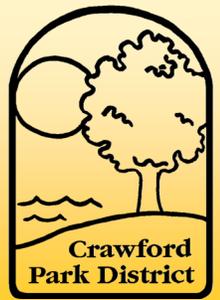


Newsletter of the
Crawford Park District
Summer 2021



H2Ohio Progress!

Progress! With any project, progress is key! As winter shifted to spring, Crawford Construction finished the building phase of the H2Ohio Project at Sandusky Headwaters Preserve. After wetland construction concluded, it didn't take long for wildlife to find the captured waters. Western Chorus Frogs began chorusing; Northern Green Frogs were seen hopping from the edges; and American Toad tadpoles were found schooling along the edges. Solitary Sandpipers, with a much-needed reprieve from migration, found refuge and food in the wet meadow, and hundreds of Barn, Tree, and Rough-winged Swallows dipped and swooped above the wetland waters, capturing scads of insects to feed any further migration flights.



While attracting wildlife is a goal with habitat improvements, incorporating a diverse mix of native plants is crucial to support the wildlife. Native plants offer host sites for caterpillars and a colorful mosaic that attracts myriad pollinators. Working with Natives in Harmony and Scioto Gardens, a plant list was formulated that would do well in saturated soils. On April 24th, 56 volunteers assisted CPD staff with planting almost 3,000 plugs! From various species of asters, lobelias, sedges, and mallows, over 50 different woody, grass, and forb species were planted. As the summer unfolds, we look forward to the color and diversity these plants will provide. Now that's progress!

PARK NEWS



More from SHP.... Top left: Crawford Construction finishes the west wetland
Bottom left: Toads found the west wetland and laid eggs! Above: Part of the planting crew putting plugs in the ground! Many thanks to these volunteers!

Scholarship Recipients

Two wonderful individuals were selected for the Dr. Laurie Anne Rhodebeck Memorial Scholarship. Kyleigh Brown is a graduating senior from Buckeye Central. Kyleigh plans to attend Ohio State University this fall to study Economy, Sustainability, and Environment. In her essay, Kyleigh stated, "I will not be content knowing that I did not do everything in my power to help make changes in our world." Alex Lawson received the second scholarship, making him our first two-time recipient. Alex recently finished his first year at West Virginia



University where he is studying Wildlife and Fisheries Resources. In Alex's essay, he understands knowledge and awareness are key components to sustaining healthy ecosystems. "The single most important thing that humans can do to improve, protect, and more fully experience the environment is to get younger people outside to enjoy the outdoors." The CPD appreciates the passion these two young adults share for the environment. Best of luck in your future endeavors and congratulations, Kyleigh and Alex!



PROGRAMS

All programs are free of charge, unless otherwise noted. Please note that for some programs you must pre-register. For more information or questions about programs, call 419-683-9000, or visit www.crawfordparkdistrict.org

June

Nature Storytime

Thursday, June 3, 10, 17, 24 10am

Lowe-Volk Park

Join Chelsea for an interactive read aloud every Thursday morning throughout the summer. These will be held outside and will include a fun story with a related activity or animal visitor. Kids will receive a nature storytime ticket to keep track of their attendance and can choose a prize after five visits!

Youth Fishing Derby

Saturday, June 12 9-11am Lowe-Volk Park

Join volunteer, Rob Farson, for a great morning of fishing. Kids who are between the ages of 5 and 12 years old can enjoy this outdoor activity at the Lowe-Volk pond. Prizes will be awarded for biggest fish, smallest fish, and more. Must provide own fishing pole, bait, and tackle. Make it a family event!



Sandusky Headwaters Preserve Bioblitz

Sunday, June 13 2pm

Sandusky Headwaters Preserve

Help us discover what is living in our newest park, Sandusky Headwaters Preserve. Our focus will be plants, including trees, but we will look for anything interesting! Join Chelsea as you use iNaturalist to document your park's diversity of life. Fun for all ages—all you need is a camera or phone and a willingness to explore! We will meet in the parking lot on the west side of State Route 598, across the road from Lowe-Volk Park.



Slugs and Snails

Monday, June 14 6pm Lowe-Volk Park

They're everywhere in the forest, scootching along on the forest floor or up the trunk of a tree. Program Assistant Joy Etter-Link will provide a



fun filled evening with wow facts about these denizens of the woods. This program will start inside, include a craft, and conclude with a hike to locate snails and slugs. For kids up to 12 years old and their parent. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Archery

Wednesday, June 16 5-7pm Lowe-Volk Park

Whether for sport, food, or fun, archery is a great outdoor activity that gets us away from the hustle and gadgets of life, allowing us to focus on one thing: hitting the target. Join us for an evening archery shoot that will include an introduction to archery safety and shooting basics. All equipment will be provided. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.



