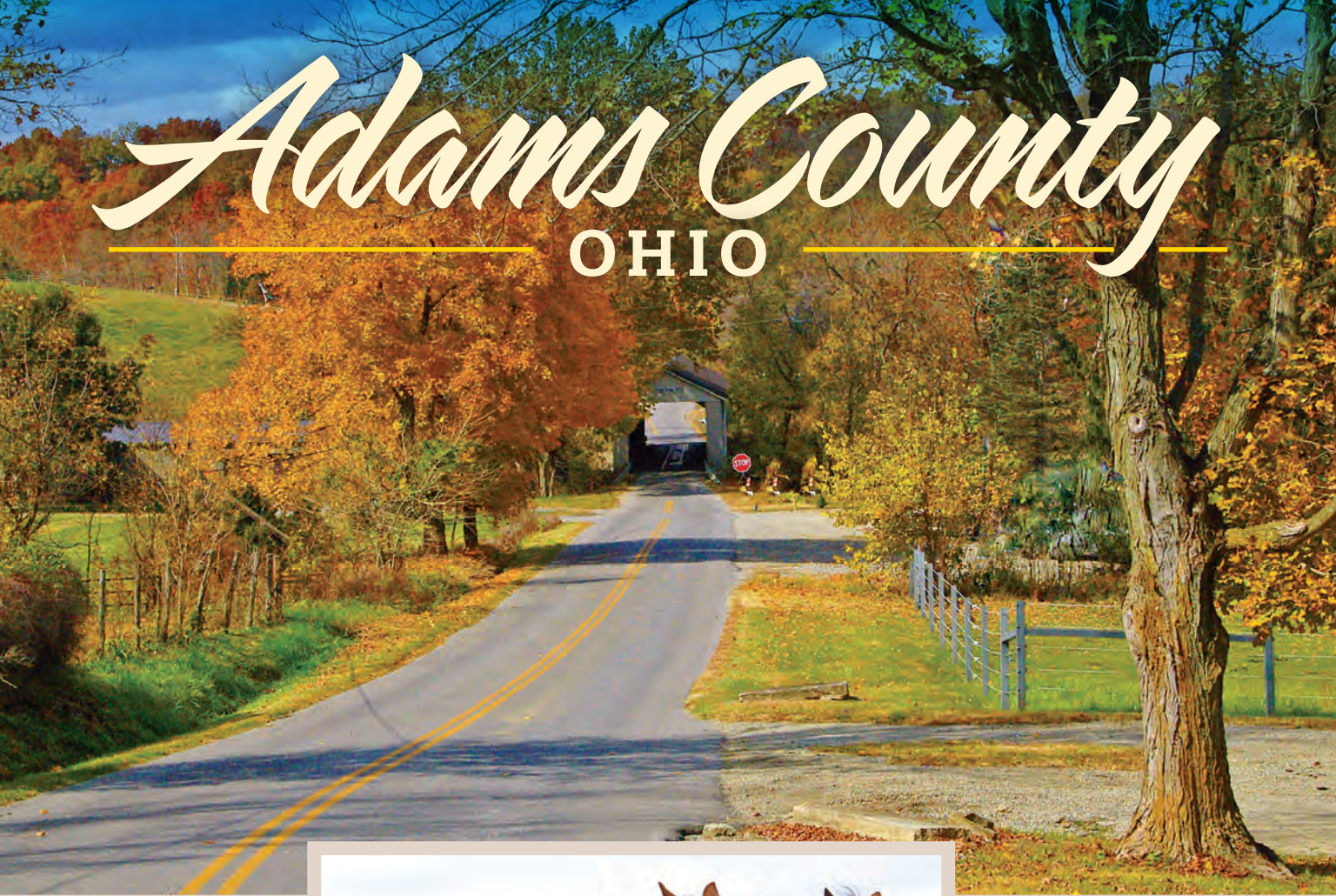


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Welcome to Adams County, Ohio

We celebrate 25 years young in 2023, when, in 1998, Adams County Commissioners McClanahan, Hall and Rothwell, unanimously supported a resolution establishing the Bureau; and later, nonprofit 501(c)3 status was granted.

The Bureau, governed by a seven-member board of trustees, is supported by a modest 3% lodging tax paid for by overnight quests. That money in return is used to promote Adams County tourist attractions, either through print, TV, radio, social media and travel shows or by any means we can utilize to get the word out about our attractions, events, lodging, dining, historical sites, nature preserves, parks, forest, wildlife areas, our outdoor recreation opportunities and an Amish community with its shops, bakeries and furniture stores.

And tourism is growing in Adams County. Added to this year's map were six new lodging establishments and, according to the most recent bi-annual report from Ohio Tourism, visitor spending in Adams County increased 15% since the last report.

In 2022 a new boat ramp and canoe launch was opened on Ohio Brush Creek by The Nature Conservancy. Adams County Economic Development and Health & Wellness partnered with ODNR to bring the Storybook Trail to Adams Lake State Park. This past March was the return of the Adams County Amish Bird Symposium on Wheat Ridge Road. At Tranquility Wildlife Area, a new shooting range was opened in November by the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

On the horizon is the trail opening at the new Quiverheart Nature Preserve, new restroom facilities and visitor center at Adams Lake State Park, an Underground Railroad Trail through nine Ohio River counties and renewed recognition of the Ohio River's recreational value via the Ohio River Way.

Want more info on Adams County? Email info@adamscountytravel.org or call 877.232.6764. To keep up with what's happening check out our Facebook page.

Tom Cross

Executive Director
Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau
509 E. Main St.
West Union, OH 45693
www.adamscountytravel.org
info@adamscountytravel.org
(937) 544-5639 • (877) 232-6764



The night sky on Starley Gustin Road

Contents

- 4 Calendar of Events
- 6 Visitors Map
- 8 Amish Country
- 10 Quilt Barns
- 11 Events
- 12 History
- 13 Exploring Adams County
- 14 Serpent Mound
- 16 Stargazing
- 17 Nature
- 20 Hiking
- 21 Cycling
- 22 Hunting & Fishing
- 24 State Parks & Lakes
- 26 Rivers & Streams
- 27 Canoeing
- 28 Lodging
- 33 Dining
- 34 10 Things to Do

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For more updated information, community news and coming events, visit
www.adamscountytravel.org



Calendar

Adams County 2023 Calendar of Events

MAY

5 Adams Lake State Park – Wildflowers & Warblers 9 a.m. Info @ 740.858.6652



5 Wheat Ridge Amish School Benefit Auction & Supper. Supper 4 p.m., auction 5 p.m. Info @ 937.544.7566

6 Adams County Farmers Market in West Union. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. every Sat. until Sept 30. adamscofarmersmarket@gmail.com

12 Ohio Brush Creek Sweep. Info @ Adams Soil & Water 937.544.1010

20 Scioto Brush Creek Sweep. Info @ Adams Soil & Water 937.544.1010

JUNE

2 Adams Lake State Park – Archery/Outdoor Skills 9 a.m. Info @ 740.858.6652

17-18 Free Fishing weekend. wildohio.com

21 Summer Solstice, first day of summer @ 10:57 a.m.

21 Summer Solstice at Serpent Mound, 6 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Info @ ohiohistory.org/serpentmound

23-25 Friends of Serpent Mound Summer Solstice Celebration @ Soaring Eagle Retreat. Info @ serpentmound.org

24 Adams County Paddlefest Info @ facebook.com/Adams-County-Health-Wellness-Coalition

25 Ramblin Relics of Southern Ohio 50th anniversary Country Run for Fun at Adams County Fairgrounds. Info @ 937.892.0161 or 937.205.5200

JULY

4 Fourth of July Celebration & Lion's Club Parade in West Union

7 Adams Lake State Park - Explore the Shore 9 a.m. Info @ 740.858.6652

9-15 132nd annual Adams County Fair at West Union. Info @ adamscofair.com

29 Manchester to Maysville M2M Paddlefest on the Ohio River. Info @ 606.564.3933 or 606.584.0061

AUGUST

4 Adams Lake State Park – Prairie Prowl for Wildflowers 9 a.m. Info @ 740.858.6652

4-5 Kinfolk Days @ Manchester. Info @ facebook.com/groups/447809932663743/

5 16th River Rats Poker Run on the Ohio River 1-5 p.m. Info at 937.217.3000

12 Friends of Serpent Mound Perseids Meteor Shower Viewing at Soaring Eagle Retreat, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Info @ serpentmound.org

17-20 Buckeye TrailFest at Shawnee State Park and Lodge. Info @ buckeyetrail.org

19 15th annual Cowboy Copas Memorial Concert, 6 p.m., Jefferson Township Gym in Blue Creek. Info @ 937.587.2043

25-27 Winchester Homecoming Festival. Info @ facebook.com/caramelfest/

26 Mini Triathlon. info @ facebook.com/Adams-County-Health-Wellness-Coalition

26 Peebles CruiseFest. Info @ facebook.com/groups/1162482853815833

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- Help us continue to help Adams County
- For more information, please go to www.accfo.org



ADAMS COUNTY
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

PO Box 185, West Union, OH 45693 • 937-544-8659

SEPTEMBER

1 Adams Lake State Park – Family Fishing at 6 p.m. Info @ 740-858.6652

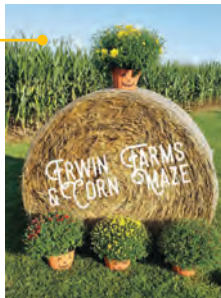
7 Junior Fair Beef Barbecue at OVC & Tech Center. Info @ 937.205.0842

8-10 46th annual Bentonville Harvest Festival. Info @ 937.549.3360

8-10 Annual Rarden Whitetail Deer Festival. Info @ rardendeerfest.com

9 Erwin Farms & Corn Maze opens. 1365 Coon Hill Rd, Winchester. Info @ 513.515.0084

9 Forgotten Way Farm & Corn Maze opens. 4675 Eckmansville Rd, Winchester. Info @ 937.386.4048



14-16 Skinny Fest Bluegrass Festival at Adams County Fairgrounds. Info @ facebook.com/SkinnyFest/ or 937.725.5044

14-17 55th annual Peebles Old Timers Days. Info @ 937.217.3151

16 Adams County Heritage Day at Heritage Center in West Union. Info @ acgsoh@yahoo.com

20-23 109th anniversary of the Seaman Fall Festival. Info @ 937.217.0311

29 Wheat Ridge Amish School Benefit Auction & Supper. Supper 4 p.m., auction 5 p.m. Info @ 937.544.7566

OCTOBER

6 Adams Lake State Park – Not-so Spooky Spiders 6 p.m. Info @ 740.858.6652

7 46th annual Miller's Anniversary Customer Appreciation Day & Cookout at Miller's Bakery & Furniture. Info @ 937.544.8524

7 Cycling Scenic Adams County 4th annual Fresh Air Ride. Starts and ends at CCL Bicycle, 1195 Duffy Rd, Peebles. Registration and information @ 937.386.3368

7 Autumn Classic Driving Tour through Adams County. Info & registration @ springclassicdrivingtour.org

7 5th annual Hike for Health. Registration at 8 a.m., hike at 9 a.m. Info & registration @ facebook.com/Adams-County-Health-Wellness-Coalition

7-8 John Roger Simon Sorghum Festival. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info @ arcofappalachia.org



7-8 Draft Horse, Mule & Pony Field Days and Antique Tractor Show at Glen-Dale Park in Fawcett. Info @ 937.901.5510



13-15 15th annual Wheat Ridge Olde Thyme Herb Fair 817 Tater Ridge Rd, West Union. Info @ 937.544.8252

NOVEMBER

11 Veterans Day Ceremony, Adams County Courthouse, 11 a.m.

22 Serpent Mound winter hours begins. Open Wednesday-Sunday, Visitor Center closed. Info @ ohiohistory.org/serpentmound

26 Adams County Christmas, Adams County Courthouse, 5:30 p.m.

DECEMBER

21 Winter Solstice, first day of winter @ 10:27 p.m.

21 Winter Solstice at Serpent Mound 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Info @ ohiohistory.org/serpentmound

2024

March 2 19th annual Adams County Amish Bird Symposium at Wheat Ridge Community Bldg. Info @ adamscountytravel.org

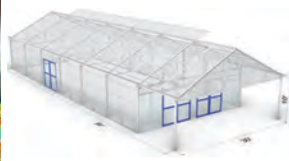
For additional and updated events go to adamscountytravel.org



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Conservatory Event Center
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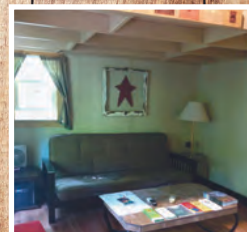
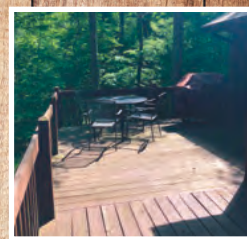
The Creekside Cabin
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Cozy Hideaway

Cozy Hideaway can be perfect for a relaxing escape, a romantic getaway, or the adventure of a lifetime. Tucked in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains in Beautiful Eastern Adams County Ohio you are just minutes from Amish Country, Antique Shops, several Historic Sites and just 2 minutes from "The Edge of Appalachia Preserve".

