

PORTAGE PARK DISTRICT

Monthly Newsletter



Monarch Butterfly on Goldenrod at Trail Lake Park

September 7, 2023

Greetings!

September is the perfect time to visit your Portage Parks to enjoy the sights and sounds of late summer! The insect chorus of cicadas, crickets and katydids provides the background music on the trail. Waves of bright yellow goldenrods and purple asters are a visual treat and they provide critical nectar resources for migrating monarch butterflies and late-season pollinators. Fall bird migration is underway as our days become shorter and evening temperatures cool. Some of our trees are already preparing for their fall color display.

Our new [Program Guide](#) for September-December is loaded with opportunities to learn about these phenomena, explore your Portage Parks, and connect with the natural world. Complete our [Education Program Survey](#) to help us plan for the future.

Register for your next adventure on our [Things to Do page](#).

In the Parks

Preserve Peeks: Your Opportunity to Visit Unopened Properties

The Park District has offered Preserve Peeks

since 2019 to give the public an opportunity to explore and learn about the preserve properties. Our next Peeks are this Saturday, September 9 at Kent Bog Expansion.

What is a Portage Park District Preserve?



Why Parks?

Portage Park District helps to conserve Portage County's rural character and natural heritage while creating parks and trails for all, yielding valuable environmental, social, health and economic benefits for generations to come. We have compiled a list of FAQs about the upcoming Portage Park District levy.

[Read More...](#)

Junior Ranger Pinning Ceremony

The inaugural class of Portage Park District Junior Rangers was officially commissioned by Park Ranger Michelle Lee on August 12, 2023 at Towner's Woods Park. These enthusiastic youth spent all summer learning about our local flora and fauna and the Portage Park District.

[Read More...](#)



Upcoming Programs



Tree Identification Hike

Join our very own Natural Areas Manager, Bob Lange, as he takes us on a guided hike through Towner's Woods. He'll be pointing out the trees, teaching us keys to identifying them, and emphasizing how they change through the season.

[Register here for Thursday, September 7](#)

Try our [self-guided hikes](#) at Trail Lake Park and Seneca Ponds!

All programs and events can be found on our [Things to Do page](#). Make sure you check out all the great ways to engage with nature!

Our education programs require registration - this helps us keep an optimal staff to participant ratio. Join us and learn about the natural world around us.

Upcoming Senior Hikes:
[Senior Hike - September 7](#)
[Senior Hike - September 21](#)

Visit our [YouTube channel](#).



Bring Your Own Kayak September 8 @ 8 AM

Let's start the weekend out on the water! Bring your own kayak and life jacket as we head out on Trail Lake to look for birds and other wildlife. Feel free to bring binoculars or cameras if you like!

[Register here.](#)



Zumba in the Park September 14 @ 6:30 PM

Shake your tail feathers with Sequoia Wellness as we dance Zumba together at the bottom of the sled riding hill in Towner's Woods! Wear your athletic shoes and bring some water!

[Register here.](#)



Hike With A UH Expert September 27 @ 10 PM

Join a dietitian from University Hospitals on a hike around the Meadow Trail at Morgan Park. We'll discuss various health and nutrition topics, but feel free to bring your questions for the expert!

[Register here.](#)

Portage Park District Foundation

Show Your Love for Portage Parks!

We are seeing more Portage Parks love across the county, and we want you to be part of the fun!

Get your t-shirt for just \$5.00 from the Portage Park District Foundation, available for pickup at the Park District Administration office, 705 Oakwood St., Ravenna. Please [email Eric](#) to schedule a time to pick up your shirt.



Wild Hikes Challenge

Our 2023 theme is **The Year of the Wood frog!** You'll even find some Wood frog facts on your hiking form this year.

To participate, download your [Wild Hikes form](#), and complete hikes before December 31st to earn a hiking staff and/or a 2023 Wild Hikes medallion. Dogs can earn rewards too!

Our office is open for rewards pick-ups. [Email Eric](#) to schedule a time to get your rewards.

Visit our website

