

2019

ANNUAL REPORT





BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

Mill Creek MetroParks is governed by a board of park commissioners consisting of five residents of Mahoning County appointed by the Probate Court of Mahoning County and serving without remuneration of benefits.



Appointing Authority
The Honorable Judge Robert N. Rusu, Jr.
Mahoning County Probate Judge



Lee Frey
President



Germaine Bennett
Vice-President



Tom Frost



Jeff Harvey



Paul Olivier



Aaron Young
Executive Director

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 responsible

A SEPARATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF OHIO

Mill Creek MetroParks is a separate political subdivision of the state of Ohio and is not part of any local or other political subdivision. It was established on January 1, 1989, under Chapter 1545 of the Ohio Revised Code, as the successor to the Youngstown Township Park District subsequent to the voters' approval of the conversion. Mill Creek MetroParks serves all of Mahoning County.

The MetroParks currently operates Mill Creek Park, located in Boardman Township and the City of Youngstown, Yellow Creek Park in Struthers, the MetroParks Farm in Canfield Township, Vickers Nature Preserve in Ellsworth Township, MetroParks Bikeway, which traverses: Austintown Township, Canfield Township and the City of Canfield, Sebring Woods in the Village of Sebring, Cranberry Run Headwaters in Boardman Township, Sawmill Creek Preserve in Canfield Township, Mill Creek Preserve in Boardman Township, McGuffey Wildlife Preserve in Coitsville Township, Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary in Beaver Township, and Egypt Swamp Preserve in Green Township.

MetroParks revenue is derived from three main sources: receipts of a tax levy upon all real estate within the District, receipts from the Local Government Fund and income from MetroParks facilities such as greens fees, rentals of cabins, pavilions, and boats; programs, and other activities.

COMMUNITY

Engagement

GOAL

Enhance Mill Creek MetroParks' mission through effective partnerships, communications, signage, and promotions.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The MetroParks, including staff and volunteers, participated in various outreach programs, events and speaking engagements throughout the year. These include: Park Vista, Chamber of Commerce Valley Health & Wellness Expo, Friends of Boardman Library, Sunrise Senior Living, Liberty Arms Assisted Living, Sebring Park District, Canfield AARP, North Jackson Township Touch-A-Truck, YSU International Students Coffee Talk, Easter Seals, Retired Teachers, Outdoor Family Day at Boardman Park, The Big Sit, Mahoning County Public Employees Retirees Association, and Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist Program along with various school outreach programs.

MetroParks staff from the Operations Department continued to maintain an area at the Canfield Fair and participated with the old-fashioned sawmill exhibit. They contributed plantings to the picnic area, assisted with the set-up of the picnic tables, and provided timbers for the sawmill exhibit. The Community Engagement department stocks the information area kiosk with various literature on the most current events and facilities throughout the MetroParks. MetroParks Farm personnel staffed and coordinated Old MacDonald's Barn with the help of MetroParks volunteers.



VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are an important supporting component in many areas of park operations. Volunteers support staff efforts in offering events and programs to the community; they play a part in educating and engaging our local community, and ultimately increasing support for our parks. Volunteers make a vital contribution to both Mill Creek MetroParks and to Mahoning County! Volunteer time recorded in 2019 was 10,466 hours from 256 active park wide volunteers and multiple groups. Some of the specific events, exhibits and activities where these hours were recorded: Nature Photography Exhibit, Jewels of Winter Orchid Exhibit, Andrews Horticulture Certificate Program, Trolley Tours, Farm Animal Baby Shower, Plant the Seed to Read Book Festival, Spring Plant Sale, Family Fun Fridays, Summer Discovery Camps,

Sports Camps & Clinics, Bug Day, Shop in the Gardens, Veggie Gardens, Garden Maintenance at Fellows Riverside Gardens, Green Cathedral Half Marathon, Sunset at the Farm, Pumpkin Carving, Pumpkin Walk at Twilight, Old Fashioned Christmas at the Mill, Santa's Winter Barn, Winter Celebration, Old McDonald's Barn - Canfield Fair, Hikes, Kayak Guides, Conservation/Preservation, Standing Committees, Garden District Kids, Auxiliary Police, Garden Guide, Kiosk Stocking. Volunteers were recognized at the annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner held in September 2019. The dinner was held in the Davis Center, Rossi Auditorium at Fellows Riverside Gardens. Those volunteers who met a specified hour criteria in 2019 also received a complimentary Mill Creek MetroParks volunteer t-shirt.

COMMUNITY

Engagement

CONTINUED

Each year efforts are made for recruitment and the future growth of the volunteer program.

The Community Engagement Director attended the Youngstown State University Volunteer Fair, Cardinal Mooney YES Fest, and Boardman High School YES Fest in an effort to educate the area's youth on Mill Creek MetroParks and the volunteer opportunities available. The Community Engagement Director was a member of the Forum for Volunteer Administrators and was chosen for their member spotlight in 2019. Various workshops and meetings were attended throughout the year.

In 2019, the Standing Committees of the Board of Park Commissioners continued to serve in an advisory role to the Board of Park Commissioners. The committees consist of seven members from the public, board appointed, and one staff liaison. The specific areas include: Finance, Development, Wildlife, Nature Education, Environment, Horticulture, and Community Engagement.

