

Preservation Parks of Delaware County



Preserve. Conserve. Connect.



www.preservationparks.com

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Tom Curtin

BOARD OF PARK
COMMISSIONERS
John Bader
Dan Boysel
Bruce Ruhl

Winter 2015-16 Programs & Events

Message from the Director

Hang up the cleats of summer athletics and place the grilling fare in hibernation. The season is calling for a change in uniform and a new play book. Even though winter's presence sends the shadow of night to eclipse the diurnal presence of our star, we can hone our focus with the visible spectrum of activities displayed within the covers of this season's "catalog." Offerings span a continuum of snowy hikes, farm fare (sausage making, livestock care), and holiday activities, while park staff stand ready to coach you in the natural skills of winter enjoyment. Park programs accommodate all sizes, different age ranges and necessitate a variety of outdoor attire.

Even as we plunge into the frosty time of the year, we have our eye upon the days of increasing sunlight. The succession of park programs will even prepare you for spring with a preseason series including meetings of the Delaware County Bird Club at Deer Haven Preserve, building Blue Bird boxes, making maple syrup, and watching the annual Salamander scramble from subterranean homes and into the vernal pools where their offspring will hatch.

The ball is in your court. Suit up, text, tweet, or call an audible, and take the field with winter.

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.

10 public parks & trails open 365 days a year

DECEMBER

Saturday, December 5 – Holiday Evening on the Farm

Celebrate the holiday spirit as families would have in the 1930s and 1940s. Roast chestnuts over an open fire, enjoy hot wassail and cookies in the farmhouse, listen to music and make holiday decorations.

6 – 8 p.m. GF – all ages

Monday, December 7 – Golden Marathon

Join us for a 1- to 2-mile hike for older adults along the nature trails, as we near the end of the fall Golden Marathon – and are closing in on the 26 miles!

1:30 p.m. DHP

Saturday, December 12 – Wintering Over (HS)

Livestock need extra care in the coldest times of winter. Come out to Gallant Farm and see some measures taken to protect chickens from the cold without electricity available. (See back cover for more information on the Homesteading Series.)

2 p.m. GF – all ages

Monday, December 14 – Golden Marathon

Join us for a 1- to 2-mile hike for older adults along the nature trails, as we near the end of the fall Golden Marathon – and are closing in on the 26 miles!

1:30 p.m. Hoover Reservoir (31 Columbus St., Galena)

Build a Bluebird Box! ☎ \$

February 18 & 25, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Help promote wildlife in your own backyard by providing nesting boxes for Bluebirds! Register for either program in advance; the cost is \$7 for each box you (or your family) plan to build. Workshops will be held at Deer Haven Preserve. All ages. Space is limited and registration is required by Feb. 13. Register by email to: register@preservationparks.com

Watch the Salamanders Migrate!

In early spring, when the snow is melting, the ground is thawing out, and night time temperatures are above freezing, mole salamanders emerge from the ground to reproduce. The migration usually happens sometime in the first two weeks of March, and the best viewing is in the late evening. Come witness this amazing rite of spring! Watch our website and facebook page for date, time and place. – ages 8+



Park Key

Big Walnut Community Trail
(BWCT) 168 S. Vernon St., Sunbury

Blues Creek Preserve (BCP)
9627 Fontanelle Road, Ostrander

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

JANUARY

Friday, January 1 – New Year's Day Hike

Get the new year off to a great start with an invigorating hike in the woods and meadows of Deer Haven Preserve! Volunteer Len Fisher will lead the hike, and we'll meet in the Lodge afterward for cookies and hot drinks in front of a nice, warm fire.

10 a.m. DHP – all ages

Sunday, January 10 – Winter Ramble for Adults

Celebrate winter with a cold weather hike! Lace up your hiking boots and join us for a walk while we see what's going on in nature in January. We'll end with hot drinks and snacks in the Lodge.

1 p.m. SHP – ages 21+

Tuesday, January 12 – Preschool Park Pals: Owls ☎

Who is hooting in the woods and why is the owl awake in the night? Let's learn about owls and their special adaptations for night life. Register by Jan. 5.

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

Saturday, January 16 – Sausage Making (HS)

Traditionally, hog butchering was done in the early winter so meat wouldn't spoil while being processed. Sausage was often made from all of the trimmings and extras after the major cuts were taken, and was seasoned and often smoked to preserve the meat. We'll make fresh sausage using an antique sausage stuffer; afterward, we'll cook what we have made along with fresh eggs. (See back cover for more information on the Homesteading Series.)

