumed characters along the Acorn Trail, decorate pumpkins and enjoy a hayride! It's all free! Before or after, visit Gallant Farm across Buttermilk Hill Road for more fall fun!

## Preview: Holiday Evening on the Farm

Saturday, December 5, 6 – 8 p.m.

Gallant Farm, 2150 Buttermilk Hill Road, Delaware

Celebrate the holiday spirit as people would have in the 1930s! Enjoy live Christmas music, roast chestnuts over an open fire, enjoy hot wassail and cookies in the farmhouse, make holiday decorations -- and more! FREE family fun.

## Walking Trails / Nature Programs / Picnic Shelters

## Registration &amp; Fee Information

Some programs carry a fee and/or require advance registration. Watch for programs with the following symbols.

**\$ Fee for this program**

**🕒 Registration required:** Note registration deadlines. To register, email: [register@preservationparks.com](mailto:register@preservationparks.com), or call 740-524-8600, ext. 3.

## OCTOBER

**Friday, October 2 – Storytime on the Farm**

Bring your youngsters to Gallant Farm for an afternoon of fun. Listen to a story book from the 1930s or 1940s, and complete an easy craft or coloring page.

**1 p.m. GF** — ages 3+

**Saturday, October 3 – Sowing Seeds (Homesteading Series)**

Come to Gallant Farm to witness how fields were prepared for planting wheat during the 1930s. Then join in the planting by helping hand-broadcast seed on the freshly plowed field. Farm staff also will share ideas on how you can grow small scale grains in your home garden. *For more information on the Homesteading Series, see page 4.*

**10 a.m. GF** — all ages

**Saturday, October 3 – Under the Surface**

Touch, taste and explore with Certified Volunteer Naturalist and Preservation Parks volunteer Nancy Ross-Thompson during a fun, hands-on look at what lurks beneath the surface of the garden. Participants will go home with a live plant while supplies last.

**1 p.m. GF** — all ages

**Sunday, October 4 – Lovely Leaves \$ 🕒**

Meet at the Lodge for an afternoon learning about trees and their leaves. We'll go on a relaxing hike to collect and identify leaves. Then we'll return to the Lodge to decorate a tee-shirt. \$5 program fee. Register by Sept. 27 and include tee-shirt size.

**1 p.m. SHP** — all ages

**Wednesday, October 7 – Hound Hike**

Bring your socialized canine for a walk with a naturalist. Guest presenter: ACME Canine. *(See box on p. 5 for more Hound Hike details.)*

**6:30 p.m. GWP** — all ages

**Sunday, October 11 – Ravine Hike**

The shale cliffs will be our backdrop as we head down the stream corridor, stopping to enjoy whatever the season has to offer! A light sprinkling of geology, botany and birding will be part of the hike. Feet will get wet, and there are many obstacles to maneuver along the way, so be prepared.

**3 p.m. SHP** — ages 16+

**Thursday, October 15 – Homeschool Adventures: Mushroom Mayhem**

This month, we will take an in-depth look at these important decomposers and their structures. We will go on a hike, so dress accordingly.

**10 a.m. GWP** — ages 7-12, accompanied by an adult

**Saturday, October 17 – Hike for Health! \$ 🕒**

Walk into fall during our healthy hike series. Collect iron-on patches at each hike to complete your unique t-shirt. The hike is free, and there is a \$5 fee for the hike series tee-shirt. If this is your first Healthy Hike, register by Oct. 12.

**10 a.m. BCP** — all ages



Gallant Farm in the Fall  
Cover Photo by Brenda Manley

**Sunday, October 18 – Oh, Nuts! (Homesteading Series)**

Come to the farm to gather nuts from the woods, and learn how Ohio housewives improvised during the Great Depression when they could not get English walnuts or pecans to add to recipes. After we gather nuts, we'll bake something delicious! *(Learn more about the Homesteading series on page 4.)*

**1 p.m. DHP** — all ages

**Monday, October 19 – Storytime in the Park**

Join us for a nature-themed story, songs and sensory fun. Preservation Parks Volunteer Amy Walters will lead you and your little one on a discovery of the natural world!

