



# Licking Park District

Newsletter & Program Guide



March  
2024



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## Spring Officially Begins

Although we have had a little taste of it already, spring officially begins on Tuesday, March 19 and runs thru Thursday, June 20. This means warmer weather, allergies and the possibility of more severe weather. Below are a few severe weather tips from the National Weather Service to help keep you and your family safe.

**TORNADO WATCH:** Watches are issued by the Storm Prediction Center for counties where tornados may occur.

**TORNADO WARNING:** Take action! This indicates that a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. There is imminent danger to life and property. Move to an interior room on the lowest floor of a sturdy building (preferably the basement). Avoid windows. If in a mobile home, a vehicle or outdoors, move to the closest substantial shelter and protect yourself from flying debris.

**THUNDERSTORMS AND LIGHTNING:** Lightning strikes the United States about 25 million times per year! Thunderstorms produce deadline lightning capable of striking up to 10 miles away from the storm - so, even if you don't see rain you could be in harm's way. When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors! See a Flash, Dash Inside!

During a periods of lightning or thunder, **STOP ALL OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES.** Seek shelter in a building or metal hard-topped vehicle. Wait a minimum of 30-minutes after you last hear thunder to resume your outdoor activity. A few other tips include:

- Avoid open fields, the top of a hill or ridge top.
- Stay away from tall, insolated trees or other tall objects. If you are in a forest, stay near a lower stand of trees.
- If you are in a group, spread out to avoid the current traveling between group members.
- If you are camping in an open area, set up camp in a valley, ravine or other low area. Remember, a tent offers NO protection from lightning.
- Stay away from water, wet items, such as ropes, and metal objects, such as fences and poles. Water and metal do not attract lightning, but they are excellent conductors of electricity. The current from a lightning flash will easily travel for long distances.

**FLOOD:** During a flood, water levels and the rate the water is flowing can quickly change. Remain aware and monitor local radio and TV outlets. Avoid flood waters at all costs and

evacuate immediately when water starts to rise. Do NOT drive into flooded roadways or around a barricade. Turn Around, Don't Drown!

## Picnic Shelter Rentals

Looking to have a family gathering this spring, summer or fall? Did you know that the Licking Park District has (3) open-air shelters at Infirmary Mound Park that can be reserved? Each shelter is located near a restroom, has electric, a charcoal grill, (12) picnic tables (seats approx. 100). Cost of a full-day shelter reservation is \$50. To learn more visit [lickingparkdistrict.com/rentals](http://lickingparkdistrict.com/rentals).



## Thank You Newark Police Dept.

The Licking Park District would like to thank the Newark Police Department for the OUTSTANDING instruction and hands-on demonstrations that were provided during the Feb. 24 Rape Aggression Defense Class. The LPD plans on offering more classes in the future. So, if you missed out on the first-round, keep your eyes open for future classes.



Tami McAdams (Operations Administrator with the Licking Park District) prepares to take on attackers at the Licking County Library - Newark Branch during the R.A.D. Class.





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## Yoga at the Park

**When: Wednesdays, Mar 6 & 27 @ 6:00 PM**

**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, Mar 7 @ 10:00 AM**

**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. Free.

## Bald Eagle Stroll

**When: Wednesday, Mar 13 @ 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM**

**Saturday, Mar 16 @ 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM**

**Where: BP**

Get outside with us as we enjoy a fun and low pressure bird watching stroll on the bike trail on the way to the Granville bald eagle nest. We will have our spotting scopes to share. We will hike in together, but participants can head back to the parking area independently! Outdoor clothing, good walking shoes/boots and binoculars recommended. Program is weather dependent.



## Backyard Conservation: Bluebirds

**When: Thursday, Mar 14 @ 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

**Where: James Bradley Center - IMP**

Fee: \$20 for nest box. The bluebirds at Infirmary Mound Park have been very apparent the last few weeks. Do you have bluebirds? Do you want to attract bluebirds? If you answered yes to either of these questions this may be the program for you! We will explore all things bluebirds; their life history, conservation status, how to attract and monitor them on your property and may take a short stroll to look for them. The program will end with an optional putting together of DIY bluebird houses. You can still attend if not making a nest box, simply drop in! Register for a nest box by Mar 8.

