



Friends of the Gorman Nature Center Newsletter

Richland County Park District

Summer 2017 Vol 36, No 2

GORMAN NATURE CENTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS - SUMMER 2017

F-S	June 2-3		Time & Optics 5th Annual Optics Fling - www.timeandoptics.com/5th-annual-optics-fling/
S-S	June 3-4		Richland Lithic & Lapidary Society Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Bead & Fossil Show @ The Richland County Fairgrounds: www.rlls.webs.com
Wed	June 7	9 & 10	Moms & Kids (For parents and their pre-school children, sessions 9-10 and 10-11 am, each-and-every Wednesday.) See page 2 for details. (AK & JL)
Sat	June 10	9-12 pm	Invasive Species Removal Workshop (Wild Parsnip & Teasel) - meet at GNC. (KB)
Thu	June 15	1-3 pm	Creative Writing in the Outdoors - 10 week series. See page 2 for details. (AK)
Sat	June 17	7:30 am	Birds & Breakfast Bird Walk - meet at GNC. (JL)
Thu	June 22	1:30 pm	Summer Nature Walk for Seniors (AK, KB, JL or SM)
Mon	June 26	9:30 pm	The Night Sky - monthly telescope program at GNC - only if the sky is clear. (JL)
Fri	June 30	6:30 pm	Yoga In The Park @ GNC - See page 2 for details.
Sat	July 15	10-4 pm	Ohio Amphibian & Reptile Festival - See page 5 for details.
Sat	July 15	9:30 pm	Magnificent Moths! - Call 419-884-3764 or see page 6 for details. (JL)
Thu	July 20	1:30 pm	Summer Nature Walk for Seniors (AK, KB, JL or SM)
Fri	July 21	6:30 pm	Yoga In The Park @ GNC - See page 2 for details.
Fri	July 21	9:30 pm	Owl Prowl - Call 419-884-3764 or see page 6 for details. (JL)
Sat	July 22	7:30 am	Birds & Breakfast Bird Walk - meet at GNC. (JL)
Sat	July 22	9-12 pm	Invasive Species Removal Workshop (Woody Shrubs) - meet at GNC. (KB)
Sat	July 22	9:30 pm	Magnificent Moths! - Call 419-884-3764 or see page 6 for details. (JL)
Wed	July 26	9:30 pm	The Night Sky - monthly telescope program at GNC - only if the sky is clear. (JL)
Sun	July 30	2-5 pm	Steve McKee Retirement Open House @ Gorman Nature Center
F-S	Aug 4-6	All Day	3rd Annual Richland County Park District Pollinator Festival! See pgs. 3 & 5 for details.
S-S	Aug 6-12		The Richland County Fair! Come visit us at the fair! See page 5 for details.
Sat	Aug 12	7:30 am	Birds & Breakfast Bird Walk - meet at GNC. (JL)
S-S	Aug 12-13		GNC Perseid Meteor Shower Overnight! - Call 419-884-3764 or see page 6 for details.
Sat	Aug 12	9:30 pm	Magnificent Moths! - Call 419-884-3764 or see page 6 for details. (JL)
Sun	Aug 13	1:00 pm	Gardening w/ Native Plants / Pollinator Program & Field Trip to Natives In Harmony Nursery - Call 419-884-3764 for details!
Thu	Aug 17	1:30 pm	Summer Nature Walk for Seniors (AK, KB or JL)
Fri	Aug 18	9:00 pm	Owl Prowl - Call 419-884-3764 or see page 6 for details. (JL)
Sat	Aug 19	3:00 pm	Ohio Natural Areas and Preserves Association (ONAPA) 5th Annual Banquet & Meeting. See onapa.org for details.
Wed	Aug 23	9:00 pm	The Night Sky - monthly telescope program at GNC - only if the sky is clear. (JL)
Fri	Aug 25	6:30 pm	Yoga In The Park @ GNC - See page 2 for details.
Sat	Aug 26	9-12 pm	Invasive Species Removal Workshop (Woody Shrubs) - meet at GNC. (KB)
Sat	Sept 23	10:00 am	Ohio Natural Areas and Preserves Association (ONAPA) Field Trip Event – Seed Collecting at Guy Denny's Prairie. See onapa.org for details.
Sat	Sept 23	2-5 pm	GNC All Taxa Biotic Inventory (ATBI) - Call 419-884-3764.
Sat	Sept 23	8:00 pm	The Night Sky - monthly telescope program at GNC - only if the sky is clear. (JL)
Sat	Sept 30	9-12 pm	Invasive Species Removal Workshop (Woody Shrubs) - meet at GNC. (KB)

All programs free to the public unless noted. (AK = Amanda Kriner, KB = Kyle Bailey, JL = Jason Larson, SM = Steve McKee)

Green Newsletter

If you would prefer an email version of the newsletter to save paper and postage, please email us at gormannaturecenter@gmail.com. Thanks.

