



April 2022 Activity Packet

Main Topics

- [Ohio Native Plant Month!](#)
- National Garden Month!
- [National Volunteer Month!](#)
- Keep America Beautiful Month!
- [National Poetry Month!](#)
- April 3-9 [National Library Week](#)
- April 4-10 Community Garden Week
- April 5-9 [National Wildlife Week](#)
- April 22nd [Earth Day](#)

And wait, there is even MORE!

- April 1st- April Fools Day
- April 3rd- Geologist Day
- April 7th- World Health Day
- April 8th- National Zoo Lovers Day
- April 16th- FULL MOON ALERT! Pink Moon
- April 17th- International Bat Appreciation Day
- April 17th- International Haiku Poetry Day
- April 23rd- National Picnic Day
- **April 24th- Conservation Kids Club Meeting!**
- April 28th- Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day
- April 29th- Arbor Day

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April 2022 Activity Packet

Overview—click the headings to move to that section within the electronic version!

April is...

- [Ohio Native Plant Month!](#) (page 3)
 - Learn about native plants and celebrate **National Garden Month!**
- [National Volunteer Month!](#) (page 3)
 - Get involved in your community to **Keep America Beautiful!**
- [National Poetry Month!](#) (page 4)
 - Learn about 25 Types of Poetry and write a Haiku!

Other fun topics to celebrate during the month of April!

- April 3-9 [National Library Week](#) (page 4)
 - Visit: [Events - The Muskingum County Library System](#)
- April 5-9 [National Wildlife Week](#) (page 5)
 - Learn more at <https://nationalwildlifeweek.nwf.org/>
- April 22nd [Earth Day](#) (page 6)
 - Celebrate Earth Day, Every Day!

[And wait, there is even MORE!](#) (page 7)

- April 1 April Fools Day
- April 3 Geologist Day
- April 7 World Health Day
- April 8 National Zoo Lovers Day—Celebrate with National Wildlife Week April 5-9
- April 16 FULL MOON ALERT! Pink Moon
- April 17 International Bat Appreciation Day
- April 17 International Haiku Poetry Day
- April 23 National Picnic Day
- **April 24 Conservation Kids Club Meeting!**
- April 28 Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day
- April 29 Arbor Day

This month we want to get you out exploring! Learn about plants, maybe start a garden, and give you ways to be helpful in your community! Our activity packet is shorter and may stay in this format until fall. Happy Spring!

Easy Access Google Drive [“For Parents”](#) Folder link!

Ohio Native Plant Month and now NATIONAL Native Plant Month!

Learn about native plants and celebrate **National Garden Month!** A native plant means that the plant grows naturally in the area and can thrive with the ecosystem. A native plant can be anything in the Plant Kingdom like a flower, grass, shrub or tree.

Explore:

- Official website for [Ohio Native Plant Month](http://ohionativeplantmonth.org) (ohionativeplantmonth.org)
- OSU Extension [Native Plants](http://plantpath.osu.edu) (plantpath.osu.edu)
- Ohio Division of Natural Resources (ODNR)-[SPRING WILDFLOWERS OF OHIO field guide](#) (you may receive a copy during the meeting)
- [Backyard Garden Guide](http://ohiomagazine.com) (ohiomagazine.com)
- Google Drive link to see [Gardening Workbook](#) (On Amazon for \$17.99; ages 8-12)

Watch:

- ODNR photos of Ohio's native plants [Ohio Native Plant Month](#) ⌚ 1 min

Something for grades 5-12 and parents

- [Managing for Native Plants Part 1](#) ⌚ 1:06:27
- [Managing for Native Plants Part 2](#) ⌚ 1:20:58

Save the date for our annual "Piece of the Park" Plant Sale and celebrate National Public Gardens Day with us on Saturday, May 7th 10a-2pm. We have MANY native plants for sale and we will be welcoming the garden fairies back into Mission Oaks Gardens!

National Volunteer Month!

Get involved in your community to **Keep America Beautiful** this month! You can volunteer with many organizations in Muskingum County. Find an interest and reach out to them. The goal is to leave the world better than you found it.

