



## Bull's Run Newsletter Fall 2025

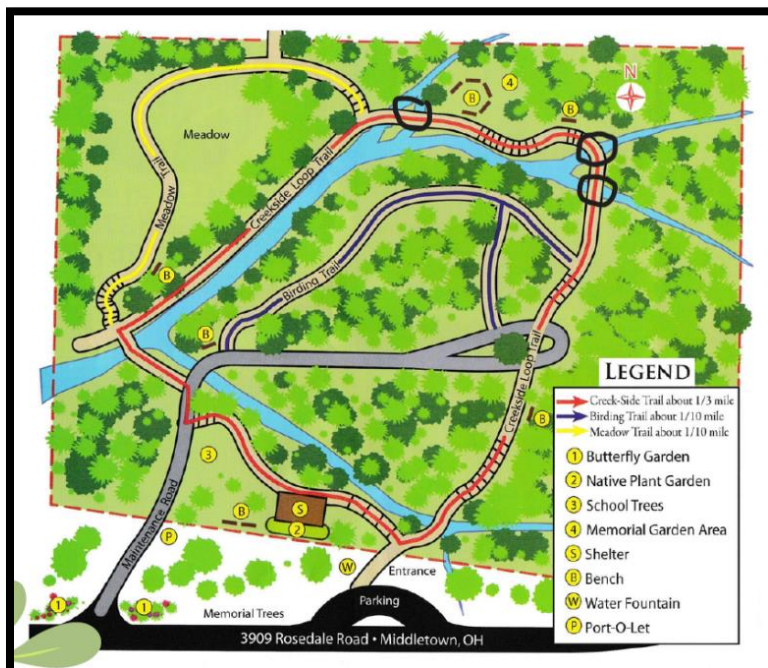
*Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum is a non-profit volunteer organization located in NE Butler County and serving the surrounding community. We are dedicated to preserving the natural area of Bull's Run and strive to develop the park as an environmental facility and educational resource for people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



*Switchgrass*

### More Than Leaves Are Changing!

As autumn begins to fall at Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum, more than just the colors of the leaves are changing! We are so excited that our bridge repair reconstruction is beginning this month! This project is thanks to funding from two fantastic community grants; one the Arts & Recreation Grant from the Middletown Community Foundation (MCF), and the other a Butler County Community Grant from MetroParks of Butler County, along with a very generous donation from the Bull's Run membership community. We are extremely grateful for the support in accomplishing this project to keep Bull's Run as a valuable community resource!



John Rudd III and Walter Dappert Masonry will be installing the new bridges over the next few months. We will update our social media with any temporary trail closures or impacts as construction proceeds.

Each bridge is located on the Red Creekside trail. We are excited to get these improvements underway!

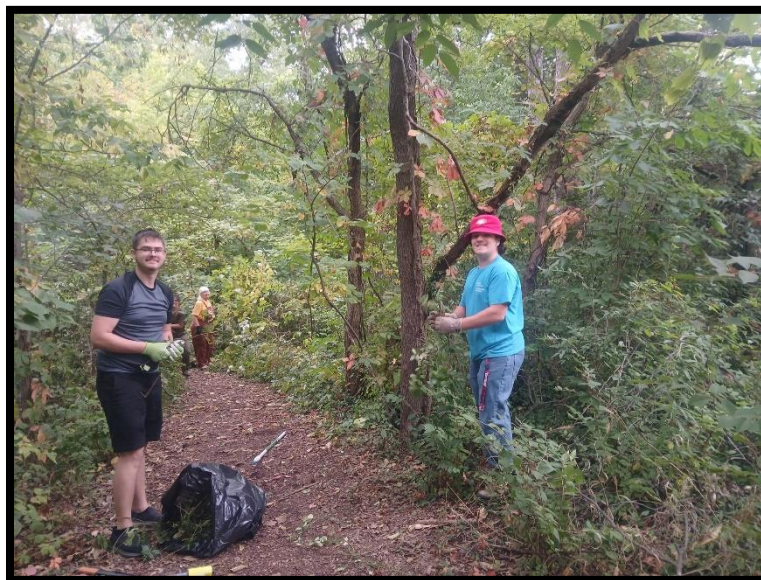
While walking the Red Creekside trail, you may also notice some changes happening along the east side just across from the Blue trail entrance. An area of native plants can be seen thriving as the competing invasive species such as wintercreeper and amur honeysuckle have been removed! Thanks to local scout Aidan Coleman of Troop 20 for concentrating on this tract of land to focus conservation efforts on restoring native integrity. Another scout from Troop 20, Kevin Henry, will also be doing projects at Bull's Run, including updating trail signage. We appreciate the service of our local scouts!



