

# Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers play a pivotal role at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. Volunteers assist with youth and adult programs, special events, garden maintenance and greeting guests. They also work in the Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation Gift and Garden Shop at the 2nd Street Market. New volunteers are always welcome! For more information, call 937-275-PARK (7275) or visit [metroparks.org/volunteer](http://metroparks.org/volunteer).



# 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.



**Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark** is located five minutes north of downtown Dayton at 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. Dayton, Ohio 45414

## 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 more than 15,800 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 ..... [www.metroparks.org](http://www.metroparks.org)  
 Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark ..... 937-277-6545

## Ranger Assistance

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



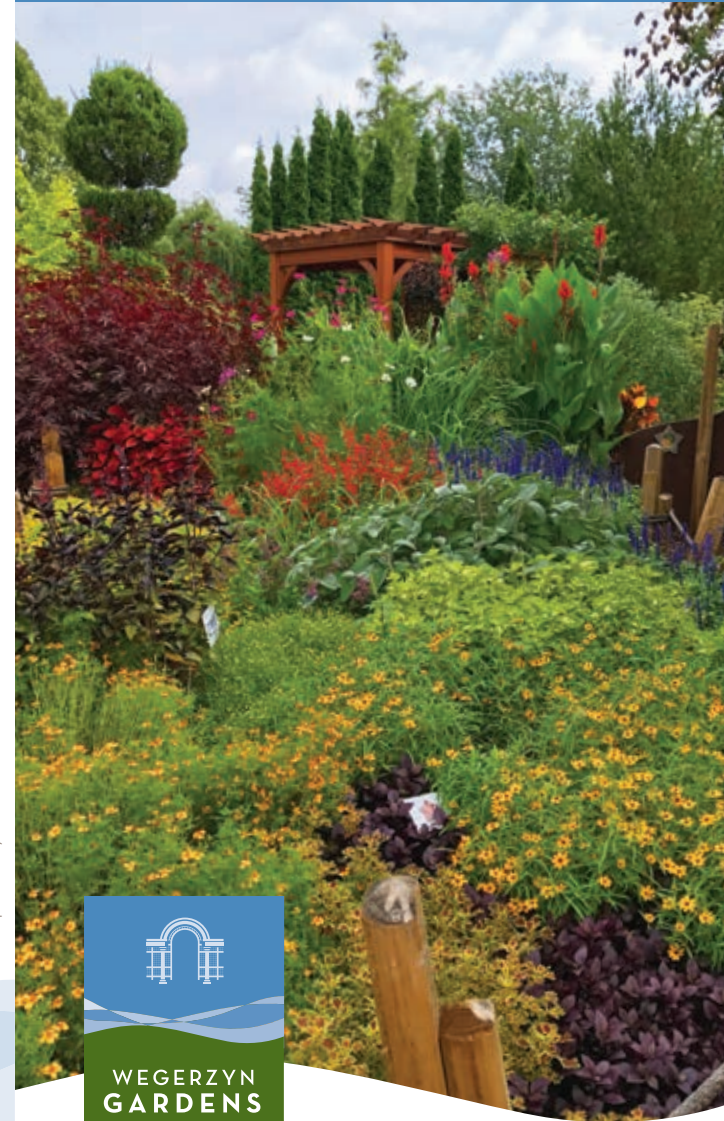
It's our nature.



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# WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK

## USER'S GUIDE & MAP



Cover photo Betty Hoevel





# Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark

Wegerzyn Gardens, located in the scenic Stillwater River Corridor, offers much to the visitor. It contains formal gardens, woodland walks, sun and shade gardens, and a Children's Garden like no other. Visitors will find a wealth of information presented and many places to sit and enjoy the beauty, as well as educational and inspiring programming for both children and adults.

Join the Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation. Your membership will help support Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. Pick up a membership application in the Wegerzyn Center or call (937) 277-6545.

## THINGS TO DO



**WALKING & HIKING** - Discover the Marie Aull Nature Trail, which runs approximately one mile through the Swamp Forest and natural area beyond the gardens. It's a great place to stretch your legs while enjoying nature. In the spring, look for native woodland wildflowers blooming along the trail. The trail may be muddy or impassable during wet periods. Note: This trail is prone to mosquitoes; take appropriate precautions to prevent bites.