Beginner Butterfly ID Walk

Friday, June 18 2pm Lowe-Volk Park

Butterflies are beautiful insects that are easily recognized and fun to observe. They are essential pollinators for our native flora. Ohio boasts a rich, diverse butterfly community that comprises approximately 135 different species. Butterflies are attracted to a variety of environments that range



PROGRAMS



June

from small, localized areas that contain specialized flora to large commonly occurring areas that contain common and widespread flora. Join Land Manager and Naturalist, Kyle Bailey, for a fun, interactive, family-friendly program to learn about these wonderful pollinators! Some binoculars will be available, and cameras are welcome! Ohio butterfly checklists will be provided to all attendees. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Birding Basics

Saturday, June 19 8am Sears Woods



Are you curious about birding, but don't know how to get involved? Join Land Manager and Naturalist, Kyle Bailey, for a fun interactive, family-friendly program

that is suitable for people of all ages. This program will focus on birding basics such as learning how to identify common Ohio species, when and where to bird, how to bird, what to look for, and much more! Migration is nearing an end as breeding season is in full swing. Most of Ohio's nesting species vocalize through June providing wonderful opportunities to seek them out. We should expect to see species such as Yellow Warbler, Common-yellowthroat, Yellow-throated Warbler, Red-headed Woodpecker, Wood Thrush, and flycatchers, among others. Please bring binoculars or cameras to better view the birds. There will be some binoculars available to borrow. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Scavenger Hunt Scattergories

Saturday, June 19 10am Lowe-Volk Park

Not your typical nature scavenger hunt—participants will have 25 minutes to find items in nature matching a list of descriptive words. The most unique items will score the most points, and prizes will be awarded to the winning teams! A great opportunity to use your creativity while exploring nature... play by yourself, with a partner, or with a group! Call the CPD at 419-683-9000 to register.

Stewardship Program

Saturday, June 19 11am Sears Woods

Do you enjoy getting your hands dirty, while contributing to preserving our native habitats? Then come on out and assist with our monthly Stewardship Program. We will be focusing our attention on an herbaceous biennial known as Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*). We will start with a brief introduction about stewardship and learn about our target species before heading out into the field. Close-toed shoes are required. Dress for the weather. Some gloves will be available. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Robber Flies... are Really Awesome!

Saturday, June 19 1pm Lowe-Volk Park



From tiny gnat ogres to giant red-footed cannibal flies, robber flies are way cooler than the average housefly. In fact, they could eat your houseflies for lunch! Join Chelsea for a short presentation on these raptors of the insect world. Afterward, we will

head outside to search for these amazing creatures! Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Purple Martins

Wednesday, June 23 7pm Unger Park

The Purple Martin colony at Unger Park is a major success story. In addition to learning how to start a Martin colony of their own, participants will get to look inside the Unger apartment complex and take part in the ongoing monitoring program. Meet Warren Uxley in the Unger parking lot. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.





PROGRAMS



June/July

Mud Day

Saturday, June 26 11am-1pm Lowe-Volk Park



Current science points to many positive attributes of playing in the dirt. So, help the CPD celebrate International Mud Day! There will be opportunities to just get your toes

or hands muddy... or to get completely covered in mud! Jefferson Twp. Fire Department will be on hand to give you a rinse. Fun for the whole family!

Feeding Day

Sunday, June 27 1pm Lowe-Volk Park

Will it be fruits, vegetables, leafy greens, shrimp, worms, or mice? Can you guess what's on the menu for the animals in the Nature Center? If you want to help feed some of the animals, call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Yoga in the Park

Sunday, June 27 3pm Lowe-Volk Park

Join Instructor Kay Smith for an hour of outdoor Yoga with beautiful Lowe-Volk Park as the backdrop. Moving gracefully from one pose to the next, while focusing on balance and breath, enjoy a full mind-body experience. Bring your mat and water. In the event of inclement weather, class will take place in the Nature Center. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Canoeing

Monday, June 28 6pm Neff Reservoir

Join us for an evening paddle around Neff Reservoir. Learn some canoeing basics and take to the water! Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.



Book Club

Tuesday, June 29 6pm Lowe-Volk Park

Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 for more information!

Infant Explorers: Frogs

Wednesday, June 30 5pm Lowe-Volk Park

Your first instinct may be to keep your babies indoors. However, research tells us that infants in outdoor spaces benefit from access to a wide variety



of sensory stimuli which they just can't experience indoors. Join Naturalist Abby and baby Vincenzo for a program about frogs that will engage your infants' senses and

get parents and baby out of the house for some fresh air! Dress for the weather; we will be outside for at least part of the program. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Nature Storytime

Thursday, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 10am

Lowe-Volk Park

Join Chelsea for an interactive read aloud every Thursday morning throughout the summer. These will be held outside and will include a fun story with a related activity or animal visitor. Kids will receive a nature storytime ticket to keep track of their attendance and can choose a prize after five visits!

Midnight Mothing

Friday, July 2 9pm-12am Sears Woods

Over 3,000 moth species have been found in Ohio, and these nocturnal beauties far outnumber their more conspicuous cousins, the butterflies. Stop in at your convenience to see which moths and other intriguing insects are attracted to our mothing sheet. We will also use flashlights and UV lights to search for caterpillars and other nocturnal creatures in between checking the sheet. Fun for all ages!





