



## **LEVY FACT SHEET – ACHIEVEMENTS 2018-2022**

### **Land –**

- Accepted Centerburg parcel and three Howard parcels from the Knox County Land Bank
- Purchased property on Lytle Road in Centerburg, adjacent to Land Bank parcel
- Recorded conservation easements on all Park District properties
- Knox Woods State Nature Preserve adopted into Old-Growth Forest Network
- Entered into 15-year lease agreements for Brinkhaven Park & property next to Zuck Preserve

### **Parks –**

- Realized 5 Eagle Scout Projects at Wolf Run Park and several on Ohio To Erie Trail/Great American Rail-Trail
- Established Wolf Run Storybook Trail with Public Library of Mount Vernon and Knox County
- Achieved an ADA parking lot, accessible path and deck at Honey Run Waterfall
- Entertained Grand Openings/Ribbon Cuttings – Wolf Run Children's Natural Play Area, Storybook Trail, Heart of Ohio Trail Extension, Honey Run Waterfall ADA parking lot, accessible trail and deck
- Produced maps for Honey Run Highlands/Waterfall, Wolf Run, Thayer Ridge, Hellbender & Indianfield Bluffs parks
- Increased trail signage in parks – 40 + signs in Wolf Run and Honey Run Highlands parks
- Built new parking lot at Hellbender Preserve in Howard, on-line to build connector trail

### **Rivers –**

- Implemented ACT NOW safety signage at 10 Kokosing State Scenic River access locations
- Restored river access parking lot at Laymon Rd. in Gambier, received Capital Budget funding to increase size of Zuck Riparian Preserve parking lot

### **Trails –**

- Expended \$79,900 on a 5-year tree removal project on the Heart of Ohio Trail
- Paved Mohican Valley Trail & Bridge of Dreams driveway, created ADA parking lot
- Resurfaced 4.5 miles of Mohican Valley Trail on the Ohio To Erie Trail/Great American Rail-Trail
- Installed Heart of Ohio Trail ADA parking lot at Patton Rd. in Mount Vernon
- Renovated Kokosing Gap Trail parking lots – Laymon Rd. in Gambier, received Capital Budget funding for parking lot improvements at Mount Vernon Avenue
- Contracted to seal 50% of the Heart of Ohio Trail, expended \$52,542 to achieve

### **Grants –**

- Received ODNR Division of Wildlife STEP Outside grants to purchase fish for programming
- Obtained ODNR Division of Forestry STEP grant to purchase Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Received ODNR Clean Ohio Trails Fund to pave last section of Ohio To Erie Trail in Knox County
- Obtained Rails To Trails Conservancy grant to mitigate erosion on Heart of Ohio Trail

### **Programs and Events –**

- Increased volunteerism by 75%
- Programs/Events attended by 5,000+
- Developed and implemented 3 Geotrails with coins for parks, multi-use trails, river accesses
- Realized 15 virtual programs (2020-2022), conducted over 100 programs for public (2018-2022)

#### **Administrative, Public Relations and Marketing –**

- Two full-time Administrative staff, five part-time Operations Managers and seasonal college Interns
- Adopted new Mission Statement & updated By-laws
- Adopted an Open Policy (Open 6am-11pm) for parks and river accesses
- Facebook Page increased close to 900%, Instagram increased 1,500%; one month 4/27/2022 to 5/24/2022 – Facebook reach 69,157 & Instagram reach 1,191; current Facebook – 3,880, current Instagram – 1,590
- Installed virtual Guest Books with QR codes at all parks and river accesses
- Developed Rack Cards for Parks, Geotrails, Kokosing Gap & Mohican Valley trails
- Collaborated with many entities on county-wide Green Space Map and Brochure

#### **Collaborative Partnerships –**

- Ariel Foundation
- Boy Scouts of America
- Brown Family Environmental Center
- Disc Golf community
- Dogs of Knox
- Food For The Hungry
- Foundation Park Conservancy
- Heart of Ohio Trail Inc.
- Kiwanis Club of Mount Vernon
- Kokosing Gap Trail
- Kokosing Valley Jr. Anglers
- Knox Area Transit
- Knox Community Hospital
- Knox County Career Center
- Knox County Chamber of Commerce
- Knox County Commissioners
- Knox County Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Knox County Fish and Game
- Knox County Land Bank
- Knox Mobility Management
- Knox County Natural Resources Area
- Knox County Recycling and Litter Prevention
- Knox County Pheasants Forever 616
- Knox County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Knox County Land Bank
- Knox County Park District Volunteers
- Knox Public Health – Get Healthy Knox County
- Millwood Church of Christ
- Mountain Bike community
- Mount Vernon City Parks
- Mount Vernon Nazarene University
- National Alliance for Mental Illness
- Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources
- Ohio Horseman's Council, Knox County Chapter
- Ohio Natural Areas and Preserves Association
- OSU Extension – Knox County
- Owl Creek Conservancy
- Paddles For Heroes
- Philander Chase Conservancy
- Public Library of Mount Vernon and Knox County
- Ramser Arboretum
- Rotary Club of Mount Vernon
- The Nature Conservancy
- Town & County Garden Club
- United Way of Knox County

#### **Sponsors –**

- 1824 Midway Tavern
- Almost Famous Sweets & Sodas
- Amato's Woodfired Pizza
- Animal Station
- Ariel Corporation
- Bad Apple Pub
- Blonde Robin
- Cindy's Perogies
- Danville Outdoors
- Dave's Cosmic Subs
- Don Leo's market
- Everberry Farm and Flora
- Everlasting Cup
- Gambier Woodworks
- Georgetown BBQ
- Green Vibes
- Griffin Insurance
- Half Baked Café
- Igniting a Spark, Suicide Prevention
- Kenyon College Bookstore
- Last of the Mohicans Campground
- Longbranch Pizza
- Makers Market
- Miller Portable Toilets
- Mount Vernon Inn
- Ohio Rental
- Old Mr. Bailiwicks
- Owl Creek Title Agency
- Paragraphs Bookstore
- Payne-Campbell Red One Realty
- Pine Row Studio
- Raber's Country Bakery
- Revere Roofing
- Round Hill Dairy
- Scoops Café
- Stein Brewing Company
- Taigan Hills Winery
- The Grand Hotel
- THR Creekside Home Inspection
- Tracy and Mills Surveyors
- United Aggregates Inc.
- Valley Kayak
- Vern's Bike Shop
- Village Market of Gambier
- Weavers Farm and Furniture
- White Oak Inn