



Newsletter

Volume 1, (Issue 4)

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Website



April 2023

Hello friend,

I recently heard the beautiful word *primavera*, meaning the very beginnings of spring, just as the winter fades to spring, feeling the sun on our face but still the chill in the air, a magical time when nature awakes from a long winter's nap. As the gardens and trees show signs of life and days are longer. We look forward to this magical and lively month.

April originates from the Latin word "*aprilis*," meaning open or bloom. What are you opening into your life this month? Opportunities for more time spent outdoors connecting with nature and loved ones? As each month arrives, we open a new door to possibilities. Take in the fresh air, new blooms, and the beauty of simplicity in nature at the Arboretum.

We have many exciting events and programs lined up; we hope you will be attending! Check out important dates at the bottom of the newsletter.

"The first blooms of spring always make my heart sing"- S. Brown

Warm Regards,
Ashton Robinson, Park Director

Kayak Lake Pee Wee at Mahr Park Arboretum!

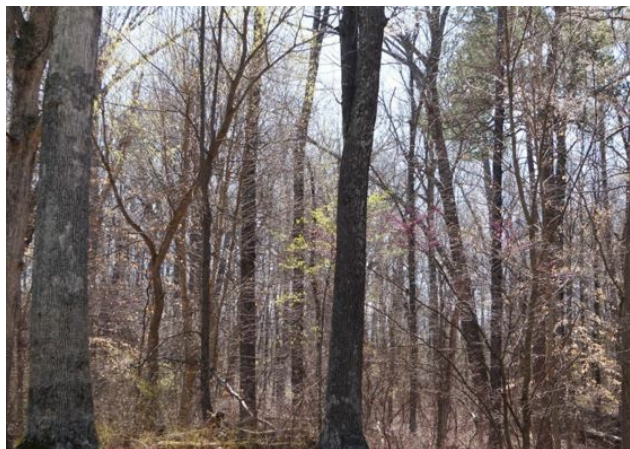


50% OFF
One kayak rental in April!

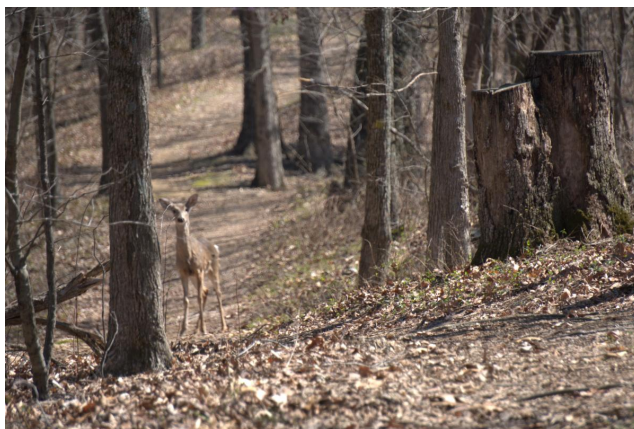
The special deal is just for our newsletter recipients! Be sure to bring this in to redeem the half off a kayak rental coupon.

Single kayak- \$20
Double kayak \$30

*Limit one per person during the month of April.



Spring is a great time to enjoy the soft hiking trail! Three unique wooded trails are perfect for exploring and enjoying the beauty of trees and nature. [Park Map](#)





The first spotting of a Tiger Swallowtail for 2023, this week. Our native gardens provide the perfect habitat for pollinators.



Native Phlox is blooming around the Arboretum right now. Check out this publication from the UK Cooperative Extension on [Attracting Butterflies with Native Plants](#).

Birds are singing and April ringing!



Purple Martins have arrived, and Eastern Bluebirds are preparing nests. If you want to help with these programs, please get in touch with us and volunteer for Mahr Park Arboretum.

StoryWalk

Leadership Hopkins County Class of 2023 kicked off a new feature to Hopkins County, StoryWalk, a portable storyboard system featuring a book. The launch on 3/25/23 was very successful. You still have time to enjoy the book on display; Rylee, the Rocketeer By JoAnn M. Dickinson, will be displayed at Mahr Park Arboretum until April 9th starting at the Kayak Launch trailhead.

[Read More](#)



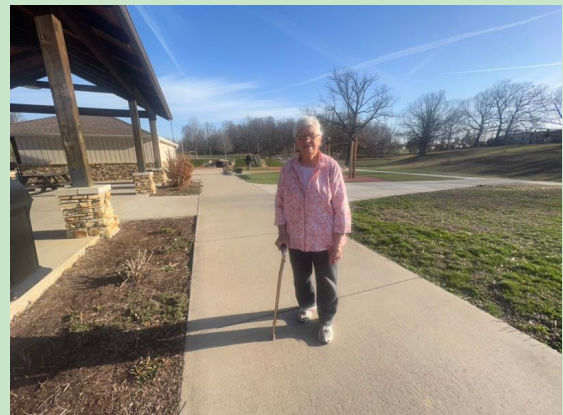
Make yourself at home, friends!



This sweet couple was from Nova Scotia and enjoyed birding at the Arboretum. We always enjoy talking to guests, hearing their stories, and learning where they are from.



Seventy Lyon County Middle School students enjoyed lunch at Barn B and the Nature Play Area. We are looking forward to seeing more field trips this spring.



