



# THE STEW CREW NEWS

April 2017

## Conservation Calendar

Replacing/Removing  
Protective Tubes  
Around Tree  
Seedlings Part II 4/1

Cut/Treat Small  
Trees Out Of A  
Recently Burned  
Prairie 4/12

Wildflower Area  
Restoration 4/19

Continue the  
Fight Against the  
Vine That Ate  
Glenwood! 4/29

## Reminders

- Bring something to drink
- Wear sturdy gloves
- Consider bug repellent
- We recommend long pants, long-sleeved shirts and closed-toe shoes
- Remember to record your hours under **Stew Crew [NATURAL RESOURCES]** All Locations]



## Two-Headed Deer

Natural Resources staff have been using trail cameras in an attempt to capture interesting wildlife photos to use on social media. One camera at Miami Whitewater Forest recently picked up a remarkable picture of a unique two-headed deer. Officials think the deformity could be attributed to a genetic mutation. As far as they know there has never been another sighting in Ohio. Because of the deer's ability to eat with one head while the other simultaneously watches out for threats, wildlife officials think it could be as old as ten years. Great Parks is fortunate that this unique individual resides in the parks. Be on the lookout while hiking and you might catch a glimpse of a very rare and beautiful animal that calls our parks home.

**Editor's note:** APRIL FOOLS' DAY! Thanks for playing along on this fictional journey. Now, please enjoy the rest of the newsletter, which is entirely factual!

# April Stew Crew Projects

## Replacing/Removing Protective Tubes Around Tree Seedlings Part II

**What:** As part of a regional campaign called Taking Root, 100,000 trees have been planted throughout the parks. Now some maintenance of the smaller trees is needed. We will be picking up protective tubes that are lying on the ground and re-staking or removing tubes, depending on tree condition.

**When:** April 1 from noon–3 p.m.

**Where:** Meet at Mitchell Memorial Forest at the Wood Duck Trail parking lot, 5401 Zion Rd. Miami Twp, OH 45002

**Register:** RSVP by March 31 to Scott Peak at [speak@greatparks.org](mailto:speak@greatparks.org)

## Cut/Treat Small Trees Out Of A Recently Burned Prairie

**What:** Controlled burning helps to keep trees from overtaking prairies. However, sometimes they can begin new growth called stump sprouts. To ensure that the trees are killed, we will be using loppers and saws to remove the trees, then spray each stump with a herbicide solution.

**When:** April 12 from noon–3 p.m.

**Where:** Meet at Miami Whitewater Forest at the Tall Grass Prairie Trail parking area, 9001 Mt. Hope Rd, Crosby Twp, OH 45030

**Register:** RSVP by April 11 to Scott Peak at [speak@greatparks.org](mailto:speak@greatparks.org)

## Wildflower Area Restoration

**What:** Pollinators are a vital part of any ecosystem. In order to ensure their survival, Great Parks manages prairies, meadows and wildflower areas to be as biologically diverse as possible. These areas provide food all spring and summer long for bees and other pollinators, as well as wildlife habitat and an aesthetically pleasing backdrop to our Great Parks. Invasive plants and woody species will gradually encroach on these areas, decreasing their diversity and value to pollinators and wildlife. Join us at Lake Isabella where we will be cutting, pulling and treating invasive plants to breathe new life into a declining wildflower area. We need your help!

**When:** April 19 from 9 a.m.–noon

**Where:** Lake Isabella, 10174 Loveland Madeira Rd., Loveland, OH 45140. We will meet at the Shady Elm Shelter parking lot.

**Register:** RSVP by April 18 to Chris Glassmeyer at [cglassmeyer@greatparks.org](mailto:cglassmeyer@greatparks.org)

## Continue the Fight Against the Vine That Ate Glenwood!

**What:** Last summer we started removing the invasive porcelainberry vine around the wetland loop trail. Stew Crew made a good dent in the population, but we still have a ways to go. Join us as we cut the vines away from trees and treat the stumps to prevent re-sprouting. This is a very aggressive vine, but is no competition for the dedication of the Stew Crew!

**When:** April 29 from 9 a.m.–noon

**Where:** Meet at the Glenwood Gardens Tech Center, 377 Sheffield Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45240

**Register:** RSVP by April 28 to Chris Glassmeyer at [cglassmeyer@greatparks.org](mailto:cglassmeyer@greatparks.org)

## Shaker Trace Nursery Work

**What:** Join us as we work together to process seed, and complete other important chores at the Nursery.

**When:** Every Thursday from 8 a.m.–noon

**Where:** Miami Whitewater Forest, Shaker Trace Nursery, 8667 New Haven Road, Harrison, OH 45030

**Register:** None required – just stop by!



*"...wild flowers should be enjoyed unplucked where they grow."*

—Theodore Roosevelt