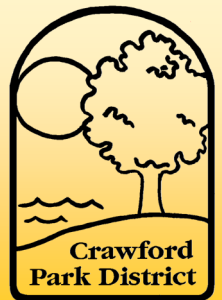


Newsletter of the
Crawford Park District
Summer 2022



LEVY IS RENEWED!

The positivity and support in the weeks leading up to the May 3rd primary election was more than evident. As the Crawford Park District sought to renew the .4 mill levy, signs of allegiance popped up across all parts of Crawford County. Then, on the first Tuesday of May, your voice was heard: You want your Crawford Park District to continue being an active part of your community! The levy renewal campaign was a countywide effort, and the CPD staff and board owe our volunteers, supporters, and voters a huge "Thank You!" for a job well done.

The positive effects of the levy renewal will continue for another ten years. Your Crawford Park District will continue to provide exceptional programming and beautiful parks for your enjoyment.

RENEWAL
VOTE "YES"

FOR THE
CRAWFORD
PARK DISTRICT

Paid for by Friends of the Park, 2401 S. R. 598, Crestline, Ohio 44827



2022 Scholarship Recipients

The Friends of the Crawford Park District is pleased to announce the recipients of the Dr. Laurie Anne Rhodebeck Memorial Scholarship: Ms. Jalyn Lyons and Ms. Brynn Pope.

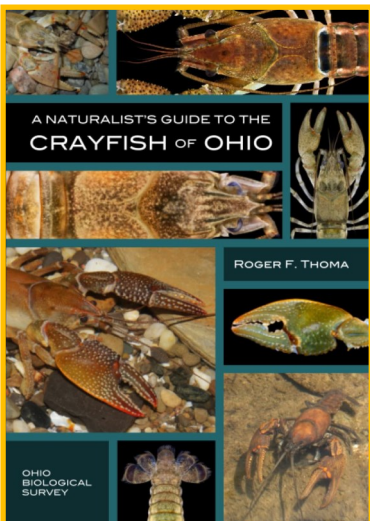
Jalyn Lyons is a graduating senior from Bucyrus High School and will be attending Bowling Green State University this fall where she will study Early Childhood Education and Special Education. While at Bucyrus, Jalyn was a member of the National Honor Society where she volunteered to help with the Bucyrus Police Department's Safety Town. She also understands the benefits of engaging children in the outdoors. "The more we have the next generation outside learning and seeing the importance of it all, the brighter future our environment will have." Jalyn also remarked in her essay of the role she sees in herself as an educator. As an elementary teacher, she wants to "teach my students the importance of our environment and how we can take care of it... I believe by teaching the youth it will help improve our environment and save it for future generations."



Brynn Pope graduated from Buckeye Central High School in 2021 and will start her second year of studies at Wilmington College this coming fall. She is studying Agriculture Education and Agronomy. While in high school, Brynn spent time assisting with the Seneca County Junior Fair Board. Currently, through the Wilmington College Agriculture Society, she volunteers as a judge for local FFA Career Development Events. From an agricultural perspective, Brynn understands "conventional farming methods are not the most eco-conscious", but advancements such as "less tilling, more efficient fertilizer application, and higher consciousness of the environmental impacts have led to great improvements" that help sustain soil health and improve our environment. As a future ag teacher, Brynn also recognizes that "the key to protecting and appreciating the incredible world that we call home is education". Her hope is to educate "children about agriculture and the environment while also equipping them with valuable life skills".

Brynn and Jalyn exemplify the goals of the CPD, by aspiring to educate others about our natural world. Congratulations, Jalyn Lyons and Brynn Pope!

The Dr. Laurie Anne Rhodebeck Memorial Scholarship is offered to two graduating seniors or currently enrolled college students. Requirements for the scholarship include demonstrating volunteer service and a written essay on what humans can do to improve, protect, and more fully experience the environment, with preference given to those in a natural resource-related course of study.



Did you know... The Blue Crayfish is likely the rarest crayfish species living in Ohio!! After searching for decades, a population was finally discovered in Monroe County two years ago. Why did they elude discovery for so many years? They spend most of their lives underground in self-constructed burrows, preferring upland wooded areas with very clean water. To learn more about Ohio's crayfish, check out the new *A Naturalist's Guide to the Crayfish of Ohio* by Roger F. Thoma.



PROGRAMS

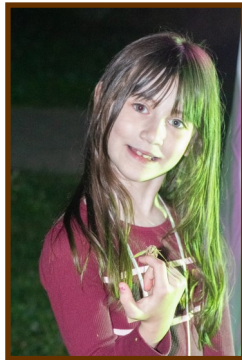
All programs are free of charge, unless otherwise noted. For more information or questions about programs, call 419-683-9000, or visit www.crawfordpd.org

June

Mothing 'til Midnight

June Date TBA 9:30pm-12am Lowe-Volk Park

Ohio is home to thousands of species of beautiful moths, most of which are nocturnal. We will use special lights to attract them to a mothing sheet, so stop in any time after dark for an up-close look at them. There will even be opportunities to hold some of the bigger moths! Watch Facebook for updates on when this event will take place since we are aiming for a warm, windless night. If you'd like to be added to a contact list for this event, please call the Park District at 419-683-9000.



Silhouette Hike

June Sunrise-Sunset All Parks

This summer be on the lookout for "animals" along the trails at all 6 of our parks. Snap a picture when you find each animal silhouette and send them to the CPD. See page 11 for more details.

Living History Days

Friday, June 3- Sunday, June 5 Lowe-Volk Park

Join Colonel Crawford's Company to step back into the 18th century. See page 11 for more details.

