



BioBlitz

Discover biodiversity at the Fernald Preserve

The Fernald Preserve will be hosting a 24-hour species inventory called a BioBlitz, beginning Friday, May 15, at 4 p.m., and ending Saturday, May 16, at 4 p.m. BioBlitzes happen all over the planet and are a blend of science, celebration, education, and community. Scientists and subject matter experts from a variety of fields will lead families, scouts, youth groups, and others on searches for bugs, spiders, snakes, birds, flowers, and trees. This event will not only expand the site's biological database, but it will also expose members of the public to the methods involved in conducting field studies. The BioBlitz is an excellent way to learn about the biodiversity at the Fernald Preserve and the surrounding area, and to better understand how to protect the many different species that live here.

BioBlitz hours:

Friday, May 15: 4 p.m. to midnight

Saturday, May 16: 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To volunteer, join the experts, or request more information, contact Sue Walpole at (513) 648-4026, or by e-mail at sue.walpole@LM.doe.gov.



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Friday, May 15: 4 p.m. to midnight

When	What	What to Expect
4–6 p.m.	Wildflower Walk	Help find as many early-summer prairie wildflowers and late-spring woodland wildflowers as possible.
4–6 p.m.	Amphibians	Join local experts on a hike to search for frogs, toads, and salamanders that inhabit the Preserve.
4–7 p.m.	Birds	Take a walk through a variety of habitats—restored prairies and wetlands, second-growth and mature forests, and old fields.
4–7 p.m.	Butterfly Walk	Meet at the Lodge Pond Trailhead to look for butterflies in restored wetlands and prairies.
4–7 p.m.	Tracking	Enjoy a cross-country trek where anything can be found.
4–8 p.m.	Wetland Funnel Traps	Join the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency as they retrieve traps that capture a variety of amphibians and macroinvertebrates. Once data is collected, they'll move the traps for collection on Saturday.
4–8 p.m.	Mammal Survey	Take a short hike from the Visitors Center to investigate what small mammals were captured in live traps.
6–8 p.m.	Mollusks	Join a local malacologist as he hunts for a variety of mollusks on site.
7–9 p.m.	Stargazing	Tour the heavens with experts from the Cincinnati Astronomical Society.
7–10 p.m.	Frog Call Hike	Use your ears to identify frogs as the sun sets.
8–10 p.m.	Owl Prowl	Find owls and other nighttime creatures during this walking tour.
8–10 p.m.	Nocturnal Mammals	Join a tracking expert to learn about animals that own the night.
8 p.m.–midnight	Bat Survey	Check out what bats are back for the first night of the summer breeding season.

Saturday, May 16: 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

When	What	What to Expect
6–9 a.m.	Tracking	Hike up Paddys Run looking for signs of wildlife.
6–10 a.m.	Birding at the Preserve	Join birders for a driving and hiking tour of the Preserve. Keep moving to record as many bird species as possible.
6 a.m.–noon	Bird Mist Netting	Watch as a bird bander catches birds and records data.
8–11 a.m.	Paddys Run Macroinvertebrates	Help net macroinvertebrates and fish. Be prepared to get wet.
8–1 p.m.	Reptile Cover Boards	Help collect data for the wetland monitoring program. Check out numerous cover boards that attract a wide range of wildlife.
9–11 a.m.	Mollusks	Look for mollusks and other wildlife along the western edge of the Preserve.
9 a.m.–noon	Tree Identification Hike	Hike to some of the trees that have witnessed the site's transformation from farmland to industrial park to remediation project to nature preserve.
Noon–2 p.m.	Dragonflies and Damselflies	Be amazed by the diversity of dragonflies and damselflies that inhabit on-site restored wetlands.
1–4 p.m.	Wetland Funnel Traps	Join the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency as they retrieve traps that capture a variety of amphibians and macroinvertebrates.
1–4 p.m.	Wetland Plant Survey	Hike and drive to a variety of restored wetlands, looking to add to the site plant list.
1–4 p.m.	Spiders	Help collect spiders from habitats along the Lodge Pond Trail.



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