## Jumpstart Your Flower Garden

**When: Saturday, Mar 16 @ 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

**Where: James Bradley Center - IMP**

Join flower farmer and horticulturist, Tracey Barnes of Moon Maiden Flower Farm, to learn how to get a head start on growing flowers in the garden. Topics include preparing garden beds for early, selecting cool season flowers, when to seed, making outdoor caterpillar tunnels, when to harvest flowers, and post harvest techniques for cut flowers. She'll also talk about her flower farming experience, how it got started, growing organically, and adapting to the inconsistent weather events. Register by Mar 8.



### Location Key:

**IMP** - Infirmary Mound Park, 4351 Lancaster Rd, Granville  
**James Bradley Center** is first building on left @ IMP

**BP** - Bicentennial Park, 2385 Raccoon Valley Rd, Granville



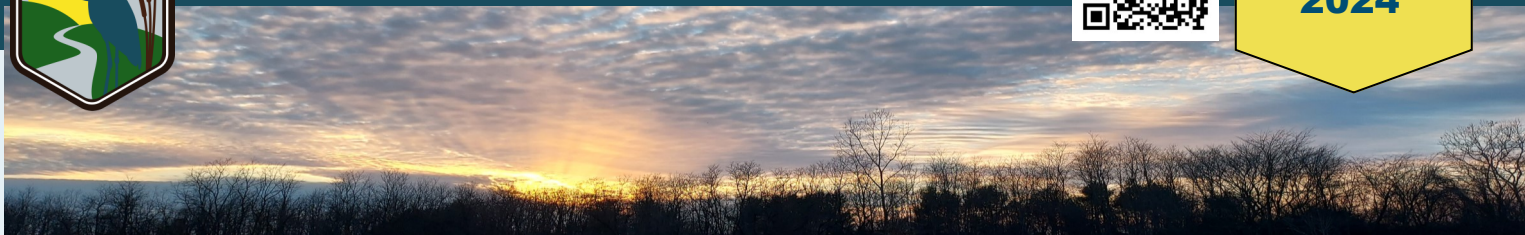




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## Art in the Parks: Needle Felted Nests

**When: Thursday, Mar 21 @ 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM**

**Where: James Bradley Center - IMP**

Class Fee: \$25. Supply Fee: \$10. Spring is in the air! Join artist Megan Henderson to create one of the harbingers of the season, a felted bird nest complete with eggs! This class is beginner friendly and you will learn all of the basic skills of needle felting. More experienced? Challenge your skills by creating a nest shape that is more complicated or try your hand at making a bird to go with it. All the materials will be supplied, but if you have already purchased a needle felting pad and needles in the past you may bring those and not worry about the supply fee. Ages 10 and up welcome. Register by March 12.



## Eggcellent Adventure

**When: Saturday, Mar 30 @ 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM**

**Where: Shelter 5 - IMP**

Learn about animal eggs, participate in a “who lays eggs” egg hunt around the Nature Playscape, and learn how to dye eggs the old fashioned way with natural materials such as onions, beets, and turmeric. 3 eggs will be provided for participants. Limit of 25 children. Children ages 4+. Register by Mar 20.



## Paint the Parks

**When: Thursday, Mar 28 @ 6PM - 8:30PM**

**Where: James Bradley Center - IMP**

Fee: \$20. Join us at the James Bradley Center at Infirmary Mound Park for a Paint the Parks class. The instructor will lead you step by step through the painting while learning actual art techniques. You will be encouraged to make the painting your own! Supplies and snacks provided. BYOB/W. Ages 16+. Minors should be accompanied by an adult. Register by Mar 14.

## Night Hike and Campfire

**When: Friday, Mar 29 @ 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM**

**Where: James Bradley Center - IMP**

Enjoy the night on a stroll through Infirmary Mound Park and finish at the campfire for s'mores. Meet at the Arena Area. Weather Dependent.

