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AVON WETLANDS, MILLER NATURE PRESERVE, AVON

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



TO THE CITIZENS OF LORAIN COUNTY

12882 DIAGONAL ROAD, LaGRANGE, OH 44050 | 440.458.5121 | [WWW.LORAINCOUNTYMETROPARKS.COM](http://WWW.LORAINCOUNTYMETROPARKS.COM)

# ABOUT

## YOUR LORAIN COUNTY METRO PARKS

*The Lorain County Metropolitan Park District was established in 1957 by the Lorain County Probate Court. Under the provisions of Chapter 1545 of the Ohio Revised Code, Lorain County Metro Parks is a special district operating as a separate political subdivision of the State of Ohio. The Metro Parks provide residents with the preservation of open space, conservation, education, outdoor recreation programs, and facilities.*

*Funding for the Metro Parks is provided primarily by a 1.6 mill county-wide property tax levy. Other sources of income include grants, gifts and bequests, along with fees generated from the Forest Hills Golf Course, Kopf Family Golf Course at Cherry Ridge, Splash Zone, Miller Nature Preserve, Amherst HealthPlex, and facility rentals.*

## BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

*The Board of Park Commissioners is responsible for policy and fiscal oversight. The Director/Secretary is responsible for the daily management of the Metro Parks. The Lorain County Metro Parks staff is comprised of 77 full-time and 13 year-round, part-time employees, supplemented by up to 183 seasonal staff members in the summer months. Fourteen members of the Metro Parks' ranger staff are certified Ohio Peace Officers. The rangers are responsible for public safety in the Metro Parks and are also assigned park maintenance and supervisory duties. Other staff members conduct educational programming and special event activities in the park district.*



