

## **History of the Park**

This 70-acre site located at 7077 Thayer Road, Mount Vernon 43050, is leased from the Knox County Commissioners. Originally planned as an expansion area of the now-closed county landfill, this site abounds with wildlife such as red fox, white-tailed deer and cedar waxwings to name a few. The site also features a vernal pool.

The Ohio Horseman's Council, Knox County Chapter (OHC, KKC) provides assistance in the maintenance of the Thayer Ridge Park trails which are used for horseback riding and horse related events. In 2015-2016 the Ohio Horseman's Council Knox County Chapter designed and completed a perimeter loop trail for the horse-back riding community. The loop trail traverses a bridge completed in 2014 by the OHC, KCC which overlooks the Heart of Ohio Trail. Recently the Knox County Park District and OHC, KCC constructed a larger, additional parking lot conducive for multiple horse trailers and rigs as well as a hitching post for horses.

In 2010, A nine-hole disc golf course was installed with assistance from the Rotary Club of Mount Vernon and Knox County and Rotary District International #6690. The 2009 Leadership Knox Class and the Lucy Knox Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was instrumental in donating some of the park amenities.

The area to the north of the park consists of the Knox County Compost Facility and closed Knox County landfill, and the area west of the park is a private hunting preserve.

## **Highlights of the Park;**

The park includes a spacious parking lot with an information kiosk, portable restroom, pergola shade structure with a picnic table and grill for a family picnic. Benches are also located at the site.

The 15.5 acre nine hole disc golf course is available on open grassland for those who enjoy the sport of disc/frisbee golfing. The course at Thayer Ridge is a perfect course for beginners. Discs are available for loan at the Knox County Park District office by calling 740-392-7275.

Thayer Ridge is one out of (7) parks that feature a geocache on our newly established GeoTrail. Go to our website for more information on the Trail.

A popular attraction with many of the Knox County Park District Parks is bird watching. Many photographers visit Thayer Ridge to capture images of the 95 various bird species in the park. Visit the [www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org) for a list of those sighted.



**Indigo Bunting**

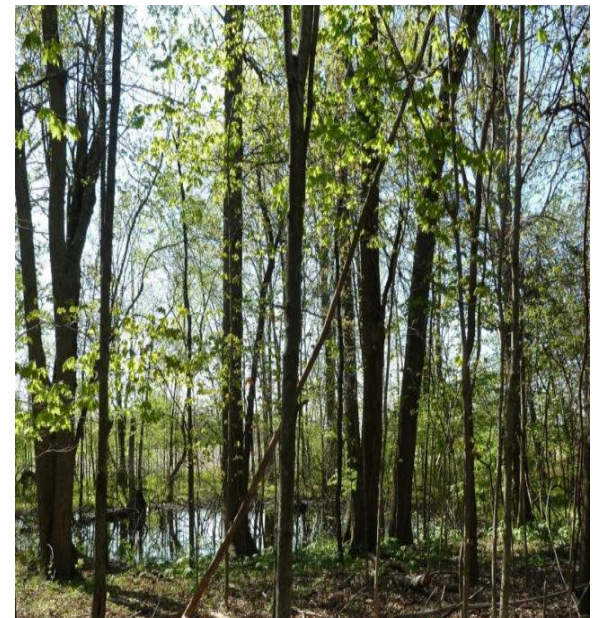
**Photo courtesy of Brad Imhoff (5/19/2018)**

The trails at Thayer Ridge are accessible for horseback riding. Thayer Ridge Park serves as the first park managed by the Knox County Park District to offer bridle and mountain bike access.



The park offers archery hunting by permit only through the Knox County Park District during Ohio's white-tailed deer archery season.

Located within the park is a natural vernal pool. During the spring, vernal pools come to life with amphibians as they serve as a breeding ground. The vernal pool at Thayer Ridge Park has seen fairy shrimp, wood frogs and mole salamander spermatophore.





## Park Courtesy

In order to maintain our trails and park systems that reside within the Knox County Park District we must have courtesy of the parks, river accesses, and trails.

- Alcohol and illegal drugs are prohibited.
- Motorized vehicles are restricted to designated parking areas.
- Littering is prohibited. Trash cans are located at some of our properties for proper disposal, otherwise pack it in, pack it out.
- Removal of plants, animals, minerals, artifacts or other natural features is prohibited.
- Help preserve the solitude of the park by being considerate and quiet.
- Dogs need to be on a leash. Visit our “Bark Park” at Wolf Run Park for your dogs to run off their leash.
- Camping is not permitted.

Improvements to our park systems are made possible, in part, by the passage of the Knox County Park District levies. We thank you for your support to our systems and hope you enjoy all that the Knox County Parks and Trails have to offer outdoor enthusiasts. Many donor and volunteer opportunities exist to assist with our park sites. Contact us at 740-392-7275.

For a list of Park District events please visit our website at [www.knoxcountyparks.org](http://www.knoxcountyparks.org) or follow us on Facebook at Knox County Park District or Instagram at [explore\\_knoxcountyparkdistrict](https://www.instagram.com/explore_knoxcountyparkdistrict). Our mailing address is 117 E. High Street, Suite 224, Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050.

## Explore Our Parks;

### **\*Hellbender Preserve**

23316 Coshocton Road, Howard 43028

### **\*Honey Run Highlands**

10865 Hazel Dell Road, Howard (Lot) 43028  
10816 Millersburg Road Howard (#62 Lot) 43028\*

### **\*Honey Run Waterfall**

10855 Hazel Dell Road, Howard 43028

### **\*Indianfield Bluffs Park**

10855 Sapp Road, Howard 43028

### **\*Thayer Ridge Park**

7077 Thayer Road, Mount Vernon 43050

### **\*Wolf Run Regional Park & Bark Park**

17621 Yauger Road, Mount Vernon 43050

### **\*Bat Nest Park**

30500 Walhonding Road, Danville 43014

## Explore Our River Accesses;

### **\*Big Run Road Access (Kokosing River)**

8921 Big Run Road, Gambier 43022

### **\*Greer Landing Access (Mohican River)**

20389 Brinkhaven Road, Glenmont 44628

### **\*Kokosing Gap Canoe Access (Kokosing River)**

17812 Lower Gambier Road, Mount Vernon 43050

### **\*Kokosing Water Trail Access (Kokosing River)**

Brown Family Environmental Center

10115 Laymon Road, Gambier 43022

### **\*Millwood Access (Kokosing River)**

11640 Bridge Street, Howard 43028

### **\*Mohican Water Trail Access (Mohican River)**

16606 Hunter Road, Brinkhaven 43006

### **\*Pipesville Road Access (Kokosing River)**

12059 Pipesville Road, Howard 43028

### **\*Riley Chapel Road Access (Kokosing River)**

10300 Riley Chapel Road, Walhonding 43843

### **\*Zuck Riparian Preserve (Kokosing River)**

28300 Zuck Road, Howard 43028

## Explore Our Trail Systems

**Heart of Ohio Trail-** (see other accesses on website)

2750 Huffman Road Centerburg 43011

**Kokosing Gap Trail** (See other accesses on website)

500 Mt Vernon Ave Mt.Vernon 43050

**Mohican Valley Trail** - (see other accesses on website)

Bridge of Dreams 16606 Hunter Road Brinkhaven 43006



# Thayer Ridge Park

Located at  
7077 Thayer Ridge Rd.  
Mount Vernon Ohio

Established in 2009