METROPARKS POLICE

MetroParks Police provide 24-hour patrol of park lands and facilities. They provide complete law enforcement service including traffic control and security for all park events. While MetroParks Police have the same traditional police powers to enforce laws and make arrests as other police

departments, they also have the duty to protect the parks facilities and natural resources. MetroParks Police utilize both sworn and nonsworn staff. Sworn staff is made up of full-time, part-time, and reserve police officers. Those who haven't completed Basic Police Officer Training can serve on the MetroParks Auxiliary Police and are a key part of the MetroParks Police team.

MetroParks Police officers attended various trainings as well as completing multiple certifications in 2019. Topics and certifications included: Crisis Intervention, Ohio Chief of Police In-Service Training, Federal Bureau of Investigations Annual Training, First Line Supervisory Training, Pointman Leadership Training, and Communication Training. The year also included multiple certifications and re-certification in the following areas: Voice Stress Analysis, Firearms, Electronic Control Devices, Chemical Aerosols, Traffic Stops, Criminal Procedure, and Impact Weapons which were conducted in-house by MetroParks staff, prosecutors and local judges. Department staff continued to receive daily scenario based training provided by Lexipol in various legal and policy related issues.

The MetroParks Police were an original agency receiving certification by the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board. This year the department received final certification in Community Engagement and was recertified in Use of Force and Recruitment and Hiring.

Multiple grants were obtained to include: Federal Vest Grant (50% match), two (2) State Vest Grants (25% match), and continued to use and obtain additional overdose reversal drug kits through Project Dawn. A pet micro-chip scanner was also obtained via grant funding to assist with returning lost pets to owners.

Various staff serve on the following: Law Enforcement Foundation's, Certified Law Enforcement Executive Advisory Board, Chairman of the Ohio Association of Chief's of Police Education Committee, Mahoning Valley Law Enforcement Executives Association, Mahoning County OVI Task Force, Mahoning County Homicide Task Force, and Coffin Career Center Safety Advisory Board.

Staff members served in a mentorship role to law enforcement executives attending the Certified Law Enforcement Executives program. Staff also facilitated numerous educational events

COMMUNITY

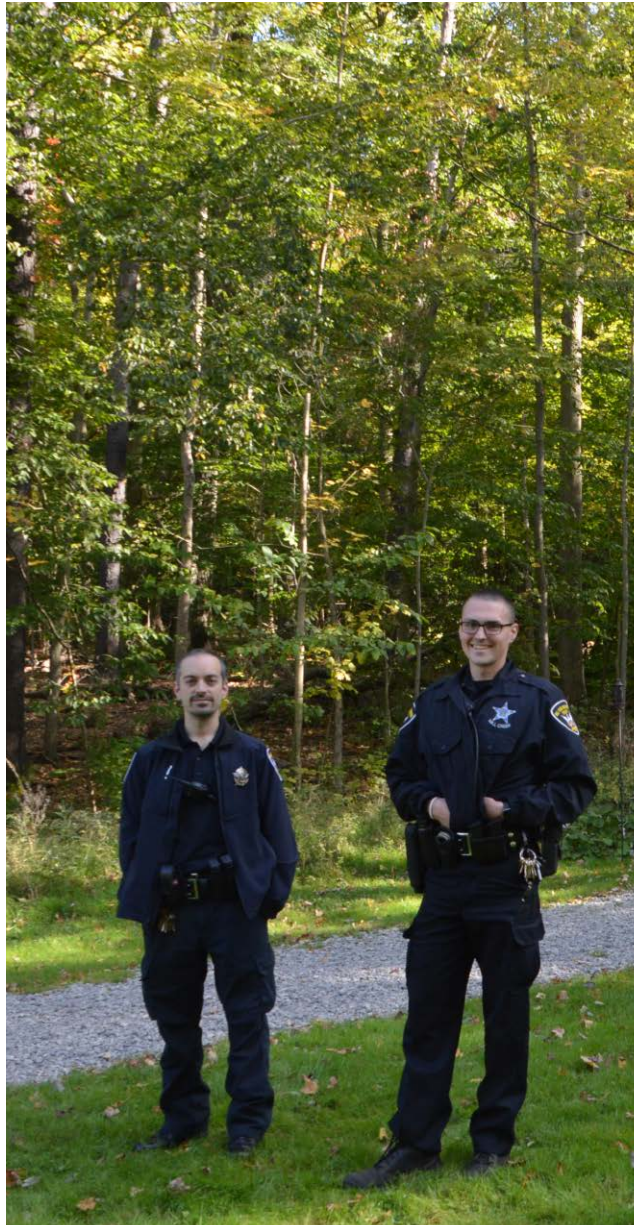
Engagement

CONTINUED

throughout the state, presented on developing community partnerships to newly promoted law enforcement executives, and on officer wellness.

MetroParks Police also hosted the annual Hooked On Fishing Not Drugs program held at the MetroParks Farm, along with the Law Enforcement/Minority Leadership Summit which took place at Pioneer Pavilion. The department continued its community outreach by mentoring two young boys, ages 6 & 12 in Youngstown who lost their mother last year and are being raised by their grandmother. Officers included them in park events and worked with a local charity to provide them with their own furnished home. Officers also volunteered and helped move them into the home last summer. Officers were recognized for the successful rescue of a service animal from the creek and reuniting the animal with the child that depends on it.