PROGRAMS



July

Rock Tumbling

Saturday, July 3 & 17 10-11:30am

Lowe-Volk Park

You will learn about rock tumbling equipment and the process of tumbling rocks. We will start a rock tumbler with rough stone and go through all 4 polishing stages to create beautiful, polished rocks. Volunteer Bryan Summer will lead this rockin' program! The first session will start the rough tumbling process; session 2 will finish with the polish tumble. A one-hour multimedia lesson will be part of this hands-on activity. Please plan on attending both sessions. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Coleman Lanterns: Sunshine of the Night

Tuesday, July 6 6pm Lowe-Volk Park

Gas pressure appliances have been around for over 100 years and Coleman continues to produce lanterns today. A Coleman lantern is synonymous with the outdoors, with millions of lanterns produced over the years. Join Josh to learn about the history of Coleman lanterns, how lanterns work, and more importantly, how to fix them. Bring your old lantern and let's see if we can make it the Sunshine of the Night again! Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.



Animal Extravaganza

Saturday, July 10 12-3pm Lowe-Volk Park

Animal lovers are in for a treat! Come experience snakes, salamanders, turtles, and much more. Various pet owners will be on hand to answer your questions and allow you to "hold and touch" when appropriate. Get your face painted! Do a kid's activity! A great family event you won't want to miss! Food concessions will be available.

Archery

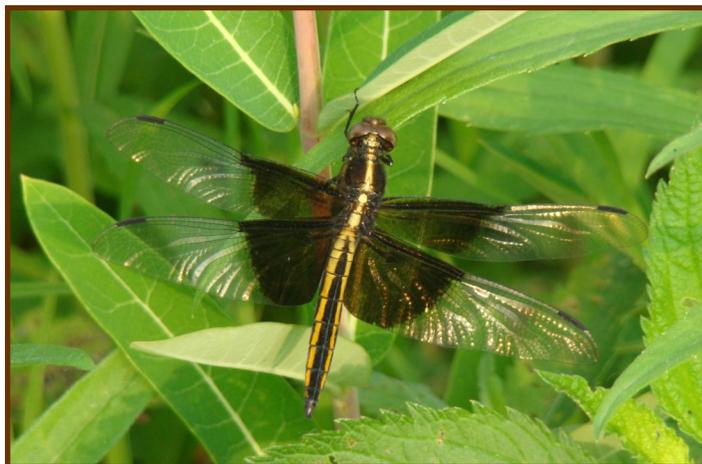
Tuesday, July 13 5-7pm Lowe-Volk Park

Whether for sport, food, or fun, archery is a great outdoor activity that gets us away from the hustle and gadgets of life, allowing us to focus on one thing: hitting the target. Join us for an evening archery shoot that will include an introduction to archery safety and shooting basics. All equipment will be provided. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Beginner Dragonfly ID Walk

Friday, July 16 2pm Lowe-Volk Park

Dragonflies and damselflies are magnificent predators that display amazing aerial skills and deadly, precise hunting tactics. Dragonflies and damselflies belong to an order of insects known as Odonata and are diverse in their shape, size, color, appearance, and preference for habitat. They can be found near any body of water ranging from stagnant pools, ponds, wetlands, streams, rivers, lakes, oceans, etc. There have been over 160 species documented in Ohio! Join Land Manager and Naturalist, Kyle Bailey, for a fun, interactive, family-friendly program to learn about these fascinating creatures. We will venture out to the pond, wetland, and river in search of these exciting insects! Make sure to wear appropriate clothing and shoes (conditions may be wet). Insect nets will be available, and cameras are welcome! Ohio Odonata checklists will be provided to all attendees. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.





PROGRAMS



July

Birding Basics

Saturday, July 17 8am Heckert Nature Preserve

Are you curious about birding, but don't know how to get involved? Join Land Manager and Naturalist, Kyle Bailey, for a fun, interactive, family-friendly program that is suitable for people of all ages. This program will focus on birding basics such as learning how to identify common Ohio species, when and where to bird, how to bird, what to look for, and much more! Summer is in full swing, with early fall migrants (most notably shorebirds) readying up for migration. We should expect to see species such as Yellow Warbler, Common-yellowthroat, Yellow-throated Warbler, Red-headed Woodpecker, Wood Thrush, and flycatchers, among others. Please bring binoculars or cameras to better view the birds. There will be some binoculars available to borrow. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Stewardship Program

Saturday, July 17 11am Heckert Nature Preserve

Do you enjoy getting your hands dirty, while contributing to preserving our native habitats? Then come on out and assist with our monthly Stewardship Program. We will be focusing our attention on a couple of herbaceous biennials known as Common Teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*) and Wild Parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*). We will start with a brief introduction about stewardship and learn about our target species before heading out into the field. Closed toe shoes are required. Dress for the



weather. Some gloves will be available. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Did you know.... Studies have shown that time in nature can lower blood pressure, enhance immune system function, reduce anxiety, and improve mood.

Daughmer Savannah Bioblitz

Sunday, July 18 2pm Daughmer Savannah

This month we will focus on the plant and insect life at Daughmer, a relict bur oak savannah once a part of the historic Sandusky Plains. Its recently restored wetland may reveal species



previously unseen in this preserve. Join Chelsea as you use iNaturalist to document your park's diversity of life. Fun for all ages—all you need is a camera or phone and a willingness to explore!

