



HEART of Appalachian Ohio

History • Environment • Arts • Recreation • Tourism

A Compendium of Activities for the
Appalachian Community Grant
September 2023

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“In great deeds, something abides. On great fields, something stays. Forms change and pass; bodies disappear; but spirits linger, to consecrate ground for the vision place of the souls... and generations that know us not and that we know not of, shall come, to ponder and dream; and the power of the vision shall pass into their souls.”

- Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain

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The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project

Overview

The goal of The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project is to utilize History, Environment, Arts, Recreation, and Tourism to highlight the region, improve the quality of life for the residents, and encourage people to move to the region to live and do business.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will focus on the uniqueness of the communities, natural elements, and people that have shaped the Appalachian Ohio region and made this place the heart of enterprise, the heart of natural resources, the heart of freedom, the heart of innovation, the heart of resiliency, and the heart of Ohio.

The project will navigate visitors and residents over the roads less traveled by and through communities rich with history and charm that lay in this beautiful and rugged region.

By reconnecting the people to the story of the region, which is consecrated in the dirt and waters of the land and the blood of the people, the dedication, pride, and spirit of Appalachian Ohio shall pass into the souls.



HEART of Appalachian Ohio Goals

The focus of our grant application is to be on highlighting the uniqueness of Appalachian Ohio through its people, cultures, natural beauty, and ecology. Our goal is to cast aside the stereotypes and stigmas that are associated with the region, as well as the emphasis that is placed on the younger generations that if they want to be successful in life, they need to escape the region.

Through this grant, we want to transform the narrative and invoke change. We want people far and wide to see the richness and natural beauty of Appalachian Ohio from its rugged hills to its pristine streams and rivers. We want people to be able to walk among the rocky outcroppings covered with waves of white trillium in the spring and draped with the hues of the aster in the falls. We want them to walk along the sun dappled streams flowing beneath the majestic sycamores and hear the calls of the belted kingfisher and learn the plight of our endangered eastern hellbenders. We want them to breathe in the fresh crisp air of a fall morning and feel the flutter of their heart when they see a doe and her fawn walk across their path or a bald eagle soar above their heads. We want them to visit the places we hope to restore and conserve through this grant and have their lives forever be changed. We want them to walk away from the natural beauty of Appalachian Ohio with a dedication that they will want to protect this great ecosystem here and around the world.

Through this grant, we want to show people the integrity, depth, and sacrifice of the people that have come from Appalachian Ohio. We are tired of sports figures and entertainers being hailed as heroes versus those whose blood, great risks, and sacrifices have interwoven their story into the DNA of the region which has shaped and sculpted the makeup of all those who have followed. We want people to visit the locations we are putting up for consideration and learn of the determination of the Appalachian Ohioan and be influenced by the power of their story. We want the people to feel the bond between the land and the soul that the Hopewell and Adena people felt. We want the people to feel the pain and anger of Chief Logan whose family was massacred on the banks of Yellow Creek because of racial hatred. We want them to feel the hope and promise that the Lenape people felt when their leader, White Eyes, spoke to the Continental Congress a month after the Declaration of Independence was signed and finalized a treaty allowing the Lenape to become American Citizens and their civilization to be considered the 14th colony of the United States. We want the people to feel the uncertainty that those Lenape people felt after White Eyes was killed, and the treaty was nullified. We want the people to feel the sweat and hardships of the immigrants who came to the region to work the iron furnaces, coal mines, and steel mills in the hopes of building a better future for generations to follow. We want the people to hear all the accents and taste all the foods that were brewed in the melting pot of the region. We want the people to feel the grief that Martha McCook felt when she lost her husband and seven sons during their service to the country in the name of freedom, and the solemn pride that was hers to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom. We want the people to see the beauty of the region as the landscape artist Thomas Cole did, which inspired him to begin to paint.

We want to create a competitive grant application that if realized will alter the course of the region and ripple throughout the nation and world. If we are successful, Appalachian Ohio will be a destination for people to visit and learn from our past, experience the natural beauty, and be urged to move to the region. Most importantly, our project will elevate and improve the quality of life for all who live here, challenge them to dream big dreams, and inspire them to invoke positive change.