The MetroParks Police continued to be a very proactive law enforcement agency in 2019. Proactive enforcement contacts and traffic stops for 2019 totaled 2,792 which was up 75% from 2018. Arrests also increased from 233 to 291, an increase of 25%. Dispatched events also increased exponentially in 2019 up 51% to 4,848.



RECREATION

GOAL

Create broader recreation programs that inspire more users to experience Mill Creek MetroParks for the value it provides to the community.

GOLF

The 2019 golf season was highlighted by the creation of the first-ever golf endowment for Mill Creek Golf Course. In May, the Mahoning Valley Hospital Foundation Golf Endowment was established with a \$300,000 donation to ensure the legacy of course designer Donald Ross for perpetuity. Through the generosity of the Mahoning Valley Hospital Foundation, our patrons will now have an avenue to contribute to Mill Creek's long term success.

Through a partnership with the Bureau of Workers Compensation, Mill Creek secured its first-ever safety equipment grant for the MetroParks. A Grant of \$41,334.25 was used to purchase a Weideman Vacuum unit to assist top dressing in the summer months and leaf pick-up during the spring and fall.

In 2019, the golf department completed a number of capital improvement projects. These projects included a greens drainage restoration project for the North and South courses, six new landscaped areas on the golf property, fairway drainage upgrades, new tee-markers for both courses, Fieldhouse lobby stonework projects, cooking grilles, and podiums for the outing tents

During the offseason, the Mill Creek MetroParks PGA Professional staff attended the Toronto

Golf and Travel Show in Canada and Michigan Golf Show through a tourism grant from the Mahoning Valley Visitors and Convention Bureau. The Toronto and Michigan golf shows equated to an additional 800+ rounds of golf with overnight stays in the Mahoning County. Golf travel shows have made a positive impact for growing rounds of golf along with creating new tourism opportunities in the Mahoning County. Future shows with grant support are scheduled for Cleveland and Pittsburgh to help expand the footprint regionally and to grow the game of golf.

The financial impact to the Mahoning Valley in 2019 was \$358,458 in hotel stays, dining, recreational spending, green fees and shopping. Since 2016, this year's event broke the million dollar mark for financial impact with \$1,486,472 year to date. Money raised for local charities and from the event has totaled \$43,000 over the past four years. In June, Mill Creek Golf Course hosted the Mahoning Valley Hospital Foundation AJGA Junior All Star National Tournament. In 2018, the Mahoning Valley Hospital Foundation signed on for a four year \$100,000 Title Sponsorship to host the American Junior Golf Association.

In 2019, the PGA Professional staff created the "Let's Play Golf Youngstown" Initiative to promote the game of golf for players of all ages and abilities in the Mahoning Valley. Mill Creek, through a partnership with All State Insurance,



purchased instructional equipment to be used for golf programs at area schools in the Mahoning Valley. In addition to the programming equipment, Mill Creek staff added brand new programming designed to instruct beginners, intermediate, and advanced players.

2019 ROUNDS

9 Hole Resident	11,658
9 Hole Non Resident	182
Senior/Junior	22,079
18 Hole Resident	10,924
18 Hole Non Resident	4,993
Senior/Junior	5,711
Total 9 Hole Rounds	33,919
Total 18 Hole Rounds	21,628

RECREATION

In March, the recreation staff attended the 2019 Health & Wellness Show at the Covelli Center in Youngstown. The recreation team showcased the 2019 line-up of programs and summer sports camps throughout the MetroParks. The show was well attended by residents of the Mahoning Valley, many of whom signed up to participate in recreational programs. The show also assisted in the growth and promotion of the annual Green Cathedral Marathon that took place in September.

The capital improvement process began in 2019 with the design of a new Wick Recreation Area maintenance building. Once the project is completed, the Wick maintenance department will move out of the Warming House, which will then be converted back to being a true recreational building. The Warming House redesign process is slated for 2020.

The Glacier and Newport Boathouses received upgrades of new paddle boats, hydrobikes and kayaks. Despite the poor weather in May and June, the boathouses at Glacier and Newport ended the season strong over the second half of the year.

A 27-Hole Disc Golf Course was installed at the MetroParks Farm and opened in the fall. A 9-Hole (Field Course) was designed for beginners, children, and warm-up. An 18-Hole (Forest Course)



was created for intermediate, advanced players, and events. Both courses exemplify the beauty and splendor of the MetroParks Farm property in Canfield. Mill Creek MetroParks will offer instructional programming, league rentals and Disc Golf tournaments.

Adaptive sports programming, with a partnership with Ohio Adaptive Sports Inc., continued for its third year at Wick Recreation Area, Volney Fields and Scholl Fields. Adaptive sporting programs were conducted for tennis, lacrosse, pickleball, softball, wall-soccer and dek hockey.

Over the fall, the recreation department finished the year with another successful Green Cathedral Marathon, Sunset at the Farm and Olde Fashioned



Christmas at the Mill. This year's Olde Fashioned Christmas at the Mill saw well over 6,000+ patrons.

During the offseason, the recreation department staff is compiling a robust recreation activity schedule with plenty of new sports camps, leagues and programs. New events include: archery, concert nights, movie nights, pickleball, wall-soccer, dek hockey, disc golf, tennis, football and bocce.

