

A note from the RJRD Board

This winter is turning out to be one of the coldest in recent memory, with consistent snow cover from before Christmas through January. The wintry weather makes for some beautiful scenery in the Preserve! Keep in mind all of our trails are open year round - perfect for getting out with your family, friends and dogs. Just make sure to wear appropriate shoes and clothing.

The cold weather was also the perfect setting for our annual Snowbird Festival - this year over 600 people turned out to enjoy the festivities! The live animal presentation from the Akron Zoo, dogs from the Siberian Husky Club of Greater Cleveland, face painting, crafts, outdoor games, story time, and bingo hosted by the Richfield Library. Some even went sled-riding! The chili, hot dogs, cookies and cupcakes, and other refreshments were delicious! The entire event was free, as a thank you to Richfield residents for their support.



Let Richfield Heritage Preserve help you make the most of the remaining winter season!

- Mark Robeson, RJRD Trustee

February Upcoming Events -

Please see <https://rjrd.recdesk.com> for a complete program listing and to register.

Feb. 1 - WINTER TRAIL RUN; 7-11AM; Mable Smith Shelter.

Take advantage of the cooler weather to get out and enjoy running on the trails in RHP. For information and to register Visit <https://fastgirlsrunningcompany.com>. Presented by Girls on the Run.

Feb. 2 - HIKE YOGADVENTURE: SUNDAY SERIES; 10-11:45AM.

Join us for an opportunity to connect with nature and nurture your body and mind. Hike with accessible yoga pauses throughout. Lead by Lisa Meranti / OneTreeLove. \$17 - Registration required. Meet at Waterfront Shelter.

Feb. 2 - BASICS OF WIRE WRAPPING: BEADED BRACELET;

1-3PM; Park Office. Learn how to wrap a coin in a channel setting to hold it in place. Please bring a coin of your own choice to this class. All other tools and materials will be provided. Difficulty: Intermediate - Advanced - \$30 Lead by Sarah Mitschke / Different Branches LLC.

Feb. 6 - SMOOTHING IT (NOT ROUGHING IT); 7-8PM.; Park Office.

FREE series with group conversational format. Topic is **TENT CAMPING: Where to Go and How to Enjoy It**. Different emphasis each month on how to tent camp, with something on travel each time: U.S., Canada, & mostly Ohio. **Session 2: TENTS** Lead by Hugh Groth. Registration encouraged.

Feb. 9 - LET'S MAKE: A SUN PENDANT; 1-3PM; Park Office.

Learn how to wrap your own Tree of Life on a cabochon. Tools and materials will be provided. Difficulty: Intermediate - Advanced - \$30 Lead by Sarah Mitschke / Different Branches LLC.

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From our Park Director

This month brings the Richfield Heritage Preserve's first Superbowl Challenge. Everyone is invited to participate! This free fitness event supports our health and wellness initiatives in the park, and *you* are the star!



The Challenge rules are simple:

1) Decide the score of the upcoming Superbowl, Kansas City Chiefs vs. Philadelphia Eagles.

2) Walk, jog, or run the number of exercise minutes to predict the score. The scoring days will be Saturday, February 8th (Kansas City Chiefs Day), and Sunday, February 9th (Philadelphia Eagles Day). For example: if you think the Philadelphia Eagles will win with a score of 35 to 17, you will have to exercise for 17 minutes on Saturday and 35 minutes on Sunday. Alternatively, you can exercise on either day for the number of minutes you think will be the total score of both teams added together.

3) Score predictions and minutes must be submitted to Park-Director@RJRD.org no later than **6pm** on February 9th. The competitors with the closest score to the real game will win a prize!

Good luck, and until next time, I hope to see you out on the trails!

- John Piepsny, Park Director
park-director@rjrd.org

See your photo in print!

Remember to email your beautiful or interesting photo of Richfield Heritage Preserve to office@rjrd.org. We want to see what *you* see in your park!



Dan Radmilovic contributed this month's photo of Kirby's Mill in winter, from the stream below the lower lake. It was taken on Dec. 11, 2020.

Thank you, Dan, for your contribution.

From our Volunteer Coordinator/Recreation Programmer

As we welcome February, we invite you to explore our extensive program guide for 2025.