The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project Activities



Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail

Multiple Counties

Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail

While Appalachian Ohio is one of America's most scenic and underappreciated regions, it is not the most accessible of regions. The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will develop the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail that will see opportunities for public places to plant native plants that will not only attract pollinators but also people in search of nature, tranquility, and relaxation.

Public garden and pollinator areas will be developed which will not only add beauty, but tourism dollars. Mapped and delineated trails will allow people to get off the highway and spend time on the meandering roads of Appalachian Ohio while they visit these public spaces, and while on their journey they will stop in the small towns and villages to shop and eat. The trail will also allow locals to view the place they call home from another perspective and help restore or strengthen the sense of pride they have in the place they call home.

Additionally, recent studies show that the ability for people to get outdoors and into nature reduces stress levels and contributes to physical and mental health. The Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail sites will have walking paths that will allow the visitors to spend time in the region, be immersed in the beauty, and benefit their health.



Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail



The Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail will serve as the common thread that ties all the HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project activities together, as each activity will feature a pollinator area or assist in the development and sustainability of the pollinator trail.

Sustainability

The Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail will have a sustainable element to it as the public properties that will be enhanced by the native plants and pollinators already have a track record of success. Partnerships will be created with local entities to assist with the sustainability but also create community gardens and workforce training opportunities that will better the citizens of the region and provide them more opportunities.

The pollinator trail activity of the HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will not only add beauty to the region but create exposure and partnership to existing programs and organizations that promote training, education, and entrepreneurial skills.

The Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail will be able to expand and endure into the future by the soil and water conservation districts and partners being able to modify their annual trees sales to include native pollinator seeds and plants. These sales have been in place for over 50 years, and by leveraging these annual events to the benefit of the Ohio Pollinator Trail will allow for the activity to continue well into the future.

Case Studies

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will establish a program to assist all partners that will mimic or pull from the many case studies that are out there including the North Carolina Butterfly Highway and the Monarch Watch's Monarch Waystation program. Examples can be seen across the nation and can be enhanced and elevated to make the sites in Appalachian Ohio special and unique.



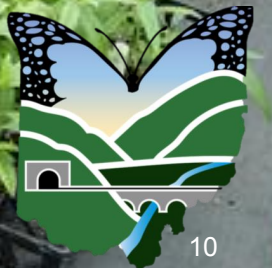
Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail

Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District Greenhouse & Regional Drills

In order to help develop and sustain the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail, a central greenhouse facility will be constructed in Muskingum County that will be managed by the Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District Office.

This greenhouse facility will grow and distribute native plantings that can be utilized for all the sites along the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail. Classes and trainings will be held at the facility as well to help the people of the region develop skills that will help them to enter the workforce.

Additionally, six seed drills will be purchased and housed strategically throughout the region at Soil and Water Conservation Districts to allow for continued sustainability and growth of the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.





Three-Dimensional Murals

Multiple Counties

Three-Dimensional Murals

In order to bring transformational change and quality of life improvements to Appalachian Ohio, a more creative and out-of-the-box approach should occur that mimics success stories of other places while simultaneously highlighting the uniqueness of place which is found in the Appalachian Ohio region.

