Just as ripples spread when a single pebble is dropped into water, the actions of individuals can have far-reaching impact. *The Ripple* is a special newsletter created by Cincinnati Nature Center for people looking for ideas and support in their efforts to protect nature.

**GET INSPIRED!**

**Meet an Influencer:**
Community Advocacy and Protecting Local Greenspace

When Cynthia Duval heard that a new building might be erected in Burnet Woods, she quickly reacted. There had to be a way to convince the park board that this was a bad idea, given Burnet Woods’ historical significance and its important silvan ecosystem.

Soon she gathered with about 45 other concerned citizens to form Preserve Burnet Woods, a nonprofit dedicated to sustaining the 89.3-acre park founded in 1874.

Today, Preserve Burnet Woods is facing its biggest challenge: a 10,000-square-foot dog park that park commissioners are supporting despite a portion of public outcry against it.

Click to read the full article by *The Ripple* author Bebe Raupe.

**Do You Know An Influencer?**

We are always looking for new people to feature in *The Ripple*. If someone you
Greater Cincinnati Braver Angels

This organization brings Americans together to bridge the partisan divide and strengthen our democratic republic. Did you know Cincinnati has a local chapter?

Click to Learn More

Articles Worth Reading via Strong Towns

Strong Towns is a nonprofit organization that invites people to analyze the failures of the post-war North American development pattern while giving knowledge and tools to start making our places better today. Check out some of their articles below:

- Click here to read 5 Essential Strong Towns Articles
- Click here to read "Redesigning" Cincinnati With the Connected Communities Plan

Project WILD & Aquatic WILD Workshop

**Thursday, June 13, 9 am–3 pm**
Armco Park– Jones’ Pavilion

Are you an educator looking to add more environmental education, conservation, and FUN to your curriculum? Project WILD/Aquatic WILD Workshop is for formal and non-formal K–12 educators to help supplement hands-on, nature-based activities that help students learn how to think about wildlife, not what to think.

Come explore new ways to connect students to nature through scientific inquiry, bring nature to the classroom, and give students exploratory outdoor learning opportunities.

Registration is Free! All attendees must pre-register by June 1st!

Click to Register

Banking for Nature

According to [Project Drawdown](https://www.projectdrawdown.org), one of our greatest opportunities to advance climate solutions—leveraging the influence of our banking—has been...
Below you will find invitations from Cincinnati Nature Center members who are hosting meet-ups around topics and skills that might positively impact conservation. This section of *The Ripple* helps people find each other, because we are better together!

*Please note, all event participants who are not members of the Nature Center must pay daily admission.*

**World Migratory Bird Day at Burnet Woods**
Saturday, May 11, 9 am–2 pm

This issue of *The Ripple* spotlights some of the community action taking place at Burnet Woods. To enjoy for yourself this treasured greenspace, also designated as an **Audubon Important Bird Area**, join us for World Migratory Bird Day.

[Click here](#) to learn more!

**Volunteer Opportunities**

*Cincinnati Nature Center* is looking for volunteer authors to submit short-form articles to be considered in future *Now in Nature* bi-weekly e-newsletters. These should be seasonally appropriate or evergreen topics that are informative, interpretive, and invites the reader to experience said topic at the Nature Center.

For more information, please contact Digital Marketing Coordinator Megan Mahon at [mmahon@cincynature.org](mailto:mmahon@cincynature.org). If your piece is used, you can count the time to write it as volunteer credit for your OCVN certification hours.

**Peak Bloom Ride Series Volunteers**

Do you enjoy biking or the outdoors? How about both? If so, the Madison SWCD is looking for enthusiastic certified volunteers to help with their Peak Bloom Ride Series in London, Ohio. The rides will be held May 11, July 13, and September 14. Volunteers and riders will be making “Pit Stops” along the trail to discuss local flora and fauna, history, and conservation practices with riders. Talking points will be provided along with any demonstration materials.

Volunteer credit hours will be available. If you or anyone you know may be interested, please contact [norton@madisonswcd.org](mailto:norton@madisonswcd.org).
The Butterfly House at the Ohio State Fair Needs You!

If you are an OCVN and enjoy interacting with the public while sharing your passion for the natural world, volunteer in the ODNR Division of Wildlife Butterfly House for half-day shifts (10 am–2pm and 2 pm–7 pm) during the Ohio State Fair on Wednesday, July 24 through Sunday, August 4, 2024.

The Butterfly House is located on the state fairgrounds in Columbus within the ODNR Natural Resources Park.

If you would like to share in the excitement of this educational outreach area, or would like more information, please contact Tim Daniel at tim.daniel@dnr.ohio.gov. Fair admission tickets and parking passes will be provided for OCVNs committing to work at least a 4-hour shift.

Garden Tour Volunteers Needed

Are you passionate about native plants and gardens? Cincinnati Nature Center seeks enthusiastic volunteers interested in helping with this year’s Garden Tour: Noteworthy Natives presented by Wimberg Landscaping Company. This self-guided tour on Saturday, June 22nd, 2024, will showcase 10 magnificent gardens located in North Avondale, Indian Hill, Blue Ash, and Loveland, all showcasing innovative uses of native plants in our landscapes. Join us for a day of inspiration and appreciation for our native plants.

As a volunteer, you’ll play a vital role in educating guests about the benefits of native plants and Inspiring Conservation. Whether you are a seasoned gardener or simply intrigued by the world of native plants, your enthusiasm is needed to help spread awareness about the native plant movement to over 500 garden tour guests. With your help, we can encourage our community to embrace native gardening and cultivate a deeper appreciation for the ecological benefits and beauty of our local flora. You do not need to already be in the CNC volunteer system—we can sign you up as a one-day special event volunteer. This counts toward OCVN certification hours with OSU.

For more information about the Garden Tour or to find out how you can get involved, please contact Katy Potoka at (513)-774-1947 or kpotoka@cincynature.org.

Coyotes: Fear Factor or Misunderstood?

My name is Kathy and I’ve noticed that a lot of people on social media are afraid of coyotes. During the past two years, I have been enrolled in Miami University's Project Dragon graduate program. During this time, I have focused my studies on coyotes. When I was assigned to publish a paper for school, I chose to write about human/coyote conflict, with hopes it might be useful for The Ripple readers to share with others who may have concerns. My hope is that you can “ripple” this message throughout your social circles, for the sake of these animals who are essential to our ecosystem and trying to survive.

Click here to read the full article. - Kathy Brauch
CBS Sunday Morning: How Wildlife Crossings Protect Both Animals and People

Sheila Riley shared this hope-filled report about a series of manmade overpasses and underpasses throughout the United States built to help animals get across streets and highways, protecting the movement of wildlife, preventing collisions, and saving lives.

Click here to learn more!

SHARE & SUBSCRIBE

Give Us Your Feedback

You're receiving this action-oriented newsletter because you signed up for it, because you are a graduate of the Nature Center’s Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist program, or because you have completed The Ripple Effect online course.

Wouldn’t it be great if everyone had better information about ways to act (and inspire others to act) for conservation? Take a minute to share this electronic digest with your friends—they'll thank you for it!

If someone forwarded you this newsletter and you want to become a regular subscriber, click here.

If you have suggestions for content or have other input, contact the Director of Applied Learning, Connie O’Connor at coconnor@cincynature.org.

If you want to unsubscribe, please click here.