



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.



You are Invited to Bull's Run's Annual Meeting!

Our Annual Meeting will again be held at Verity Lodge on MUM campus, and is free and open to the public. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 10 starting at 7pm, with special guest speakers, Carl and Amy Wilms, followed by refreshments. Carl and Amy Wilms are the Resident Managers for the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary located in Connorsville, Indiana. The Indiana Audubon Society owns the 700+ acre property. Carl recently retired after teaching middle school science for over 33 years. He has a master's degree in plant ecology and received his PhD in education from Miami University in 2014. He enjoys assisting with Amy's banding operations, bird watching with Amy, and is determined to eradicate the every last non-native plant species that lurks menacingly at the Sanctuary. Carl especially loves going on vacations planned by Amy.



Amy is the Assistant to the Chair in Psychology at Miami University. Prior to meeting and marrying Carl, she knew nothing about bird watching, but is now addicted to this exciting pastime. Amy started volunteering at bird banding locations in 2006 and received her sub-permit to band songbirds, and Northern Saw-whet owls, in 2012. In 2015, she received her sub-permit to band hummingbirds under master bander, Allen Chartier. In the spring of 2017 she earned her Master Banding Permits for songbirds, owls, and hummingbirds. She enjoys traveling with her husband, banding hummingbirds, watching hummingbirds, listening to hummingbirds, studying hummingbirds, learning about hummingbirds, researching hummingbirds...well, you get the drift.



So join us at 7 p.m., on October 10, at Verity Lodge for a "hum-dinger" of an evening.

Fall Family Fest at Bull's Run on Sunday, September 24, from 2-4pm

Celebrate the Great Outdoor Weekend at Bull's Run by attending this FREE event. Join volunteers at the shelter for the activities planned for all ages! We will have nature crafts (leaf rubbings, grape vine wreath assembly), games (scavenger hunt, memory teaser), a tree planting at 2:30 and a guided nature walk at 3:00 to take a closer look at fall colors.



Ways to Help Bull's Run

Work Days

If you have walked the trails at Bull's Run this summer, or spent time in your own backyard, you know it's been a great year for plant growth. The summer rains were spaced apart at optimum intervals with just enough precipitation to keep anything green growing all season. At the arboretum that means trails have been narrowed by lush growth of young trees, shrubs and flowers. In order to maintain the trails, we rely on volunteers to keep the pathways passable. Some of the work can be labor intensive, but every little bit helps. So please consider taking an hour or two on a Saturday (dates listed on the last page) and lend a hand to keep the trails useable for all visitors.



We started work days up again on September 9th with removing honeysuckle on the hillside below the prairie. We will plant more native shrubs and trees in the spring, along with spreading seeds to help control erosion and hopefully keeping euonymus vine from taking over while the trees get established. Join us for the remaining work days, we'll be tackling more honeysuckle and euonymus vine, while also collecting seeds to spread in the spring!

Help Greet at Light Up Middletown

Share your smile and season's greetings welcoming visitors to Light Up Middletown one evening between December 14 and 20. Sign up on the Program Interest Form and mail it to PO Box 425.

Kroger Community Rewards

You can help Bull's Run just by shopping at Kroger. If you already have a Kroger Rewards Card, just can add Bull's Run under Community Rewards on your accounts page.

Organization Name: Bull's Run Arboretum, Inc.

Organization Number:83005

This will not affect your fuel rewards. Once you have signed up for this reward program, you no longer have to renew annually. Your participation is making a difference and Bull's Run receives checks quarterly from this program. Thank you.

Spread the news of our job opening for Naturalist

This past spring Erin Skimming and her husband, Sean, welcomed another bundle of joy, Luke, to the family, joining big brothers, Colin and Landen. With this new commitment to her time Erin made the difficult decision to step down as part-time Naturalist. She plans to stay involved, attend Nature Tots, and come to events as her family commitments allow, but for now Bull's Run is without a paid Naturalist. Former Naturalist, Nancy Clark, and other volunteers will be leading Nature Tots this fall. We are seeking interested applicants for the part-time position. The application is found on page 3.

