

STRATEGIC PLAN

MIAMI COUNTY PARK DISTRICT 2013

**STRONG TRADITION
SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**



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CONTRIBUTORS

Citizens of Miami County

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- Board of Park Commissioners
- Park Advisory Committee
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Human Nature, Inc.

Strategic Visioning, Inc.

Ohio Parks and Recreation Association

National Recreation and Parks Association

Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

Miami Conservancy District

Miami County Commissioners

Miami Soil & Water Conservation District

Miami County Farm Bureau

Miami County Visitors & Convention Bureau

Miami County Chambers of Commerce

Miami County Cities and Villages

Miami County Boards of Education

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LETTER TO THE CITIZENS

It is with great pride and optimism that we share with you Miami County Park District's new Strategic Plan, *Strong Tradition - Sustainable Future*. This plan is the culmination of almost two years of work and includes input from our staff, park planning experts and many of you throughout the County.

From our inception, we have been blessed with good leadership and broad support from the community. Our early years focused on natural resource conservation and environmental education. We have worked hard to protect and celebrate the unique resources of Miami County and provide value to the community. You have reciprocated by enthusiastically using Park District facilities and consistently supporting our operating levies. It has always been a good partnership, and we thank you.

The success of the Park District accelerated in recent years and our land holdings increased dramatically. This has been, in large part, thanks to the generosity, partnership and caring of some dedicated Miami County benefactors. They recognize the Park District's value and its long-term commitment to the community. We have partnered with other public agencies and communities to expand our trail network and connect some of our assets.

Our significant growth and a recent change in leadership provided us with the need and opportunity to review our history, assess current conditions and look toward the future. How can we continue to meet the needs of the community, while still providing a good value? How can we become a more effective organization to keep pace with growing demands and changes in technology? How can we diversify our revenue stream to become more balanced in our finances and maximize levy dollars? The strategic planning process offered the opportunity to ask such questions, seek input from the community and create a road map for the future.

You will notice that our strategic plan highlights two overall themes - Stewardship and Connectivity. Stewardship represents our roots and a timeless commitment to protect and enhance the unique resources of Miami County through conservation and education. Connectivity is about linking these assets to each other and to the community in a variety of ways, including quality outdoor experiences.

Our unique role in the community and our value to the environment and economy continues to evolve. This Strategic Plan provides a glimpse at our vision for the future and a road map to guide us. We deeply appreciate all who contributed to this plan and look forward to working together as we continue to enhance the quality of life in Miami County.

Miami County Park District Board of Park Commissioners

John A. Wannemacher
President

Terry E. Netzley
Vice President

R. Douglas Haines
Member at Large

"It is inconceivable to me that an ethical relation to land can exist without love, respect, and admiration for land, and a high regard for its value."

— Aldo Leopold

PURPOSE & PROCESS

INTRODUCTION

The Miami County Park District 2013 Strategic Plan is a guiding document designed to focus the direction of the organization and serve as a tool for effective management. The Plan was developed using relevant data and information gathered from Miami County stakeholders. Key fundamental values and opinions were summarized and used to form the plan's foundation. This Strategic Plan outlines the mission, vision, goals, objectives and action plans for accomplishing its overall purpose.

WHY PLAN?

- Assess and address community needs
- Focus services to align with important issues
- Establish a road map for management of the organization
- Offer opportunities to develop and maintain relationships with stakeholders and local partners
- Review and evaluate programs and services
- Create a defined strategy to accomplish goals and evaluate success

*“A good plan is like a road map:
it shows the final destination and
usually the best way to get there.”*

— H. Stanely Judd

PROCESS OUTLINE

Information Gathering: August, 2011 – August, 2012

Over a one-year timeframe, public input surveys were collected from visitors at various events, programs and community activities. Several focus groups were conducted in order to gather information on a consistent set of central topics. The Park District also collected input internally and assembled essential data related to: administration and staffing, operations and natural resources, education and programming, funding and partnerships, and public relations.