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415 Cozy Lane | West Union, OH 45693
www.cozyhideaway.org
(513) 315-3334 or (937) 544-7001



Adams County Visitor Map

AMISH BUSINESS

- 1 CCL Bicycle
- 2 Yoder's Furniture, Bakery & Bulk Foods
- 3 Miller's Bakery, Furniture & Bulk Foods
- 4 Murphin Ridge Building Supplies
- 5 Raber's Shoes & Saddlery

ATTRACTIONS

- 6 Adams County Fairgrounds
- 7 Brush Creek Motorsports Complex
- 8 Erwin Farms & Corn Maze
- 9 Family Traditions Animal Adventures
- 10 Forgotten Way Farm & Corn Maze
- 11 Grindstone Farm Antiques/Wheat Rdg Herb Fair
- 12 House of Phacops, Fossils & Minerals
- 13 Living Wright Wines
- 14 Nana's Primitive Barn
- 15 Sunshine Store
- 16 The Quilt Barn

DINING

- 17 Blake's Pharmacy
- 18 Cruiser's Diner
- 19 Olde Wayside Inn

HERITAGE

- 20 Adams County Genealogical & Historical Society
- 21 Buckeye Station
- 22 Gov. Thomas Kirker Home & Bicentennial Barn
- 23 Harshaville Covered Bridge
- 24 John T. Wilson Homestead
- 25 Kirker Covered Bridge
- 26 Treber's Inn & Zane's Trace Monument
- 27 Wilson's Civil War Soldiers Monument

HISTORIC MARKERS

- 28 Bradford Tavern
- 39 Cairn of Peace
- 30 First Settlement of Virginia Military District
- 31 Massie Station
- 32 Old Mineral Springs Resort
- 33 Serpent Mound State Memorial
- 34 Underground Railroad
- 35 Wickerham Inn
- 36 Lafferty Memorial Funeral & Carriage Collection
- 37 Morgan's Raiders

LODGING

- 38 Amish House
- 39 Behm Mountain Cabins
- 40 Brush Creek Retreat
- 41 Budget Host Inn
- 42 Cave Hill Cabin
- 43 County Nights Inn
- 44 Cozy Hideway
- 45 Crosset Cottage
- 46 Deer Path Cabin
- 47 Far Look Cabin
- 48 Glasgow Manor
- 49 Griffis Getaway Cabin
- 50 Hawk's View Cabins
- 51 Hopewell Croft Cabin
- 52 McIntosh Cabin
- 53 Mound View Farm
- 54 Murphin Ridge Inn
- 55 Pine Valley Cabins
- 56 Quality Inn
- 57 River Barn Village
- 58 River Haven B&B
- 59 Scenic View Cottage
- 60 The Farmhouse of Unity
- 61 The Landing at Brush Creek
- 62 The Nut House at Trails End
- 63 The Sanctuary & Red Barn Cabin
- 64 The Ville Guest House & Cabin
- 65 Valerie's House B&B

NATURAL AREAS & PRESERVES

- 66 Adams Lake State Park
- 67 Chalet Nivale Preserve
- 68 Chaparral Prairie Nature Preserve
- 69 Davis Memorial State Nature Preserve
- 70 Edge of Appalachia Preserve
- 71 Johnson Ridge State Nature Preserve
- 72 Plum Run Prairie
- 73 Rock Run Wilderness Preserve
- 74 Shoemaker State Nature Preserve
- 75 Whipple State Nature Preserve

RECREATION/OUTDOORS/ CAMPING

- 76 Brush Creek Boat Ramp & Campground
- 77 Island Creek Boat Ramp & Campground
- 78 Mineral Springs Lake Resort & Cabins
- 79 Moondoggie Canoe Liveree
- 80 Sandy Springs Campground & Cabins

VISITOR INFORMATION

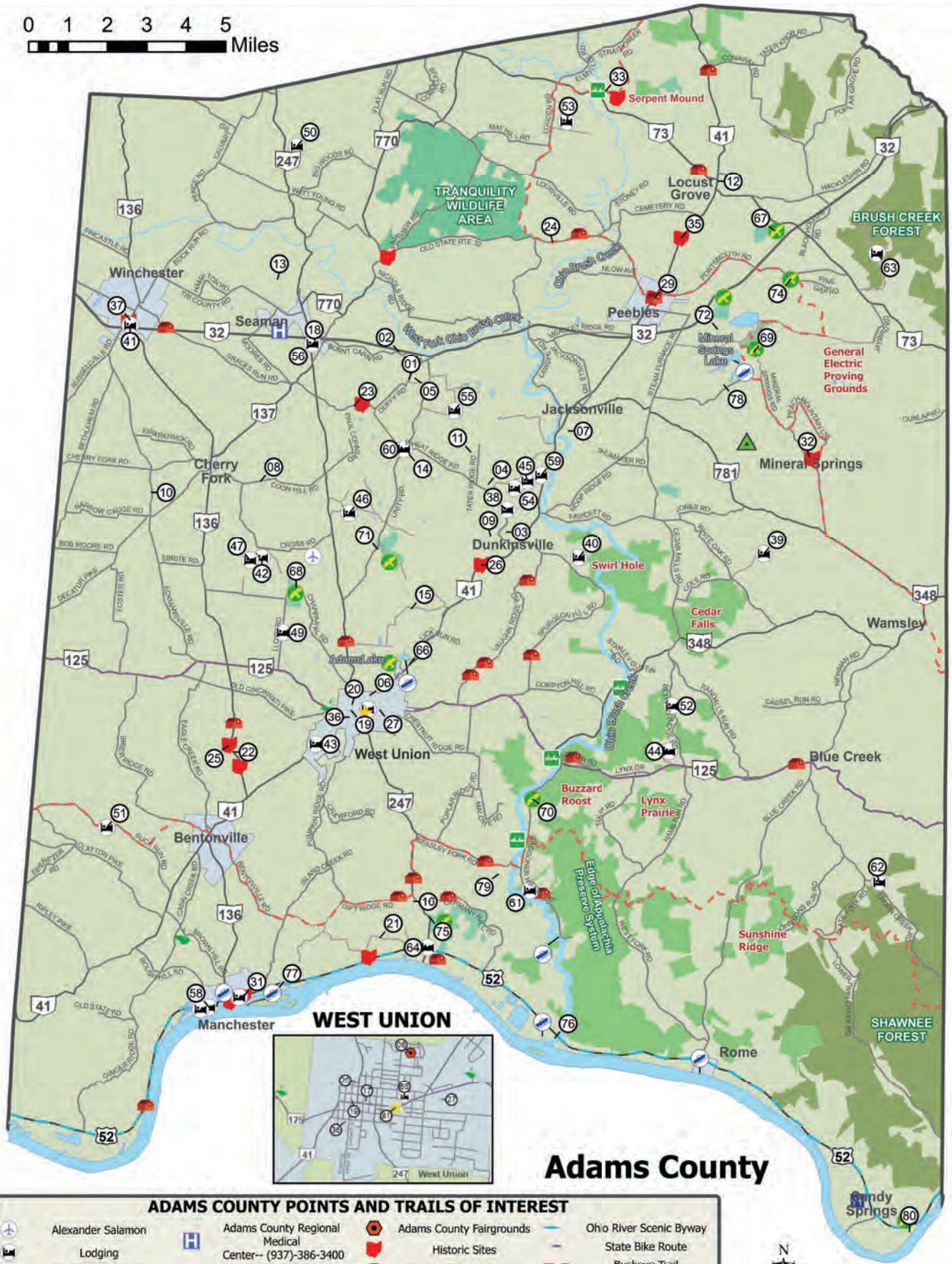
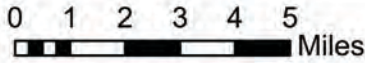
- 81 Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau

For more information,
please contact the
**Adams County
Travel & Visitors
Bureau**

(877) 232-6764

www.adamscountytravel.org

info@adamscountytravel.org



ADAMS COUNTY POINTS AND TRAILS OF INTEREST

	Alexander Salamon		Adams County Regional Medical Center-- (937)-386-3400		Adams County Fairgrounds		Ohio River Scenic Byway
	Lodging		Boat Ramps		Historic Sites		State Bike Route
	Visitor Information		Boating Access Points		Natural Areas & Preserves		Buckeye Trail
	Golf Courses				Quilt Barn Trail		US Routes
	Peach Mountain - Highest Point - 1,280ft						State Routes
							County Roads



Map produced by OVRDC 2023.
Sources: OVRDC, Nature Conservancy, Buckeye Trails, ODOT, ESRI, ODNR, Ohio History Connection



The Wheat Ridge Amish Community in Adams County

The Amish Community on Wheat Ridge began its humble roots in 1976 when seven families, looking for a fresh start, relocated from Melroy, Indiana, to Adams County because land was affordable and available. The late Bill Lafferty of West Union, who visited the Amish harness shops in Melroy, spoke favorably of the area. When the first Amish finally settled in Adams County, it was noted many were at first hog farmers.

Over time the Wheat Ridge Amish gradually evolved from a farming community into a merchant, industrial and service community that now boast nearly 100 Amish households.

Several factors have contributed to the prosperity of the Wheat Ridge Amish Community in those early years, including the close proximity to St. Rt. 32, the old Cedar Works factory and self-determination.

Over 40 years ago Roy Keim pulled a buggy under a shade tree on the newly completed St. Rt. 32 Appalachian Highway to sell homemade bread and bakery products his wife and daughters had prepared the evening before. The name has been changed to Yoder's, but the same fresh Amish bakery products are still there.

Miller's Bakery & Furniture started out in 1977 as a small kitchen bakery catering to tourist and locals that were

attracted to an old-fashioned Amish bakery and their quaint horse and buggy transportation.

Roy Raber started a small shoe repair on Murphin Ridge Road, and soon Amish lumber mills started operating and several Amish families found profitable enterprises in building bird houses for the new Cedar Works plant that opened near Peebles. The Wheat Ridge Amish Community saw substantial growth during the 1980s and 1990s, and so too did their various industries and businesses.

The Wheat Ridge Amish community now has four parochial schools, teaching approximately 40 to 60 students each.

Today's Amish Community is no different from those early days in the late 1970s when the sound of horse and buggies clip-clop on the pavement was heard and school children pushed scooters and commanded the reins of small buggies guiding them to one-room schoolhouses where baseball is still the preferred sport. Clothes are still dried on backyard clotheslines and women still wear white sun bonnets and tend to large, perfectly manicured family gardens that are the envy of all who pass.

Travelers to Wheat Ridge still have to navigate narrow, winding uphill roads, perhaps a covered bridge if coming in from the west, all the while keeping a sharp eye out for horse and buggies, and bicycles that both adults and children ride. Once atop the ridge the beauty is evident as the rural surroundings haven't changed much.