Invasive Species Removal Workshops

Saturday, June 10, July 22, August 26 & September 30
from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - All Dates

Are you interested in learning more about the non-native, invasive plants in our area and how to combat them? A short informational session, with examples of invasives you might encounter in our area, will be followed by some hands-on invasive removal in our fields and prairies. Our spring workshop sessions will focus on the removal of garlic mustard, wild parsnip, common teasel and woody shrubs such as autumn olive, multiflora rose, Japanese Barberry, privets and honeysuckles. Extra pruners and shovels will be needed. Bring work gloves! Call 419-884-3764 for details!

STEVE MCKEE RETIREMENT OPEN HOUSE @ GNC

Sunday, July 30 - 2-5 p.m.

After 39 years, the founder of the Gorman Nature Center, Steve McKee, will be retiring. In 1978 Steve started the GNC for the Richland County Park District and served as its director for 35 years until 2013. Since then he has worked part-time. During that time, Steve and Merrill Tawse started the nature programs for school children and the weekly public programs, which have been presented to hundreds of thousands of people. Steve was instrumental in creating the Richland B&O Trail, acquiring additional acreage for the park district, and spearheading the "new" earth-friendly visitor center. Steve has spoken to about 1/4 million people over his years at GNC.

CREATIVE WRITING IN THE OUTDOORS

10 week series - Thursdays from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. June 15th - August 24th, 2017 - Ages 10-18

This class will be a chance for kids who are interested in getting their creative juices flowing! It will be great opportunity for students who love to write and want more practice, as well as students who don't usually enjoy classroom style writing projects, to get outside and do something fun. We will use nature as an inspiration for building stories, creating poems, expanding vocabulary and more! Students should dress for the weather as each session will be outside and bring their own writing journals and other writing materials. There is no cost for this program, but registration is required as there will be a limit on class size. Please call GNC at 419-884-3764 to register or if you have any questions.

YOGA IN THE PARK @ GNC

Friday, June 30, July 21 and August 25 - 6:30 p.m.

This summer, join Evolve- barre yoga pilates, LLC, at the Gorman Nature Center, for Yoga in the Park! Learn the art of yoga from skilled instructors while enjoying the calm of nature. If you can't make it don't worry! Fee is a donation to GNC. This is a monthly summer series and will occur June through August! For additional information call (419) 884-3764.

Animal Feeding Day

Thurs., May 4 - Thurs., Oct. 26 from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Have you ever wondered about how we take care of all of the GNC educational animals? If so, then join us each-and-every Thursday for Animal Feeding Day! GNC has over 40 native animals, used for display and educational purposes, and it takes a lot of work to keep them happy and healthy. This is an opportunity for kids of all ages to get up-close-and-personal with all of our animals. Participants will help with the feeding of the animals, assist with cage cleaning and changing water bowls and much more. This is also an excellent chance for some hands-on time with snakes, turtles, frogs, toads and salamanders. For more information call GNC at 419-884-3764.

GNC MOMS & KIDS

Wednesdays - 9:00 & 10:00 a.m.

Join us each-and-every Wednesday for GNC's Mom's & Kids program! Each weekly program is designed for parents and their pre-school aged children. There are two, identical sessions, one from 9:00-10:00 a.m. and one from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Sessions are free and open to the public. Program content varies from week-to-week, focuses on a nature-related topic and is delivered in a manner appropriate to pre-school aged children. Prior to each session, we send out an update to let parents know what the upcoming session will be about, remind kids to bring nature-related show-and-tell items, what to wear, etc. For more information or to inquire about being added to our email listing, please call 419-884-3764.

**Save
The
Dates!**

Lots of things to do!

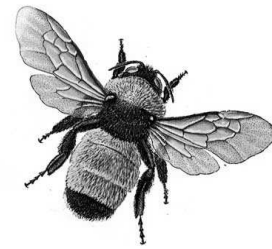
- Workshops
- Nature Hikes
- Speakers
- Vendors
- Live Butterfly Display
- Native Ohio
Pollinator Plants
for Sale—Natives
In Harmony
- Photography Contest
- Visit the Pollinator
Gardens &
Prairies!