Evaluation/Formulation: September, 2012 - December, 2012

Information gathered during the first phase and previous public opinion surveys were summarized. Based on those summaries and follow-up discussions, a preliminary outline of the Strategic Plan was created.

Articulating the Vision/Strategy: January, 2013 - July, 2013

An updated mission statement, vision and a first draft of the Strategic Plan were created from the summaries in the second phase. Human Nature, Inc. reviewed the documents with the purpose of raising critical questions and providing recommendations for refinements. A Final Draft was then presented to Park District staff and the Board of Park Commissioners for approval.

Execution/Review: August, 2013 - September, 2017

During this phase, strategic goals and objectives will be accomplished through the implementation of Action Plans. A strategic plan manager will lead a team to develop specific action plan items. The team will also allocate resources, establish priorities, assign ownership and develop a timeline. The Plan will evolve over time to reflect emerging trends and community needs.



OVERVIEW OF FINDINGS

SUMMARY

The Miami County Park District strives to provide services that represent the original purpose of the agency while meeting the changing needs of the community. This summary contains relevant data collected from community image studies, public input surveys, focus group discussions and staff questionnaires. Information gathered from the research focused on strengths and opportunities, importance of services, partnerships and new topics of interest. From the results of the assessment, the Park District was able to identify current challenges, relevant issues and future opportunities.



COMMUNITY INPUT

Strengths

The Miami County Park District has always been dedicated to conserving natural areas, protecting local resources for future generations and improving air and water quality. As a result, there have been many related environmental, economic and social benefits that add to the high quality of life in Miami County. The Park District plays a vital role in preserving and promoting the unique character, history and livability of Miami County.

Key Strengths

- High-quality management, as displayed through clean, safe facilities
- Access to unique, beautiful open spaces with passive nature trails, water routes and bike paths
- Amenities that allow for abundant types of outdoor experiences, such as hiking, exercising, picnicking, wildlife viewing, fishing and exploring
- Public programs and special events for the community
- Curriculum based environmental education programs that include in-class learning and hands-on park visits

Opportunities

To remain an important asset to the community, the Park District continuously searches for ways to improve services and better connect with patrons. With recent growth and expansion, the Park District has become more diverse in types of property and areas of service while still maintaining high quality standards. Although no longer a priority, the Park District will consider strategic land acquisitions for the purpose of conservation and protection of valuable resources. Areas prioritized for protection are links between local waterways, land that connects with existing open space and properties isolated from established parks.

The Park District will continue to be good stewards of land, facilities and financial resources. The organization will research ways to diversify experiences that align with the mission. Specific areas to be explored for expansion include health and wellness, outdoor adventure, agriculture and technology-based programs. Key areas of focus will be promoting active lifestyles, connecting people with nature and communicating the value of local resources. In addition, the Park District will strive to be the leader in sustainable practices and help increase the economic value of the area.



OVERVIEW OF FINDINGS

BENCHMARKING

Benchmarking was conducted to compare Park District land holdings and budget to similar agencies both locally and nationally. Findings indicated that the Park District has grown appropriately based on population and resources, yet operates more efficiently and maintains a higher standard of services. Benchmarking highlights include:

- Land area is comparable to, or slightly greater than, other agencies serving similar size populations
- Number of parks is comparable while total property area and size per park is larger
- Park area per capita and amount of park land per square mile is similar to local agencies but larger than the national average
- Annual operating budget is comparable to other Park Districts in Ohio
- Operating expenses per visitor and acre are considerably lower
- Higher percentage of annual budget is allocated for education and programming

Services and programs offered by the Miami County Park District were compared with other agencies in similar jurisdictions and scope. Changes in demographics in Miami County over the last decade were also considered as a factor in guiding offerings. Service and program highlights include:

