

# Lake Views

Summer 2016  
Volume 35, Issue 2

## In This Issue...

Park Programs ..... 1-3

Water Quality Test  
Results Available ..... 3

Capital  
Improvements ..... 4-5

MWCD Development  
Advisory Committee .. 6

1,000 Seedlings  
Planted ..... 6

Piedmont Marina  
Award ..... 7

Meet the Newest  
Addition to the  
MWCD Team ..... 7

The Great Camper  
Giveaway ..... 8

Fishing for  
Feedback ..... 8

## Exciting New Park Programming Launched

The event schedules of each of the five MWCD public parks (Atwood, Charles Mill, Pleasant Hill, Seneca and Tappan) can be found at [www.mwcd.org](http://www.mwcd.org). Each park has unique events that include activities such as a beach luau with a DJ, family Olympics, moonlight paddles, pirates and princesses' weekend, and beach barbeques with live music.

However, patrons can also experience new and expanded programming ready to launch in 2016 unique to MWCD parks. Kara Musser, the MWCD Programming Coordinator commented, "These programs provide families the opportunity to unplug and enjoy a shared experience of appreciating nature and the public recreational resources that MWCD has to offer."

New programs include, Explorers of Nature, Learn to Camp, and Explore the Shores Geotrail. These family-friendly programs offer the following:

### Explorer of Nature

Children of daily park users and of campers, ages 4 to 15, are invited to be an "Explorer of Nature." The five MWCD parks will conduct the same sessions on all Saturdays throughout the summer from 10am-12pm. Each session features an exciting nature topic with outdoor exploration, games and a "make



~ Park Programs, continued on page 1



**Muskingum Watershed  
Conservancy District**

1319 Third Street NW  
P.O. Box 349  
New Philadelphia, Ohio  
44663-0349

Telephone: (330) 343-6647

Toll-free: (877) 363-8500

Online: [www.mwcd.org](http://www.mwcd.org)

E-mail: [info@mwcd.org](mailto:info@mwcd.org)

Call, write or e-mail  
for free subscription

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Mon-Thurs 7 am - 5 pm  
Friday 8 am - 5 pm

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Joanne Limbach  
President

Members

Gordon T. Maupin  
Richard J. Pryce  
Clark E. Sprang

**ADMINISTRATION**

John M. Hoopingarner  
Executive  
Director/Secretary

James B. Cugliari  
Chief Financial Officer  
& Treasurer

Mary C. Burley  
Director of  
Human Resources

Barbara H. Bennett, P.E., P.S.  
Director of  
Administrative Services

Boris E. Slogar, P.E.  
Chief Engineer

Scott D. Barnhart  
Chief of Recreation

Theodore R. Lozier, P.E.  
Chief of Conservation

~ **Park Programs**, continued from page 1

**EXPLORERS**  
of Nature

and take craft." Children who attend at least 5 out of the 8 sessions receive a limited edition T-shirt. Cost is \$5 per child per session or \$30 per child for all 8 sessions. Pre-registration is required and open to the

first 15 registrants per session at each park. Parents are welcome to attend sessions with their younger children. A full description of the program and registration forms are found at [www.mwcd.org](http://www.mwcd.org).

Session topics and craft themes include:

- July 16                      Creepy Crawlies
- July 23                      Plant Palooza
- July 30                      Water World
- August 6                     Campfire Adventures

**Learn to Camp Program**

This program is open to adults or family groups and geared towards those who have never camped or who need a little refresher course and helpful hints in camping. Participants are provided basic camping equipment including a tent, one air mattress, additional sleeping pads, firewood, wash tub and scrubber for dishes, and basic campfire cooking supplies. Groups will be provided a packing list of items to bring. Participants will receive instruction from a Learn to Camp Leader and will have the opportunity to practice what they have learned. In addition, park staff will lead family-friendly activities. Participants will also have free time to enjoy access to all park amenities and if they want to extend their adventure, are presented the opportunity to use the equipment throughout the weekend. Regular campsite fees will apply. Cost of the Learn to Camp program is \$75 per group and includes a parking permit for two vehicles for the duration of the program. Participation is limited to 10 groups at each session. Additional information and registration for the program can be found at [www.mwcd.org](http://www.mwcd.org).

