



Licking Park District

Newsletter & Program Guide



December
2023

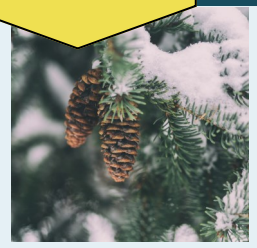
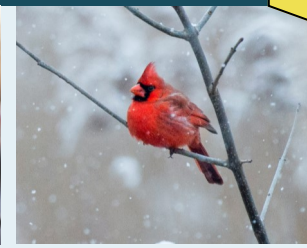
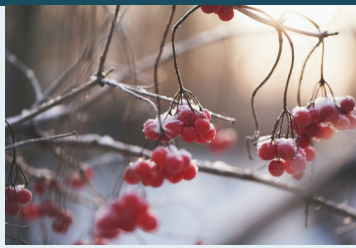
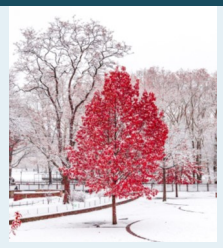


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Kayak/SUP Rental coming to Infirmiry Mound Park in May of 2024

The Licking Park District Board of Park Commissioners recently unanimously approved spending \$25,000 with Rent.Fun to bring kayak and SUP (stand-up paddleboard) rentals to Infirmiry Mound Park’s Mirror Lake. A total of (6) kayaks and (2) SUPs will be located in steel lockers. Park users can rent either a kayak or SUP from an app on their phone. Renters will be charged \$25 for a two-hour rental and \$15/hour for each additional hour. The self-serve lockers will also include paddles and lifejackets. Persons can also take their rented kayak or SUP with them to a local river or lake and return the equipment to the unit after their water adventure.

The units are scheduled to be delivered in May. Units will be available for rent everyday from sun-up to sun-down. The kayaks and SUPs will be available to park users on a first come-first served basis. Stay tuned for more information this spring.



Thank You Dick Moseley

The Licking Park District staff and volunteers would like to thank Richard “Dick” Moseley for serving three consecutive terms as a Park Commissioner.

Prior to his volunteer service as a Park Commissioner, Dick was employed as the first Chief of the Ohio Division of Natural Areas and Preserves and managed the program for 20 years. In 1990, Dick became Deputy Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources supervising the Divisions of Parks and Recreation, Wildlife, Natural



Areas and Preserves, Forestry & Watercraft. He retired from the Dept. in 1993, relocated to Colorado and volunteered for the U.S. Forest Service (San Juan National Forest) for 15 years prior to returning to Ohio with his wife Ann. He is a member of the Ohio Conservation Hall of Fame.

“Mr. Moseley dedicated his life to parks and recreation. He has been a tremendous asset to the Licking Park District for nine years as a supportive board member, mentor and volunteer. Staff will continue to seek out Mr. Moseley for his knowledge, experience & advice.” - Kyle Lund, Director

Holiday Hours

The Licking Park District will have non-traditional hours or will be closed in observance of the upcoming holidays.

Fri., Dec. 22 - open 9 AM - 12 PM.

Mon., Dec. 25 (Christmas) - closed

Fri., Dec. 29 - open 9 AM - 12 PM

Mon., Jan. 1 (New Year’s Day) - closed

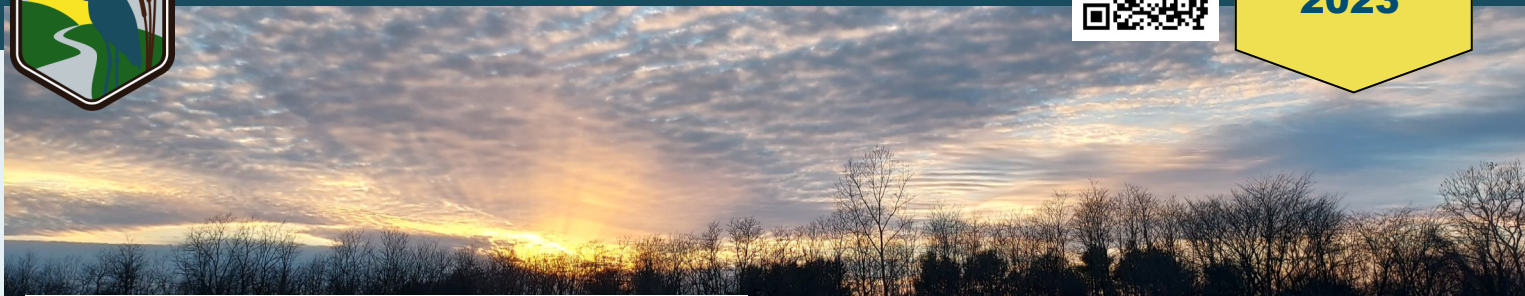




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Winter Tree ID Hike

When: Saturday, Dec 2 @ 10 AM

Where: Shelter 5, IMP

You may know how to identify tree species in the spring, summer and fall. But how about when the leaves and fruit are gone? Join us as we flex our tree ID muscles this winter using leaf buds. Meet at Shelter 5.



