



Bull's Run Newsletter

Fall 2023

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.



Signs of the Season

Though the summer heat still lingers, signs of fall are starting to show! A dash of red, orange, or yellow can speckle the woods now as our deciduous tree foliage begins its fall color transformation. And the coolness of the morning under the forest canopy reminds us of the cooling temperatures to come. Our fall program lineup will kick off with our annual Fall Festival on September 24th with fun for the whole family. Campfire Stories with a Naturalist will return in October. Our August campfire explored the full moons of that month, including the Sturgeon Moon, and our October campfire will build on that theme to look at how the creatures of the night use the lunar glow!



Summer Nature TOTS was a fantastic time filled with water, nature play, and a visit from a local beekeeper! Our partners at the MidPoint Library Bookmobile helped support our exploration of nature with fun stories and crafts. We are already excited for our fall session where we will explore the awesomeness of autumn. Our TOTS family is growing but we still have room for more budding TOTS to join us. Remember the TOTS program is available to all of our current 2023 Family Membership holders. Fall Nature TOTS will take place on **Sunday afternoons in October from 2:00p to 3:30p on 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, and 10/29**. Make sure to email naturalist Melissa at brnsaa@gmail.com to register your child(ren) today!

New Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum Contributions Received since the Spring 2023 Newsletter

Memberships

Loren Ackerman
Tom and Sally Brickey
Daryl and Nancy Clark
Ron and Barbara Conley
Chris and Danielle Cottle
Richard Davies
Jay and Karen Dillon
Pete and Peggy Dobrozsi
Kathleen Dobrozsi Romans
Nita Driscoll
John Dupps, Jr.
Ruby Elam
Cierra Emmons
Chris and Linda Fiora
Steve and Nannette Hess
Carolyn Keiffer
Ray and Jean Anne Kiefhaber
Brad and Marge Kochunas
Bill and Ellen Kukuk
Les and Cheryl Landen
Steve and Rosemary Longworth
Paulette McCandless
Mary Lou McCormick
Michael and Katie McNeil
Ted and Marcia Miller
Larry and Marcia Orcutt
Imogene Orts
Nicole Owens
Betty Patterson
Pamela Pearson
Jennifer Ridge
Marry Russell
Jack and Linda Schaefer
Cindy Schmitt
Glen and Joan Shivers
Suellyn Shupe
Greg Siewny
Lisa Spring
Erin Wallace

Additional Contributions

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
Ron and Barbara Conley
Jay and Karen Dillon
John Dupps, Jr.

Kathleen Dobrozsi Romans
Chris and Linda Fiora
Carolyn Keiffer
Ray and Jean Anne Kiefhaber
Kohls
Kroger
Les and Cheryl Landen
Light Up Middletown
Steve and Rosemary Longworth
Mary Lou McCormick
Middletown Community Foundation
Larry and Marcia Orcutt
Imogene Orts
Jennifer Ridge

Middletown Community Endowment

Loren Ackerman
Paulette McCandless
Glen and Joan Shivers
Suellyn Shupe

Memorials

In loving memory of Robert A. Driscoll
Nita Driscoll

In loving memory of Alycia Lee and Kim Elam
Ruby Elam

In loving memory of Dick Hopper
LaVerne Hopper

In loving memory of Marilyn Brewer
Bill and Ellen Kukuk

In loving memory of Anne Berns
Ted and Marcia Miller

In loving memory of Mike Lehman
Lisa Spring

In loving memory of Betsy Swope
Cathie Mulligan
Richard Swope
Todd and Colleene Weiser
Meg White
Cynthia Wilson

These memberships were received between 3/2/23 and 8/31/23. 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.

Note from the Naturalist

Nature is full of beauty in many forms. Nature also weaves an intricate ecological balance in ecosystems, with different species co-habiting with others. But this balance goes awry when certain species get thrown into a new ecosystem, accidentally or intentionally, where they are not balanced, thus causing harm as an invasive.



Adult Spotted Lanternfly (Lycorma delicatula)

Spotted lanternfly eggs hatch as nymphs in April and May. The black bodied nymphs go through 4 growth phases called instars before becoming a winged adult. The first 3 instars have white spotted black bodies, while the 4th instar develops black and red mottling under the white spots.

According to the Ohio Dept. of Agriculture SLF is now designated a destructive plant pest under Ohio law, and movement of certain items from known infested counties in Ohio and other states into non-infested Ohio counties is restricted. When people move infested materials like those containing egg masses then SFL can spread far distances. Current quarantined Ohio counties include Cuyahoga, Franklin, Jefferson, Lorain, Lucas, Mahoning, Muskingum, and our neighboring Hamilton county. So people are encouraged to keep an eye out for signs of SLF.