- Water trails, water safety courses and after-school programs were less common in other agencies
- Services common among other agencies that have been expanded within Miami County included: major special events, river access, health and wellness, summer camps and recreational trails
- Common services not offered by the Park District include playgrounds, trips, tours, organized sports, senior programs and nature centers
- Modest decline in the percentage of people under the age of 18
- Slight increase in people over the age of 65
- Percentage of Caucasians decreased indicating a more diverse population within the region

TRENDS & NEW INITIATIVES

On-going research is conducted by the Miami County Park District to identify trends within the parks and outdoor industry. Recently, there have been new challenges impacting the way government conducts business, such as unstable funding and legislation changes. Reductions in State and local budgets have increased mandates for regulatory reform, partnerships among agencies and consolidation of services. There is also a growing public demand for accountability and responsible management of tax payer resources. These factors encourage agencies to practice good stewardship by avoiding politics and providing value to the community. The Park District will focus on outcomes and operate more efficiently by updating business practices, diversifying revenue and exploring enterprise funds. Specific attention will be given to the importance of customer service, market research, product life-cycle and efficient procedures.

In the future, there will be an emphasis on maintaining a more sustainable community through economic development, environmental stewardship and social stability. The Park District will continuously communicate benefits provided to the community, such as the value of natural resources and public access to outdoor activities. With rising health-care costs and national concerns about medical issues, there will be an increase in the importance of active lifestyles, nutritional awareness and physical fitness. The Park District will connect people with nature and promote the importance of outdoor activities through public programs, education and outreach. There will be an increase in regional partnerships and a focus on recreational opportunities close-to-home. The Park District will strive to enhance quality of life and be an asset to Miami County through business attraction and retention, local tourism, protection of natural resources and increased property values.



PLAN FRAMEWORK

BACKGROUND

The Miami County Park District built a reputation on being a valuable community asset and leader in environmental education and stewardship. The positive impact on quality of life and high level of services offered are significant sources of pride for the Park District. During the past several years, a variety of input from stakeholders, personnel and focus groups was collected to summarize the values, essential services and future direction for the organization. Four key service areas emerged as having the greatest influence on the success of the Mission: people, outdoor experiences, natural resources and education.

The values of the Park District are based upon the importance of Miami County residents and the outdoor activities in which they participate. There is ongoing emphasis on the long history of conservation, land stewardship and protecting outstanding natural resources for future generations. The Park District will continue to be the leader in environmental education through exceptional school programs and hands-on learning activities. Positive outdoor experiences create a connection to nature, encourage responsible stewardship and enhance the overall quality of life.



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VALUES

- Land Stewardship
- Visitors are Greatest Resource
- Positive Learning Experiences
- Community Ownership
- Health and Wellness
- Connecting People with Nature
- Creating Memories
- Exceptional Education Programs
- Clean and Safe Parks
- Protecting Natural Resources
- Quality Outdoor Experiences



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MISSION STATEMENT

To conserve natural resources and enrich the quality of life for the people of Miami County through stewardship, environmental education, outdoor experiences and passive leisure activities.

VISION

The Miami County Park District will continue to connect people with nature and contribute to quality of life through responsible conservation and stewardship. Protection of natural resources through preservation and management will remain the primary purpose of the organization. Maintaining healthy open spaces and native habitats improves water and air quality providing an economic impact to the community. The Park District will also protect and share cultural resources, while promoting the importance of the natural and agricultural heritage within Miami County.

The Park District has established an outstanding environmental education program designed to increase appreciation and understanding of nature and land stewardship. The program will continue to educate children in Miami County with extensive school-based curriculum, field-trips to park locations and hands-on activities. There will also be new learning experiences and initiatives designed to better connect individuals and families with nature. The Park District will explore and promote partnership opportunities with schools, local businesses and outside agencies to continue providing extraordinary educational programs and services.

