



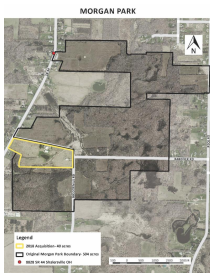
Portage Park District

November 2018 Newsletter

In the parks

Morgan Park Addition

Last month the Portage Park District completed the acquisition of a 40-acre addition to Morgan Park (now 544 acres) in Shalersville, made possible with assistance from a Clean Ohio Greenspace Conservation Fund grant. The addition is located on the corner of SR 44 and Nicodemus Road bordered by Morgan Park on the north, south and east. The property includes two streams, a pond and former agricultural buildings that will provide much-needed facilities for the Park District's equipment storage and maintenance, workshop and field offices, as well as space for hosting education programs.



Click map go to web and view full version.

"We're excited about the opportunities that this addition brings to Morgan Park and the Park District-it really sets the stage for our future", said Christine Craycroft, executive director. The District will be working on plans for the site next year and will provide opportunities for public input then. Meanwhile development of Phase II of the foot trail system through the park north of Babcock Road continues.

Tree Planting in Morgan Park

This Issue

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Park Rx

Scavenger Hunt

Click the picture to download a scavenger hunt for your next trip to the parks

Park Rx Enjoy your day with a little fun
Snap, walk, jog, jump or run
Look around for the things below
Check the box and snap a photo

Scavenger Hunt

Find these items on your trip to the park

- RED LEAF
- SQUIRREL
- SPIDER WEB
- FLOWER
- SOMETHING YELLOW
- TALL TREE
- BIRD
- WATER

Can you spot this tree?
Black Cherry Tree *Prunus serotina*
This tree is named for its spread
black cherries as well as its
black-gray, deeply furrowed bark, which
looks like black varnish painted on
the trunk of the tree.

Can you spot this owl?
Short Eared Owl *Nyctaleus*
Short eared owls can be seen in
Northern Ohio in November during
late afternoon and at night. They
have small tufts of feathers on their
heads that look like ears. Their flight
is compared to the flight of a moth, a
fluttery and buoyant quality low over
the ground.

WILDBIRDS & CHALLENGE
Take the Wild Birds Challenge
to participate just walk, hike,
jog, play, run or stroll on eight
Portage Park District trails
before December 31 Earn a
hiking staff (1st year) and a
medallion.
New hikes each year!

PORTAGE PARK DISTRICT

EcoWatch.com reports on

In October, volunteers and natural areas staff planted over 30 native flowering shrubs across from the recently planted pollinator garden at Morgan Park. A group of Serviceberry shrubs are now in place to provide spring blooms near the parking lot. Additional native tree species, including oaks, sassafras and tulip-poplar were planted in select areas of the field to provide cover and shade. Open areas created during the process of creating our new ADA trail have been seeded with native wildflowers and grasses to further improve pollinator habitat at the park.



Park improvements

Restroom installations at four locations

Thanks to levy funds, our new CXT restrooms were installed at four locations. CXT restrooms are prefabricated concrete buildings with vault non flush toilets. Installations took place at the following locations:



- Shaw Woods
- Dix Park
- Morgan Park
- Headwaters Trail, Route 700 trailhead

Restrooms will be open once they pass final inspection. Watch our website and Facebook page for official opening date.

Cuyahoga River Water Trail

Help make the Cuyahoga River an Ohio Water Trail

The Cuyahoga River Water Trail Partners (CRWTP) are seeking community and organizational support for the designation and implementation of the Cuyahoga River as an Ohio Water Trail. The Cuyahoga River would join 11 existing Ohio rivers under that designation <http://watercraft.ohiodnr.gov/watertrails>

The CRWTP, a grass-root collaborative of over 25 organizations (including Portage Park District), has been working since February 2011 to develop the concept of a Cuyahoga River Water Trail - a paddling route for the entire length of the Cuyahoga



Natural Park Rx Programs

Natural Medicine: More Doctors Prescribing Time Outdoors. [Read the article here.](#)

Notable dates

America Recycles Day

November 15

Pledge to recycle more! Learn, act and share.

[For more information, click here](#)

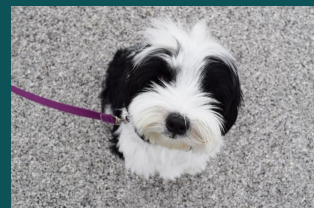
Applications available for 2019 Master Gardener Volunteer Training

Available now,
Due January 16, 2019

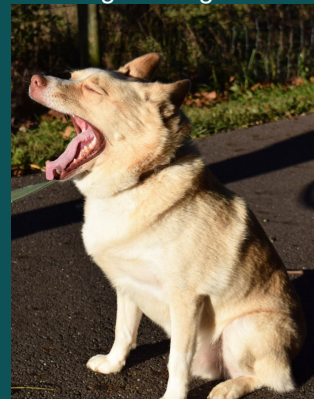
10 week training begins on January 30. Classes will be held at OSU Extension Portage County Office. [Link to application.](#)

Portage Pups

Over the last couple of weeks, we've had the opportunity to take some pictures of our furry patrons. Enjoy!



Sterling at Morgan Park



Sunny at Towner's Woods

River. [Learn more.](#)

Board of Commissioners

Deborah Petrone resigns from Park Board



The Portage Park District wants to extend its sincerest appreciation for Deborah's service on our board of commissioners. Deborah served as a park commissioner from 2014 to October of this year. She has contributed her time and talents to the Portage County community for many years and we are certain she will do the same in her new home. She leaves the board to take on new adventures out of state and to spend time with family.

Judge Berger will appoint her replacement and is seeking nominations. Check our [website](#) for application form and additional information on the Board of Commissioners.



Teddy at Seneca Ponds

Like us on Facebook



Follow on Twitter



Wild Hikes Challenge 2018 - Year of the American Beech

The theme for 2018 is the year of the American Beech to celebrate the role of this keystone species of our eastern Ohio forests, and to bring awareness to the leaf disease that has begun to affect the species in northeast Ohio.



To participate, just walk, hike, skip, jog, run or stroll on 8 of the following trails before December 31st to earn a hiking staff (1st year) and/or a 2018 Wild Hikes medallion. **[Start your challenge today!](#)**

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Visit our website | portageparkdistrict.org

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