1. Pick up trash in public areas (parks, schools, or your neighborhood)
2. Serve meals at Salvation Army or Christ's Table
3. Walk dogs at the animal shelter <https://www.animalsheltersociety.org/>
4. Clean out your closet and toy box to donate to Eastside Community Ministries <https://www.eastsideministry.org/Support/>
5. Clean out your pantry or shop for canned goods to donate to a food bank (we have 17 in Muskingum County) Eastside Community Ministries is one!
6. Volunteer with us! <https://www.mvparkdistrict.org/Connect/Volunteer/>

Google Search "Muskingum County Volunteer" and you will see a list of places on the map that you could reach out to volunteer your time.

"In the end we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand; and we will understand only what we are taught." (Baba Dioum, 1968.)

National Poetry Month!

“National Poetry Month in April is a special occasion to celebrate the importance of poets and poetry in our culture. This year, on the 25th anniversary of the celebration and in this time of uncertainty and great concern, we can rely on poems to offer wisdom, uplifting ideas, and language that prompts reflection that can help us slow down and center mentally, emotionally, spiritually. As so many are teaching and working from home, we’ve adapted these lists to help you celebrate National Poetry Month 2021 at home and in the virtual classroom.” (from: [30 Ways to Celebrate National Poetry Month | Academy of American Poets](#))

Google Drive Activity Links

- Learn about 25 Types of Poetry- [25TypesofPoetry-1.pdf](#)
- April 17 International Haiku Poetry Day-Write a Haiku

National Library Week

“National Library Week (April 3-9, 2022) is a time to celebrate our nation's libraries, library workers' contributions and promote library use and support. First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and observed in libraries across the country each April. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special - participate.

In the mid-1950s, research showed that Americans were spending less on books and more on radios, televisions and musical instruments. Concerned that Americans were reading less, the ALA and the American Book Publishers formed a nonprofit citizens organization called the National Book Committee in 1954. The committee's goals were ambitious. They ranged from "encouraging people to read in their increasing leisure time" to "improving incomes and health" and "developing strong and happy family life." With the cooperation of ALA and with help from the Advertising Council, the first National Library Week was observed in 1958 with the theme "Wake Up and Read!" (from: [National Library Week Press Kit | News and Press Center](#))

Also, we celebrate School Library Month is the American Association of School Librarians' celebration of school librarians and school libraries. Every April school librarians are encouraged to host activities to help their school and local community celebrate the essential role that strong school libraries play in transforming learning. [About the history of School Library Month.](#)

Activity:

- Attend an event at the Muskingum County Library System! See what MCLS has going on near you at [Events - The Muskingum County Library System.](#)
- Attend the [“Mushroom Hunting Talk & Walk”](#) event at Collegial Woods Trails on Saturday, April 23 from 1-2pm. Meet at the Rogge Pavilion located at OUZ.

National Wildlife Week

CELEBRATING THE BEAUTY AND DIVERSITY OF AMERICA'S WILDLIFE April 5-9

From carnivorous squirrels and ancient rodents to “snot otter” salamanders and wild pigs that aren't actually pigs, America's wildlife is more curious than you might think.

This National Wildlife Week we're celebrating some of the most unusual animals, unique behaviors, and unexpected facts about the wildlife you thought you knew. Even species you think you know have strange secrets to reveal.

Explore:

- [National Wildlife Week](http://nationalwildlifeweek.nwf.org) (nationalwildlifeweek.nwf.org)
- The National Wildlife Federation
https://www.nwf.org/About-Us?_ga=2.189706347.1976556143.1648325348-327511540.1648325348
- ODNR Ohio [WILDLIFE FACT CARDS](http://ohiodnr.gov) (ohiodnr.gov)
- [Wildlife in Ohio - Types of Ohioan Animals](http://a-z-animals.com) (a-z-animals.com)

Activities:

- Take [The Ultimate Personality Test To Reveal What Unique Animal You Actually Are](#) Quiz! Ms. Michelle took the quiz! She is a Red Wolf and learned that only 10 red wolves are found in the wild today. What are you and what can you learn?
- [Frog Life Cycle-Spinner Craft](#) (printed)

Ohio has over 100 endangered species, including: Indiana Bat, Kirtland's Warbler, Piping Plover, Scioto Madtom, American Burying Beetle, Karner Blue Butterfly.