Consider a Donation to the BRNSA General or Endowment Funds

With each generous gift we are inspired, energized, and committed to continue to teach children and the community at large, protect and enhance wildlife habitat through land stewardship, and make the public aware of the importance of the work at hand. Many have made memorial contributions that have benefited Bull's Run, either as plantings, memorial benches or toward the bridge rebuilding project. In 2010, Bull's Run Endowment Fund was established and is managed by the Middletown Community Foundation. Since then, several contributions, either as donations or decisions to include Bull's Run in their will, have added to the fund. Please consider Bull's Run in your future plans and check the Endowment Fund line on the donation form. Thank you!



Naturalist Job Description

Flexible, part-time position

Responsibilities: Build relationships with volunteers and community to implement environmental education programming and manage Bull's Run woodland and prairie habitat.

Environmental Education:

- Prepare and present environmental education programs to children and adults
- Develop and implement seasonal Nature Tots Program (ages 6 months – 6 years)
- Present public tours of the spring wildflowers, summer prairie and occasional bird hikes
- Build outreach program to develop new programming with community and school partners
- Take lead on seasonal special events and projects
- Submit articles for quarterly newsletter
- Attend monthly Board meetings, submit reports on work and programs

Land Stewardship/Habitat Management:

- Recruit and maintain relationships with volunteers,
- Lead removal of invasive species and transplanting native species to improve wildlife habitat
- General park maintenance and management tasks, including weeding, mulching, tree trimming, and native landscaping projects and trail maintenance
 - Including recruitment and oversight of volunteers to accomplish these tasks
 - Coordinate with outside parties, like the city or contractors, for certain projects
- Maintain records of tasks completed and volunteer hours for grants
- Perform related tasks as needed and assigned

Schedule: The Naturalist will work no more than 80 hours per month, which will fluctuate seasonally (including some weekends, evenings and holidays), with less program work during Summer months. Scheduling can be flexible around other jobs and responsibilities. Hours may change over time due to program needs and available funding.

Required Skills: Ability to take initiative to work independently and in coordination with the board; possess a strong work ethic and interest in preserving SW Ohio ecosystems; volunteer management.

Salary: Beginning at \$13.00 per hour. Probationary performance evaluation after 6 months and annual evaluations thereafter, in which compensation will be discussed.

Requirements:

- Ability to pass a criminal background check
- B.A or B.S. degree, preferably in a related field, or equivalent experience
- Experience teaching or working with children and adults
- High level of self-motivation, flexibility, enthusiasm, willingness to learn and perform a variety of duties
- Working knowledge of computer software including Microsoft Outlook, Excel, and Word
- Work in an office and use a computer, phone, and other office equipment. Lift and carry displays or equipment weighing up to 50 pounds
- Possess a current, valid driver's license and own insurance
- Physically able to work in extreme environmentally varied situations (cold, heat, humidity, hilly terrain)
- Certification in herbicide application, or achieving certification within 6 months

Preferred, but not required:

- First Aid and CPR Certification

Application Process

Submit a cover letter, resume & 3 current references with phone numbers via e-mail to brnsaa@gmail.com

Deadline: Open until filled, applications will be reviewed beginning September 15th, 2017

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

Memberships

Loren E. Ackerman
Josiah Albert
Alice Bradshaw
Ron and Barb Conley
Johanna Cooke
Ross Crisp
Jane Denlinger
Katie DeVilling
Kathleen Dobrozsi and Michael Romans
Mary Enochs
Louis and Carolyn Gaker
Forest and Debbie Grant
Douglas Hayes
Mary Anne Kelley
Heinz and Gisele Matthiesen
Mary Lou McCormick
Ted and Marcia Miller
Martha Oches
Tonya Patt
Loring and Pamela Pearson
Bruce and Glenda Peters
Virginia Peters
Jerry and Barbara Schunk
Michael and Kimberly Scorti
Frances Sedge
Glen and Joan Shivers
Charles Turner
Erin Wallace
Victoria Wannemacher
Hamilton and Lynn Watkins
John Whittington and Beth Everage
Mary Lou Williams