Nature Story Time

Tues, June 7, 14, 21, 28 10am Lowe-Volk Park

Join Miss Chelsea on Tuesday mornings throughout the summer for a story in the park! In addition to the story, we will have animal visitors and other nature activities related to the week's book. Check out our Facebook page each week for updates on what we'll be reading and who will be visiting! Nature Story Time will be held inside the Nature Center if it is raining.



Neurodiverse Nature Story Time

Thursday, June 9 10am Lowe-Volk Park

Join Miss Chelsea for a story in the park! In addition to the story, we will have animal visitors and a nature activity related to the book. This event is designed specifically for neurodiverse children and their siblings/families. Check out our Facebook page each month for updates on what we'll be reading and who will be visiting! To obtain a visual schedule of this program for your child(ren) prior to attendance, please contact Chelsea at cgottfried@crawfordpd.org. This event will be held inside the Nature Center if it is raining.

Fishing Derby

Saturday, June 11 9-11am Lowe-Volk Park

Join CPD staff and volunteers for our annual fishing derby. Children who are between the ages 5-12 can enjoy this activity at the Lowe-Volk pond. Prizes will be awarded in many categories such as biggest catch and smallest catch. You must provide your own fishing pole, tackle, and bait. Make it a family event! Registration starts at 8:30am.



Luminous Lightning Bugs

Saturday, June 11 9pm Lowe-Volk Park

Join Naturalist Abby for a night that will brighten up your life by learning about our bioluminescent summer visitors. There will be games, bug catching, and a UV light night hike to find other creatures. Glow sticks will be passed out first come, first served. Some nets and flashlights will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Weather dependent.



PROGRAMS



June

Mighty Oaks

Tuesday, June 14 6pm Schanzenbach Property
4924 Henry Cooper Road



The oak genus, *Quercus*, is the largest tree genus in North America. Aside from establishing a wonderful prairie complex, Mark Schanzenbach has also planted numerous (39)

species of oaks on his property! Join Mark to discover the diversity of oaks and their importance as a keystone species in the great ecological web.

Purple Martin Colony

Wednesday, June 15 7pm Unger Park

The Purple Martin colony at Unger Park is a full-blown success! Join Warren Uxley as he lowers the colony, and we register the achievements for the year.

Bird Walk: Summer Residents

Saturday, June 18 8am Heckert Nature Preserve

Join Land Manager and Naturalist, Kyle Bailey, for a family-friendly, fun, and informative bird walk! Spring migration is complete and summer is taking hold. Ohio summer bird residents such as Wood Thrushes, Acadian Flycatchers, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Yellow Warblers, and Baltimore Orioles have begun nesting and raising chicks! Optics are recommended. Some binoculars will be available.



Stewardship: Herbaceous Vegetation

Saturday, June 18 11am Daughmer Savannah

Join Land Manager Kyle Bailey for our monthly Stewardship Program where the focus will be on managing invasive Common Teasel in the last 74 acre remnant of the Sandusky Plains. Help us preserve and restore this rare deep soil Midwest

prairie habitat. There will be a brief introduction about stewardship and our target species before heading out into the field. Closed-toe shoes, long sleeves, and pants are required. Dress for the weather. Some gloves and loppers will be available.

Face to Face: Dragons & Damsels

Saturday, June 18 1pm Lowe-Volk Park

Come meet the dragonflies and damselflies of the park up close! We will touch/hold dragonflies and their nymphs, while learning about the life cycle of a dragonfly. Then, we'll use insect nets to go on a dragonfly hunt! Unicorn Clubtails, Comet Darners, and Turquoise & Azure Bluets should be flying this time of year.



Pollinator Hike

Monday, June 20 2pm Daughmer Savannah

Celebrate National Pollinator Week and National Hike with a Geek Day by taking a stroll with Naturalist (and nature nerd) Chelsea through the prairie. Our focus will be on observing pollinators in action—not only bees, but also beetles, butterflies, flies, moths, wasps, and even hummingbirds!

Butterfly Hike

Fri, June 24 2pm Sandusky Headwaters Preserve

Wrap-up National Pollinator Week with a butterfly hike through our newest park Sandusky Headwaters Preserve with Land Manager and Naturalist, Kyle Bailey! Butterflies are beautiful insects that are easily recognized and fun to observe. They are essential pollinators for our native flora. Ohio boasts a rich, diverse butterfly community that comprises approximately 135 different species with 44 of those species found here! This will be a slow-paced, family-friendly, fun, interactive walk intended for observing and recording butterflies. Optics are recommended. Some binoculars will be available.



PROGRAMS



June/July

Mud Day

Saturday, June 25 11am-1pm Lowe-Volk Park



Current science points to many positive attributes of playing in the dirt. Why not help the CPD celebrate International Mud Day! There will be opportunities to just

get your toes or hands muddy...or to get completely covered in mud! Jefferson Twp. Fire Department will be on hand to give you a rinse. Fun for the whole family!

Feeding Day

Sunday, June 26 1pm Lowe-Volk Park

Will it be fruits, vegetables, leafy greens, shrimp, worms, or mice? Can you guess what's on the menu for the animals in the Nature Center? Stop out to help feed some of the wildlife ambassadors that call the Nature Center home!

Archery

Sunday, June 26 2:30-4:30pm Lowe-Volk Park

Whether for sport, food, or fun, archery is a great outdoor activity that gets us away from the hustle and gadgets of life, allowing us to focus on one thing: hitting the target.



Join us for an archery shoot that will include an introduction to archery safety and shooting basics. All equipment will be provided. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Canoeing

Monday, June 27 5:30-7:30pm Neff Reservoir

Stop out for an evening paddle around Neff Reservoir. After learning some canoeing basics and

safety, you will then take to the water! Please wear shoes that can get wet. All equipment will be provided. No registration required, but it will be first come, first served.

