

December
January
February

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programs

Winter Program Guide

wcparks.org
Vol. XXI, Issue 1

Wood County

Park

Distric<sup>\*</sup>

The mission of the Wood County Park District is to conserve, enhance, and protect the natural and cultural resources of Wood County, while providing quality outdoor recreational and educational opportunities for Wood County citizens.

or, Current Resident



Dennis Parish • Dill Cameron

Park Commissioners

Sandy Wiechman

Kim Rose • Tom Myers

Dennis Parish • Bill Cameron

18729 Mercer Road Bowling Green Cover Photo: by Jim Mathews

Wood County Park District

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## December 2022

419-353-1897

Sunday Wednesday Thursday Friday Monday Tuesday Saturday 2 Heritage Holiday Saturday, December 10; 1 - 4 pm Enjoy wagon rides, wassail, crafts, cookie decorating, & festive cheer. **Carter Historic Farm** 5 9 8 10 4 **Base** Preschool-**Monthly** Heritage ers in the Mindfulness Camp Sto-Holiday **Parks** ries:: "There's Long Night nothing to do Full Moon Walk here;" Raising Ohio Adventure Seed Seed Awareness -Cleaning Paul Fuzinski 12 14 17 11 13 15 16 Coffee with **◯** Winter **№** Seed Nature Play: 🖊 Art in the Tree ID Cleaning: the Birds Weaving Craft Park: Up-**Ugly Sweater** cycled Gift Wrap 19 22 18 20 21 23 24 Base **Camp Stories:** Biking the **Pacific Coast** for MS - Mike **Armstrong** 26 27 29 30 31 25 28 Now Unike **CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING DECEMBER 26 - JANUARY 31** CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING Drop-off locations: Park District Headquarters, Bowling Green Otsego Park, Bowling Green W.W. Knight Nature Preserve, Perrsyburg \*Remove ALL decorations.

















Adventure

Wellness

Heritage

Nature

Garden

Education

Food

Art

Volunteer

# wcparks.org January 2023

419-353-1897

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4	Base Camp Stories: Fort-to-Port; Adventure on the Maumee River - Bill Hoefflin	Full Wolf Moon Hike	7   Monthly   Mindfulness
8	9	10 Escape the Nature Center	11 Wild Lights Workshop	12	13 Wild Light	Winter Bird Count for Kids Advanced Crochet  S Weekend
15	16	17 Preschoolers in the Parks	Coffee with the Birds Planning Out The Garden Year	19 Base Camp Stories: How to Survive an Ice Storm Rock Climbing Grand Teton – Ben Waggoner	20 Art in Park: Create	21
Farm Breakfast (Off the Farm)	23	24	25 Owl Hike	26 Nature Play: Animal Handler Scrap Fabric Twine	27	Kitchen Basics for Kids – in Season Seed Cleaning Marathon
CUDISTM AS	TREE RECYCL	NG FND	January II Decorating W Register: wcpa		January 13 - Stroll the ligh	
Thursdays; 7 - 8:30 pm  Basecamp Stories  Learn from locals; share in adventure						
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Garden

Nature

Food

Volunteer

Education

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# February 2023

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Friday Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Saturday 3 2 4 SOLVE CLUES **Greenhouse** 4 TO ESCAPE Help JAN. 10 W.W. KNIGHT FEB. 24 **BRADNER PRESERVE** ESCAPE THE NATURE CENTER 10 5 11 6 Greenhouse Coffee with **Toddler Full Snow** Preschoolers in the Moon Walk the Birds Help Kitchen **Parks Exploration** Base **Greenhouse** Camp: Hiking Help **Coast to Coast Monitoring** iboL -Kick-Off Harrington 12 13 14 15 16 18 🏸 Greenhouse 🥄 Adults Only: **Glazed** Greenhouse Seed Starting Help Animal Carrots Help Workshop **Valentines** Adults Only **Animal Valentines** 22 24 20 21 23 25 19 Greenhouse Nowl Hike Nature Play: **Monthly** Help Winter Birds Mindfulness Greenhouse **Frog** Help **Monitor** Magic Base Escape **Training** Camp Stories in the the Nature Eric Slough Greenhouse Center II 28 27 26 Coffee Greenhouse with the Farm Help Birds **Breakfast (Off** the Farm) Join the Friends of the Parks! Support the work of the Park District through the Friends of the Parks while enjoying member benefits like discounts on facility rentals Friends and programs. Also, receive mailed program guides and invitations Wood County to member-only events and activities. Be a freind! wcparks.org/friends **Parks** Scan this code to join



