**9 a.m. DHP** — ages 0-3

**Monday, October 19 – Hound Hike**

Bring your socialized canine for a walk with a naturalist. Guest presenter: Basic 99 Obedience Training. *(See box on p. 5 for more Hound Hike details.)*

**6:30 p.m. HRP** — all ages

**Saturday, October 24 – Halloween in the Hollow**

Come to the Lodge and explore some of nature's S-P-O-O-K-Y animals. Go on a scavenger hunt, hike the trail, relax around the fire and enjoy some refreshments.

**6:30 - 8:30 p.m. SHP** — all ages

**Tuesday, October 27 – Preschool Park Pals: Spectacular Spiders 🕒**

Let's appreciate our eight-legged friends and discover their amazing web-spinning ways. Registration required by Oct. 20.

**10 a.m. and 1 p.m. DHP** — ages 4 & 5, accompanied by an adult

**Wednesday, October 28 – Gallant Farm Book Club**

We'll continue our fall reading with *Glass Castle*, by Jeanette Walls, from our books about earlier times. Read in advance and come for the fun, lively discussion.

**6:30 p.m. GF** — ages 14+

**Shocking Corn**

Corn was an important crop grown on 1930s farms and it still is today, but the methods of harvesting have changed quite a bit. Instead of using a combine that does all the work of harvesting corn in one machine like we do today, harvesting corn was a very labor intensive process. Come out to the farm and try your hand at shocking some corn in the field. **This is a weather dependent program;** e-mail us to receive a notice of the date and time, or watch our website and Facebook page for updates.

**Date and Time TBD GF** — all ages



740-524-8600



contactparks@preservationparks.com

## NOVEMBER

### Wednesday, November 4 – Hound Hike

Bring your socialized canine for a walk with a naturalist. Guest presenter: ACME Canine. (See box on p. 5 for more Hound Hike details.)

6:30 p.m. BCP — all ages

### Friday, November 6 – Storytime on the Farm

Bring your youngsters to Gallant Farm for an afternoon of fun. Listen to a story book from the 1930s or 1940s, and complete an easy craft or coloring page.

1 p.m. GF — ages 3+

### Saturday, November 7 – Native American Flute Class \$ ☎

Join Preservation Parks volunteer and musician Bob Grossman for an introduction to the Native American flute. Participants will learn some flute history, its importance in native American cultures, and the musical basics of the instrument. The cost is \$60 and includes a flute, instructional DVD and class instruction. Register by Oct. 23.

10 a.m. - Noon SHP — ages 12+

### Monday, November 9 – Storytime in the Park

Join us for a nature-themed story, songs and sensory fun. Preservation Parks Volunteer Amy Walters will lead you and your little one on a discovery of the natural world!

9 a.m. DHP — ages 0-3

### Tuesday, November 10 – Preschool Park Pals: Playing with Pumpkins ☎

Bring your preschooler in for some messy sensory fun, as we touch, taste and play with everyone's favorite squash – the pumpkin! Registration required by Nov. 3.

10 a.m. and 1 p.m. GF — ages 4 & 5, accompanied by an adult

### Saturday, November 14 – Card Party

Although the 1930s was a time of great hardship, people still found ways to have fun. Families enjoyed getting together to play card games such as euchre, canasta or bridge. Come to the farm to learn how to play these classic games.

2 p.m. GF — ages 14+

### Monday, November 16 – Hound Hike

Bring your socialized canine for a walk with a naturalist. Guest presenter: Delaware Pet Staff. (See box on p. 5 for more Hound Hike details.)

6:30 p.m. GWP — all ages

### Wednesday, November 18 – Gallant Farm Book Club

We'll continue our fall reading with *Persian Pickle Club*, by Sandra Dallas, from our books about earlier times. Read in advance and come for the fun, lively discussion.

6:30 p.m. GF — ages 14+

### Sunday, November 29 – Make It and Take It: Natural Wreath \$ ☎

Make a wreath out of natural items that you can take home and display for your holiday gatherings. \$15 program fee. Register by Nov. 22.

1 p.m. DHP — adults, ages 18+

## Homesteading Series

Life on an Ohio farm is very much dictated by the changing seasons. These programs at Gallant Farm showcase various season-specific farm activities, and will demonstrate not only how these activities were carried out during the Great Depression, but also how we can perform them today!

