



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Education Presentation

Dr. James Infante, *Education Manager*

Jaime Yohman, Community Engagement Director

millcreekmetroparks.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Mill Creek MetroParks is to provide park, recreational, educational and open space facilities of regional significance.

IN FULFILLING THIS MISSION OUR OBJECTIVES ARE:

- To be responsive to community needs
- To be environmentally sound
- To be adaptable
- To be economically feasible

LINK TO MISSION STATEMENT:

<http://www.millcreekmetroparks.org/contact/about/mission-statement/>



STRATEGIC MASTER PLAN

■ Chapter 7: Implementation Plan

EDUCATION

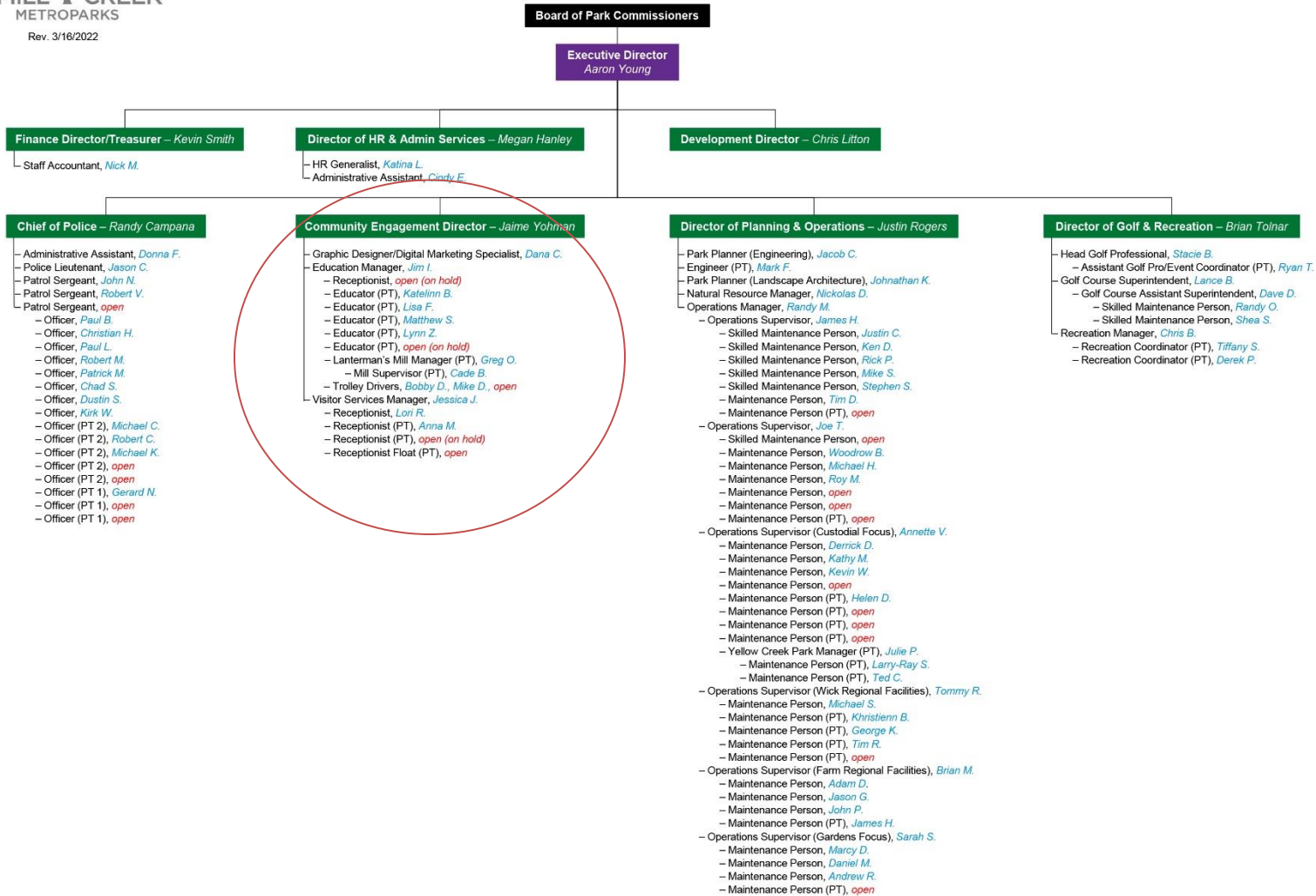
VISION: “Our vision for *(Recreation and)* Education Services is to provide opportunities for people of all ages to learn about nature, agriculture, the environment, plants, gardening and wellness through various recreation programs provided by all sections within the Department.”