Little Explorers: Mud Play

Thursday, June 30 5pm Lowe-Volk Park



Little Explorers is an interactive program for ages 0-5 years. Activities will focus on stimulating the senses for infants while also engaging fine motor skills for toddlers. Join Naturalist Abby and

young Vincenzo for a day of playing in the mud pit. Bring a change of clothes and a towel for after we hose them off.

Canoeing/Boating Safety

Thursday, June 30 6pm Crestline Library

As boating season gets underway, safety on the water is imperative. From weather to equipment, proper planning will ensure a fun and safe experience while boating. Join Josh for this interactive program that will delve into the basics of canoe and small watercraft safety.

Nothing 'til Midnight

July Date TBA 9:30pm-12am Lowe-Volk Park

Ohio is home to thousands of species of beautiful moths, most of which are nocturnal. We will use special lights to attract them to a mothing sheet, so stop in any time after dark for an up-close look at them. There will even be opportunities to hold some of the bigger moths! Watch Facebook for updates on when this event will take place since we are aiming for a warm, windless night. If you'd like to be added to a contact list for this event, please call the Park District at 419-683-9000.





PROGRAMS



July

Silhouette Hike

July Sunrise-Sunset All Parks

This summer be on the lookout for “animals” along the trails at all 6 of our parks. Snap a picture when you find each animal silhouette and send them to the CPD. See page 11 for more details.

Bird Walk: Summer Residents

Sat, July 2 8am Sandusky Headwaters Preserve



Join Land Manager and Naturalist, Kyle Bailey, for a family-friendly, fun, and informative bird walk! Ohio summer bird residents such as Acadian Flycatchers, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Yellow Warblers, and Baltimore Orioles have

been nesting and raising chicks! We will meet in the parking lot before heading onto the trail. Optics are recommended. Some binoculars will be available.

Stewardship: Herbaceous Vegetation

Saturday, July 2 11am Lowe-Volk Park

Join Land Manager Kyle Bailey for our monthly Stewardship Program where the focus will be on managing invasive herbaceous vegetation. There will be a brief introduction about stewardship and our target species before heading out into the field. Closed-toe shoes, long sleeves, and pants are required. Dress for the weather. Some gloves and loppers will be available.



Dragonfly ID Hike

Saturday, July 2 2pm Lowe-Volk Park

Dragonflies and damselflies are magnificent predators that display amazing aerial skills and deadly, precise hunting tactics. They are diverse in

their shape, size, color, appearance, and preference for habitat. There have been over 160 species documented in Ohio! Join Land Manager and Naturalist, Kyle Bailey, for a family-friendly, fun, interactive, program to learn about these fascinating creatures! We will venture out to the pond, wetland, and river in search of these exciting insects! Make sure to wear appropriate clothing and shoes (conditions may be wet). Insect nets will be available, and cameras are welcome!



Nature Story Time

Tues, July 5, 12, 19, 26 10am Lowe-Volk Park

Join Miss Chelsea on Tuesday mornings throughout the summer for a story in the park! In addition to the story, we will have animal visitors and other nature activities related to the week’s book. Check out our Facebook page each week for updates on what we’ll be reading and who will be visiting! Nature Story Time will be held inside the Nature Center if it is raining.



Neurodiverse Nature Story Time

Thursday, July 7 10am Lowe-Volk Park

Join Miss Chelsea for a story in the park! In addition to the story, we will have animal visitors and a nature activity related to the book. This event is designed specifically for neurodiverse children and their siblings/families. Check out our Facebook page each month for updates on what we’ll be reading and who will be visiting! To obtain a visual schedule of this program for your child(ren) prior to attendance, please contact Chelsea at cgottfried@crawfordpd.org. This event will be held inside the Nature Center if it is raining.



PROGRAMS



July/August

Animal Extravaganza

Saturday, July 9 12-3pm Lowe-Volk Park



Animal lovers are in for a treat! Come experience snakes, salamanders, turtles, invertebrates, and much more. Various pet owners will be on hand to answer your questions and to allow you to hold and touch when appropriate. Get your face painted! Do a kid's activity! A great family event you won't want to miss! Food concessions will be available.

Archery

Wed, July 13 5:30-7:30pm Lowe-Volk Park



Whether for sport, food, or fun, archery is a great outdoor activity that gets us away from the hustle and gadgets of life, allowing us to focus on one thing: hitting the target. Join us for an evening archery shoot that will include an introduction to archery safety and shooting basics. All equipment will be provided. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Feeding Day

Sunday, July 24 1pm Lowe-Volk Park

Will it be fruits, vegetables, leafy greens, shrimp, worms, or mice? Can you guess what's on the menu for the animals in the Nature Center? Stop out to help feed some of the wildlife ambassadors that call the Nature Center home.

Harvey Schoolhouse Prairie

Sunday, July 24 2pm Harvey School

Caldwell Rd. 1 Mile East of SR 4

Creating a prairie habitat is a long process that is

fraught with unexpected challenges and complications. Warren Uxley has spent years building a tallgrass prairie at the Harvey One Room Schoolhouse and will be sharing the successes and analyzing the problems he has encountered during this project.

Canoeing

Sunday, July 24 3-5pm Neff Reservoir

Stop out for a late afternoon paddle around Neff Reservoir. After learning some canoeing basics and safety, you will then take to the water! Please wear shoes that can get wet. All equipment will be provided. No registration required, but it will be first come, first served.



Little Explorers: Wetland Exploration

Thursday, July 28 5pm Lowe-Volk Park

Little Explorers is an interactive program for ages 0-5 years. Activities will focus on stimulating the senses for infants while also engaging fine motor skills for toddlers. Join Naturalist Abby and young Vincenzo for a small hike back to the wetland where we will use nets and check traps to explore the habitat and see what we can find.