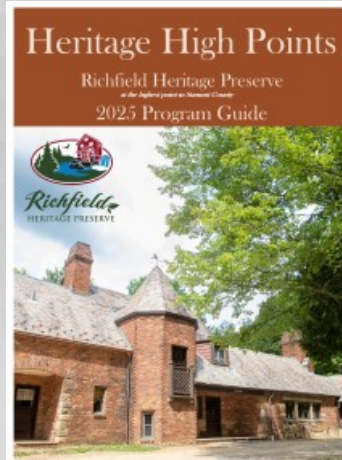
This year, we are thrilled to offer a diverse array of engaging programs tailored to various interests. Get creative in our jewelry-making workshops, participate in thought-provoking discussions during the Danger at Dusk book club, and enhance your outdoor skills with our informative camping sessions. Couples can rejuvenate their connections in the Recharge Your Relationship workshop, while fitness enthusiasts can challenge themselves by participating in the Cabin Fever 5K race.

Additionally, RHP hosts four signature events throughout the year. Mark your calendar for the 3rd Annual Goat Derby, which will take place on Saturday, May 3, 2025. This cherished event promises fun for the whole family and an opportunity to cheer on our four-legged competitors.

If you're passionate about community involvement and eager to help with park events, we invite you to contact the RHP volunteer coordinator/recreation programmer at volunteerinfo@rjrd.org. Your contribution can greatly impact and enhance the experiences we provide at RHP. Join us in making a difference!

- Susan Czaplicki,

RHP Volunteer Coordinator/Recreation Programmer



Snowbird Festival 2025

The Snowbird Festival at Richfield Heritage Preserve, hosted by the Richfield Joint Recreation District, the Village of Richfield, and Richfield Township, attracted over 600 people.



The Akron Zoo's live animal presentation, dogs from the Siberian Husky Club of Greater Cleveland, face painting, crafts, outdoor games, story time, and bingo hosted by the Richfield Library were

enjoyed by all. The chili from Teschner's Tavern, hot dogs grilled by the Richfield Fire Department, cookies and cupcakes from Especially Confections, and hot cocoa bar were also a hit!

Many thanks to the volunteers, sponsors, and to the donors who supplied the "BRR Baskets" for the raffle.



It was a beautiful sunny day, and everyone had a great time enjoying winter!

Oviatt House Inc.

We were excited to have the expert electricians from Green Integrated Services rewire the entire interior of the 1836 home, including the installation of light fixtures, light switches, and electrical outlets. This is an important step in our restoration journey!



- Tricia Steiner, President,
Oviatt House, Inc.

February Upcoming Events (continued) -

Feb. 16 - NATURE ADVENTURERS; 10- 10:45AM; Chagrin Valley Cabin. "Will You Be My Valentine?": Make a nature Valentine for someone you love, and play with all of the nature-based Valentine's Day activities. We would LOVE to have you join us! Unique family friendly activity, inclusive for children of all abilities. Lead by Shannon Kerns / Wild & Free OT, LLC. \$22 per child; pre-registration required.

Feb. 16 - LET'S MAKE: A MOON PENDANT; 1-3PM; Park Office. Learn how to make a base and build on it with seed beads and swirls. Tools and materials will be provided. Difficulty: Easy - Intermediate - \$30 Lead by Sarah Mitschke / Different Branches LLC.

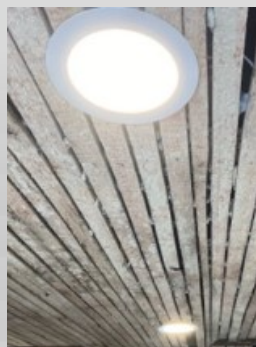
Feb. 20 - "DANGER AT DUSK" BOOK CLUB; 6:30-8:30PM; Park Office. Presented by Richfield Library. Contact the library for book title and to register.

Feb. 22 - "RECHARGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP" COUPLES WORKSHOP; 9-11AM; Chagrin Valley Cabin. Join us for a rejuvenating couple's workshop to honor the month of love and rekindle the spark in your relationship! This interactive workshop led by a seasoned mental health clinician offers couples the opportunity to connect on a deeper level, communicate more effectively, and rediscover the joy in their partnership. Visit RecDesk for more information. \$30 - Registration required. Lead by Lynne Cardilino, D.Div., MSSA, LISW-S

Feb. 23 - CABIN FEVER TRAIL RACE; 7AM-3PM; The Lodge at RHP. Don't let winter get you all cooped up! Take a deep breath, pull out your trail shoes, and come race some trails in RHP. This is a 5k and 5 mile run to shake out the legs and shake away the doldrums of winter. Visit runtheland.com for information.

Feb. 23 - LET'S MAKE: A LUCKY CLOVER; 1-3PM; Park Office. Learn how to make a lucky clover with copper and seed beads. Tools and materials will be provided. Difficulty: Easy - Intermediate \$30 Lead by Sarah Mitschke / Different Branches LLC. Difficulty: Intermediate - \$30 Different Branches LLC

Look at all that's happening in RHP!



Richfield
HERITAGE PRESERVE