

# Volunteer Opportunities



Many opportunities await both individual and group volunteers. Help maintain Hills & Dales MetroPark by assisting with gardening, gathering litter, removing honeysuckle and other non-native invasive species, and working on conservation projects. Call (937) 275-PARK (7275) or visit [metroparks.org/volunteer](http://metroparks.org/volunteer) for more information.

# Support Your MetroParks

By making a donation to the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation, you support Five Rivers MetroParks' mission to protect the region's natural heritage and provide outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature. Donations are tax deductible and used to support programs and special projects. Sponsorships, tribute benches and trees, and planned giving options also are available. Visit [metroparks.org/donate](http://metroparks.org/donate) or call (937) 275-PARK for more information.



**TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK**

Taylorsville MetroPark is located one mile east of Vandalia on U.S. 40.

## It's our nature.

This park is one of 25 outstanding public facilities operated by your Five Rivers MetroParks system. Founded in 1963 to serve the greater Dayton area, MetroParks protects nearly 16,000 acres of open space and provides year-round recreation, education and conservation opportunities. Facilities are available to the public free of charge – made possible by Montgomery County citizen support of a property tax levy.

## For More Information

Administrative Offices ..... (937) 275-PARK (7275)  
 Website..... [metroparks.org](http://metroparks.org)

## Ranger Assistance

Contact the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office dispatcher at: (937) 535-2580



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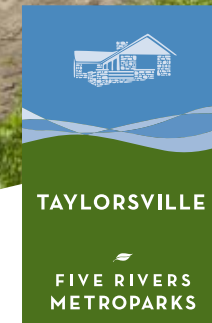
BIKEWAY ACCESSIBLE

# TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK

## USER'S GUIDE & MAP



Cover photo: Jan Underwood





# Taylorville MetroPark

Spectacular wooded ravines, massive rock outcroppings, the Great Miami River and historical remnants are highlights in this 1,300-acre MetroPark. Hike the nearly 13 miles of scenic trails – some rugged – or bike, walk or skate the Great Miami River Bikeway through Taylorville MetroPark. Discover portions of the Miami-Erie Canal and remains of the crossroads village of Tadmor. Relax while fishing, canoeing or kayaking the Great Miami River. Enjoy a picnic; reservable shelters are ideal for family reunions and company outings.

Numerous species of animals and birds call Taylorville MetroPark home. Coyotes have been seen in the park and deer roam the woods and prairies. See signs of beaver activity and look for warblers along the river and woodpeckers in the wooded areas.

## THINGS TO DO



**WALKING & HIKING** – Discover a rich variety of hiking terrain and numerous trail options. Loop trails are color-coded, with intersections marked by numbers that correspond to numbers on the inside map. Follow the same color to arrive back at your starting point. Trails are open year-round.



**PICNICKING** – Reserve a shelter in a beautiful natural setting for your exclusive use by visiting [metroparks.org/reservations](http://metroparks.org/reservations) or calling (937) 275-PARK (7275) during weekday business hours. Amenities and fees vary by shelter. Shelters that haven't been reserved are available on a first-come, first-served basis. A variety of sites with picnic tables are also available.



**FISHING** – Fish the Great Miami River or the Poplar Creek Ponds. A popular river spot is just below the dam. An Ohio fishing license is required.



**PADDLING** – The Great Miami River is popular with canoeists and kayakers. It is generally easy to navigate, but conditions vary. Trips often start upstream and use Taylorville MetroPark as a destination. Watercraft are not permitted through the dam. For put-in information, call (937) 275-PARK (7275).



**CYCLING** – Bike the length of Taylorville MetroPark on the Great Miami River Bikeway. Stop to see the historical remnants of Tadmor and the Miami-Erie Canal. Enjoy the view of a prairie at the overlook south of the dam.



**WINTER RECREATION** – With sufficient snowfall, glide down the sledding hill near the entrance at 1200 Brown School Road. (Sledding is not permitted on the dam.) Or cross-country ski the picnic areas and open meadows. Most hiking trails are not suitable for skiing due to steep terrain.