**VISIT THE GARDENS** - The formal gardens are a pleasure to walk through year round. Enjoy color beginning in winter with more than 120 varieties of witch hazel blooming into spring, accompanied by hellebores and early bulbs. Throughout summer and fall, a diversity of gardens, beds, borders and container plantings create a lush atmosphere. A stop at the Children's Discovery Garden is a must for the young and young at heart. The bright, fun displays change from year to year and are sure to make you smile.



**COMMUNITY GARDENS** - Not enough space or light to put in a vegetable garden at home? Rent one of 342 plots available in the 6.5-acre community garden behind Wegerzyn Gardens. Community members grow and care for annual plots of vegetables, herbs and flowers in 800-square-foot plots. Wegerzyn Gardens and Possum Creek MetroParks house the only two community gardens in MetroParks. They're part of Five Rivers MetroParks' Community Gardening initiative, which works with more than 60 neighborhood gardens in Montgomery County. For more information, visit [metroparks.org](http://metroparks.org) or call 937-275-PARK(7275).

**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS** - Increase your gardening skills and knowledge of natural history by participating in a wide variety of programs offered year round for all ages. Stop in the Wegerzyn Center, call 937-275-PARK (7275) or visit [metroparks.org](http://metroparks.org) for information on upcoming programs.

**GUIDED TOURS** - Schools and other youth and adult groups may schedule guided tours of the gardens. Call (937) 275-PARK(7275).

## INFORMATION & REGULATIONS

Protect Wegerzyn Gardens 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. In gardens and natural areas, remain on paths, trails and turf. Motor vehicles must stay on roads; parking is permitted in specified parking areas only.

**PETS** Dogs allowed on leash only. Leashes may be no longer than 8 feet. Dogs are not allowed in Children's Discovery Garden.

**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.*

### CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY GARDEN:

March 1 - March 31: 10 AM - 8 PM

April 1 - October 31: 10 AM - 10 PM

November 1 - December 31: 10 AM - 8 PM

*Closed January & February*

Water feature is open Memorial Day through Labor Day 10 AM - 8 PM

It's our nature.

CONSERVATION  
RECREATION  
EDUCATION



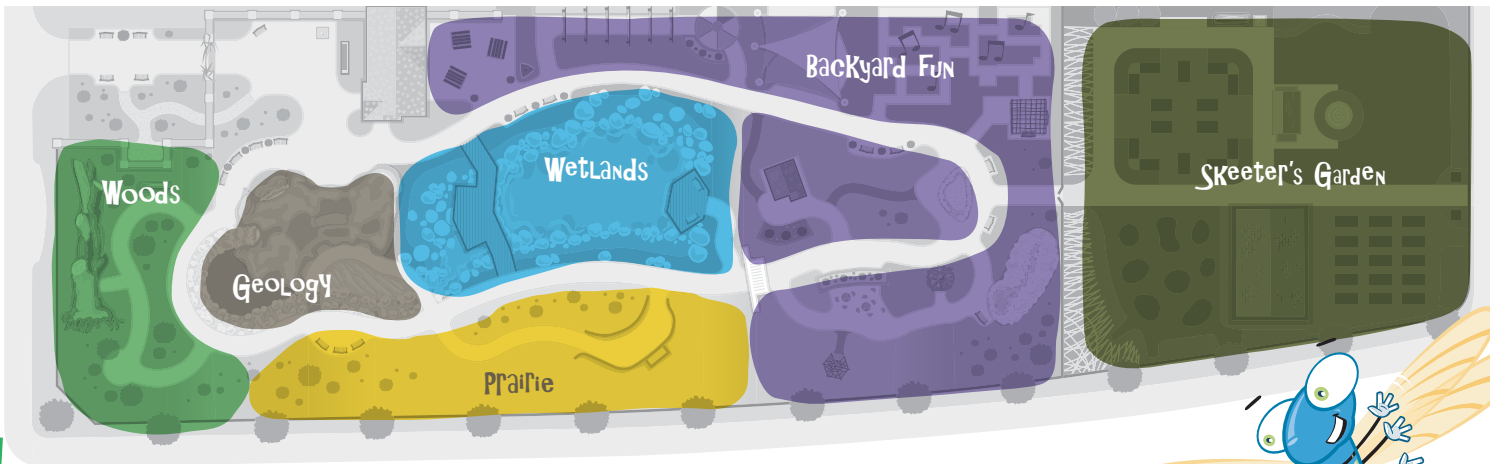


# CHILDREN'S Discovery Garden





# MAJOR AREAS TO DISCOVER:



## WOODS

This woodland is inhabited by native trees and wildflowers. Search for different types of animals and plants, and match creatures to the footprints on the path.

