



Bull's Run Newsletter Autumn 2018

Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum is a non-profit volunteer organization located in NE Butler County and serving the surrounding community. We are dedicated to preserving the natural area of Bull's Run, and strive to develop the park as an environmental facility and educational resource for people of all ages.



Fall Family Fest

Please bring the whole family to Bull's Run on Sunday, September 23, between 2:00 and 4:00 pm for an afternoon of fun in the outdoors at no charge. We plan to have a wide variety of activities to involve people of all ages. There will be nature crafts, games using natural materials, a scavenger hunt to stimulate your observation skills, face painting and refreshments. Volunteers will be helping your family enjoy this nature gem to the fullest, so bring some friends along, too.



Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting will again be held at Verity Lodge on MUM Campus. You are invited to join us for this free event on Monday, October 8, beginning at 7:00 pm. We will begin the evening with light hors d'oeuvres and a brief meeting to review the past year in the arboretum and upcoming plans in the arboretum for the upcoming year. Then a short break to refill your plate before we enjoy our guest speaker Penny Borgman. Penny, who happens to be the mother of our naturalist, Sarah Meadows, has worked as an interpretive naturalist for over 35 years and has taught natural and cultural history for the Ohio State Parks, Columbus & Franklin County Metro Parks, Great Parks of Hamilton County, and Navarro Research & Engineering at the Department of Energy's Fernald Preserve where she presently serves as Interpretive Services Manager. Penny will be speaking about the transformation of the Fernald property into a nature preserve full of wildlife and is quickly becoming a bird watchers' prime destination.



In a rural area northwest of Cincinnati, Ohio, sits the 1,050-acre Fernald site. Throughout the Cold War this site was a major contributor to our nation's nuclear defense program, leading to one of the largest ecological cleanups in United States History, and costing \$4.4-billion. The Fernald Preserve is an example of how an industrial site can be restored with native trees, prairie grasses, and newly developed and enhanced wetlands that support and encourage wildlife. Successful environmental cleanup and restoration has resulted in today's publicly accessible Fernald Preserve that features an abundance of wildlife, 7 miles of hiking trails, and a Visitors Center that tells the story of the land. This program will feature a fascinating look at the wildlife that has returned to this ecologically restored landscape. The site is regionally recognized for its diversity of bird life and also supports an abundance of interesting amphibians, mammals, invertebrates and more.

New Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum Contributions
Received since the Spring Newsletter

Additional 2018 Memberships

Loren Ackermann
David and Janice Adams
Jessica Armstrong
Barbara Balsmeyer
Jan and Laird Becker
John and Sue Bennett Jr.
Tom and Sally Brickey
Wilbur Cohen
Ron and Barb Conley
Katie DeVilling
Mary Enochs
Margaret Fiora
Louis and Carolyn Gaker
Greg and Dianne Gerber
Forest and Debbie Grant
Laverne Hopper
Carolyn Keiffer
Ellen and Bill Kukuk
Michael and Priscilla Lane
Ron and Jackie Lankfer
Katherine Loughry
Ted and Marcia Miller
Pete and JoAnn Moroz
Sara and Adam Neu
Larry and Marsha Orcutt
Greg and Patty Pratt
Angela Retzios
Tom Ritter
Tom Scott
Glen and Joan Shivers
Julie Thomas
Charles Turner
Mary Lou Williams

Memorials

In loving memory of Dick Hopper
Laverne Hopper
In loving memory of Marilyn Brewer
Ellen and Bill Kukuk
In loving memory of Joe Thomas
Julie Thomas
In loving memory of Larry Boring
Western Hills Veterinary Clinic

Education

Forest and Debbie Grant

Facilities/Bridges

Loren Ackermann
Forest and Debbie Grant
Mary Lou Williams

Land stewardship

Forest and Debbie Grant

Additional Contributions

Wilbur Cohen
Ron and Barb Conley
Mary Enochs
Margaret Fiora
Carolyn Keiffer
Ron and Jackie Lankfer
Pete and JoAnn Moroz
Glen and Joan Shivers
Charles Turner

Middletown Community Endowment Fund

Forest and Debbie Grant

Scholarships

Butler County Master Gardeners

These memberships were received between 3/12/2018 and 9/7/18. If our records do not reflect your records, please notify us and we will be sure to include you in our next newsletter where we list new contributions to Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum. Thank you for your support.

Another way to help at Bull's Run!