For more information call:

419-884-3764

Richland County Park District Pollinator Festival

Join us for the 3rd Annual Richland County Park District Pollinator Festival. All events will be held at Gorman Nature Center. This event is free and open to the public! Events begin Friday evening and continue throughout the weekend!



**August 4-6, 2017
[Friday-Sunday]**

**Gorman Nature Center
2295 Lexington Avenue
Mansfield, OH 44907**

Friends of Gorman Nature Center

Support the Friends of Gorman Nature Center

Supporting the Friends of GNC is an investment.

Donations and sponsorships from the Friends of Gorman Nature Center are vital for sustaining the excellent opportunities that our staff offers to the public.

Schools

FOGNC donations allow the RCPD to offer free educational programs for schools in Richland County year round. The GNC staff receives field trips at the nature center and will also travel to schools to teach in-class.

Public

FOGNC funds assist in maintaining the GNC trails and the B&O Bike Trail for public enjoyment year round. Our staff also offers over 100 programs every year to the public free of charge. These programs include excellent opportunities for educational field trips and lectures from experts in their fields. Without FOGNC sponsors we would not be able to provide these unparalleled free opportunities to the public.

Conservation

FOGNC donations are also used to protect and maintain park district land. The RCPD's desire is to keep our land in pristine condition for the enjoyment of the public for years to come.

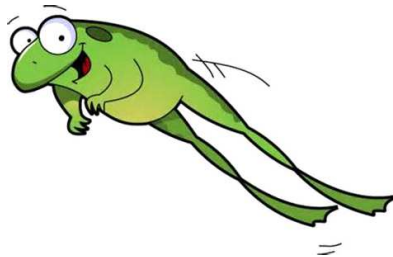
The Richland County Park District is dedicated to introducing and interpreting our region's natural heritage to the citizens of Richland County.

The Richland County Park District operates two primary facilities: The Gorman Nature Center and the Richland B&O Bike Trail.

Both of these properties are supported by funds from the Friends of the Gorman Nature Center which is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

HOP TO IT!

Become a Richland County Park District Volunteer Today!!



With all of the land, trails and activities that the RCPD oversees, it is impossible to do everything without the help of our amazing crew of dedicated volunteers. If you are willing to volunteer your time and talent with us then we would love to have you join our volunteer family. RCPD volunteers have flexible hours as well as a variety of duties to choose from, including docents, program presenters, indoor and outdoor maintenance, trail work, invasive species removal, nature center greeters, special events and much more!

Call us at 419-884-3764 or email us at: gormannaturecenter@gmail.com for more information!

THE NIGHT SKY

Monday, June 26 [9:30 pm], Wednesday, July 26 [9:30 pm], Wednesday, August 23 [9:00 pm]

Come learn a bit about the moon and stars, view some constellations and planets, take home a free star chart and have all of your astronomical questions answered. Participants should be able to see some really awesome constellations, some planets, (like Jupiter, Saturn and Venus) and maybe even a few galaxies! Telescopes and binoculars will be available for use, but please feel free to bring your own. These programs will be held ONLY if the sky is clear. If the program is canceled, please inquire about our astronomy email list, as we may attempt another evening each month if the weather does not cooperate. What could be more fun than an evening of astronomy at Gorman Nature Center? Participants will meet at the GNC visitors center. Call 419-884-3764 for details!

Ohio Amphibian and Reptile Festival

Saturday, July 15 from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Do you have questions about what species of snakes are found in Richland County? Do native turtles really spread diseases? Are there any venomous snakes in our area? Have you ever held a live snake, turtle, frog or salamander? Come have all of your questions answered, see many of the native species we have here at GNC and even interact with these amazing creatures. Free ODNR amphibian and reptile guides will be provided for all participants. The schedule for the day will be as follows:

10:30 - 11:30 - Snakes of Richland County
12:30 - 1:30 - Turtles of Richland County
2:30 - 3:30 - Frogs, Toads and Salamanders of Richland County

These programs will take place at Gorman Nature Center. For additional information call GNC at 419-884-3764.

RCPD @ The Richland County Fair!

