

LAKE METROPARKS



volunteers

SPRING 2022



Pirate Triathlon

AL SUSINSKAS



Fishing Adventure

MARIA STRICKLAND

You Are *Essential* to Lake Metroparks & Our Community

The last two years have been challenging to say the least. Residents of Lake County depended on the parks during this difficult time. Lake Metroparks' 1,034 volunteers are a crucial part of park operations. As a volunteer, you impact lives by supporting staff to provide vital services that nourish the health and spirit of community members. Participating in park programs and events benefits Lake County residents by increasing mental and physical well-being, as well as building and strengthening the community. You make the high quality and large scope of these services possible. We are so grateful that you have dedicated your time and talents to Lake Metroparks. Since the official volunteer program began in 1990, volunteers have contributed more than 1,088,227 hours. During 2020 and 2021, volunteers assisted staff with 166 events, programs, and support services. This gave thousands of people the opportunity for safe, socially-distanced recreation when many other organizations were forced to close or cancel events. At Halloween Drive-thru, volunteers contributed 3,421 hours to provide a fun family friendly experience for 5,547 local families in 2021. Most of these were youth volunteers, learning the value of performing service work in their community for the first time. Other volunteers patrolled trails, marshalled golf games, assisted with adapted recreation programs, guided hikes, greeted guests at special events, cared for wildlife and domestic animals, and so much more. Our volunteers are dynamic, flexible and dedicated. Thank you so much for your commitment and invaluable service. You make the parks and the community a better place.

In gratitude,
The Staff of Lake Metroparks

This March, volunteer **Sue Huber** was one of ten women honored at the Lakeland Community College Women's Center 28th Annual Women of Achievement Awards. In addition to Lake Metroparks, Sue is an active volunteer with Meals on Wheels, the Lake County General Health District, the Lake Humane Society, and Lifeline, Inc. Her contributions illustrate the transformative power volunteering can have on a community. Congratulations Sue!



National Volunteer Week April 17-23

Celebrate your contribution with discounts and free admission to local attractions during this week, for volunteers only! See the included coupon sheet for details.

Save the date!

The **Volunteer Recognition Dinner** will be held at Painesville Township Park on **Wednesday, June 8, 2022** from 5 to 7pm. Watch for an invitation with further details!