- Learn more
 - [USFWS: Endangered and Threatened Species in Ohio](#)
 - [Endangered Species in Ohio | The Nature Conservancy](#)
 - [OHIO'S LISTED SPECIES](#) (pdf)

Save the date for our Amphibian Palooza on Saturday, April 30th at 2-4p at McGraw Edison Recreation Area. We will be exploring the vernal pools, stream, and pond in search of the many amphibians that call the park home. Event is rain or shine. Please wear waterproof gear. You are welcome to bring a small container and a net to observe the critters we find. Free to attend! Find all the details on our website at <https://www.mvparkdistrict.org/Connect/Event-Calendar/>

Earth Day

Website: Learn more at [Earth Day 2022 | Invest in Our Planet™](#)

“All TOGETHER now!

This is the moment to change it all – the business climate, the political climate, and how we take action on climate. Now is the time for the unstoppable courage to preserve and protect our health, our families, our livelihoods... together, we must Invest In Our Planet.

Because a green future is a prosperous future.

We need to act (boldly), innovate (broadly), and implement (equitably). It’s going to take all of us. All in. Businesses, governments, and citizens – everyone accounted for, and everyone accountable. A partnership for the planet.

And while there is still time to solve the climate crisis, time to choose BOTH a prosperous and sustainable future, and time to restore nature and build a healthy planet for our children and their children, time is short.

The Earth Day 2022 Theme is Invest In Our Planet. What Will You Do? Scroll down to find information on Earth Day events, activities, and what individuals and organizations can do to make a difference.

For Earth Day 2022, together, for everyone, everything, every day... #InvestInOurPlanet”

Watch/Read:

- The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss (book and movie versions available)
- Read Aloud on YouTube: [The Lorax - Read Aloud Picture Book](#) Ⓞ 18:39

Activity Links

- Google Drive “[For Parents](#)” Folder link! Full of Earth Day related activities!
- [TheLoraxISpeakforthePeopleDrSeussActivity-1.pdf](#) (printed)

Ms. Michelle’s favorite quote comes from *The Lorax*, “UNLESS someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.” -Dr. Seuss

Look back at the March Activity Packet on page 10 about Global Recycling Day if you did not get the chance. Learn more at: <https://www.globalrecyclingday.com/about/>

And wait, there is even MORE!

- **April 1 April Fools Day**
 - [April Fools' Day: Origins, Meaning & Hoaxes - HISTORY](#)
- **April 3 Geologist Day**

A geologist studies the history of the earth through rocks and rock formation processes. They study solid and liquid forms of rocks through time.

<https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/geology/353173>
- **April 7 World Health Day**

The date of April 7 marks the anniversary of the founding of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1948.

<https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-health-day/2022>
- **April 8 National Zoo Lovers Day**-Celebrate with National Wildlife Week April 5-9
Take a trip to a Zoo! Did you know?! We have 6 in Ohio! This includes The Wilds and Zoos in Cleveland, Columbus, Akron, Toledo, and Cincinnati.
- **April 16 FULL MOON ALERT!** Pink Moon
<https://www.almanac.com/content/full-moon-april>
- **April 17 International Bat Appreciation Day**

Bats are the only flying mammals. There are 13 species of bats recorded in Ohio. Learn more: [Co-existing with Bats in Ohio](#) and [Bat Conservation International](#)
- **April 17 International Haiku Poetry Day** (refer to [25 Types of Poetry](#))
- **April 23 National Picnic Day**-A Saturday family picnic! Even in your backyard!
- **April 28 Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day**
- **April 29 Arbor Day**-Celebrating 50 years of planting this year!
In the last 50 years, the Arbor Day Foundation has planted and distributed nearly 500 million trees in more than 50 countries around the world to fight global issues facing humankind. Learn more at [Arbor Day Foundation](#)

On behalf of the Muskingum Valley Park District, we hope you enjoy(ed) Conservation Kids Club's March activities and look forward to seeing you at the next meeting on
Sunday, April 24, 2022!

This activity packet was created with care by Ms. Michelle Illing, MVPD,
and Haley Johnson, AmeriCorps Service Member! 🙌❤️😊