



## Bull's Run Newsletter Summer 2026

*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*

### Garden Plantings

As you visit Bull's Run Arboretum this summer, you will notice the gardens will be producing different fruits and vegetables thanks to our Nature TOTS families. The raised garden beds generously donated and constructed by Shook Construction last year have been planted with foods that will grow to be different shapes and colors. The Nature TOTS program participants will be harvesting these plants in August during our summer session. We hope that visitors will be curious about and respectful of the gardens throughout the season. The beds are marked with pictures of which species are planted in each row and we will be doing much more exploration with how things grow!



## 2026 Summer Nature TOTS

Nature TOTS had a great time exploring the spring woods, looking for signs of wildlife, and learning how to properly play in the rain and be storm-weather aware. Summer Nature TOTS will be held on **Sundays in**

**August (8/2, 8/9, 8/16, and 8/23) from 2:00 – 3:30 pm.** Summertime in the woods always brings lots of new colors and sounds in the prairie to explore, and we will be harvesting the Nature TOTS gardens!

This program is available to all family membership holders with children aged 18 months to 8 years old. For more information and to sign up your TOT(s), please email Naturalist Melissa at [brnsaa@gmail.com](mailto:brnsaa@gmail.com)!



## 2026 Memberships & Contributions **THANK YOU!**

### Memberships

Loren Ackerman  
Laird and Janet Becker  
Peggy Bosch  
Tom and Sally Brickey  
Daryl and Nancy Clark  
Barbara Conley  
Richard Davies  
Karen and Jay Dillon  
Pete and Peggy Dobrozsi  
Nita Driscoll  
John and Pat Dupps  
Bob and Mary Alice Gast  
Cissi Glickfield  
Debbie Grant  
Nathan and Krissy Grant  
Steve and Nannette Hess  
Brian and Margie Homan  
Jody Ingle  
Randy and Janice Jones  
Brad and Marge Kochunas  
Steve and Rose Longworth  
Jeff McMullen and Barbara Ballard  
Michael and Katie McNeil  
Marcia Miller  
Terri Mulhall  
George and Stephanie Nenni  
Richard and Virginia Palmer  
Will and Carrie Parsons  
Kenton Pate and Margaret Braitsch  
Loring Pearson  
Greg Pratt  
Aaron Quick  
Teresa Reeves  
John and Jennifer Ridge  
Tom Ritter  
Doris Roberts  
Kathleen Romans

Jack and Linda Schaefer  
Jim and Cindy Schmitt  
Lynnette Schluter  
Melanie Shannon  
Joan and Glen Shivers  
Greg and Jeanne Siewny  
Joyce Williams  
Miranda Wilson  
Robert Wise  
Sheridan Lynn Zollett

### Additional Contributions

Loren Ackerman  
Laird and Janet Becker  
Pete and Peggy Dobrozsi  
Karen and Jay Dillon  
John and Pat Dupps  
Bob and Mary Alice Gast  
Cissi Glickfield  
Debbie Grant  
Kroger Community Rewards  
Steve and Rose Longworth  
Jeff McMullen and Barbara Ballard  
George and Stephanie Nenni  
Lynnette Schluter  
Joan and Glen Shivers  
Robert Wise  
Memorials  
*In loving memory of Ron Conley*  
Barb Conley  
Lynnette Schluter

*In loving memory of Phyllis DeWeese*  
Lynnette Schluter

*In loving memory of Robert Driscoll*  
Nita Driscoll

*In loving memory of Forest Grant*  
Debbie Grant  
Lynnette Schluter  
Robert Wise

*In loving memory of Jim Hilton*  
Joyce Williams

*In loving memory of Lois Lafayette*  
Marcia Miller

*In loving memory of Gisella Matthieson*  
Lynnette Schluter

*In loving memory of Pam Pearson*  
Loring Pearson

*In loving memory of Joe Thomas and Bonnie Scott*  
Julie Thomas and Tom Scott

*In loving memory of Gibbie Wise*  
Debbie Grant  
Robert Wise

### Honorariums

*Honoring my children and grandchildren*  
Peggy Bosch

### Middletown Community

#### Endowment

John Dupps  
Kathleen Romans

*These memberships were received between 12/21/25 and 6/1/26. 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!*

## Tree Walks, Night Hikes, and Prairie Walks!

This summer join us in the woods to explore trees, experience the woods at night, and see the prairie in peak season! June 28 at 2p we will host a summer tree walk to look at how to identify different Ohio trees. July 24 at 8:30p we will take an evening stroll along the trails to see what nocturnal life we see. And on August 8 at 10a we will take a guided walk and learn about the plants, birds, and pollinators that call the prairie home. We encourage you to wear long pants and bring preferred sunblock, bug spray and a water bottle. Walks will begin at the shelter house, and no registration is required.

Visitors can also enjoy newly installed signage about native plants in Ohio prairie habitat. This signage is possible thanks to generous donations made in honor of long time Bull's Run supporter and organizational pillar, Chris Parker.