For complete descriptions for each program, refer to the monthly list. Upcoming programs are: Terrific Tomatoes (Sept. 6), Sowing Seeds (Oct. 3), and Oh Nuts! (Oct. 18). Join us for any or all of them.

## Look About the Lodge

Can you find the small, hidden seasonal items that are scattered around the nature display in the Lodge at Deer Haven Preserve? Look up, look down, look all around — the items might be camouflaged! Use only your eyes to find as many as you can, tell us the number and you might win a prize!

The Lodge is open Noon-5 p.m. every day.

September: Monarchs    October: Mini Pumpkins    November: Yellow Leaves



## Golden Marathon

The Golden Marathon is a series of walks for older adults, which take place nearly every Monday in Preservation Parks locations and other natural areas in Central Ohio. A partnership with Source Point, formerly the Council for Older Adults, the program gets participants out for 1-2 mile walks, which – over the course of a three month period – add up to 26.2 miles – a marathon.

All information, including addresses, is available by calling 740-524-8600, ext. 6, or online at [www.preservationparks.com](http://www.preservationparks.com).

### SEPT hikes begin at 9:30 a.m.

Sept. 14 – Day Trip to Roscoe Village

\* Fee and reservation required; call 740-363-6677

Sept. 21 – Alum Creek State Park

Sept. 28 – Hoover Reservoir

### OCT & NOV hikes begin at 1:30 p.m.

Oct. 5 – Emily Traphagen Preserve

Oct. 12 – Blues Creek Preserve

Oct. 19 – Oak Grove Cemetery

Oct. 26 – Gallant Woods Preserve

Nov. 2 – Camp Lazarus

Nov. 9 – Bus Trip to Marietta

\* Fee and reservation required; call 740-363-6677

Nov. 16 – Shale Hollow Preserve

Nov. 23 – Char-Mar Ridge Preserve

Nov. 30 – Hogback Ridge Preserve

# 10 public parks & trails open 365 days a year



Contest winning Photo By Christel Mattern

## “Preserving our Heritage” Photo Contest

Photos are due November 1 for entry in our new **Photo Contest**.

Take photos in any of the following categories: **Park District Scenes, General Nature, Animals** (all wildlife, including insects), **Historical, and Youth** (these photos may be taken in any category by youth ages 11-17).

Photos will be displayed during a **month-long art show in December**, in the Lodge at Deer Haven Preserve. First, second and third place ribbons will be awarded in each category, and Best in Show ribbons will go to photos in adult and youth categories.

Visitors to the show will vote for their favorite photos, with a “People’s Choice Award” going to the photo with the most votes. Award winners will be featured on the Preservation Parks Facebook page and website.

For complete information, including all contest rules and guidelines, visit [www.preservationparks.com/programs](http://www.preservationparks.com/programs).

## Hound Hikes

Bring your socialized canine for a walk with a naturalist. Your dog will receive a bandanna at your first hike, and a paw print stamp for each hike completed. After 10 stamps, you’ll receive a prize!

Special guests at the hikes will provide pet-related information, such as pet care and discipline, supplies and services.

Dogs must be up to date on all shots and have county tags. Meet at the park kiosks and pick up one of our **Pets in the Parks brochures**, for all you need to know about bringing your pets out on the trails.

Hound Hikes are held on Sept. 9 & 21, Oct. 7 & 19, and Nov. 4 & 16. Details on each hike are included in the monthly listings in this brochure.

## Delaware County Bird Club

Calling all bird lovers! The Delaware County Bird Club is an informal organization of individuals who appreciate birds and the natural environment. The club was started by Dr. Jed Burt, of the zoology department at Ohio Wesleyan University. In addition to holding regular meetings, the group conducts the annual Delaware Reservoir Christmas Bird Count.

Meetings are held in the Lodge at Deer Haven Preserve, on the fourth Monday of each month, except for November and December due to holiday conflicts. Anyone interested in birds may join, whatever their level of expertise.

Meetings begin at 7 p.m. with conversation and refreshments, followed by announcements and a program.

Fall meetings will be held September 28, October 26 and November 16. Refer to the Preservation Parks online calendar for future meeting dates.