Shirley Shipp has enjoyed walking our concrete paths through the Nature Play and pavilion. Staying active is important to her. She and her daughter love being at Mahr Park Arboretum, utilizing the safe and natural space for outdoor recreation.

Bee Apiary

We have been busy "bees" preparing for the arrival of our honey bees. Our partnership with Audubon Bee Keepers and Madisonville North Hopkins Highschool students has been vital. Audubon Bee Keepers Association has donated the boxes and hives, and students built and painted the boxes. We are proud to be a bee ambassador and looking forward to educating guests on the importance of bees to our lives. Special thanks to Kevin Moser for his help, the crews for prepping, and Nancy Camplin for the beautiful custom painting. It takes a team to complete these projects and continue these unique programs. We depend on these special pollinators for life and look forward to educating the community at the Arboretum.



We are happy to "bee" ambassadors for honey bees.



We see the need for more picnic space in our growing Nature Play Area!
Soak up the sun while having a special lunch with someone special.

Reuse and Repurpose

Natural features at Mahr Park Arboretum are important to us. Our team was able to create unique features with trees that have fallen with recent wind storms. Enjoy, explore, and let your imagination run #wild!





Crews have begun our mowing season!
(Mark Wilson)



Before planting season comes prepping beds.
Crews adding arched trellis to raised beds.
(Ted Chandler)

Star Party

We kicked off the first Star Party of 2023 on 3/25. Ross Workman led us through a sky tour and enjoyed viewing through telescopes. With over 100 guests it was a delight to enjoy an evening under the stars.

The next Star Party will be
4/22/23, 7 PM

*Barn B





Helping Hands and Big Hearts



Hopkins, Henderson, Todd, Muhlenberg, and Webster County 4-H students volunteered at the Arboretum. Students are learning vital leadership skills, and we were happy to have them complete community service. It takes many hands to operate, and having groups that desire their community to be a better place is inspiring!





Volunteer and Staff Spotlight: Lisa Meadows

Lisa finds it a pleasure working at the park and seeing its positive impact on our community. She enjoys hearing all the great feedback she hears from guests. A true naturalist, she loves being in such a beautiful natural setting. Lisa has a servant's heart and is always willing to lend a hand to all.

While not working, she especially looks forward to the days she volunteers at the Arboretum, interacting with and working alongside others who share the vision and dream the Mahrs had. "It's truly been a joy watching this lovely park evolve and being part of it." Thank you for your service!

Mark your Calendar!

Upcoming Events

04/01/23, Welcome Center is back open on Saturdays!
Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00-4:00 p.m.
*Hours will update again in May.
Arboretum is open from dusk till dawn.

04/03/23- 04/07/23 Hopkins County School Spring Break

04/08/23, Outdoor Movie, presented by City of Madisonville: Jurassic World
*Barn B, 7 PM

04/09/23, Easter Sunday

04/16/23, Art at the Arboretum, with Dawn Moore, 2-4 PM
*Class full, and registration closed.
*Welcome Center

04/22/23, Guided Hike: Trees of the Arboretum,
KY Division of Forestry leading, 2-4 PM
*Welcome Center

04/22/23, Star Party, presented by: Ross Workman, 7 PM
*Barn B

04/24/23, Educational Presenter, UK



OUTDOOR MOVIES

"JURASSIC WORLD"

APRIL 8, 2023

**AT MAHR PARK
EVENT BARN B
7:00 PM**

**REMEMBER TO BRING
A LAWN CHAIR/
BLANKET!**

FREE!

**FREE ADMISSION,
POPCORN, AND
DRINKS!**



Pennyroyal Master Gardeners

9th Annual Lawn and Garden Fair

April 29th, 2023 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

Danny Peyton Outdoor Education Center and Farmers Market
55 Mahr Park Drive, Madisonville, KY

Rain or Shine!

Activities for Children! Lawn and Garden Vendors Admission is Free!

Food Trucks Tool Sharpening

Informational Talks and Demos
Door Prizes and Silent Auction

Plant Sales - Annuals, Vegetables, Perennials, Herbs

For more information, contact the Extension Office at 270-821-3650





Arboretum Native plant Curator, Jessica Slade, 6-7 PM

***Mahr Historic Home**

04/29/23, Pennyroyal Master Gardeners 9th Annual Lawn and Garden Fair, 9 AM-2 PM

***Danny Peyton Outdoor Educational Center**

04/29/23, Pennyroyal Master Gardeners, Educational Presenter: Nathan Strange, Manager of Bernheim Arboretum

The Importance of Invasive Species Removal and Control, 9:30 a.m.-10:15 AM

Tree Species and Their Importance to Insects and Kentucky Native Tree Species, 11:00-11:45 AM

***Mahr Historic Home/ Welcome Center**

University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Saturday, April 29th

**The Importance of Invasive Species
Removal and Control
9:30-10:15 a.m.**

**Tree Species and Their Importance to
Insects
11:00-11:45 a.m.**

**Nathan Strange
Manager of Bernheim Arboretum**

**Mahr Park Arboretum
Welcome Center
55 Mahr Park Drive
Madisonville, KY**

Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

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The Mahr legacy lives on...





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



Hanson first graders had an "egg-cellent"
time hunting Easter eggs and enjoying
the Nature Play Area.



Mahr Park
Arboretum

Contact Us

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