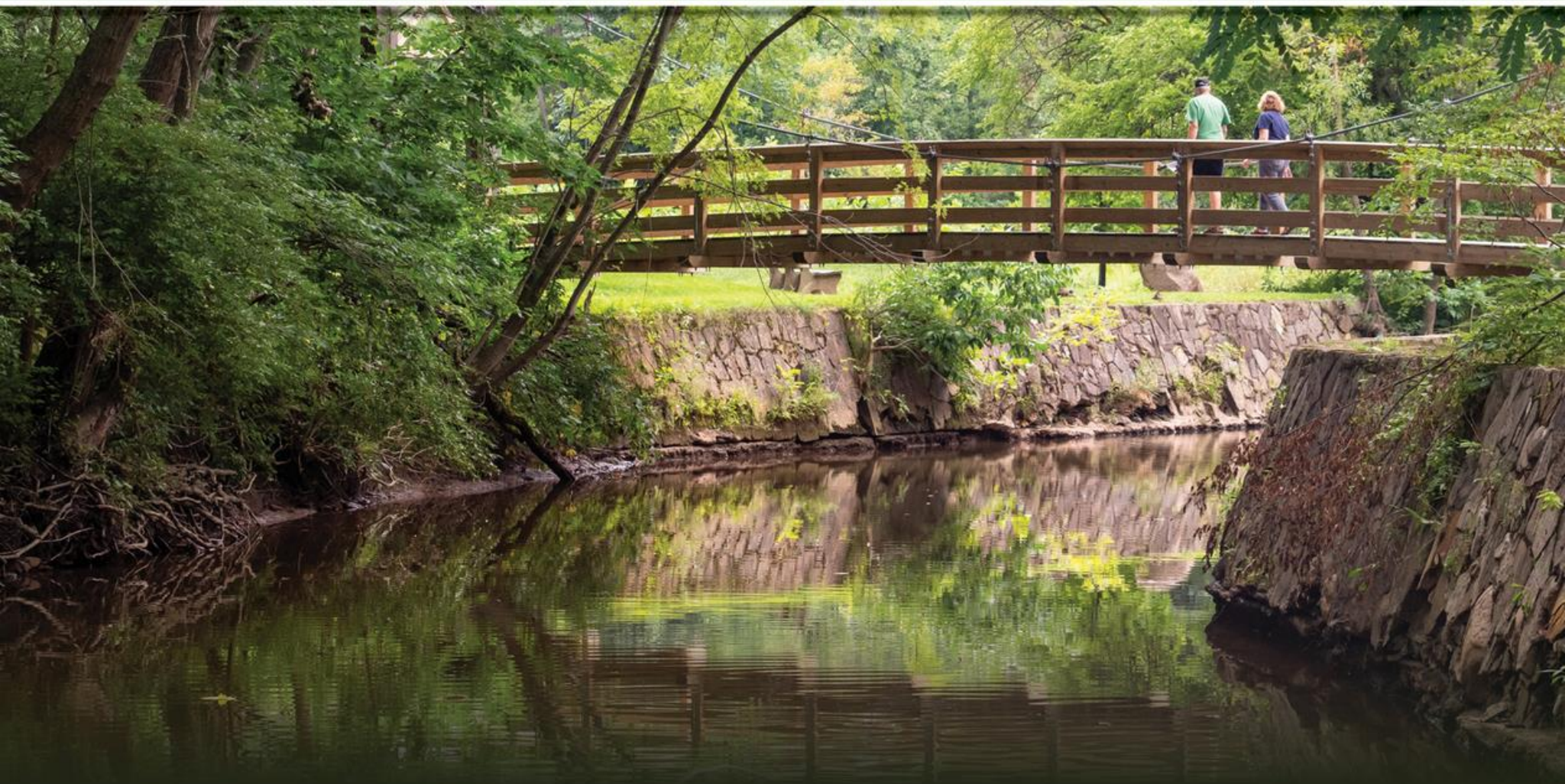




2024 Outdoor Experiences Division Highlights

Mary A. Rouse
January 16, 2025



Our Mission

Cleveland Metroparks

Protecting nature, connecting communities and inspiring conservation of our world



Outdoor Experiences Division

Connecting people with nature and the cultural history of Northeast Ohio, inspiring stewardship and promoting healthy and active lifestyles in the outdoors



Outdoor Experiences Division by the Numbers...