At the Wheat Ridge Amish Community shoes can be repaired, a buggy



Buggies are still used on Wheat Ridge.

can be fixed, furniture made, signs painted and horses can be purchased or traded. Amish tradesmen stand ready to replace a roof or construct a house or barn, or design handcrafted kitchen cabinets built to specs. Building supplies, rough lumber, and fresh farm produce and bakery products are all available and occasionally a handmade Amish quilt can be had at auctions to benefit local Amish schools. On Wheat Ridge the slower pace of life is plainly evident; a way of life that moves at a buggy's pace. ■



Farming is done the Amish way.

2023 Amish School Benefit Auction & Supper



Don't forget to attend the **Amish School Benefit Auction & Supper!** The public is invited to attend this annual event.

May 5 & Sept. 29

Supper 4 p.m. (cost: donation)
Auction 5 p.m.

Wheat Ridge Community Building
3735 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union

For more information call Ridgeway Lumber,
(937) 544-7566

Adams County Amish Business Directory

The Adams County Wheat Ridge Amish community offers many shops and services from furniture, dry goods and bakeries to builders and craftsmen. *All Amish businesses are closed Sunday.*



Wheat Ridge Road

Allan Miller Construction

620 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.544.7831

Amos Eicher Construction

1423 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.509.1034

CCL Bicycle Shop

1195 Duffy Rd, Peebles.
937.386.3368

Cedar Hill Machine

4830 Unity Rd, West Union.
937.386.0068

Cedar Hill Pallet

4830 Unity Rd, West Union.
937.544.9984

Country Cabins

2965 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.544.0898

Country Lane Fabrics

888 Tater Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.779.7017

Hillcrest Fencing

2260 Bailey Rd, Peebles.
937.386.1461

Hilltop Cabinet

1553 Tater Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.386.1908

Hershy Construction

1234 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.798.0011

Hilty Construction

2937 Graces Run Rd, Winchester.
937.695.0416

Hochstetler Construction

1493 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.544.4624

L&R Woodworking

1700 Tater Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.798.9275

Mast Construction

1735 Freeland Hollow Rd, West Union.
937.544.2323

Miller's Bakery & Gifts

954 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.544.4520

Miller's Bulk Foods

930 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.544.8449

Millers Furniture

960 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.544.8524

Murphin Ridge Building Supplies

67 Murphin Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.544.8010

Raber's Shoes & Saddlery

1324 Duffey Rd, Peebles.
937.386.9927

Ridgeway Lumber & Mulch

3735 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.544.7566

Schlabach Construction

1999 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.544.3964

Schmuckers Deer Processing

234 Duffy Rd, Peebles.
937.386.0260

Shetler Solar

1989 St. Rt. 137, Winchester.
937.386.3183

Schwartzs Small Engine Repair

2535 Graces Run Rd, Winchester.
937.386.1144

Stutzman Buggy Repair

1195 Duffy Rd, Peebles.
937.386.3368

Tribble M Gutters

59 Poole Rd, West Union.
937.788.0004

Unity Woodworks

2274 Unity Rd, West Union.
937.544.8068

Wagler's Roofing & Construction

1827 Tater Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.386.0330

Wheat Ridge Barns

1587 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.544.4178

Wheat Ridge Fencing

4100 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union.
937.544.4162

Yoder's Furniture, Bakery, Bulk Foods

2621 Burnt Cabin Rd, Seaman.
937.386.9995

Yutzy Construction

4550 Unity Rd, West Union.
937.386.0063



Yoder's Bakery



The Dutchman's Puzzle Finds a New Home



One of Adams County's first quilt barn squares, the "Dutchman's Puzzle," was taken down 20-plus years after it was first put up at "Granny's Place" along St. Rt. 32 on Burnt Cabin Road next to what was formerly

Keim's Family Market. It was one of the original 20 quilt barn squares that made up the nation's first Quilt Barn Trail, "The Clothesline of Quilts," that began right here in Adams County in 2001.

The owners of the property requested its removal because that location no longer serves as a business and has become a residence. Not to worry, though—except for some fading, the quilt square was in remarkably good shape for its age and the "Dutchman's Puzzle" has found a new home.

Former schoolteacher and principal at West Union, Phil Rhonemus, assisted the travel bureau in carefully removing the wood framing and plywood the quilt was painted on and is now the new owner of the "Dutchman's Puzzle."

Rhonemus has made plans to reclaim the aging quilt square by having it repainted. Once it's cleaned and repainted later this summer it will be placed high atop his barn on Vaughn Ridge Road, becoming the newest addition to Adams County's "Clothesline of Quilts." The new owner has enlisted local artists to help repaint and touch up the faded quilt square, and once it's completed it will look like new again.



Adams County Quilt Barn Trail brochures are available from the Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau. The updated brochures have information and a map to all 20 original Quilt Barns in Adams County's "Clothesline of Quilts" driving tour. To request one, email your name and address to info@adamscountyttravel.org.



TOP: One of Adams County's first quilt barn squares, the "Dutchman's Puzzle," has found a new home.

ABOVE: Phil Rhonemus is the new owner of the square and helped remove it from its original location.

For up-to-date information on the "Dutchman's Puzzle," or any of the other original quilt squares, contact the Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau at info@adamscountyttravel.org. ■



15th Annual Wheat Ridge Olde Thyme Herb Fair



The Wheat Ridge Olde Thyme Herb Fair brings together craftsmen, artisans, antique dealers and more.

The Wheat Ridge Olde Thyme Herb Fair is one of Adams County's largest annual events, bringing together over 150 craftsmen and artisans for three days of crafts, antiques and antique farm machinery, herbal products, and natural items, plus food and entertainment.

The fair is the creation of Herb and Kim Erwin, along with their son, Brad, on the family farm. During most of the year it's a working farm with cattle and hay fields, but for three days in October, the Erwins turn it into a celebration of farm life and the nearby Amish countryside.

"We enjoy it but it's a year-round effort and we're always trying to improve it," says Kim.

The Erwins launched the festival 15 years ago with a lot of help from the local Amish community. "It feels like the whole community is involved," she says.

The Wheat Ridge Amish community is heavily involved in the festival, baking from scratch, pressing fresh apple cider and preparing home-cooked meals to support the local Amish schools.

Two barns on the farm contain an assortment of eccentric and unusual antiques. Herbs, lavender, medicinal teas, soaps, lotions and other natural earth products are all offered at the festival.

The artisans at the festival offer unique metal yard art, wood-crafted items, handmade pottery, sewn items from quilters and weavers, homemade jams,

cheese, maple syrup and other farm products. There's entertainment, too, from musical acts performing a variety of genres, such as Creole, Celtic, country, old time tunes, popular hits, and more. ■

This year's festival dates are Oct. 13-15, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at 817 Tater Ridge Rd, West Union. For more info phone 937.544.8252.



We're the perfect getaway for rest and relaxation in Amish Country



Call 877-687-7446
or visit online at www.themurphinridgeinn.com



History

Living on the Edge of Ohio's Asteroid Crater

By Thomas T. Johnson

Adams County Ohio is known for its natural beauty, but it's also home to an asteroid crater that spans 5 miles across.

We happen to live just off the southeastern rim of the crater in the small town of Locust Grove. Moving here in 1996 we opened a small rock shop on the north end of town. At that time, two NASA scientists visited the shop asking questions about the Crypto Explosion Structure. I directed the men to some areas of interest and the scientists collected samples of the rock. Over the next year, we became friends.

At the same time, a group of scientists with the Ohio Geological Survey was studying geological samples from the disturbance in Adams County. Richard

W. Carlton made a startling discovery from a core sample removed from the center of the disturbance many years before. Within the 903-meter core of rock contained evidence of shock metamorphism called planar deformation (PDF) of quartz grains and altered impact melt rock. The PDFs are the smoking guns when identifying impact craters. Also present in the samples were minor enrichments of chromium, cobalt, nickel and iridium. The last elements listed are not from Adams County but from space. Impact samples from the crater area are on display at House of Phacops museum in Locust Grove at the intersection of St. Rt. 73 and St. Rt. 41. ■

Thomas T. Johnson has authored three books on trilobites. His museum, House of Phacops, is open daily and exhibits fossils and trilobites from around the world.



Thomas T. Johnson

Museums & Historical Societies

Adams County Heritage Center, St Rt. 247, 507 North Cherry St., West Union. Open noon-4 p.m. Thursday & Saturday. 937.544.8522

Adams County Historical Society & Adams County Genealogical Society, Adams County Heritage Center, West Union. 937.544.8522

House of Phacops, 29894 St. Rt. 41, Locust Grove. alternateuniverserockshop.com

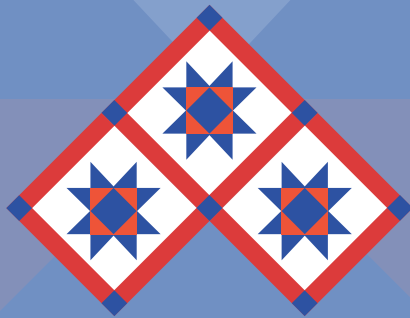
Lafferty Memorial Funeral & Carriage Collection, 205 South Cherry St., West Union. 937.544.2121. Museum open by appointment, please call ahead for museum hours.

Page One Room School House, Located at the intersection of Page School and Vaughn Ridge Road, West Union. 937.544.5639.

Serpent Museum & Gift Shop, 3850 St. Rt. 73, Peebles. 800.752.2757, ohiohistory.org/visit/museum-and-site-locator/serpent-mound

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Exploring Adams County

Bigfoot in Adams County

By Tom Cross

Is Bigfoot alive and living in the hills and Appalachian forests of Adams County? Mike Miller and Mike Feltner believe so. In fact, Miller said he has photographed footprints and seen proof of Bigfoot's existence in Adams County.

"A posting on BFRO (Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization) led us to Adams County," said Miller. "Our search area has been eastern Adams County and we've been actively looking for Bigfoot in Adams County for over 13 years."

"At night we go into heavily forested areas in eastern Adams County or Shawnee State Forest and set recording devices and sit in the dark."

"If no activity," said Feltner, "we'll blast animal sounds like wolves and see what we can stir up. Sometimes we'll stay out until four in the morning."

It was a rainy, chilly and misty night in October of 2014 when the pair first encountered Bigfoot in Adams County.

"We were all set up with recording devices and Mike (Feltner) let out a howl that echoed through the woods and we got a back a return howl," said Miller. "We moved down the trail to a graveyard and let out another howl and all heck broke loose as we hear massive vocalization and long, drawn-out whistles. We could hear footsteps in the forest, we retreated toward the truck, and I heard a branch break behind us and I turned and saw its head, shoulders and fur, and it wasn't no bear. The rain had quit, and the moon was out, and I saw him standing beside a tree it was holding on to. This thing gave me goosebumps. It was 7 or 8 feet tall with massive shoulders and I could see one red eye."



Two visitors to Adams County claim to have seen Bigfoot in the area.

It was those moments that Miller and Feltner recall many times when they replay the audio tapes of that night at Bigfoot conferences, roadshows and talks throughout the nation. The "Night Stalkers" as they call themselves will again be in Adams County this summer and fall searching for and trying to find more proof that Bigfoot exist. ■

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Ohio's Great Serpent Mound

By Brad Lepper



An aerial view of the Serpent Mound in Peebles

Serpent Mound is an icon of Ohio's Indigenous history and may be the most well-known Indian mound in America. It is a monumental earthen sculpture of a snake created by the ancestors of American Indians at around A.D. 1100.

The entire sculpture is more than 1,400 feet long including the sinuous snake, an oval earthwork and a wishbone-shaped mound that may represent First Woman who was another important figure in the traditions of many American Indian tribes.

The surrounding landscape also offers clues to the sacred purpose of Serpent Mound. The mound is built along the top of a narrow bluff overlooking Ohio Brush Creek. Lucy Lippard, a former curator at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, proposed that Serpent Mound was an example of "a meaningful landform eventually being refined by sculptural or architectural techniques."