*Before*



*After*



*Kevin Henry and Aidan Coleman*

## **2025 Memberships & Contributions**

***Thank you to our 2025 Members!***

### **Memberships**

Loren Ackerman  
Barbara Balsmeyer  
Donna Beauregard  
Jennifer Becker  
Sue Wright Bennett  
Tom and Sally  
Brickey  
Tom and Chris  
Buchert  
Shirley Butts  
Daryl and Nancy  
Clark  
Larry and Carol  
Colclasure  
Barbara Conley  
Richard Davies  
Jay and Karen  
Dillon  
Rachel Diver  
Pete and Peggy  
Dobrozsi  
Kathleen Dobrozsi  
Romans  
John and Pat Dupps  
Ruby Elam  
Larry and Kay  
Fraley  
Patti Gage  
Bob and Mary Alice  
Gast  
Carl Geisler  
Cissi Glickfield  
Debbie Grant  
Nathan and Krissy  
Grant  
Steve and Nannette  
Hess  
Brian and Marjorie  
Homan  
LaVerne Hopper  
Aaron Hoy  
Jody Ingle  
Randy and Janice  
Jones  
Light It Up  
Brad and Marge  
Kochunas  
Barney and Donna  
Landry  
Steve and Rose

Longworth  
David and Barb  
Martin  
Hank Matthiesen  
Jeff McMullen and  
Barbara Ballard  
Micheal and Katie  
McNeil  
Alton Mentel Jr.  
Middletown Garden  
Club  
Marcia Miller  
Larry and Linda  
Mull  
Terri Mulhall  
George and  
Stephanie Nenni  
Imogene Orts  
Kenton Pate and  
Margaret Braitsch  
Betty Patterson  
Greg Pratt  
Aaron Quick  
Barney Riesbeck  
Doris Roberts  
Mary Russell  
Teresa Reeves  
John and Jennifer  
Ridge  
Cynthia Risner  
Tom Ritter  
Jack and Linda  
Schaefer  
Jim and Cindy  
Schmitt  
Mike and Kim Scotti  
Tom Scott and Julie  
Thomas  
Melanie Shannon  
Glen and Joan  
Shivers  
Greg and Jeanne  
Siewny  
Erin Wallace  
Lynn Watkins  
John Whittington  
and Beth Cameron  
Joyce Williams  
Miranda Wilson  
Steve and Lisa  
Wilson

Robert Wise

### **Additional Contributions**

Loren Ackerman  
Sue Wright Bennett  
Kenton Pate and  
Margaret Braitsch  
Barbara Conley  
Jay and Karen  
Dillon  
Pete and Peggy  
Dobrozsi  
Kathleen Dobrozsi  
Romans  
John and Pat Dupps  
Bob and Mary Alice  
Gast  
Brad and Marge  
Kochunas  
Larry & Martha  
Kreps  
Kroger Community  
Rewards  
Light Up  
Middletown  
Steve and Rose  
Longworth  
Jeff McMullen and  
Barbara Ballard  
Middletown  
Community  
Foundation  
Middletown Garden  
Club  
George and  
Stephanie Nenni  
Larry & Marsha  
Orcutt  
Imogene Orts  
Glen and Joan  
Shivers  
Jack and Linda  
Schaefer  
Mike and Kim Scotti  
Greg and Jeanne  
Siewny  
John Whittington  
and Beth Cameron  
Joyce Williams

### **Memorials**

*In loving memory of*  
*Ron Conley*  
Daryl and Nancy  
Clark  
Debbie Grant  
Jeff McMullen and  
Barbara Ballard  
  
*In loving memory of*  
*Robert Driscoll and*  
*Leta Snow*  
Juanita Driscoll  
  
*In loving memory of*  
*Alycia Lee and Kim*  
*Elam*  
Ruby Elam  
  
*In loving memory of*  
*Louis and Carolyn*  
*Gaker*  
Steve and Lisa  
Wilson  
  
*In loving memory of*  
*Forest Grant III*  
Debbie Grant  
Robert Wise  
  
*In loving memory of*  
*Lois LaFayette*  
Marcia Miller  
  
*In loving memory of*  
*Gisela Matthiesen*  
Hank Matthiesen  
  
*In loving memory of*  
*Jeff Neff, William*  
*Schneider, and*  
*Thomas Wortley*  
The Middletown  
Garden Club  
  
*In loving memory of*  
*Joe Thomas and*  
*Bonnie Scott*  
Julie Thomas and  
Tom Scott

