



## OHIO PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

Program Development Grant – GRANT – FINAL REPORT

PCPD Nature Preserve - Programs

### Summary of PCPD Nature Preserve Programs

The \$1,750 matching grant met The Preble County Park District's (PCPD) needs for programs at our second park, The Herbert & Patricia Wagers Memorial Park (aka Devil's Backbone) in Camden, OH allowing us to bring higher quality educators and programs. The funds will assisted us in bringing the programs to Wagers Park much sooner than we anticipated.

Our programs entertained and educated over 200 local residents and visiting nature lovers in our surrounding community "in Wagers' Park's local natural environment," as well as educated them on how they can help support and care for the wildlife within their community.

Our programs have inspired the young to select nature-based professions, the mature/retired to volunteer in their local community nature preserves and the professional to donate to those preserves.

**Click on the links below to view OPRA Ads on our website & Facebook:**

<https://preblecountyparks.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067237516866>

### Participating Educators, Entertainers and Agencies

Tom Hissong - Naturalist & Nature Photographer, he has been an Interpretive Naturalist/Environmental Educator in Dayton area for over 50 years. He retired from his position as Education Manager at the Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm in 2017. Previously he worked with Five Rivers MetroParks and the Dayton Museum of Natural History. Tom graduated from The Ohio State University with a B.S. degree in Environmental Education/Field Biology in 1976. Well known throughout the Dayton area for his expertise in ornithology and bird watching and for his enthusiasm in teaching classes on natural history topics to all ages.

Terry Mann - President and Vice President of her local club, the Miami Valley Astronomical Society (MVAS). She also chaired their astronomical convention, Apollo Rendezvous. Terry has served as the Astronomical League Secretary from 1998-2001. She is currently co-chair of the National Young Astronomer Award (NYAA), an award of the Astronomical League. She is also chair of operations for the ISS-AT, a project working to place an amateur telescope on the International Space Station. She has spent two weeks volunteering at Mt. Evans observatory in Colorado, travel to Baja and Aruba to see two total solar eclipses, saw Halley's Comet from Ayers Rock, Australia. Terry has received awards for her

**Mailing Address: c/o Probate Court, 101 East Main Street, Eaton Ohio 45320  
9691 State Route 503 North, Lewisburg, Ohio 45338  
(937) 962-5561**

astrophotography and from the MVAS, the Ohio House of Representatives and a service award from the Astronomical League.

Rainbow Eagle – an Okla-Choctaw American Indian. His full-blood father was registered with both the BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs) and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. Rainbow Eagle (Rolland J Williston) has been honored with the responsibility of an Ancient Native American Peace Shield drawing which was hidden away in order to be available to all humans after the lighting of the Seventh Fire. These teachings were handed down to him by one of the last Peace Shield Teachers during two winter visits in upper Michigan in the early 1980s. Now that the Seventh Fire of the Anishinabe/Ojibwa traditions has been lit, he is responsible for teaching the traditions and spiritual guidance of the Peace Shield.

Doug & Ann Horvath – Naturalists Geologic History of Southwest Ohio Miami University. Doug has worked in the field of Environmental Education since starting in 1976 as a camp counselor for the NW. YMCA of Dayton Ohio taking kids on adventures along the Wolf Creek. Since then, he has worked at a Jr. High School Land Lab, on a Hudson River Sloop called the Clearwater, as a deck hand interpreter on Penobscot Bay, ME, as and Education Specialist for the National Audubon Society at Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm, as the Children's Gardener at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark and now as a Naturalist for Five Rivers MetroParks. His experiences with a variety of higher education institutes such as Warren Wilson College, NC; University of New Hampshire and its Marine Shoals Lab on Appledore Island, with Sea Education Association out of Woods Hole, MA, and through Project Dragonfly with Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. He holds a BA/BS in Zoology from UNH.

Amanda Badger – Founder and Director of Wild Hearts African Farm, former Naturalist at Houston Woods State Park. She was recently features in Voyage Ohio Magazine (see link below).

[https://voyageohio.com/?post\\_type=interview&p=134028](https://voyageohio.com/?post_type=interview&p=134028)

Brian Badger – Director of Conservation and Outreach for the Cheetah Conservation Fund. Brian has over 30 years of service in and around the conservation world and a passion that stretches back even further, his aim is to enlighten people from around the world on the workings, aims and goals of front line conservation.