Finally, the sheer size of Serpent Mound shows that it was built to inspire a sense of awe in the people who came

to participate in the ceremonies held there. The Serpent is so big that you can't see the entire sculpture from any one viewing point.

In 1908, the Ohio History Connection built an observation tower at the site to enable visitors to get that aerial perspective. The Columbus Wire and Iron Works Company used three tons of steel to build the 25-foot-high tower and over the years many thousands of visitors have climbed the tower for the spectacular view it afforded. In 2022, however, the Ohio History Connection made the decision to close the tower temporarily due to concerns for visitor safety.

But is an observation tower really needed in order to appreciate Serpent Mound?

Viewing Serpent Mound from above does give you a different perspective, but there is no reason why you cannot fully appreciate its form and grandeur simply by taking the time to walk around it.

It's not a painting on a wall—it's a sculpted landscape to be experienced.

By walking along the winding curves of the mound you become much more engaged in the process of discovering the Serpent and the landscape in which it is embedded.

Ben Barnes, chief of the Shawnee Tribe, feels a special connection to Serpent Mound. His ancestors lived in this valley centuries before any Europeans set foot in Ohio and they certainly were among those who participated in designing, constructing and worshipping at this giant shrine to the Great Serpent. He shares his thoughts about Serpent Mound with visitors on one of the signs at the site: "Serpent Mound was purposefully built for a special, sacred purpose. I should think that anyone that views the Serpent will realize its sacredness and treat this place as they would any cathedral, synagogue or mosque. When we see this place, this is our holy ground." ■

Brad Lepper is the senior archaeologist for the Ohio History Connection's World Heritage program.

Visitor Information

Serpent Mound is located at 3850 St. Rt. 73, Peebles. For more info, call 800-752-2757 or visit ohiohistory.org/visit/museum-and-site-locator/serpent-mound.

Archaeology Tour of Serpent Mound

Please join archaeologist Bill Kennedy of the Ohio History Connection every second Friday of each month for a guided walk around the World's Largest Effigy Mound. This walking tour gives an overview of precontact American Indians in Ohio and at Serpent Mound, one of the most iconic effigy mounds in the world. Tour begins in front of the museum visitor center at 1:30 p.m. Tour last for 1.5 hrs.

The Serpent Mound Observation Tower

Built in 1908, the tower is closed for the season due to needed repairs. The project is in the planning phase and work will begin later in 2023.

Parking: \$8 per vehicle

Summer & Fall hours (Apr. 1, 2023-Nov. 19, 2023)

Monday: Closed
 Tuesday-Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
 Sunday: Noon-5 p.m.



Winter Hours

Monday-Tuesday: Closed
 Wednesday-Saturday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
 Sunday: Noon-4 p.m.
 Closed November 23-24 and New Years Day.
 Visitor Center closed during winter.

Special events

3/20/23 Spring Equinox: 5:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
 6/21/23 Summer Solstice: 6 a.m.- 9:30 p.m.
 9/23/23 Autumn Equinox: TBA
 12/21/23 Winter Solstice: 7 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.

For upcoming events at Serpent Mound:

ohiohistory.org/serpentmound

Learn more about Serpent Mound at the Ancient Ohio Trail website:

ancientohiotrail.org/sites/serpent-mound

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Starry Nights in Adams County

By Terrence Huge

“The night was clear, and the stars were spread out like diamonds on a vast blanket of black velvet,” from Rocket Boys, by Homer H. Hickam, Jr.

Remember the first time you spotted the Big Dipper, the Milky Way or a shooting star? Unforgettable images that last a lifetime. In Adams County you can rekindle those wondrous night sky memories—all for free! Viewing God’s beautiful and boundless universe is as simple as walking outside.

Away from major urban light pollution, the rolling farmland and wooded hillsides of Adams County provide spectacular stargazing opportunities; you can view the Milky Way, distant galaxies, constellations, planets, comets and meteors. Of course, dark, clear nights are best, but even moderate cloud cover can often add drama to the sky.

The Milky Way, Earth’s home galaxy, is perhaps the most popular stargazing attraction. The silky ribbon of stars is viewable year-round, and its dazzling Galactic Center (the “Core”) is best observed in North America from March through September. Visibility varies with the season. In the early spring you’ll be looking an hour or two before dawn, whereas in late summer and early fall start looking shortly after sunset.



Adams County’s new observatory



The Milky Way towers above this Amish buggy along rural Duffy Road.

Summertime is nearly an all-night affair. The Galactic Center will be located in the SE to SW sector of the sky about 15-20 degrees above the horizon—highest in the summer.

Find an open location on a clear, dark night (preferably moonless). Various apps (e.g. Astrospheric and PhotoPills) provide excellent resources for viewing conditions as well as exact Milky Way positioning for time, date and location. Allow your eyes to adjust to the darkness for at least 15-20 minutes to optimize star visibility. Bring a comfortable chair or blanket, warm clothing and a flashlight or headlamp to enhance your experience. Plan and know your surroundings for maximum enjoyment and safety.

Shooting stars are also popular among stargazers. The best summer show, the Perseids meteor shower, peaks about Aug. 12-13, but a week or more either way can still yield spectacular streaks and flashes—perhaps 60 per hour! Another favorite is the Geminids, peaking around Dec. 13-14 with possibly 100 meteors per hour under optimal conditions. Try for a clear, dark night away from city lights with little or no moonlight.

Should night photography be your goal, a camera allowing long exposures (10 seconds plus) with manual adjustments, and a sturdy tripod are essential. Astrophotographer Richard Tatti, of Australia, is an expert on fine art night landscapes at nightscapeimages.com.au and his instructional YouTube videos and workshops attract worldwide interest.

A final note of interest for astrophiles (i.e. star lovers) is the news that a world-class, private observatory is being completed in Adams County, opening in 2023. The brainchild of Dieter Moeller, a Cincinnati businessman and amateur astronomer with local childhood roots, the Moeller Observatory will partner with the Cincinnati Astronomical Society (CAS), cinastro.org, to facilitate and coordinate the project. Astronomy education and enhanced tourism in Adams County are included in its future goals.

So if you’re ready to venture out at night to wonder at the immense beauty of our starry universe, then Adams County is a great place to be. ■

Terrence Huge is a photographer specializing in night sky photography, and an amateur astronomer.



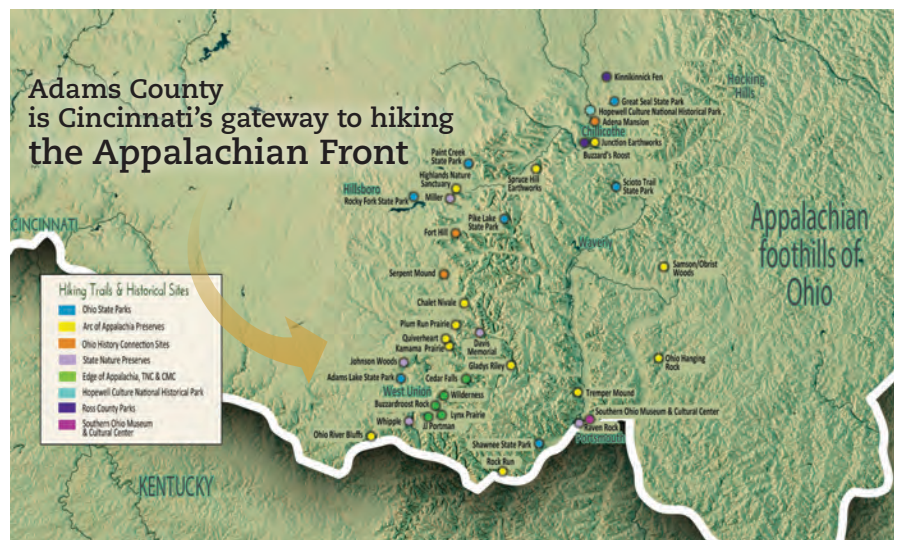
Southern Ohio's Appalachian Front

By Nancy Stranahan

Ohio's Appalachian Front is a five-county region that is drenched in nature preserves, ancient earthworks, cultural and historical sites, parks and hiking trails. Nowhere else in Ohio is there anything close to this region's extraordinary density of natural and historical attractions. Adams and Highland counties serve as gateways to visitors arriving from the west, Ross County from the north, and Pike and Scioto counties from the east.

The Appalachian Front is the hilliest region in Ohio. Bounded in the south by the Ohio River, it is known as the "Little Smokies of Ohio" due to the fact that its forest-clad hills are so often laced with mist and clouds. Four state forests conserve over 100,000 acres of woodlands and offer 150 miles of bridle trails. Eight state parks offer a variety of recreational services, including camping and cabin rentals. Another eight state nature preserves protect plants and animals in a region that boasts not only the highest biodiversity in the state, but the greatest number of rare and endangered species. Major highways lead nature enthusiasts into the Appalachian Front: U.S. 52 along the Ohio River; U.S. 23 from the north; and St. Rt. 32 east and west across its breadth—Ohio's Appalachian Highway.

The Appalachian Front region is unequalled in the state for its multitude of hiking trails. Two nonprofit land trusts contribute heavily. The Nature Conservancy (in partnership with the Cincinnati Museum Center) manages the 21,000-acre Edge of Appalachia



A map of Ohio's Appalachian Front and its preserves and trails

Preserve. Another nonprofit, the Arc of Appalachia, has a large system of smaller preserves. Both nonprofits have put a heavy focus on developing hiking trails. Including state lands, there are more than 120 miles of hiking and backpack trails in the Appalachian Front region. Here one can often hike all day long without seeing another soul.

The Appalachian Front is extremely rich in indigenous legacies. Serpent Mound, managed by the Ohio History Connection, is one of the most well-known earthworks in the world. Over two-thirds of the ceremonial earthwork complexes built by the Hopewell Culture 2,000 years ago lie within the boundaries of this region of Ohio. Several of these ancient earthworks are awaiting designation as World Heritage Sites. ■



Ohio Hanging Rock, Arc of Appalachia, Scioto County

The 750-acre Ohio Hanging Rock Preserve is opening this year with a new 4.5-mile trail that features massive sandstone boulders at high elevations that were once washed and sculpted by the waves at the shore of an immense and ancient glacial lake, Lake Tight. Now high and dry, the shoreline rocks are covered with ferns and lichens.



Cedar Falls, The Nature Conservancy, Adams County

The Helen C. Black Trail at Cedar Falls features a 15-foot cascade of water that is exceptionally beautiful after heavy rains. The 3.2-mile trail boasts what is perhaps the highest diversity of spring wildflower species of all the areas hiking trails. Cedar Falls is part of the 21,000-acre Edge of Appalachia Preserve, managed in partnership with the Cincinnati Museum Center.



Ohio River Bluffs, Arc of Appalachia, Adams County

Because Ohio River Bluffs faces the Ohio River, it has one of the earliest wildflower displays to brighten our spring. For a breathtaking two weeks in early April, it is among the most beautiful floral showcases in the world, featuring bluebells, dwarf larkspur, and blue-eyed Marys. Three hiking trails lead visitors into heavenly floral landscapes. Photo by Tim Pohlar.



Chaparral Prairie State Nature Preserve, Adams County

Chaparral is one of many preserves in the Appalachian Front region that protects an extremely rare ecosystem known as a Cedar Barren Prairie. In Ohio, this habitat is almost exclusively found in Adams County. Cedar Barrens are closely associated with limestone and dolomite bedrocks and boast many rare and endangered plants. Here, a deer bounds through a late summer field of blazing stars. Photo by Brian Prose.



[Buzzardroost Rock, The Nature Conservancy, Adams County](#)

The hiking trail at Buzzardroost Rock winds to one of the most dramatic ridgetops in Ohio, providing vistas of Ohio Brush Creek. Look for the preserve's namesake birds flying high above, and alkaline-adapted plants in the understory. Buzzardroost is part of the 21,000-acre Edge of Appalachia Preserve, managed in partnership with the Cincinnati Museum Center. Photo by David Ike.