Additional Contributions

Cheri Carpenter
Ron and Barb Conley
Kathleen Dobrozsi and Michael Romans
Forest and Debbie Grant
Kohls
Heinz and Gisele Matthiesen
Jerry and Barbara Schunk

Facilities

Loren E. Ackerman
Jane Denlinger
Jo-Annette Perry

Education

Bruce and Glenda Peters
Glen and Joan Shivers

Memorial Column

Mary Lou Williams

Honorariums

Terri Mulhall

In honor of Chris Parker

Memorials

Mary Enochs

In loving memory of Dave Enochs

Middletown Garden Club

In loving memory of Mrs. Harold Anness

Victoria Wannemacher

In loving memory of Kenneth Hinkle

In Kind Donations

Christine Parker

These memberships were received between 4/1/2017 and 9/11/2017. 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.

We rely on your generosity to keep this unique natural area, a valuable resource to the community.
Thank you!

Board Members and other Special Volunteers

Nancy Clark: President & volunteer naturalist	Marge Kochunas: Recording Secretary
Randy Wilson: Land Stewardship	Debbie Grant: Membership
John Whittington: volunteer backyard naturalist	Jerry Schunk: advisor
Linda Mull: Master Gardener volunteer coordinator	Erin Skimming: volunteer

Nature Tots

Summer Nature Tots explored the arboretum as it woke up from a long winter nap. Preschool-aged children, along with their caregivers, joined volunteer naturalists, Nancy Clark, Erin Skimming, and Debbie Grant, to explore examples of camouflage, frogs, Bull's Run creek, bugs and insects, and monarch butterflies.



More fun is planned for Fall Nature Tots in October! Hope you can join us all five Mondays in October at 10 am. If you are already a 2017 member – it's FREE. See details on the membership form below and make your reservation.

We had so much fun at National Night Out!

The weather was perfect this year at Lefferson Park for the event. Board members shared information about pollinators and other nature trivia with those attending, plus temporary tattoos with the many students who visited the booth. The butterfly craft was enjoyed by children of all ages.

Special Event for the Great American Solar Eclipse

Visitors of all ages met on August 21 at Bull's Run to witness this cosmic event. We viewed the shadow of the moon crossing between our Earth and the Sun through approved solar observation lenses and home-made viewing devices. The event was announced on our Facebook page, so visit and like us to stay current on upcoming events and information.

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Membership Form 2017

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 naturalist@bullsrn.org, or President, Nancy Clark at 513-368-3233. For event information visit www.bullsrn.org

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

We thank you for your contribution that supports our mission.

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

- Rose and Ed Grau for hosting our annual garage sale.
- Everyone who donated items for the Garage Sale!
- All of the Garage Sale workers who helped to make the garage sale a huge success!
- The Kohl's workers who added their time and strength on Work Days.
- Dr. Carolyn Kieffer for donating the blue tree tubes and aqua gel for planting the seedlings.
- Jeff Michel for his support of Bull's Run as a work sight for Keep Middletown Beautiful's Earth Day Project.
- Donna Beauregard and city workers for clearing fallen and dangerous tree limbs along the trails.
- Master Gardener students and Land stewardship volunteers for time, effort and cheerfulness.
- John Whittington for leading a very successful Prairie Wildflower Walk.
- Marge Kochunas and Debbie Grant for maintaining the information bulletin board at the gate.
- Board members, neighbors and visitors who report damage to the natural and man-made resources at the arboretum.
- Everyone who has contributed to Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum with their time, resources, and monetary donations. We truly appreciate your support!



Together we are making a difference!