Nothing 'til Midnight

August Date TBA 9:30pm-12am Lowe-Volk Park

Ohio is home to thousands of species of beautiful moths, most of which are nocturnal. We will use special lights to attract them to a mothing sheet, so stop in any time after dark for an up-close look at them. There will even be opportunities to hold some of the bigger moths! Watch Facebook for updates on when this event will take place since we are aiming for a warm, windless night. If you'd like to be added to a contact list for this event, please call the Park District at 419-683-9000.

PROGRAMS

August

Silhouette Hike

August Sunrise-Sunset All Parks

This summer be on the lookout for “animals” along the trails at all 6 of our parks. Snap a picture when you find each animal silhouette and send them to the CPD. See page 11 for more details.

Nature Story Time

Tues, Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 10am Lowe-Volk Park

Join Miss Chelsea on Tuesday mornings throughout the summer for a story in the park! In addition to the story, we will have animal visitors and other nature activities related to the week’s book. Check out our Facebook page each week for updates on what we’ll be reading and who will be visiting! Nature Story Time will be held inside the Nature Center if it is raining.

Bird Walk: Fall Migration

Saturday, August 6 8am Daughmer Savannah

Join Land Manager and Naturalist, Kyle Bailey, for a family-friendly, fun, and informative bird walk! Summer may be winding down, but fall migration is starting to pick up. Shorebird migration is at its peak in August, and as we get later into the month other species such as warblers, flycatchers, thrushes, and orioles begin to move. We should expect to see prairie species such as sparrows and meadowlarks, among others. Optics are highly recommended. Some binoculars will be available.



Stewardship: Woody Vegetation

Saturday, August 6 11am Unger Park

Join Land Manager Kyle Bailey for our monthly Stewardship Program where the focus will be on managing invasive woody vegetation such as Honeysuckle, Autumn-Olive, and Glossy Buckthorn. There will be a brief introduction about stewardship and our target species before heading out into the

field. Closed-toe shoes, long sleeves, and pants are required. Dress for the weather. Some gloves and loppers will be available.

Dragonfly ID Hike

Saturday, August 6 2pm Unger Park



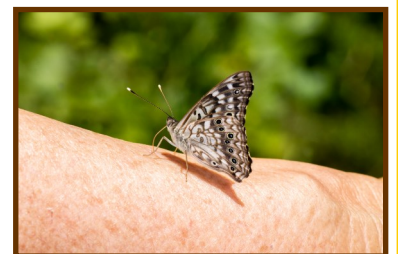
Dragonflies and damselflies are magnificent predators that display amazing aerial skills and deadly, precise hunting tactics. They are diverse in their shape, size, color, appearance, and preference for habitat. There have been over 160 species documented in Ohio! Join Land Manager and Naturalist, Kyle Bailey,

for a family-friendly, fun, interactive, program to learn about these fascinating creatures! We will venture out to the pond and wetland in search of these exciting insects! Make sure to wear appropriate clothing and shoes (conditions may be wet). Insect nets will be available, and cameras are welcome!

Butterfly Hike

Sunday, August 7 1pm Daughmer Savannah

Join Land Manager and Naturalist Kyle Bailey for a butterfly hike at Daughmer Savannah! Butterflies are beautiful insects that are easily recognized and fun to observe. They are essential pollinators for our native flora. Ohio boasts a rich, diverse butterfly community that comprises approximately 135 different species. This will be a slow-paced, family-friendly, fun, interactive walk intended for observing and recording butterflies. Optics are recommended. Some binoculars will be available. Ohio butterfly checklists will be provided to all attendees.



PROGRAMS

August

Ohio Orchids

Tuesday, August 9 6pm Lowe-Volk Park

Ohio is home to nearly 50 species of orchids, two of which can be found growing right here in our park! We have some nice populations of Downy Rattlesnake Plantain as well as a few newly discovered specimens of Cranefly Orchid, which has never been recorded in Crawford County before. Join Chelsea in the Nature Center for a short photographic presentation about our native orchids. We'll then head out on the trails to see our orchids in bloom.



Canoeing

Wed, August 10 5:30-7:30pm Neff Reservoir



Stop out for an evening paddle around Neff Reservoir. After learning some canoeing basics and safety, you will then take to the water! Please wear shoes that can get wet. All equipment will be

provided. No registration required, but it will be first come, first served.

Neurodiverse Nature Story Time

Thursday, August 11 10am Lowe-Volk Park

Join Miss Chelsea for a story in the park! In addition to the story, we will have animal visitors and a nature activity related to the book. This event is designed specifically for neurodiverse children and their siblings/families. Check out our Facebook page each month for updates on what we'll be reading and who will be visiting! To obtain a visual schedule of this program for your child(ren) prior to attendance, please contact Chelsea at [cgottfried@crawfordpd.org](mailto:cgottfried@ crawfordpd.org). This event will be held inside the Nature Center if it is raining.

Water Carnival

Sat, August 13 11am-2pm Lowe-Volk Park

The Water Carnival is a great way to appreciate the importance of water in an ecosystem and also to have a great time getting wet during water games! There will be fire trucks, an inflatable ball that floats on the water, a slip and slide, water balloons, and much more! Come ready to get wet and have fun with the entire family!



Face to Face: Wetland Creatures

Saturday, August 20 10am Lowe-Volk Park



Tadpoles, frogs, turtles, watersnakes, diving beetles, dragonfly nymphs, fishing spiders... meet these creatures and more as we explore and dip net the wetland at our park. This will be an interactive program, so be prepared to get wet!