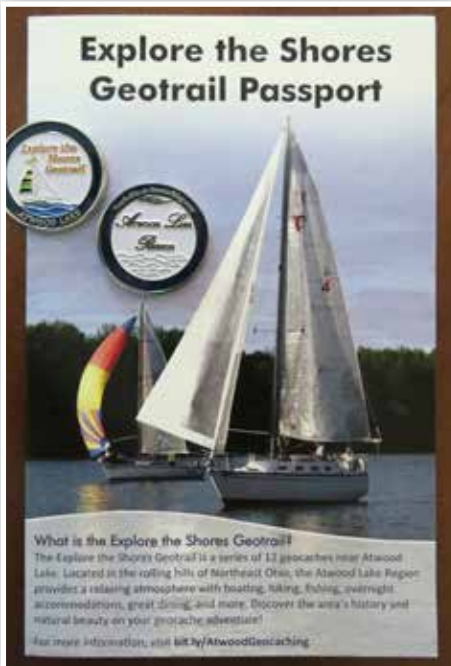
Learn to Camp will be conducted at the following locations and dates:

- June 16-17                  Charles Mill Lake Park
- July 7-8                      Tappan Lake Park
- July 14-15                  Seneca Lake Park
- July 28-29                  Pleasant Hill Lake Park
- August 11-12               Atwood Lake Park

~ **Park Programs**,  
continued on page 3



## Explore the Shores Geotrail



A geocache trail is a series of geocaches tied together by a common theme. The Explore the Shores Geotrail, located in the Atwood Lake Region of Carroll and Tuscarawas counties, is a series of 11 geocaches that will take treasure hunters to Atwood Lake Park, hiking trails, area businesses, and more! Those who find 11 geocaches, record the secret code on an official passport and submit their completed passport can receive a FREE Geocoin. Passports and more information can be found on the MWCD or Atwood websites using “geotrail” in a search. The limited edition Geocoin can be picked up at Atwood Lake Park and is available to the first 250 households who submit a completed passport.

The geotrail kicked-off at Atwood Lake Park and surrounding areas the weekend of May 14 and already has had an amazing response in a short time!

One geochacer commented, *“Came out today from Pittsburgh to visit Atwood Lake for the first time to get the geocoin. We found all 11 caches! TFTC!”*

Geotrails will eventually be expanded to include trails at the other MWCD parks at Charles Mill, Pleasant Hill, Seneca and Tappan so stay tuned!

**Atwood, Charles Mill, Pleasant Hill, Seneca and Tappan lake parks are public facilities and the programs are open to all. Cost to enter the park and enjoy the amenities including the park events, trails, beaches, and water toys is typically \$5 per carload. So come on out and create some “marshmallow memories” at the MWCD parks this summer!**

## Water Quality Test Results for MWCD Lakes Now Available On-line

For the benefit of the millions of people who use the MWCD facilities each year, a variety of testing is conducted in order to monitor the water quality of the MWCD lakes. Sampling and testing is completed in partnership with several state and federal agencies that include the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the United States Geological Survey (USGS), the Ohio Lake Management Society (OLMS), and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA). Overviews of the various MWCD water quality monitoring programs are found on page 52 in the 2015 Annual Report on the website at [www.mwcd.org](http://www.mwcd.org). Results of two parameters that are tested in the MWCD lakes can be found on a website managed by the Ohio Department of Health. To view Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) readings at MWCD lakes and to access E-coli bacteria readings at MWCD public beaches use the site, Ohio Beach Guard, at <http://publicapps.odh.ohio.gov/BeachGuardPublic/Default.aspx>. For more information on HABs visit [www.ohioalgaefinfo.com](http://www.ohioalgaefinfo.com).



As a reminder, and as recommended by the Ohio Health Department, persons (and pets) should properly wash and sanitize after any contact with lake water.