RECREATION

CONTINUED

SPECIAL PROGRAMS, EVENTS. SERIES

- Nature Photography Exhibit: 211 entries
- Breakfast With the Easter Bunny: 125 participants
- Boy Scout Earth Day Clean-up: 501 participants at 28 sites
- Concerts: 2,258 attendees
- Trolley: Standard & Special Program Tours 1,108
- Green Cathedral: 125 participants
- Sunset at the Farm: 1,523 participants
- Olde Fashioned Christmas at Lanterman's Mill: 6,708 visitors
- Ballroom Dance Classes: 718 participants
- Metro Mutts Programs: 333 participants (26 programs)

DAY-TO-DAY PROGRAMMING

- Volunteer Led Recreational Hikes: 772 participants
- General Recreational Programs: 914 participants

FACILITY VISITOR/USE STATISTICS

- Boating: 7,852 visitors rode on, pedaled or paddled a rented boat
- Fields: 842 games/matches/practices accommodated for diverse sports



Education

GOAL

Create an effective capital improvement and maintenance plan to preserve the historic aspects of Mill Creek MetroParks as well as provide a safe and enjoyable experience.

HORTICULTURE

The total attendance for the Visitor Center at Fellows Riverside Gardens in 2019 was 295,869, an 11.5% increase from 2018. There were 45,300 blooming bulbs planted in the fall of 2019, which yielded a spectacular spring show at Fellows Riverside Gardens in 2019. Fellows Riverside Gardens staff and volunteers added the following permanently accessioned plants to the grounds in 2019:

- 194 roses
- 5 trees
- 43 shrubs
- 6 vines
- 39 perennials
- 170 woodland plants

Various events held throughout the year included: Jewels of Winter, Lunch with the Leprechaun, Artist Mike Gibson's "A Diamond in the Rough" Outdoor Gallery exhibit, Daffodil Weekend, Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens Spring and Autumn Plant Sale, Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens Summer Garden Party, Pumpkin Walk at Twilight, Winter Celebration, Breakfast with Santa, Mother's Day Brunch, six exhibits on display in the Weller Gallery, and the collaborative efforts of the Youngstown City School District's Unity Exhibit throughout the lobby of the Davis Center and Rossi Auditorium.



The following landscape enhancements were made in 2019 throughout the MetroParks:

- 950 bulbs
 - 650 Tulips and Daffodils
 - 300 Daffodils at Daffodil Meadow
- 350 annuals in various size containers
- 22 trees and shrubs
- 16 new perennials
- McMahon Hall - updated the entrance beds and installed trees into the parking lot islands
- Golf Course - complete redesign of the bed in front of the Fieldhouse by adding permanent plantings and stone
- Plantings and improvements at Daffodil Meadow
- New plantings around the Wet Playground at Wick Recreation Area.

EDUCATION

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS: 31,307

- Youth: 19,397
- Adult: 11,910

TOTAL PROGRAMS: 1382

EDUCATION PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS: 724

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- Outreach: 209 programs; 4841 participants
- On-Site: 156 programs; 3741 participants

INTERPRETIVE TOURS

- School: 267 tours; 6084 participants
- Youth Group: 43 tours; 827 participants
- Family or Adult: 37 tours; 673 participants

TOTAL SCHOOL PROGRAMS & TOURS

- Total Programs: 632
- Total Participants: 14,666

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

- Total Programs: 656
- Total Participants: 12,674

SPECIAL PROGRAMS & EVENTS

- Garden Lecture: Beyond Beauty: Magnolias
- Around the World with Peter Zale: 44 participants
- Plant the Seed to Read Book Festival

Education

CONTINUED

“Reading’s My Superpower”: 1336 participants

- The John & Doris Andrews Horticulture Certificate Program: 38 participants; two courses
- Summer Discovery Camps: 63 campers; six weeks
- Nature Live: 1,011 participants
- Family Fun Fridays: 693 participants; six days
- Garden Lecture: The Indestructible Houseplant with Tovah Martin: 60 participants
- Pick a Pumpkin: 582 participants; four days
- Naturalist Series: 483 participants; six lectures
- Santa’s Winter Barn: 300 participants
- Farm Animal Baby Shower: 3,250 participants

OUTREACH PROGRAMS & EVENTS

- Easter Seals
- Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist Program
- Sunrise Senior Living
- Liberty Arms Assisted Living
- Sebring Park District
- Outdoor Day at Boardman Park
- Canfield AARP

FACILITY VISITOR/USE STATISTICS

- Mill Tours: 10, 230 walk-in visitors
- Ford Nature Center: 5,660 walk-in visitors



OUR People

GOAL

Provide employees with the necessary knowledge and skills to perform their jobs efficiently and effectively, in order to serve the needs of Mill Creek MetroParks and the community.

Our people play a valuable role in fulfilling the mission of Mill Creek MetroParks. 2019 brought 3 retirements, 13 employee promotions and 128 hiring actions.

All full-time bargaining unit and non-bargaining unit employees received a 2% general wage increase. Several full-time and part-time positions were also adjusted based on cost of living and added duties.

Training and development opportunities were provided to employees on a wide range of topics throughout 2019. These opportunities build on professional competencies and improve skill sets that contribute to the mission. Training opportunities included Crisis Management, Dealing with Difficult People, Volunteer Recruitment and Public Records. Employees also received continuing education in the following areas: Arborist Certification, Ohio Boat Safety License Certification and First Aid and CPR Instructor Certification.

Mill Creek MetroParks is committed to keeping employees engaged, healthy and safe. A Wellness Program was introduced in 2019 to promote physical and mental health. Initiatives included free employee health screenings, sports activities and time management training. The MetroParks also received a Safety Intervention Grant from the Ohio BWC in 2019. The grant was used to purchase equipment that reduced manual labor and injury risk for employees performing leaf and debris clean up at the MetroParks Golf Course.