Harvey Schoolhouse Prairie

Sunday, July 18 2pm

Caldwell Rd. 1 mile East of St. Rt. 4

Creating a prairie habitat is a long process that is fraught with unexpected challenges and complications. Warren Uxley has spent the last decade(our) years building a tallgrass prairie at the Harvey One Room Schoolhouse and will be sharing the successes and analyzing the problems he has encountered during this time. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Yoga in the Park

Sunday, July 18 3pm Lowe-Volk Park

Join Instructor Kay Smith for an hour of outdoor Yoga with beautiful Lowe-Volk Park as the backdrop. Moving gracefully from one pose to the next, while focusing on balance and breath, enjoy a full mind-body experience. Bring your mat and water. In the event of inclement weather, class will take place in the Nature Center. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.





PROGRAMS



July

Canoeing

Saturday, July 24 10am Neff Reservoir

Join us for a morning paddle around Neff Reservoir. Learn some canoeing basics and take to the water! Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Feeding Day

Sunday, July 25 1pm Lowe-Volk Park



Will it be fruits, vegetables, leafy greens, shrimp, worms, or mice? Can you guess what's on the menu for the animals in the Nature Center? If

you want to help feed some of the animals, call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Book Club

Tuesday, July 27 6pm Lowe-Volk Park

Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 for more information!

Infant Explorers: Turtles

Wednesday, July 28 5pm Lowe-Volk Park

Your first instinct may be to keep your babies indoors. However, research tells us that infants in outdoor spaces benefit from access to a wide variety of sensory stimuli which they just can't experience indoors. Join Naturalist Abby and baby Vincenzo for a program about turtles that will engage your infants' senses and get parents and baby out of the house for some fresh air! Dress for the weather; we will be outside for at least part of the program. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Caterpillars

Monday, July 26 6pm Lowe-Volk Park

Caterpillars are a very important component of many food webs. From wasps to birds, caterpillars struggle to survive in a life and death world. To combat predation, caterpillars have adapted many

ways to hide from or repel would-be predators. Program Assistant Joy Etter-Link will help kids explore the unique adaptations caterpillars have to survive in a world with many predators. For kids up to 12 years old and their parents. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Beginner Dragonfly ID Walk

Friday, July 30 2pm Lowe-Volk Park

Dragonflies and damselflies are magnificent predators that display amazing aerial skills and deadly, precise hunting tactics. Dragonflies and damselflies belong to an order of insects known as Odonata and are diverse in their shape, size, color, appearance, and preference for habitat. They can be found near any body of water ranging from stagnant pools, ponds, wetlands, streams, rivers, lakes, oceans, etc. There have been over 160 species documented in Ohio! Join Land Manager and Naturalist, Kyle Bailey, for a fun, interactive, family-friendly program to learn about these fascinating creatures. We will venture out to the pond, wetland, and river in search of these exciting insects! Make sure to wear appropriate clothing and shoes (conditions may be wet). Insect nets will be available, and cameras are welcome! Ohio Odonata checklists will be provided to all attendees. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Midnight Mothing

Friday, July 30 9pm-12am Lowe-Volk Park

Over 3,000 moth species have been found in Ohio, and these nocturnal beauties far outnumber their more conspicuous cousins, the butterflies. Stop in at your convenience to see which moths and other



intriguing insects are attracted to our mothing sheet. We will also use flashlights and UV lights to search for caterpillars and other nocturnal creatures in between checking the sheet. Fun for all ages!

PROGRAMS

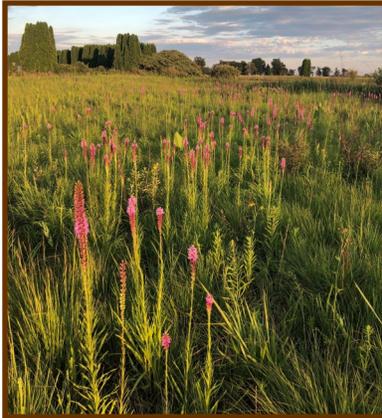
August

Salem Prairie

Sunday, August 1 2pm Salem Cemetery

Intersection of Lower Leesville Rd & Parcher Rd

Restoration of native habitats is a long process that is fraught with unexpected challenges and complications. Warren Uxley has spent the last decade restoring a tallgrass prairie at the Salem Cemetery and will be sharing the successes and analyzing the problems he has encountered during this project. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.



Nature Storytime

Thursday, August 5, 12, 19 10am

Lowe-Volk Park

Join Chelsea for an interactive read aloud every Thursday morning throughout the summer. These will be held outside and will include a fun story with a related activity or animal visitor. Kids will receive a nature storytime ticket to keep track of their attendance and can choose a prize after five visits!

Ohio's Orchids

Sunday, August 8 2pm Lowe-Volk Park

Though orchids typically bring to mind tropical locales, Ohio has nearly 50 species of wild orchids. One of these, Downy Rattlesnake Plantain, can be found in the woodlands of Lowe-Volk Park! Join Chelsea for a short presentation on Ohio's orchids and for a hike to see our very own specimens. With luck, we'll catch our orchids in full bloom!



Archery

Wednesday, August 11 5-7pm Lowe-Volk Park

Whether for sport, food, or fun, archery is a great outdoor activity that gets us away from the hustle and gadgets of life, allowing us to focus on one thing: hitting the target. Join us for an evening archery shoot that will include an introduction to archery safety and shooting basics. All equipment will be provided. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.