Little Explorers: Nature Playscape

Thursday, August 25 5pm Lowe-Volk Park

Little Explorers is an interactive program for ages 0-5 years. Activities will focus on stimulating the senses for infants while also engaging fine motor skills for toddlers. Join Naturalist Abby and young Vincenzo for a program exploring the features of the natural play area at the park.

Did you know...

Crickets and katydids are our late summer songsters? They produce sound through stridulation from their wings. Katydid and crickets hear their singing counterparts with their tympana, which are located on their front legs.

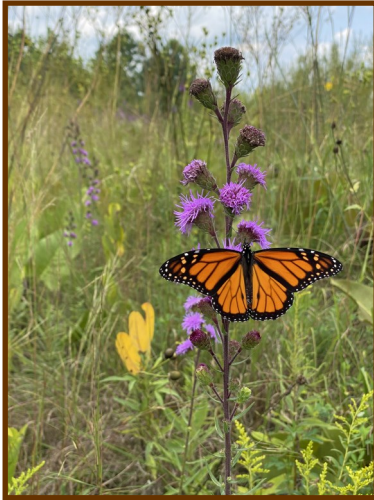
PROGRAMS

August

Butterfly Hike

Friday, August 26 1pm Lowe-Volk Park

Join Land Manager and Naturalist Kyle Bailey for a butterfly hike at Lowe-Volk Park! Butterflies are beautiful insects that are easily recognized and fun to observe. They are essential pollinators for our native flora. Ohio boasts a rich, diverse butterfly community that comprises approximately 135 different species. This will be a slow-paced, family-friendly, fun, interactive walk intended for observing and recording butterflies. Optics are recommended. Some binoculars will be available.



Caterpillar Crawl

Friday, August 26 7pm Lowe-Volk Park

Join CPD staff for an end of summer caterpillar crawl! Caterpillars are not only important for their ability to metamorphose into pollinators such as butterflies and moths, but they also serve an essential function



as a food source for many different species of animals such as birds, parasitic wasps, and spiders! With over 3,000 species of

butterflies and moths found in Ohio there are ample opportunities to find caterpillars. We will meet inside the Nature Center for a brief discussion about caterpillars and to observe some live specimens up close before heading out on the trail! Flashlights or UV lights are highly recommended. Some flashlights and UV lights will be available.

Annual CPD Shorebird Fall Migration Field Trip Saturday, August 27 8am Killdeer Plains

Although it seems spring migration has just finished, fall migration has already begun! The first migratory shorebirds began their southbound journey in late June with numbers picking up in July. By August, shorebird migration is in full swing! Join CPD staff for our first annual shorebird field trip to Killdeer Plains in Wyandot County to search for migratory shorebirds! We will meet in the parking lot at Lowe-Volk Park before carpooling to our destination. Optics are recommended. Some binoculars will be available.



Feeding Day

Sunday, August 28 1pm Lowe-Volk Park

Will it be fruits, vegetables, leafy greens, shrimp, worms, or mice? Can you guess what's on the menu for the animals in the Nature Center? Stop out to help feed some of the wildlife ambassadors that call the Nature Center home.

Daughmer Savannah

Sunday, August 28 2pm Daughmer Savannah

Warren Uxley will offer a guided tour of Daughmer State Nature Preserve. Daughmer is a remnant of one of North America's most endangered ecosystems: the Bur Oak Savannah. This is a time of year that will reveal many of the colorful plants of Daughmer.

Archery

Sunday, August 28 2:30-4:30pm Lowe-Volk Park

Whether for sport, food, or fun, archery is a great outdoor activity that gets us away from the hustle and gadgets of life, allowing us to focus on one thing: hitting the target. Join us for an archery shoot that will include an introduction to archery safety and shooting basics. All equipment will be provided. Call the Park District at 419-683-9000 to register.

Take Part in the Silhouette Hike!!!

This summer be on the lookout for “animals” along the trails at all 6 of our parks. Snap a picture when you find each animal silhouette and send them to the CPD by email (webmaster@crawfordparkdistrict.org) or messenger. Once you let us know you found all 6 animals, you’ll receive a button of your favorite animal silhouette. You will also be entered into a drawing for a prize basket that includes a coupon for early camp registration/no wait for registration for your immediate family! Each month the animals will make a move to a new spot in the park, giving you the opportunity to have your name entered into the drawing 3 times! There is an additional large silhouette that will be lurking about the different parks. If you capture a picture of this big “animal”, you will receive an additional button! Silhouettes can be found starting June 1st at Lowe-Volk Park, Sandusky Headwaters Preserve, Unger Park, Heckert Nature Preserve, Sears Woods, and Daughmer Savannah. Contact the Crawford Park District office at 419-683-9000 for further questions.



Living History Days, June 3-5 @ Lowe-Volk Park

Take a step into colonial times at Living History Days! Along with scheduled presentations and reenactments, there will be kids games, tomahawk throwing, fur trade demonstrations, cooking demonstrations, and much more! You won’t want to miss this great family event!