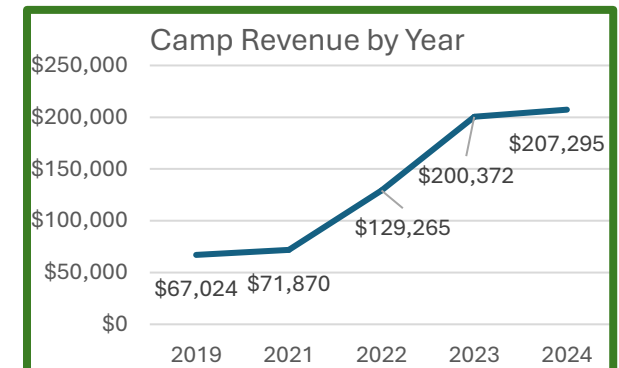
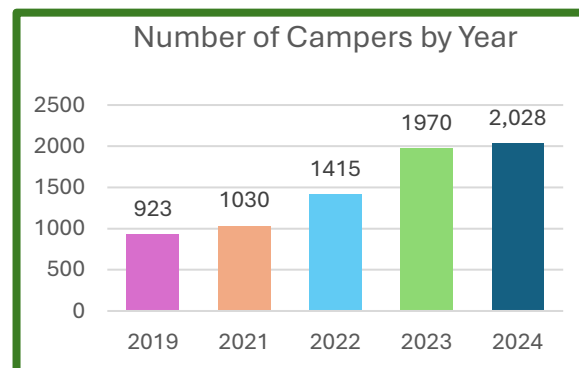
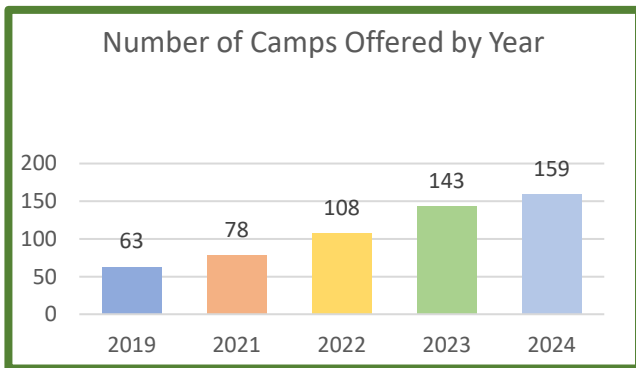
- 9 units
- 2024: 85 year-round staff, 28 seasonal staff
- 2024: 8,500+ programs and 600,000 guest experiences



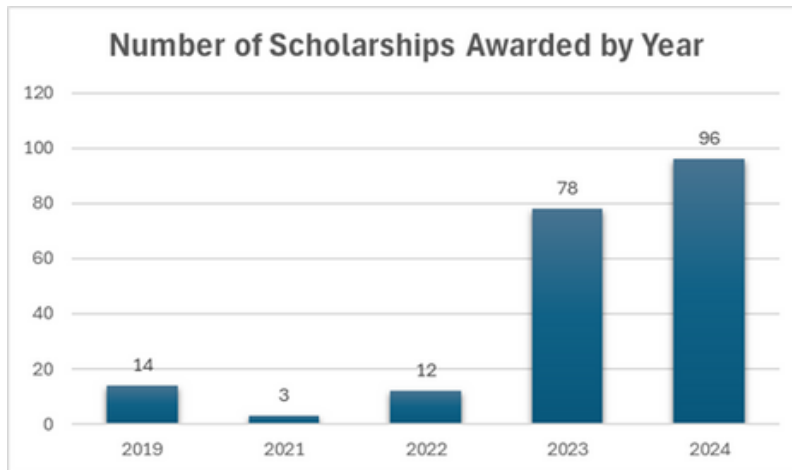
Summer Camp Expansion



**2024 Outdoor Experiences
Summer Camps**
153 Camps
1,897 Campers
13 Cleveland Metroparks Locations



Summer Camp Scholarship Initiative



Camp scholarships are available to help cover the cost of Cleveland Metroparks Summer Nature Camps. Individuals who receive aid in the form of SNAP, Medicaid or the National School Lunch Program are eligible to apply. If selected, applicants may be awarded one scholarship per summer, per child. **Scholarship spots are available in all camps regardless of registration status.**



Visit clevelandmetroparks.com/camps or scan the QR code for more information or to apply. Call 216-954-3400 or email education@clevelandmetroparks.com with questions.

