



BUTTERFLY HOUSE, MILLER NATURE PRESERVE, AVON

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



TO THE CITIZENS OF LORAIN COUNTY

# 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, 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 81 full-time and 17 year-round, part-time employees, supplemented by up to 212 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**

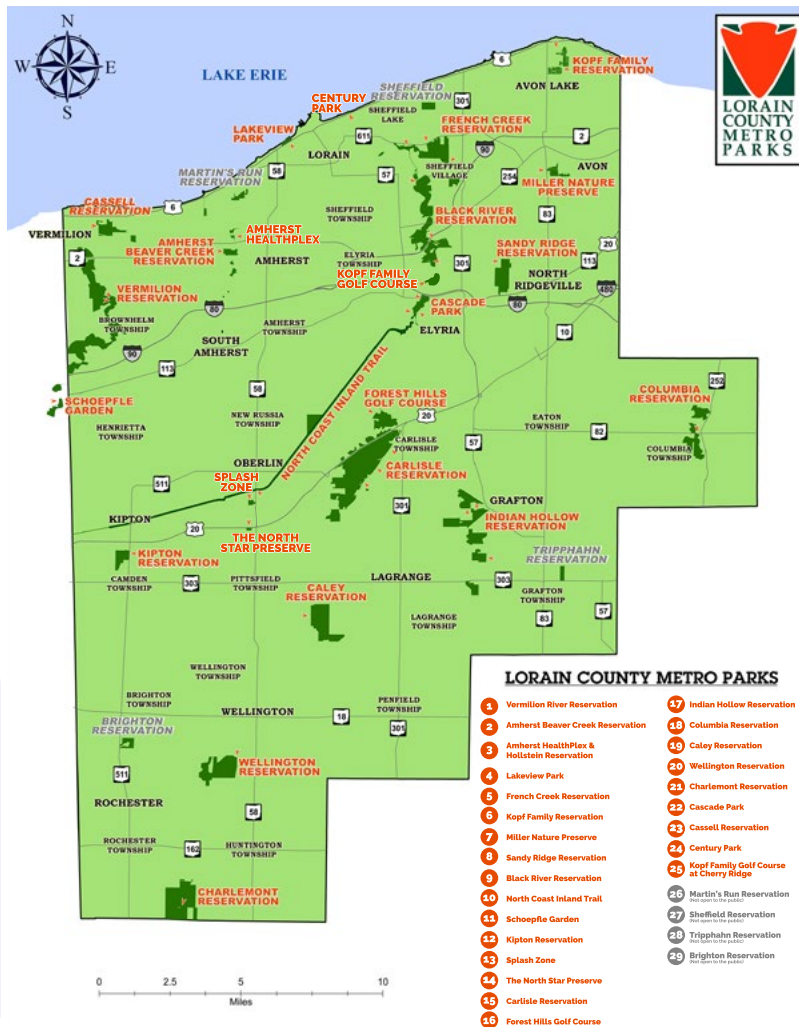
*PROBATE COURT JUDGE*



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

**EIGHTY-ONE  
FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES**

**81**

INCLUDING: TEN NATURALISTS

**10**

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.*

**SEVENTEEN  
PART-TIME EMPLOYEES**

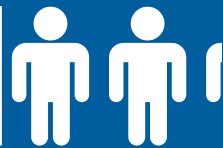
**17**

**TWO HUNDRED TWELVE  
SEASONAL EMPLOYEES**

**212**

## FRIENDS OF THE METRO PARKS IN LORAIN COUNTY

**VOLUNTEERS**



= x 100

**HOURS DONATED  
in 2021**



= x 1,000

The Friends of the Metro Parks in Lorain county had a total of 220 volunteers participate in 2021 for a total of 3,842 hours.





