

# PICKAWAY COUNTY PARK DISTRICT



2021  
YEAR IN  
REVIEW

*Park District's Mission:  
To Create, Preserve and Manage a System of Parks,  
Trails and Natural Areas for Outdoor Recreation.*



# Pickaway County Parks and Trails

## Parks

Canal Park  
Metzger Preserve  
Logan Elm Park  
Big Darby Creek Access  
(Scioto Darby Road)  
Calamus Swamp

## Trails

Roundtown Trail  
Pickaway Trail  
Towpath Trail  
Wetland Trail  
Richards River Trail  
Indian Rock Trail  
Prairie Loop Trail

## COMING SOON:

Playground Equipment at Canal Park  
Bridge Planning for Scioto River and Canal  
Purchase of 25 ac. at Cooks Creek  
Canoe/Kayak Access into the Big Darby

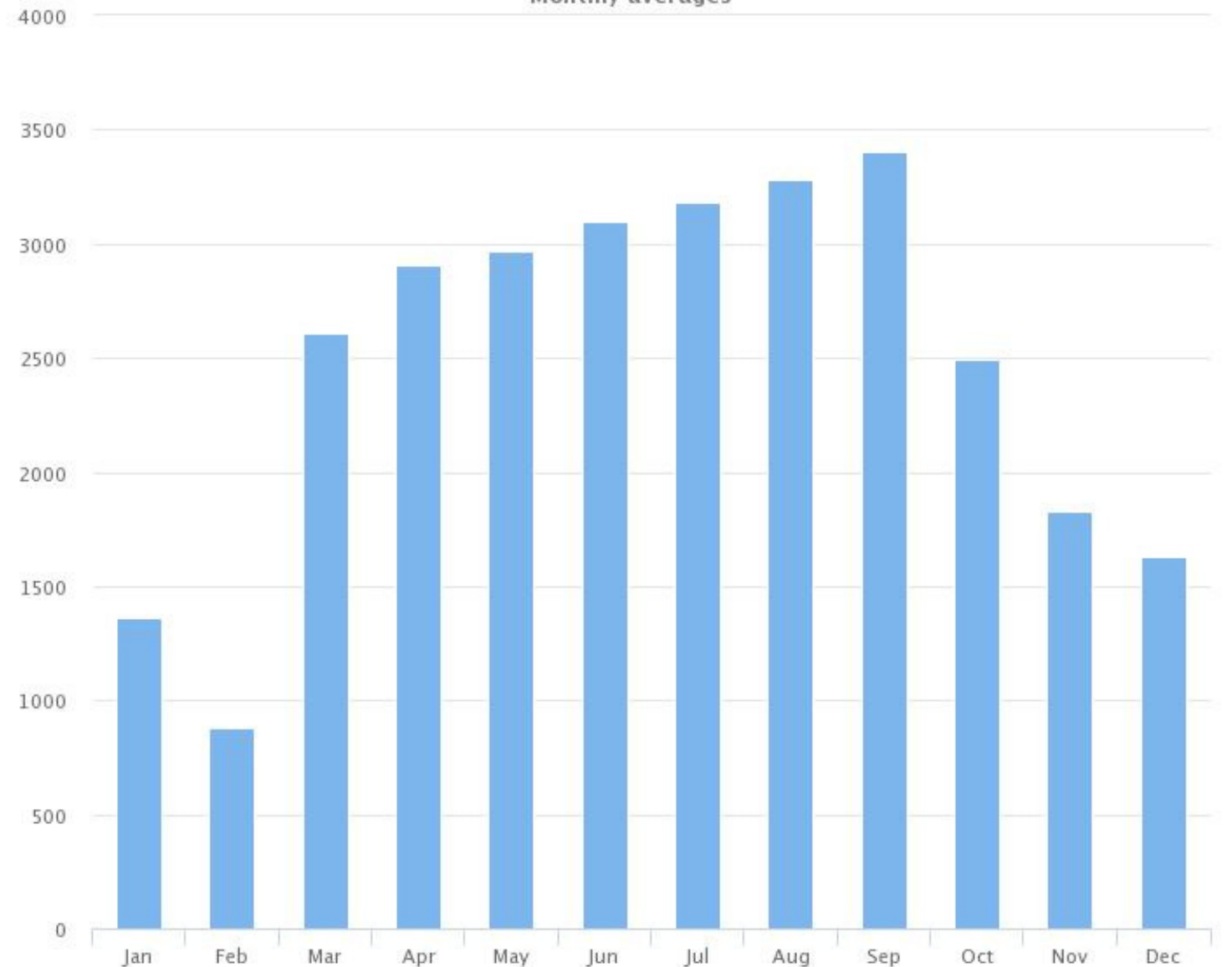


# Canal Park Visitors

## Months of the year

2021-01-01 to 2021-12-31

Monthly averages



Site Name	Average	Median	STDV	Min	Max
Canal Park (A)	2,470.4	2,757.6	804.9	882.0	3,405.0

(A) = adjustment applied

(D) = divide by 2 applied

Average Daily Traffic of 84 Visitors 2021  
30,678 Visitors in 2021 (up from 28,956 in 2020)