*In loving memory of*  
*Ernie Sturgill*  
Daryl and Nancy  
Clark

*In loving memory of*  
*Hamilton Watkins*  
Lynn Watkins

*In loving memory of*  
*Ron Williams*  
Joyce Williams

*In loving memory of*  
*Gibbie Wise*  
Debbie Grant  
Jeff McMullen and  
Barbara Ballard  
Robert Wise

*In loving memory of*  
*Chris Parker*  
Jeff McMullen and  
Barbara Ballard

*In loving memory of*  
*Glenda Peters*  
Brenda Cornett

### **Honorarium**

*In honor of my*  
*children who have*  
*enjoyed Bull's Run*  
*over the years.*  
Peg Bosch

*The Middletown*  
*Garden Club honors*  
*the following*  
*members:*  
Melissa Fraley  
Patti Gage  
Debbie Hazelbaker  
Lynn Zollet

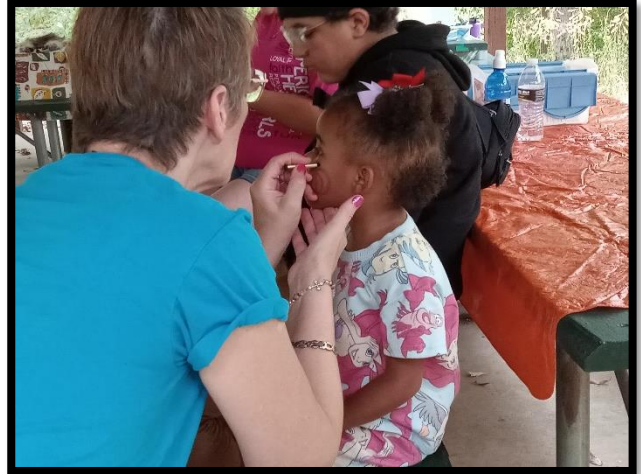
### **Community Foundation Donors**

Loren Ackerman  
Barney Landry

***These memberships were received between 1/1/25 and 9/1/25. 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!***

## Fall Family Festival

Who doesn't love fall, family, and fun! The beauty of the changing leaves and the cooling temperatures makes for the perfect weather to be outdoors! So, bring the whole family out for some autumn wonder in the woods on **Sunday, September 21 from 2 – 4 pm!** The Fall Family Festival at Bull's Run Arboretum will be full of nature themed activities, games, crafts, scavenger hunt hikes, and more! Come out to this **FREE** community event to enjoy this wonderful world of nature right in our own hometown!



## Fall Park Work Days

Park work days are back! Volunteers are invited to join us on **select Saturdays from 9:30a to 1:00p** this autumn to help keep Bull's Run Arboretum looking great and get ready for winter. Come for an hour or stay all morning; we appreciate any time you can offer! Assistance is needed in a variety of areas, including mulching trails, removing invasive species, painting, and weeding out the rain garden and native plant gardens. There is always something to do! Bring a water bottle and work gloves. If you have personal tools you want to bring great, but we will also have tools and extra gloves on hand to use.

### **Upcoming fall park work days:**

September 20 (World Clean Up Day!)  
October 4  
October 18  
November 1



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

- ❖ Thanks to local station WVXU for highlighting the BioBlitz
- ❖ Thanks to Lynn White from Butler SWCD for co-hosting the BioBlitz
- ❖ Thanks to Josh Proffitt for removing downed trees/obstructions on the trails
- ❖ Thanks to John Rudd III and Walter Dappart Masonry for bridge repairs
- ❖ Thanks to Middletown Community Foundation for grant support!
- ❖ Thanks to MetroParks of Butler County for grant support!
- ❖ Thanks to an anonymous donor for your special donation for the bridges!!
- ❖ 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 support
- ❖ Thanks to Aaron Grant for maintaining our website
- ❖ Thanks to all Board members for their enduring support!
- ❖ Thanks to **all of our wonderful membership holders**, we truly appreciate your support and could not do any of this without YOU!!