The Park District has an exemplary reputation for stewardship of natural landscapes and for clean, safe and well-maintained facilities. The Park District also provides personal connections with individual residents, families and the entire community through high-quality public programs and special events. There will be an emphasis on programs, education and partnerships to promote health and wellness by encouraging outdoor activity and lifestyle improvements. The Park District will offer a variety of outdoor experiences that will build stronger connections with nature and contribute to the social, economic and environmental well-being in Miami County.

“Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts.”

– Rachel Carson

PLAN FRAMEWORK

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

The Park District was established to benefit the citizens of Miami County through conservation, preservation, education and passive leisure activities. With its roots firmly planted in this foundation, the Park District will continue to grow and evolve. Our heritage originates from the land, water and people of Miami County. From this strong root system, the organizational structure is represented by the form of a tree. The trunk provides stability and oversight through the Board of Park Commissioners and Executive Director, while the different branches of Park Management, Business Services and Community Connections symbolize our primary anatomy. From these main branches, there are various components or leaves that support the life of the Park District. This metaphor of the tree provides us with a framework that can grow, bloom and weather seasonal changes clearly and effectively into the future. The refined organizational structure is adaptable, sustainable and a symbol of who we are.

An organization can be compared to a living organism – growing, changing and ever-evolving.



PLAN FRAMEWORK



STEWARDSHIP

BUILDING UPON A SOLID FOUNDATION

Land “Our Roots”

There has always been a strong appreciation for the land in Miami County due to the history of agriculture and respect for local resources. The Park District reinforces this relationship by protecting unique landscapes, enhancing ecosystem health and increasing biodiversity. To strengthen this tradition of land stewardship in the future, the Park District will:

- Continue high quality maintenance of Park District properties
- Evaluate strategic land acquisition opportunities
- Conserve natural areas including prairies, woodlands, wetlands, riparian corridors and sensitive plant communities
- Promote good neighbor policy with local property owners

Water “Our Lifeblood”

The rivers, streams, wetlands and aquifers of Miami County are unique resources and provide the connective framework for our open space system. These water assets enhance the livability of the region and contribute extensively to our economic stability and enduring value. To strengthen stewardship of these resources in the future, the Park District will:

- Collaborate with other agencies to connect major water corridors with greenways, trails and conservation agreements
- Restore degraded streambanks, floodplains and wetlands
- Provide impactful educational opportunities about sustainable practices and water quality protection

People “Our Community”

The citizens, businesses, civic organizations, schools, churches, government and non-profits are all partners in making Miami County strong. As a member of this team, the Park District provides opportunities for outdoor experiences, education and personal connections with nature. To strengthen stewardship of these human resources in the future, the Park District will:

- Provide facilities and services that meet the needs of the community
- Offer activities that strengthen the local economy and encourage a sense of community
- Enhance the quality of life in Miami County

CONNECTIVITY

LINKING OUR RESOURCES AND THE COMMUNITY

As the largest conservation agency in Miami County, the Park District protects valuable natural and cultural resources that benefit all citizens. Connecting these unique assets throughout the County increases their value and accessibility. Many of these physical connections are possible through the collection of rivers and streams which provide a “green” framework, including both land and water-based trails. The Park District also connects people with nature through education, outdoor experiences and land stewardship. Important environmental, economic and community services are provided through open space preservation and leisure activities.

Environmental Benefits:

- Improves water and air quality
- Protects and maintains wildlife habitats
- Conserves and manages natural resources
- Sustains and encourages plant and animal diversity
- Improves watershed health
- Reduces environmental impacts (flooding, climate, carbon)
- Promotes land stewardship

Economic Benefits:

- Attracts and retains businesses
- Increases real estate values
- Generates direct revenue from tourism & recreation
- Provides employment opportunities
- Reduces healthcare and energy costs
- Creates economic development along waterways
- Provides activities close to home

Community Benefits:

- Affords the opportunity for outdoor experiences
- Connects people with nature
- Provides educational opportunities
- Improves public health and wellness
- Brings community together through events and gathering spaces
- Enhances livability in Miami County and regionally
- Offers public access to waterways, bikeways and open spaces





OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES

The Miami County Park District provides quality outdoor experiences, environmental education, public programs and events that connect people with nature. These opportunities contribute to the overall quality of life and impact economic development through tourism and recreational activities. The primary mission of the organization is to protect and provide access to open spaces where the community, families and individuals can explore, create memories and gain an understanding of the natural world.