If you suspect a spotted lanternfly infestation, at any life stage, please take a picture or collect a sample and report the finding to the ODA Plant Pest Control using the [Ohio Plant Pest Reporter](https://agri.ohio.gov/) found at <https://agri.ohio.gov/>.

And sometimes these invaders are deceptively beautiful. Take for instance the deep blushed pink and velvet black spots of the aptly named spotted lanternfly. While some find these creatures quite pretty, as one might find a butterfly, this Asian native causes ugly destruction for fruit producing crops, and other woody trees.

Black sooty mold around the base of plants or oozing sap may indicate the presence of the spotted lanternfly. Beginning in October through the beginning of winter, SLF lay their eggs. The egg masses are small and grey, protected by a waxy covering.



Spotted Lanternfly Instars

Park Work Days Return This Fall

The 11 acres of forest and prairie at Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum maintain beauty and ecological integrity thanks to dedicated members and volunteers. Our Park Work Days are hands-in-the-dirt, feet-on-the-trails volunteer days where we welcome the public to join us on **select Saturday mornings from 9:30a to 1p** for land stewardship of Bull's Run. Volunteers plant native seeds and plugs, remove invasive species like honeysuckle and garlic mustard, maintain our butterfly, native wildflower, and rain gardens, mulch trails and clear debris, and other similar tasks which protect and improve the biological health of the area. Plus, it's fun! You meet like-minded people who also enjoy working and recreating in the outdoors, right in our community.



We provide gloves and tools, though you are welcome to bring your own. We also encourage you to bring a reusable water bottle. Please email our naturalist at brnsaa@gmail.com if you would like to join us on any of the following dates:

9/9, 9/23, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4

Bull's Run Awarded Education Grant

Attention local Middletown educators! Bull's Run is excited to announce we have been awarded an Education Grant from the Middletown Community Foundation (MCF) to create environmental education program loan kits to be available to Middletown students and teachers at no cost! These kits will be aligned to Ohio Science Learning Standards to support curriculum in Ohio classrooms. Thank you to MCF for helping connect us to the people of our community through this opportunity. Stay tuned for further information soon!



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

- ❖ Thanks to all of our Park Work Day volunteers for keeping Bull's Run beautiful!
- ❖ Thanks to all of our Nature TOTS families for sharing your joy of nature with us
- ❖ Thanks to our program attendees for learning about the woods and its wonders with us
- ❖ Thanks to Josh Proffitt for removing downed trees/obstructions on the trails
- ❖ Thanks to MidPoint Library for your education partnerships!
- ❖ Thanks to those who shop at Kroger and have enrolled in their community rewards program, listing **Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum – 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!
- ❖ Thanks to all of our wonderful 2023 members, we truly appreciate your support!

*2023 Membership Form can be found on the website www.bullsrn.org or on pg 6
Together we are making a difference!*

More Ways To Get Involved with Bull's Run

Become a Board Member! *Our volunteer board members are vital to continuing the work of Bull's Run. If you care about our mission, please consider joining us! Current board openings include:*

Recording Secretary Take notes at the board meetings (currently via Zoom) and assist with communications among board members.

Treasurer Create Treasurer reports on BRNSA financials to share with other board members.

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 Workday with your own yard tools, or using some of ours, to help prepare the trails for 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 or your own Instagram account. Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum is still one of Middletown's little-known gems of nature. Help us spread the word!

Kroger Community Rewards Program:

Kroger Community Rewards makes fund-raising easy...all you must 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.

Annual Meeting

Celebrate another terrific year with us at our Annual Meeting on **Tuesday, October 10 from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**. We will gather at the Middletown River Center located at 120 South Carmody Blvd. Learn about all the conservation and education projects we have been up to, and find out how you can become more involved. Plus, enjoy our engaging speaker of the evening. Howard Gorsuch will present on “Caterpillar to Butterfly; And their host plants”, featuring framed photos of the various host plants and stages of a wide variety of butterflies. He will share his experiences of raising and releasing multiple species this summer.

Stay tuned for more details to come on our social media pages and email news!





Mark Your Calendars For Upcoming Events

September

Saturday, September 9, **Park Work Day**, 9:30 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday, September 23, **Park Work Day**, 9:30 am - 1:00 pm
Sunday, September 24, **Fall Family Festival**, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

October

Sunday, October 8, **Fall Nature TOTS**, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Tuesday, October 10, **Annual Meeting**, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Saturday, October 14, **Park Work Day**, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm
Sunday, October 15, **Fall Nature TOTS**, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Saturday, October 21, **Park Work Day**, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm
Sunday, October 22, **Fall Nature TOTS**, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Sunday, October 29, **Fall Nature TOTS**, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Sunday, October 29, **Campfire Stories with a Naturalist and Night Hike**, 7:00 pm

November

Saturday, November 4, **Park Work Day**, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm
Friday, November 17, National Take a Hike Day!

December

Saturday, December 16, **Winter Bird Count**, 10:00 am

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