

STARK PARKS

INSIDE

**Learn About Upcoming
October–March Programs**

📷 PHOTO OF HOOVER TRAIL BY JUSTIN DEIERLING





LETTER

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



AS WE HEAD INTO FALL AND WINTER AT STARK PARKS, THINGS DO NOT SLOW DOWN. WE ARE EMBRACING THE SEASONAL CHANGES, PUSHING FORWARD WITH PROGRAMS, WRAPPING UP CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, AND PLANNING FOR 2026. WITH ALL

THESE THINGS ON OUR PLATE, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO REFLECT ON THE GREAT THINGS WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED AND HOW WE CAN WORK TO BECOME EVEN BETTER STEWARDS OF TAXPAYERS' DOLLARS.

FOR A LITTLE BACKGROUND, THE STARK PARKS BUDGET IS COMPRISED OF ABOUT 80% PROPERTY TAX DOLLARS, AND THE REST IS GRANT FUNDING, DONATIONS, RETAIL SALES, AND RENTALS. SINCE OUR LEVY REVENUES ESSENTIALLY STAY AT A FIXED AMOUNT REGARDLESS OF INFLATION OR PROPERTY VALUES, IT HAS BEEN CRUCIAL TO SECURE OTHER REVENUE SOURCES TO SUSTAIN OUR PROGRAMS AND ENABLE IMPROVEMENTS.

WHAT A YEAR 2025 HAS BEEN! WE DEDICATED A NEW PARK (PIKE RIDGE PARK), REPLACED FOUR DETERIORATED BRIDGES, CONSTRUCTED NEW BATHROOMS AT TWO LOCATIONS, BUILT AND UPGRADED TRAILS, ALL WITH A FOCUS ON IMPROVING THE PATRON EXPERIENCE, AND UPGRADED ACCESSIBILITY AT STARK PARKS. WE ALSO COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL

RESTORATION PROJECTS, DEMOLISHED DETERIORATED/UNNEEDED STRUCTURES, CONDUCTED PROGRAMS, AND STRENGTHENED PARTNERSHIPS.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU, OUR PATRONS, FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT. I WANT TO THANK ALL THE STARK PARKS STAFF WHO MADE ALL THESE ACCOMPLISHMENTS POSSIBLE. I ALSO WANT TO GIVE SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OUR FELLOW GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT PARTNER WITH US TO ALLOW STARK PARKS TO DO SO MANY GREAT THINGS FOR OUR COMMUNITY. THANK YOU AND HAPPY FALL!

Dan Moeglin
Executive Director



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PARK BOARD MEETINGS

All meetings held at the Exploration Gateway,
5712 12th Street NW, Canton, OH 44708

October 7th, 2:00 PM

November 4th, 2:00 PM

December 9th, 5:30 PM

January 6th, 2:00 PM



5300 Tyner Street NW,
Canton, OH 44708

Administrative Office Hours

Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

STARKPARKS.COM | 330.477.3552



PARK ACTIVITIES

PHOTO OF FRY FAMILY PARK



ICON LEGEND



REGISTRATION REQUIRED



FEE REQUIRED

OCTOBER

OCTOBER 9TH MOSSY MYCO WALK

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

This walk will introduce you to the parts and functions of different mushroom and moss species. Bring your curiosity and bug spray!

QUAIL HOLLOW PARK: CARRIAGE HOUSE
FREE

OCTOBER 11TH NIGHT BIKE RIDES ON THE TOWPATH (MASSILLON)

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Join Ernie's Bicycle Shop for a 14-18 mile night ride from Lake Ave. Trailhead on the Sippo Valley or Towpath Trails. Beginner and family-friendly. Helmets, headlights, and tail lights required. Rentals available. Info: erniesbikeshop.com/events.

TOWPATH TRAIL: LAKE AVE TRAILHEAD
FREE

OCTOBER 11TH FALL FEST

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Celebrate fall with this free, non-scary family event at Tam O'Shanter Park. Enjoy crafts, games, live animals, photo booth with FeLeap, music, Treat Trail, and more! Concessions for purchase. Costumes encouraged—bring treat bags!

TAM O'SHANTER PARK
FREE



OCTOBER 16TH FINDING FUNGI

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Join a naturalist to spot common mushrooms and fall species. Beginner ID hike. No collecting. Dress for weather.

SIPPO LAKE PARK: WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION CENTER
FREE



OCTOBER 16TH NATIVE SEED COLLECTION

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Join us as we collect seeds from native wildflowers. This program is part of the Backyard Habitat certification series.

FRY FAMILY PARK
FREE

OCTOBER 17TH DATE NIGHT: CAMPFIRE COOKING

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Kick things off with an on-your-own scavenger hunt, then gather around the fire to learn how to cook a delicious pie iron snack. Registration per couple.

QUAIL HOLLOW PARK: GAZEBO
\$5 IN-COUNTY/\$7 OUT-OF-COUNTY

OCTOBER 18TH NATIVE SEED COLLECTION

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Join us as we collect seeds from native wildflowers. This program is part of the Backyard Habitat certification series.