September Work Day, Saturday 22, 9:30-1pm

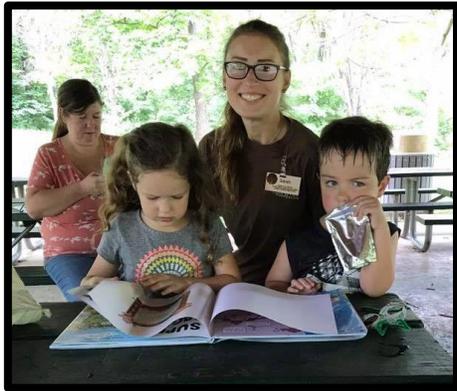
Help us clear out invasive plant species to create better habitat for the creatures that call Bull's Run home and make it more enjoyable for all the human visitors too! We supply tools and snacks.

2018 Fall Nature TOTS

Child centered, hands-on exploration of nature for children ages 6 months to 6 years (and their caregivers)!

5-week program, on Mondays 10:00 - 11:30 am

October 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29



Fall Sessions will explore Bull's Run, as the forest prepares for winter, with all of our senses.

Call BRNSA naturalist, Sarah Meadows, at 513-279-8958 or email

naturalist@bullsrn.org to register!

BRNSA 2018 family membership required to participate in this FREE program. To become a member, visit www.bullsrn.org

Notes from the Naturalist

First Summer Campfire Series:

There are so many things you can do while enjoying a campfire on a clear summer night with friends and family. We hosted the first Summer Campfire Series this season and it was a blast! June and July were family-oriented. We had live snakes, told stories, played games, and sang songs – all while having some s'mores! August embraced those moments of reminiscence, hosting a woman who attended the Fresh Air Camp (what the property was used for before it became a nature sanctuary) as a child to share her memories, Sam Ashworth with the Middletown Historical Society, and the Middletown library's archivist.

Summer Nature Tots:

Summer always seems to fly by, but we sure had a lot of fun! We did everything 'summer-y', from making magical firefly crafts, to getting really wet and learning about water. This was also the first season the Midpoint Library's Library on Wheels (a.k.a. the Bookmobile) came out after some of our nature tots days so everyone could pick out a nature book to take home. The Bookmobile was a big hit. We also had a few of our tots graduate! We will certainly miss them on our adventures, and wish them well as they start school this fall.



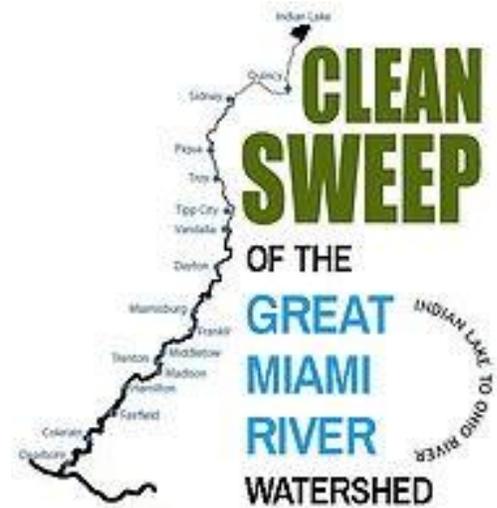
Clean Sweep of the Great Miami River

October 27, 2018 9:00am-12:00pm

(If the river is in flood stage, the cleanup will be moved to Sat, November 3)

The Clean Sweep of the Great Miami River is a volunteer event focused on removing trash and restoring the health of the Great Miami River. This river cleanup is about much more than picking up trash. It's a day for communities to demonstrate their desire for clean water and healthy rivers. It's an opportunity to learn about our river, and it's a time to come together with your families, your neighbors, your community, and your friends to accomplish

something vital and worthy on behalf of our Great Miami River. This cleanup is an annual event coordinated by many partners and held in July in the upper reaches, and October in the lower region of the river.



The first cleaning of the Great Miami River started back in 1986 when two Tri-county Sanitation lab workers were pulling GMR water samples off of Old Needmore Road facility. They both commented to each other that the trash on / in the GMR was terrible! These two gentlemen started the first "sweep". In 2005, several groups along the southern stretch of the GMR saw the great work going on upstream, and decided to join in the fun. Since 2005, groups all along the GMR, from Indian Lake at the headwaters, to Shawnee Lookout Park at the mouth, take part.