Scholarships are offered through a special gift from the Cleveland Natural Science Club and other generous donors.

Euclid Beach Community Outreach

Euclid Beach STEM Adventure Camp, Year 3

6 weeks of camps

15 campers/week

4 days/week

7 hours/day



Greater Cleveland
Food Bank



CLEVELAND
PUBLIC
LIBRARY



\$237,000 Grant from IMLS

Grant will fund community outreach programming in Euclid Creek Reservation including summer camps & afterschool programming with a STEM focus.



Kids Nature Lunch & Learn



Join Cleveland Metroparks this summer to explore, learn and play games while visiting our mobile nature center! Free lunches are provided for youth ages 18 and under by the Greater Cleveland Food Bank (while supplies last). Books for youth provided by the Cleveland Book Bank.

Programs: 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Euclid Creek Reservation

Highland Picnic Area | 850 Euclid Creek Parkway

Wednesdays:

June 5, 12, 19, 26
July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
August 7

Bedford Reservation

Hemlock Creek Picnic Area | 14800 Button Road

Thursdays: (except July 4)

June 6, 13, 20, 27
July 11, 18, 25
August 1, 8

Lakefront Reservation

Lower Edgewater | 7600 Cleveland Memorial Shoreway

Fridays:

June 7, 14, 21, 28
July 5, 12, 19, 26
August 2, 9

Themes:

June:

5 – 7 Creepy Critters
12 – 14 Survival Skills
19 – 21 Geology Rocks
26 – 28 Water

July:

3 & 5 Animals in Winter
10 – 12 Water Birds
17 – 19 Wildflowers
24 – 26 Astronomy
31 Pollinators

August:

1 – 2 Pollinators
7 – 9 Nocturnal Animals



Greater Cleveland Food Bank
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

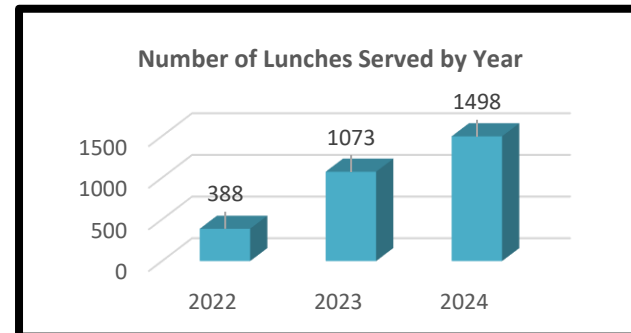
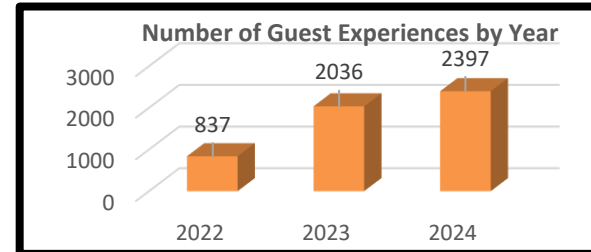
For more details, visit clevelandmetroparks.com/community or scan the QR code for more information.



KIDS' BOOK BANK



Greater Cleveland Food Bank



Youth Outdoors Fellowship Program

Spring 2024: 7 students
Fall 2024: 10 students

Age Range: 14-18 years old

Program Hours: 27 hrs. over 3 months

**Summer Employment: 4 students -
800 hrs. over 8 weeks**

\$300 stipend per student for program completion



Outdoor Recreation

**Christopher & Dana Reeve
Foundation Grant**
\$25,000 Action Track Chair



CCBDD Grant
\$5,000 GRIT Freedom Chair



Pump Track Race 2024

71 registered racers
131 attendees



Squire's Family Campout 2024

211 registered
campers




Garfield Park Nature Preschool

- Opened October 2023
 - 10 students
 - 50% scholarship/voucher
- 7 students from Cleveland, Garfield, Bedford
 - 4 days/week, 7 hours/day
- ICCP (Inclusive Child Care Program) certification from ODJFS



North Chagrin Nature Center



Cleveland
Metroparks

CURIOSITIES at the Castle

October 19 • 5 - 9 p.m.