**JAMES E.  
ZIEMNIK**

*DIRECTOR/SECRETARY*



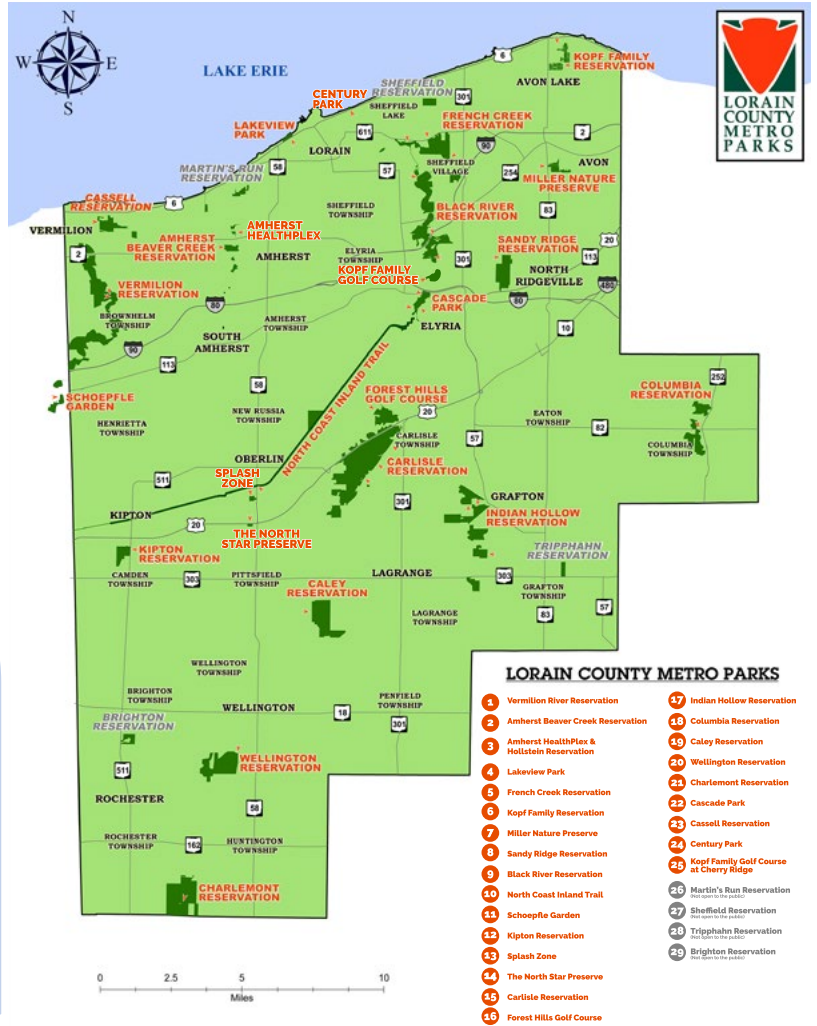
**JAMES T.  
WALTHER**

*PROBATE COURT JUDGE*

118 MILES OF  
MULTIPURPOSE

ROUGHLY  
**145**  
MILES OF TRAILS

27 MILES OF  
DESIGNATED WATER



**SHERRILL M.  
McLODA**



**JOSEPH E.  
HRIBAR**



**KENNETH M.  
LIEUX**

*Lorain County Metro Parks is governed by a three-member Board of Park Commissioners, who are appointed by the Lorain County Probate Court Judge and serve without pay.*

# THE TEAM

## OF THE LORAIN COUNTY METRO PARKS

SEVENTY-SEVEN  
FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES

77

INCLUDING: SEVEN NATURALISTS

7

FOURTEEN SERVICE RANGERS

14

*The entire Metro Parks team consists of full-time, part-time, and seasonal employees along with our immense volunteer population in a typical year.*

THIRTEEN  
PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

13

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-THREE  
SEASONAL EMPLOYEES

183

## FRIENDS OF THE METRO PARKS IN LORAIN COUNTY

VOLUNTEERS



= x 100

278

Friends Members in 2022

HOURS DONATED  
in 2022



= x 1,000

162

People volunteered their time

9,466

Hours were volunteered



*Seasonal staff member giving a wildlife demonstration*



*Outdoor Experiences Manager Bev Walborn giving a wildlife demonstration*



*Sr. Naturalist Matt Kocsis giving a presentation*



*Seasonal staff member helping at Bubble Day*



*Conservation Supervisor Chris Grame leading a hike at Wellington Reservation*



*Friends of the Metro Parks volunteers*

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## FROM THE YEAR 2022

### CAPITAL/MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

- **BLACK RIVER RESERVATION** •

- *Bridgeway Trail's bridge re-decking completed*

- **CARLISLE RESERVATION** •

- *Implementation of new computer software (CivicRec) for program registrations and facility reservations*

- **CASCADE PARK** •

- *New playground at Elywood, ribbon-cutting ceremony held on July 29*

- **FOREST HILLS GOLF COURSE** •

- *Flood clean-up*
- *More drainage repaired and replaced*

- **HOLLSTEIN RESERVATION** •

- *Construction of new roof over therapy pool in the Amherst HealthPlex*

- **MILLER NATURE PRESERVE** •

- *Avon Wetlands opened to the public, ribbon-cutting ceremony held on September 8*

- **MISCELLANEOUS** •

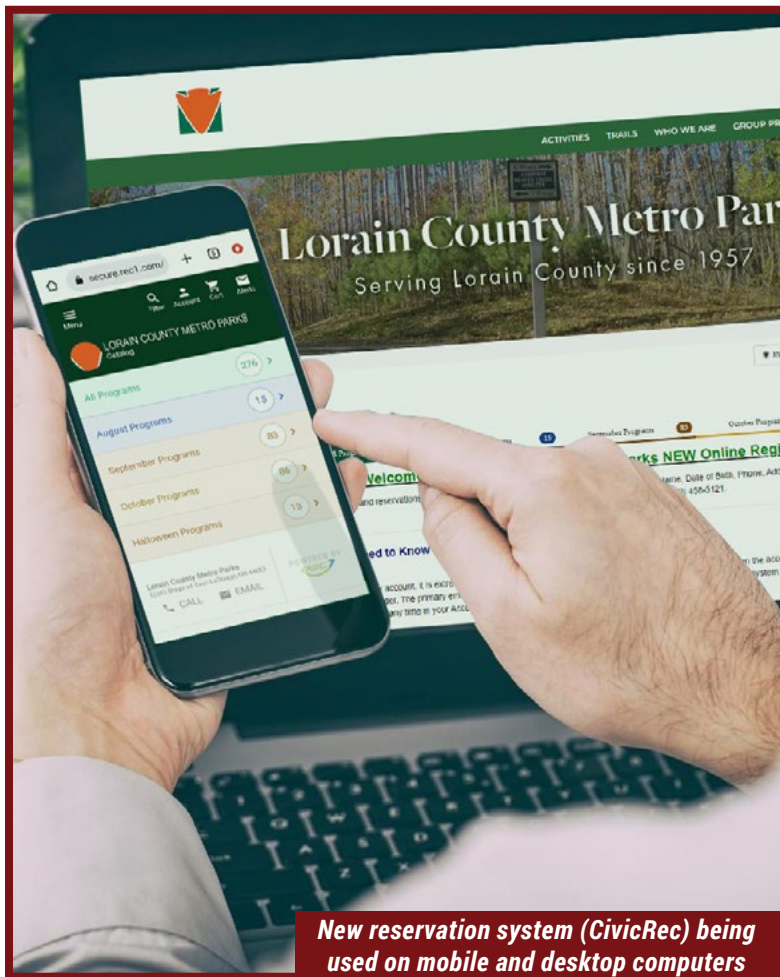
- *New signs at the entrance to the Pine Tree Picnic Area at French Creek Reservation and the Vermilion Soccer Complex at the Vermilion River Reservation*