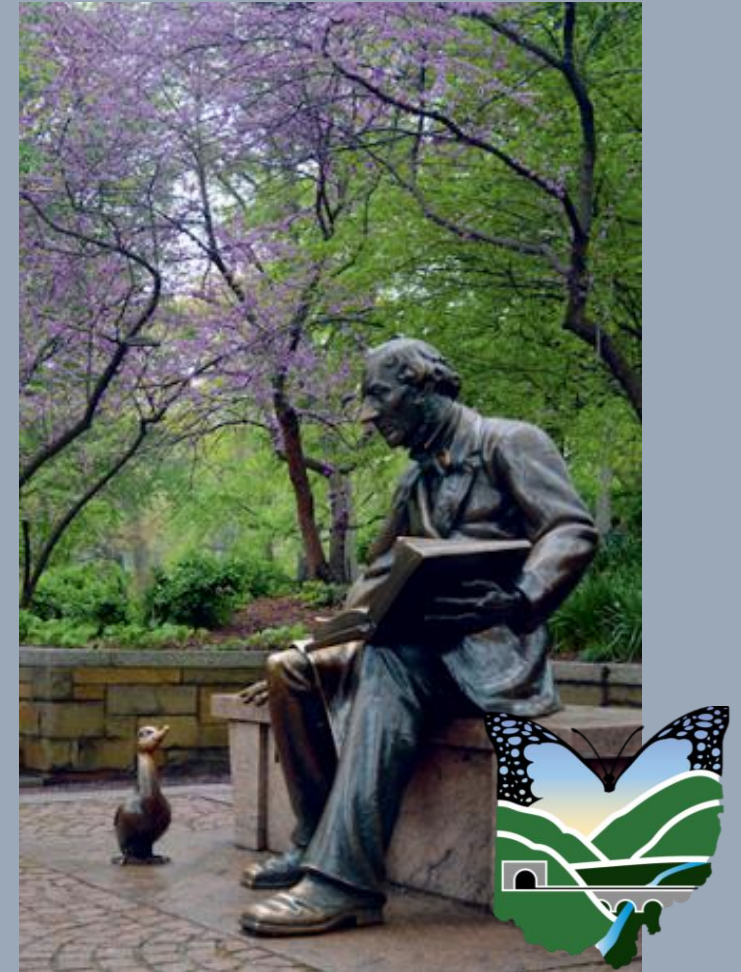
The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project is therefore looking to create and install Three-Dimensional Murals throughout Appalachian Ohio. These distinctive places will blend sculptures, landscapes, and the definitive stories of the people of Appalachian Ohio into transformative and unique places for people to visit and relax.

Studies illustrate the vital importance of public art in revitalization efforts and the shift in perception people have on the quality of place when art and nice landscapes are installed. By combining the public art, landscapes, and story telling approach of classic wall murals, an interactive micro-park will be created that will attract visitors and residents.

The goal will be to utilize Appalachian Ohio sculptors, artists, and native plants indigenous to the Appalachian region to make these sites a reality. The Three-Dimensional Murals with their native landscapes will also serve as public garden sites on the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.

The Three-Dimensional Murals will add to the beautification of streetscapes within the cities and villages of the region and help spur stewardship and revitalization in these areas.

Additionally, by having these features throughout the region it will create a trail unto itself that will draw visitors and residents all around the Appalachian Ohio region to see all the one-of-a-kind Three-Dimensional Murals. Not only will they be an asset in improving the quality of life of the citizens of the region by connecting residents with the history of the region, but it will also attract tourists from outside the region.





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Hellbender Preserve Park

Jefferson County

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Hellbender Preserve Park

In western Jefferson County sits a 272-acre park along an old 3-mile rail corridor that include historic bridges and tunnels.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will see the development of this property to make it more accommodating for visitors as well as develop the trail that follows the Cross Creek stream corridor.

The development of the 3-mile crushed limestone trail will include rehabilitation to the circa 1854 double track brick and stone railroad tunnel, restoration of the Lincoln Bridge (a stone bridge that Abraham Lincoln directed to be built in 1861 after nearly dying on the wooden trestle that preceded it), and the installation of two new modern bridges and a cantilevered boardwalk that will cling to the hill and follow the creek.

The property, which is home to largest population of state-endangered hellbenders, will be enhanced with native plantings and pollinator areas. Visitors will see historic areas where Chief Logan, George Washington, Colonel Crawford, and Mad Anthony Wayne all visited. Statues of Abraham Lincoln and the tunnel builders will be added to the site to elevate the park and introduce the visitors to some public art.

The trail, when built, will serve as part of the Great American Rail Trail that goes between Washington DC and Washington State.



Hellbender Preserve Park

Wayne Township Trailhead & Community Building

The Wayne Township Trustees own property that is connected tot the Hellbender Preserve Park and through the Appalachian Community Grant will transform the old Unionport School into a trail head with exterior access restrooms and a community building to serve both visitors and residents.

Renovation of the early 1900s school building to be more accessible is needed as well as utility updates. The building will be equipped with small private rooms with computers to allow the citizens of the region to utilize telemedicine services as broadband internet in the area is practically nonexistent.

The 10.66-acre property that the school sits on will also include the installation of pollinator areas that will be a part of the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail. Community gardens will also be added to improve the quality of life for the citizens .