**Become a Bull's Run Member Today!**  
**2025 Membership Form can be found on**  
**the website [www.bullsrn.org](http://www.bullsrn.org) or on pg 6**

## **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! Interested parties can email [brnsaa@gmail.com](mailto:brnsaa@gmail.com)

**Current board openings include:**

**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 organization number is **MX093.**

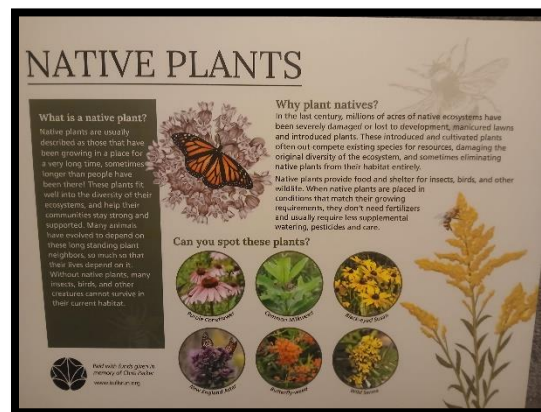
## **Bull's Run Arboretum** **Annual Meeting**

Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum has had lots of positive changes in 2025! Come celebrate another terrific year with us at our Annual Meeting on **Thursday, October 9 from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm**. We will gather in the Great Miami Room at the River Center in Middletown 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! Also, hear from our guest speaker for the evening Sarah Flohr, permitted Ohio wildlife rehabber with Tiny Wonders Wildlife Rescue, speak about wildlife rehabilitation. We will discuss topics such as what to do if you find injured wildlife, what wildlife live in our neighborhoods, and more. We hope you can join us for an evening of refreshments, sharing of knowledge, and good company!



## **Bull's Run Fall BioBlitz**

Starting this month, citizen scientists are invited to help us document as many species of plants and animals as possible at Bull's Run! Co-hosted by the Butler Soil and Water Conservation District, we are having a fall BioBlitz to compare to our spring 2024 BioBlitz. Anyone is able to participate by taking a walk in Bull's Run, photographing the plants and animals they see, and uploading the pictures to iNaturalist. The app uses crowdsourcing to help identify species. The fall bioblitz runs September through October. Any observations recorded on iNaturalist at Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum, 3909 Rosedale Rd, Middletown, OH 45042, will automatically count toward the bioblitz if your location GPS is turned on. You also can join the "Fall 2025 Bull's Run Arboretum BioBlitz" project via iNaturalist. You can download iNaturalist from the app store on your phone for free, or access the website at [www.inaturalist.org](http://www.inaturalist.org). While taking pictures, make sure to hit the Yellow Trail up to the prairie and check out our new native plant signage!





## Membership Form 2025

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.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$45 Family (printed newsletter)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$35 Family (e-newsletter)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$35 Individual (printed newsletter)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 Individual (e-newsletter)

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Additional Fundraising contribution

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Contribution to the Endowment Fund with Middletown Community

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Contribution in Honor/Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send an acknowledgement of memorial donation to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

(Membership also payable on website)

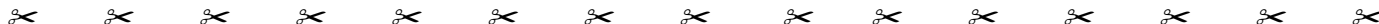
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone#( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

To volunteer, schedule a program, tour, or speaker for your group, Contact Naturalist, Melissa Proffitt at 513-279-8958 or email [brnsaa@gmail.com](mailto:brnsaa@gmail.com). For event information visit [www.bullsrn.org](http://www.bullsrn.org) or our Facebook page.

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



## **Bull's Run Merchandise Supports Conservation!**

Strike a pose! Show your support for Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary & Arboretum and environmental stewardship by purchasing one of our t-shirts or ball caps! We have a variety of select sizes in short sleeve (brown or green color) and long sleeve (green color only) tees. These can make great gift ideas for the nature lover in your household as funds raised through sales go directly to supporting the care and maintenance of the arboretum! T-shirts are \$25 each and hats are \$20 each. Hats can be ordered in tan or dark green! Please email [brnsaa@gmail.com](mailto:brnsaa@gmail.com) to place your order today





P.O. Box 425  
Middletown, OH 45042



*Summer Nature TOTS*



*Chris Parker memorial prairie sign and walk*

## **Mark Your Calendars For Upcoming Events**

### **September**

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

Sunday, September 21, **Fall Family Festival**, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

### **October**

Saturday, October 4, **Park Work Day**, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

Thursday, October 9, **Annual Meeting**, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Saturday, October 18, **Park Work Day**, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

### **November**

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

Sundays in November, **Fall Nature TOTS**, 2:00 – 3:30 pm  
(11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30)

### **December**

Thursday, December 11 – December 18, **Light Up Middletown**, 6:00 – 10:00 pm

**-We need volunteers for 2 hour shifts! Email [brnsaa@gmail.com](mailto:brnsaa@gmail.com) for details!**

Saturday, December 13, **Winter Bird Count**, 10:00 – 11:00 am

For more information, please visit our website [www.bullsrn.org](http://www.bullsrn.org) or Facebook page.

Contact Bull's Run at [brnsaa@gmail.com](mailto:brnsaa@gmail.com), to schedule a tour or service project, or speak to your organization or for a program at Bull's Run!