Water Carnival

Saturday, August 14 11am-2pm Lowe-Volk Park

The Water Carnival is a great way to appreciate the importance of water in an ecosystem and also to have a great time getting wet during water games! There will be fire trucks, an inflatable ball that floats on the water, a slip and slide, water balloons, and much more! Come ready to get wet and have fun with the entire family!



Unger Park Bioblitz

Sunday, August 15 2pm Unger Park

August's bioblitz focus will be documenting the wildlife at Unger, which features a prairie, woodlands, a wetland, pond, and river. Join Chelsea as you use iNaturalist to document your park's diversity of life. Fun for all ages—all you need is a camera or phone and a willingness to explore!



PROGRAMS



August

Yoga in the Park

Sunday, August 15 3pm Lowe-Volk Park

Join Instructor Kay Smith for an hour of outdoor Yoga with beautiful Lowe-Volk Park as the backdrop. Moving gracefully from one pose to the next, while focusing on balance and breath, enjoy a full mind-body experience. Bring your mat and water. In the event of inclement weather, class will take place in the Nature Center. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Beginner Butterfly ID Walk

Friday, August 20 2pm Daughmer Savannah



Butterflies are beautiful insects that are easily recognized and fun to observe. They are essential pollinators for our native flora. Ohio boasts a rich, diverse butterfly community that comprises approximately 135 different species.

Butterflies are attracted to a variety of environments that range from small, localized areas that contain specialized flora to large commonly occurring areas that contain common and widespread flora. Join Land Manager and Naturalist, Kyle Bailey, for a fun, interactive, family-friendly program to learn about these wonderful pollinators! Some binoculars will be available, and cameras are welcome! Ohio butterfly checklists will be provided to all attendees. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Midnight Mothing

Friday, August 20 9pm-12am Unger Park

Over 3,000 moth species have been found in Ohio, and these nocturnal beauties far outnumber their more conspicuous cousins, the butterflies. Stop in at your convenience to see which moths and other intriguing insects are attracted to our mothing sheet. We will also use flashlights and UV lights to search for caterpillars and other nocturnal creatures in between checking the sheet. Fun for all ages!

Birding Basics

Saturday, August 21 8am Daughmer Savannah



Are you curious about birding, but don't know how to get involved? Join Land Manager and Naturalist, Kyle Bailey, for a fun, interactive, family-friendly program that is suitable for people of all ages. This program

will focus on birding basics such as learning how to identify common Ohio species, when and where to bird, how to bird, what to look for, and much more! Summer may be winding down, but migration is just starting to ramp up. Shorebird migration is at its peak in August, and as we get later into the month other species such as warblers, flycatchers, thrushes, and orioles are on the move. We should expect to see prairie species such as sparrows and meadowlarks, among others. Please bring binoculars or cameras to better view the birds. There will be some binoculars available to borrow. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Stewardship Program

Saturday, August 21 11am Daughmer Savannah

Do you enjoy getting your hands dirty, while contributing to preserving our native habitats? Then come on out and assist with our monthly Stewardship Program. We will be focusing our attention on removing unwanted woody species such as Glossy Buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*) and Autumn Olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*). We will start with a brief introduction about stewardship and learn about our target species before heading out into the field. Closed toe shoes are required. Dress for the weather. Some gloves will be available. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.



PROGRAMS



August

Daughmer Savannah

Sunday, August 22 2pm Daughmer Savannah

Daughmer is a remnant of one of North America's most endangered ecosystems: the Bur Oak Savannah. Daughmer has more threatened and endangered plants than any other spot in Crawford County, and they are visible in late August. Meet Warren Uxley in the parking lot. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Infant Explorers: Snakes

Wednesday, August 25 5pm Lowe-Volk Park

Your first instinct may be to keep your babies indoors. However, research tells us that infants in outdoor spaces benefit from access to a wide variety of sensory stimuli which they just can't experience indoors. Join Naturalist Abby and baby Vincenzo for

a program about snakes that will engage your infants' senses and get parents and baby out of the house for some fresh air! Dress for the weather; we will be outside for at least part of the program. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Canoeing

Monday, August 30 6pm Neff Reservoir

Join us for an evening paddle around the Neff Reservoir. Learn some canoeing basics and take to the water! Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Book Club

Tuesday, August 31 6pm Lowe-Volk Park

Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 for more information!

CPD Hires a Land Manager!

Hello!

My name is Kyle Bailey, and I am the new Land Manager/Naturalist for the Crawford Park District. I was born and raised nearby in Shelby, where I currently reside with my wife and two boys, Slayter and Roman. I graduated from Kenyon College in 2013 with a B.A. in Biology. I bring with me nearly a decade of experience of natural resource management and outdoor natural history education. I was previously employed with the Richland County Park District, (RCPD) where I began building a natural resource department and leading a variety of educational programming. Prior to my employment at RCPD, I worked for the National Park Service with the Natural Resource Management Department at Saguaro National Park in Tucson, Arizona. There I gained valuable experience managing for invasive species, while also contributing to a variety of flora and fauna surveys, including but not limited to the Federally Endangered Gila Monster monitoring program, the lost carnivore project, hummingbird banding, Canyon Tree Frog monitoring, breeding bird surveys, and reptile and amphibian monitoring. All these experiences have instilled in me a deep-rooted passion for conservation.