### **Evaluation of outcomes & impact and Review process**

PCPD continually monitors the outcome and effect of our programs through attendance, interaction with the participants, surveys and social media comments:

The Preble County Park District has seen an immediate increase in awareness of our parks, due to our new programs. The programs have connected us with members of our community that would otherwise not known of our existence.

The programs are promoted on our new website [www.preblecountyparks.org](http://www.preblecountyparks.org) and Facebook page (Preble County Park District). As a direct result of the improvements and programs, Wagers' Park received a new prairie from the National Wild Turkey Federation, because of the president's participation in one of the Fossil program.

### **Benefits from the programs at Wagers Park that were met and supported.**

- √ Entertain and Educate
- √ Increases Park Awareness and Visibility, Physically and Online (Website traffic increased by 23%)

**Mailing Address: c/o Probate Court, 101 East Main Street, Eaton Ohio 45320  
9691 State Route 503 North, Lewisburg, Ohio 45338  
(937) 962-5561**

- √ Increases Donations (Received additional donations – ex. Native Wildflower Pollinator Prairie.)
- √ Increases Visitors and Encourages Returning Visitors (Received several phone calls from new hikers enjoying Wagers' Park.)
- √ Educates Our Local Community
- √ Promotes Community Engagement (Acquired three new volunteers!)
- √ Builds Community Trust and Credibility (Received a \$50,000 grant from the Preble County Commissioners to implement a professional Master Plan.)
- √ Boosts Conversation (Increased engagement on Social Media.)
- √ Serves as Touchpoint with Our Community (Wagers' Park now featured in the local Black Walnut Festival in Camden, OH.)

**Description of subsequent plans**

PCPD will continue our programs and entertainment at Wagers' Park and look forward to even more success.

**Summary of expenses incurred**

The program costs for 2023 totaled over \$4,000 that was more than we expected; however, due to your generosity and the Friends of PCPD match, PCPD meet the expense of the additional cost.

Please see the attached **PDF 2023 PCPD Year End Financials**. Line Item for *Education & Family* exceeds the original budget of \$3,500; the Park Director expenses for programs are included in that line item.

Total Budget: \$4,326.04

Educator & Entertainment Expenses	
Terry Mann – Astronomer – Solar Part 1	\$ 300.00
Terry Mann – Astronomer – Solar Part 2	\$ 300.00
Amanda Badger - Wild Hearts African Farm	\$ 500.00
Rainbow Eagle – Native American Legend Story Teller	\$ 300.00
Tom Hissong - Naturalist	\$ 300.00
Doug & Ann Horvath – Naturalists/Fossils/Miami U	\$ 400.00
Brian Badger – Cheetah Conservation Fund	\$ 300.00
Materials	\$ 476.04
Program Director	\$ 850.00
Park Director (Programs)	<u>\$ 600.00</u>
 Total	 \$4,326.04

**Mailing Address: c/o Probate Court, 101 East Main Street, Eaton Ohio 45320  
9691 State Route 503 North, Lewisburg, Ohio 45338  
(937) 962-5561**

Attached Flyers and other Promotional Materials



Catch a Breath of Fresh Air!

**Wagers' Memorial Park**

1301 OH-725 W, Camden, OH 45311

(937) 962-5561

[www.preblecountyparks.org](http://www.preblecountyparks.org)



Saturday, May 27, 8:00—10:30 AM  
Bird Walk—Tom Hissong  
Naturalist and Nature Photographer



Saturday, June 17, 1:00 —3:00 PM  
Wonder Walk/Hike—Bev Holland  
Naturalist and Teacher



Sat., July 22, 1:00—3:00 PM  
Storytelling Hike with  
Rainbow Eagle  
Okla-Choctaw American Indian



Saturday, August 5, 1:00—3:00 PM  
Shelter in the Woods—Bev Holland  
Naturalist and Teacher



TBA  
Brian Badger  
Director of Conservation



Saturday, September 9th  
@ 4pm—8pm  
20 Year Anniv. Celebration  
with Rum River Blend @  
Wild Hearts African Farm  
Photo Contest  
See Website for Details



TBA  
Amanda Badger  
Founder & Director



TBA  
Terry Mann, Astronomer  
Solar Eclipse



OHIO PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION

2023 Sponsors

**Ohio Arts**  
COUNCIL



Check out our website for: Hiking, Picnic Areas, Pavilion, Wetland, Geo-Caching, and Program details! Open daily from dawn to dusk.