The addition of a large asphalt paved parking area that will serve the complex and double as a landing area for life-flight medical services will also be added to the property.

A streetscape in Unionport will be added that will extend a bicycle trail through the unincorporated village connecting the school complex with the Hellbender Preserve Property. The trail will be a part of the national Great-American Rail Trail project.







Riverview Florist Property

Columbiana County

Riverview Florist Property

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will see the revitalization of the former Riverview Florist Building in East Liverpool and enhancements made to the 80-acre property it sits upon.

The large 1930s building was constructed in the Tudor style and has significant architectural details. The building has been sitting abandoned for many years and the East Liverpool CIC has invested heavily in the removal of the old greenhouses.

Restoration of the front of the building will occur and the addition of a large event space will be added to the rear of the building. Bringing in elements that will highlight the greenhouse history and Tudor style will be key, so the new event space will be constructed with a greenhouse style glass roof that ties in the old with the new.

A portion of the building will be utilized for a business incubator with small office suites. Additionally, private meeting spaces will be made available to citizens for business and events.

Trails will be developed throughout the property that will highlight the old production pond, a small stream, Renner Falls waterfall, and ultimately connect with the historic Thompson Park. The trails will be crushed limestone in the field areas and potentially compacted earth through the wooded area.

A parking lot will be added that is of a size capable to handling large events.





Morgan's Raid Battlefield

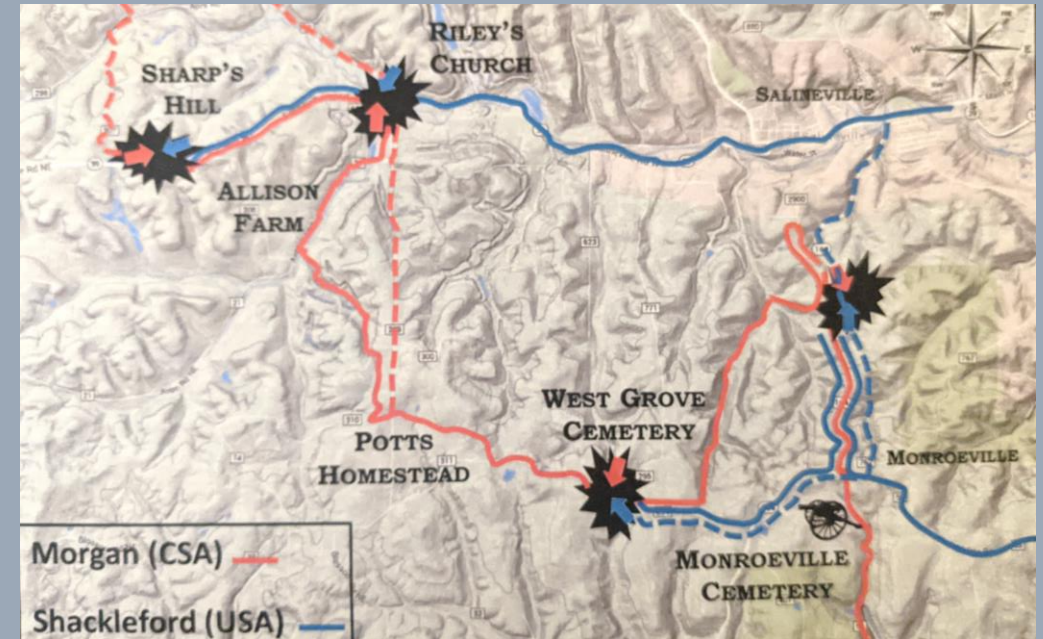
Meigs, Carroll, Jefferson, & Columbiana Counties

Morgan's Raid Battlefields

In July 1863, Confederate General John Hunt Morgan led a raid through Appalachian Ohio and brought the horrors of war home to the citizens of the region. Since the time of the raid, the two battlefields (**Buffington Island Battlefield** in Meigs County and the **Salineville Battlefield** which lays at the confluence of Carroll, Jefferson, and Columbiana Counties) have been tourist destinations and places of deep reflection. Sadly, very little of the battlefields have been preserved and interpreted.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will see the restoration of the battlefields back to their 1863 appearance utilizing native pollinator and prairie plants, the interpretation of the events through signage and monuments, and the development of more accessible facilities and features to accommodate visitors.