When I am not at work assessing trails, removing fallen trees, conducting surveys, etc. you can find me outside with my family passing on my passion for the outdoors to my boys. We enjoy spending time hiking, backpacking, camping, fishing, bird watching (our favorite activity!), biking, and of course naturalizing. I also am the Vice President of the Ohio Odonata Society as well as a board member for the Ohio Wetland Association. I look forward to being a member of the CPD team and continuing to enhance our beautiful parks and bountiful natural resources! Make sure to stop and introduce yourself when you see me on the trail!



Spring Sightings

Wood Frogs



Flower Fly



Solitary Sandpiper



Crab Spider



Long-spurred Violet



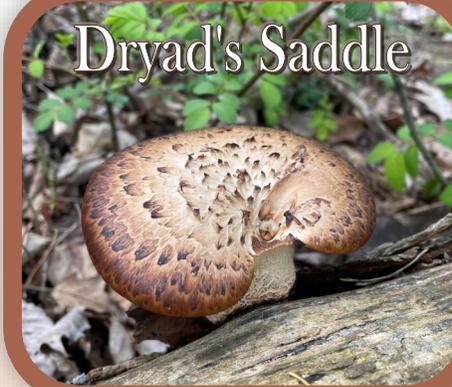
Jefferson Salamander



Ichneumon Wasp



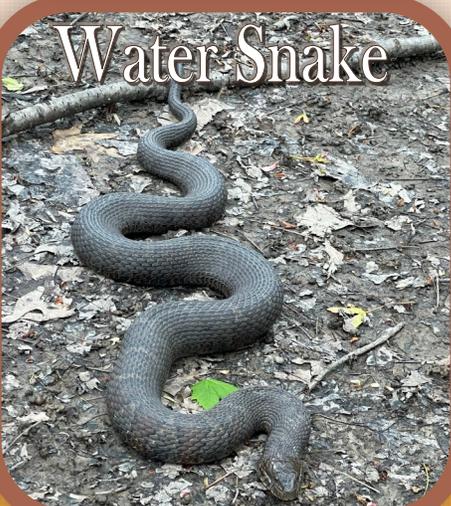
Dryad's Saddle



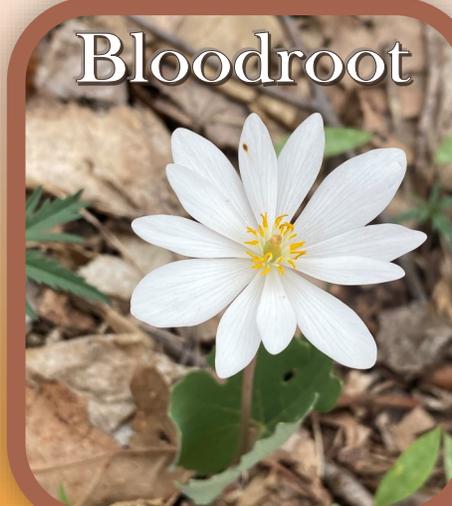
Killdeer Egg



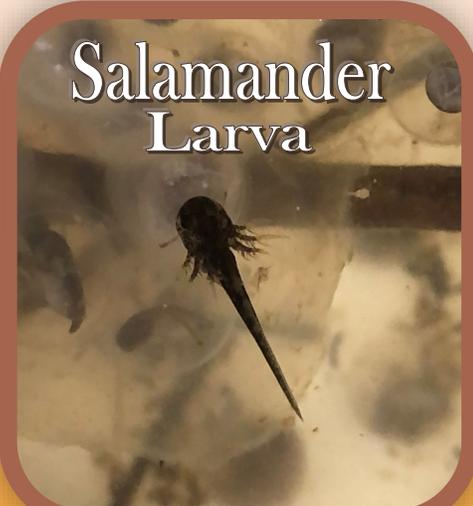
Water Snake



Bloodroot



Salamander Larva

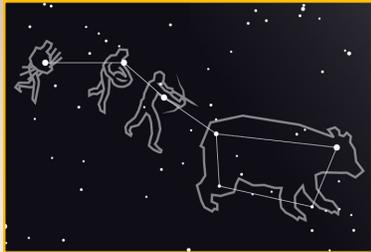


Crawford Park Astronomy Club

The Astronomy Club will meet on the 4th and 5th Saturday of every month 30 minutes after sunset. Please dress for the weather. On rainy or cloudy nights, the meeting will be held in the Nature Center. Please call 419-683-9000 to register.