Friday, June 3, 2022

8-10pm Lantern Tour

Saturday, June 4, 2022

9am Opening Ceremony/Flag Raising

10am Shequonur, Native Storyteller

11am Capture of Colonel Crawford

12pm Lunch break

1pm The Hair Buyer

2pm "Do Not Forget the Ladies"

3pm Capture of Colonel Crawford

4pm Event closes to the public

Sunday, June 5, 2022

10am Event opens

Saturday schedule repeats

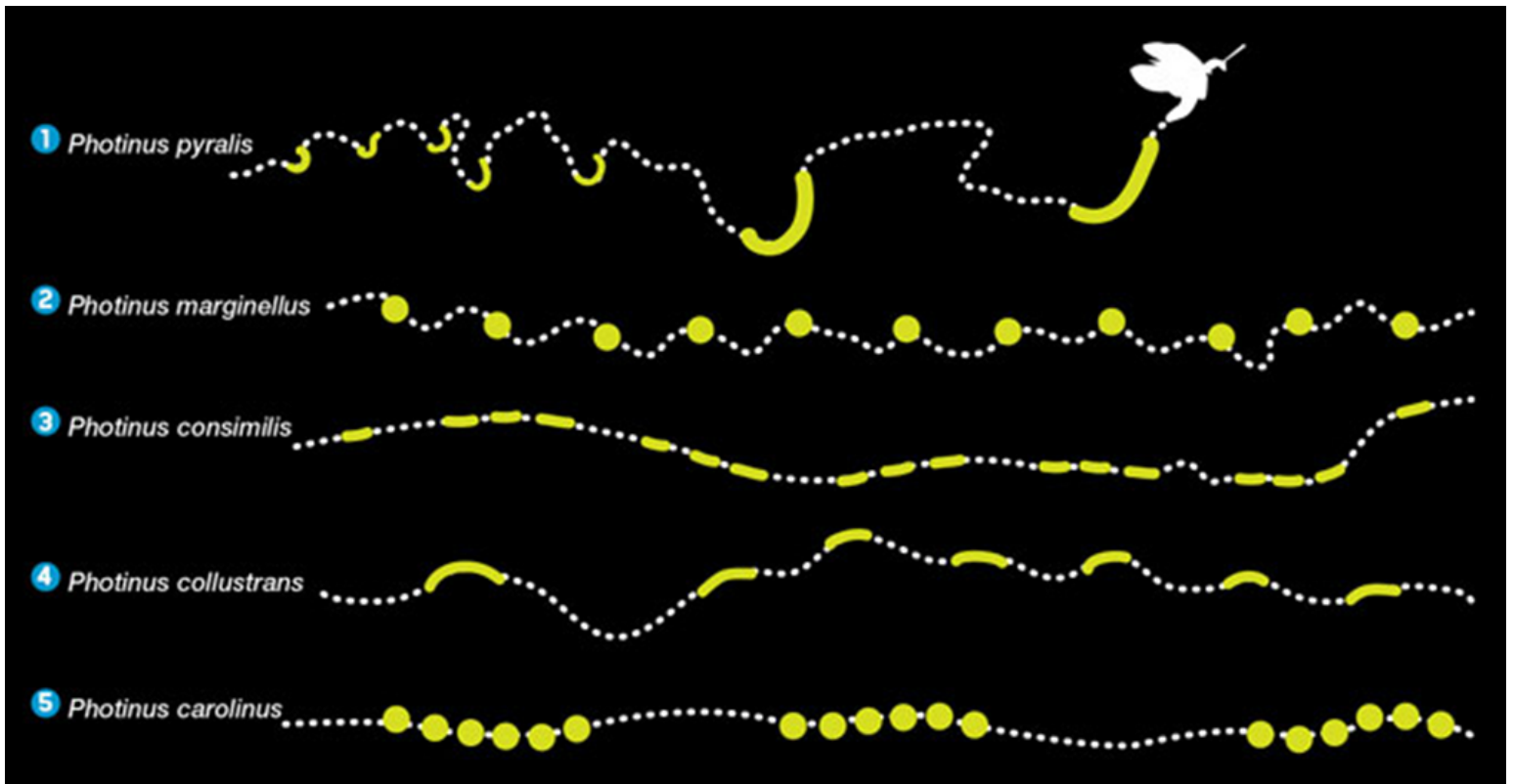


Lighting up the Night: Lightning Bugs

By Abby Ditomassi

One of the first signs that summer is approaching is the appearance of yellow-green blinking lights hovering all over our backyards. What child has not welled up with excitement at the sight and grabbed their glass jars and nets to go discover what is making those glowing lights? But do you really know all about what you were catching? You have heard of them by many names: fireflies, lightning bugs, or glowworms. So, wait, what is it then? A fly? A true bug? A worm? No! None of these at all. Lightning bugs belong to a family of **insects** called Lampyridae in the order of **beetles** called Coleoptera. Insects are covered in an exoskeleton, have 3 body parts (head, thorax, abdomen), 6 jointed legs, 2 compound eyes, and a pair of antennae. The presence of the front pair of wings hardened into wing cases that meet in a line down the middle of the abdomen, called elytra, are what makes them distinguishable as beetles. Like other beetles, lightning bugs go through a complete metamorphosis: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. In mid-summer, females deposit about 100 eggs in the soil which hatch out worm-like larvae in about 3 weeks. The larvae hunt for critters in the soil and overwinter for one or two winters before pupating. Three weeks after pupating, the adults emerge and live for about a month. You may think that only the adult lightning bugs glow, but all stages are bioluminescent!

So, how and why do the beetles glow? Most lightning bug species have dedicated light organs that are located under their abdomen which take in oxygen. Inside special cells, the oxygen combines with a substance called luciferin to produce light. It first evolved as an honest warning signal, as the lightning bugs contain distasteful chemicals in their bodies, but also became established in some of the adult species as a signal to attract mates. In our most common North American species, the males are seen flying, emitting special flash patterns (see diagram below); the flightless females are signaling with a flash nearby on the ground. But not all lightning bugs have romance on the mind; female lightning bugs of the genus *Photuris* mimic the flash pattern of *Photinus* species to attract and trap their males as prey. They are not necessarily hungry, but they seek to steal special toxins from the *Photinus* species that will ultimately help protect them from being predated on by animals like spiders! To learn more about these bioluminescent beetles, join Naturalist Abby for an interactive Lightning Bug program on June 11 at 9pm at Lowe-Volk Park. (See page 3 for program description.)