There are numerous locations to volunteer:

Franklin: Carmody Park

Middletown: Jimco Kayak at Spoken Bicycles, 1201 Central Avenue, Middletown 45044.

Middletown: Bicentennial Commons

Madison Twp: Neals Excavating

Oxford: Corso Road Covered Bridge

Trenton: Community Park

Trenton: St Rt 73 boat ramp

Woodsdale Metropark: 1917 Woodsdale Rd., Trenton, OH 45067

**To register to volunteer at one of these locations, or see other locations, please visit:

<https://www.cleansweepofthegreatmiamiriver.org/volunteer>

Get involved on Make a Difference Day, October 27!

A Look at Future Plans at Bull's Run

Scary Stories Campfire

Ready to set the mood for Halloween? Join us around a campfire in the woods at night, and listen to some scary stories, terrifying tales, and frightening folklore. S'mores will be provided as comfort food for those who need it. Bring your own seating. Friday, Oct. 26, 7:00pm.

Pumpkin Hike

A family friendly night hike featuring lit jack-o-lanterns placed along the trails in the arboretum. After your hike, see how many nighttime nature trivia questions you can answer and take home some candy too! Purchase a ticket when you enter to take home your favorite carved pumpkin (optional), to be given away in the order tickets are drawn at 8pm at the end of the event. Saturday, Oct. 27, 6-8:00pm.

National Take a Hike Day

Plans are being made to celebrate National Take a Hike Day on Saturday, November 17, with a map of area hiking trails at local parks and ending with a guided hike at Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum. Hope you can join us for a special opportunity to get outside and take a hike. Check back at our Facebook page and the website for more details at the beginning of November.



Membership Form 2018

Tax deductible

Our Mission Statement

Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum is a non-profit volunteer organization located in NE Butler County and serving the surrounding community. We are dedicated to preserving the natural area of Bull's Run and strive to develop the park as an environmental facility and educational resource for people of all ages.

___ \$35 Family (printed newsletter) ___ \$25 Family (e-newsletter)
___ \$25 Individual (printed newsletter) ___ \$15 Individual (e-newsletter)
\$ ___ Additional Contribution
\$ ___ Contribution: Education Outreach/Other _____
\$ ___ Contribution: Facilities Improvement/Bridges _____
\$ ___ Contribution: Land Stewardship _____
\$ ___ Contribution to the Endowment Fund with Middletown Community Foundation
\$ ___ Contribution in Honor/Memory of: (Name) _____

Please send an acknowledgement of this donation to: Name _____
\$ ___ **Total Enclosed** Check # _____ Address _____

Membership also payable on website

Name _____

Address _____

Phone# () _____ e-mail _____

To volunteer, schedule a program, tour, or speaker for your group, contact Sarah Meadows, naturalist@bullsrn.org, or President, Nancy Clark at 513-368-3233. For event information visit www.bullsrn.org or our Facebook page.

Mail to Bull's Run Arboretum, P.O. Box 425, Middletown, OH 45042-0425

More Ways to Help Bull's Run

Serve on the volunteer Board of Directors as:

Member at Large Serve as general board member, offering suggestions for programming and helping to execute the various events held throughout the year.

Contribute time, talent or materials:

Volunteer on a Work Day with your own yard tools, or using some of ours, to help prepare the trails for spring tours, control invasive species or add to the diversity of plants. Individuals and groups welcomed.

Take pictures of your visit to Bull's Run and post them on our Facebook page. Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum is still one of Middletown's little know gems of nature. Help us spread the word.

Kroger Community Rewards Program:

Kroger Community Rewards makes fund-raising easy...all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card! When you enroll, please choose Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum under Community Rewards. This will not affect your fuel rewards in any way. Our new organization number is MX093. If you have enrolled in the past, your account has already automatically changed the number for you.

Many thanks to our current all-volunteer Board of Directors for their leadership, dedication and hours of service to BRNSA: Nancy Clark, Debbie Grant, Marge Kochunas, Melissa Proffitt and Randy Wilson.

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂



Program Interest Form 2019

Use this form to let us know what YOU want to do at Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum in the coming year!