# The Capital Improvement Plan

The \$120 million renaissance of the MWCD parks and campground facilities can be seen in the newly completed projects and on-going construction throughout the District. Preliminary designs are complete and priority projects have been identified at the five main parks at Atwood, Charles Mill, Pleasant Hill, Seneca, and Tappan along with improvements planned at Piedmont. Top tier projects include badly needed upgrades to campgrounds including properly sized infrastructure such as electric, water, and sewer needed to serve the amenities found in modern and larger recreational vehicles. Highlights of recent progress include the following:



## Atwood Welcome Center

*The grand opening of the Welcome Center was held in May much to the delight of the 900,000 people who travel through the park gates every year. The beautiful one stop shop includes a registration center, public restrooms, a small retail shop, offices for staff and a meeting room. The natural materials used in the construction evokes the “wow” factor and the park-like setting theme that will be used throughout the District improvements.*



## Tree Clearing and Final Design for New Campsites



*Those visiting the parks may have noticed tree clearing at select locations at Pleasant Hill, Seneca, Tappan and Atwood lake parks. Final design of the infrastructure for new full hook-up campsites is underway. The trees were cleared in anticipation that construction can commence without delay in the fall and winter after final design and permitting is completed. It is anticipated that a total of 325 new full hookup campsites will be available in 2017 throughout the four parks. These new campsites will serve as staging areas when existing campsites are renovated.*

# Updates



## Tappan Restroom

*The sanitary sewer service extension for the new Tappan bathroom and shower house is completed. Construction on the restroom building will commence this summer. The new building will have a laundry room, 3 restrooms and showers for men, 3 restrooms and showers for women and one family restroom and shower. The new restroom/shower house will be ready to serve campers in 2017.*

## Atwood Trail Phase 2

*Progress on the Atwood Trail Phase 2 continues. This phase includes an extension of 1,000 feet of paved trail, including a 240 foot bridge, this will connect the outer campground to the Welcome Center. The completed project also includes a kayak/canoe launch which can be accessed from the new Welcome Center parking lot. Substantial completion and the grand opening of the trail and bridge will be this summer.*



## Tappan Culvert

*The deteriorated culvert serving the main access road in Tappan has been replaced. The new culvert integrates a more aesthetically pleasing appearance with stamped/colored concrete headwalls.*



# MWCD Development Advisory Committee



*Development Advisory Committee Member, Joe Gies, who currently serves as the Flood Plain Administrator for the City of Shelby in Richland County, was one of a select group who received a national Award of Excellence from FEMA which acknowledged his efforts and commitment to protect residents and property owners of Shelby from debilitating damage caused by flooding.*

Originally created by the MWCD Board of Directors in 1992, the 20-member Development Advisory Committee (DAC) provides an organized public support system for responsive and effective economic development, conservation and recreation programs. DAC members are appointed by the Board of Directors and serve staggered three-year terms. Through their regular quarterly meetings DAC members are briefed about and discuss MWCD projects and operations. DAC members also present items of concern and after study of an issue, will make recommendations to the MWCD Board of Directors.

Members of the DAC come from all reaches of the 18-county District or have a close affiliation with one of the MWCD lakes as a cottage site lessee or active user. Current members and their primary residence include the following:

|                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Matthew D. Abbott              | New Concord      |
| Susan Bratcher                 | Creston          |
| Jon Elsasser                   | Zoar             |
| Alfred J. Fearon               | Bolivar          |
| Joe Gies                       | Shelby           |
| JoEllen Hayes                  | Cambridge        |
| Michael Gunther                | Dover            |
| Bryan L. Haviland              | Worthington      |
| Jeff Heacock                   | New Concord      |
| Judge Kim Hoover               | Peninsula        |
| Marty Larsen                   | Mansfield        |
| Ed Lee                         | New Philadelphia |
| Dana McDaniel                  | Dublin           |
| Douglas E. McLarnan            | Gambier          |
| Rich Milleon                   | Freeport         |
| Judge Robert S. Moorehead, Jr. | Senecaville      |
| George Romanoski               | Akron            |
| James Schoch                   | New Philadelphia |
| John R. Wirtz                  | Sherrodsville    |

One position on the DAC is currently vacant. Interested parties can contact the MWCD main office in New Philadelphia and submit a letter of interest to John Hoopingarner, Executive Director.