Ursa Major & The Big Dipper

The 88 constellations found in the night sky come in many different shapes and sizes and depict 42 animals, 28 objects, 14 humans, 2 chimeras, and 2 nature items. Not all of these



are visible to us in the northern hemisphere, but the largest one we can see is Ursa Major. It's also referred to as "The Great Bear" or "The Larger Bear". Even if you haven't been able to connect the stars to see Ursa Major, you have probably seen part of the bear if you've seen the Big Dipper. The Big Dipper is one of the most recognized asterisms in the night sky. The 7 bright stars (and 1 faint) are not their own constellation; instead, they are part of Ursa Major. Depending on your preferred myth, the Big Dipper makes up different parts of the bear. In some Native American tales, the bowl or ladle represents the large bear, and the stars forming the handle mark the warriors chasing after it. This legend also says in autumn when the bowl is low in the sky, it is the blood of the wounded bear that causes the leaves to turn red. In Greek mythology, the ladle of the dipper is the back end of the bear, and the handle is its tail. One Greek myth tells us that Zeus' jealous wife, Hera, turned Callisto into a bear. Years later it was Zeus that cast the bear and Arcas, Callisto's son, to the heavens forming Ursa Major and Ursa Minor (another version says he was turned into Bootes, the Herdsman). The Big Dipper is not the only notable thing about Ursa Major.

There are several beautiful galaxies and nebulas worth looking at. If you come to the Astronomy programs this summer, you'll have a chance to see some of these galaxies!



Meeting Dates

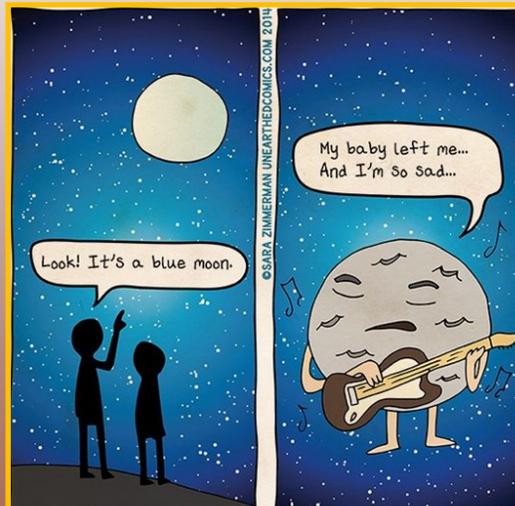


June 26	9:15 pm
July 24	9:15 pm
July 31	9:15 pm
August 28	8:30 pm



Targets for Summer

- **Markarian's Chain** – 8 galaxies in a row, some are as far as 52 million light years away, can be found near the heart of Virgo
- **M101** – Also known as the Pinwheel galaxy, found in Ursa Major, has 1 trillion stars, and is 70% bigger than our Milky Way
- **M104** – 30 million light years away is the Sombrero Galaxy; while it has a mass of 800 billion suns, the supermassive black hole in the middle of the galaxy has a mass of 1 billion suns
- **M81** – Found in Ursa Major, Bode's Galaxy is a spiral galaxy, 11.6 million light years away, and one of the brightest galaxies in the night sky
- **M82** – The Cigar Galaxy is a starburst galaxy with a high rate of star formation and is found next to Bode's Galaxy
- **M51** – A spiral galaxy famous for having three supernovas since 1994 is the Whirlpool Galaxy
- **M13** – The great globular cluster of Hercules has several hundred thousand stars, is 22,180 light years away, and is a very pretty sight to see



A monthly blue moon is when there is a 2nd full moon in one month. A seasonal blue moon is an "extra" moon in a season; look for it on Aug. 22, 2021!

Thank you to the following who have donated to the Friends of the Crawford Park District:

February 1, 2021 through May 10, 2021



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Accessible ramp for Observatory
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Horizon Animal Hospital, Inc.
Dave & Kathy Striker
Gary Cole

Bird Seed Donations:
Robert & Lucille Dunn
Martha Flohr

thank you

Memorial Donations:
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In Memory of:
John Blackford
Joyce Braden
Joyce Kocsis

Denise Rager, Jim L. Miller, and Jim
F. Miller – In Memory of Pat Miller

Norman & Sharon Huber
In Memory of Henry Huber

Special Thanks... The CPD would like to thank Mr. Ron Rossington for a recent donation. Josh received a phone call from Mr. Rossington regarding the usage of Sandusky Wildlife Area's (SWA) parking lot, to which the request was granted. It was used for heavy equipment parking while a contractor performed work on Mr. Rossington's property, which abuts SWA. A couple weeks later, Mr. Rossington paid Josh a visit. He thanked the CPD for allowing the use of the parking lot and explained he had some logging performed on his property. He then handed over a check for over \$15,000, the proceeds from the logging! A very special "Thank You" to Mr. Ron Rossington for not only the generous donation, but for also being a great neighbor.

Special Request... In preparation for opening Sandusky Headwaters Preserve, habitat is being improved and access is being planned. Aside from laying out a system of trails throughout the preserve, access to the "heart" of the preserve will require a set of steps. After much thought regarding navigation of foot traffic down a hill, a set of steps was deemed the appropriate course of action. (A "simple" path has a few issues, with the most significant one being erosion and mitigating that over the life of the trail.)



The set of steps will start approximately 100 yards from the parking lot and will lead down the hill to the top of the first H2Ohio wetland. At over 200 feet in length, there will be landings to rest and to observe the surrounding forest or to view the vista of wetland and wet meadow. The cost for the steps project will be around \$35,000. Due to fluctuating lumber prices, this cost could vary by the time of its completion.