[Highlands Nature Sanctuary, Arc of Appalachia, Highland County](#)

The 3,000-acre Highland Nature Sanctuary is the region's second largest preserve, protecting the stunning landscape of the Rocky Fork Gorge. The Appalachian Forest Museum is staffed seasonally to orient visitors to the preserve's 16 miles of trails. The Sanctuary hosts many nature events annually and offers beautiful overnight lodges. Photo by Tom Croce Photography.

Nancy Stranahan is director of the Highlands Nature Sanctuary/Arc of Appalachia Preserve System.



Hiking

The Buckeye Trail and TrailFest in Adams County

By Jean Vandervart/ Buckeye Trail Assoc.

The Buckeye Trail (BT) is a 1,400-plus mile State Recreational Trail that wraps around the state of Ohio, in an endless loop. It passes through Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Hocking Hills, along the Miami & Erie Canal and so many historical and natural locations that are the highlights of our state of Ohio. Among these historical and natural features are Serpent Mound, Shawnee State Forest, Davis Memorial, views of the Ohio River and more—all right here in Adams County.

Aug. 17-20, the Buckeye Trail Association—in partnership with ODNR—will be holding its 10th annual TrailFest at Shawnee State Park and Lodge (4404B St. Rt. 125, West Portsmouth). The Buckeye TrailFest offers a long weekend

packed full of hikes, workshops, presentations, speakers and social opportunities. Hikes will cover all skill levels from easy to difficult. Meet other hikers and trail maintainers from around the state and learn about nature, history, survival skills, trail building tips and more. You can come for the whole weekend or come for a day. And if you are up for a challenge, there will be a 36-mile hike-in event hosted by Adams County's own MoonDoggie LIVEree before TrailFest (for more details, email Nikki Gerber at moondoggieliveree2020@gmail.com).

Hosting the event for the BTA this year is the local Appalachian Foothills Chapter. The Chapter encompasses Highland, Adams, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Brown counties, and it contains the



At the end of the Portman Trail begins the Buckeye Trail through the Edge of Appalachia Preserve.

Scioto Trail, Sinking Spring, Shawnee and West Union sections of the BT. You can contact the chapter at appalachianfoothills@buckeyetrail.org.

As we say in the hiking community, “choose your own hike”—whether it’s day hiking, section hiking or thru-hiking. Nature provides so many opportunities to explore hiking, bird watching, swimming, kayaking, bicycling, running or meditating in your favorite spot. So get out there and Follow the Blue Blazes! ■

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Cycling

Riding Bicycles on Rural Country Roads

Adams County country roads offer cyclists a chance to view the beautiful countryside of southwestern Ohio on roads less traveled. The back roads and country byways of Adams County have little traffic and are perfect for an afternoon of two-wheel peddling.

Wheat Ridge and Graces Run Road is the heart of Adams County's Amish Community where you'll likely have to share the road with horse and bug-

gies and light tourist traffic. The side roads—Tater Ridge, Unity and Duffy roads—are even less traveled. At the bottom of the hill on Graces Run is the historic Harshaville Covered Bridge.

Further east in Adams County are scenic backroads that are lightly traveled by autos. The road through Mineral Springs, within sight of Peach Mountain, the highest point in Adams County, is one of the more scenic routes and is included in this year's fourth annual Fresh Air Ride. The little burg of Mineral Springs is a post card village with some interesting history, and you'll pass the still flowing springs that the village takes its namesake from.

At the southern end of Adams County, Waggoner Riffle Road follows Ohio Brush Creek, past the 20,000-acre Edge of Appalachia Preserve. A stop at Creeks Bend Picnic Area is recommended with



Cyclists ride across the Beasley Fork Bridge over Brush Creek.

its stunning view of Ohio Brush Creek and it has a public restroom.

Adams County's offers the perfect escape for an afternoon or a day-long bicycle ride through the countryside. The county and township roads that wind through the countryside have wonderful views, little traffic and are perfect for a day of bike riding. And if you get lost don't worry half the fun is finding your way back. ■

Fresh Air Ride

The Cycling Scenic Adams County 4th Annual Fresh Air Ride takes place Oct. 7. It's a 100-mile century and 60-mile metric Century bicycle ride through Adams County. A home cooked Amish meal awaits cyclist at end of the ride. Starts and ends at CCL Bicycle, 1195 Duffy Rd, Peebles. Information and registration at 937.386.3368.

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Hunting & Fishing

Tranquility WLA Shooting Range Reopens

By Tom Cross

The long-awaited reopening of the Tranquility Wildlife Area Shooting Range opened Nov. 22 after a ceremonial ribbon cutting by the director and chief of wildlife.

“I’m real excited to cut the ribbon and open this range and continue to improve shooting ranges around Ohio,” said ODNR Director Mary Mertz.

The Tranquility shooting range was first constructed by the Ohio National Guard during the early ‘60s at the relatively new Tranquility Wildlife Area. Over the years the range had numerous improvements, upgrades and near closures. The last improvement was in 2002 when the Adams County wildlife officer sought to keep the range open and lobbied for improvements and upgrades. The cost of the upgrades at that time were a little over \$35,000. Twenty years later the improvements came with a price tag of \$1.5 million with 75% of the funding from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife.

By 2016 the Tranquility range was showing its age and, due to safety concerns and erosion, it was closed and there were questions if it would ever reopen again. However, in 2019 Tranquility received a new lease on life when the State Controlling Board approved funding for improvements at the range.

The newly renovated range can



The reopened Tranquility Wildlife Area Shooting Range can accommodate up to 20 shooters and has two separate shooting areas.

accommodate up to 20 shooters and has two separated shooting areas: a 50-yard range, a 25-yard range and a 7-yard handgun range with sheltered shooting benches. Drainage issues were addressed by raising the ground level nearly 2 feet and installing drainage lines.

The dirt and lead bullet fragments have been removed from the old backstop and replaced with an environmental mix that locks in and seals the lead from bleaching into the surrounding soil. The backstops are a mix of ballistic sand that traps the bullets and every

four to five years will be scooped up and lead removed.

Amenities at the range include gun holders, seating benches and six picnic tables on concrete pads. Portable restrooms are at the range now but, according to the Division of Wildlife, permanent public restroom will be built. The range is ADA compliant with concrete walkways for easy accessibility. Target stands are provided but shooters must provide their own targets.

Shooters are required to check in at the time of arrival by scanning the QR code posted on the welcome board located at the entrance of the range or by filling out a paper form.

“At the welcome board is basic information, range hours, rules and where to find additional information,” said Assistant Chief Todd Haines.

The Tranquility Gun Range is a Class B Range, but, according to Haines, the Division of Wildlife will patrol it regularly to assure compliance with the range rules and safety. A range permit is required to shot at Tranquility. Anyone 17 years old or younger is not required to have a range permit but must be accompanied by an adult holding a permit. Range hours are seven days a week from 9 a.m. until sunset.

The range is located off St. Rt. 770, northeast of Seaman on Wildlife Road in the Tranquility Wildlife Area. GPS coordinates are 39.010759, -83.511722. For more information contact Wildlife District Five at 937.372.9261. ■



The shooting range reopened in November 2022.

Outdoor Recreation Information

Public Hunting Areas

- Tranquility Wildlife Area
- Shawnee State Forest
- Brush Creek State Forest
- The Edge of Appalachia Preserve by permit only

Local Outfitters

- Real McCoy Outdoors, realmccoyoutdoors.com
- Riverhills Whitetail, riverhillswhitetail.com
- Ohio Premier Trophy Outfitters, ohpto.com

Canoe Rental

- MoonDoggie LIVERee, 513.208.4635

Public Fishing Areas

- Ohio River
- Ohio Brush Creek
- Adams Lake
- Winchester Lake.
- Tranquility Wildlife Area ponds

Public Boat Ramps & Canoe Launches are marked on the map within this guide.

Ohio Brush Creek Canoe Access

- St. Rt. 73 bridge over Ohio Brush Creek at Serpent Mound
- St. Rt. 348 bridge over Ohio Brush Creek east of West Union
- St. Rt. 125 bridge over Ohio Brush Creek east of West Union.
- Edge of Appalachia Creeks Bend access on Waggoner Riffle Road
- Mackenzie Run Boat Ramp at 714 Waggoner Riffle Road

Ohio River Boat Ramps & Campgrounds

- Brush Creek Boat Ramp & Campground
Nine miles east of Manchester on U.S. 52. Fee charged for launching and camping. 937.205.7732
- Island Creek Marina & Campground
One mile east of Manchester on U.S. 52. Fee charged for launching and camping. 937.549.1430
- Manchester Village Boat Ramp and Kayak launch
West Front Street, Manchester. No fee charged for launching.
- Sandy Springs Campgrounds & Small Boat Launch
One mile east of Sandy Springs on U.S. 52. Fee charge for launching and camping. 701.640.7858, sandyspringscampground.com



Winchester Marketing Manager Nathan Robinson with a 16-pointer he bagged.

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Storybook Trail comes to Adams Lake State Park

By Sherry Larson



On June 27, Ohio's 18th Storybook Trail was opened at Adams Lake State Park. Approximately 300 were on hand, including Assistant Park Director Mindy Bankey, State Senator Terry Johnson and Debbie Cantor of the Ohio Governor's Imagination Library, to cut the ribbon. The Storybook Trail is a path to exploring nature and imagination through the pages of a children's book posted on panels along the blacktop walking path that follows the length of Adams Lake on the south shore.

Debbie Ryan of the Adams County Health and Wellness Coalition explains, "A private donor offered to pay for the trail, and we also secured donations to purchase 145 books to distribute to school children that attended the ribbon cutting."

The Adams County Land Bank donated money for a basketball court and a wheelchair swing. A Health and Communities Grant is on tap pay for a new fishing pier and benches.

"Anything to help promote physical activity," said Ryan.

Park Manager Cory Cover welcomed attendees to the ribbon-cutting and stated, "We are so excited to have this Storybook Trail. Many amazing things are coming to Adams Lake in the future." Cover thanked the anonymous donor who provided funding for the story pages. He recognized Health & Wellness, Adams County Economic Development, the Adams County Board of Commissioners and the Honorable Judge Brett Spencer. He also expressed gratitude for the book donators—CT Consultants, Judge Spencer, Health & Wellness, Ripley Women's Club, Joyce Porter and Tami Graham.

Assistant Park Director Bankey added, "These trails are inspired by Ohio's First Lady Fran DeWine working in partnership with the governor's Imagination Library. It's a tremendous opportunity to get kids out and enjoy the natural resources."

The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Storybook Trail at Adams Lake State Park was held June 27. The new trail combines exploring nature with reading and imagination.

ODNR launched the storybook trail program in 2019 and partnered with the Ohio Governor and Dolly Parton's imagination Library. There are currently 18 half-mile long Storybook Trails located at state parks throughout Ohio, each with 16 child-height panels featuring pages of a children's book and an activity to accompany the text on the page.

In addition to the storybook trail, Adams Lake State Park is home to the Adams Lake Prairie State Nature Preserve, a shelter house, a handicap challenged kayak launch and boat ramp. Future plans include a fishing pier, monthly nature programs and a visitor center. ■

Sherry Larson is a reporter for the *The Peoples Defender* newspaper in West Union.

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Ohio River in Adams County



The Ohio River Challenge is a 250-mile canoe trip.

On May 31, 2022, 16 adventurers in two 30-foot Voyager canoes paddling from Portsmouth to Louisville officially launched the Ohio River Way via a 250-mile journey aptly named the Ohio River Challenge. Its main goals were stopping at river towns, meeting with community leaders and documenting various Ohio River sites.