*Sr. Naturalist Aimee Harrell giving an animal presentation for a school field trip*



*Ranger Matt Pettry at a Trunk or Treat event*



*Ranger Curtis Silvers at the Fishing Derby event*



*Naturalist Jenn Breehl doing a Construct-a-Saurus presentation*



*Various LCMP employees at the Fire & Ice Walk event at Vermilion River Reservation*



*Friends of the Metro Parks volunteers*

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## FROM THE YEAR 2021

### CAPITAL PROJECTS

#### • AMHERST BEAVER CREEK RESERVATION •

- *The Transformation Trail (trail activities rooted in brain science to encourage positive thought) was created by Lorain County Metro Parks, MHARS Board of Lorain County, and Amherst Rotary.*

#### • AVON WETLANDS •

- *Wetland restoration underway*
- *Stormwater retention area constructed and seeded*

#### • BLACK RIVER RESERVATION •

- *LCMP opens Kopf Family Golf Course at Cherry Ridge*

#### • CARLISLE RESERVATION •

- *Raptor Center Amphitheater constructed*
- *New phone system installed at the Visitor & Administrative Center*
- *Electric upgrade at Equestrian Center for Holiday Lights*

#### • CASCADE PARK •

- *Elywood and Cascade parking expansion plans completed.*
- *The new bridge over the Black River that connects Elywood to Cascade Park was opened to the public.*

#### • CASSELL RESERVATION •

- *New gravel parking lot constructed.*

#### • LAKEVIEW PARK •

- *Sidewalk installed from Easter Basket to the beach*

#### • MILLER NATURE PRESERVE •

- *Removed the old Butterfly House and replaced with a new one.*

#### • NORTH COAST INLAND TRAIL •

- *Mile markers placed every half mile along the trail from Black River Reservation to the Huron County line.*

#### • THE NORTH STAR PRESERVE •

- *All new driveway and parking lot*
- *Implementation of five-year master plan*

#### • MISCELLANEOUS •

- *New signs at entrance to Caley, Cascade Park, Kopf Family Golf Course at Cherry Ridge, Kipton Reservation, Midview Soccer Complex, and Wellington Reservation*





*Raptor Center Amphitheatre at Carlisle Reservation*



*New entrance sign at Cascade Park*



*Painting the "Transformation Trail" at Amherst Beaver Creek Reservation*

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## FROM THE YEAR 2021

### MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

- **BLACK RIVER RESERVATION** •
- *Bridgeway Trail's bridge re-decking continued*

- **CARLISLE RESERVATION** •
- *Carlisle Visitor & Administrative Center entrance road and parking lot were repaved*

- **FOREST HILLS GOLF COURSE** •
- *Flood clean-up*
- *Drainage repaired and replaced*

- **FRENCH CREEK RESERVATION** •
- *Burrell Homestead roof was replaced*

- **HOLLSTEIN RESERVATION** •
- *New roof over therapy pool in the Mercy Health Amherst HealthPlex*