PETROS LAKE PARK
FREE

OCTOBER 21ST FALL FOLIAGE HIKE

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Learn how to identify trees along the way by looking at their leaves, seeds, and bark. Come prepared for the weather and a leisurely 1.5-mile hike.

DEER CREEK RESERVOIR
FREE

OCTOBER 22ND ADVENTURE KIDS: TERRIFIC TREES (AGES 3-5):

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Join us as we learn about trees, seeds, and everything in between. We'll read a story, make a craft, then go on a short hike.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE



OCTOBER 24TH AVIAN ADVENTURE

8:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Bring binoculars and join a Stark Parks naturalist to look for local birds, with a focus on waterfowl. All skill levels welcome.

WALBORN RESERVOIR
FREE

OCTOBER 25TH E-CYCLE / GOODWILL DROP OFF EVENT



9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Clean out old electronics like computers, phones, and TVs along with books, household items, and toys.

WALBORN RESERVOIR: MARINA
FREE

OCTOBER 25TH ADVENTURE KIDS: TERRIFIC TREES

AGES 3-5 - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

AGES 6-9 - 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Join us as we learn about trees, seeds, and everything in between. We'll read a story, make a craft, then go on a short hike to see all the wonderful things fall brings.

Come prepared to venture outside
SIPPO LAKE PARK:
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER
FREE

OCTOBER 28TH LORE BY LANTERN HIKE

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Celebrate spooky season with Stark Parks! Take a guided lantern hike on the Towpath Trail and hear local canal folklore. Lanterns first-come, first-served. 2-mile walk.

TOWPATH TRAIL: LOCK 4 TRAILHEAD
FREE

NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 1ST RICHARD FRY TRAIL CHALLENGE

9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Choose a 4- or 8-mile run/walk on park trails. Open to all ages. No strollers. Specify mileage when registering.

FRY FAMILY PARK: VISITOR'S CENTER
\$5 FEE

NOVEMBER 5TH RANGER WALKS

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Join rangers for a one-mile walk and explore the beauty of our parks as they change with the seasons. Learn how rangers protect both wildlife and visitors, and why conservation matters.

PETROS LAKE PARK: MINDFULNESS WALK TRAILHEAD
FREE

NOVEMBER 6TH SEED CLEANING

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Cleaned seeds will be used to help restore native wildlife habitat. No experience required. Demonstrations will be given and all supplies provided.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE

NOVEMBER 8TH VETERAN

7:45 AM - 9:00 AM

Honor Veterans with a free 5K run/walk at Sippo Lake Park. Briefing at 7:45 AM with National Anthem; run starts at 8:00 AM. First-timers must set up an account at parkrun.us/sippolake.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY SHELTER
FREE



NOVEMBER 12TH ADVENTURE KIDS TURKEY TIME (AGES 3-5):

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Join us as we trot into the world of the Wild Turkey. Learn about its habitat, diet, and even uncover some fun turkey facts. Complete a craft, read a book, and play some games.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE

NOVEMBER 15TH ADVENTURE KIDS: TURKEY TIME

AGES 3-5 - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

AGES 6-9 - 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Join us as we trot into the world of the Wild Turkey. Learn about its habitat, diet, and even uncover turkey facts. Complete a craft, read a book, and games.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE

NOVEMBER 15TH CREATURE FEATURE: REPTILES

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Slither into the world of scales and scutes as we explore what makes reptiles so unique and how these fascinating creatures prepare for winter.

SIPPO LAKE PARK: WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER
FREE

NOVEMBER 17TH SEED CLEANING

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Cleaned seeds will be used to help restore native wildlife habitat. No experience required. Demonstrations will be given and all supplies provided.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE

NOVEMBER 19TH WOODCARVING 101

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Our classes are open to all skill levels, with volunteers ready to help you get started. Bring your own tools and wood if you'd like, or use ours. Adults must stay with children under 18.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
\$5 IN-COUNTY/\$7 OUT-OF-COUNTY



PARK ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER 20TH WALKING WATER

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Join a Stark Parks Naturalist and Stark Soil & Water to explore watersheds through interactive presentations and games. Family-friendly program!

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY

FREE **R**

NOVEMBER 21ST DATE NIGHT: TAILS AND ALES

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Cozy up at this month's date night and meet Wildlife Ambassadors who use their tails in unique ways. Alcoholic and nonalcoholic drinks available for purchase.

TAM O' SHANTER PARK: CLUBHOUSE
FREE **R**

NOVEMBER 22ND CRITTER CINEMA

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

In this kid-friendly program, watch clips from nature and animal movies, then compare them to real animal behavior and habitats. A fun mix of film and facts for ages 6-9. Parents must stay.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY

FREE **R**

DECEMBER

DEC. 1ST - MAR. 13TH WINTER PHOTO CONTEST

Stark Parks invites photographers ages 9+ to enter the Winter Photo Contest!

