



# 2023 Annual Report

Bellbrook Sugarcreek Park District  
2751 Washington Mill Road  
Bellbrook, OH 45305

# 2023 Annual Report

In November of 2023, residents approved a .6-mill replacement levy for the Bellbrook Sugar creek Park District. The funding for this levy will begin in 2025 and is integral to maintaining our parks and facilities. We greatly appreciate your continued support of your local park district. This support will allow us to continue our mission of preserving open space, providing exceptional program opportunities, and enhancing recreational facilities. We are passionate and dedicated to making the parks great for you to enjoy for many years to come!

Pushing our efforts to maintain a high level of fiscal responsibility, the park district was approved for grant funding of over \$700,000 in 2023! These grant projects are made possible through private donations and local partnerships with other community groups.

Strengthening these partnerships was a big part of our 2023! With support and funding from the Greene County Council on Aging, we were able to take on the official role of the Bellbrook-Sugar creek Senior Center. We have enjoyed spending the last year expanding our senior programming for the community!

We look forward to bringing you more into 2024!



# Financials

General fund receipts totaled \$1,140,086 in 2023 with expenditures at \$1,249,083. Improvement to sites totaled \$316,410 of these expenditures and programming costs were \$27,271. You can find a link to our full financial statements [here](#). Our next financial audit occurs in 2024. The Bellbrook Sugarcreek Park District has consistently maintained clean audits and the highest rating for our compliance with Ohio Sunshine Laws. Copies of prior year audits are always available on the Ohio State Auditor's website.

# Recreational Programming

Our park staff had an exciting year of programming! From Nature programs, to TapFit for seniors, and Book Clubs - we loved spending time with you in the parks! Here are a few of the highlights:

- Passed out 1000 trees at the Sugar Maple Festival
- Offered a total of 127 different programs throughout the year
- School partnership programs included fossils, STEM night at the middle school, Eagle Outreach at the Middle School and Happy Child preschool presentations
- Eclipse Viewing Party" hosted over 200 participants. Partners attending to add to the fun included the Little Miami Watershed Network, BB-SC Chamber of Commerce, Winter's Library and Michael's House
- Approximately 45 residents of the Bellbrook Health & Rehab Center received a Valentine's greeting card made by community members at our "From my Heart to Yours"
- We saw a 55% increase in bluebird fledglings from 2022 to 2023. Thank you to our Park Naturalist and all of our dedicated volunteers who put in the hours monitoring!
- Over \$1500 raised to support the Bellbrook Sugarcreek Community Support Center through several events
- A record of 40 different species of butterflies were recorded during counts on the Butterfly Transect Trail at Morris Reserve

# 2023 Capital Improvements



1

## **Bellbrook Connector**

In partnership with the City of Bellbrook, the Park District was awarded a Clean Ohio Grant for \$174,750 to preserve the creek area behind Magee Park. These funds will be used to add a small bridge to connect the surrounding park parcels and further bank stabilization efforts, keeping the creek accessible to the community.

2

## **Kehl Park**

The Park District replaced the aging playground structure at Kehl Park and enhanced the trails. We partnered with local girl scout troops 34490 and 3110 to remove invasive honey suckle and plant 300 native trees.

3

## **Magee Park**

Magee Park received a shelter upgrade! The prior structure had been constructed in the 1980's!

4

## **Brookview Reserve**

Prairie establishment and erosion control efforts will allow this park to be accessible to the public in 2024!

# 2023 Capital Improvements

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## **Petrikis Park**

The Park District expended \$42,876 in grant funds from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Greene Giving Foundation to create the Sensory Sound Path at Petrikis Park. The Sound Path is our first fully ADA accessible recreational feature and the connecting path allows people of all ages and abilities to enjoy the Butterfly Garden that is maintained by the Greene County Master Gardeners!

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## **Bieser Reserve**

Utilizing House Bill funding from the State of Ohio, a Clean Ohio grant and private donations, the Park District has begun the planning improvements to Bieser Reserve that will bring a new kayak and canoe launch to our community!

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## **Park District Headquarters**

In partnership with the Greene County Council on Aging, the Park District installed accessible doors and a sound barrier in the community room!



# Looking Foward

Heading into 2024 we have improvements planned for Sweet Arrow, Sackett Wright, Washington Mill, Kehl, Brookview and more! We will also continue to bring you award winning programs and the best resources for all things nature!

## Get Involved

For volunteer opportunities, comments or concerns, please contact us Monday through Friday, 8AM to 4:30PM!



Phone Number  
**937-848-3535**



Email Address  
**info@bellbrooksugarcreekparks.org**



Website  
**www.bellbrooksugarcreekparks.org**