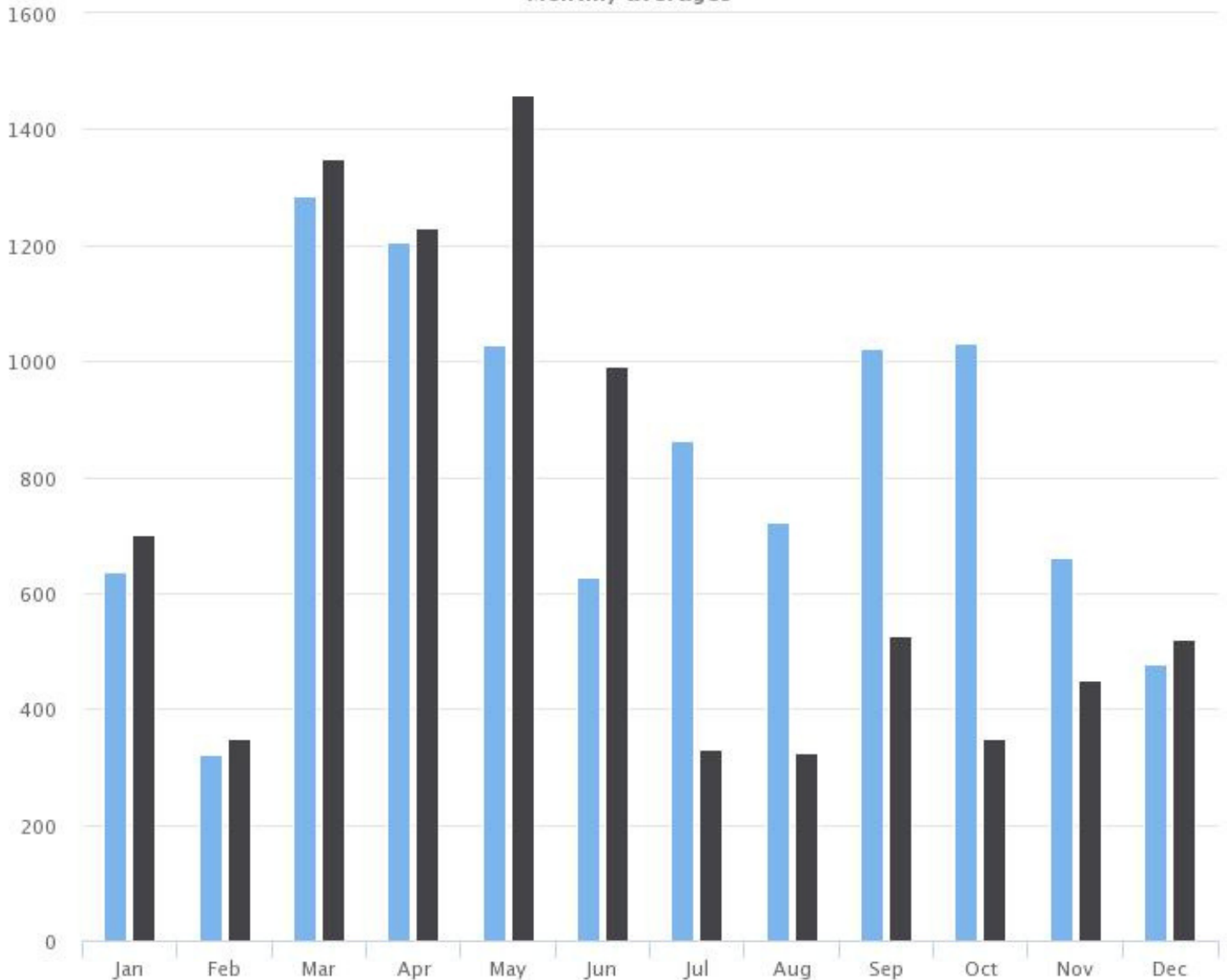


# Roundtown Trail Visitors

## Months of the year

2021-01-01 to 2021-12-31

Monthly averages



Site Name		Average	Median	STDV	Min	Max
Roundtown Trail OCU (D)		823.4	792.5	283.8	322.0	1,285.4
Roundtown Trail YMCA (D)		715.3	524.0	408.9	324.0	1,459.1