Animal Tales w/ Ohio Nature Education

When: Saturday, Dec 2 @ 1 PM

Where: TR-S

We will have animal ambassadors from Ohio Nature Education at the Taft Center to talk about Ohio's animals and how they adapt to winter. The live animal program will last about an hour and will be followed by an optional nature hike! Free. Register today!



Yoga at the Park

When: Wednesday, Dec 6 @ 6PM

Where: James Bradley Center - IMP

This yoga class will be accessible to all people – regardless of age or yoga experience. This class is good for beginners and seasoned yoga practitioners alike for an overall body stretch. You will build strength, flexibility, awareness, and confidence. Please bring your own yoga mat or a towel for class. Free. All ages welcome. Please check before class in case of cancellation.



Wild Storytime

When: Thursday, Dec 7 @ 10AM

Where: James Bradley Center - IMP

Join us for a story, snack, and activities! The program lasts about an hour. Dress for the weather as we will take a short walk. For ages 3-6. We will meet at the James Bradley Center.

Paint the Parks

When: Thursday, Dec 7 @ 6PM - 8:30PM

Where: James Bradley Center - IMP

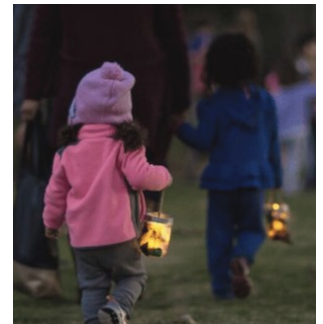
Fee: \$20. Join us for a Paint the Parks class. The instructor will lead you step by step through the painting. Supplies and snacks provided. BYOB/W. Ages 16+. Minors should be accompanied by an adult. Register by Dec 3.

Lantern Hike

When: Friday, Dec 8 @ 6PM - 8:00PM

Where: James Bradley Center - IMP

We will begin at the James Bradley Center and create a festive lantern. Then we will take a night hike through Infirmary Mound Park using our lanterns to light the way. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served! Register by Dec 3. (Photo credit: @ tinkergarten.com)



**Knock Knock
Who's there?
Snow**

Snow who?

Snow time to waste

**Time to get to your favorite park
And work off some of those holiday carbs**





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LANDSCAPE FOR LIFE™

Based on the principles of the Sustainable Sites Initiative™

Are you someone that would like to learn more about how to manage your yard sustainably? Fall and winter can be a great time to plan for the coming spring! We will be partnering with the Newark Licking County Library and Licking County Soil & Water Conservation District to offer a **4 class series from Dec 11 – Dec 14 (10:30 am - 12:30 pm)** called Landscape for Life™. This interactive learning series will cover soils, water practices, plants practices, sustainable materials, pollinators, and maintenance. Learn how you can create a great-looking property that's healthier for you and the environment and that saves time and money. Participants will receive a comprehensive student manual and information on local resources! Start planning now for your gardening plans next spring! Register at

<https://events.lickingcountylibrary.org>

For more information on programs and events please visit LickingParkDistrict.com

****Please check our website calendar before every program in case of last minute cancellations or changes****

The Night Tree Story and DIY Ornaments

When: Friday, Dec 15 @ 6 PM - 8:00 PM

Where: James Bradley Center - IMP

Please join us for this family friendly activity that includes a reading of the children's book the Night Tree by Eve Bunting, making wildlife friendly ornaments, then hiking into the park after dark to decorate our own night tree! Participants can join in person or pick up a kit to do at home. A reading of the book, as well as instructional videos, will be available online. Register by Dec 8. FREE.

Pinterest at the Park

When: Saturday, Dec 16 @ 11 AM - 3 PM

Where: James Bradley Center - IMP

Feeling creative? Drop in, we will have supplies for a large variety of creative projects that incorporate natural or recycled materials, both for your home and for your wild neighbors. Plus there will be hot chocolate, coffee, and cookies. All ages encouraged, as projects range from easy to complicated. We pull out ALL our craft supplies for this one!! While supplies last. FREE.