We have had inquiries regarding how people can donate to help the CPD. To that end, we will accept donations toward the construction of steps at Sandusky Headwaters Preserve. To break down the construction, it will cost about \$1500/10ft of steps. While any donation will be accepted, those that donate \$750 or more will receive recognition via a sign or placard placed by the steps. The CPD will receive donations for the steps project until July 31. If you, an organization you serve, or a local business would like to contribute to funding the steps project, contact the CPD office at 419-683-9000.

Friends of the Crawford Park District
 2401 State Route 598
 Crestline, Ohio 44827
 419-683-9000

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 Program Asst. — Joy Etter-Link
 Receptionists — Kathy Hicks, Patti Gervais

Trails Newsletter

Crawford Park District Abbreviated Calendar

Park/Program Location Key:

LVP (Lowe-Volk Park); **UP** (Unger Park); **HNP** (Heckert Nature Preserve);
SW (Sears Woods); **DS** (Daughmer Savannah); **SHP** (Sandusky Headwaters Preserve);
NEFF (Neff Reservoir); **SC** (Salem Cemetery); **HS** (Harvey Schoolhouse)



Date	Program/Event	Time	Park				
June 3, 10, 17, 24	Nature Storytime	10:00am	LVP	Sun. July 18	Harvey Schoolhouse Prairie	2:00pm	HS
Sat. June 12	Youth Fishing Derby	9:00am-11:00am	LVP	Sun. July 18	Yoga in the Park	3:00pm	LVP
Sun. June 13	Sandusky Headwaters Bioblitz	2:00pm	SHP	Sat. July 24	Canoeing	10:00am	Neff
Mon. June 14	Slugs and Snails	6:00pm	LVP	Sat. July 24	Viewing the Night Sky	9:15pm	LVP
Wed. June 16	Archery	5:00pm-7:00pm	LVP	Sun. July 25	Feeding Day	1:00pm	LVP
Fri. June 18	Butterfly ID walk	2:00pm	LVP	Mon. July 26	Caterpillars	6:00pm	LVP
Sat. June 19	Birding Basics	8:00am	SW	Tues. July 27	Book Club	6:00pm	LVP
Sat. June 19	Scavenger Hunt Scattergories	10:00am	LVP	Wed. July 28	Infant Explorers: Turtles	5:00pm	LVP
Sat. June 19	Stewardship Program	11:00am	SW	Thurs. July 29	Caterpillars	6:00pm	LVP
Sat. June 19	Robber Flies..are Awesome!	1:00pm	LVP	Fri. July 30	Dragonfly ID Walk	2:00pm	LVP
Wed. June 23	Purple Martins	7:00pm	UP	Fri. July 30	Midnight Mothing	9:00pm-12:00am	LVP
Sat. June 26	Mud Day	11:00am-1:00pm	LVP	Sat. July 31	Viewing the Night Sky	9:15pm	LVP
Sat. June 26	Viewing the Night Sky	9:15pm	LVP	Sun. Aug. 1	Salem Prairie	2:00pm	SC
Sun. June 27	Feeding Day	1:00pm	LVP	Aug. 5,12,19	Nature Storytime	10:00am	LVP
Sun. June 27	Yoga in the Park	3:00pm	LVP	Sun. Aug. 8	Ohio's Orchids	2:00pm	LVP
Mon. June 28	Canoeing	6:00pm	Neff	Wed. Aug 11	Archery	5:00pm-7:00pm	LVP
Tues. June 29	Book Club	6:00pm	LVP	Sat. Aug. 14	Water Carnival	11:00am-2:00pm	LVP
Wed. June 30	Infant Explorers: Frogs	5:00pm	LVP	Sun. Aug. 15	Unger Park Bioblitz	2:00pm	UP
July 1,8,15,22,29	Nature Storytime	10:00am	LVP	Sun. Aug. 15	Yoga in the Park	3:00pm	LVP
Fri. July 2	Midnight Mothing	9:00pm-12:00am	SW	Fri. Aug. 20	Butterfly ID Walk	2:00pm	DS
Sat. July 3 & 17	Rock Tumbling	10:00am	LVP	Fri. Aug. 20	Midnight Mothing	9:00pm-12:00am	UP
Tues. July 6	Coleman Lanterns	6:00pm	LVP	Sat. Aug. 21	Birding Basics	8:00am	DS
Sat. July 10	Animal Extravaganza	12:00pm-3:00pm	LVP	Sat. Aug. 21	Stewardship Program	11:00am	DS
Tues. July 13	Archery	5:00pm-7:00pm	LVP	Sun. Aug. 22	Daughmer Savannah	2:00pm	DS
Fri. July 16	Dragonfly ID Walk	2:00pm	LVP	Wed. Aug. 25	Infant Explorers: Snakes	5:00pm	LVP
Sat. July 17	Birding Basics	8:00am	HNP	Sat. Aug. 28	Viewing the Night Sky	8:30pm	LVP
Sat. July 17	Stewardship Program	11:00am	HNP	Mon. Aug. 30	Canoeing	6:00pm	Neff
Sun. July 18	Daughmer Savannah Bioblitz	2:00pm	DS	Tues. Aug. 31	Book Club	6:00pm	LVP