(D) = divide by 2 applied

Average Daily Traffic of 50 Visitors  
18,910 visitors to the trail this year

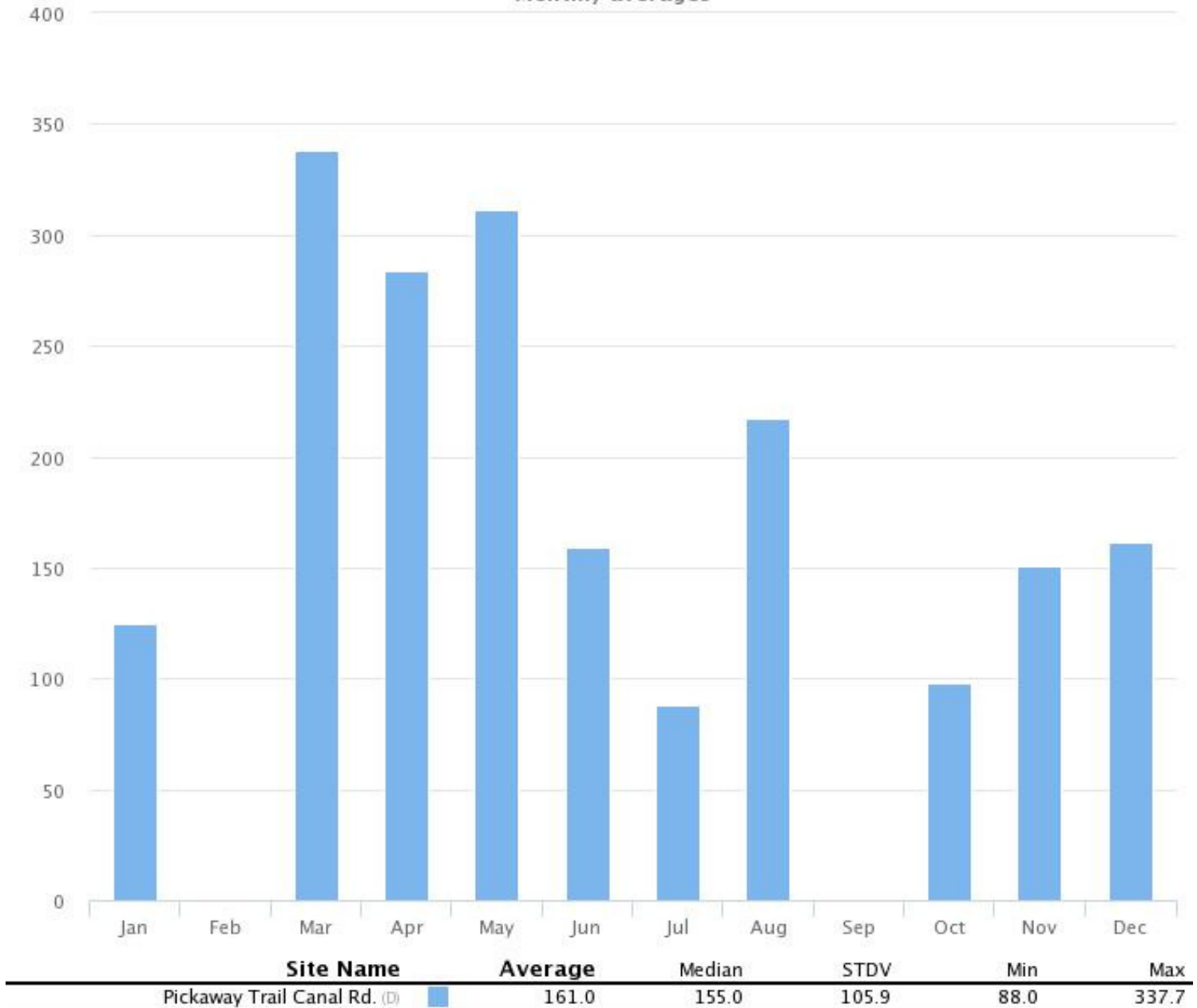


# Pickaway Trail Visitors

## Months of the year

2021-01-01 to 2021-12-31

Monthly averages



(D) = divide by 2 applied

Average Daily Traffic of 6 Visitors  
2,077 visitors in 2021 (up from 1,916 in 2020)