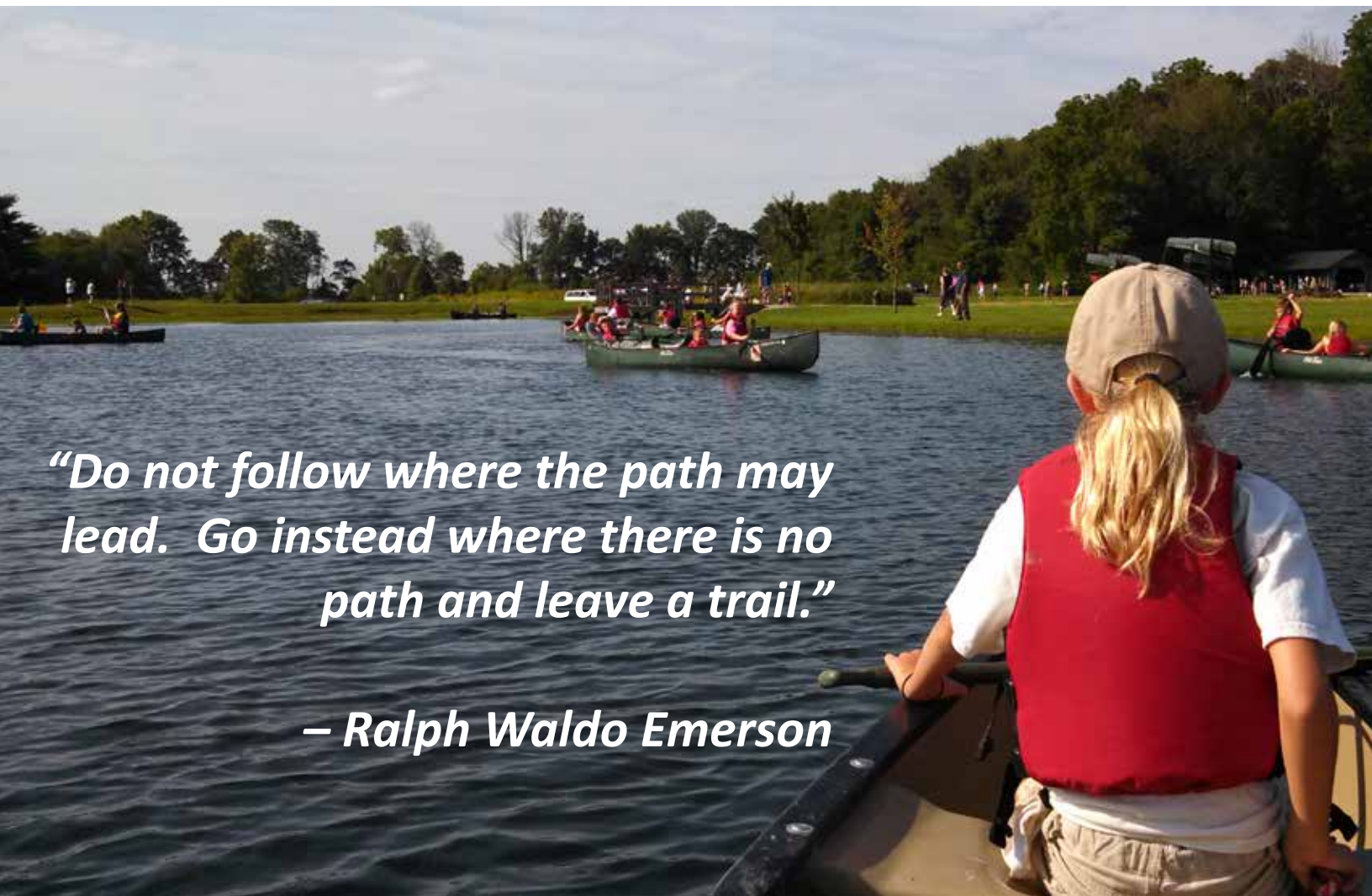
The Miami County Park District provides opportunities for a variety of experiences including hiking, biking, boating, picnicking, fishing and wildlife viewing. Educational activities promote conservation through learning experiences, while developing an enjoyment and appreciation for the outdoors. The Park District offers organized activities that address community needs and create social benefits. Recent trends in outdoor recreation arise from the need to connect children with nature and promote health, wellness and environmental stewardship. In the future, the Park District will strive to encourage independent exploration, promote local resources and incorporate technology-based programs.