- **LAKEVIEW PARK** •
- *Replaced concrete stairs at Sunset Terrace entrance*

- **VERMILION RIVER RESERVATION** •
- *New roof on maintenance barn*

### PROGRAMS

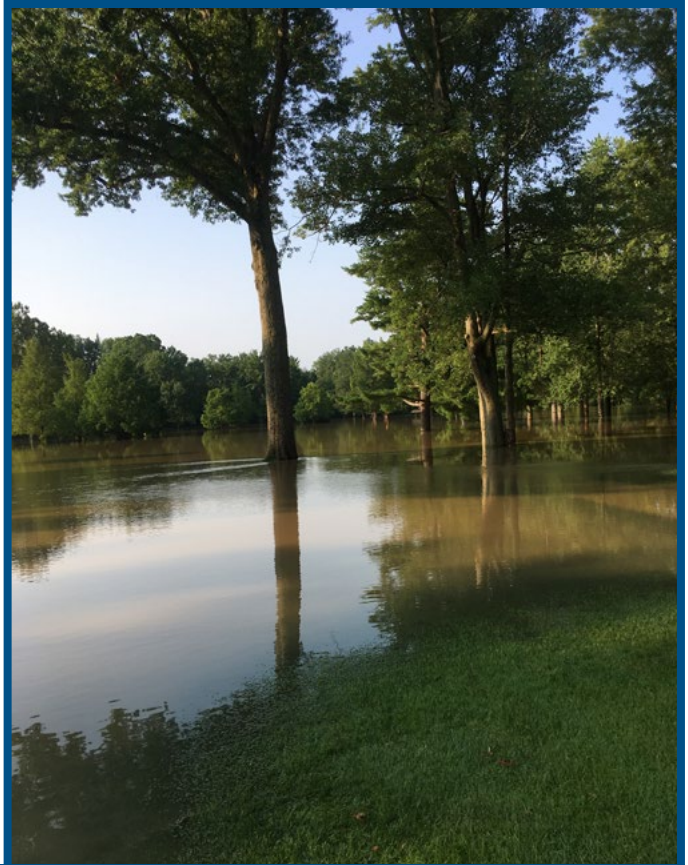
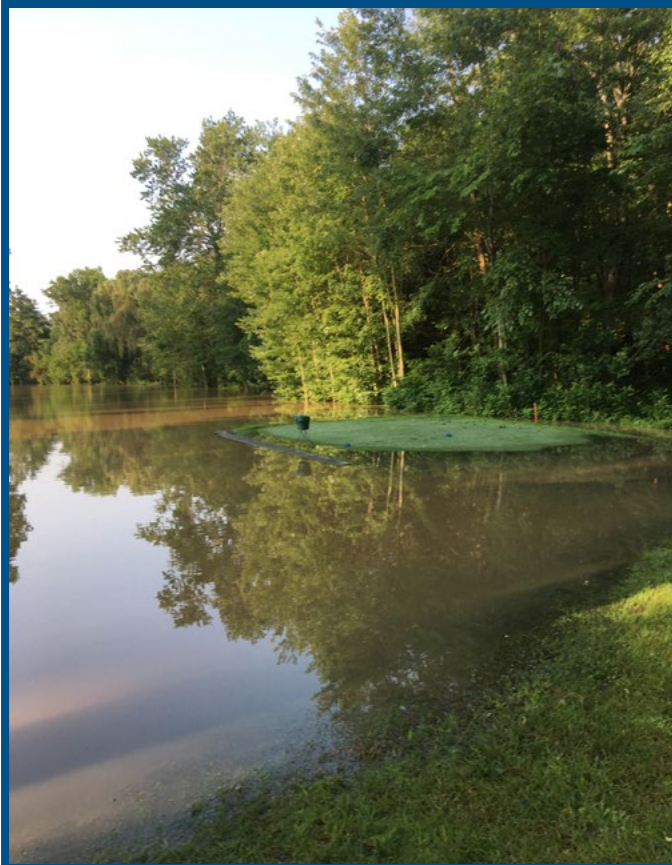
- **HALLOWEEN BOO-THRU** •
- *Annual Halloween Fair at Carlisle Visitor Center was replaced by Halloween Boo-Thru at the Equestrian Center again this year to comply with government health guidelines mandated by the COVID-19 pandemic.*

- **HOLIDAY LIGHTS CRUISE-THRU** •
- *The annual Holiday Lights program was also held at the Carlisle Equestrian Center again for the same reason.*

### FUNDRAISING MILESTONES

- **'CONNECT TO A CAUSE' CAMPAIGN** •
- *The Lorain County Metro Parks raised over \$11,000 during the The Community Foundation's annual 'Connect to a Cause' Campaign, which was used to support the care of the resident birds at the Raptor Center at Carlisle Reservation.*