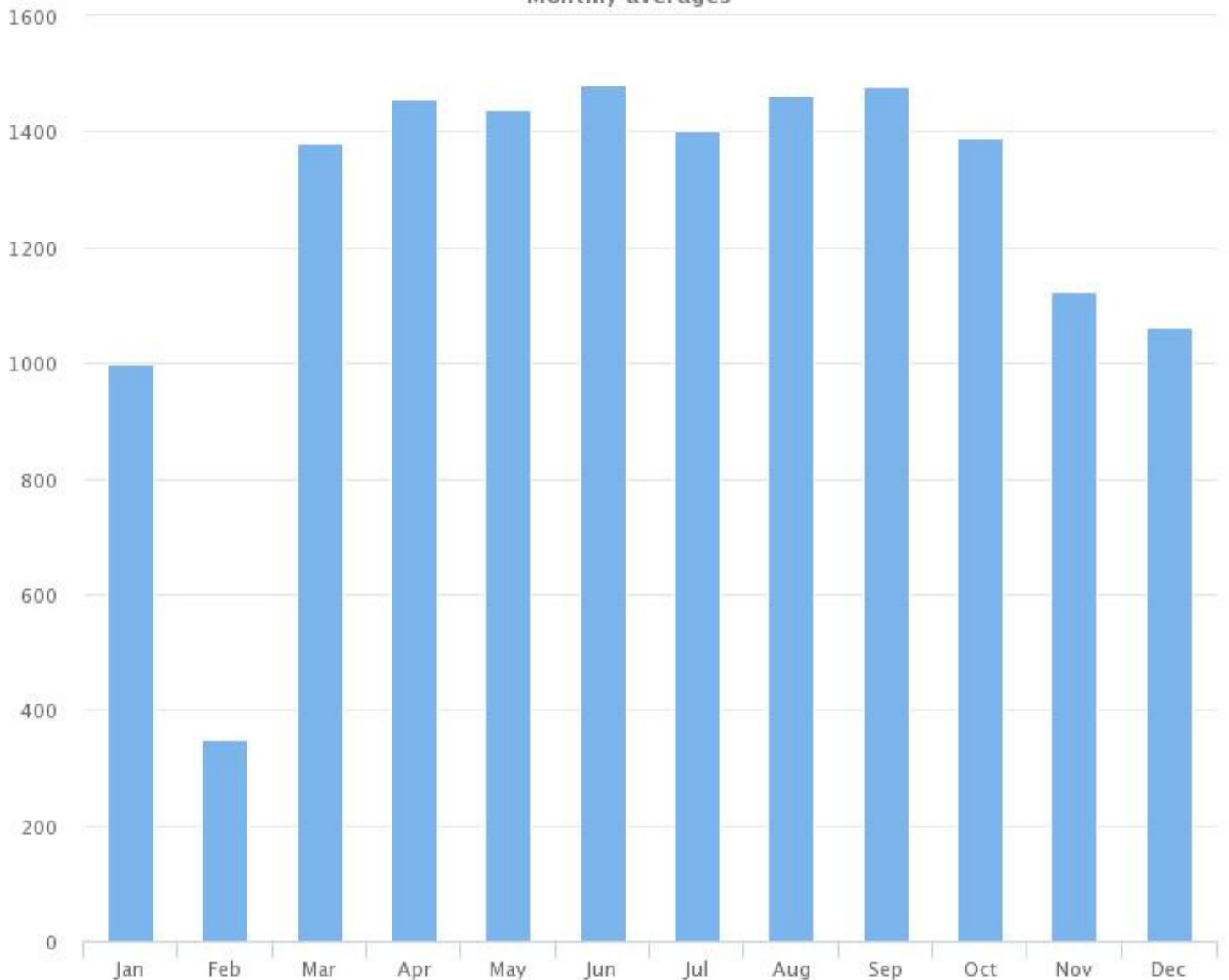


# Logan Elm Park Visitors

## Months of the year

2021-01-01 to 2021-12-31

Monthly averages



Site Name	Average	Median	STDV	Min	Max
Logan Elm Park (AD)	1,251.5	1,395.8	318.0	350.0	1,481.7

(A) = adjustment applied

(D) = divide by 2 applied

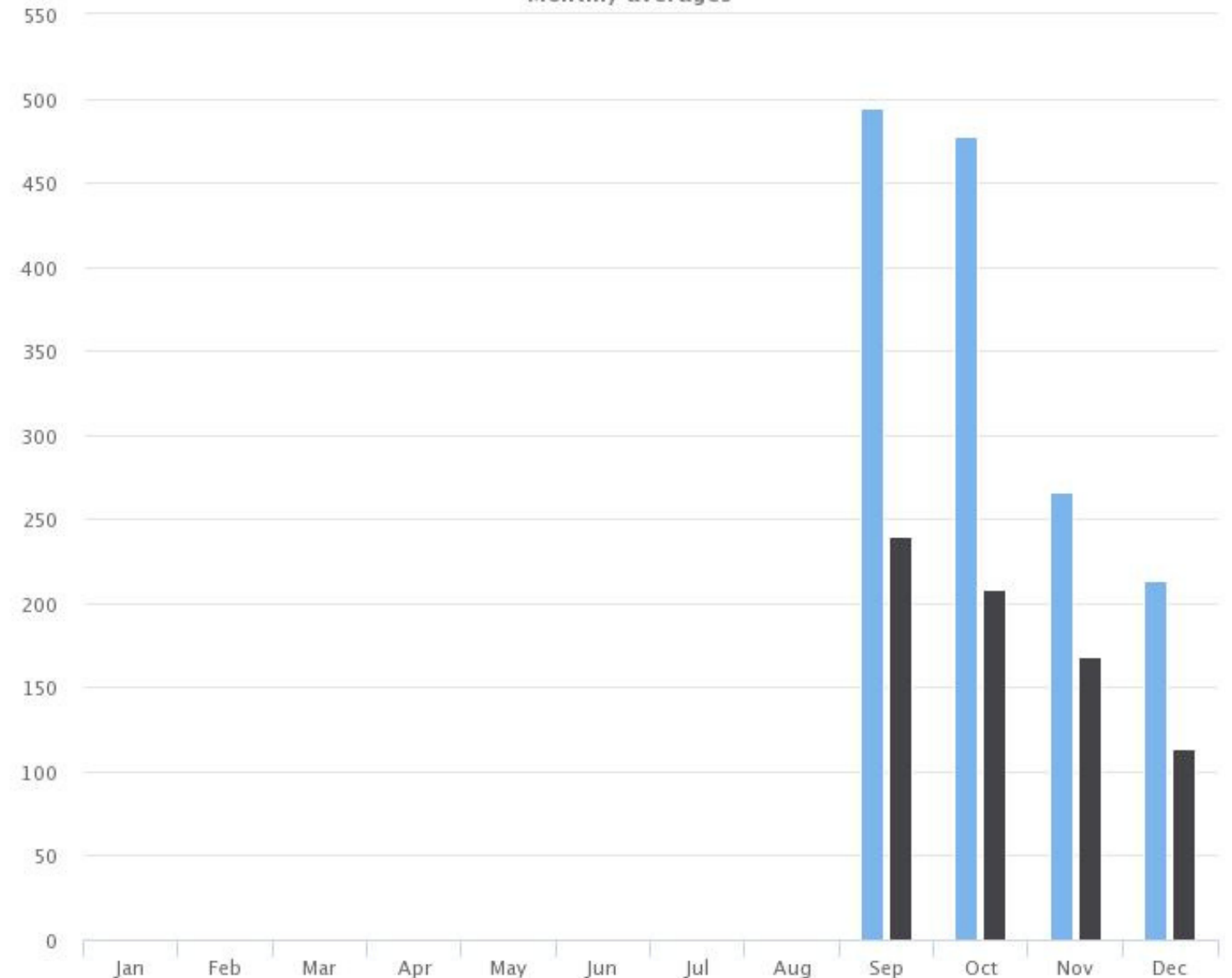
Average Daily Traffic of 42 Visitors  
15,445 visitors in 2021 (up from 13,087 in 2020)