Adventure

Wellness

Heritage

**Nature** 

Garden

**Education** 

Food

Volunteer

### **Youth Programs**

#### Preschoolers in the Parks; PiPs Hibernate, Hike, or Hunker



Tuesdays, 10:30 - 11:30 am December 6: Hibernate, Hike, or Hunker January 17:Reptiles & Amphibians February 7: Wildlife Detectives W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

For ages 3-6, we'll be discussing a different topic each month. A story and a brief walk afterwards will be a part of the experience. Register the participating child only. Adult companions must remain with children for this program. Leaders: Jim Witter and Craig Spicer

#### **Nature Play**



Thursdays; 10:00 - 11:00 am **December 15: Weaving Craft** January 26: Animal Handler February 23: Winter Birds W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Activate your imagination and creativity! Join us for an hour of nature-based exploration and play. This experience is ideal for ages 3 and up. Every week we will focus on a specific outdoor activity or animal. Leader: Emma Taylor

#### Winter Bird Count for Kids



Saturday, January 14; 10:00 - 11:30 am W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Learn about winter bird counts and their importance to studying bird populations. We will search out and count as many birds as possible. Snacks and warm drinks will be provided. Leader: Jim Witter

#### Kitchen Basics for Kids - Cooking in Season Saturday, January 28; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm **Carter Historic Farm**

Participants will learn about how families, like the Carters, preserved foods in the spring and summer so they could have plenty of food to last the cold fall and winter months. They will then make a main dish, side dish, and dessert using only foods that are in season. This program is recommended for children age 10 and older. Leader: Alyssa Garland

#### Toddler Kitchen Exploration - Valentine Cookies Saturday, February 11; 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Carter Historic Farm

It's never too early to start helping in the kitchen! Participants will learn the basics of kitchen safety and etiquette all while making yummy valentine themed cookies! Leader: Alyssa Garland



### **Register for Programs**



Adventure



**Education** 



Food



Garden



**Outdoors** 



Registration Nature Required





Wellness

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Most program require registration 48+ hours in advance. Nature walks are under one mile unless noted.

### **Volunteer Programs**

#### Seed Cleaning: Holiday Colors



Tuesday, December 6; 6:00 - 8:00 pm J.C. Reuthinger Memorial Preserve

#### Seed Cleaning: Ugly Sweater



Tuesday, December 13; 6:00 - 8:00 pm Park District Headquarters

Help clean native plant seeds that have been harvested from park district properties. This is an indoor, sit-down activity. All instruction and materials provided. Feel free to dress in holiday colors for added fun! Program Leader: Zeb Albert

#### Seed Cleaning Marathon



Saturday, January 28; 10:00 am - 5:00 pm J.C. Reuthinger Memorial Preserve

Join us during this all-day event and help the stewardship staff clean native plant seeds that were harvested from park district properties last year. While you are here be sure to sample and vote for your favorite chili from the options staff members will provide! This is an indoor, sit-down activity. All instruction and materials provided. Arrive and leave as you wish. Leaders: Stewardship Department

#### Greenhouse Help



Thursday, February 2; 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Tuesday, February 7; 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Thursday, February 9; 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Tuesday, February 14; 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Thursday, February 16; 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Tuesday, February 21; 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Thursday, February 23; 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Tuesday, February 28; 10:00 am - 12:00 pm J.C. Reuthinger Memorial Preserve

Assist the stewardship department with the native plant program by transplanting seedlings and performing other tasks in the greenhouse. All tools and materials provided.

#### Monitoring Recap and Kickoff



Tuesday, February 7; 6:30 - 8:30 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Learn about the different monitoring opportunities being offered in your parks. A short report will be given on the monitoring data collected the previous year. A light dinner will be provided. This program welcomes the community of ongoing volunteers as well as new potential participants!