Programs will be led by teacher and naturalist, Bev Holland. Children must be accompanied by an adult for all programs.



Kroger will donate a portion of what you spend on groceries to us at NO COST to you. Go to [Kroger.com](http://Kroger.com) and sign up today! Thank you for your support!

Mailing Address: c/o Probate Court, 101 East Main Street, Eaton Ohio 45320  
9691 State Route 503 North, Lewisburg, Ohio 45338  
(937) 962-5561

**A SPRING BIRD WALK**

**Saturday, May 27th @ 8:00 AM**

**2023**

**Wagers' Memorial Park Free Programs**

Located at 1301 OH-725 West, Camden, OH

Presents

**Tom Hissong - Naturalist and Photographer**

Donations  
Welcome

Sponsored by



OHIO PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION

**For more information:**

pcpdevents@gmail.com  
www.preblecountyparks.org

Find us on Facebook  
937-962-5561

**Programs led by :**

Children's Teacher and Naturalist

**Bev Holland**

- \* Bring Binoculars
- \* Dress for the Weather
- \* Check Out E-Bird
- \* Children must be accompanied by an adult



**Kroger Community Rewards Program**

Sign up at Kroger.com

A portion of what you spend will be donated to the Friends of Preble County Park District.  
NO COST to you.

Your support is important!

**Mailing Address: c/o Probate Court, 101 East Main Street, Eaton Ohio 45320  
9691 State Route 503 North, Lewisburg, Ohio 45338  
(937) 962-5561**

# Getting Ready Solar Eclipse Part 1

Saturday, June 3rd

1:00—3:00 pm

*Welcomes*

**Terry Mann**

President—Ohio Chapter of the  
International Dark Sky Association of the

**Wagers Park  
2023 free Program**

Located at 1301 OH-725 West  
Camden, OH

**For more information:**

pcpdevents@gmail.com

**www.preblecountyparks.org**

Find us on Facebook

937-962-5561

**Programs led by : Bev Holland**

Children's Teacher and Naturalist

*Children must be accompanied by an adult for all programs.*



## LEARN

- \* About the Solar Eclipse
- \* Solar Diamond Ring
- \* Solar Safety

*Sponsored by*



OHIO PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION

**Kroger Community  
Rewards Program**

**Sign up at Kroger.com**

A portion of what you spend  
will be donated to the Friends  
of Preble County Park District.

NO COST to you.

Your support is important!

**Mailing Address: c/o Probate Court, 101 East Main Street, Eaton Ohio 45320  
9691 State Route 503 North, Lewisburg, Ohio 45338  
(937) 962-5561**

# Getting Ready Solar Eclipse Part 2



Saturday  
September 23rd  
1:00—3:00 pm

*Welcomes*

**Terry Mann**

President—Ohio Chapter of the  
International Dark Sky Association of the

**Wagers Park  
2023 free Program**

Located at 1301 OH-725 West  
Camden, OH

**For more information:**

pcpdevents@gmail.com

**www.preblecountyparks.org**

Find us on Facebook  
937-962-5561

**Programs led by : Bev Holland**

Children's Teacher and Naturalist

*Children must be accompanied by an adult for all programs.*



## LEARN

- \* About the Solar Eclipse
- \* Solar Diamond Ring
- \* Solar Safety

*Sponsored by*



OHIO PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION

**Kroger Community  
Rewards Program**

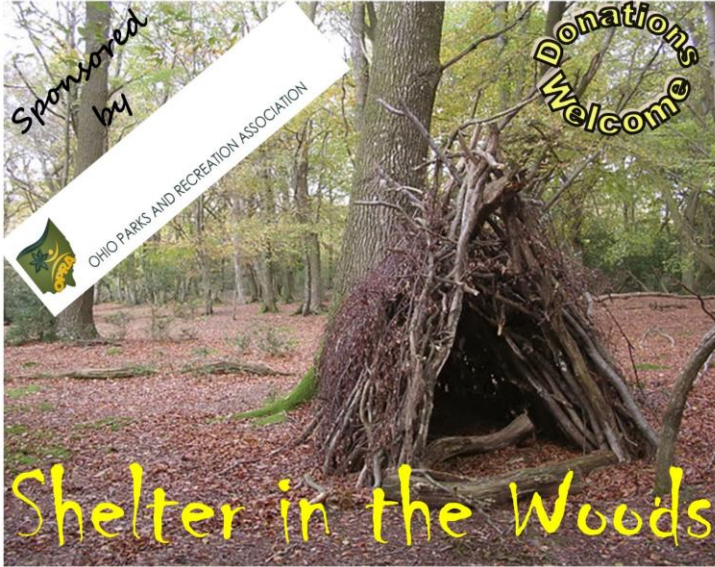
**Sign up at Kroger.com**

A portion of what you spend  
will be donated to the Friends  
of Preble County Park District.