## INFORMATION & REGULATIONS

Protect Taylorville MetroPark as a natural area: Do not pick, collect or disturb plant or animal materials of any kind. Hunting, frog gigging and swimming are not permitted. Hikers must remain on marked trails. Motor vehicles must stay on roads; parking is permitted in specified parking areas only.

### FIRES

Fires are allowed in designated areas only; bring your own charcoal. Do NOT bring firewood.

### PETS

Dogs allowed on leash only. Leashes may be no longer than 8 feet.

### ALCOHOL

Prohibited except by permit in reservable shelters.

### BICYCLES

Not permitted on trails.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

## HOURS OF OPERATION

### PARK GROUNDS:

April 1 - October 31: 8 AM - 10 PM

November 1 - March 31: 8 AM - 8 PM

*Closed Christmas and New Year's Day.*

It's our  
nature.

CONSERVATION  
RECREATION  
EDUCATION





# TAYLORSVILLE METROPARK • PARK MAP

## PARK FEATURES

### MIAMI-ERIE CANAL

Running parallel to the Great Miami River through Taylorsville was the Miami-Erie Canal. This hand dug "big ditch," completed in 1845, took 20 years to construct. A great achievement for its day, it opened the state for commerce by connecting the Ohio River at Cincinnati to Lake Erie at Toledo with a navigable channel. Remnants of the canal can still be found on the north and south sides of the dam. Five hundred feet north of the dam stands the foundation of an aqueduct. These impressive structures were large, water-filled bridges over rivers that allowed canal boats to cross.

### TADMOR

Follow the Great Miami River trail north of the dam about 1.25 miles to the site of Tadmor. In the 1800s, this small village was Montgomery County's busiest crossroad, standing at the intersection of the Miami-Erie Canal, National Road, Dayton-Michigan Railroad and the Great Miami River. Today, remnants of this once bustling community have been identified with a historic marker as a significant site along the original route of the National Road.

### ROCK OUTCROP

A short walk from the CCC reservable shelter north of the dam leads to a huge pile of Brass fir underlying Massey shale, leaving the stone above unsupported. This process repeated itself in 1996, when an additional 100 tons fell, and continues today. Walk up the stone stairs and examine the small caverns created by water traveling through the stone.

### GREAT MIAMI RIVER TRAIL

The Great Miami River trail bisects the park from north to south. Stroll, run, bike or skate along more than seven miles of paved trail. Travel to the north end and discover where the village of Tadmor once stood. Go south from the dam and stand on an observation deck far above a tall grass prairie.

### BUCKEYE & NORTH COUNTRY TRAILS

The Buckeye and North Country Trails join the Great Miami River Bikeway at Old Springfield Road and follow it south through the park. The Buckeye Trail completely encircles Ohio and is more than 1,400 miles long. The North Country Scenic Trail extends into seven states and will be the longest continuous hiking trail in the United States when completed. Both trails provide long-distance hiking and link historical and scenic features of the state and surrounding areas.