The Employee Association is a MetroParks employee-run group, sustained by employee donations. The Association sent flowers for births, hospital stays and bereavement in 2019. The Association also made charitable contributions to the Rescue Mission and 7 other local non-profit organizations.



INFRASTRUCTURE

GOAL

Create an effective capital improvement and maintenance plan to preserve the historic aspects of Mill Creek MetroParks as well as provide a safe and enjoyable experience.



ANNUAL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

COST

\$253,601.07

ANNUAL PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS

COST

\$158,260.46

ANNUAL TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

COST

\$153,218.80

ANNUAL SIGNAGE IMPROVEMENTS

COST

\$24,513.48

ANNUAL PAVILION IMPROVEMENTS

COST

\$32,965.55

COMFORT STATION IMPROVEMENTS

\$50,385.31

SLIPPERY ROCK BRIDGE PIER REPAIRS

COST

\$25,000.00

MILL CREEK GOLF COURSE – GREENS DRAINAGE

COST

\$249,077.30

MILL CREEK WILDLIFE SANCTUARY IMPROVEMENTS

COST

\$26,738.95

MILL CREEK PRESERVE IMPROVEMENTS

COST

\$12,200.00

LANTERMAN'S MILL SITE IMPROVEMENTS

COST

\$200,000.00

FELLOWS RIVERSIDE GARDENS – DAVIS CENTER REPAIRS

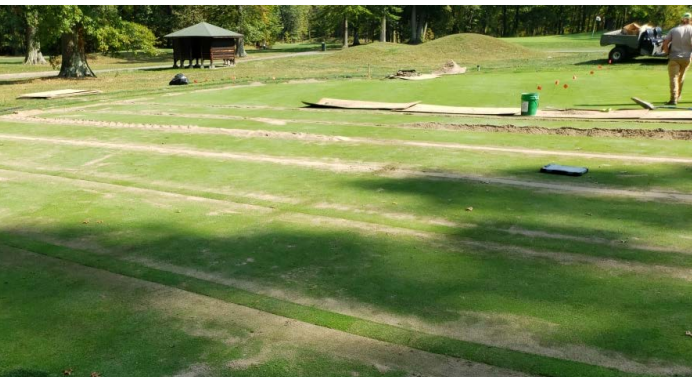
COST

\$97,186.88

FELLOWS RIVERSIDE GARDENS – SITE IMPROVEMENTS

COST

\$15,000.00



NATURAL

Resources

GOAL

Enhance Mill Creek MetroParks' management of natural resources through improved access of developed trails, opening new parks in underserved areas of the County, and incorporation of a natural resources management plan.

Canada goose management efforts were continued in 2019. Various MetroParks departments carried out Canada goose harassment efforts throughout the MetroParks using pyrotechnic launchers, lasers and the application of a repellent product at Daffodil Meadow. Following harassment activities, a nest destruction permit was obtained through ODNR. USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services was contracted to perform nest inspection and egg addling activities at these same key locations. In total, 55 nests containing 284 eggs were located – of those located, 34 nests and 173 eggs were treated (no addling took place at the Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary). The 3rd annual Canada goose count performed by the local Audubon Society produced a 2019 population count of 160 individuals throughout the park, which has remained relatively static from the 2018 count of 168 individuals. Public outreach efforts, including signage, public service announcements, brochures, enforcement and education programs were also continued to further the “Do Not Feed Wildlife” campaign throughout the MetroParks.

Efforts continued at the Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary to improve dike conditions and restore water fluctuation capabilities. In 2019, the MetroParks successfully installed two water control structures and improved over 3,800

linear feet of dike. Projects such as these improve wildlife habitat and help reduce invasive species. In October, staff and volunteers participated in the “Big Sit” event at the Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary. This annual international birding competition provides the opportunity for sites around the world to battle against each other, with participants hoping to record the highest number of bird species observed from one location within a 24-hour period. This year a total of 56 bird species were observed during this event at the Wildlife Sanctuary, ranking 1st in Ohio. Separate from the “Big Sit”, numerous volunteers contribute to an annual species count at the Sanctuary, which documents the total number of different bird species encountered at the Sanctuary for a given year. This species count for 2019 totaled 203 species, a record-setting year. The all-time species count for the Sanctuary has risen to an all-time high of 250 species.

Efforts continued this year to reduce and control non-native/invasive plants throughout areas of the MetroParks, most notably the Mill Creek Preserve and Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, where a combined 70 acres were treated. Herbicide applications and/or physical removal of undesirable species were also conducted at properties such as the Lily Pond, MetroParks Bikeway, Lanterman's Mill, Lake Newport Wetlands,

Vickers Nature Preserve, Sawmill Creek Preserve and the MetroParks Farm.

The MetroParks continued the Healthy Streams Initiative, an annual project aimed at restoring natural flow patterns and reducing erosion along Mill Creek and its tributaries. In 2019, the project focused on both Mill Creek and Indian Run, beginning at U.S. Route 224 and continuing north to the confluence of two streams. This year's project improved over 2,650 feet of stream and throughout the lifetime of this program, Mill Creek MetroParks has improved over six miles of stream.