Interested in Nature Tots Winter _____ Spring _____ Summer _____ Autumn _____
Mondays 10am – 11:30 dates to be announced free with a family membership
 Names *Parent* _____ *Tot/age* _____ *Tot/age* _____
 Phone# () _____ e-mail _____

Interested in Summer Junior Naturalist Program for elementary-age children
 Names *Parent* _____ *Student/age* _____ *Student/age* _____
 Phone# () _____ e-mail _____

Winter Tree ID Class January _____ **Spring Wildflower Walks** March _____ April _____ May _____
Spring Bird Walk April _____ May _____ **Summer Tree ID Walk** June _____
Campfire Series (evenings) June _____ July _____ August _____ September _____
Prairie Walk August _____ **Christmas Bird Count** December _____
 Suggestions for a new event _____
 Name _____
 Phone # () _____ e-mail _____

Interested in scheduling a guided tour or work day for a community organization
 Name _____ Possible date _____
 Phone # () _____ e-mail _____

Interested in serving on the Board of Directors as Member at Large Treasurer Newsletter editor *circle one*
 Name _____
 Phone # () _____ e-mail _____

Thanks to all who help keep Bull's Run an important asset of the community!

- ❖ Thanks to Mike Wertz of Wertz Tree Farm for once again mowing the prairie to stimulate new growth.
- ❖ Thanks to all the workday volunteers, both individuals and groups!
- ❖ Thanks to John Whittington for leading the Annual Prairie Walk in August.



- ❖ Thanks to Michael Porter for sponsoring and maintaining a new geocache at Bull's Run and leading an informative workshop on geocaching.
- ❖ Thanks to the City of Middletown for mowing, supplying mulch for the trails, felling dead ash trees and hauling off honeysuckle branches and bags of winter creeper after work days.
- ❖ Thanks to Debbie Grant and Marge Kochunas for creating the bulletin board displays monthly.
- ❖ Thanks to Josh Proffitt for assisting with technical assistance with the new office equipment.
- ❖ Thanks to the Butler County Master Gardeners

for their partnership with Bull's Run to eradicate honeysuckle, work on the Native Plant Garden and help on Work Days. Education and volunteerism is flowing both ways!

- ❖ Thanks to Brad and Marge Kochunas, Sara Neu and Melissa Proffitt for filling the bird feeders throughout the winter months.
- ❖ Thanks to those who shop at Kroger and have enrolled in their community rewards program, listing Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum – new organization # MX093.
- ❖ Thanks to everyone who “likes” us on Facebook and shares events.
- ❖ Thanks to the Episcopal Church of Ascension for their all-around support.
- ❖ Thanks to Aaron Grant for maintaining our website.
- ❖ Thanks to all Board members for their enduring support!
- ❖ To everyone who has already made Bull's Run part of their 2018 giving and those who plan to contribute in 2018, we truly appreciate your support!



Volunteers at work day help maintain trails and plant seedlings

2018 Membership Form is included in this mailing at the bottom of page 5 and is also available on the website, if you have not already sent in your contribution.

Please fill out the interest survey on page 6, too.

Together we are making a difference!

Mark Your Calendars For Upcoming Events

September

Saturday, September 22 **Work Day** 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

Sunday, September 23, **Fall Family Fest**, 2:00 – 4:00 pm. Free event for the whole family. Games, crafts, face painting, scavenger hunt, guided walk, snacks, and more outdoor activities for all ages.

October

Mondays 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 **Fall Nature Tots** 10:00 – 11:30 am Reservations required for this series of hands-on exploration of nature through your child's eyes and senses. See page 5 for more details.

Saturday, October 6 **Work Day** 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

Monday, October 8, **Annual Meeting at Verity Lodge on MUM Campus**, 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Guest Speaker, Penny Borgman, will share how the Fernald Treatment Plant has been transformed into a Nature Preserve. Hear more about future plans for BRNSA.. **Free** event with refreshments available.

Saturday, October 20 **Work Day** 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

November

Saturday, November 3 **Work Day** 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

Saturday, November 17, **National Take a Hike Day**. Watch for more details on our Facebook page and website as we plan some special events, ending with a guided hike at Bull's Run.

December

Saturday, December 22, **Annual Christmas Bird Count**, 10 am.

For more information, please visit our website www.bullsrn.org or Facebook page
Contact Sarah Meadows, Naturalist, at naturalist@bullsrn.org, to schedule a tour or service project,
or speak to your organization or for a program at Bull's Run

Bull's Run Photo Gallery



← Female Tiger Swallowtail on Joe Pye Weed



→ Viceroy on Joe Pye Weed

Volunteers for Work Days
Are Always Welcome!