Categories: Wildlife, Landscape/Scenery, People in Nature. Submit 1 photo per category, max 3 total. One win per participant. Visit StarkParks.com/winterphotos for more information



DECEMBER 3RD RANGER WALKS

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Join rangers for a one-mile walk and explore the beauty of our parks as they change with the seasons. Learn how rangers protect both wildlife and visitors, and why conservation matters.

TAM O' SHANTER PARK
FREE **R**

DECEMBER 3RD HOLIDAY CRAFT AND SIP NIGHT

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Get in the holiday spirit at this 21+ event! Design a decorative chalkboard plate while enjoying festive décor and drinks for purchase.

TAM O' SHANTER PARK: CLUBHOUSE
\$10 IN-COUNTY/\$12
OUT-OF-COUNTY **\$R**



DECEMBER 5TH SANTA CLAWS FOR A CAUSE

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Help Santa at the Wildlife Conservation Center! Bring a wish list gift, meet wildlife, walk a holiday-lit trail, play games, enjoy outdoor fun, and warm up near the campfire. Kids can bring a stuffed animal for the Holly Hospital.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER
FREE

DECEMBER 6TH LIGHT UP MAGNOLIA AND MAGNOLIA FLOURING MILLS OPEN HOUSE

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

The Magnolia Flouring Mills will be open for holiday festivities during the annual Light Up Magnolia event that the village holds. Visit StarkParks.com for more info.

DECEMBER 8TH NAMASTE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Wear your favorite holiday bling to this hour-long yoga session and let's start the holidays off with a little flair. A special Christmas cocktail will be available for purchase to help kick off the season. Please bring your own yoga mat.

TAM O' SHANTER PARK: CLUBHOUSE
\$8 IN-COUNTY/\$12 OUT-OF-COUNTY
\$R

DECEMBER 12TH DATE NIGHT: WINTER WICK & WALK

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Start by hand-dipping your own candles, then head on a night hike through the park. All supplies are provided. Must be 21+ to register. Registration is per couple.

TAM O' SHANTER PARK: CLUBHOUSE
\$5 IN-COUNTY/\$7 OUT-OF-COUNTRY
\$R



DECEMBER 12TH-14TH MERRY MANOR HOUSE CHRISTMAS

Enjoy lights, music, a scavenger hunt, crafts, and festive décor. Sip a complimentary drink with a treat, make a take-home craft, and shop for gifts.

For more info, visit StarkParks.com

QUAIL HOLLOW PARK

\$10 (AGES 13+), \$7 (AGES 4-12)

CHILDREN UNDER 3 ARE FREE **\$R**



DECEMBER 16TH CHRISTMAS IN THE CANALWAY

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

The Canalway Center is decked out for Christmas and ready for an afternoon of crafts, stories, holiday activities, and a visit from Santa. Storytime starts at 1:00 PM, followed by a scavenger hunt and a make-and-take holiday craft.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE

**DECEMBER 18TH
LET'S BUILD A
SNOWMAN
(AGES 3-5):**

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Children will create a craft, then watch the classic snowman movie with snacks provided. The venue will be decorated for the holidays, creating a cozy atmosphere. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is per child.

**TAM O' SHANTER PARK: CLUBHOUSE
\$5 IN-COUNTY/\$7 OUT-OF-COUNTY**

\$ R



**DECEMBER 18TH
WINTER PAINT AND SIP**

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Enjoy a cozy evening in the Tam O'Shanter Clubhouse, painting a wintry scene and sipping on a beverage. All materials provided, alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available for purchase. Must be 21+ to register.

**TAM O' SHANTER PARK:
CLUBHOUSE**

\$10 IN-COUNTY/\$15 OUT-OF-COUNTY

\$ R

**DECEMBER 19TH
EVENING SNOWSHOE HIKE**

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Enjoy the winter landscape views while the sun sets. Must call to register due to limited availability. Hike will still occur without snow.

**PIKE RIDGE PARK
FREE R**

**DECEMBER 21ST
HIKE-A-THON**

7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Ring in the winter season on the shortest day of the year by hiking at several Stark Parks locations! Hike all day with staff from site to site, or choose which hike(s) to attend. Visit StarkParks.com for locations.

**DECEMBER 30TH
WINTER WILDERNESS CAMP**

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Campers will try archery, snowshoeing, and animal tracking, gaining new skills and an appreciation for nature. Ages 10-13. Bring lunch, water, and proper clothing.

**SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
\$10 IN-COUNTY/\$15 OUT-OF-COUNTY**

\$ R

JANUARY

**JANUARY 7TH
RANGER WALKS**

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Join rangers for a one-mile walk and explore the beauty of our parks as they change with the seasons. Learn how rangers protect both wildlife and visitors, and why conservation matters.

**SIPPO LAKE PARK: WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION CENTER
FREE R**

**JANUARY 9TH
DATE NIGHT:
CATCH THE BUZZ**

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Explore our bee-free hive, build a bee box, and try on a bee suit! Materials included. Registration per couple. Must be 21+.