Holiday Centerpiece DIY

When: Tuesday, Dec 19 @ 6 PM - 8 PM

Where: James Bradley Center - IMP

Fee: \$25. Come and get creative. We will be using natural objects found in the park as well as flowers to make a Holiday Centerpiece! Watch the demonstration to learn some techniques ranging from modern to traditional, then make the centerpiece your own! Register by Dec 8.

Location Key:

IMP - Infirmary Mound Park, 4351 Lancaster Rd, Granville

James Bradley Center is first building on left @ IMP

TR-S Taft Reserve - South, 10383 Fairview Rd, Heath, Ohio



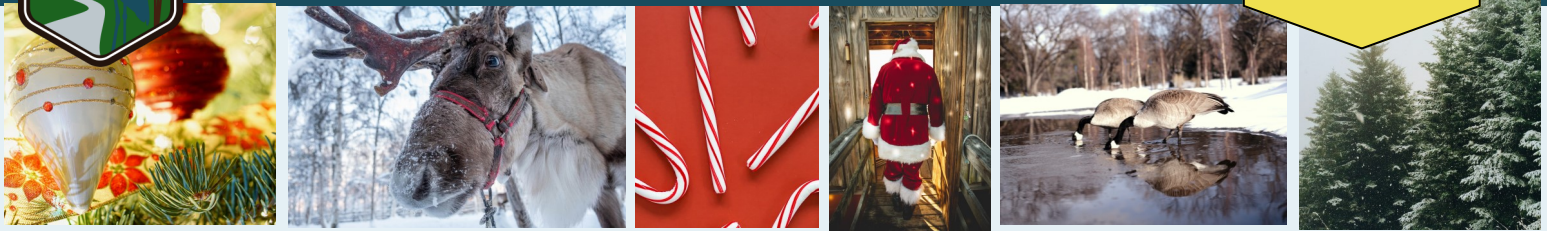


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Park Commissioner Sought

Licking County Probate Court Judge Deborah G. Lang plans to appoint one Park Commissioner to serve the Licking Park District by January 1, 2024. Interested persons should contact Mindy Wilkinson, *Judicial Assistant* at either 740-670-5714 or mwilkinson@lickingcounty.gov. Applicants must complete a questionnaire and submit with their resume and cover letter by December 15, 2023. Applicants should have a genuine interest in both open space preservation and passive recreation. Consideration will be given to experience, knowledge and diversity of each candidate. Information regarding the statutory obligations and responsibilities of park districts can be found in Chapter 1545 of the Ohio Revised Code. Completed questionnaires, resumes and cover letters are considered public records and are available for inspection and/or photocopying at the court.

Grants Awarded

The Licking Park District was recently made aware that it is once again the recipient of an Ohio Department of Natural Resources **NatureWorks Grant**. Anne Balogh (Program Manager) applied for the grant over the summer of 2023. The grant will cover \$ 24,860 of Phase 4 of the Nature Playscape at Infirmary Mound Park. The Licking Park District was the only agency in Licking County to receive a NatureWorks Grant in 2024.

The LPD was also notified that it received a \$500 **Step Outside Grant** from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Emily Fouts (former Ameri-corp employee) applied for the grant in the spring of 2023. The funds will be used to purchase additional archery equipment.

Volunteer Spotlight

This month's Volunteer Spotlight shines on **Ronald Forgrave**. Ron has been a Trail Adopter for Morris Woods State Nature Preserve and the TJ Evans Bike Trail since 2020, but his volunteer service doesn't stop there. Ron regularly volunteers for our special events and Conservation in Action "CIA" stewardship projects. Ron's cheerful outlook, attention to detail, and dedication to every task are deeply appreciated by all of us at the Licking Park District.

Q: What do you like most about volunteering with the LPD?

A: I like getting outside, enjoying nature, and working with friendly volunteers at various times and locations. I have helped out the environment by removing garlic mustard and other invasive species."

Q: Do you have a favorite LPD park or trail?

A: "A favorite trail of mine is the Johnstown Bike path. It is very scenic, with rolling farmland and forest! One can walk many miles on the path, do trail monitoring, and get exercise at the same time."

Q: Do you have any advice for anyone considering volunteering with the Licking Park District?

A: "My advice to anyone considering volunteering is that it is well worth your time, and if you enjoy God's creation, get out there and see it!"