This project consists of extensive public-private partnerships and will capitalize on the historic and unique features of this part of Appalachian Ohio.



Morgan's Raid Battlefields

Buffington Island Battlefield (Meigs County)

The Buffington Island Battlefield sits near the small hamlet of Portland in Meigs County, Ohio along the Ohio River. This ground marks the struggle between Union General Edward Hobson and Confederate General John Hunt Morgan. The battle was a sharp engagement that saw the capture and crippling of Morgan's forces by a combined Union assault of infantry and gunboats. Union Major Daniel McCook, the 65-year-old patriarch of the "Fighting McCooks" was killed in the battle. General Morgan and a portion of his men were able to make a daring escape north and continue the raid.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio project will enhance and potentially expand the current Buffington Island Battlefield Park into a more user-friendly park that better interprets the action and engages the user.

A new visitor center will be constructed out of the existing historic stone structure that is currently at the battlefield. This visitor center will have modern displays and maps that will bring the story of the men who fought at the battle to life as well as ADA compliant restrooms. Infrastructure, such as water and sewer, will need to be extended 2000 feet to the facility.

Installation of native grasses and wildflowers that were present at the time of battle in 1863 will be added. This component of the battlefield enhancement and interpretation will compliment and be a part of the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail. Statues to Union Major Daniel McCook and Lt. Cmdr. LeRoy Fitch will also be added.



Morgan's Raid Battlefields

Monroeville Park & Cemeteries (Jefferson County)

The last battle of the raid took place around the confluence of Jefferson, Carroll, and Columbiana Counties. This activity will see the enhancement of the small Monroeville Community Park in Brush Creek Township, Jefferson County, as well as small enhancements to the Monroeville Cemetery and West Grove Cemetery.

The Monroeville Community Park will see the addition of a pollinator area and community gardens, signage, and a sculpture depicting a scene from the raid.

The Monroeville Cemetery will see the addition of fencing that will add to the aesthetic appeal of the property located on the main street in the community, a replica cannon, and a sculpture will also be added to help interpret the engagement.

West Grove Cemetery, which is home to the two northern-most killed in combat Confederates, will see enhancements that will be aesthetically pleasing as well as assist in security and sustainability of the site. This will include the addition of a worm rail fence along the cemetery lane and a solar powered gate at the entrance.



Morgan's Raid Battlefields

Shackleford Trail & Park (Carroll & Columbiana Counties)

When Union forces under General James Shackleford were looking for the fleeing Confederate Cavalry, they headed west of the village of Salineville in hope of cutting the forces off and mustered along Riley Run.

This HEART of Appalachian Ohio activity will see the development of a crushed limestone trail that will extend 1.5 miles from the heart of the village of Salineville along an old rail corridor to the muster site that Shackleford established.

Shackleford Park will be constructed from the old Salineville Water Works. The trail will loop the ponds and small fishing piers will be added to the property.

Parking and a small picnic area with interpretive signs will be added at the west end of the park.

The Riley Run Dam will be removed, restoring the property back to its 1863 appearance, and the park will be further enhanced by native prairie and pollinator plantings.

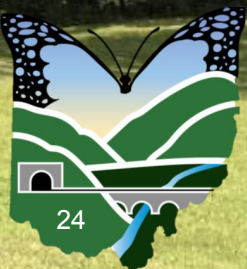


Morgan's Raid Battlefields

Sharp's Hill (Carroll County)

On Sharp's Hill, while Morgan and his main body awaited the arrival of the other half of the command, Lieutenant Smith Fiske led a gallant charge of his Union cavalry troops against Morgan's men. After Lieutenant Fiske was shot off of his horse, his men took position behind a worm rail fence and continued fire from this defensive position. At this point Morgan ordered Captain Sheldon to make a charge with the 2nd Kentucky cavalry against the Union troops positioned along the fence. Captain Sheldon led his men on a rapid charge towards the fence, but the horses were too exhausted to clear the fence and knocked the top rail and fence onto the Union troops and a hand-to-hand fight broke out. The Union troops fled the field and Morgan made his escape once again, reuniting with the other portion of his command and ultimately surrendering hours later.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will see the restoration of the Sharp's Hill property, which has been in existence since the 1960s, to its 1863 appearance and the park will be further enhanced by native prairie and pollinator plantings. A sculpture depicting the last charge of the raid will be constructed on the property as well.