GOAL: “The goal for *(Recreation and)* Education Services is to be considered a learning organization through effective and relevant programs that inspire users to learn more about the resources MetroParks provides to the community and benefits they can gain from those learning programs and services.”



LINK TO STRATEGIC MASTER PLAN:
<http://www.millcreekmetroparks.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Mill-Creek-MetroParks-Strategic-Master-Plan-FINAL.pdf>

MILL CREEK METROPARKS – ORGANIZATION CHART



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION

- **Jaime Yohman**, *Community Engagement Director*
Employed since August 2016
20+ years of experience in Marketing, Advertising and Public Relations
- **Dana Catoline**, *Graphic Designer & Marketing Specialist*
Employed since October 2021
25+ years experience
Advanced skill in Adobe Creative Suite, Illustration, Drawing, Design (*print and web*), Branding, HTML & CSS, and Photography
- **Jessica Jablonski**, *Visitor Services Manager*
Employed since June 2021
10 years experience in Customer Service and Management
- **Dr. James Infante**, *Ed.D, Education Manager*
Employed since January 2020
43+ years experience
Bachelor of Science – Health and Physical Education, Master of Science – Secondary Principalship, Doctor of Education – Educational Administration (Cognate Area – Family Ecology)
- **Lori Rogers**, *Receptionist*
- **Anna Masi**, *Receptionist*



Jaime



Dana



Jessica



James



Lori



Anna

EDUCATION STAFF

- **Dr. James Infante, *Ed.D, Education Manager***
See Previous Slide
- **Lynn Zocolo, *Educator***
Associate of Horticulture
NAI & LNT Certification
20+ years experience
- **Lisa Frederick, *Educator***
Bachelor of Science – Art Education
Master of Science – Art Education
LNT Certification
33+ years experience
- **Matthew Siefert, *Educator***
Bachelor of Science – Environmental Biology
Master of Science – Biology
LNT Certification
New Educator – March 2022
- **Katelinn Bowser, *Educator***
Bachelor of Science – Park and
Conservational Resource Management
NAI & LNT Certification
New Educator – March 2022
- **Greg O'Neal, *Mill Manager***
12+ years experience
- **Cade Berg, *Mill Supervisor***
3+ years experience



James



Lynn



Lisa



Katelinn



Matthew



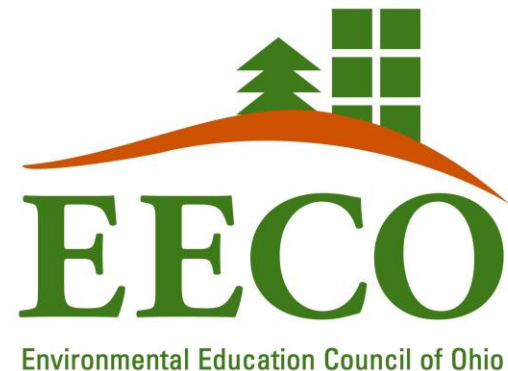
Greg



Cade

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- National Association for Interpretation (NAI) - Certified Interpretative Guide
- Environmental Education Council of Ohio (EECO)
- Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics (LNT)
- We are exploring other programs that match the professional growth interests and abilities of the Educators.