# Metzger Preserve Visitors

## Months of the year

2021-01-01 to 2021-12-31

Monthly averages



Site Name		Average	Median	STDV	Min	Max
Metzger Creek		362.7	371.7	124.8	213.0	494.4
Metzger Main		182.5	188.0	47.1	114.0	240.0

Average Daily Traffic of 18 Visitors  
6,435 visitors for 3 months in 2021

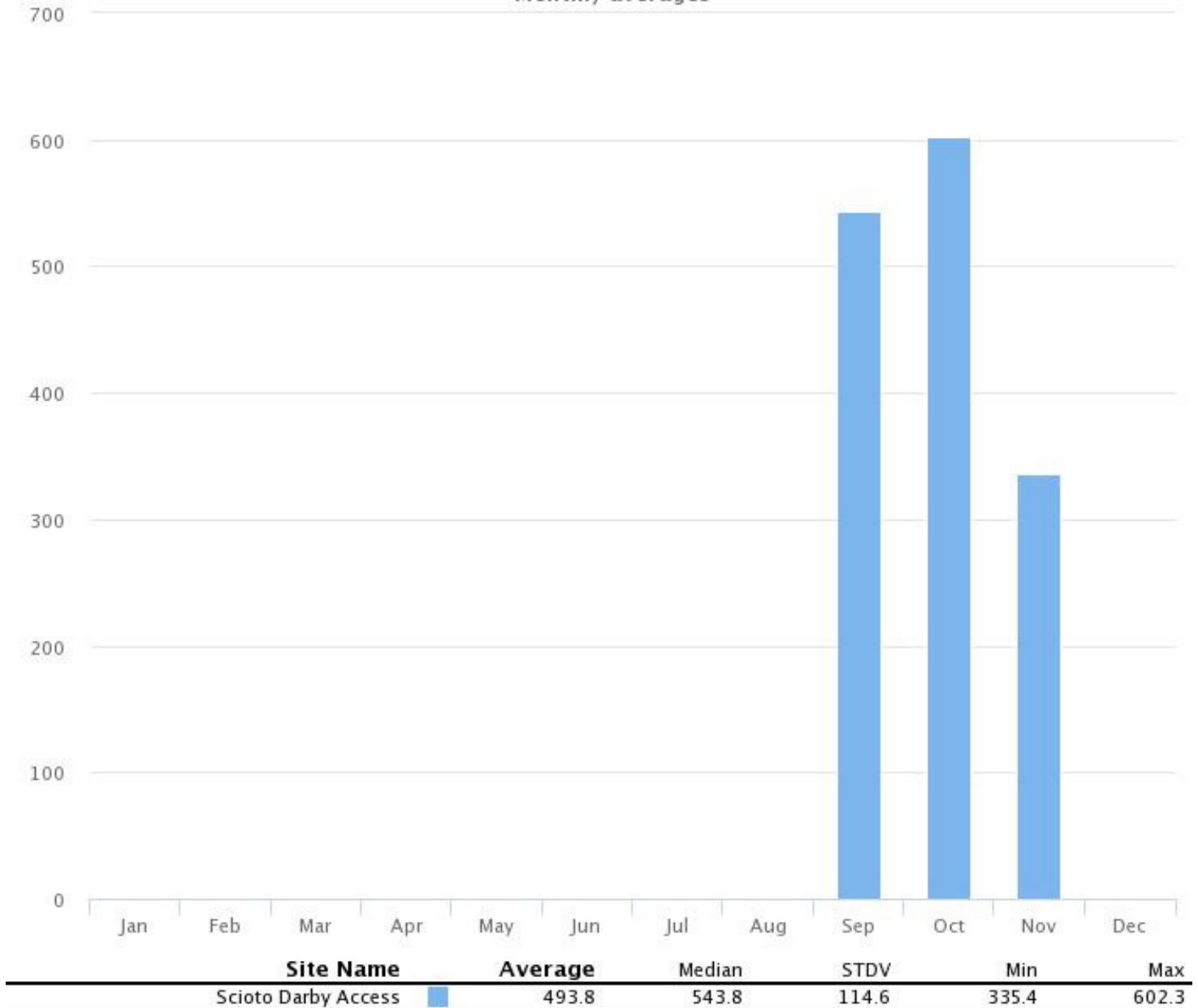


# Big Darby Access - Scioto Darby Road Visitors

## Months of the year

2021-09-01 to 2021-12-02

Monthly averages



Average Daily Traffic of 15 Visitors  
5,545 visitors in 2021 (3 months)

# Projects

# Big Darby Creek Access

In August the District hosted the official opening for the first Public Paddler Access to Big Darby Creek.

The \$51,000 project was funded by a Paddling Enhancement Grant from ODNR's Division of Watercraft.







# Calamus Swamp Mangement

Pickaway County Park District signed an agreement in the late summer of 2021. This agreement allows the District to manage the trails and mowing at the park for the Columbus Audubon.







# Pickleball Ball In Pickaway County

Pickaway County Pickleball Association came to the Park District and the City requesting space for pickleball courts. The group used the Friends of Pickaway Parks and Trail to raise funds to put in a new court at the City's Barthelmas Park.





