



Field Trips

www.YourMetroParks.net

513-867-5835

Programs@YourMetroParks.net

The mission of the MetroParks of Butler County is to provide a superior park system that maximizes the community's quality of life through conservation, education and recreation.



MetroParks of Butler County has more than 5,000 acres of park land, which includes beautiful nature, cultural history sites and outdoor recreational areas. Fee-based programming is available for school groups, scout groups, homeschool organizations, private groups and corporations at MetroParks locations.

Contact us at 513-867-5835 or programs@YourMetroParks.net

FIELD TRIP DESCRIPTIONS

Social Studies / Cultural History

Pioneer Life: Students are immersed in the daily lives of 1800s pioneers through interactive activities and historic interpretation at the Governor Bebb Pioneer Village.

- Visit Governor Bebb's childhood home, summer kitchen, a tavern/trading post, a sheriff's house, a working forge, the pioneer schoolhouse, a traditional pioneer home and a covered bridge.
- Activities may include making wax candles, flint & steel fire-making, open hearth cooking and/or playing Pioneer and Native Peoples' Games.

Location: Governor Bebb MetroPark

A Plain and Simple Life: Students delve into the daily life of the historic Amish-Mennonites in Butler County at the Chrisholm Historic Farmstead.

- A visit to the farmstead includes fun hands-on activities that represent the chores done by a young Amish-Mennonite child on a busy farm in the late 1800s.
- Activities may include corn husking, picking vegetables, washing clothes with a washboard, collecting chicken eggs, mowing, gardening, games and/or Dutch oven cooking.
- The day includes a tour of the 1874 historic Augspurger Home and garden exploration.

Location: Chrisholm MetroPark

Native Peoples & Pioneers: Students compare and contrast the lives of native peoples and early European pioneers.

- Students will spend part of the day discovering the ways of native peoples who lived in the area before European settlers.
- They will then transition to the pioneer life of settlers in the early 1800s.
- Authentic artifacts
- Activities will include Pioneer and Native Peoples games and craft

Locations: Chrisholm MetroPark, Elk Creek MetroPark, Forest Run MetroPark, Governor Bebb MetroPark, Indian Creek MetroPark, or Rentschler Forest MetroPark

Natural History & Science

Amazing Animals!: This program will utilize live animals, sensory items such as shells, skulls, furs, seeds, skins, and pictures, and a nature hike.

Choose from two of the topics below.

- Our Natural World - Ohio Wildlife
- Predator Prey Relationships - The Food Chain
- Animal Tracking
- Animal Games – Athleticism of Animals
- Migrate, Hibernate, Tolerate (seasonal) – Adaptations for Survival

Locations: Chrisholm MetroPark, Elk Creek MetroPark, Forest Run MetroPark, Governor Bebb MetroPark, Indian Creek MetroPark, or Rentschler Forest MetroPark

All Things Insects: (seasonal) Delve into insect ecology. Field trip will include a nature hike and activities.

- Students will capture and observe insects, discussing their adaptations to the different habitats in the park.
- Students will explore topics such as metamorphosis, insect anatomy, and pollination.

Locations: Chrisholm MetroPark, Elk Creek MetroPark, Forest Run MetroPark, Governor Bebb MetroPark, Indian Creek MetroPark, or Rentschler Forest MetroPark

Makes Sense, Naturally: Students will discover how their five senses influence them. Field trip will include a nature hike, sensory games and memory activities

- Do humans see the world in the same way that other animals do?
- Discover how memory is tied to senses.
- Meet a live animal and discover how they use their senses compared to humans.

Locations: Chrisholm MetroPark, Elk Creek MetroPark, Forest Run MetroPark, Governor Bebb MetroPark, Indian Creek MetroPark, or Rentschler Forest MetroPark

Fossil Find: Students will explore Ohio's history through searching for fossils. Field trip will include a nature hike in the creek.

- Compare and describe local fossils from the Ordovician Period.
- Contrast fossils in the Ohio area with those characteristics of dinosaurs.
- Explore how extant animals may give us information about their dinosaur relatives.

Locations: Elk Creek MetroPark, Forest Run MetroPark, Governor Bebb MetroPark, Indian Creek MetroPark, or Rentschler Forest MetroPark

Herbology for Young Naturalists: Explore the natural world, while learning to identify many common plants, their uses, and how plants grow.