NO COST to you.

Your support is important!

**Mailing Address: c/o Probate Court, 101 East Main Street, Eaton Ohio 45320  
9691 State Route 503 North, Lewisburg, Ohio 45338  
(937) 962-5561**



## Shelter in the Woods

**Saturday, August 5, 2023 @ 1:00-3:00 pm**

*Hike the Wagers Park Trails, collect your building materials and build your own personal shelter with only items left by nature. So join the fun in the woods. Discover how to survive in the wilderness!*

*Wear old clothes and shoes that can get wet and muddy!*

**Wagers' Memorial Park (Devil's Backbone) 2023 Free Program**

**Located at 1301 OH-725 West, Camden, OH**



**For more information:**

[pcpdevents@gmail.com](mailto:pcpdevents@gmail.com)

[www.preblecountyparks.org](http://www.preblecountyparks.org)

Find us on Facebook

**937-962-5561**

**Programs led by :**

Children's Teacher and Naturalist

**Bev Holland**

*Children must be accompanied by an adult for all programs.*

**Kroger Community Rewards Program**

Sign up at [Kroger.com](http://Kroger.com). A portion of what you spend will be donated to the Friends of Preble County Park District. NO COST to you. Your support is important!

**Mailing Address: c/o Probate Court, 101 East Main Street, Eaton Ohio 45320  
9691 State Route 503 North, Lewisburg, Ohio 45338  
(937) 962-5561**



HERBERT & PATRICIA WAGERS'  
DEVIL'S BACKBONE MEMORIAL PARK  
1301 OH-725 WEST, CAMDEN OH 45311

FASCINATING FOSSILS

**Doug & Ann Horvath**

Naturalists

**Saturday, July 8**

**11a - 1p**

[WWW.PREBLECOUNTYPARKS.COM](http://WWW.PREBLECOUNTYPARKS.COM)



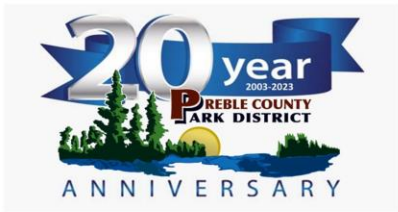
SPONSORED BY

OHIO PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION

SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS

**Mailing Address: c/o Probate Court, 101 East Main Street, Eaton Ohio 45320  
9691 State Route 503 North, Lewisburg, Ohio 45338  
(937) 962-5561**

Sponsored  
by  
OHIO PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION



**Rainbow Eagle**  
Seventh Fire Peace Shield Teacher



Donations  
Welcome

**Saturday, July 22, 2023**  
**1:00-3:00 pm**

*Storytelling Hike with Rainbow Eagle, Okla-Choctaw American Indian.*  
*Join us for some stories of Native American Legends.*

**For more information:**  
pcpdevents@gmail.com  
www.preblecountyparks.org  
Find us on Facebook  
**937-962-5561**

**Programs led by :**  
Children's Teacher and Naturalist

**Bev Holland**

*Children must be accompanied by an adult for all programs.*

**Kroger Community Rewards Program**  
Sign up at Kroger.com. A portion of what you spend  
will be donated to the Friends of Preble County Park  
District. **NO COST** to you. Your support is important!