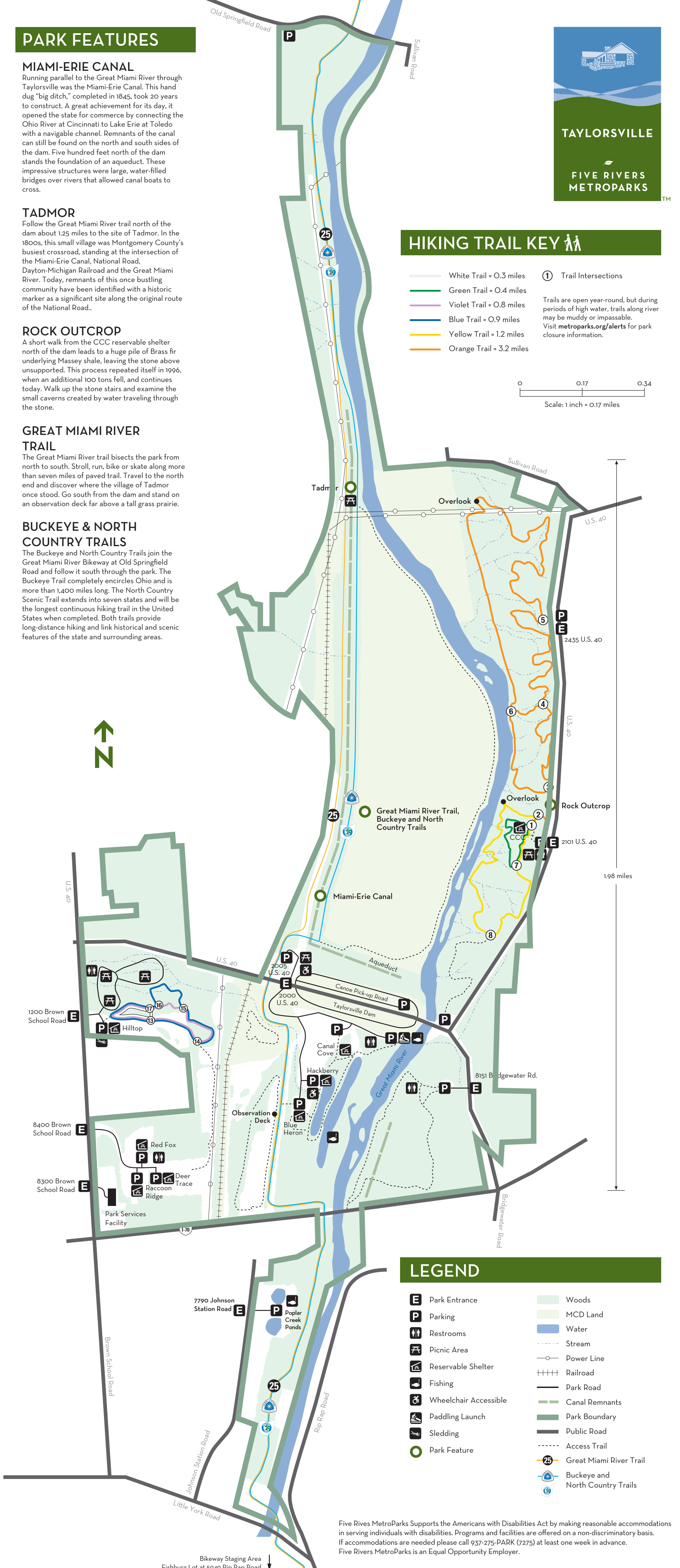
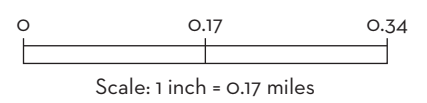


## HIKING TRAIL KEY

- White Trail = 0.3 miles
- Green Trail = 0.4 miles
- Violet Trail = 0.8 miles
- Blue Trail = 0.9 miles
- Yellow Trail = 1.2 miles
- Orange Trail = 3.2 miles

### Trail Intersections

Trails are open year-round, but during periods of high water, trails along river may be muddy or impassable. Visit [metroparks.org/alerts](http://metroparks.org/alerts) for park closure information.



## LEGEND

- |                        |                                  |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>E</b> Park Entrance | Woods                            |
| <b>P</b> Parking       | MCD Land                         |
| Restrooms              | Water                            |
| Picnic Area            | Stream                           |
| Reservable Shelter     | Power Line                       |
| Fishing                | Railroad                         |
| Wheelchair Accessible  | Park Road                        |
| Paddling Launch        | Canal Remnants                   |
| Sledding               | Park Boundary                    |
| <b>G</b> Park Feature  | Public Road                      |
|                        | Access Trail                     |
|                        | Great Miami River Trail          |
|                        | Buckeye and North Country Trails |

Five Rives MetroParks Supports the Americans with Disabilities Act by making reasonable accommodations in serving individuals with disabilities. Programs and facilities are offered on a non-discriminatory basis. If accommodations are needed please call 937-275-PARK (7275) at least one week in advance. Five Rivers MetroParks is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Bikeway Staging Area  
Fishburg Lot at 5949 Rip Rap Road