Goal

Provide quality outdoor experiences and open spaces that connect people with nature, promote stewardship and enhance the livability of Miami County.

Strategies

- Provide experiences that connect people with nature and inspire diverse park usage, while maintaining the integrity of natural resources
- Evaluate existing programs and services in accordance with the Park District Mission and Vision, relevant industry trends, market research and community needs
- Diversify revenue through grants, sponsorships, cost recovery and fee schedules based on service assessments
- Promote health and wellness activities, environmental stewardship and independent exploration through education, outdoor experiences and programs
- Maintain high quality community events such as Fall Farm Fest, Hug the Earth Festival and Charleston Falls Evening of Lights that contribute to the social and economic well-being of Miami County
- Continue to collaborate with industry partners and area businesses to promote outdoor activities, local resources and improve the overall quality of life



“Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”

– Ralph Waldo Emerson



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Strong support from the community has been essential to the success of the Miami County Park District. Viability of the organization is based on providing high-quality services to meet the needs of citizens. Surveys, community image studies and focus groups have been conducted in order to determine those needs. Valuable community feedback, in alignment with the Mission, has been used to establish clear goals and help determine resource allocation.

The Park District has developed a well-recognized and respected brand. Communication efforts are centered around informing the public on parks, programs, natural resources, conservation, sustainability and environmental education. These messages are delivered through the use of social media, technology and traditional marketing vehicles. Community outreach efforts have resulted in increased program attendance, environmental awareness, volunteerism and various partnerships.

Goal

Enhance the connection with the community and successfully communicate the importance of the Miami County Park District to quality of life with an emphasis on environmental, economic and social benefits.

Strategies

- Strengthen the Park District image within the community by developing and effectively communicating brand position
- Conduct on-going market research in order to refine goals, improve services and evaluate outcomes
- Influence behaviors, opinions and actions by successfully communicating messages regarding land stewardship, sustainability and opportunities for outdoor experiences
- Maintain positive community standing through outreach to individuals, organizations, businesses and industry partners
- Diversify funding and increase project collaboration through the cultivation of long term partnerships
- Assist in building local economy through tourism and business attraction

EDUCATION

A priority of the Miami County Park District is to connect people with the outdoors while raising awareness about conservation, natural resources, sustainability and cultural heritage. This has been accomplished through hands-on environmental education and public programs, with the primary focus on the partnership with local schools. The curriculum-based school programming meets State educational standards by integrating outdoor exploration, art and music into learning about nature and environmental stewardship.

The Park District also engages the general public through a variety of outdoor experiences and community outreach. The “No Child Left Inside” movement has inspired the development of new learning initiatives that creatively connect children and families with nature. Naturalist-led hikes, summer camps and after-school programs address this need through structured activities. Independent outdoor exploration and physical activity are promoted with natural play areas, geocaching, Family Nature Quest and Ramble Quest.

