



RISE TOGETHER - SEPT. 5, 2023

SPOTLIGHT ON CONSERVATION

New Program will Increase Biodiversity, Water Conservation

We are installing native plants in the landscape beds at all 28 community centers over the next several years. The new native shrubs and wildflowers will increase the biodiversity in our parks and conserve water once the plants become established, creating healthy and beautiful landscaping around our community centers.

Four centers are included this year, and all are welcome to join us in the plantings; [sign up for one or more Community Planting events](#).

- **Adams:** Wednesday, Oct. 4, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
- **Whetstone:** Saturday, Oct. 7, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **Scioto Southland:** Saturday, Oct. 14, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
- **Far East:** Saturday, Oct. 21, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

The event at Whetstone coincides with our annual Pollinator Field Day. In addition to plantings, the event will include native seed collection and invasive removal within the prairie, pollinator-based activities for kids and opportunities to ask OSU Master Gardeners all of your gardening questions.

This project is a collaboration across multiple teams, including Conservation, Parks, Volunteers, Community Centers, and Design & Construction.

[Learn more about the department's Conservation team, and what we're doing to preserve, protect and grow our natural environment.](#)

NEWS AND INFORMATION

THANKS FOR A GREAT SUMMER, CRPD!

Summer is the busiest time of the year for the department. We serve a critical role in helping residents engage in fun, enriching activities. These activities are especially important in the summer when youth aren't in school.

Here are a few stats that illustrate the significant role we played this summer:

- We helped residents beat the heat, and our Aquatics team hosted **47,000** residents at pools. It was an exciting year as we opened all nine pools for the first time in several years, and we opened two new pools- Glenwood and Windsor pools.
- We provided opportunities for our community to connect. **223,000** residents attended **37** community events and festivals hosted by the Special Events team, and **1,800** volunteers provided **4,500** hours of volunteer time at events hosted by our Community Relations team.
- We helped residents get active. The Sports team led leagues for **200,000** youth and adults, and the Golf team hosted residents for **101,000** rounds of golf.
- We provided opportunities for youth and adults to engage in recreational programs. **9,400** children and youth attended summer camps and activities, and **3,200** people participated in classes and programs at the Priscilla R. Tyson Cultural Arts Center.
- We helped teens and young adults prepare for a successful future, and **250** individuals gained work experience and job skills through the APPS Job Readiness Program. Also, the Food Office team provided **241,000** summer meals to youth.

Every staff member played a role in these achievements. Some were running the programs while others were supporting staff who were working with residents. And others were keeping our parks and facilities clean and operational. Every staff member is critical to our department!

With the unofficial start of fall, take some time to celebrate all we accomplished this summer!

SAVE THE DATE: 2023 ALL STAFF MEETING

Join us for the 2023 All Staff Meeting!

Wednesday, Nov. 1, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Lou Berliner Sports Park
325 Greenlawn Ave.

This year's All Staff Meeting promises to be a fun, engaging event that celebrates our CAPRA accreditation and all we've accomplished together this year.

Mark your calendars and watch for more information!

9/11/2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

August 25

All day

KNOWN AND STRANGE THINGS EXHIBITION

All day

NITE OWL CLASSIC MIXED DIVISION NITE REGISTRATION

All day

GENERAL CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES - FALL I SESSION START

All day

CULTURAL ARTS CENTER CLASSES - SESSION 5 START

All day

YOUTH BASEBALL, SOFTBALL AND TEE BALL FALL LEAGUES START

All day

ADULT VOLLEYBALL LEAGUES - FALL SESSION REGISTRATION

All day

ADULT BASKETBALL LEAGUES - FALL SESSION REGISTRATION

All day

AQUATICS CLASSES AND LESSONS - FALL I SESSION START

SEEKING OPRA AWARD IDEAS

Does your section have a project that is worthy of an OPRA Award of Excellence? Let us know!

1. [Read the OPRA Awards of Excellence brochure for information about the categories.](#)
2. [Complete this brief form **no later than Sept. 12.**](#)

Please note that not all submissions are able to be entered. The full list of submissions will be reviewed, and up to one entry will be entered into each category.

TIPS FOR USING THE PURCHASING REQUEST FORM

Pay attention to the following when requesting items using the Purchasing Request Form:

- Utilize our contracted vendors first (such as BSN for sports equipment and School Specialty for arts and crafts items). There are many different names for the same product – a little extra time in the search will save time for all in the end!
- Be sure to fill out all the boxes on the form with correct information. Incorrect links and omitted Item Numbers make it difficult to source the item requested.
- Please follow the chain of command – this is price dependent, so if you have questions, just ask!

VOLUNTEER FOR TEEN OUTDOOR DAY AND SENIOR WELLNESS JAMBOREE

Have you been interested in seeing another team in action? We're looking for staff members to volunteer with Teen Outdoor Day, presented by Columbus Recreation and Parks Department's Girls Empowerment, as well as volunteers to help with the Senior Wellness Jamboree.


- **Teen Outdoor Day** will see roughly 50 participants ages 12-8 enjoy some fun outdoor activities. The event is set to take place on **Saturday, Sept. 23 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.** at McKnight Outdoor Education Center. The activities for the day will include canoeing, archery, birding and fire building. If you're interested in volunteering, please email Suzanne Schwartz at smschwartz@columbus.gov.
- **Senior Wellness Jamboree** is an event for Columbus' 50+ population, during which they can participate in fitness walks, participate in classes and activities, get tips and resources for a healthy lifestyle and win prizes. The event will occur on **Friday, Oct. 6 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.** at Franklin Park Adventure Center. If you want to volunteer for this event, reach out to DaShaunta Drew at DNDrew@columbus.gov.

Please note that, if you're typically scheduled to work on Fridays or Saturdays, you will need to get permission from your supervisor before volunteering.

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!

What's your favorite part of fall?

kfrancisapr@gmail.com [Switch account](#)

 Not shared

* Indicates required question

What's your favorite part of fall? *

- Watching the leaves change
- Cooler weather
- Football
- Sweaters
- Pumpkin spice everything
- I don't want to see summer go

Submit

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LEADERSHIP UPDATE

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

ELISE TRUMPOWER

She/Her/Hers



Section

RN Health Coach and Case Manager-COAAA

Length of Employment

5 years

What's your favorite aspect of Columbus Recreation and Parks?

MMO Care Transitions, being a nurse health coach and having the opportunity to help my members recover at home after hospital visits.

What's your favorite project that you have worked on?

Community Mother's Day Dinner and Fashion Show - one for the history books!

What is your favorite ice cream flavor?

Chocolate

What is your favorite book or movie?

Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Who

What is one piece of advice you have?

Work with your team. I have learned how uplifting and fun it can be to work with a team that trusts me to have their backs but also that I trust to have mine.

Nominate A Coworker for the Staff Spotlight

[Fill out this form to nominate a coworker.](#) They will be notified that they were nominated in order to answer spotlight questions.

ARCHIVE

2023



2022



NATURE

[Nature](#)

[Conservation](#)

[Educational Gardens](#)



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