#### Frog Monitor Training



Tuesday, February 21; 7:00 - 8:30 pm Teleconference program

Connect to your parks and add to our knowledge of native frogs and toads by joining the Frog and Toad Calling Survey. Volunteer monitors will be trained to conduct surveys and identify frog species by sight and sound. This is an ongoing volunteer program. Leader: Craig Spicer



### Register for Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer with us and be an important part of the team.





wcparks.org/volunteer

419-353-1897

Scan the square QR code with your smartphone camera leading to wcparks.galaxydigital.com, the volunteer website.

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### **Community Programs**

#### Long Nights Full Moon Walk



Tuesday, December 6, 6:30 – 8:00 pm W.W. Knight Preserve

During this month the winter cold fastens its grip, and nights are at their longest and darkest. Bundle up and enjoy the last full moon of 2022. Leader: Bill Hoefflin

#### A Heritage Holiday



Saturday, December 10; 1:00 – 4:00 pm Carter Historic Farm

Join us to share some seasonal cheer at the Farm's open house. We'll have carols played on the player piano, cookie decorating, ornament making, and other activities for the whole family.

#### **Owl Hike**



Wednesday, December 28, 6:30 – 8:00 pm Cedar Creeks Preserve

Join us on a night hike to look and listen for these elusive creatures. We'll be looking and listening for screech and great horned owls. Leader: Bill Hoefflin

#### Full Wolf Moon Hike



Friday, January 6; 7:00 – 8:30 pm Bradner Nature Center

The first full moon of 2023 is often one of the brightest and sometimes comes with air temperatures that can take your breath away, bundle up and take a walk to learn why wolves are so vocal this month.

Leader: Bill Hoefflin

#### Wild Lights Workshop



Wednesday, January 11; 4:00 – 7:00 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Make the night BRIGHT with festive holiday lights! Register your group and bring your decorations to transform one of our life-sized 3D foam animals into a twinkling spectacle for all to see during the Wild Lights Weekend. The best displays win cash prizes! Spots are very limited. See online for full description and details. Want to decorate but can't make this time work? Coordinate with us for a different setup time to make your vision a reality! Leader: Craig Spicer

#### Wild Lights Weekend



Friday – Sunday, January 13 – 15; 5:00 – 8:00 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Celebrate the coming of the new year with wildlife and holiday lights! Life-sized animal statues are adorned with twinkle and color, lighting up the cool winter nights. Come walk the trail 5:00-8:00pm to see the spectacular displays. Want your group to be one of the designers and compete for winnings? Register for the Wild Lights Workshop January 11. It is free to adopt a station to decorate, and there are cash prizes.

#### Farm Breakfast (Off the Farm)



Sunday, January 22;

10:00 - 11:00 am, OR 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Otsego Park Thompson Stone Hall

Come taste the fruits of our labors – buckwheat pancakes with maple syrup, bacon and eggs, and other treats raised/grown on the Carter Historic Farm. Two eating shifts are available. Please only register for the January OR February breakfast to allow others to share the opportunity. Program leader: Carter Historic Farm staff

#### **Scrap Fabric Twine**



Thursday, January 26; 5:00 – 8:00 pm Carter Historic Farm

Drop in for as much of the evening as you're available to learn how to make neat looking twine that uses up scrap fabrics, and get some ideas for crafts to use it in! Leader: Corinne Gordon

#### Full Snow Moon Walk



Sunday, February 5, 7:00 - 8:30 pm Cedar Creeks Preserve

We are really hoping this full moon lives up to its name, if it does, we will have snowshoes on hand for you to borrow if you choose to. Regardless of snowfall we will hit the trail and discover what is happening in the nocturnal world. Leader: Bill Hoefflin

#### Farm Breakfast (Off the Farm)



Sunday, February 26;

10:00 - 11:00 am, OR 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Otsego Park: Thompson Stone Building

Come taste the fruits of our labors – buckwheat pancakes with maple syrup, bacon and eggs, and other treats raised/grown on the Carter Historic Farm. Two eating shifts are available. Please only sign up for January OR February breakfast to allow others to share the opportunity. Leader: Corinne Gordon and farm staff



### **Adult Programs**

# Base Camp Stories: "There's nothing to do here;" Raising Ohio Adventure Awareness – Paul Fuzinski



Thursday, December 8; 7:00 – 8:30 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Paul has traveled all across the United States hiking, climbing mountains, hunting Sasquatch, catching sharks, competing in adventure races, and much more. Despite all of it, he finds captivating adventures in the Northwest Ohio region! Many people think they need to travel to faraway places to find adventure when we have so much to see right here in our own backyards. Paul has set out to dispel the myth that, "there's nothing to do here." Host: Craig Spicer

#### Monthly Mindfulness



NO.