*Ribbon-cutting at Avon Wetlands in September*



*New entrance sign at Pine Tree Picnic Area (French Creek Reservation)*



*New reservation system (CivicRec) being used on mobile and desktop computers*

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## FROM THE YEAR 2022

### PROGRAMS

#### • HALLOWEEN FAIR •

- *Cessation of the COVID pandemic enabled the Halloween Fair to be held at the Visitor Center instead of the Equestrian Center.*
- *Sole use of online presale tickets vastly improved program logistics.*
- *A modified program was held on a separate night for individuals with special needs.*

### FUNDRAISING MILESTONES

#### • 'CONNECT TO A CAUSE' CAMPAIGN •

- *Through the generous donations from the community, The Lorain County Metro Parks received \$15,103 to be used for conservation efforts throughout the county including education, tree planting, and environmental restoration efforts.*





*Bubble Day at French Creek Reservation in June*



*Skeleton trio display at Halloween Fair*



*Princess Party at Wellington Reservation*



*Luna (Barn Owl) Hatch Day at Carlisle Visitor Center*

# PROGRAMS & VISITORS

## FROM THE YEAR 2022

<b>PROGRAMS</b>	<b>RESERVATIONS</b>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>
<b>Total Requested Programs</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>7,465</b>
<b>Total Public Programs</b>	<b>1,230</b>	<b>60,651</b>
Halloween Fair	N/A	16,651
Holiday Lights	N/A	13,808
Other Public Programs	1,230	30,220

<b>PARK/RESERVATION</b>	<b>FACILITY RENTALS</b>	<b>SERVING UP TO</b>
Amherst Beaver Creek	360	13,017
Amherst HealthPlex	30	668
Black River Reservation	340	20,094
Carlisle Visitor Center	590	27,023
Cascade Park	267	10,974
Century Park	11	270
Columbia Reservation	31	938
French Creek Reservation	186	9,758
Indian Hollow Reservation	86	2,971
Lakeview Park	646	46,779
Miller Nature Preserve	271	13,207
North Star Preserve (Henry's Barn)	330	25,532
Sandy Ridge Reservation	195	7,542
Schoepfle Garden	25	704
Splash Zone	270	1,064
Vermilion River Reservation	487	26,063
Wellington Reservation	205	10,596
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,330</b>	<b>217,200</b>

### • METRO PARKS DAY-USE VISITORS •

Amherst Beaver Creek	121,544	Kopf Family Golf Course at Cherry Ridge	32,686
Black River Reservation	287,820	Lakeview Park	1,064,278
Caley Reservation	5,946	Miller Nature Preserve	57,134
Carlisle Reservation	127,356	North Star Preserve (Henry's Barn)	20,362
Cascade Park	244,280	North Coast Inland Trail	32,044
Century Park	109,980	Sandy Ridge Reservation	177,588
Columbia Reservation	123,528	Schoepfle Garden	147,902
Forest Hills Golf Course	111,060	Splash Zone	214,529
French Creek Reservation	369,564	Vermilion River Reservation	465,952
Indian Hollow Reservation	43,720	Wellington Reservation	82,872
Kipton Reservation	18,576		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3,858,721</b>	