The Lily Pond was the focus of numerous improvement projects in 2019, most notably the spring installation of a bottom diffused aeration system, which will provide a wide range of benefits to the aquatic ecosystem and help improve overall water quality. The Lily Pond also received ongoing management efforts focusing on algae treatments, invasive species treatment and invasive species removal.

LAND ACQUISITIONS

- Mill Creek Park, Anderson Run (Clean Ohio Conservation Fund) – 26.64 acres
- Mill Creek Park, Mahoning Avenue (Mahoning County Land Reutilization Corporation) – 0.17 acres

STEWARDSHIP

GOAL

Establish a long term financial and cost recovery plan for the MetroParks through effective use of the Mill Creek Park Foundation, grants, and business management practices.

METROPARKS BIKEWAY PHASE III

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) grant funding for right-of-way consultant services and property acquisition. Federal property acquisition process continued throughout the year. Grant funded at \$228,005.

COST

\$228,955

METROPARKS BIKEWAY PHASE III

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) CMAQ program grant funding for design & engineering consultant services. Construction drawings were completed. Grant funded at \$20,981.48.

COST

\$24,908.83

DISC GOLF COURSE

An Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) NatureWorks grant was received for construction of a new 18-hole challenging disc golf course and a new 9-hole beginner's disc golf course at the MetroParks Farm, introducing a new recreational use to the MetroParks. The course utilizes natural vistas, changes in topography, forested and natural areas. Grant funded at \$16,056.

COST

\$31,984.84

CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION FUND ROUND 12

A Clean Ohio Conservation Fund grant was received to acquire two (2) parcels of property totaling 26.64 acres along Anderson Run in Boardman Township. The property is comprised of forest, wetlands, floodplains and includes Anderson Run, a major tributary to Mill Creek. Grant funded at 75% - \$180,000.

COST

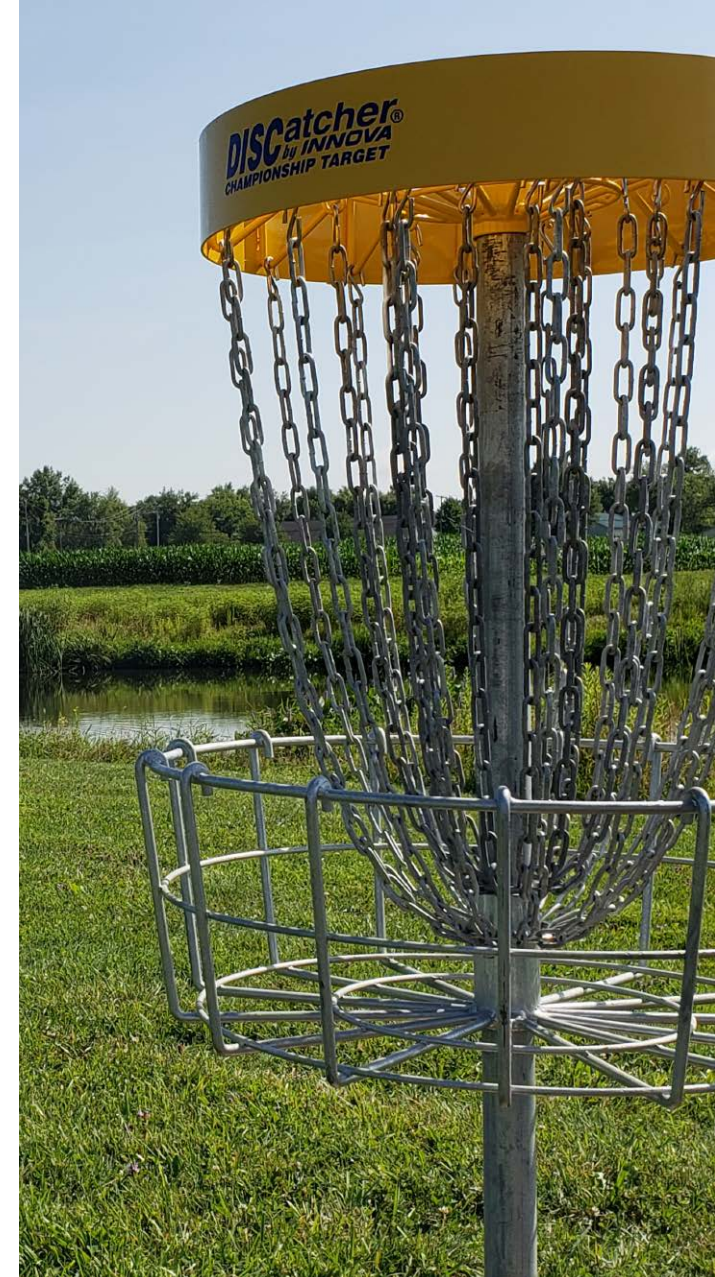
\$240,000.00

DIVIDING SYCAMORE BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Transportation Alternatives Program grant funding for improvements to the Dividing Sycamore Bridge on Bears Den Drive in Mill Creek Park. Improvements included cleaning and repointing of stone masonry, installation of underdrains and installation of erosion protection measures in Bear Creek. Grant funded at 80% - \$153,179.68.

COST

\$191,474.60



STEWARDSHIP

CONTINUED

DONORS FOR FORD NATURE CENTER RENOVATION

In 2019, the following donors have generously contributed and pledged gifts towards the \$3 million renovation of the Ford Nature Center. These donations were made through the Mill Creek MetroParks Foundation.