The following day, after an overnight stop in Vanceburg, Kentucky, the Ohio River Challenge pulled ashore in Manchester, Ohio, for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to dedicate the Ohio River Way. A gathering of Adams County leaders and supporters greeted the canoeists and Manchester councilmember Dennis Barnard welcomed the paddlers. Adams County Commissioner Diane Ward was on hand to address the crowd saying, “Welcome everyone to our beautiful Adams County.”

At the ceremony, Brewster Rhoads, chairman of the Ohio River Way, said, “We look forward to celebrating the beauty and majesty of the Ohio River with communities along the Ohio River Way. Where else in America can you paddle, fish, water ski, hike, bike and camp while touring the Underground Railroad, Native American sites, historic

river towns, 19th-century architecture and picturesque Main Streets?”

Rhoads went on to explain that the paddlers on the journey were documenting and photographing historical, ecological and recreational sites along the way.

Also speaking was Dr. David Wicks, founder of River City Paddlesports. “The Manchester Islands are the most southern of the 22 islands that make up the Ohio River Island National Wildlife Refuge. Our efforts here are to get recognition that the Ohio River is important as not only a transportation corridor but also a recreational venue and a way of life,” he said.

After the ceremony the voyagers pushed off for Maysville, Kentucky.



The Ohio River Way launched in 2022.

The Ohio River on the southern border of Adams County is a picturesque stretch of river with three uninhabited islands, Brush Creek Island and Manchester Island 1 & 2. Both Manchester islands are part of the Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

Public boat ramps to the Ohio River include Bush Creek, Island Creek and at Manchester. Seasonal, overnight camping and lodging are also available on the Ohio River.

For information about the Ohio River Island National Wildlife Refuge go to fws.gov/refuge/ohio-river-islands.

For the third year in a row the Ohio River Challenge will take river enthusiasts on a 250-mile journey from Portsmouth to Louisville in 30-foot voyager canoes. To learn more go to ohioriverway.org/ohio-river-challenge.

For information about campgrounds, lodging and recreational opportunities on the Ohio River in Adams County, contact the Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau at 937.544.5639 or email info@adamscountytravel.org ■

Sherry Larson, reporter for *The Peoples Defender* newspaper, contributed to this article.



New Mackenzie Run Boat Ramp opens on Ohio Brush Creek

By Tom Cross

A new boat ramp and canoe launch opened on Ohio Brush Creek as a result of The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) purchase of 36 acres of the old Hickory Valley property on Waggoner Riffle Road. A grant from the Ohio Division of Wildlife's Boater Angler Fund was instrumental in helping purchase the additional property with a concrete boat ramp and to construct a new parking area.

"We were really excited to partner with TNC on this project and provide boater and angler access to the upper pool of Ohio Brush Creek," said John Navarro, program administrator for the Division of Wildlife.

According to Martin McAllister, Southern Ohio conservation coordinator for TNC, much work was done to the property; old buildings, mobile homes, and various structures were removed, and the land was turned back to a more natural state. Funding from the Clean Ohio Fund helped accomplish this.

In spring, parts of the property was replanted with seedlings that are native to the Brush Creek watershed, including buckeye, shellbark hickory, bur oak and walnut.

In addition to the reforestation efforts, the old Hickey Valley concrete boat ramp on Ohio Brush Creek was cleaned of sediment, a new gravel road and parking area were constructed and lighting was added. The ramp is well



ABOVE: The entrance to the new Mackenzie Run Boat Ramp on Ohio Brush Creek



LEFT: Rich Carter with a smallmouth he caught in Ohio Brush Creek.

lighted for pre-dawn and dusk boat launches. The ramp was named after the small stream that flows through the property, Mackenzie Run. The ramp is approximately 4 miles upstream from the Ohio River.

The Mackenzie Run boat ramp is open for public use and free of charge. The ramp also doubles as a canoe/kayak drop off and pick up point, further complimenting the three canoe/kayak accesses upstream on Ohio Brush Creek.

In addition to Mackenzie Run, TNC Creek's Bend canoe access is 3 miles upstream on Waggoner Riffle Road. Three miles upstream of Creek's Bend is the Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau's St. Rt. 125 Bridge canoe access, and 3 miles upstream from that

is the travel bureau's St. Rt. 348 Bridge access. In all, the four canoe/kayak accesses take in approximately 12 miles of stream, making for a full day of canoeing or fishing.

New signage with maps at the Mackenzie Run ramp show all the public accesses sites on Ohio Brush Creek plus other information about the area.

At the mouth of Brush Creek is the Brush Creek Boat Ramp & Campground near the Ohio River. The Ohio River is just around the bend and Brush Creek Island sits in the middle of the Ohio River directly across from the mouth of Brush Creek.

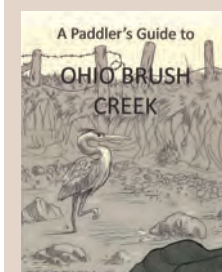
The ramp will easily accommodate most mid-size trailered boats.

Ohio Brush Creek is idle speed only; the river pool is nearly 7 miles long before encountering the first upstream riffle.

The Mackenzie Run Boat Ramp is located approximately 5.5 miles south of St. Rt. 125 on Waggoner Riffle Road at 653 Waggoner Riffle Rd, Lynx, OH.

To view the current water conditions, check out TNC's "Creek Cam" at creek-cam.tnc.rktshp.net.

For up-to-date water levels check out waterdata.usgs.gov/usa/nwis/uv?03237500. ■



Paddling Guide to Ohio Brush Creek

The online *Paddlers Guide to Ohio Brush Creek*, produced by Elijah Wickerham, is available to download for free at the link below. From the site you can download and print this handy reference guide to floating Ohio Brush Creek in Adams County, including information and maps to all access points on Ohio Brush Creek. adamssoilandwater.org/a-paddlers-guide-to-ohio-brush-creek.html



The Landing at Brush Creek



In the autumn of 2020 and the throes of COVID, Sherry and Kirk Larson traveled to Adams County from North Carolina with three goals: be nearer to their grandchildren, purchase hunting land and hope that land would offer a natural landscape that would be the backdrop for memorable events. The Landing at Brush Creek, known then as the old Garrison Farm, was their serendipitous find.

“We knew we’d land here and perhaps, too, we knew it wouldn’t be easy,” said Sherry, “but the learning curve was steep.”

The Larsons purchased the property during the late winter of 2021 and began making the house and cabin into a home and a gathering place for celebration, recreation and relaxation.

“I always tell our engaged couples, ‘Enjoy the process.’ We’ve had to abide by that same mantra,” said Sherry.

By the summer of 2022 the Larsons kicked off their new event center with an open house and ribbon cutting and thus The Landing at Brush Creek was born. The Larsons had also remodeled a three-bedroom cabin that sits high atop the bank overlooking Ohio Brush Creek and were ready to accommodate overnight guests at their newly named Creekside Cabin. They were also ready to accommodate their first weddings and other events at the Lodge.

“What sets us apart is we aren’t for the mainstream weddings or corporate events where folks want to stay inside all day,” said Larson. “I like describing us



TOP: The Lodge at The Landing at Brush Creek. **ABOVE:** Inside Creekside Cabin

as a fairytale location, a little paradise where nature is our canvas and the views are magnificent.”

The Larsons said a new conservatory will be built this summer in the field overlooking the lake, presenting a unique venue for one-of-a-kind events.

The Landing at Brush Creek offers overnight accommodations at the lodge and cabin. The location is secluded, and guests can take advantage of nearby activities including hiking, canoeing, fishing, bird watching and indulging in the beauty of Adams County.

The Landing is located on Waggoner Riffle Road, part of the Adams County Quilt Trail and close to the Edge of Appalachia’s 20,000-acre nature preserve. Ohio Brush Creek borders the property on the west, offering canoeing, fishing

and wildlife watching. The 3-acre lake provides the perfect backdrop for weddings or corporate events.

“The best part about The Landing at Brush Creek is fostering fellowship and making new friends,” said Sherry. “We genuinely want people to achieve their event vision, and if that vision lands here, all the better.”

Lodging is available for up to 20 guests at the lodge and cabin. To book an event or a weekend at the Creekside Cabin, contact them at thelandingatbrushcreek@gmail.com or call 937.544.8631. Visit their website at thelandingatbrushcreek.com. ■

Kirk and Sherry Larson are the owners and proprietors of The Landing at Brush Creek.

Lodging in Adams County - 2023



The Far Look Cabin

Valerie's House B&B

Built in 1883 this Victorian home is a historical landmark in Adams County. Three elegant suites are available for the night or week, and for special occasions or meetings. 530 East Mulberry St., West Union. 937.779.3502 or 833.303.7796, valerieshouse530.com

Cabins/Cottages/ Retreats Amish House

The Amish House, located on Wheat Ridge Road next to Miller's Bakery & Furniture, features five guest rooms with private baths, furnished living room, full kitchen and a front porch to enjoy our rural community. 1246 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union. 937.544.2263, toll free 877.687.7446, themurphinridgeinn.com

Behm Mountain Cabin(s)

This relaxing cabin in the wilds of Adams County was reconstructed from the hand-hewn logs of historical structures originally built over 100 years ago. Pet friendly. 1561 Coon Hollow Rd, Blue Creek. 937.587.5144, behmmountaincabin.com

Brush Creek Retreat

The cabin has two bedrooms and full bath

surrounded by over 1,000 acres of nature preserve property. The back deck has a breathtaking view of Ohio Brush Creek. 4786 Spurgeon Hill Rd, West Union. 937.515.0406, brushcreekretreat.weebly.com, brushcreekretreat@gmail.com

Cave Hill Cabin

Offers all the amenities in a quiet wooded setting at the end of a private road where wildlife and nature abound. 778 Cave Hill Rd, Winchester. 513.580.8826, cavehillcabin.com

Cozy Hideaway

A vacation destination that is perfect for a relaxing escape or romantic getaway. Newly renovated cabin for hunting or the adventure of a lifetime. Pet friendly. 415 Cozy Lane, West Union. 513.315.3334, cozyhideaway.org

Crosset Cottage

The Crosset Cottage is a modern two-bed, two-bath cottage in the middle of beautiful Amish Country situated on 142 acres of rolling woodland and farmland with breathtaking vistas of the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. 1040 Murphin Ridge Rd, West Union. crossetcottage.com

Bed & Breakfast

Murphin Ridge Inn & Cabins

Located in the Amish community of Adams County, this historic landmark offers 10 rooms plus nine cabins. Additional lodging available at the Amish House. 750 Murphin Ridge Rd, West Union. 937.544.2263 or 877.687.7446, themurphinridgeinn.com

River Haven B&B

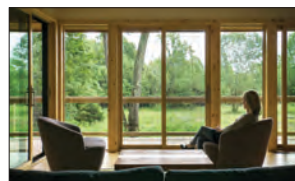
A beautiful B&B on the riverfront offering six spacious rooms with private bath. 407 West Front St., Manchester. 937.549.1999, ohioriverhaven.com, riverhaven45144@yahoo.com



The Crosset Cottage



The Crosset Cabin is a modern cottage in the middle of Amish Country in Southern Ohio situated on 142 acres of rolling woodland and farmland with breathtaking vistas of the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains.