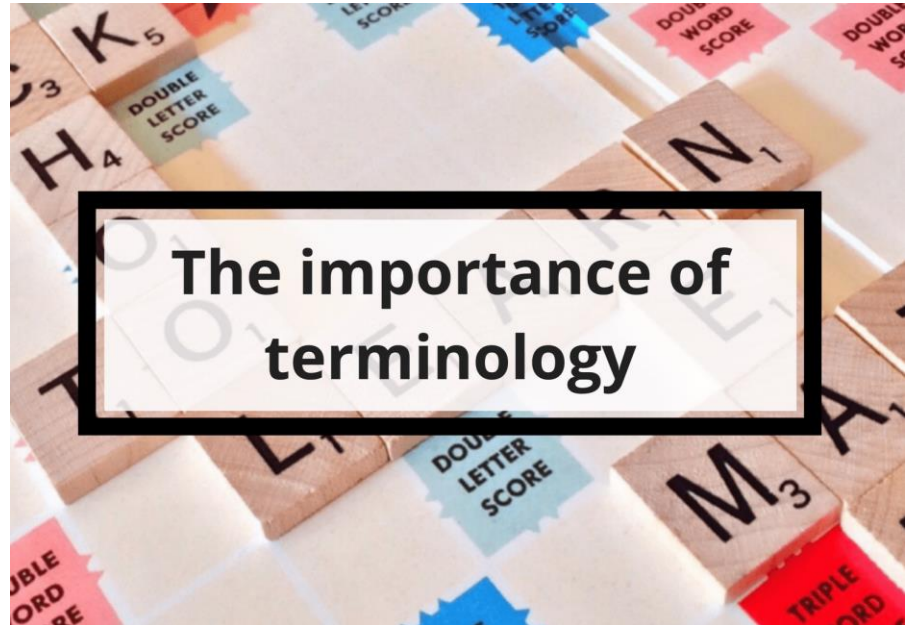
TEACHER IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM

- **Mill Creek MetroParks Teacher in Residence Program** offers full-time teachers a unique opportunity for professional growth and enrichment. The summer program enables teachers to expand their knowledge and pedagogical skills while working with current Park Educators in a creative environment.



TERMINOLOGY

- **PUBLIC PROGRAM:**
Programs planned on a wide variety of topics for general or specific audiences. Available to all visitors who have an interest in attending. These programs are placed on our MCMP website.
- **SCHOOL PROGRAM:**
Programs specifically planned and offered to students in consultation with their teachers.
- **SCHOOL GROUPS:**
Include public, private, charter, preschool, and non-school groups (*Scouts, homeschool, afterschool, and other youth groups*).



ODE TERMINOLOGY

- **CORRELATION WITH STATE STANDARDS:** Process of identifying existing **connections or relationships** between each program element and the statements of required knowledge or skills in the Ohio Learning Standards.
- **ALIGNMENT WITH STATE STANDARDS:** Process of **making adjustments to programs** so that program elements or activities correlate in the best way possible - changing, moving, eliminating, developing activities or even whole programs.
- **OHIO'S LEARNING STANDARDS:** "Learning standards explain the **knowledge and skills** Ohio students in pre-kindergarten through grade 12 need to have." "Ohio's Learning Standards emphasize skills like **critical thinking and problem solving** – qualities most sought by today's employers. By teaching our students to apply these skills to what they are learning in school, we can make sure they are on track to graduate from high school and enjoy success in college, careers and life."
- <https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/OLS-Graphic-Sections/Learning-Standards>



EDUCATION PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

- What will the students “know” (*knowledge*) and/or “be able to do” (*skills*) as a result of the program? (*Educational Component*)
- Evaluation to determine if objective has been met can be **Formative** (*ongoing*) or **Summative** (*conclusion*).



DEMOGRAPHICS

- Preschool to Seniors and everyone in between
- Welcoming Inclusive Environment
- **AREAS OF DIVERSITY (NCATE):** Ethnicity, Race, Socioeconomic Status, Gender, Exceptionalities, Language, Religion, Sexual Orientation, Geographic Area



PROGRAMS

- In-Person and Virtual
- Preschool Programs, School Programs, Public Programs, Informational Hikes and Biking, Informative Walks, Nature Photography, Trolley Tours, Tractor-Wagon Rides, Step-On Tours
- Programs are nature-based



VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

Nature Rocks!