**TAM O' SHANTER PARK: CLUBHOUSE
\$5 IN-COUNTY/\$7 OUT-OF-COUNTY**

\$ R



**JANUARY 10TH
STARK EXPLORING SHIELD
ASSISTANCE DAY**

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Stop by the Exploration Gateway to turn in your Stark Exploring passport and help with your 2025 hiking shield that we can attach to your stick.

**SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE**

**JANUARY 10TH
CREATURE FEATURE: BIRDS**

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Learn about birds with a presentation led by a Stark Parks Naturalist and meet animal ambassadors while learning about behaviors, habitats, and adaptations of our feathered friends.

**SIPPO LAKE PARK:
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER
FREE R**

**JANUARY 14TH
ADVENTURE KIDS
(AGES 3-5):
WINTER WILDLIFE**

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Come hear what happens to furry, feathered, and scaly friends in winter! Read a story, make a craft, and meet an animal adapted to Ohio's cold.

**SIPPO LAKE PARK
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE R**

PARK ACTIVITIES



**JANUARY 15TH
WILD WORKSHOP:
BAT HOUSE**

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Meet one of our wildlife ambassadors as you learn the importance of providing safe habitats for their survival. Build your own bat box. All tools and materials provided.

**SIPPO LAKE PARK
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
\$20 IN-COUNTY/\$25 OUT-OF-COUNTY**

\$ R

**JANUARY 17TH
ADVENTURE KIDS:
WINTER WILDLIFE**

AGES 3-5 - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

AGES 6-9 - 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Come hear what happens to furry, feathered, and scaly friends in winter! Read a story, make a craft, and meet an animal adapted to Ohio's cold.

**SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE R**

**JANUARY 21ST
WOODCARVING 101**

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Our classes are open to all skill levels, with volunteers ready to help you get started. Bring your own tools and wood if you'd like, or use ours. Adults must stay with children under 18.

**SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
\$5 IN-COUNTY/\$7 OUT-OF-COUNTY**

\$ R



**JANUARY 24TH
BEGINNER BEE
SCHOOL**

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Join Stark County Beekeepers Association to learn beekeeping

basics. Register at starkbeekeepers.org.

**SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
\$65 FEE**

\$ R

**JANUARY 28TH
OWL PROWL**

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Learn about Ohio's owls, their adaptations, and role in the ecosystem. Practice listening skills, learn owl calls, and maybe spot or hear one in the wild!

**SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE R**



DON'T MISS OUT ON Winter Activities



Sign up for winter
activity alerts at
StarkParks.com/winter



Cross Country Skiing

Quail Hollow Park
\$10 per person to rent
-Skis, poles, and boots included



Snowshoeing

Quail Hollow Park
Adult \$10 to rent
12 and under \$5 to rent



Sledding

Quail Hollow Park
Petros Lake Park

Ski Shop at Quail
Hollow Open
January-February
(weather permitting).

-Up to 2-hr rentals
-Children sizes available in
limited quantity



FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 2ND GROUNDHOG DAY

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Our esteemed animal ambassadors invite you all to the Wildlife Conservation Center to celebrate Groundhog Day! Enjoy the evening with live animal viewing, woodchuck history, facts, games, and crafts! There is something for everyone! Please dress warmly if you plan to visit the outdoor animal enclosures.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER
FREE

FEBRUARY 4TH RANGER WALKS

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Join rangers for a one-mile walk and explore the beauty of our parks as they change with the seasons. Learn how rangers protect both wildlife and visitors, and why conservation matters.

QUAIL HOLLOW PARK
FREE R

FEBRUARY 7TH YETI TRAIL CHALLENGE

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Along this 5-mile course, you'll encounter various Yeti-themed challenges designed to test your skills. Doors open at 9:00 AM, and you can start the challenge anytime between 9:30 AM and 10:00 AM. This event is open to people of all ages. The trails are not conducive to strollers and will not be groomed for the event. Warm up after the run with free hot chocolate.

FRY FAMILY PARK:
VISITORS CENTER
\$5 IN-COUNTY/\$7 OUT-OF-COUNTY

\$ R

FEBRUARY 10TH WINTER TREE ID

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Join us as we hike the trails of Quail Hollow Park and learn how to ID some of our common trees. We will point out what to look for and basic techniques you can use to identify trees in your own backyard.

QUAIL HOLLOW PARK:
CARRIAGE HOUSE
FREE R



FEBRUARY 13TH DATE NIGHT: BIRDS OF A FEATHER

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Test bird knowledge with games, build a feeder, and meet a feathered guest. Materials included. Registration per couple. Alcohol available. 21+.

TAM O' SHANTER PARK: CLUBHOUSE
\$5 IN-COUNTY/\$7 OUT-OF-COUNTY

\$ R



FEBRUARY 18TH ADVENTURE KIDS (AGES 3-5): WHOSE BUTT?