Volney Rogers Society (\$100,000 - Plus)

The Michael Kusalaba Fund of The Youngstown Foundation
Sand Hill Foundation
John D. Finnegan Foundation
Bruce & Nancy Beeghly
The Youngstown Foundation
The James & Coralie Centofanti Foundation
Florence Simon Beecher Foundation

Judge John Ford Society (\$25,000 - \$99,999)

Denise Debartolo-York

Lake Glacier Society (\$1,000 - \$9,999)

Trust of Aimee & Lulu Seidel
Jane F. Lamb Foundation
Bresnahan Foundation, *In memory of Michael Bresnahan & Mary Jo Olson*
Chalres Lanz
Nancy Sprockett
Tom & Katie Shipka
Craig & Anita Carson
Scott Schulick

Pioneer Society (\$100 - \$999)

Jeanne Tyler
Liberty Steel, *In memory of John Vigorito*
Ethan Tabor
Jocelyne K. Linsalata
Dr. Rick Shale
John Callery
Raymond & Kathleen Orlovsky, *In memory of Earle Pfund, Jr.*
Eva & Robert Doyle
Jeff Groezinger, *In memory of Gloria Shick*
Kaaren L. Cabraja
Carol Truitt
Mary Margaret Hovanes



Kelley & Ferraro, LLC, *In memory of Earle Pfund, Jr.*
Kate Kaiser
Lily Martuccio
Glen Gardeners
John & Trudy Agostinelli, *In memory of Joan M. Litton*
Helen Dolak
Kate Kaiser
Mike & Nancy Hripko

Friends of Ford (\$1 - \$99)

Mary Margaret Hovanes
Carol & Thomas Stellers, *In memory of Earle Pfund, Jr.*
Richard & Maria Bloom, *In memory of Earle Pfund, Jr.*
Barbara Stack, *In memory of Earle Pfund, Jr.*
IBM International Foundation
Daisy Dozen Garden Club
Canfield Chapter AARP
Susan Fullerman
Mill Creek MetroParks Employees Association, *In memory of Joan M. Litton*
Donald & Susan Pucak, *In memory of John Vigorito*
Hollis H. Corp, *In memory of Gloria Shick*

Robert & Debie Pucak, *In memory of John Vigorito*
Linda Romisher, *In memory of John Vigorito*
Lori Heilmeier, *In memory of Gloria Shick*
Victoria Honeywell
Frank & Judy Sees
Maggie Dunlap
Carol Truitt
Mary Byers, *In memory of Earle Pfund, Jr.*
Kenneth & Joan Matheny, *In memory of Gloria Shick*

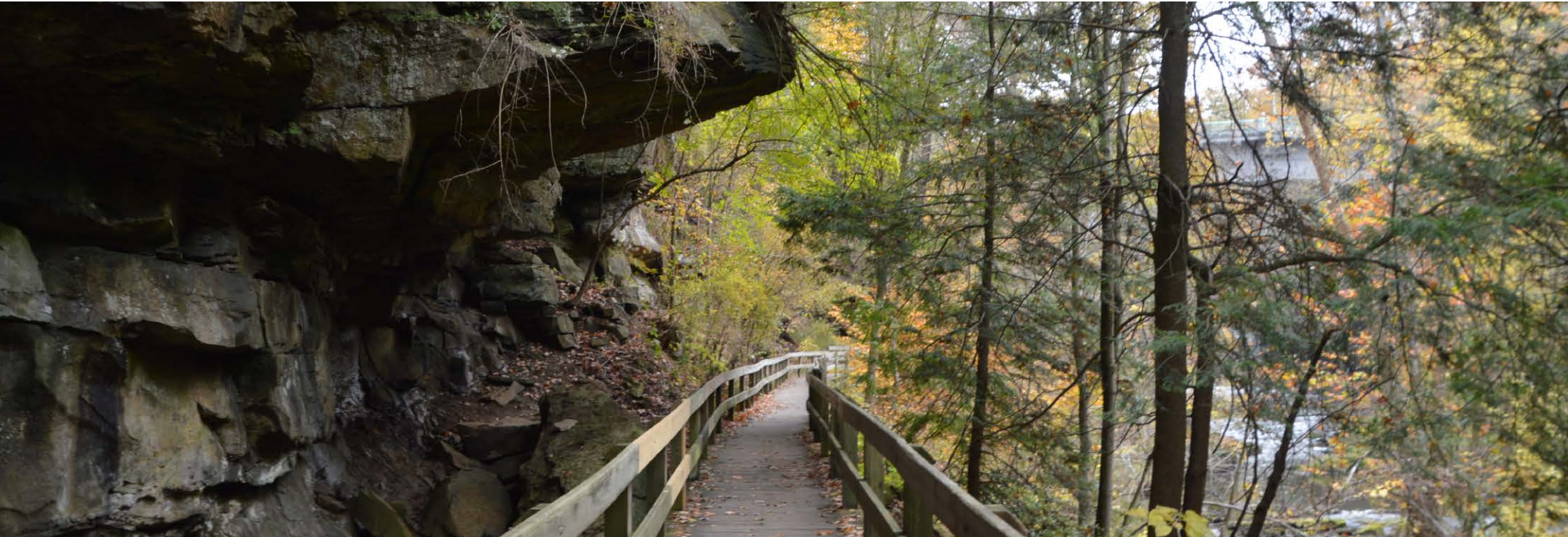
ENDOWMENT DONORS

The following donors have supported endowment funds for the perpetual care and preservation of Mill Creek MetroParks.