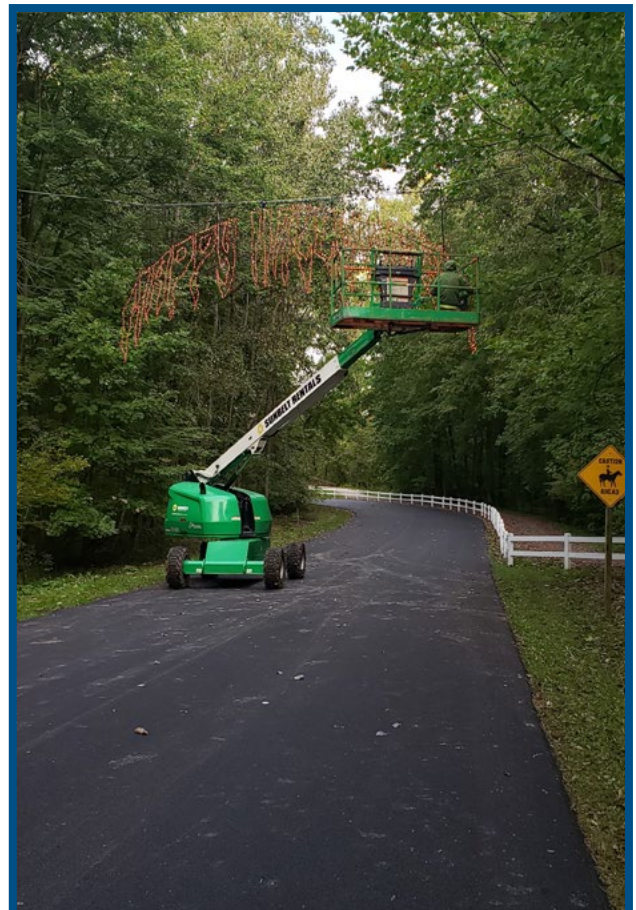




*Forest Hills Golf Course flooded; prior to flood clean-up and drainage repair/replacement*



*Avian Program Coordinator, Mary Ewers-Joyner with Raptor Center resident Luna (Barn Owl); beneficiaries of the Connect to a Cause Campaign in 2021*



*LCMP staff installing an overhead light display for the Boo-Thru event at Carlisle Reservation*

# PROGRAMS & VISITORS

## FROM THE YEAR 2021

PROGRAMS	RESERVATIONS	ATTENDANCE
<b>Total Requested Programs</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>5,328</b>
Halloween Fair	N/A	3,181
Holiday Lights	N/A	15,140
Other Public Programs	2,434	43,367
<b>Total Public Programs</b>	<b>2,434</b>	<b>61,688</b>

FACILITY USE	RESERVATIONS	ATTENDANCE
Amherst Beaver Creek	252	7,846
Amherst HealthPlex*	13,977	8,065
Black River Reservation	336	18,093
Carlisle Visitor Center	286	12,159
Cascade Park	204	8,115
Charlemont Reservation	6	12
Columbia Reservation	38	1,052
French Creek Nature Center	148	7,706
Indian Hollow Reservation	86	3,700
Kipton Reservation	4	20
Kopf Family Reservation	2	200
Lakeview Park	537	31,232
Miller Nature Preserve	183	5,307
North Star Preserve	178	12,332
Sandy Ridge Reservation	127	4,347
Schoepfle Garden	77	1,097
Splash Zone*	16,498	17,336
Vermilion River Reservation	456	24,555
Wellington Reservation	636	5,498
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34,031</b>	<b>168,672</b>

\*Amherst HealthPlex and Splash Zone numbers include lane and court reservations required due to COVID restrictions.

### • METRO PARKS DAY-USE VISITORS •

Amherst Beaver Creek	163,384	Kipton Reservation	14,164
Amherst HealthPlex	112,983	Lakeview Park	990,160
Black River Reservation	417,552	Miller Nature Preserve	89,198
Caley Reservation	4,366	North Star Preserve (Henry's Barn)	12,626
Carlisle Reservation	186,816	North Coast Inland Trail	40,922
Cascade Park	252,664	Sandy Ridge Reservation	175,830
Century Park	85,480	Schoepfle Garden	136,310
Columbia Reservation	126,910	Splash Zone	340,422
Forest Hills Golf Course	103,158	Vermilion River Reservation	693,948
French Creek Reservation	345,788	Wellington Reservation	83,560
Indian Hollow Reservation	141,578	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,517,819</b>