Program Interest Form 2017

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

Fall Nature Tots Mondays 10am – 11:30 Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 FREE with 2017 family membership

Names *Parent* _____ *Tot/age* _____ *Tot/age* _____

Phone# () _____ e-mail _____

Interested in Nature Tots 2018 Winter _____ Spring _____ Summer _____ Autumn _____

Names *Parent* _____ *Student/age* _____ *Student/age* _____

Phone# () _____ e-mail _____

Able to Volunteer Work Days 9/23 10/7 10/21 11/4 **Light Up Middletown** Dec. 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 or 20

Name _____ Possible date _____

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 _____

Monarch Habitat

Two years ago, I planted some butterflyweed in my yard, last year I added the taller swamp milkweed, along with putting seeds around a streetlight post. Last year I observed 2 monarch caterpillars. This year I found 6 caterpillars on August 15th and have had over 40 at a time on a patch of milkweed about 1 foot by 4 feet in size. A few thousand aphids were controlled by some ladybug volunteers, and a praying mantis and some other predators were relocated. The caterpillars had no interest in the streetlight milkweed, I think the light deterred them, so I relocated those plants as the caterpillars stripped the larger milkweed patch. I've had trouble finding the chrysalis as the caterpillars metamorphize into butterflies, though with the change in weather I found 5 caterpillars pupating. It has been a magical experience in a small space.



The County Soil and Water Districts' annual plant sales in the spring offer milkweed plants, or seeds can be purchased in a variety of places, these pocket habitats are a great refuge for stabilizing a variety of populations, as well as a great exploration opportunity in your own yard for the whole family. I learned to better find monarch caterpillars, as well as find a whole variety of insects I don't normally see. A reminder to be careful in your searches, just because you find something doesn't mean you should handle it, not only because caterpillars and insects are very fragile: Monarch caterpillars are poisonous, which means you're okay as long as you don't eat them, but I also came across a few Hickory Tussock Moth Caterpillars, which have hollow hairs filled with poison that will break off in your skin, causing pain and a rash.

Randy Wilson



Garage Sale Success

The Spring Garage Sale was very successful meeting our goal of \$4200 to re-roof the shelter. The support of volunteers and donors was outstanding, even reaching people from Hamilton and Lebanon! Forty-five families brought items to sell and 27 people volunteered their time pricing and working the days of the event. A special "thank you" to Ed and Rose Grau for once again inviting us to fill up their home. Their gracious hospitality is always appreciated!

*Dianne Gerber, Debbie Grant, Rose Grau,
and Marge Kochunas co-chairs*



Mark your Calendars for Upcoming Events at Bull's Run

September 23 Saturday, 9:30 am – 1pm **Work Day** Bring work gloves and a water bottle, we will provide the tools and snacks! Summer growth needs to be cut back from along the trails.

September 24 Sunday, 2-4pm, **Fall Family Fest** at the shelter

October 2 Monday, 10-11:30 am **Nature TOTS!** – Fall session begins

October 7 Saturday, 9:30 am – 1pm **Work Day**

October 10 Tuesday, 7pm **Annual Meeting** at Verity Lodge on MUM campus

October 21 Saturday, 9:30 am – 1pm **Work Day**

November 4 Saturday, 9:30 am – 1pm **Work Day**

December 16 Saturday 10 am – **Christmas Bird Count**

Contact Nancy Clark, volunteer Naturalist, to speak to your organization or for a program at Bull's Run. Contact her at naturalist@bullsrun.org. Visit our website, www.bullsrun.org

Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum is one of Middletown's green jewels. The organization responsible for maintaining the 11-acre natural area is led by a volunteer **Board of Directors**. If you are interested in joining us in keeping Bull's Run a jewel or volunteering in any way, **please** fill out the form on page 6 and let us know of your interest. THANK YOU!

Bull's Run Photo Gallery



Work Day Volunteers



↓ *Prairie Walk Bonuses* ↑



In bloom



← ↓ *Nature Tot Fun* →