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Piney Fork Trail & Revitalization

Harrison & Jefferson Counties

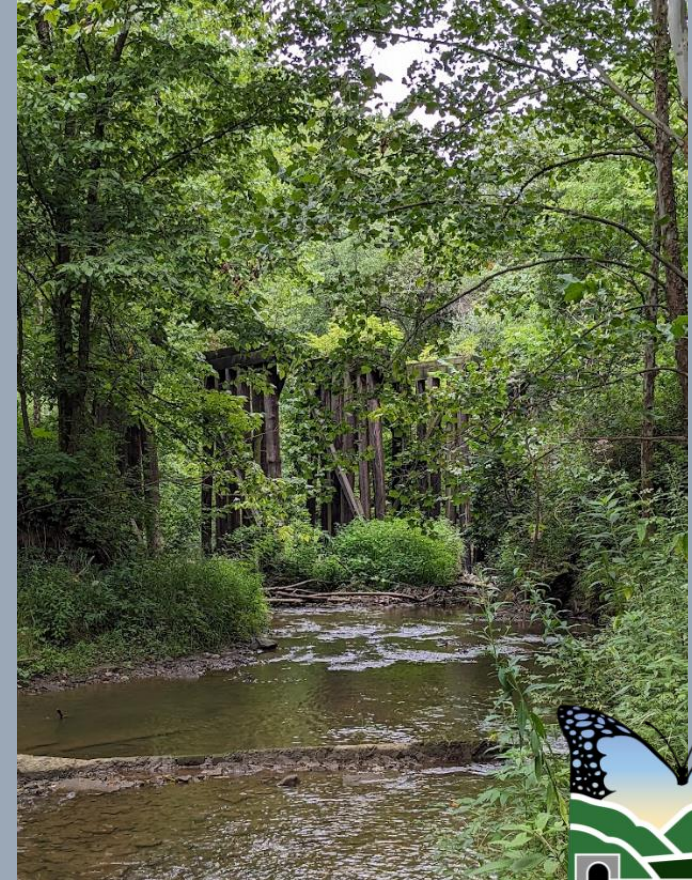
Piney Fork Trail & Revitalization

The Piney Fork Trail will be a trail that extends from the village limits of Hopedale, Harrison County, Ohio to the unincorporated village of Piney Fork, Jefferson County, Ohio. The 5-mile-long concrete trail will be built on the old LEA&W Railroad corridor that travels along the Piney Fork stream corridor.

The trail will cross four historic steel girder bridges spanning the Piney Fork stream and will enter the heart of the Piney Fork community.

Piney Fork was once home to the largest underground mine in North America and was a thriving community. In 1920 there were more lights underground in the coal mine than all of London and Paris combined, and more railroad track underground than all of New York City.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio project will build off the public-private partnerships that have already been established to see the completion of the trail and the revitalization of Piney Fork. The trail will serve as a connector and potentially main trunk of the Great American Rail Trail that extends from Washington DC to Washington State.



Piney Fork Trail & Revitalization

The Roosevelt Inn (Jefferson County)

In the unincorporated village of Piney Fork sits the Roosevelt Inn. The Roosevelt Inn was built in 1932 and the two owners were split politically. When it came to naming the bar, they wagered on the 1932 Presidential Election. If Republican Herbert Hoover won, it would be called the Hoover Inn, and if Franklin Delano Roosevelt won, it would be the Roosevelt Inn. FDR won the contest, and the rest is history.

The Roosevelt Inn served as one of the main hubs of the mining community, serving as a restaurant, inn, grocery store, bar, and barbershop.

In 1934, after robbing his last bank, Pretty Boy Floyd hid here before leaving in the middle of the night on his way towards Wellsville, Ohio and his ultimate death.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will see the restoration of this abandoned building into a trailhead serving the contiguous Piney Fork Trail, an event space, and a museum.