- The lesson will be geared to the seasons.
- Field trip will include a nature hike.

Locations: Chrisholm MetroPark, Elk Creek MetroPark, Forest Run MetroPark, Governor Bebb MetroPark, Indian Creek MetroPark, or Rentschler Forest MetroPark

Calling All Farm Hands: Students enjoy experiencing a farm while learning the dedication and hard work it takes to perform these important jobs.

- Recognize different examples of farms, farm animals, and their uses
- Compare adult to baby farm animals and recognize their feed
- Learn farm skills through wheelbarrow races, games, sounds, hay/straw, animal feed sensory activities, and live animal demonstrations.

Locations: Chrisholm MetroPark

COST AND PARAMETERS OF FIELD TRIPS

Field Trips

- 3 - 4 hours of programming
- \$6/student for in-county. \$7/student for out-of-county.
- Up to six (6) adult chaperones may attend for each 30 students free of charge. At least one (1) adult is required for each 30 students.
- Additional adult chaperones may attend at the student rate
- A minimum charge of \$120 for in-county and \$140 for out-of-county for groups with less than 20 students.
- Shelter fee and motor vehicle permit fees are waived with a field trip reservation.

If you are interested in a half day (1-2 hours) options in one of our parks please see MetroParks Hourly Program information.

Park Locations for your Field Trip

Chrisholm MetroPark is a 17-acre park located at 2070 Woodsdale Rd in Trenton, OH 45067. This Park features the historic 1874 Amish-Mennonite Augspurger home, gardens, an early 1800's bank barn and farm animals.

Lunches can be eaten under the Chrisholm Shelter or in the Rosemont Barn. There are compostable toilets located near the bank barn. There is access to potable water near the shelter.

Elk Creek MetroPark is a 456-acre park area located along Elk Creek. Sebald Park Area is located at 5580 Elk Creek Road, Middletown, OH 45042 and the Meadow Ridge Area is located at 5101 Circle Parkway, Middletown, OH 45042. The Park is nestled along the Elk Creek Valley with open areas, play areas, and hiking trails throughout the woods. Elk Creek is an excellent location for fossils!

There are 10 covered picnic shelters and multiple playgrounds for children. There are pit toilets. This Park does not have potable water.

Forest Run MetroPark is a 342-acre park located in Ross Township. The Wildlife Preserve is located at 1810 New London Road, Hamilton, OH 45013. The Timberman Ridge Area is located at 1976 Timberman Road, Hamilton, OH 45013.

They include a variety of natural landscapes and habitats with opportunities for a mixture of outdoor activities.

There is a playground at the Wildlife Preserve and a 3-sided shelter at Timberman Ridge. There are pit toilets and/or port-a-lets.

Governor Bebb MetroPark is a 264-acre park located in Morgan Township, OH at 1979 Bebb Park Lane in Okeana, OH 45053. The Pioneer Village includes a working forge and an authentic covered bridge as well as 6 authentic cabins from the 1800s which were relocated to the park. Numerous nature trails can be explored in the park and Dry Fork Creek runs along the park's border.

Lunches can be eaten at the Howe Shelter, at the village green or the covered bridge. Pit toilets are located in the rear of the village, by the shelter and an ADA accessible portable toilet at the edge of the village. There is access to potable water in the village.

Indian Creek MetroPark is a 135-acre scenic natural area with two different entrances with Indian Creek connecting them. It is located at 1899 Oxford-Reily Rd, Reily Township, OH 45056 and 6500 Springfield Rd. Reily Township, OH 45056. The park's varied landscape of heavily wooded hillsides and bluffs with rock outcroppings is covered by many species of native trees and wildflowers in season. There are opportunities for fossil hunting and creek exploration in Indian Creek.

Lunches can be eaten under the Mayer Shelter. There are pit toilets but no potable water.

Rentschler Forest MetroPark is a 400-acre park located at 5701 Reigart Road, Fairfield Township. This site has miles of woodland trails, the Great Miami River, remnants of the old Miami-Erie Canal, a wetland, a creek, and meadows to explore. The creek allows for fossil and rock hunting as well as other fun, hands-on activities. The Great Miami River Recreation Trail is accessible from this park. A playground is available for free time.

There are numerous shelters available to eat lunch and flush restrooms in the Stone House, pit toilets and water fountains.