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Giggle as we read Stan Tekiela's wildlife guessing game book, learn scat facts, make a craft, and meet an animal with quirky bathroom habits.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE R

FEBRUARY 19TH CREATURE FEATURE: MAMMALS

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Learn about mammals with a presentation led by a Stark Parks Naturalist and meet animal ambassadors while learning about behaviors, habitats, and adaptations of our furry friends.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION CENTER
FREE R

FEBRUARY 21ST FROG WATCH TRAINING

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Join our Stark Parks Frog Watch chapter and become a citizen scientist! As a trained frog watcher, you will assist with the identification of our local frog and toad species, identifying their various calls, monitoring wetlands, and recording data. Individuals 18+ years of age have the ability to become certified, but all are welcome. All materials will be provided.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE R





FEBRUARY 21ST ADVENTURE KIDS: WHOSE BUTT?

AGES 3-5 - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

AGES 6-9 - 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Giggle as we read Stan Tekiela's wildlife guessing game book, learn scat facts, make a craft, and meet an animal with quirky bathroom habits.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE R

FEBRUARY 24TH OWL PROWL

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Discover owls on a guided twilight hike. Learn about Ohio species, adaptations, and their role in the ecosystem, plus owl calls and possible sightings.

QUAIL HOLLOW PARK:
TRAIL FOR ALL TRAILHEAD
FREE R



FEBRUARY 28TH EVENING HIKE

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Join a naturalist-led hike at Pike Ridge! Hike a 2-mile loop with variable terrain and spot wildlife.

PIKE RIDGE PARK
FREE R

MARCH

MARCH 4TH RANGER WALKS

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Join rangers for a one-mile walk and explore the beauty of our parks as they change with the seasons. Learn how rangers protect both wildlife and visitors, and why conservation matters.

SANDY VALLEY TRAIL:
MAPLE STREET TRAILHEAD
FREE R

MARCH 5TH INTRO TO BACKYARD HABITAT

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

This program helps certify your backyard as a sustainable wildlife habitat. Learn how to get the "Certified Backyard Habitat" designation. More info: www.starkparks.com/backyard

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
FREE R

MARCH 11TH SALVE MAKING

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Join us to become savvy at the art of salve making, where the instructor will guide you through the process step by step. You won't leave empty-handed!

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
\$5 IN-COUNTY/\$7 OUT-OF-COUNTY
\$ R

MARCH 14TH SAP TO SYRUP

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Join us for this sweet adventure of sap tapping, collecting, boiling, and tasting.

QUAIL HOLLOW PARK:
CARRIAGE HOUSE
FREE

MARCH 18TH ADVENTURE KIDS: (AGES 3-5) FANTASTIC FROGS

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Dive into the world of amphibians by reading a book, going on an outdoor frogging hike, working on a craft, and meeting a frog or two. Kids must be accompanied by an adult.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER
FREE R



MARCH 18TH WOODCARVING 101

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Our classes are open to all skill levels, with volunteers ready to help you get started. Bring your own tools and wood if you'd like, or use ours. Adults must stay with children under 18.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
\$5 IN-COUNTY/\$7 OUT-OF-COUNTY
\$ R

MARCH 19TH CREATURE FEATURE: WILDLIFE REHAB

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Through short film clips, we will go behind the scenes of the Wildlife Conservation Center and learn about the intake process, common injuries, and how species can become wildlife ambassadors.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER
FREE R



MARCH 21ST ADVENTURE KIDS: FANTASTIC FROGS

AGES 3-5 - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

AGES 6-9 - 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Dive into the world of amphibians by reading a book, going on an outdoor frogging hike, working on a craft, and meeting a frog or two. Kids must be accompanied by an adult.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER
FREE R

MARCH 25TH WILD WORKSHOP: BLUEBIRD BOX

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Meet a wildlife ambassador and learn about safe habitats. Build a Bluebird Box with provided tools and materials. One kit per registration. Part of Stark Parks backyard certification program.

SIPPO LAKE PARK:
EXPLORATION GATEWAY
\$20 IN-COUNTY/\$25 OUT-OF-COUNTY
\$ R

MARCH 28TH SIGNS OF SPRING HIKE

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Winter is officially over, and spring is in full swing! Lace up your boots and join us as we hike the trails of Walborn Reservoir to look for signs of spring.

WALBORN RESERVOIR
FREE R



BECOME A COMMUNITY SCIENTIST

EXPLORE NATURE, SUPPORT CONSERVATION

Community science is a powerful way for everyone to engage in scientific research by simply observing and reporting on the natural world around them. From snapping a photo of a butterfly to recording the call of a spring peeper, community scientists help build a more complete picture of local biodiversity. These contributions are not only fun but educational. They are also critically important to conservation efforts and park management planning.

Discover and Share Species Information

Whether you are a casual nature lover or an avid naturalist, becoming a community scientist is easier than ever. There are various ways to explore and document species in your area:

Casual Users: If you are out on a trail and spot an interesting flower or bird, you can quickly use tools and applications like iNaturalist, eBird, or Merlin Bird ID to identify and log the species. These platforms make it simple to contribute to science while learning about your local environment. These free and accessible tools make it easy to join the community science movement.