Piney Fork Trail & Revitalization

The Common Crossing (Jefferson County)

At the current terminus of the Piney Fork Trail lays the 17-acre former railyard that is flanked by Piney Fork's Main Street and the Piney Fork Stream Channel.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will see the remediation of this brownfield and development of a meadow garden where the land is not scarified but a palimpsest approach is utilized that keeps traces of the past visible.

Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District has been working with world renown landscape designer and author Rick Darke to develop the site which will attract visitors from all over the world to the site and the Appalachian Ohio region.

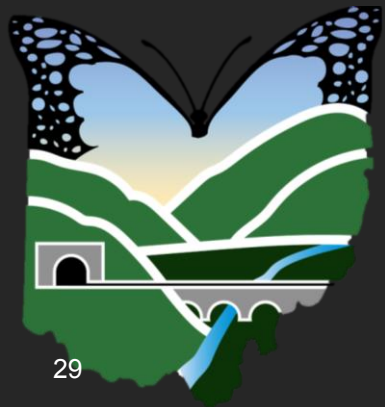
By developing a site similar to New York City's High Line project or Pittsburgh's Carrie Blast Furnaces, the property will become a tourism destination.

The restoration of the site will elevate the property and begin the revitalize the area by highlighting the richness of Appalachian Ohio.

Additionally, sidewalks and streetlights will be added along Main Street to enhance and restore the village.

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Zoar Hotel

Tuscarawas County

Zoar Hotel

The Zoar Hotel anchors the eastern edge of the historic community from which it gets its name. The hotel originally had 40 sleeping rooms and a very large dining room. The hotel took on the ideals of the German Separatist where all people were equal by providing food and shelter to people of all races and classes. Throughout his career, President William McKinley was a frequent guest.

The large Zoar Hotel is dominated by a central observatory which rises from the third-floor halls by a winding stairway and offers a beautiful view of the village. This was considered an ideal place to meditate. The exterior of the building recently underwent extensive renovations.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio project will see the interior of the hotel restored to its grandeur and provide a place for visitors to once again stay, meet, and dine. A public-private partnership will be formed to reopen the hotel and operate it to serve the needs of this northern Appalachian Ohio community. The Zoar Hotel will allow people to extend their time within Zoar and stimulate economic growth.

The landscape of the historic venue will also be restored and included as part of the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.





Glenford Fort & Wilson Mound

Perry County

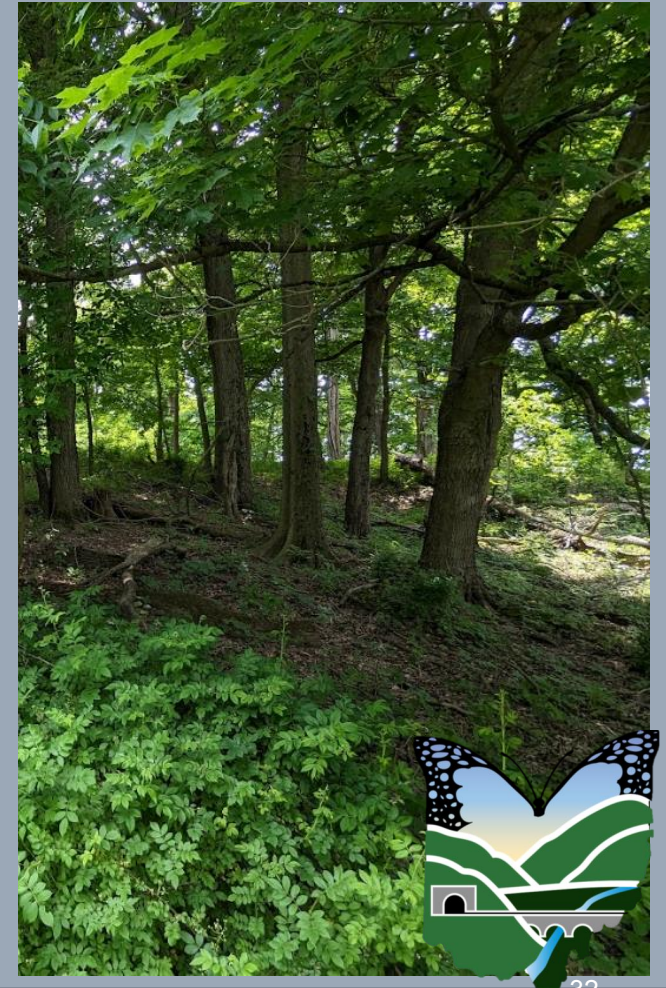
Glenford Fort & Wilson Mound

The Glenford Fort property in Perry County is a vitally important Adena and Hopewell Ceremonial place. The property will be enhanced through the installation of signage, trails, and native pollinator and prairie plantings. The former house on the property will be transformed into a visitor's center, education and archeological area, and storage space.