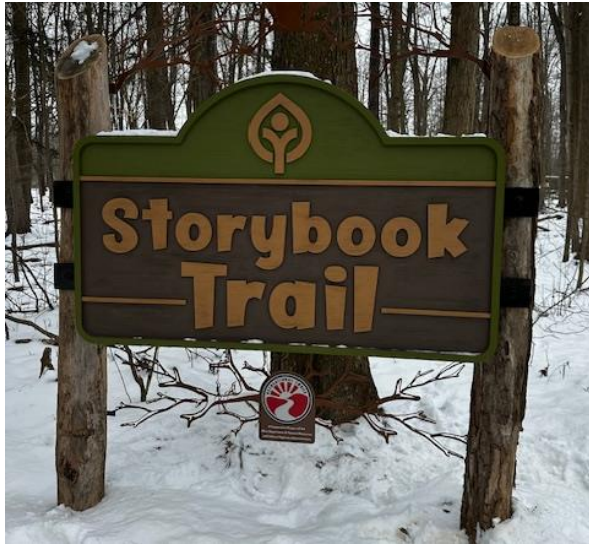
Drop by for a lantern-lit walk around and inside the iconic Squire's Castle. We will learn about misunderstood animals, roast marshmallows, and get a closer look at creepy creatures of the night. Bones, taxidermy, and all things curious lay in wait for you on this eerie autumn evening. **Free** program - costumes encouraged!

For more information call 440-473-3370
or visit clevelandmetroparks.com

Squire's Castle | North Chagrin Reservation
2844 River Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094



Rocky River Nature Center



Nature Trivia	2022	2023	2024
Attendance	244	406	332
Sessions	9	9	9



Cleveland Metroparks

Pints & Pups

October 6, 2024
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

If you are looking for a new hiking buddy or want to make connections with other dog lovers, this **FREE** event is for you.

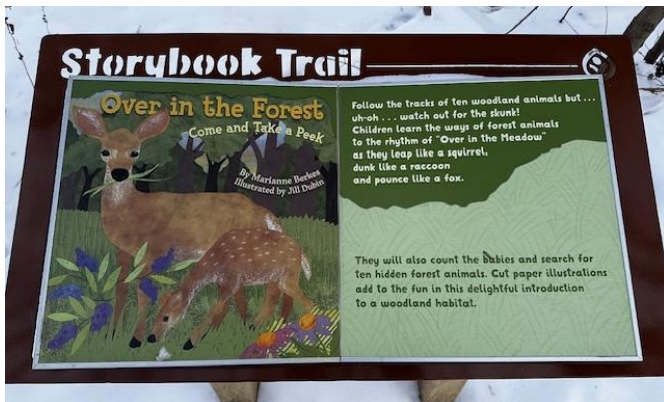
- Meet pups that need homes
- Visit with local dog-related vendors, trainers, and daycares
- Bring your dog and learn about ways to enjoy the parks with your pup*
- Refreshments for people and pets are available for purchase

*All dogs must be on a leash



Emerald Necklace Marina | Rocky River Reservation
1500 Scenic Park Dr. | Lakewood, OH 44107 | 440-734-6660

For more information and a schedule of activities go to clevelandmetroparks.com



Watershed Stewardship Center



2-year, \$10,000 NOAA Grant

Afterschool initiative brings CMSD middle schoolers to WCR 2X/month to work on a stream restoration project and be introduced to STEM careers



WSC Attendance	2019	2022	2023	2024
Number of Programs	1,057	1,162	1,158	2,053
Program Experiences	24,933	21,267	23,420	37,679
Walk-in Attendance	32,214	29,110	48,681	61,960
Roving and Building Use	5,895	3,882	6,155	8,923
Total Attendance	63,042	54,259	78,256	108,562



Division-wide Initiatives



**Native Plant Sale
Revenue by Center**

	2022	2023	2024
WSC	\$1,906	\$7,877	\$20,655
BNC	\$4,189	\$11,820	\$10,603
RRNC	\$10,207	\$17,689	\$21,592
CWC	\$2,336	\$8,820	\$11,355
NCNC	\$8,842	\$16,165	\$10,808
Total	\$27,480	\$62,371	\$75,013

Winter Waterfall Series	2023	2024
Attendance	471	344
Number of Hikes	20	28



Winter Camps	2022	2023
Number of Camps	21	18
Number of Campers	164	224
Revenue	\$5,475	\$6,665