- **iNaturalist:** A free app and website where users can upload photos and observations of plants and animals. iNaturalist is described as “an online social network of people sharing biodiversity information to help each other learn about nature.” At Stark Parks, iNaturalist is utilized by the Natural Resources and Education departments.



- **eBird:** Managed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, eBird is a go-to platform for bird enthusiasts to track sightings and compare notes with fellow birders.



- **Merlin Bird ID:** Another free app from the Cornell Lab, Merlin helps users identify birds by sound or photo and connects observations to scientific research through eBird.



Advanced Users and Ongoing Projects:

For those looking to get more involved, Stark Parks supports several ongoing community science initiatives at various park locations. These projects are ideal for individuals or groups looking to deepen their impact:

- *iNaturalist* provides on your own opportunities at park locations. These offer opportunities to catalog species utilizing the iNaturalist app.

- *Bee Monitoring* projects help track pollinator health and biodiversity. Stark Parks specifically monitors bumble bees starting in the spring.

- *FrogWatch USA* trains volunteers to assist with the identification of our local frog and toad species, identifying their various calls, monitoring wetlands, and recording data. The next training is scheduled for February 21, 2026.



- *Bluebird Monitoring* is done by volunteers who monitor nest boxes around the parks to increase the chance of survival for the young by providing a safe space for them to grow. This typically starts in the spring.

- *iCount* is an inclusive program that empowers everyone to be a scientist, to be curious about the world around them, to make observations, to collect data, and to contribute to global scientific knowledge, regardless of your ability. Visit StarkParks.com/icount for more information.



- *Educational Programs* are available typically at no cost, and volunteers can assist in many Stark Parks naturalist-led programs for the public and school communities.

- *Attend an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists (OCVN) training* that educates volunteers on how to lead educational programs and contribute to scientific research.

Why Community Science Matters to Stark Parks

Stark Parks uses the data collected through community science to:

- Support conservation efforts, such as habitat restoration or species protection.

- Inform Park planning, with data on species trends guiding future projects and land use decisions.

For more information on how to participate in these projects, please contact information@starkparks.com to learn about how you can get involved.

By volunteering or engaging on your own as a community scientist, you are not only learning about nature; you are also actively helping to protect it.



Photo: Stark Parks Volunteer Coordinator, Parker, shows volunteer group how to use iNaturalist at Quail Hollow Park

FRIENDS OF

FEATURED PROJECT: Sippo Valley Trail Bridge #7

The Friends of Stark Parks is proud to have contributed the majority of the funds for the replacement of Bridge #7 on the Sippo Valley Trail, located just west of Bison Ave. in Massillon. This funding allowed for the replacement of the aging bridge with new infrastructure designed to serve trail users for many years to come.



The Friends of Stark Parks invested in this project as it aligns with the goals and strategic vision to enhance and update park and trail amenities to better serve guests.

This is not the only endeavor we have planned for 2025, though. Our membership and donations are vital in allowing us to continue supporting these initiatives.

Stay tuned for more updates on the Petros Lake Park restrooms, trail surface upgrades, and more! Looking ahead, the 2026 Annual Appeal will play a critical role in bringing even more improvements and projects to life. Your continued support helps us make a lasting impact on our parks and communities.

To make a donation and be a part of what's next, simply scan the QR code below or visit our StarkParks.com/Friends.



CANALWAY CLASSIC SPRING PEEPER

Fundraiser for Friends of Stark Parks

 Saturday, March 28, 2026, 8:30 a.m.

 St. Helena Heritage Park, Canal Fulton

 2 & 5 Mile or Combo

 Family Friendly Run or Walk

 Registration Opening in November



Stay up-to-date on race info



STARK PARKS

15 Year Membership

Allen, Mary Carol	Hilltop Hikers
Anastis, Lindy	Hunt, Bill & Bonnie
Ball, Jim & Brenda	Jackson, Edward
Beall, James & Maryanne	Jagger, Betty
Bishop, Mike & Donna	Jones, Eldon & Suzanne
Blake, Tim & Chantelle	Kelly, George M.
Boldon, Thaine	Kramer, Larry
Brainerd, Rita	Krause, John & Mary Jo
Brundelet, Martha	Laursen, James & Marilyn
Buell II, William & Ginny	Lawver, Thomas
Cardarella, David	Leake, Marianne
Chambers, Walt & Cathy	Lepucki, Richard & Shellie
Coughlin, Karen	Luntz, Sharon
Cozy, Mark & Brenda	Maier, Robert & Nancy
Crawford, Paula J.	Marshall, Cindy
Dahlheimer, Doug & Rhonda	McClagherty, Charles & Martha
Derry, Ron	McIlroy, Joelle
Dunlap, Richard & Sharon	Miller, Pamela R.
Elder, Tim	Miner, Bernie & Sally
Elson, Gus & JoLane	Monter, Richard & Cathy
Ewing, Dave & Penni	Moore, Donna & Allan
Fay, Robert F. & Peg	Moore, Gary & Janis
Forgan, Dalene	Morris, William & Katherine
Fuller, Dr. & Mrs. Richard	Musselman, Gary & Nancy
Geis, Karen	Nero, Bert
Gessner, Susan	Palombo, Barbara
Gheen, Barbara I.	Pickens, Walter & Lorali
Gooding, Robert & Marianne	Pocock, Judith
Harrison, Dan & Lindy	Reed, Monty & Barb
Hert, Tim & Kim	Rhodes, Carol
	Rice, Tom & Nancy

