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## September 2023

### Hello friend,

We feel fall in the air; nothing is better than autumn at the arboretum! The leaves are slowly changing, and nature shows us the beauty of letting things go. It was a busy month full of community outreach and fun activities. October looks like a filled month, so read below on important events and dates.

Remember to take time this season to explore, wonder, and enjoy Mahr Park Arboretum.

"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower." - Albert Camus.

Warm Regards,  
Ashton Robinson, Park Superintendent



# Harvest Fest Success!

## 3rd Annual Harvest Fest



Harvest Fest was held September 16-17th this month. We hosted nearly 500 3rd-grade Hopkins County students on Friday morning for a field trip. Students were led to various booths, including the Kentucky Department of Agriculture Mobile Science Center, Nurture to Nature animal rehab, Kentucky Farm Bureau, Audubon Bee Keepers, city departments, Autumn Acre Play Area, hayrides, and more! Friday evening was lively as guests were treated to live music, food trucks, hayrides, and fun. Saturday, the community and beyond came out to enjoy a vendor trail and all the exciting fall activities. Attendance for this event was over 19,000. We sincerely appreciate help from city staff, volunteers, and community sponsors to make these events successful. Be sure to mark your calendars for Harvest Fest 2024 dates: September 27-28th.

## Highlights!







## Mahr Entry Sign

Ground was broken on 9/29/23 on the new entry sign at the Arboretum. This project is funded by the Mahr Charitable Trust. The sign captures the legacy Dr. Merle and Glema Mahr left to our community and beyond. The sign will feature two pristine fountains, natural stone, and unique design features. Stay tuned!



## Employee Spotlight: Elijah Staggs

Elijah Staggs began working for us this year seasonally. We have been very thankful to have his work ethic on our team. He is dedicated to providing excellent services and ensuring a job is complete and detailed. Elijah is not only a hard worker but also respectful and fun. He has enjoyed his coworkers at Mahr Park Arboretum and being a part of the team. His favorite thing about working here is just being at the park itself. "Spending every day here has been a blessing." We appreciate Elijah and congratulate him on his service to Mahr Park Arboretum.



## Hay Bale Trail

The Hay Bale Trail will be available through October. This year, we have over 80 entries on display. These displays are pretty impressive this year, so we hope you can come out and enjoy them with family and friends. Winners will be announced on Facebook next week, so keep an eye out!





## Enjoy the view!

New seating for Barn B and the Welcome Center has arrived this week these are beautiful handcrafted furniture and a great way to rest and take in Mahr Park Arboretum.



## Pedal boat and kayak rentals still available!

Kayak and pedal boat rentals are available through fall (weather dependent). Welcome Center: 270-584-9017. Please enjoy the beautiful weather on the water.



Photography Contest





## Upcoming Events

**10/01/23**

KY State Disc Golf Championship and Awards

**10/09/23-10/13/23**

Hopkins County School Fall Break

**10/15/23**

Guided Hike: Fall Scavenger Hunt

Free and open to the public

\*K-5 grades

**2-4 p.m.**

**\*Welcome Center**

**10/21/23-10/28/23**

Fall Photography Contest

Free and open to the public

**10/21/23**

Show and Go Car Show

Free and open to the public

**\*BARN A AND B**

**10/21/23**

Star Party

Free and open to the public

7 p.m.

**\*BARN B**

**10/21/23**

Jr. Naturalist

**\*Welcome Center**

**10/22/23**

Art at the Arboretum: Adult Art class with Dawn Moore

Pre-registration and payment required

**\*Welcome Center**

**10/28/23**

Guided Fall Shoreline Trek

Reserve a kayak by calling 270-584-9017  
(Bring your own kayak or call to reserve one of our 8 kayaks)  
2-4 p.m.  
**\*Meet at Kayak Launch**

Hopkins County Farmers Market every Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m., and Saturday, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Danny Peyton Education Center.

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The Mahr legacy lives on...







@rachelvaughan



Tag us on social media or email your photos of your next visit to Mahr Park Arboretum! You may be featured in the following newsletter!  
#mahr park / @mahrparkarboretum / mahrpark@madisonvillegov.com



Mahr Park  
Arboretum

Contact Us

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