# FINANCIALS

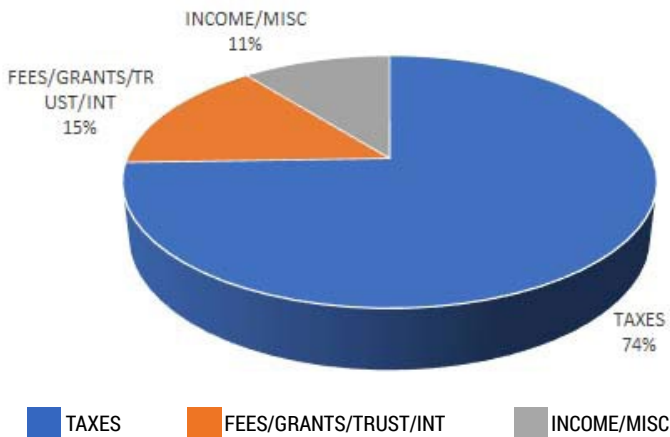
## FROM THE YEAR 2021

### REVENUE

Property Tax	\$ 11,066,947.63
Interest on Investments	\$ 26,442.85
Schoepfle Trust	\$ 641,155.00
Grants	\$ 127,608.24
Mitigations	\$ 330,870.00
Fees and Charges	\$ 1,069,912.43
Kopf Family Golf Course at Cherry Ridge	\$ 252,020.07
Forest Hills Golf Course	\$ 358,964.87
Lakeview Park	\$ 141,348.72
Amherst HealthPlex	\$ 286,941.63
Miller Nature Preserve	\$ 108,119.00
North Star Preserve	\$ 67,658.00
Splash Zone	\$ 364,071.02
French Creek Theatre	\$ 17,040.02

**TOTAL REVENUE \$14,859,099.48**

Taxes	\$11,066,947.63	74.5%
Fees/Grants/Trust/Int	\$2,195,988.52	14.8%
Income/Misc	\$1,596,163.33	10.7%

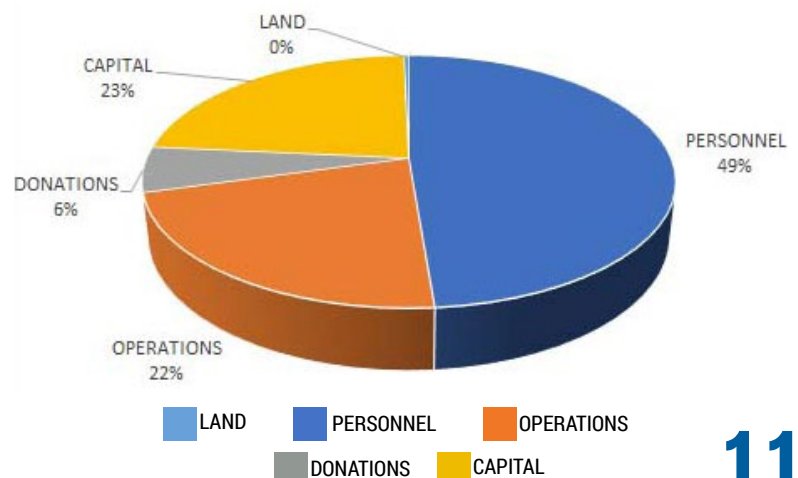


### EXPENDITURES

Salaries	\$ 4,715,823.24
Employee Fringe Benefits	\$ 1,685,683.29
Supplies	\$ 82,443.57
Programs	\$ 119,912.78
Materials	\$ 529,645.41
Repairs/Rentals	\$ 81,448.28
Utilities/Services	\$ 1,567,361.94
Advertising/Displays/Printing	\$ 124,765.23
Projects	\$ 80,379.41
Seminars/Training	\$ 10,941.87
Equipment	\$ 287,720.88
Designated Donations	\$ 764,295.57
Land Acquisition	\$ 45,771.05
Capital Improvements/Contracts	\$ 2,625,274.62
Grants/Misc	\$ 419,323.38

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$13,140,790.52**

Personnel	\$6,401,506.53	48.7%
Operations	\$2,884,619.37	22.0%
Donations	\$764,295.57	5.8%
Land	\$45,771.05	0.3%
Capital	\$3,044,598.00	23.2%





BUTTERFLY HOUSE INTERIOR, MILLER NATURE PRESERVE, AVON



LORAIN  
COUNTY  
METRO  
PARKS