Rife, Terry & Linda
Rook, Clement & Ruth
Runciman-Moore, Diana
Schaffner, Larry & Lori
Schuster, John & Ann
Schwartz, Bob & Patricia
Scott, Mary Jane
Simone, Johanne
Slagle, Larry & Maude
Smith, Dan & Kathy
Smith, Idalee
Smith, Robert & Jan
Spees, Joanne & Russell
Stroup, Winston W.
Stuck, Richard
Suggett, Sandra
Thomas, Robert
Tolerton, Joyce
Wagner, Tom & Tina
Watson, Lindy
Weiner, Peter
Weise, Lynda
Williams, Jill
Zaleski, Linda
Zorn, Bill & Deb

20+ Year Membership

Berner, Kay
Bremer, Dal & Janet
Castner Jr., Larry
Dolan, Rosalie
Fonte, Robert Anthony
Headley, Susan
Heath, Antonio
Leonard, John
Savage, Gary R.
Schultz, Carl & Andrea
Vojir, Frances

Memorial Donations

In Memory of Austin Healy
In Memory of Betty Derry
In Memory of Darlene Showalter
In Memory of David Carper
In Memory of Eileen Sarchet
In Memory of Paul Deemer



Membership Application

Friends of Stark Parks is a charitable 501c3. Proceeds raised through Friends of Stark Parks events will be put towards the development of Stark Parks efforts to provide quality services to Stark County's communities.

Name or Company Name: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please fill out info above in the name of the person(s) receiving the membership

☐ New Member

☐ Renewing Member

Membership Levels: ☐ \$20 Senior ☐ \$20 Student ☐ \$25 Individual ☐ \$35 Family ☐ \$100 Supporter ☐ \$500 Lifetime

☐ I would like to make a tax deductible contribution of \$ _____

☐ Please send me more information on upcoming fundraising and sponsorship opportunities.

☐ Please send me more information about volunteering at Stark Parks.

Thank you for your support!

TOTAL CHECK ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please tear off and include a check payable to Friends of Stark Parks at 5300 Tyner St NW, Canton 44708. Online payment at StarkParks.com/Friends.



PARKS & TRAILS



CAMPUS TRAIL (1.4 MI)

Between Frank Ave. and Dressler Rd., North Canton, OH

CONGRESSMAN RALPH REGULA TOWPATH TRAIL (26.4)

Erie Ave. in Canal Fulton, Massillon, and Navarre Towpath Trail

COOK'S LAGOON (0.3 MI)

1819 Mahoning Rd. NE, Canton, OH

DEER CREEK RESERVOIR

14514 Price St. NE, Alliance, OH

DEVONSHIRE PARK (0.7 MI)

4679 South Blvd. NW, Canton, OH

ESMONT PARK (0.6 MI)

194 Mill St. SE, Canton, OH

FICHTNER PARK (0.4 MI)

12833 Market Ave. Hartville, OH

FRY FAMILY PARK (4.1 MI)

2533 Farber St. SE, Magnolia, OH

HOOVER TRAIL (5.4 MI)

Hoover Community Recreational Complex, 1325 E. Maple St., North Canton, OH

IRON HORSE TRAIL (7.3 MI)

First Christian Church, 1141 W. Beech St, Alliance, OH

MAGNOLIA FLOURING MILLS

261 Main St., Magnolia, OH

MAHONING VALLEY TRAIL (4.9 MI)

(Deer Creek Reservoir)
14514 Price St. NE or 182 E. Gaskill St. Alliance, OH

MIDDLE BRANCH TRAIL (7.7 MI)

Veterans Community Park, 1714 Schneider St., Canton, or Martindale Park, 4000 block of Martindale Rd. NE, Canton, OH

MINERVA CONNECTOR TRAIL (0.5 MI)

501 Alameda Ave., Minerva, OH, next to Minerva High School

NICKEL PLATE TRAIL (5.7 MI)

2923 Pinevale Ave NE, Louisville, OH

OLDE MUSKINGUM TRAIL (5.7 MI)

Forty Corners St. in Massillon to Cherry St. in Canal Fulton, 220 Cherry St. W, Canal Fulton, OH

PETROS LAKE PARK (3.2 MI)

3519 Perry Dr SW, Canton, OH

PIKE RIDGE PARK (3.2 MI)

7498 East Sparta Ave., Magnolia, OH

PIONEER TRAIL (1.3 MI)

2600 Harvard Ave. NW, Canton, OH

QUAIL HOLLOW PARK (13.4 MI)

13480 Congress Lake Avenue, Hartville, OH

SANDY VALLEY TRAIL AND WAYNESBURG PARK LOOP TRAIL (2.6 MI)