What's in Bloom



Sharp About The Park

Mill Creek MetroParks
May 14, 2021 · 🌐

SHARP ABOUT THE PARK

The Education Department invites you to engage in "Sharp About the Park" trivia. We will be offering a trivia question each Friday except the last Friday of each month when we will be posting "Nature Rocks". The answer to each trivia question will be provided along with a new question for each posting. Please join and allow us to keep you "Sharp About the Park".

Question for May 14, 2021... [See more](#)



Nature Rocks Extra!

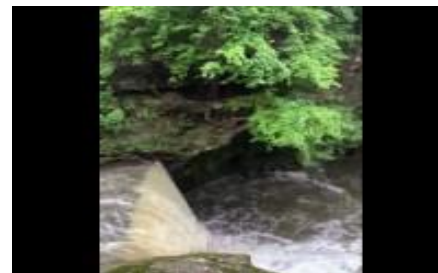


VIRTUAL PROGRAMS *(cont'd)*

From the Archives



Good Morning Mill Creek Park



What's Going On



Happy Trails



New Programs: Naturalist Adventure Guides, Fantastic Fungi

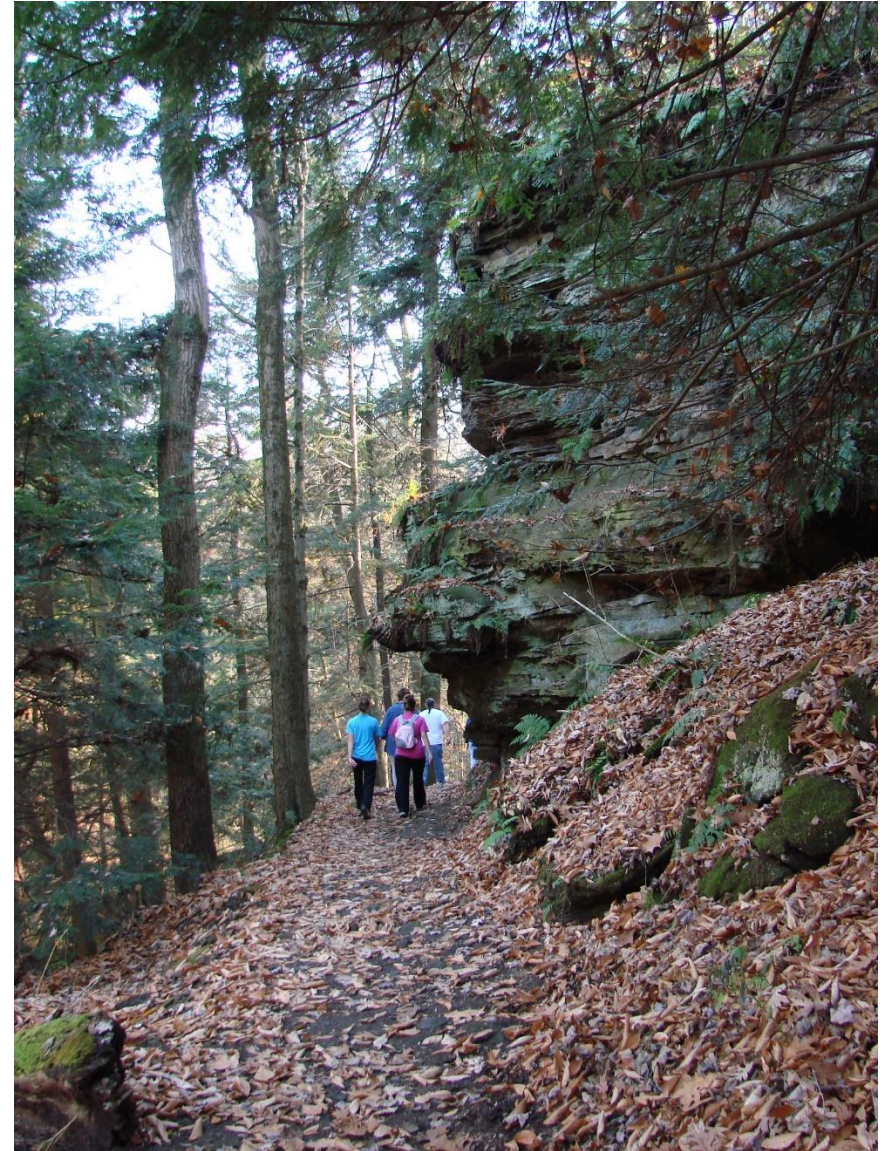
SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- Little Red Hen
- Super Seeds
- Millin' Around Lanterman's Mill
- Tree-mendous
- Extreme Streams
- Wildlife of Ohio
- O-H-I-O
- Nature's Puzzle