## GEOLOGY

Discover the many secrets hidden in our limestone bedrock. Crawl through a cave, find fossils in the stream and grotto walls, climb on glacial grooves, and play in a waterfall guarded by some of Ohio's animals.

## PRAIRIE

Follow the footprints to this world full of tall grasses and blooming plants. The prairie is a visit to our past.

## WETLANDS

Follow the stream as it flows into a wetland full of fascinating plants. Get a better view of our resident fish and water-loving creatures by lying down on the observation decks or sitting on a comfortable bench.

## BACKYARD FUN

This playful area features whimsical garden spaces and art. Get lost in a music maze, water plants using an old-fashioned water pump, play in the sand, watch for wildlife and immerse your senses in an abundance of plants.

## SKEETER'S GARDEN

This area is the heart of the Children's Discovery Garden. School groups, families and visitors learn about, grow and harvest vegetables from these plots.



Hi, my name is  
**Skeeter!**

*(That's short for Skeeter Eater,  
I eat mosquitoes, get it!?)*

Please follow these simple rules while in the garden:

- Stay on the paths
- Touch, but don't pick the flowers
- Have fun!

# WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK • PARK MAP

## GARDEN AREA FEATURES

- 1 CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY GARDEN**  
 The Children's Discovery Garden contains habitat areas and whimsically themed gardens for children and their adult companions to explore together. Visitors are encouraged to visit often to see the gardens grow and change. Highlights include a limestone grotto and waterfall, music maze, wetland, pond and sensory garden. Be sure to visit Skeeter's Garden, for a fun experience.
- 2 GARDEN GREEN**  
 This lush expanse of lawn with an allée of Shawnee Brave Bald Cypress trees is bordered by tall Yew (taxus) hedges. Flower beds and planted limestone walls provide seasonal color.
- 3 NORTH & SOUTH PLAZAS**  
 These elevated plazas offer excellent vistas of the garden complex and its stimulating seasonal color.
- 4 ARBOR GARDEN**  
 An assortment of hardy, disease-resistant roses is the backbone of beds with a mixture of annuals, perennials, shrubs and vines, all embraced by a traditional arbor of limestone and timber.
- 5 VICTOR RIES MEMORIAL GARDEN**  
 Located along the woodland edge, this perennial garden is dedicated to the founder of the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs.
- 6 MEMORY GARDEN**  
 Many interesting and beautiful species can be found in this perennial, woodland shade garden, built in recognition of members of the Garden Club Federation - Dayton & Vicinity, who have supported the development of Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.
- 7 FEDERAL GARDEN**  
 This garden features brick paths and parterres (beds that form a pattern) in a style reminiscent of the 18th and early 19th century American gardens. The garden is planted with historical and modern plants to evoke the period. Of special interest are the arches of European beech trained over the walks at both ends.
- 8 ENGLISH GARDEN**  
 The design and plantings in this space are suggestive of English gardening style, and they vary from year to year. The lovely wooden arch is the garden's focal point and is typical of classic English garden architecture.
- 9 VICTORIAN GARDEN**  
 This garden echoes the gardening style popular at the end of the 19th century when carpet gardens featured masses of plants set out in elaborate patterns. The focal point is a raised, pebble-walled bed in the shape of a star, modeled after one at the Dayton Soldier's Home in the late 1800s.
- 10 ARBOR LAWN**  
 This garden showcases foxtail lilies and a large, magnificent yellow-blooming magnolia in the spring; hardy mums in the fall; and a lush, serene landscape all summer long. Many unique specimen plants are featured in the view of this garden.
- 11 WOODLAND GARDEN**  
 This shade garden is comprised of spring bulbs, dozens of witch hazels, hostas, ferns and other shade-loving plants. Be sure to visit this garden as you stroll down the Marie Aull Trail.

## LEGEND

- E** Park Entrance
- P** Parking
- Restrooms
- Picnic Area
- Reservable Shelter
- Paddling Launch
- Wheelchair Accessible
- Drinking Water
- Community Garden
- Fishing
- Park Feature
- Woods
- City of Dayton Parkland
- Water
- Stream
- Park Road
- Access Trail
- Paved Trail
- Boardwalk
- Stillwater River Trail
- Park Boundary
- Public Road

Scale: 1" = 450 ft.