(Figure shows the different flash patterns of selected firefly species.)

Crawford Park Astronomy Club

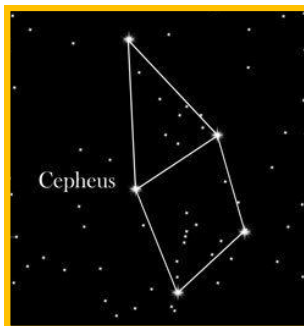
The Astronomy Club will meet on the 4th and 5th Saturday of every month 30 minutes after sunset. Please dress for the weather. On rainy or cloudy nights, the meeting will be held in the Nature Center.

Cepheus



When asked to name one of the 88 modern constellations, Cepheus is not one that immediately comes to mind, but it is one of the original 48 listed by Ptolemy. It was named after the king of Aethiopia in Greek mythology. The king was the father of Andromeda, and he was married to Cassiopeia. Both Andromeda and Cassiopeia

are constellations that can be viewed in the night sky as well. When connecting the 5 main stars of Cepheus, the image resembles a child's drawing of a house. Throughout the year, the "house" will rotate from standing upright, to being on its side, and even being upside down. Cepheus has a quasar which contains an ultra-massive black hole in its center. Thought to be about 10,000 times more massive than the black hole of the Milky Way, it is currently one of the most powerful known objects in the universe. Two of the largest stars known to the Milky Way are VV Cephei and Mu Cephei, which can be found in Cepheus. Mu Cephei is nicknamed the "Garnet Star" due to its enormous size and color. Since Cepheus is circumpolar, it can be viewed in the northern sky year-round. When trying to find Cepheus, first look for Polaris (The North Star) and Cepheus will be near.



Upcoming

Full Moons

June 14
July 13
August 11

Meteor Showers

Delta Aquarids - July 28-29
Perseids - August 12-13

Meeting Dates



June 25	9:00 pm
July 23	9:00 pm
July 30	9:00 pm
August 27	8:30 pm



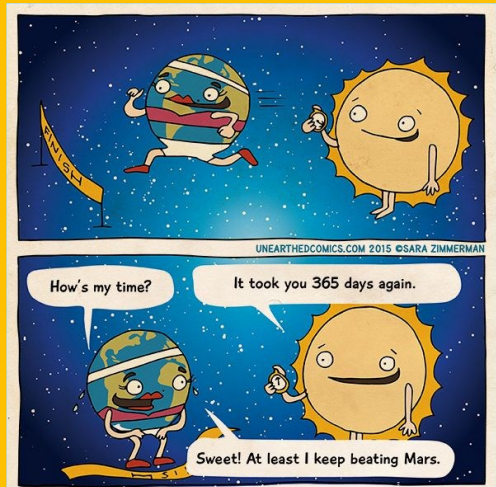
Targets for Summer

- **Regulus** – brightest object in Leo, about 79 light years away, actually 4 stars rotating around each other, and Regulus A (one of the stars) is 4 times the size of our sun.
- **Arcturus** – "Guardian of the Bear" is 36.7 light years away, 25 times bigger than our sun, shines 170 times brighter, and the 4th brightest star in the sky.
- **Corvus** – also known as the Crow constellation.
- **Sombrero Galaxy (M104)** – 29 light years away, 1/4 the size of our Milky Way Galaxy, over 100 billion stars, and estimated to have 2000 globular clusters.
- **Great Cluster (M13)** – found in the Hercules constellation, globular cluster, beautiful group of stars 22,000 light years away, these stars are so close to each other they can collide and form blue stragglers, and these appear to be younger than others in the cluster.
- **M4** – a globular cluster about 7,175 light years away making it the closest globular to earth.
- **Milky Way Galaxy** – we will show you the center and explain its structure.

Plus, lots more!

An additional opportunity to view the night sky!

June 18 at 9:30pm at Brownella Cottage 132 South Union St. Galion, Ohio



Thank you to the following who have donated to the Friends of the Crawford Park District:

February 8, 2022 through May 4, 2022



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Janet Spraw & Betty Ulmer
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Where Are They Now?

Hi, my name is Caitlin Harley, and I was a recipient of the Dr. Laurie Anne Rhodebeck Memorial Scholarship back in 2019. This scholarship meant a lot to me because Lowe-Volk Park was my outlet as a kid. It's where I felt most connected to the earth and met other like-minded individuals. I was either visiting the park with my family or doing the summer day camps. All of this led to my growing interest and passion for the outdoors! Josh Dyer easily became one of my first role

models because he made me realize outdoor jobs are so fulfilling, and I wanted to be a part of that.

Furthermore, getting this scholarship supported my decision to go to Hocking Technical College for a two-year degree in Ecotourism and Adventure Leadership. Within that time I gained so much knowledge, skills, training, and certifications to build my confidence as an outdoor professional. I have gotten the chance to work for many summer camps since graduation. However, I recently just landed a job for the Cleveland Metroparks Outdoor Recreation Department. Overall, I can confidently say the opportunities and connections I now have are endless!



(Note from Josh: I remember Caitlyn received a “Common Dragonflies and Damselflies of Ohio Field Guide” during Nature Camp one year. Later that summer, her mother brought her back to the Nature Center. Caitlyn approached me with a sheepish look, holding a ragged, worn guide in her hand. “I’ve been using this so much that I can’t read many of the pages. Can I get a replacement?” Well, any kid that is gonna beat up a field guide through use deserves another! It fills my heart to know that what we do at the CPD has a positive impact on the futures of our program participants.)