STREAM PROGRAMS

- **OUTDOOR:** Hike on trails from Ford Nature Center
- **CLASSROOM:** Mounts, pelts, video clips, art projects
- Interactive Displays
- Discussion with classroom teachers
- Developmentally Appropriate Practice (*DAP*)



INTERPRETIVE SCHOOL TOURS

- **BOTANICAL DISCOVERIES**
(Fellows Riverside Gardens)
- **FARMER FOR A DAY**
(MetroParks Farm)
- **MILL TOUR & GORGE HIKE**
(Lanterman's Mill)



FORD NATURE CENTER

- Exploration with a Hike
- Preschool and School Programs
- **STREAM** (*Science, Technology, Recreation, Engineering, Arts, Math*)
- Public Programs



FOUR MAJOR EVENTS

- **FARM ANIMAL BABY SHOWER**
(MetroParks Farm)
- **NATURE ROCKS**
(Ford Nature Center)
- **PUMPKIN FEST**
(Fellows Riverside Gardens)
- **CHRISTMAS AT THE MILL**
(Lanterman's Mill)



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BY SEASON

SPRING

- Virtual Programs
- Preschool Programs
- School Programs
- Trolley Tours, Step-On Tours (*Public*)
- Daffodil Walk (*Public*)
- Daffodil Trolley (*Public*)
- Other Public Programs



SUMMER

- Virtual Programs
- Preschool Programs
- Veggie Gardens, Green Thumbs (*Public*)
- Discovery Summer Camps (*Public*)
- Host Summer Camps (*Public*)
- Trolley Tours, Tractor-Wagon Rides, Step-On Tours (*Public*)
- Kayaking (*Public*)
- Other Public Programs



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BY SEASON *(cont'd)*

FALL

- Virtual Programs
- Preschool Programs
- School Programs
- Trolley Tours, Step-On Tours - Public
- Bigfoot Weekend - Public
- Pick a Pumpkin - Public
- Haunted? Stories of the Mill - Public
- Lake Glacier Scenic Tour - Public
- Other Public Programs



WINTER

- Virtual Programs
- Preschool Programs
- School Programs
- Winter Celebration Holiday Tree Afterhours Photo Op - Public
- Nature Rocks Art Exhibition K-6 - School
- Other Public Programs



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BY SEASON *(cont'd)*

MULTIPLE SEASONS

- Sprout Club
- Bear Cub Art Club
- Botanical Mornings
- Pix in the Park
- Full Moon Hike
- Birding the Sanctuary
- Traveling Naturalist
- Bike and Bird
- Portraits in the Park
- Picnic in the Park

PUBLIC PROGRAMS BY EDUCATORS

MINIMUM: 5

MAXIMUM: Varies by Program



COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

- YSU Summer Festival of the Arts
- YSU STEM National Science Day
- YSU Earth Day
- OH WOW! Silly Science Sunday
- United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley Success after 6
- Local Schools Back to School Blasts!



United Way of Youngstown
and the Mahoning Valley



VOLUNTEERS

- **SPECIAL THANKS
TO ALL VOLUNTEERS.**

Their time, dedication, and love of the Park is of great assistance to the Education Department so that we may hold successful programs and events.





millcreekmetroparks.org