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## 2024 Dates to Remember

**May 4th**

**Wildflower Fairy Trail Returns**

**June 1st**

**Outdoor Adventures**

**June 8th**

**Women's Outdoor Skills Workshop**

**July 13th**

**Pace at the Park**

**Sept 14th**

**Licking County River Round up**

**Oct 5th**

**Harvest Moon Festival**

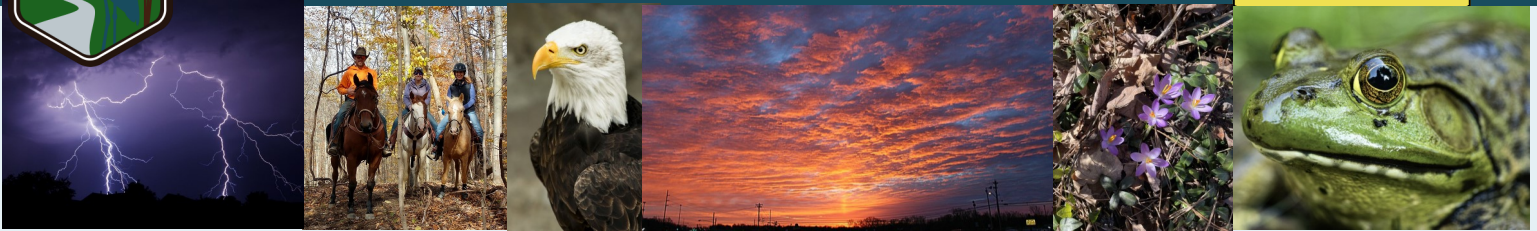


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## Licking Park District Makes Donation to Granville High School Astronomy Club

Over the past year or so, Sadie Landry, President of the Granville High School Astronomy Club, met with Licking Park District staff regarding the idea of a "Planet Trail" along the Thomas J. Evans Trail in Granville. The Astronomy Club is desirous of further educating the public about our solar system. The Planet Trail would consist of creating and installing a number of pedestal signs along the paved multi-use trail starting at The Station Restaurant, going past Wildwood Park, and ending at Moots Run Road. The signs would show a "to scale" representation of the location of the planets of our solar system relative to the Sun. The signs would also contain some facts about each planet.

At its January 21, 2024 Board of Park Commissioners Meeting, Sadie and Mr. Michael Bait (Teacher) made a presentation to the Board of Park Commissioners. The Planet Trail idea had previously received the approval of the Village of Granville and the Thomas J. Evans Foundation since both entities are property owners. The Board unanimously approved the project and then surprised Sadie and Mr. Bait by a making a \$1,000.00 donation to the Astronomy Club so the Club could upgrade the signs that would include metal posts, versus wood.

The Granville High School Astronomy Club hopes to install the signs sometime in 2024. The Astronomy Club is looking for more donations for the Planet Trail project. If you are interested in making a donation, please contact Kyle Lund (Director, Licking Park District) at 740-587-2535.

## Volunteer Spotlight

Our Volunteer Spotlight shines brightly on Bill and Linda Bering! We are grateful and honored to recognize the Berings' dedicated service and genuine love for the Licking Park District.

Tell us a little about yourselves. What motivated you both to become Licking Park District volunteers?

*I've been a Licking County resident since 1977. My husband Bill joined me here on our horse farm in Licking County when we got married in 1995. We're big supporters of environmental conservation. Our twenty-eight acres of woods and fields are home to deer, raccoons, possums, skunks, rabbits, groundhogs, turkeys, hawks, and songbirds - all the many of Ohio's natives and migratory visitors.*

Do you have a favorite park?

*Dedicated to this love of nature and living within a 15-minute drive of Lobdell Reserve, Bill and I especially treasure Lobdell, but also greatly enjoy Taft Reserve and Infirmiry Mound Park. We are among the many Licking County equestrians who ride our horses on the beautiful trails, so well developed by LPD Trail and Volunteer Program Manager Karen Jennings and staff. We ourselves volunteer particularly at Lobdell with a focus on keeping the trails free of brambles, low-hanging branches, and downed trees. We want to contribute whatever we can to help the Park District continue to maintain our county's precious green space. Seeing the new trails created through lovely vistas along ravines and winding through forests has been exciting.*

What do you like most about volunteering with the LPD? Can you tell us about a memorable experience?

*Our most memorable experience along the way was several years ago when we approached Karen and Operations Administrator Tami McAdams about a steep piece of trail at Lobdell which required horseback riders to hang on and hope for the best! At the time, it was the only way to get up the hill from the lower to the upper trails, with tricky holes and tree roots doing their best to tangle up your horse and only a narrow passageway through the branches. Karen and Tami not only responded with a re-route, but embarked on major path-finding and an entire system of new trailways throughout the park. We were delighted to have been involved in setting off this effort! Before that time, Lobdell did not offer so many of the wooded paths that are beloved by park users now.*

Do you have any wish list volunteer projects?

*Our wish list volunteer project would be to continue efforts to make the trails at Infirmiry Mound all-weather for horses. But there are so many aspects of park development that we encourage all park users to consider volunteering not only in trail clearing but also in any other way they can.*

