

# **JANUARY** 2024

## From Volunteers to Staff

Kicking off the New Year we've got good news and bad news. The bad news we've lost two of our volunteers. The good news we've lost them because they are now on staff! Alivia Huxoll and Katie Teets were both recently hired on as Farm Caretaker and Outdoor Educator respectivly. Alivia previously served as a Farm Help volunteer helping staff take care of our animals out at Chrisholm MetroPark, but now she'll be the one leading volunteers in Animal care. She's also wrapping up her degree at the University of Cincinnati with a degree in **Enviromental Studies.** 

If you've volunteered with our Programming department anytime in the last year chances are you've worked along side Katie on one of those projects. There are few projects Katie hasn't been involved in from Chopportunities, to Trail Ambassador, and Field Trip Historical Interpreter in the Pioneer Village. Katie is also an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist and will now be helping and leading programs. We're excited to have them both onboard as staff and can't wait to see what they bring to our MetroParks team and how they continue to work alongside you all!

# TRAIL AMBASSADOR UPDATES

Looking for new trails to explore? The following parks haven't seen many Ambassadors!

To Join the Trail Ambassador program email us at volunteering@yourmetroparks.net Make sure you're logging your hours on Better Impact

- Angst Nature Preserve MetroPark
- Four Mile Creek MetroPark (Antenen Nature Preserve)
- Chrisholm MetroPark (Woodsdale Park)
- Forest Run MetroPark
- Line Hill Mound MetroPark
- Voice of America MetroPark

# Share you volunteer story!

STAY UP TO DATE ON WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR PARKS ON FACEBOOK!

# etroparks.net original parks of the parks o

# **FACEBOOK**

- 📞 (513) 867-5835 ext. 221
- https://www.yourmetroparks.net
- 😯 2051 Timberman Rd. Hamilton,

OH 45013

# **OPPORTUNITIES FOR JANUARY**

To reigster and see other events sign in to your MyImpact Account

#### Little Learners - It's All in the Snow

How do snowflakes, icicles and winter weather affect what we do on the farm? Be prepared to make your own snow, ice experiments and other fun activities. We are looking for volunteers to help with the setup, teardown, and support staff during the program. Must be comfortable working with program participants.

• January 14th - 9:00am-12:30pm Chrisholm MetroPark

## **Discovery on the Farm -Mittens and PJ Party**

Wear your pajamas and mittens to celebrate winter at the farm! Discover who is living in our "mitten" at the farm. Find out if they are wearing their winter pajamas indoors, mittens outdoors or both! We are looking for volunteers to help with the setup, teardown, and support staff during the program. Must be comfortable working with program participants.

• January 16th - 9:00am-12:30pm Chrisholm MetroPark

#### **TAPs Hiking Monitor Orientation**

Looking for a new way to volunteer, get some exercise, and explore nature? Join us for our monthly Trail Ambassador Program Hiking Monitor meeting. This hour-long meeting is meant to introduce potential new volunteers to TAPs as we take a hike through one of our parks and go over the responsibilities of a Hiking Monitor!

• January 17th - 10:00am-11:00am Line Hill Mound MetroPark

#### **Little Learners - Winter is for the Birds**

Come on down to the farm and learn about how birds survive the winter through fun hands-on activities and crafts. Help us make presents for our winter birds at the park and in your back yard, too. We are looking for volunteers to help with the setup, teardown, and support staff during the program. Must be comfortable working with program participants.

• January 21st - 9:00am-12:30pm Chrisholm MetroPark

## **Little Learners - Nappers, Snackers and Movers**

Let's explore how animals survive the winter months by hibernating, migrating or tolerating through activities and a live animal demonstration. We are looking for volunteers to help with the setup, teardown, and support staff during the program. Must be comfortable working with program participants.

• January 28th - 9:00am-12:30pm Chrisholm MetroPark

## **Discovery on the Farm -**Brrr... It's Cold as Ice

Did you know that before refrigeration, ice farming was very important for Butler County? Meet a first-person character from the 1800's who will share stories about collecting ice from local ponds and learn how refrigeration changed this type of farming. We are looking for volunteers to help with the setup, teardown, and support staff during the program. Must be comfortable working with program participants.

 January 30th - 9:00am-12:30pm Chrisholm MetroPark

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.



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## **Chopportunities - Invasive Species Removal**

Join MetroParks staff as we meet to continuously work on beating back the invasive species in our parks making room for natives to thrive

- January 7 9:30am-11:30am Green Heron MetroPark
- January 10 9:30am-11:30am Green Heron MetroPark
- January 14 9:30am-11:30am Forest Run MetroPark
- January 21 9:30am-11:30am Rentschler Forest MetroPark
- January 24 9:30am-11:30am Rentschler Forest MetroPark

#### **Winter Hike Series - Hiking Sweep**

We are looking for volunteers to act as group sweeps working in pairs of two bringing up the rear of each group making sure no one is separated and letting the staff lead know about any issues the group may encounter from behind. Volunteers need to be comfortable hiking three miles.

- January 4 9:30am-12:30pm Voice of America MetroPark
- January 11 9:30am-12:30pm Rentschler Forest MetroPark
- January 18 9:30am-12:30pm **Meadow Ridge MetroPark**
- January 25 9:30am-12:30pm Timberman Ridge MetroPark
- February 1 9:30am-12:30pm Governor Bebb MetroPark

#### **Winter Hike Series - Soup Server**

We are looking for volunteers to help set up and tear down the cooking station at each hike as well as serve soup to participants. Volunteers must be 14 years or older.

- January 4 11:00am-1:00pm Voice of America MetroPark
- January 11 11:00am-1:00pm Rentschler Forest MetroPark
- January 18 11:00am-1:00pm Meadow Ridge MetroPark
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