# Park Improvement Grant

The Park District set aside \$100,000 for the 2021 Park Improvement Grant! 7 entities received up to \$10,000 for their various projects. These grants help local communities, townships, and non-profits create and improve parks and trails throughout Pickaway County.



Friends of Deercreek used their funds to add carpet at Deercreek State Park's Putt Putt course.



Wil-Der Rec Board used their funds to upgrade their swings and add mulch at Williamsport Community Park.





The Village of new Holland recieved funds to fix up their ball diamond and dugouts.



The Village of Ashville received funds to resurface their walking path at Ashville Community Park.

# 2021 Grant Projects





# **Clean Ohio Trails Grant Award**

The District is pleased to report that we were awarded \$303,402 through ODNR's Clean Ohio Trails Fund. The District will use these funds to build a bridge over the Ohio-Erie Canal on the Pickaway Trail at the intersection of the trail and Canal Park.



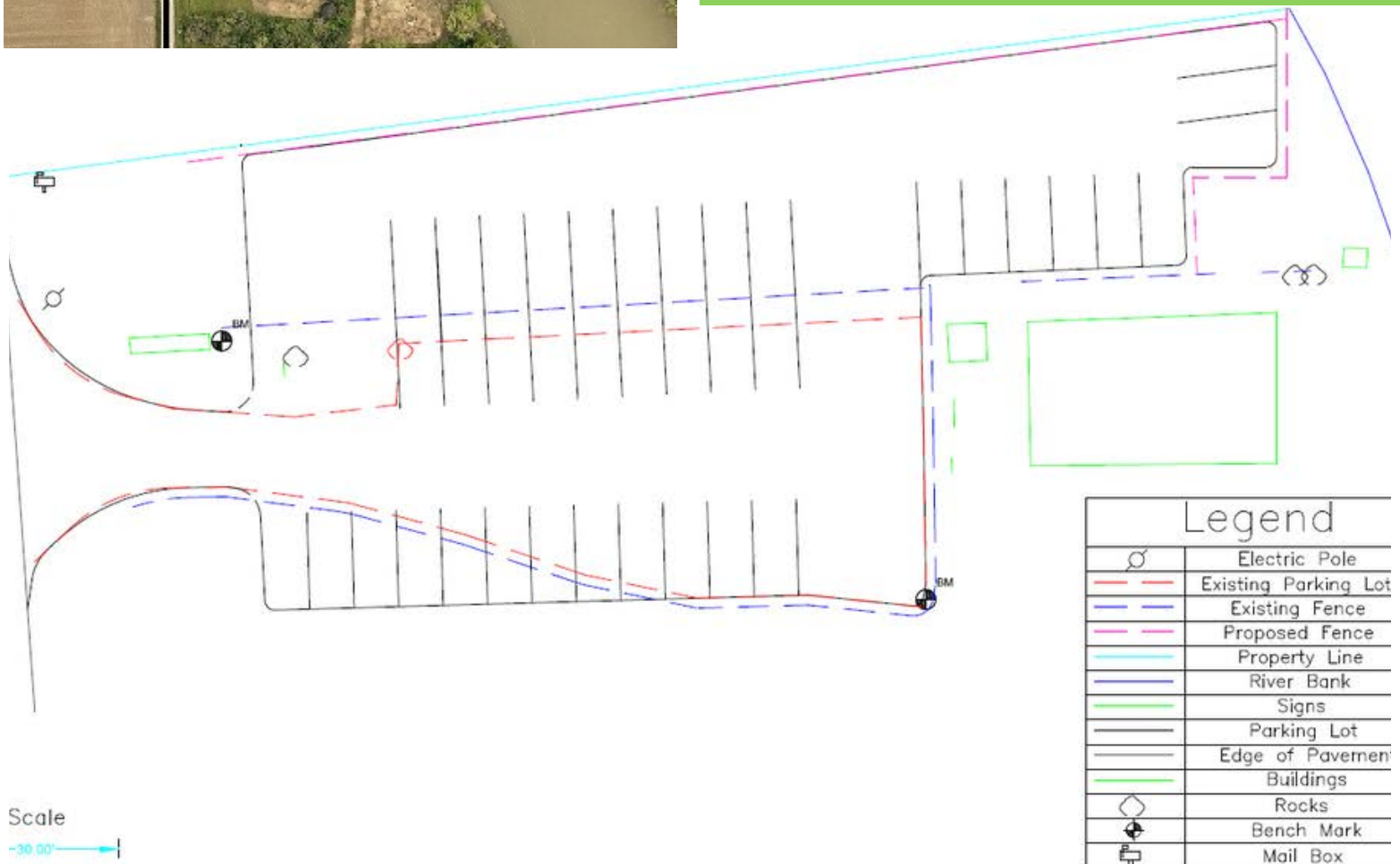




# Canal Park Expansion

The District purchased 0.3 acres from the Richard Family to expand the parking lot at Canal Park.

The parking lot will increase the parking lot from 15 spots to 36 spots and will include two handicap spots.