**Wagers' Memorial Park 2023 Free Program**  
**Located at 1301 OH-725 West, Camden, OH**

**Mailing Address: c/o Probate Court, 101 East Main Street, Eaton Ohio 45320**  
**9691 State Route 503 North, Lewisburg, Ohio 45338**  
**(937) 962-5561**

Preble County Park District Farmers State Bank Financials as of December 31, 2023

2023 General Fund

INCOME	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals	Anticipated	
													0.00		
FSB balance 12-31-21	13,554.14												13,554.14		
Star OH balance 12-31-21													0.00	174,195.48	
Grants	52,986.00					600.00		4,000.00			1,236.00		58,822.00	266,700	
Educational & Family Events						36.00	54.00		1,548.00		201.00		1,839.00		
Devil's Backbone													0.00	1,500.00	
Cincinnati Fund		66,369.72											66,369.72	66,369.72	
Donations/Other					8,002.40	3,500.00	1,175.00	1,605.00	250.00	185.00		8,302.40	23,019.80		
Transfers to/from Star Ohio		-111,369.72		7,000.00	5,000.00		5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	5,000.00	-64,369.72		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>66,540.14</b>	<b>-45,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>7,000.00</b>	<b>13,002.40</b>	<b>4,136.00</b>	<b>6,229.00</b>	<b>10,605.00</b>	<b>6,798.00</b>	<b>5,185.00</b>	<b>11,437.00</b>	<b>13,302.40</b>	<b>99,234.94</b>		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals		
<b>EXPENSES</b>														Extra	
<b>Operational</b>														Appropriated	Anticipated
2020 encumbrances													0.00		
Advertising, MKTG, Website					146.17	382.55		716.38	2,785.05	409.95			4,440.10	4,400.10	
Audit													0.00	0.00	
Electric	266.00	366.00	421.00	368.00	377.00	373.00	358.00	322.00	284.00	326.00	306.00	303.00	4,070.00	4,000.00	\$ (70.00)
Farm Maintenance									466.71				466.71	2,000.00	
Gardens/Landscaping													0.00	2,000.00	
Insurance		3,149.00											3,149.00	3,149.00	\$ -
Legal Fees													0.00	1,000.00	
Membership Fees		210.00							300.00				510.00	510.00	
Misc	448.01		200.15	60.00	56.28		53.95	175.75	114.00	100.00	157.23	100.00	1,465.37	1,500.00	
Office Supplies	138.27		17.59	53.28		96.95	89.89	95.21	45.89			92.73	629.81	700.00	
Phone/Internet/Zoom	149.04	149.04	149.04	221.04	150.12	150.12	150.12	150.12	150.12	150.12	150.12	150.12	1,869.12	1,870.00	
Propane	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	1,140.00	1,500.00	
Property Maintenance & Repairs	259.62	445.90	137.43	214.25	761.68	230.15	1,700.53	525.35	503.53	556.31	1,872.54	597.02	7,804.31	7,350.00	\$ (454.31)
Property Taxes		351.12											351.12	390.00	\$ 38.88
Road & Parking Lot Maintenance													0.00	0.00	
Security	428.00												428.00	500.00	\$ 72.00
Staff Mileage		70.00	559.34		35.00	538.33		297.37	105.00	175.00	175.00	70.00	2,025.04	2,000.00	\$ (25.04)
Unassigned Funds													0.00	11,999.46	
<b>Contract Services</b>															
Administration	3,250.00	3,500.00	2,800.00	3,500.00	2,800.00	2,800.00	3,500.00	2,800.00	3,500.00	2,800.00	2,800.00	3,500.00	37,550.00	36,400.00	
Educational & Family Events					375.00	1,132.37	605.00	300.00	800.00	175.00	45.98	892.69	4,326.04	4,000.00	\$ (326.04)
General Maintenance	862.75	864.00	1,026.00	1,278.00	1,188.00	1,345.50	1,345.50	1,256.50	1,494.00	1,062.00	1,008.00	1,311.50	14,041.75	18,720.00	
Housekeeping													0.00	0.00	
Lawnmowing													0.00		
Transfers to Star Ohio													0.00		
<b>Capital</b>															
Misc./Projects										701.10	4,592.24		5,293.34	5,750.00	
Capital Projects													0.00	0.00	
<b>Grants</b>															
Grant Match													0.00		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5,896.69</b>	<b>9,200.06</b>	<b>5,405.55</b>	<b>5,789.57</b>	<b>5,984.25</b>	<b>7,143.97</b>	<b>7,897.99</b>	<b>6,733.68</b>	<b>10,643.30</b>	<b>6,550.48</b>	<b>11,202.11</b>	<b>7,112.06</b>	<b>89,559.71</b>		
<b>Current Balance FSB</b>													<b>9,675.23</b>		\$ (764.51)