Wednesday, December 7; 7:00 – 8:30 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Give yourself permission to get away to reconnect and relax with this monthly series. Join naturalist and meditation teacher Emma Taylor for a monthly nature-based mindfulness session at a local Wood County Park. Classes will consist of a combination of seated and walking mindfulness practices and nature awareness activities. This class is appropriate for teens and adults. Leader: Emma Taylor

#### **Winter Tree ID**



Sunday, December 11; 1:00 – 2:30pm Bradner Preserve Nature Center

Get a closer look at trees without their leaves. Learn how to identify a tree based on its bark and twigs. Leader: Bill Hoefflin

#### **Coffee With the Birds**



Wednesdays, 8:00 – 9:30 am
December 14: Cedar Creeks Preserve
January 18: Sawyer Quarry Nature Preserve
February 8: W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Enjoy a birding stroll with coffee! Sponsored by Grindhrs Coffee and Community, we'll be visiting a different park and starting with a warm drink before heading out on the trail. Register for one or all monthly programs. Leader: Jim Witter

#### Art in Park: Upcycled Giftwrap



Friday, December 16; 7:00 - 9:00 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Learn how to turn old magazines and paper bags into attractive upcycled gift wrap! Bring your own favorite magazine pages and intact paper bags (or use the ones we have) to create beautiful and inexpensive gift wrapping. This class is appropriate for teens and adults. Leader: Emma Taylor

# Base Camp Stories: Biking the Pacific Coast for MS – Mike Armstrong



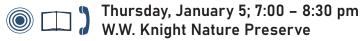
Thursday, December 22; 7:00 - 8:30 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Over the last few years, Mike has been challenged with several difficult situations and life-changing moments, including loved ones going through crises similar to those afflicted with Multiple Sclerosis. Seeking to put positive energy into an amazing cause, Mike joined the 2022 Pacific Coast Cycling Team as a part of Bike the US for MS campaign, riding from Seattle, Washington to San Diego, California. Hear of Mike's training, his ride experience, and the impact that was made from him and to him. Host: Craig Spicer

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## **Adult Programs**

#### Base Camp Stories: Fort-to-Port; An Adventure on the Maumee River - Bill Hoefflin



In 2019, four bold kayakers embarked to thru-paddle the entire 137 miles of the Maumee River in 4 days. Hear from expedition members as they share stories, logistics, preparations, and photos and videos from their adventure. Host: Craig Spicer

#### **Monthly Mindfulness**

# Saturday, January 7; 9:30 – 11:00 am W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Give yourself permission to get away to reconnect and relax with this monthly series. Join naturalist and meditation teacher Emma Taylor for a monthly nature-based mindfulness session at a local Wood County Park. Classes will consist of a combination of seated and walking mindfulness practices and nature awareness activities. This class is appropriate for teens and adults. Leader: Emma Taylor

#### **Escape the Nature Center**



#### Tuesday, January 10; 7:00 – 8:30 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Ready for a challenge! Use your wits, nature knowledge, and teamwork skills to solve the puzzles and escape the nature center. Leader: Bill Hoefflin

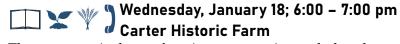
#### Advanced Crochet - Magic Circle



#### Saturday, January 14; 10:00 am - 12:00 pm **Carter Historic Farm**

Improve your crochets skills and learn how to crochet in the round. Yarn and hook will be provided. This program is recommended for those with some basic crochet skills or those that have taken 'Crochet for Beginners' at Carter Historic Farm. Leader: Alyssa Garland

#### Planning Out the Garden Year



The new year is the perfect time to organize and plan the next growing season. All of the seed catalogs are shipped out and decisions must be made on what to order and when. This presentation will help you make informed decisions about the latest varieties of vegetables to plan out a successful season. Leader: Michelle Wallace, CSU Extension