Goal

Provide engaging, impactful learning experiences to promote environmental stewardship, connect people with nature, improve quality of life and meet the educational needs of Miami County.

Strategies

- Review current partnerships with local school systems to determine program priorities based on the value to citizens
- Offer programs that align with the needs of the community by developing a continuous communication and evaluation process
- Become a leading source of information on environmental stewardship, local resources, agriculture and sustainability
- Improve the overall health and wellness of the community by informing the public on the correlation between the outdoors and a healthy lifestyle
- Engage people with nature through the use of independent exploration, technology and wellness activities
- Expand public access to information and educational materials through diverse channels of distribution





PARK FACILITIES & MANAGEMENT

The Miami County Park District is characterized by unique landscape features and diverse open spaces. The various amenities provide venues for a wide range of activities, public programs and independent uses. The Park District strives to provide clean, safe and well maintained facilities that offer access and exploration. Opportunities for outdoor activities, environmental education and connecting with nature would not be readily available if not for the continuous upkeep of park facilities.

Upgrades, additions and repairs are conducted throughout the year to sustain the high standard of quality that park visitors expect. Park usage has steadily increased while the types of outdoor activities have become more diverse to include bike trails, river access, wellness activities and community events. The Park District will continue to provide excellent services and dedicate resources necessary to meet the changing needs of residents and implement sustainable operation standards.

Goal

Connect people with the outdoors by providing quality facilities for community use and excellent customer service consistent with established standards.

Strategies

- Develop a Management Plan for each property, including an assessment of physical resources to determine upgrades and/or new facilities that meet the needs of the community
- Establish sustainability standards and updated procedures to guide design and management of land, facilities and equipment
- Increase access to open space, recreational trails, waterways and natural play areas to diversify outdoor experiences consistent with the Mission and user needs
- Evaluate position descriptions, policies and departmental structure for maintenance personnel and create a Law Enforcement Plan for future use
- Operate more efficiently and reduce costs by considering contracting services and utilizing volunteers, interns and partnerships
- Review and assess all land acquisition opportunities through established criteria
- Continue planning for the development of the Knoop Agricultural Heritage Center to accommodate public use, assist with educational needs and centralize park services

NATURAL RESOURCES

Since the inception of the Miami County Park District, the Mission has focused on the acquisition, restoration and conservation of natural resources. The Park District supports diverse native communities, healthy wildlife habitats and unique landscape features. Practicing specific resource management techniques sustains the greatest diversity of plant and animal species throughout the parks while controlling the impact of invasive species.

Conservation and management of these resources provide economic benefits to the community by improving water and air quality, increasing property values and creating a sustainable community. Protecting these natural resources and open spaces also enhances quality of life by providing unique educational opportunities and outdoor experiences. The Park District understands the importance of these resources and strives to implement responsible management that considers the impacts for present and future generations.

Goal

Protect and manage healthy natural resources through sustainable management practices to increase the quality of life for the citizens of Miami County.

Strategies

- Develop a Land Stewardship Plan based on knowledge and effective practices that will be used as a guide to manage natural resources at each Park District site
- Focus habitat protection, conservation and restoration on unique or threatened resources such as riparian corridors, old growth forests, remnant prairies and other sensitive communities
- Continue to partner with other agencies and property owners to protect, restore and establish connections between the unique water and land resources of Miami County
- Replace outdated equipment and practices with new technologies to improve scope, effectiveness and sustainability of management
- Implement impactful land stewardship projects and improve maintenance procedures through the use of volunteers and interns
- Collaborate with other industry partners to improve resource management and education while maintaining the natural, scenic and agricultural character of Miami County
- Continue to be a leader in improving air and water quality through the protection of open space, land stewardship, environmental education and public awareness





ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Miami County Park District is an independent governmental entity established in 1967 to serve the citizens through resource conservation. It is governed by a three-member Board of Park Commissioners appointed to three year terms by the Miami County Probate Judge. The Board hires an Executive Director, approves personnel classification and establishes salary ranges for each position. They are also responsible for decisions involving property acquisition, strategic planning and fiscal management. The Park Advisory Committee consists of volunteer members from the community that represent stakeholders and provide the Board with valuable input.