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Deer Path Cabin

The fully furnished cabin has three bedrooms, two baths, a kitchen and a gas fireplace, a spacious back porch with an outside fire pit with fire wood, and a 1-acre pond for fishing. 657 Tom Brown Rd, Winchester, 937-779-6122, vrbo.com/1271069

Glasgow Manor

Located on the Ohio River on the Grounds of Stockade Estates Resort in Manchester, this four-bedroom, 1.5 bath, single family home is your home away from home. The home is accessible by land or water, with space for your car/truck/boat trailer. 708 Second St., Manchester. vrbo.com/en-ca/cottage-rental/p2702279vb

Gretta's Place

Bring the whole family to this great place with lots of room for fun. Can hold up to 10 guests. Five bedrooms, five beds, three baths. Full kitchen, HDTV, air, patio and balcony. U.S. 52, Wrightsville. airbnb.com/rooms/719549896243948712

Griffis Getaway Cabin

Brand new, beautiful, cozy cabin located on 90 acres of hunting land with fishing pond! Sleeps up to seven. Great for a vacation with family or friends or a place to stay while in town! 958 Lloyd Rd, West Union. 937.779.6718, vrbo.com/2691579

Hawks View Farm

Rustic cabin rental located just one hour east of Cincinnati and minutes from the Wheat Ridge Amish Community. Spectacular views, breathtaking sunsets and a peaceful rural experience. Pet Friendly. 265 Greenbrier Rd, Seaman. ahawksviewfarm.com

Hopewell Croft Cabin

Relax at this spacious yet cozy and comfortable cabin. Cook up a feast in the well-equipped kitchen. Explore the winding trails. Rest by the peaceful stream. Pet friendly. 2626 Suck Run Rd, Bentonville. hopewellcroft.com

Maple Cabin @ Sandy Springs Campground

Nestled in the trees along the riverbank. Air conditioned and a beautiful fireplace provides heat and ambiance. Visit website for other cabin options. 27719 U.S. 52, Stout. 701.640.7858, sandyspringscampground.com

McIntosh Cabin

Fishing, boating and hiking. Close to Buzzardroost, Lynx Prairie and Shawnee State Park. Sleeps six, with four bunks, one full bath and kitchen. Pet friendly. 1709 Bethany Ridge Rd, West Union. 937.544.7294 or 937.259.4502

Mound View Farm

Get away from it all at this secluded cabin in the woods, the perfect place for a family vacation or weekend hunting retreat. Pet friendly. 203 Hendrick Rd, Peebles. 937.587.3489, moundviewfarms.com

Pine Valley Cabins

Four cabins nestled among the pines in the heart of Adams County Amish Country with bath, shower, heat, air, washer and dryer. Kitchen, living room, bedrooms and sleeps six. 1040 Bailey Rd, Peebles. 937.798.5426, airbnb.com/rooms/567288577547179055

River Barn Cabins

Located on the river front, they offer cabins and camping. Pet friendly. 7023 U.S. 52, Manchester. 937.549.3033, facebook.com/profile.php?id=100054327529500



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Riverhills Vacation Rental

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Scenic-View Cottage

Located across the road from the Ohio Brush Creek, visitors will enjoy the quaint valley in a private cottage. Pet friendly. 20913 St. Rt. 41, Peebles. 937.587.2874, scenicviewcottage.com

The Far Look Cabin

A Pre-Civil War log cabin offers all modern amenities and is located in the heart of Adams County on 17-plus private acres with beautiful views of the Appalachian Mountains. Cave Hill Road, Winchester. vrbo.com/2964188

The Farmhouse of Unity

A vacation rental in the heart of Adams County Amish Country. Three bedrooms, two baths and a fire pit under the stars. Sleeps eight. Great for family getaways. 4361 Unity Rd, West Union. 513.910-5640, vrbo.com/2044793

The Landing at Brush Creek Creekside Cabin

The cabin sleeps six. Explore the Edge of Appalachia Preserve, Brush Creek, picking wildflower

ers. On the Adams County Quilt Barn Trail. Pet friendly. 1805 Waggoner Riffle Rd, West Union. 614.915.4979, thelandingatbrushcreek.com

The Nut House Cabin at Trail End

Located in the Appalachian foothills of Shawnee State Forest. You have the entire cabin all to yourself. Sleeps two guests in this one bedroom and bath cabin near Blue Creek. 740.216.8722, airbnb.com/rooms/44469519

The Red Barn

Located on a secluded dead-end road in the midst of Brush Creek State Forest, this the perfect couple's getaway. Stocked pond and fire pit with free firewood. 91 Cole Lane, Peebles. 937.231.2604, vrbo.com/782567

The Sanctuary

A full-sized home situated on a secluded ridge on 8 private acres that adjoin Brush Creek State Forest. 1620 Coffee Hollow Rd, Peebles. 937.231.2604, vrbo.com/354078

The Ville Guesthouse & Cabins

A majestic 1870s farmhouse with access to a pier and dock on the Ohio River. Also, a cabin overlooking the Ohio River Valley with fire pit and walking trails. St. Rt. 247, Manchester. 937.217.3000, thevilleguesthouse.com

Camping

Brush Creek Boat Ramp & Campground

Boating, fishing and camping, launch ramp, food, picnic areas, and fuel on lower Ohio Brush Creek. Open April through September. Boating access to Brush Creek Island. 17085 U.S. 52, Manchester. 937.205.7732

Island Creek Boat Ramp & Campground

Offering camping and picnic area along the Ohio River, with a boat launch offering a perfect view and access to the Ohio Islands National Wildlife Refuge. 8801 U.S. 52, Manchester. 937.549.1430, islandcreekmarina.webs.com

Long's Retreat Family Resort

An excellent destination for families, RV and tent camping, cabin rentals, swimming, water-slides, mini golf, and go karts. 50 Bell Hollow Rd, Latham. 937.588.3725, longstretreat.com

Mineral Springs Lake Resort

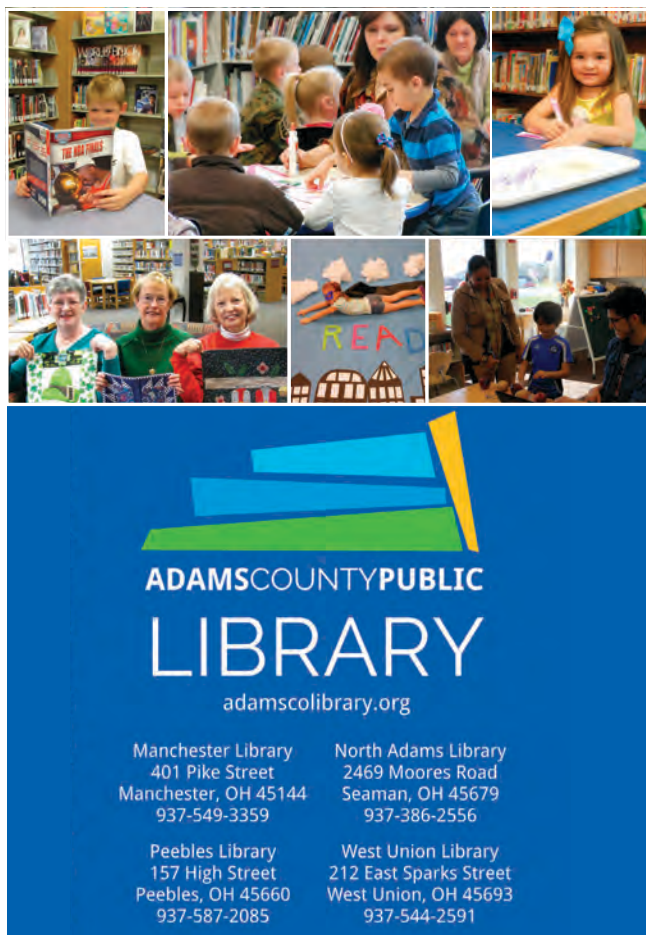
Offering cabins, seasonal camping with electric hook-ups, a beach, a mini putt-putt golf course, and a 100-acre lake. 160 Bluegill Rd, Peebles. 740.637.1151, alliedresorts.com/mineralspringslake/



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Peebles Library 157 High Street Peebles, OH 45660 937-587-2085	West Union Library 212 East Sparks Street West Union, OH 45693 937-544-2591

MoonDoggie Canoe & Camping

Primitive camping at MoonDoggie Canoe LIVEE on Ohio Brush Creek. 4950 Brush Creek Rd, Manchester. 513.208.4935, facebook.com/MoonDoggie-LIVEE-103594935137721

Red Barn Convention Center Campground

Full hookups for RVs, fifth wheel and trailers. Easy access to and from St. Rt. 32. 2223 Russellville Rd, Winchester. 800-823-9197, redbarnconventioncenter.com

Sandy Springs Campground & Cabins

Forty campsites located along the banks of the Ohio River. Tent camping and RV hookup, restrooms and showers. Daily, monthly and seasonal rates. Cabins and campers available. 27719 U.S. 52, Stout, 701.640.7858, sandyspringscampground.com

Hotels/Motels

Budget Host Sunset Inn

Reasonable rates and clean rooms, located at the intersection St. Rt. 32 and St. Rt. 136. Pet friendly. 18760 St. Rt. 136, Winchester. 937.695.0381, toll free 800.BUD.HOST



Country Nights Inn

Offering 19 rooms in the heart of West Union's business district. A short walking distance to many restaurants. 11255 St. Rt. 41, West Union. 937.544.9761

Quality Inn

Relax in one of 34 rooms, with an outdoor pool. Conveniently located at the intersection of St. Rt. 247 and St. Rt. 32. Pet friendly. 55 Stern Dr., Seaman, 937.386.2511, toll free 888.386.2511

Wedding Venues/Event Centers

McCoy's at Poplar Flat

2064 Poplar Flat Rd, West Union. 937.587.2555, mccoysatpoplarflat.com

Red Barn Convention Center

2223 Russellville Rd, Winchester. 800.823.9197, redbarnconventioncenter.com

The Landing at Brush Creek

1805 Waggoner Riffle Rd, West Union. 614.915.4979, thelandingatbrushcreek.com

The River Barn

7023 West Second St., Manchester. 937.549.3037, facebook.com/RiverBarn-985986044764798/

The Ville Guesthouse Venue

350 St. Rt. 247, Manchester. 937.217.3000, thevilleohio.com

The Willow Event Center

7662 Eckmansville Rd, Winchester. 937.725.2684

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Dining

Dining In Adams County - 2023

Fine Dining

Murphin Ridge Inn

The historic 1826 dining house is open Tuesday through Saturday evenings for dinner, 5:30-8 p.m. Reservations recommended. 750 Murphin Ridge Rd, West Union. 937.544.2263 or 877.687.7446

Unique Dining

Abby's Place

Home-style meals with specials every day. Open seven days a week. On the Adams County Quilt Barn Trail. 38 North Main St., Peebles. 937.587.5750

BeeKay Sweets

Doughnuts, cookies, pies, cupcakes, coffee. Great take-out lunches and suppers. Breakfast, lunch and dinner specials every day. 39 Vine St., Peebles. 937.798.4154

Blake Pharmacy

Five-cent Cokes served from a 1961 soda counter. Enjoy sandwiches and milkshakes from an old-fashioned pharmacy. Soda fountain open every day except Sunday. 209 North Market St., across from the courthouse in West Union. 937.544.2451

tain open every day except Sunday. 209 North Market St., across from the courthouse in West Union. 937.544.2451

Cruiser's Diner

Dine in an old-fashioned '50s-style dinner. Conveniently located off St. Rt. 32. Open seven days a week. 155 Stern Dr., Seaman, off St. Rt. 32. 937.386.3330

Greene Beanery Coffee Roastery

The Greene Beanery is a small-batch coffee roster based in Peebles. Fresh coffee from eight different origins, Amish-made doughnuts and pastries, soup and sandwiches. Open Monday through Saturday. 25675 St. Rt. 41, Peebles. 937.798.4023, greenebeanery.com

Mama's Coffee House

Family owned and operated coffeehouse serving specialty coffee, soup, sandwiches and baked goods. Open Monday-Friday 5 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Closed Sunday. 18862 St. Rt. 136, Winchester. 937.695.6300

Olde Wayside Inn

Home cooked meals at the historic Bradford Traven built in 1804. A registered Historic Landmark. Hours: Tuesday through Friday & Sunday. Closed Monday & Saturday. 222 Main St., West Union. 937.544.7103

Valerie's House Café

Offering a variety of sandwiches, soups and salads, as well as soda, coffee, tea and milkshakes. Hours 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Open Tuesday-Friday. 530 East Mullberry St., West Union. 937.779.3502

In the Wheat Ridge/Amish Community

Miller's Bulk Foods Deli & Millers Bakery

960 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union. Deli 937.544.8449, Bakery 937.544.4520

Yoder's Family Market Deli & Bakery

2621 Burnt Cabin Rd, Seaman. 937.386.9995



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10 Things to Do in Adams County

1 Visit the Amish shops. Try Yoder's Furniture & Bakery east of Seaman and Miller's Bakery & Furniture on Wheat Ridge Road. Open every day except Sunday.