10 a.m. GF – all ages

Thursday, January 21 – Homeschool Adventures: Stories in the Snow ☎

If conditions are right, and there is snow (or mud) on the ground, we will search for signs of animal activity in field and woods and decipher what clues have been left behind. Be prepared to be outside for a good portion of the program. Register by January 14.

10 a.m. DHP – ages 6-12, accompanied by an adult

Monday, January 25 – Story Time in the Park

Bring your little one to Deer Haven Preserve to enjoy a nature-themed story, and to sing a song with volunteer Amy Yakos-Walter. Help your child discover the wonders of the natural world.

9 a.m. DHP – ages 0-3



740-524-8600



contactparks@preservationparks.com

Registration & 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, or call 740-524-8600, ext. 6.

FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 6 – “After Groundhog Day” Winter Ramble

In the midst of winter, we'll go looking for our shadows and signs of spring. Join us for a potentially snowy walk as we traverse the woods and meadows. After our walk, we'll enjoy hot drinks in front of the shelter fireplace.

1 p.m. ETP – ages 21+

Tuesday, February 9 – Preschool Park Pals: Nuts For You! 🕒

Scamper into the Lodge for a furry adventure. Discover the different squirrel species that live here in Ohio. Finish the program by making a squirrely Valentine's Day card. Register by Feb. 2.

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

Sunday, February 14 – There's “Snow”body Like You!

Enjoy a winter hike this Valentine's Day to express your love for nature! We'll look at the uniqueness of a snowflake, see that beauty is really skin (or tree bark) deep, make some crafts, take Valentine's Day photos, and enjoy cookies and hot drinks.

2 p.m. DHP – all ages

Thursday, February 18 – Homeschool Adventures:

Novelty Nose 🕒

Have you ever wondered how a bear finds its food? Explore the life of an American Black Bear through activities and interesting facts. Get the chance to touch real bear fur and see an actual skull. Register by Feb. 11.

10 a.m. DHP – ages 6-12, accompanied by an adult

Saturday, February 20 – Waste Not, Want Not: Mosaics 🕒 \$

This time, in our series on ways to utilize items that would normally be thrown away, we'll explore uses for broken dishware. If life gives you shards, make mosaics! If you have pieces of a favorite dish that you would like to incorporate into a mosaic, bring it along. \$5 materials fee; register by Feb. 13.

2 p.m. GF – ages 12+

Sunday, February 21 – Skunk Cabbage Hike

The first wildflower of spring is in bloom, and although it is beautiful, it doesn't smell great! Indoors, we'll learn some fascinating facts about this flower, and then we'll hike to the wet and muddy places where it grows. Wear appropriate footwear, since we'll be off trail for this hike.

1 p.m. SHP – ages 7+

Saturday, February 27 – Chilly Chimes 🕒 \$

After a nice, winter hike on the trails we'll enjoy hot cocoa in front of the fireplace, and make winter chimes to take home! Preservation Parks volunteer Bob Grossman will add to the melodious afternoon with his native American flute. \$5 materials fee per wind chime. Register by Feb. 20.

Noon – 3 p.m. DHP – all ages



Photo by Christopher Sharp

Sunday, February 28 – Maple Syrup Time (HS)

Some Ohio farmers during the Great Depression would have tapped maple trees to collect sap and make syrup during the late winter and early spring. It gave families a source of sugar that could otherwise be very expensive, and it provided income during the off season from growing crops. Learn how maple sap is extracted from trees and cooked down into syrup. This is a weather-dependent program; watch for updates on our Facebook page and website. (See back cover for more information on the Homesteading Series.)

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. GF – all ages

Monday, February 29 – Story Time in the Park

Bring your little one to Deer Haven Preserve to enjoy a nature-themed story, and to sing a song with volunteer Amy Yakos-Walter. Help your child discover the wonders of the natural world.

9 a.m. DHP – ages 0-3

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.

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 include conversation and refreshments, followed by announcements and a program.

Deer Haven Preserve; All meetings 7 - 9 p.m.

December 14: Delaware Reservoir Christmas Bird Count Preview

January 25: Jason Larson: The Quest for the January 100

February 22: Preservation Parks Staff: Habitats and Monitoring

See Preservation Parks' on-line calendar for program details.

Look about the Lodge

Can you find small and 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.

December:

Northern Cardinals

January:

White-Tailed Deer Antlers

February:

Mole Salamanders

Preservation Parks of Delaware County

Indicia

Park Hours

DEC – FEB – 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

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.

December 19

January 16

February 20

Sundays, Noon – 4 p.m.

December 20

January 17

February 21

Homesteading Series (HS)

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: Wintering Over (Dec. 12), Sausage Making (Jan. 16), and Maple Syrup Time (Feb. 28). Join us for any or all of these.

All photos by Preservation Parks unless otherwise noted.