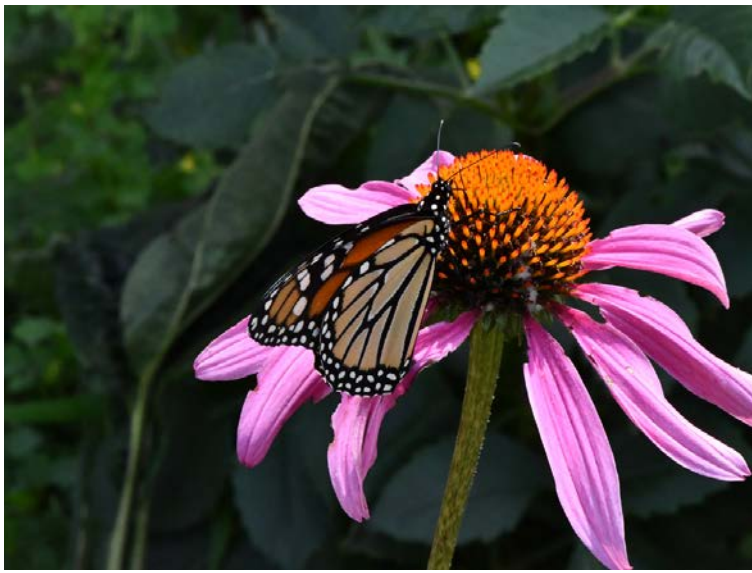




# Ohio-Erie Canal Southern Decent opening

The Southern Decent Ohio-Erie Canal Heritage group celebrated the opening of the heritage trail along the canal corridor during the fall of 2021. The trail consists of 20+ places and goes through historic communities and scenic landscapes. In October, Pickaway County celebrated the trail's opening at the District's Canal Park and Lock 31 (which is on private property). The District will be working to get this lock into public ownership in the future.





# **2021 CITE Dupont Grant**

With this years award of \$10,000 to the District went towards, spraying, burning and replanted of the Prairie at Mary Virginia Crites Hannan as well as the development of new signage.







# Pickaway Trail Purchase

The District Purchased 0.4 acres along the Pickaway Trail corridor on the east side of Sisk Road that had reverted back to private ownership before the District purchased the rail corridor. This purchase will allow for enough space for the future trail.



# New Trails At Metzger Preserve

The Park District cut new trails through Metzger Preserve's prairie, added pollinator plantings and added new trail signs for park users.





# **Volunteers**

# **PCPD Volunteer Education Hours**

Total Events: 21

Total Hours: 435.5hours

## **PCPD Volunteer Park Hours**

Total Events: 31

Total Hours: 207.5 hours

## **Other Volunteer Education Hours**

Total Events: 4

Total Hours: 29 hours

## **Other Volunteer Park Hours**

Total Events: 2

Total Hours: 21 hours

## **Total Combined Hours**

Total Events: 58

Total Hours: 693 hours





# Mary Virginia Crites Hannan

Volunteers spent 24.5  
hours cleaning invasives  
out of the woods and  
prairie.





# Calamus Swamp

Volunteers spend 14.5 hours  
cleaning out invasives,  
clearing trails and cutting  
up downed trees.





# Canal Park

Volunteers have spent over 110 hours at Canal Park cleaning up trash, removing invasive species, and caring for our entrance sign and pollinator patch.







# Metzger Preserve

Volunteers have spent over 33 hours at Metzger Preserve picking up trash, planting and watering the garden under the main sign.







# Roundtown Trail

Volunteers spend 34.5 hours cutting back trail and removing invasive species along the trail.







# Canal Park - Pickaway Ross

13 Students from Pickaway Ross spent a combined 21 hours spreading mulch on the Richards River Trail and cutting back brush from the trail.



# **Education & Outreach**



# **Total Attendance for all Events in 2021:**

Total Programs: 38

Total Attendance: 2,062 People

2020 Numbers: 1,156 People

## **Education Program Numbers**

Total Programs: 32

Total Attendance: 1,390 People

## **YouTube Program Numbers**

Total Views: 859 new

Subscribers : 8 new

## **Other Programs/ Outreach Numbers**

Total Programs: 6

Total Attendance: 672





# Summer Programs

Park District offered 32 programs in 2021. All of these programs were hosted in person. New this year was the fabulous 50 Group Hikes that took place at parks and trails across the county.



Pickaway County Park District

## A Dandelion's Travels

An Educational Program  
for Children under 12

Join the Pickaway County Park District as we travel with the dandelions! We will read a book, make a craft and play a game all while learning about a little "weed" we call a dandelion.

Program will be cancelled in the case of



Pickaway County Park District

## Life in Big Darby Creek

An Educational Water  
Exploration for ALL Ages

Join the Pickaway County Park District on a guided exploration of our county's only National and State Scenic River! Bring boots and clothes that can get a little wet so that you can get a hands on look of what makes this creek so special. A few hip and chest waders will be provided.





# Fabulous 50 Walks

This year the District hosted Group Walks once a month beginning in May and running through December at various parks around the county. These walks were specifically for those 50 years young though, all were welcomed!







# Summer Reading and Library Presentations

This year the District partnered with the County Library to host 4 Presentations and 4 Reading programs at Canal Park.