# FINANCIALS

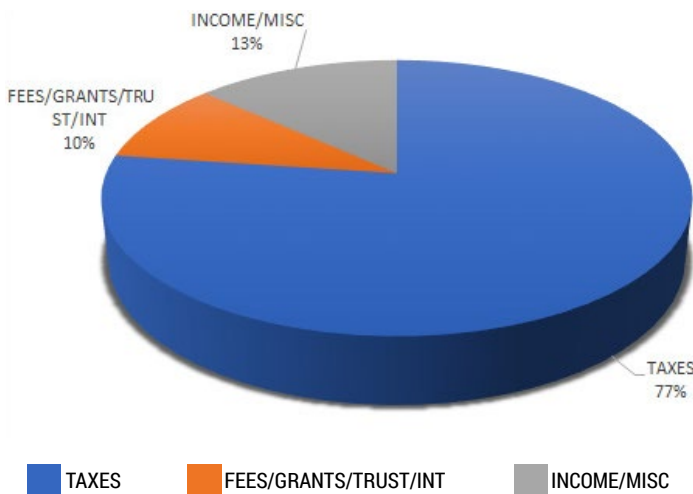
## FROM THE YEAR 2022

### REVENUE

Property Tax	\$ 10,876,426.61
Interest on Investments	\$ 26,837.03
Schoepfle Trust	\$ 308,647.00
Grants	-
Mitigations	-
Fees and Charges	\$ 1,010,612.03
Kopf Family Golf Course at Cherry Ridge	\$ 280,123.71
Forest Hills Golf Course	\$ 420,544.00
Lakeview Park	\$ 120,300.47
Amherst HealthPlex	\$ 269,516.85
Miller Nature Preserve	\$ 129,019.92
North Star Preserve	\$ 84,612.50
Splash Zone	\$ 527,864.23
French Creek Theatre	\$ 40,445.02

**TOTAL REVENUE \$ 14,094,949.37**

Taxes	\$ 10,876,426.61	77.1%
Fees/Grants/Trust/Int	\$ 1,346,096.06	9.6%
Income/Misc	\$ 1,872,426.70	13.3%

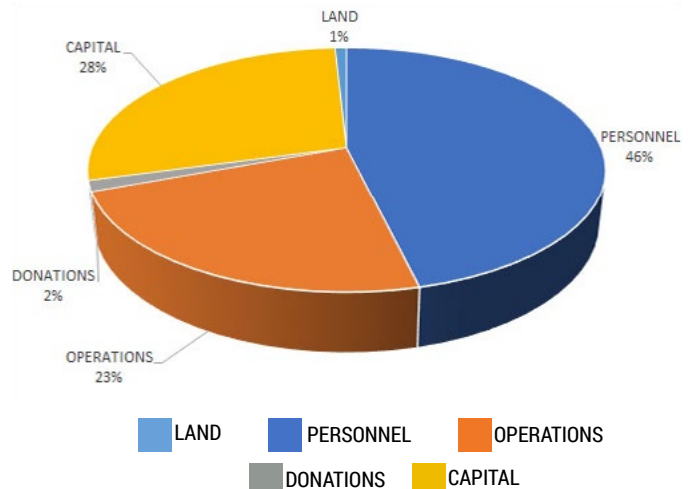


### EXPENDITURES

Salaries	\$ 4,999,873.03
Employee Fringe Benefits	\$ 1,842,640.60
Supplies	\$ 87,100.92
Programs	\$ 141,108.70
Materials	\$ 632,265.42
Repairs/Rentals	\$ 68,288.42
Utilities/Services	\$ 1,637,787.85
Advertising/Displays/Printing	\$ 136,468.27
Projects	\$ 110,740.43
Seminars/Training	\$ 14,819.76
Equipment	\$ 589,971.27
Designated Donations	\$ 212,600.96
Land Acquisition	\$ 125,420.33
Capital Improvements/Contracts	\$ 3,850,044.79
Grants/Misc	\$ 353,668.18

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$ 14,802,798.93**

Personnel	\$ 6,842,513.63	46.2%
Operations	\$ 3,418,551.04	23.1%
Donations	\$ 212,600.96	1.4%
Land	\$ 125,420.33	0.8%
Capital	\$ 4,203,712.97	28.4%



Ohio Revised Code Section 1545.08 requires that park districts periodically publish a report to the citizens summarizing the district's activities. This report is intended to fulfill this requirement. Other reports regarding specific programs or facilities are available annually. If you have any questions concerning this publication, please contact Lorain County Metro Parks at (440) 458-5121. Unless otherwise noted, numbers in this report were accurate as of December 31, 2022.



ELYWOOD PLAYGROUND RIBBON-CUTTING, CASCADE PARK



LORAIN  
COUNTY  
METRO  
PARKS