262 Maple St., Waynesburg, OH

SARATOGA HILLS TRAIL (1.6 MI)

6000 Block of Northview Ave NE, Canton, OH

SIPPO LAKE PARK (4.2 MI)

Sippo Lake Marina, 5300 Tyner St., Canton, OH
Exploration Gateway, 5712 12th St. Canton, OH
Wildlife Conservation Center, 800 Genoa Ave., Massillon, OH

SIPPO VALLEY TRAIL (7.9 MI)

2069 Skyland Ave NW, Massillon, OH

STARK ELECTRIC RAILWAY TRAIL (1.2 MI)

Mahoning Rd. NE in Canton, OH

TAM O'SHANTER PARK (3.3 MI)

5055 Hills & Dales Rd. NW, Canton, OH

TUSCARAWAS WATER TRAIL

Tuscarawas River, Canal Fulton, Massillon, and Navarre

WALBORN RESERVOIR (6.9 MI)

11324 Price St. NE, Alliance, OH

WEST BRANCH TRAIL (4.8 MI)

1305 Stadium Park Dr. NW, Canton, OH

Legend

1-13 Towpath Trailheads

- 1 Canal Bend
- 2 Craig Pittman
- 3 Wooster St.
- 4 John Glenn Grove
- 5 Massillon Rec. Center
- 6 Lake Ave
- 7 Bridgeport Quarry
- 8 40 Corners
- 9 Crystal Springs
- 10 Butterbridge Rd
- 11 Lock 4
- 12 St. Helena Heritage Park
- 13 Lake Lucerne

Map is not to scale

Hours:
Parks are open 24 hours a day, unless noted otherwise.





Hike 10 of the designated trails to earn your Stark Exploring hiking stick and shield from September 1st - December 31st 2025.

To receive your reward, turn in your completed passport at the Exploration Gateway.

Pick-up available Monday-Friday, 8:30AM-4:00 PM

Visit the Exploration Gateway Saturday, January 10th 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM for shield assistance

All forms should be turned in by January 10th, 2026.

I'd like to purchase:

First-year Stick (\$15) _____

2025 Shield (FREE) _____

*\$5 out-of-county fee applies CASH/CHECK ONLY

Last Name _____

First Name _____

Email _____
(to receive program, park, and trail info)

Shield recipients can send a stamped or self-addressed envelope with check payable to Stark Parks 5712 12th St. NW, Canton OH 44708

For Friends of Stark Parks info at starkparks.com/friends



Visit starkparks.com/starkexploring for more detailed trail information

1 Fry Family Park:
Westbrook Trail (from shelter)
Mileage: 2.4 miles

Initial:_____ Date:_____

2 Hoover Trail:
Washington Square Loop
Mileage: 2.3 miles

Initial:_____ Date:_____

3 Iron Horse Trail:
First Christian Church to Beechwood
Mileage: 1.4 miles
OR...
FCC to Bayton St.
Mileage: 3.7 miles

Initial:_____ Date:_____

4 Mahoning Valley Trail:
Deer Creek Reservoir to Greenbower St.
Mileage: 2.2 miles

Initial:_____ Date:_____

5 Olde Muskingum Trail:
Butterbridge (South) to Turnaround Point
Mileage: 2.5 miles
OR...
Butterbridge to Forty Corners
Mileage: 6.8 miles

Initial:_____ Date:_____

6 Petros Lake Park:
Mindfulness Walk
Mileage: 1.1 miles

Initial:_____ Date:_____

7 Pike Ridge Park:
Loop Trail
Mileage: 2.5 miles

Initial:_____ Date:_____

8 Quail Hollow Park:
Paved Trail
Mileage: 0.70 miles
OR...
Purple Loop
Mileage: 1.8 miles

Initial:_____ Date:_____

9 Sippo Lake Park:
Exploration Gateway Shelter to Wildlife Conservation Center
Mileage: 0.9 miles

Initial:_____ Date:_____

10 Sippo Valley Trail:
Alabama Ave to Deerfield
Mileage: 2.6 miles
OR...
Alabama Ave to Lebanon
Mileage: 4.6 miles

Initial:_____ Date:_____

11 Towpath Trail:
John Glenn (South) to Turnaround Point
Mileage: 2.5 miles
OR...
John Glenn to Craig Pittman
Mileage: 7.2 miles

Initial:_____ Date:_____

12 Walborn Reservoir:
Red Trail
Mileage: 1.0 miles
OR...
Shoreline Trail (from Marina)
Mileage: 4.6 miles

Initial:_____ Date:_____

13 West Branch Trail:
12th St. to Fulton
Mileage: 2.2 miles
OR...
12th St. to 38th St.
Mileage: 5.0 miles

Initial:_____ Date:_____

14 Hiker's Choice:
Choose any trail within Stark County Park District

Trail:_____ Mileage:_____

Initial:_____ Date:_____

2025 Stark Exploring Hiking Stick Shield



*Mileage is round-trip



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