The Mahoning Valley Hospital Foundation
Donald Ross Society
The AJGA Foundation
Mahoning Valley Hospital Foundation

STEWARDSHIP

CONTINUED



Rocky Ridge Neighborhood Association
Sallie & David Jones
Rocky Ridge Neighborhood Association
The Garden Forum of Greater Youngstown
Attorney Ted Roberts
Donald & Jean Billy
The Columbus Foundation
John Barry
Charles & Arlene Lanz
Mary Komar
Loren & Dolores Beck
Bonnie Nichols
Susan Soklov
Marilouise Stroble Family Trust, *In memory of Calvin Stroble, Jr.*
Bruce Willner
Andrew & Lisa Weiss
Wayland & Donna Russell
John & Marie Discerni, *In memory of Calvin Stroble, Jr.*
Richard & Rebecca Hanks
Arcadia Publishing
Kathrine Rivera, *In memory of Shirley Conway*

Kendall Pim
Julie Lang, *In memory of Shirley Conway*
Dr. Thomas & Katie Shipka
Marianne Klein
Glen Gardeners
Sherry M. Carr
Shirley & John Fuscoe
Matilda W. Fischer
Kathleen S. Roof, *In memory of Calvin Stroble, Jr.*
Advanced Counseling Solutions
Brian & Lisa Fredrick
Darian Lunne, *In honor of Amy & Denis Lunne*
Karen Cabraja
Dennis J. Berry Family Trust
Sandi I. Bradley
Camille Wade
Judith A. Shaffer, *In memory of Shirley Conway*
Lee Fulton, *In honor of the Fulton Family*
Fishing Creek Herb Guild
Compass Family Services, *In memory of Calvin Stroble, Jr.*
Marie A. Lorubbio, *In memory of Calvin Stroble, Jr.*

David Seifert
George D. Reese, *In memory of Calvin Stroble, Jr.*
Thomas Kalman
Judy & Marc Minto, *In honor of Tracey & Kurt Wright*
Elayne & Lawrence Bozick
David Dastoli
Lee Fulton
David Seifert
Dr. Anthony & Mrs. Mehle
Jeffery & Tracy Mottice, *In memory of Shirley Conway*
H. Douglas & Mary Ellen Wilcox, *In memory of Lavern Gomez*
Anna Prontka, *In memory of Lavern Gomez*
Mary Brown
Mary Ann Kleese
Vonda Palcisco, *In honor of Carrie Palcisco*
Lisa Miller, *In memory of Rand Synder*
Georgette A Peters
Teresa Hanna
Elizabeth Stupp

STEWARDSHIP

CONTINUED

RENTAL FACILITY USAGE

FELLOWS RIVERSIDE GARDENS

- Auditorium – 73 rentals
- Classrooms – 103 rentals
- Ceremonies (indoors & outdoors) – 100 rentals
- Garden Café – 8 rentals
- Radius Room – 36 rentals
- Wedding Receptions – 32 rentals

METROPARKS FARM

- Classroom A – 125 rentals / 2,737 attendance
- Kenneth McMahon Hall – 224 rentals / 19,443 attendance

CABINS

- Bears Den Cabin – 142 rentals / 4,531 attendance
- Birch Hill Cabin – 278 rentals / 11,179 attendance
- Old Log Cabin – 105 rentals / 1,389 attendance

PAVILIONS

- Chestnut Hill Pavilion – 50 rentals / 3,239 attendance
- Pioneer Pavilion – 113 rentals / 4,578 attendance
- Scholl Pavilion – 54 rentals / 2,242 attendance
- Slippery Rock Pavilion – 42 rentals / 3,570 attendance

attendance

- Stitt Pavilion – 44 rentals / 2,725 attendance

attendance

- Thomas J. Bresko Pavilion – 57 rentals / 1,335 attendance

- Kirk Road Pavilion – 10 rentals / 343 attendance

YELLOW CREEK PARK

- Capt. John Struthers Pavilion – 15 rentals / 904 attendance
- Yellow Creek Lodge – 97 rentals / 5,800 attendance



STEWARDSHIP

CONTINUED

TOTAL ALL FUNDS

UNENCUMBERED CASH BALANCE January 1, 2019	\$3,302,393.27
PRIOR YEAR ENCUMBRANCES	\$821,541.81

INCOME:

General Property Tax	\$7,930,946.74
Park District Activities	1,761,530.32
ODOT Grants	468,512.99
Local Government Fund	352,358.03
Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens	344,307.38
Clean Ohio Grants	184,602.21
BWC Rebates & Grants	113,239.33
Interest	95,668.17
Gas Royalties	69,564.35
Property Insurance Reimbursements	35,155.58
Mill Creek MetroParks Foundation	27,087.82
Law Enforcement Training Revenue	4,077.50
Total Income	\$11,387,050.42

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE \$15,510,985.50

DISBURSEMENTS:

Salaries & Wages	\$5,515,189.62
Materials & Supplies	2,958,464.39
Capital Improvements	2,248,714.32
Capital Equipment	286,491.48

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$11,008,859.81

Year End Cash Balance December 31, 2019	\$4,502,125.69
Year End Encumbrances	\$896,815.79
Unencumbered Cash Balance	\$3,605,309.90

