

The Butler County Park District: 1955-1964

1955

Gilbert E. (Gus) Condo & Judge Harry F. Walsh establish the Butler County Park District on June 8th.

1956

The park district's first three parks open.
July- Four Mile Creek (Hanover Twp.)
August- Indian Creek (Reily Twp.)
October- Miami River Park (Middletown)

1958

The park board purchases the first 33.9-acres of Indian Creek Park which was originally leased to them. The Durbin's of Reily Twp. gift an additional 14-acres to expand Indian Creek.

1959

The parks become involved with the restoration of the Bebb Cabin, birthplace of Governor William Bebb. The cabin is relocated to land in Morgan Twp.

1960

Partial acquisition of the Pater Lake property in Reily Twp. The Indian Creek Baptist Church Committee approaches the park board for help with restoration efforts.

1961

Morgan Twp. residents raise enough money for the park district to buy the 53-acres of land on which the Bebb Cabin sits. The property would later become Governor Bebb Park.

1963

The Indian Creek Church (Pioneer Church) is dedicated & becomes part of the park system. 13-acres of former canal lands are deeded to the parks, & would later become Rentschler Forest.

1964

The parks acquire more land close to the former Miami-Erie Canal from the Rentschler family. The Monument Ave. cabin in Hamilton is secured & restored, along with Bunker Hill Cemetery in Reily.