2 Take a hike. Hike Buzzardroost Rock Trail or Cedar Falls Trail at the EOA Preserve, or hike the Ohio River hills at Rock Run Preserve just east of Sandy Springs on U.S. 52.

3 Dip a paddle. You can start your trip at four public canoe launches on Ohio Brush Creek or rent a canoe at Moon-Doggie LIVERee on Brush Creek Road.



4 Visit Serpent Mound Check out the 1,348-foot-long serpent effigy and ponder its mysteries. Or perhaps the museum will satisfy your curiosity. Open six days a week, north of Peebles on St. Rt. 73.

5 Boat, fish & ski the Ohio River. Boaters come from as far away as Cincinnati, Portsmouth and all points in between during the summer to play on the beach at Manchester Island.



6 Grab lunch at a one-of-kind restaurant. Try Blake Pharmacy on the courthouse square in West Union where a Coke is still a nickel. The Greene Beanery in Peebles is perfect for great coffee and soup. Mama's in Winchester is known for its morning pastries. Cruisers Diner in Seaman is home of the giant Hubcap Burger. Or for a touch of history, try the Olde Wayside Inn in West Union.



7 Visit a zoo. Kids love Family Traditions Animal Adventures, located just off Wheat Ridge Road in Adams County Amish Country.

8 Discover antiques. Visit Grindstone Farm off Tater Ridge Road, home of the Old Thyme Wheat Ridge Herb Fair. Before and after the fair, visit the farm with barns full of one-of-kind antiques.



9 Get lost in a corn maze. Come September the corn mazes open at Erwin Farms near Cherry Fork, and at Forgotten Way Farm near Winchester. They are plenty of fun for the family. Be sure to check out the Farmers Wife Garden Barn open year-round at Erwin Farms.

10 Follow the quilt trail. The first quilt trail was established in 2001 right here in Adams County.

DISCOVER

The Richard & Lucile Durrell EDGE OF APPALACHIA PRESERVE SYSTEM



© TJ Vissing

Charles A. Eulett Wilderness Preserve Trail

Hike this 2.5-mile loop trail and experience a little of everything the preserve has to offer, from cliffs and forests to prairies and wildflowers.

Christian and Emma Goetz Buzzardroost Rock Preserve Trail

Traverse the front of the Appalachian Escarpment to a rock promontory situated 400 feet above the Ohio Brush Creek. This is a 4.5-mile, round-trip trail that includes newly-constructed stairs and a refurbished boardwalk at the overlook.

E. Lucy Braun Lynx Prairie Preserve Trail

Walk 1.6 miles and meander through multiple prairie openings in an otherwise forested area.

Joan Jones Portman Trail / Buckeye Trail

Experience a panoramic view of the Ohio Brush Creek Valley on this 1.5-mile, round-trip trail extending through prairie and forest. The 1,400-mile Buckeye Trail continues eastward from the overlook but is designed for long-distance and through-hikers only. It does not return to the parking area.

Helen C. Black Trail at Cedar Falls

Discover Cedar Falls, the Edge Preserve's newest trail. This three-mile, round-trip trail features a dramatic overlook perched on the edge of a cliff above the falls in a grove of white cedar trees.

George Rieveschl Jr. Creek's Bend Overlook

Stop by the preserve's visitor information area to learn more about the preserve, get maps, or launch a canoe on Ohio Brush Creek. Wi-Fi available.

Ohio Brush Creek Access - Mackenzie Run Boat Ramp

Opened in 2022, boaters can now experience a new entry point to deep water and free flowing sections of Ohio Brush Creek.

**Please visit cincymuseum.org/nature
or nature.org/edgeofappalachia
for more information and directions.**



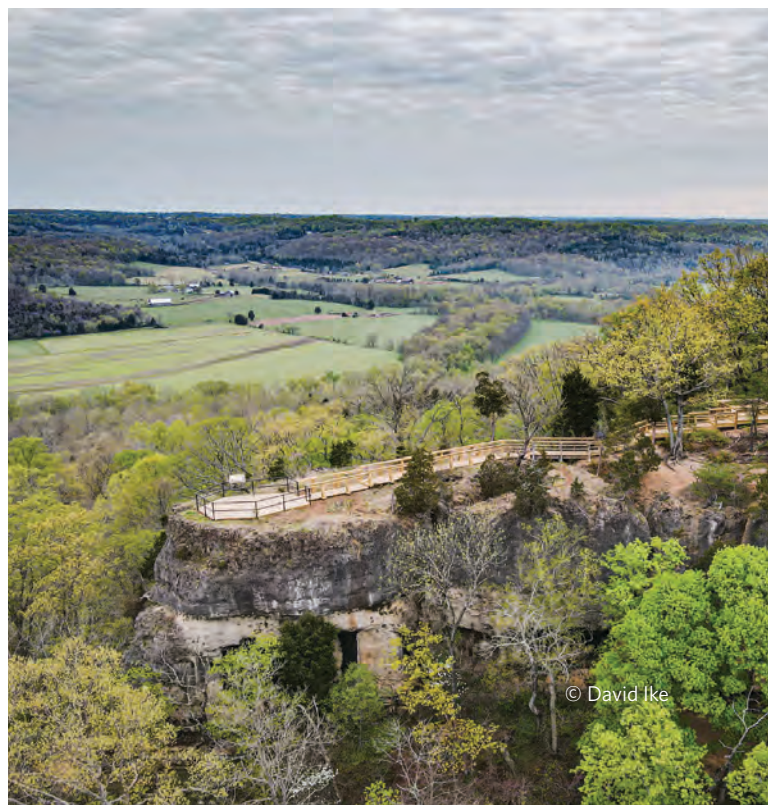
Looking to get outside and connect with nature?

Just 75 miles east of Cincinnati, you'll find a 21,000-acre nature preserve that boasts more than 1,100 recorded plant species as well as striking geological formations like cliffs and promontories. Home to more than 100 rare plant and animal species, The Richard & Lucile Durrell Edge of Appalachia Preserve System in Adams County, Ohio protects beautiful forested and prairie habitats, including five sites that are recognized as National Natural Landmarks. Explore the largest privately owned natural area in Ohio, protected by Cincinnati Museum Center and The Nature Conservancy for over 60 years.

Edge of Appalachia Eulett Center

The Eulett Center is available to rent for business-oriented meetings and conferences.

Contact: (937) 544-2880, ext. 11



© David Ike

The great outdoors are wide open.

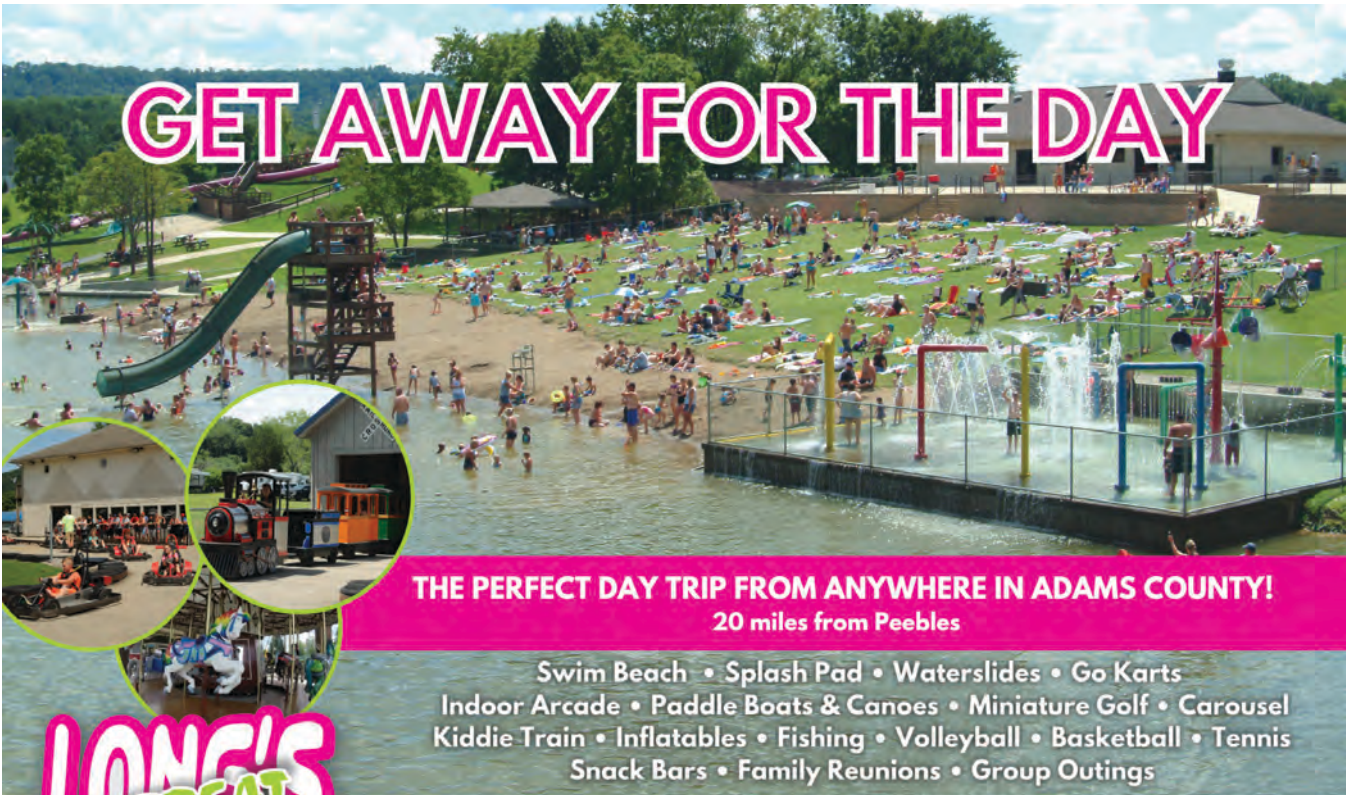
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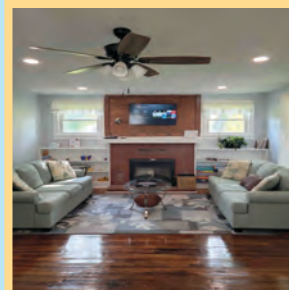
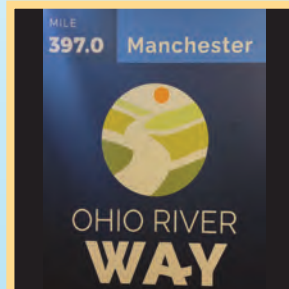


Your vacation home on the river

Stockade Estates Resort is situated on the site of the original frontier fortress (Stockade) established by Nathaniel Massie in the late 1700's to protect the families of his survey crew as they began surveying the Virginia Military District, the first permanent encampment in the Ohio territory. Manchester itself was established as a village in 1791.

The Resort, established by Adams County Native Joe Glasgow in the late 70's, is a modern-day vacation destination which boasts privately owned vacation homes, full Drive-Through RV hookups, watercraft storage, a seasonal marina and gas dock, a small general store, and much more. The park houses 26 mobile home pads, 7 of which are available for new vacation homes, and 16 Boat Slips, a B&B loft and a vacation rental home that sleeps at least 8 guests available through Evolve.com.

Stockade Estates Resort is on both the Ohio River Scenic Byway (Hwy 52) and the Ohio River Water Trail, adjacent to the Manchester Islands. Come by land or by "sea" (River) for a unique experience. Join us throughout the year for celebrations and a variety of weekend excursions around the Manchester Islands and the region.



Inquire about vacancies and availability by contacting stockadeestatesresort@gmail.com and visit us at www.stockadeestates.com or by phone @ 937.549.0167

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