The Park District Directors and staff manage the daily operations and services of the agency. A dedicated group of patrons, volunteers and community partners play a growing supportive role by assisting in the promotion and implementation of goals and objectives. These combined efforts of employees and partners guide future direction and help to determine the success of the organization. By realizing the full potential of these resources, the Park District will increase connections and support from the community.

Goal

Support the Board of Park Commissioners, staff and volunteers to fulfill the Miami County Park District Mission and Vision through leadership development, training and an effective organizational framework.

Strategies

- Present the 2013 Strategic Plan to the Board of Park Commissioners, staff and stakeholders in order to establish an implementation strategy for each Action Plan component
- Evaluate personnel, employee manual, organizational structure and function to maximize the efficiency of the Park District
- Develop procedures with staff to increase communication between departments, improve collaboration and enhance public services
- Expand career development opportunities for employees by taking advantage of cost-effective programs through partnering agencies, local resources and on-line trainings
- Continue to develop volunteer and community service programs, including growth of the Volunteers-in-Parks organization and partnerships with local businesses
- Evaluate recruitment and long-term succession planning for Board of Park Commissioners and Park Advisory Committee

FUNDING & PARTNERSHIPS

The Park District is committed to responsibly managing all resources and strives to implement effective business practices. The return on investment for each dollar has been maximized through careful planning and strategic administration of funds. Community benefits come in the form of increased quality of life, positive economic impact and valuable natural resources. Tax dollars collected, as part of a 1.1 mil levy, have been the primary source of funding for the Park District. Secondary sources of funding include grants, donations and income from the State of Ohio.

Over the past few years, the financial climate has changed due to the economy and reduction in State planned reimbursements. To be more self-sustaining, the Park District has begun to diversify funding through sponsorships, private donations and cost recovery. Partnerships with businesses, organizations and industry partners play an important role in consolidating resources, eliminating duplicate services and creating supplemental funding. Through these efforts, the Park District will continue to be good stewards of taxpayer money and remain as an important asset to the community.

Goal

Maintain long-term fiscal sustainability to accomplish the Miami County Park District Mission through responsible management, diversified revenue and beneficial partnerships.

Strategies

- Guide budget planning and resource allocation by creating annual financial summaries and five-year projections of revenue, expenditures and reserve fund balance
- Strengthen community support for the 2013 Strategic Plan and operating levy by demonstrating financial efficiency, added value and improved quality of services
- Evaluate potential revenue sources and develop cost-recovery using a complete service assessment
- Continue to increase supplemental funding through sponsorships and grow donations by promoting the Park District Foundation, Friends of Miami County Park District and One Tree at a Time
- Partner with communities, organizations and businesses to support local initiatives, impact the regional economy and generate revenue
- Raise support for substantial capital development projects, such as the Knoop Agricultural Heritage Center, through collaborations and enterprise ventures





SITES

Charleston Falls Preserve
Dayton - Brandt Wetland Mitigation Site
Farrington Reserve
FL Blankenship Riverside Sanctuary
Garbry Big Woods Reserve
Garbry Big Woods Sanctuary
Goode Prairie Preserve
Goode Prairie Reserve
Great Miami River Recreational Trail
Greenville Falls State Scenic River Area
Hobart Urban Nature Preserve
Honey Creek Preserve
John A. Wannemacher Nature Reserve
Lost Creek Reserve & Knoop Agricultural Heritage Center
Maple Ridge Reserve
Panther Creek
Stillwater Prairie Reserve
Twin Arch Reserve

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the 2013 Strategic Plan, Strong Traditions - Sustainable Future please visit www.MiamiCountyParks.com.

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