Spring Bird Banding



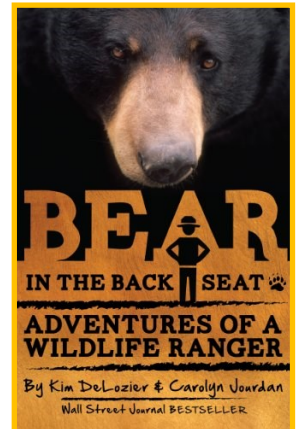
Our annual spring bird banding was a success with 40 birds getting banded, representing 15 species. Bob Placier and staff were busy non-stop from the time nets were opened (6:45am) until

they were closed (1:00pm). The highlight came at closing time when a Mourning Warbler was captured. While not a rare bird, Mourning Warblers are very secretive, skulking around on the ground amid dense brush. Gray Catbirds were the most numerous species banded: 12 in total! Other numbers include: 6 Northern Cardinals, 4 American Goldfinches, 3 Red-eyed Vireos, and 2 each of Swainson’s Thrush, Song Sparrow, House Wren, and Baltimore Oriole.

Book Club

Calling all book lovers! The CPD Book Club is looking for new members to join. Each month we will read and discuss a book that relates to the flora and fauna of nature. Fiction, non-fiction, comedies, tragedies, mysteries, classics, all types are welcomed and enjoyed. Come on out with a book of your choice, join in the discussion, and enjoy book of the month-themed snacks like trail mix, huckleberries, and even bear claws!

Meeting Dates:
June 29, 6pm
July 27, 6pm
August 31, 6pm



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 2401 State Route 598
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Trails Newsletter



Crawford Park District Abbreviated Calendar

Park/Program Location Key:

LVP (Lowe-Volk Park); **UP** (Unger Park); **HNP** (Heckert Nature Preserve); **UP** (Unger Park);
SHP (Sandusky Headwaters Preserve); **DS** (Daughmer Savannah); **SP** (Schanzenbach Property);
Neff (Neff Reservoir); **CL** (Crestline Library); **HS** (Harvey Schoolhouse)

Date	Program	Time	Park	Wed. July 13	Archery	5:30pm-7:30pm	LVP
June 3-5	Living History Days	Times vary	LVP	Sat. July 23	Viewing the Night Sky	9pm	LVP
June 7,14,21,28	Nature Story Time	10am	LVP	Sun. July 24	Feeding Day	1pm	LVP
Thur. June 9	Neurodiverse Nature Story Time	10am	LVP	Sun. July 24	Harvey Schoolhouse	2pm	HS
Sat. June 11	Fishing Derby	9am-11am	LVP	Sun. July 24	Canoeing	3pm-5pm	Neff
Sat. June 11	Luminous Lightning Bugs	9pm	LVP	Wed. July 27	Book Club	6pm	LVP
Tues. June 14	Mighty Oaks	6pm	SP	Thurs. July 28	Little Explorers: Wetland	5pm	LVP
Wed. June 15	Purple Martin Colony	7pm	UP	Sat. July 30	Viewing the Night Sky	9pm	LVP
Sat. June 18	Bird Walk: Summer Residents	8am	HNP	Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Nature Story Time	10am	LVP
Sat. June 18	Stewardship	11am	DS	Sat. Aug. 6	Bird Walk: Fall Migration	8am	DS
Sat. June 18	Face to Face: Dragons & Damsels	1pm	LVP	Sat. Aug 6	Stewardship	11am	UP
Mon. June 20	Pollinator Hike	2pm	DS	Sat, Aug. 6	Dragonfly ID Hike	2pm	UP
Fri. June 24	Butterfly Hike	2pm	SHP	Sun. Aug. 7	Butterfly Hike	1pm	DS
Sat. June 25	Mud Day	11am-1pm	LVP	Tues. Aug. 9	Ohio Orchids	6pm	LVP
Sat. June 25	Viewing the Night Sky	9pm	LVP	Wed. Aug. 10	Canoeing	5:30pm-7:30pm	Neff
Sun. June 26	Feeding Day	1pm	LVP	Thurs. Aug. 11	Neurodiverse Story Time	10am	LVP
Sun. June 26	Archery	2:30pm-4:30pm	LVP	Sat. Aug. 13	Water Carnival	11am-2pm	LVP
Mon. June 27	Canoeing	5:30pm-7:30pm	Neff	Sat. Aug. 20	Face to Face: Wetland	10am	LVP
Wed. June 29	Book Club	6pm	LVP	Thurs. Aug. 25	Little Explorers: Playscape	5pm	LVP
Thurs. June 30	Little Explorers: Mud Play	5pm	LVP	Fri. Aug. 26	Butterfly Hike	1pm	LVP
Thurs. June 30	Canoeing/Boating Safety	6pm	CL	Fri. Aug. 26	Caterpillar Crawl	7pm	LVP
Sat. July 2	Bird Walk: Summer Residents	8am	SHP	Sat. Aug. 27	Fall Migration Field Trip	8am	Meet at LVP
Sat. July 2	Stewardship	11am	LVP	Sat. Aug. 27	Viewing the Night Sky	8:30pm	LVP
Sat. July 2	Dragonfly ID Hike	2pm	LVP	Sun. Aug. 28	Feeding Day	1pm	LVP
July 5, 12, 19, 26	Nature Story Time	10am	LVP	Sun. Aug. 28	Daughmer Savannah	2pm	DS
Thurs. July 7	Neurodiverse Nature Story Time	10am	LVP	Sun. Aug. 28	Archery	2:30pm-4:30pm	LVP
Sat. July 9	Animal Extravaganza	12pm-3pm	LVP	Wed. Aug. 31	Book Club	6pm	LVP