*Cup Plant*



*Purple Coneflower*



*Native Plant sign*

## Fall Park Work Days

Park work days will ramp back up this autumn! Volunteers are invited to join us on **select Saturdays from 9:30a to 1:00p** this fall to help keep Bull's Run Arboretum looking great and get ready for approaching winter. Come for an hour or stay all morning; we appreciate any time you can offer! Volunteers work in a variety of areas, including planting native trees, 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 5  
September 19  
October 3  
October 17  
November 7



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

- ❖ Thanks to Mike Wertz for mowing the prairie
- ❖ Thanks to our Nature TOTS families for your participation
- ❖ Thanks to the City of Middletown for all of your support and for the port-o-let addition!
- ❖ Thanks to Melissa Quick for the Pollinator Habitat signs
- ❖ Thanks to all of our AMAZING park work day volunteers!
- ❖ 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!**  
**2026 Membership Form can be found on**  
**the website [www.bullsrn.org](http://www.bullsrn.org) or on pg 7**

## **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:**

**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**.

## 2026 Spring Wildflower Walks Summary

Each spring, Bull's Run Arboretum leads a series of spring wildflower walks. Certain wildflowers only bloom for a brief period in the spring before they are shaded out by the leafing trees of the forest. Bull's Run boasts a wide variety of these ephemeral blooms. Below is a summary of what we spotted in the woods this year!

Common Name	color	leaf seen(L)/flower seen(F)/seed pod seen(S)						native
		3/22/26	3/29/26	4/4/26	4/12/26	4/26/26	5/3/26	
bedstraw	white						LF	yes
black snake root	green					LF	LF	yes
blood root	white	LF	LF	L	L	LFS	LS	yes
chickweed	white							star-yes
columbine	red/yellow					LF	LF	yes
cutleaf toothwort	white/purple	LF	LF	LFS	L	LS		yes
daisy fleabane	white					LF	LF	yes
dandelion	yellow			LF	L		LF	no
deadnettle	purple	LF	LF	LF				no
Dutchman's Breeches	white			LF	L			yes
golden ragwort	yellow			LF	L		LF	yes
grape hyacinth	purple	LF	LF	LF	L			no
ground ivy	purple						LF	no
Jack-in-the-pulpit	green						L	yes
Jacob's ladder	purple				LF			yes
lesser celandine	yellow	LF	LF					no
May apple	white				L	L	LS	yes
purple cress	purple	LF	LF	LFS	L			yes
rue anemone	white				L	LF		yes
sessile trillium	maroon		L	LF	L	LF	LF	yes
sharp-lobed hepatica	white/purple	LF	LF	LF				yes
shepherd's purse	white							yes
shooting star	white	L	L	LF	L		LFS	yes
smooth sweet cicely	white					LF	LFS	yes
Soloman's seal	white					LF	LF	yes
speedwell	white/blue							yes
spring beauty	white/pink	LF	LF	LF	L	LFS	LFS	yes

Tall Meadow Rue	green					L	L	yes
trillium	white			LF	L	LF	LF	yes
trout lily - white	white		L	LF	L		L	yes
trout lily - yellow	yellow	LF	LF	LF	L		LFS	yes
twin leaf	white		L	LS	LS			yes
vinca	purple	LF	LF	LF			L	<b>no</b>
violet - white	white			LF	L	LF	LF	yes
violet - wood	purple		LF	LF	L		L	yes
violet - yellow	yellow			LF	L			yes
Virginia bluebells	pink/blue	LF	L	LF	L			yes
water leaf	purple				L		LF	yes
wild blue phlox	purple			LF	L		LF	yes
wild geranium	purple						LF	yes
wild ginger	maroon				L	LF	LF	yes
wood poppy	yellow		L	LF	L		LS	yes
								-
<b>Flowering Trees</b>	<b>color</b>							
flowering dogwood	white			LF	L	L	L	yes
redbud	purple			LF	L	LS	LS	yes
pawpaw	maroon					F	LF	yes
tulip poplar	yellow					L	L	yes
honey locust	yellow						L	yes
black locust	white				F	F	L	yes
buckeye	yellow						L	yes
fringe tree	white						F	yes
service berry	white			LF				yes



*Blood root*





P.O. Box 425  
Middletown, OH 45042



*Wildflower Walk*



*Bridges Currently Under Repair*

## **Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events**

### **June**

Sunday, June 28, **Summer Tree Walk**, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

### **July**

Friday, July 24, **Night Hike with a Naturalist**, 8:30 – 9:30 pm

### **August**

Saturday, August 8, **Prairie Walk**, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Sundays, August 2, 9, 16, and 23, **Summer Nature TOTS**, 2:00 -3:30 pm

### **September**

Saturday, September 5, **Park Work Day**, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

Saturday, September 19, **Park Work Day**, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

Sunday, September 20, **Fall Family Festival**, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

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!