## All Aboard for Railroad Fun!

The Delaware County Model Railroaders Group holds open houses each month at the Trailhouse at Big Walnut community Trail. Visitors can watch the trains while they learn about model railroading and the development of the railroad industry in America. The display, which is in HO scale, includes the trains and a miniature landscaped village and surrounding countryside.

**Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

September 19  
October 17  
November 21

**Sundays, Noon - 4 p.m.**

September 20  
October 18  
November 22

## Find us at the Delaware County Fair!

When: September 19-26

Where: Delaware County Fair, outside the Arts & Crafts Building

Live mammals, reptiles and insects. A nature scavenger hunt. “Down on the Farm” activities. Even a coyote howling contest! Preservation Parks is moving to a large outdoor space at the Delaware County Fair, just outside the Arts and Crafts Building. We’ll be there for the entire fair, September 19-26, with an exciting new nature theme each of the first five days. We’ll host the Ohio Wildlife Center, the Turtle Lady, Central Ohio Wild ONES, the Bug Man, and more!

Check out the on-line calendar on our website for dates, times and details!

## Summer Letterbox Thank-You’s

Summer Letterbox Adventure 2015 ended the beginning of August, and we had our busiest year yet with about 2,000 children participating. Thank you to the Delaware County District Library, Sunbury Community Library and Ashley Wornstaff Library for handing registrations. Thank you to Preferred Wireless for the donation of 100 pairs of mini binoculars, and thank you to REI, Fundamentals Teachers & Parents Bookstore, Taranto’s Pizzeria, and the Ohio Division of Wildlife for donations of prizes.



# Preservation Parks of Delaware County

Indicia

**Park Hours**

SEPT & OCT – 8 a.m.-9 p.m. daily

NOV – 8 a.m.-7 p.m. daily

**District Office**

**Education Office**

**Mary McCoy Nature Center**

2656 Hogback Road

Sunbury, Ohio 43074

740-524-8600

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Mon – Fri

**The Lodge Nature Center at**

**Deer Haven Preserve**

4183 Liberty Road

Delaware, Ohio 43015

740-362-0283

Noon – 5 p.m. daily

**Gallant Farm**

2150 Buttermilk Hill Road

Delaware, Ohio 43015

740-595-3020

Noon – 5 p.m. Thur – Sun



Printed on 80# Rolland Enviro 100 Satin Text, a 100% post-consumer recycled stock, using soy-based inks.

Or Current Resident

## Change is in the Air

Can you feel it? The hint that winter is not far off. As you walk the trails, it may seem like the plants and animals are just going about their normal routines, but there is a sense of urgency in their actions. They too sense that change is upon us.

The waning daylight, beginning as far back as June 22, signals their brains to begin preparations for the cold months ahead. For animals sticking around, the seasonal changes signal the need to gather and hoard stores of food and build up fat reserves. Squirrels and chipmunks are infamous for their winter preparation, packing their cheeks full of nuts and – pardon the pun – squirreling them away to be eaten when the temperatures fall.

For some, such as Neotropical migrant birds that have been nesting in Ohio and points north, they begin preparation for their long trek south to warmer climes. Some travel as far as South America, a 1,500- to 2,000-mile journey across a variety of habitats and terrain, before finding their winter refuge. Even some of our birds of prey begin closing up shop in anticipation of the journey south. Ospreys that called Alum Creek and Hoover Reservoirs home for the summer, left in August on their thousand-mile-plus journey south to winter feeding grounds.

For many insects, the cooler weather signals the end of their lives. However, some do hibernate as adults and awaken in the spring, and many overwinter as eggs or larvae, encased in a warm egg case or cocoon hidden away in a tree cavity, log, or even our houses.

And lest we forget about the plants that surround us, the most obvious changes occur in the trees, with their changing colors and falling leaves. Among other plants, annuals die off, but – although they look dead – perennials are simply dormant, pulling nutrients deep into their roots in preparation for the warming of the ground in the spring.

So, while you pull on the hoodie and sit by the fire, think about how everything around you is preparing for winter, all to ensure that new life rises forth next spring.

Rich Niccum, Education Services Manager