Sunday, August 6 - Saturday, August 12

Visit the Richland County Park District at the Richland County Fair! The RCPD will be present at the Nature Park all week long with displays, educational animals, handouts, etc. Come talk with the RCPD staff and volunteers and find out all that the park district has to offer you! We will also have two special presentations at the Nature Park this year: Snakes of Richland County [August 8 @ 4:00 pm] and Turtles of Richland County [August 11 @ 3:00 pm]. Staff and volunteers will be present at the RCPD booth from 3:00 - 7:00 pm throughout the entire week! The Nature Park and Nature Barn will be open daily from 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Interested in volunteering at the RCPD booth? Free admission to the fair for volunteers! Volunteers will be responsible for 2 hour shifts. [3:00-5:00 p.m. or 5:00-7:00 p.m. Give us a call at 419-884-3764 for details!

Richland County Park District Pollinator Festival

Friday, August 4, 7:00-9:00 pm; Nothing Program, Friday, August 4, 9:30 pm - 12:00 am; Saturday, August 5 & Sunday, August 6, 9 am - 4 pm

Please join us for our 3rd Annual RCPD Pollinator Festival! Come learn all about the importance of our native pollinators including, butterflies, moths, hummingbirds, bees and wasps. There will be a wide variety of hikes and programs on pollinator identification, workshops on planting native plants to attract pollinators and more. Native plants will be available for purchase from Natives in Harmony. Come to the kick-off event Friday evening to visit the vendors and vote on the photo contest entries. Visit the All A Flutter Live Butterfly exhibit all week leading up to the festival! Call 419-884-3764 for additional details!

I am eager to help support natural history education in Richland County and to receive your quarterly newsletter. Please enroll me in "Friends of the Nature Center" at the following level for one year:

Name _____
Address _____

Phone (optional) _____

Enclosed is my membership donation for \$ _____
(please make checks payable to "Friends of the Nature Center")

Please clip and send to:

Friends of the Nature Center
2295 Lexington Ave.
Mansfield OH 44907

_____ \$2.00 Fledgling (student)
_____ 5.00 Cardinal (individual)
_____ 10.00 Flock (family)
_____ 25.00 Owl (supporting)
_____ 50.00 Hawk (sponsoring)
_____ 100.00 Eagle (sustaining)

Owl Prowls

Friday, July 21 at 9:30 pm
& Friday, August 18 at 9:00 pm

Ever wonder what happens at Gorman Nature Center after dark? Here is your chance to find out. Join the GNC staff for an evening owl prow! Come to GNC to learn all about our local owls, see an owl up close and personal and then hike out into the woods to “hoot and holler” for our resident owl species! Dress for the weather and bring a flashlight. Fun for the entire family!

Perseid Meteor Shower Overnight

Saturday-Sunday, August 12-13: 9:00 pm - 6:30 am

The Perseid meteor shower is one of the brightest meteor showers to occur in the Northern Hemisphere. Join us at GNC for a night of astronomy and star gazing, as we settle down and try to see as many meteors as we possibly can. While we wait, we will take the time to look for planets, constellations, galaxies and much more during the evening and early morning. Best viewing times for the meteors will be early morning. Bring sleeping bags and plan on spending the evening! Early morning viewing will be followed by a hearty breakfast, featuring apple cider doughnuts from Apple Hill Orchard! The inclement weather dates will be August 13-14. Call us at 419-884-3764 for additional details.

GNC Junior Naturalist Series

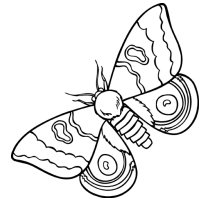
Ages 6-11: June 21, July 18 & July 25
Ages 12-18: June 20, June 21, July 18 & July 25

This summer’s series will be a little bit different than we have ever done before and will give students a chance to interact with different educators and see new environments in a fun and adventurous way! Sessions will include: fishing, orienteering, canoeing, high ropes course and nighttime adventures! The cost of registration for this four-part series is \$30 which includes the cost of instructors, materials and two meals. Please call 419-884-3764 to register no later than June 16 or for times and additional information.

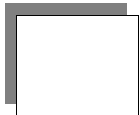
Magnificent Moths!

Saturday, July 15, Saturday, July 22 and
Saturday, August 12 from 9:30 pm - 12:30 am

Did you know that Ohio is home to over 3,000 species of moths? Come search for moths of all colors, shapes and sizes at the Gorman Nature Center this summer! We will use black lights, UV and vapor lamps, sheets and bait traps to attract a wide variety of moth species. Bring a camera and a lawn chair and prepare to be amazed! For more information, please call GNC at 419-884-3764. Don’t miss out on all of the fun!



A red X in the box at the right means that it is time to renew your “Friends of the Nature Center” membership. Thanks for your support!



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