**Leesville Tree Planting**

## 1,000 Seedlings Planted by MWCD Team Members

*Staff from the broad spectrum of MWCD divisions assisted the conservation group in planting 1,000 hardwood seedlings over 15 acres in the Leesville Lake area. Shown here are MWCD team members from conservation, finance, human resources, recreation and engineering who completed the task in an impressive 3.5 hours. Those who participated appreciated the team building opportunity to put conservation efforts into action and, of course, appreciated the change of scenery from the office.*

# Piedmont Marina Awarded "Ohio Clean Marina" Designation



MWCD receives the "Ohio Clean Marina" designation for Piedmont Marina. Pictured are: (Left to right) Jenny Roar - Ohio Clean Marinas Program Administrator, John Olivier - MWCD-Deputy Chief of Marinas, Lynn Lyons - MWCD Piedmont Marina Manager, Heather Sheets - Ohio Clean Marinas Program Coordinator.

The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) owns and operates three marinas on MWCD lakes. These include Piedmont, Seneca and Clendening marinas which are located in east Central Ohio. Recently, Piedmont Marina was awarded the Clean Marina designation and is only the second inland marina in the State of Ohio to earn this designation.

The Ohio Clean Marinas Program is a proactive partnership created in 2004 and was designed to encourage marinas and boaters to voluntarily use simple, innovative solutions to keep Ohio's coastal resources clean. The Program was expanded in 2015 to include inland marinas.

The basic goal of the program is to promote environmental stewardship by educating marina operators and boaters to be more aware of environmental laws, rules and jurisdictions, and implement "Best Management Practices" (BMP's) to protect water and air resources.

To become a certified "Clean Marina," a series of BMPs' must be voluntarily implemented to address the following practices and functions:

- Vessel maintenance and repair
- Fuel management
- Sewage handling
- Solid, liquid and hazardous wastes
- Storm water runoff
- Facilities management

The MWCD Deputy Chief of Marinas, John Olivier stated, "Volunteer participation in this program really emphasizes the commitment the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District has to protect Ohio's waters and implement conservation practices in all aspects of operations."

Seneca and Clendening marinas, owned by MWCD, are also pursuing the Clean Marina designation. The seven privately owned marinas located on MWCD lakes at Atwood, Charles Mill, Leesville Pleasant Hill, and Tappan are also encouraged to implement BMP's and to pursue Clean Marina designations.



## Meet the Newest Addition to the MWCD Team!

In order to better serve customers, to provide more conveniences, and reduce wait time at the Park and Marina counters, MWCD has implemented self-serve kiosks. These stations allow customers to purchase hunting and fishing licenses, make reservations at any of the MWCD parks, and provide electronic employment application access and submittals. The kiosks also provide links to the MWCD main webpage, park webpages and marina websites to provide timely and helpful information to our customers. Kiosks are located at Atwood, Pleasant Hill, Seneca and Tappan lake parks and at all the MWCD owned marinas which are Clendening, Piedmont and Seneca marinas.



**MUSKINGUM  
WATERSHED**  
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

P.O. Box 349  
New Philadelphia, OH 44663-0349  
Toll-Free (877) 363-8500



[mwcd.org](http://mwcd.org)



PRSTD STD  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
MAILER'S CHOICE

# The **Great Camper Giveaway**

**MAY 1 - AUG 31**

Visit [MWCD.org](http://MWCD.org) to enter and for official rules and contest details.

**ENTER FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN a 2016 Coachman Clipper and free camping from April 1- Oct. 31, 2017 at any MWCD facility.**



Sponsored by ...



[www.wone.net](http://www.wone.net)



## MWCD is Fishing for Feedback

*Help us serve you better!*

MWCD would love to hear from our customers - and our customers are many! The 5.5 million people who visit MWCD facilities each year include campers, boaters, dockers, cottage site lessees, those who rent cabins, those who use the marinas, those who use the trails, day time park attendees and many others.

Let us know if our services can be improved or let us know the things we are doing right. Go to [www.fishingforfeedback.com](http://www.fishingforfeedback.com) to fill out a short questionnaire and submit your comments. Submittals are automatically entered into a monthly drawing for a chance to win a \$25 gift card which will be honored at any MWCD park or MWCD owned marina.