# Compost Workshop

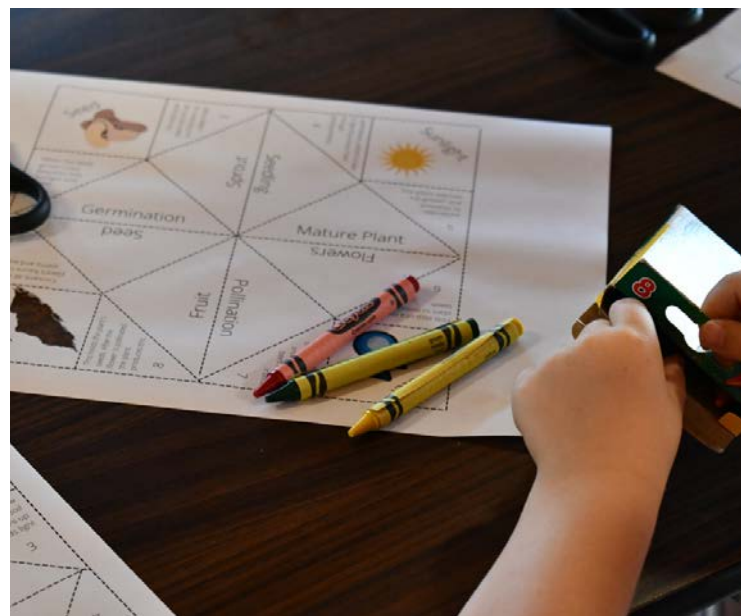
The District partnered with the RPHF Solid Waste District and Pickaway Soil and Water to host a beginners composting workshop. We had 27 participants join us to learn how to start their own compost bins.





# Friday in the Park

The District partnered with the RPHF Solid District and Pickaway SWCD to host a Soil Sleuths themed Friday in the Park event for 35 kids at MVCH.





# Jr. Conservationist

The District, Soil and Water and Solid Waste partnered to host a new virtual event for kids to learn about conservation through our new Jr. Conservationist program. Participants selected pre-planned activities off of a list on our website from 6 categories; Soil, Water, Animals, Plants, Exploration and Community. After completing the required number of activities the participant received a hat and a button!







# Experience Earth Camp

The District partnered with Pickaway Soil and Water Conservation District and RPHF Solid Waste to host EE Camp in August at Canal Park. Park District volunteer's lead programs on photosynthesis, fishing, Nature hikes, string crafts, fossils, wild medicines and insects.







# Jr. Experience Earth Camp

The District joined Pickaway Soil and Water Conservation District to host a brand new one day camp for 1st and 2nd graders. This camp took place at Canal Park and had 22 participants.







Pickaway County Parks District

43 subscribers

CUSTOMIZE CHANNEL

HOME

VIDEOS

PLAYLISTS

CHANNELS

DISCUSSION

ABOUT



# YouTube

Though the District did not create any new virtual outreach or education videos this year, we still saw an increase of 8 new subscribers and 859 new views.







# Outreach Events

Park District visited the County Fair, the SWCD and Farm Bureau Banquet, the Kiwanis in Ashville and Teays Valley High School







# Canal Heritage Day

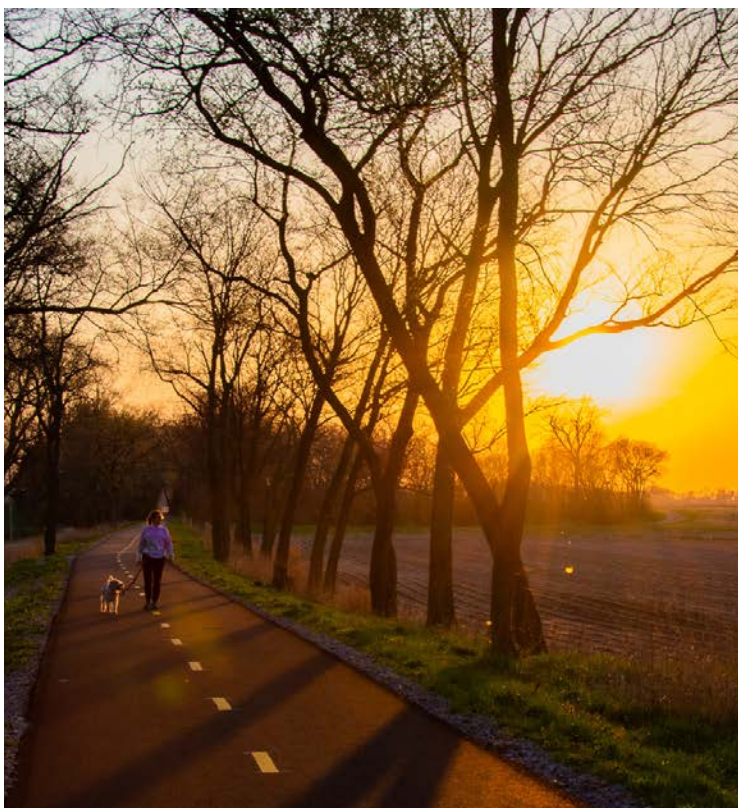
To celebrate the opening of the Ohio-Erie Canal Southern Decent Heritage Trail the District hosted an event to tour the historic Lock 31 on private property as well as a public event at Canal Park.





# Photo Contest

This year the District hosted its first ever Photo Contest. We had 57 photos submitted and 36 participants.





# Whats Coming Next?

- Continued clearing and developing the Pickaway Trail
- Continued work to get playground equipment, new Parking lot, and natural play areas at Canal Park
- Continued work to build a bridge over the Scioto River
- Land And Water Grant application to provide support facilities for Canal Park
- Continued work and possible grants to create additional Canoe/Kayak Access on the Scioto River and Darby Creek
- Work and possible grants to restore and purchase Lock 31
- Purchase of 25 acres from AOA at Cooks Creek and upgrade to clubhouse