#### Base Camp Stories: How to Survive an Ice Storm while Rock Climbing Grand Teton – Ben Waggoner



Thursday, January 19; 7:00 - 8:30 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Professional climber Ben Waggoner has climbed all over the country, guiding and teaching countless others how to prepare and experience the sport safely. But when a storm surprised Ben halfway up the 13,775' Grand Teton in Wyoming, what did he rely on to survive? In this presentation, Ben shares his experiences in life and rock-climbing. **Host: Craig Spicer** 

#### Art in Park: Create a Collage Artwork



Friday, January 20; 7:00 - 9:00 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Bring yourself and some friends to join us for an evening of crafting. Using old magazines and paper, we will make nature silhouette collages. Magazines and paper will be provided but if there are pieces from your home you would like to include, feel free to bring them. This class is appropriate for teens and adults. Registration required. Leader: Emma Taylor

### **Register for Programs**

Adventure











Heritage









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#### Base Camp Stories: Hiking Coast to Coast on the American Discovery Trail – Jodi Harrington

Thursday, February 9; 7:00 - 8:30 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Though from small-town Northwest Ohio, Jodi has always sought big adventures, including driving a vegetable-oil-fueled truck to Alaska, circumnavigating Florida on her bicycle, and visiting every national park. At this presentation, she'll be discussing one of her biggest adventures of all: walking across America on the northern route of the American Discovery Trail. Jodi will share the logistics, the struggles, the life lessons, and some of the sweet stories experienced along the way. Host: Craig Spicer

#### Adults Only: Animal Valentines



Tuesday, February 14th; 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Grownups! Bring your special someone(s) and learn about nonhuman valentines. Enjoy an evening of trivia and games and see how much you know about the mating rituals of animals near us. Warm beverages will be available during this program. Leader: Emma Taylor

#### Seed Starting Workshop



#### Wednesday, February 15; 6:00 - 7:00 pm **Carter Historic Farm**

Growing your own plants from seed gives you greater flexibility on which plant varieties you grow. It also can save you money. Learn how to grow your own transplants, thin out seedlings and plan when to start growing the transplants so they are ready to plant. Leader: Michelle Wallace, CSU Extension Educator

#### Adults Only: Animal Valentines



Friday, February 17; 7:00 - 8:30 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Grownups! Bring your special someone(s) and learn about nonhuman valentines. Enjoy an evening of trivia and games and see how much you know about the mating rituals of animals near us. Warm beverages will be available during this program. Leader: Emma Taylor

#### Glazed Carrots: Pressure Cooker Canning



Saturday, February 18; 9:30 am - 12:00 pm Carter Historic Farm

Learn the basics of pressure cooker canning while making glazed carrots. Participants will take home a jar of carrots to taste at home! Leader: Corinne Gordon

#### Base Camp Stories: A Picture-Perfect Trip; Kayaking Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore - Eric Slough





Thursday, February 23; 7:00 - 8:30 pm W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Eric is a kayaking instructor, avid paddling community advocate, and adventurer, paddling all over the Great Lakes Region. In this presentation, Eric shares about his experience paddling the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore and surrounding Upper Peninsula area including Grand Island and Grand Maris. Host: Craig Spicer

#### **Escape the Nature Center II**



Friday, February 24; 7:00 - 8:30 pm **Bradner Nature Center** 

Ready for a challenge! Use your wits, nature knowledge, and teamwork skills to solve the puzzles and escape the nature center. Cost: \$10, FWCP \$8. Leader: Bill Hoefflin

#### Monthly Mindfulness



Saturday, February, 25; 9:30 - 11:00 am W.W. Knight Nature Preserve

Give yourself permission to get away to reconnect and relax with this monthly series. Join naturalist and meditation teacher Emma Taylor for a monthly nature-based mindfulness session at a local Wood County Park. Classes will consist of a combination of seated and walking mindfulness practices and nature awareness activities. This class is appropriate for teens and adults. Registration required. Leader: Emma Taylor

#### Magic in the Greenhouse



r 📭 🗬 Saturday, February 25; 10:00 – 11:00 am J.C. Reuthinger Memorial Preserve **AND Zoom Video Conference** 

This is the time of the year when magic happens in the greenhouse. Join us to learn about our plant conservation efforts, the benefits of native plants, and how you can incorporate what you learn into your gardening at home. Leaders: Sanja Jennings & Jim Witter

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# Wood County Park District