Furthermore, the HEART of Appalachian Ohio project will see the precast bridge over Adena Run, being the principal access point to the property, enhanced with adornments to highlight the importance of crossing into such a ceremonial area. The catalog of Adena and Hopewell artifacts is replete with solid, timeless iconic images. The property was first identified and mapped by Caleb Atwater in the 1820's and has not been explored and evaluated by the archaeological profession since, and this is an opportunity to fully engage in such explorations. Exciting new technology allows for rapid mapping and surveying without historic intrusions.

Nearby, the Wilson Mound seems to protect the southeast flank of the above enclosure and is part of a 246-acre tract owned by the Perry County Commissioners and managed by the Perry SWCD. As with many unique landforms in transitional glacial areas, the neighborhood is filled with unusual flora and fauna communities and many geological curiosities. The Wilson Mound was identified and mapped in the 1820's and was excavated in 1897 by Ohio Historical and Archaeological Society. Excavations determined that Wilson Mound was a mortuary site, capped in sandstone slabs and covered with earth. Additional studies are warranted.

As part of the HEART of Appalachian Ohio project, 40 acres of land will be planted to pollinator species, trails and signage. The trails would also connect the archaeological and geological sites and meander through the pollinator tracts. The pollinator tracts will be adjacent to old field successional tracts and woodlots and will provide a maximum diversity quotient and be a part of the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.





Meigs Conservation Area

Meigs County

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Meigs Conservation Area

Since 2003 , Meigs Soil and Water Conservation District has been developing the Meigs Conservation Area outside of the village of Rutland.

The park is located on the grounds of a former community cannery - a place where local farmers came and worked together to can their vegetables, fruits, and other foods in preparation of sending them off to a distant market.

Over the last twenty years, many public and private partnerships have invested into the Meigs Conservation Area, and the park has become a centerpiece of education, recreation, and conservation.

Meigs Soil and Water Conservation hosts a variety of activities at the site which is also utilized by youth and community organizations.

The area is open to the public for hunting, hiking, bird watching, and just to picnic. The public has used the area for senior pictures, weddings, baby showers, graduation parties, and even a baptism in the wetland.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio project will see the development of a new paved parking area, an updated entrance, a paved $\frac{1}{4}$ mile trail to accommodate those with disabilities or looking for a leisurely stroll, and the placement of amenities such as signs and benches.





Bohart Tavern

Carroll County

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Bohart Tavern

In 1809, German immigrant Peter Bohart built a two-story log cabin that served as a tavern and lodging place for the weary traveler at a crossroads in an unpopulated portion of Appalachian Ohio. In 1815, Bohart platted a community around his tavern stand and the village that eventually became Carrollton grew. The tavern was the heart of the community, and in 1832 when Carroll County was created, Bohart Tavern was utilized as the center of government and served as the first courthouse for several years. General William Henry Harrison held a reunion here for his former soldiers and stayed the night at the tavern.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio project will see the restoration of the building to serve once again as a meeting and gathering space as well as serve as a location for the weary traveler to rest and sleep where President Harrison once slept.

In keeping with the nature of the building, the Bohart Tavern will once again provide spirits. The spirit of entrepreneurial skills will be fostered within the walls by creating workspaces for people to meet and do business following the example created by the Workplace on Main in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania. Additionally, the spirit of Appalachian Ohio will be instilled in the people visiting the location as a small museum highlighting the building and region will be developed to connect the people back to the roots of the region as well as attract visitors to the building and region.





Quaker Ridge Arboretum & Nature Trails

Jefferson County

Quaker Ridge Arboretum & Nature Trails

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will see the continued enhancement of the 102-acre Quaker Ridge Arboretum and Nature Trails Property in Salem Township, Jefferson County.

The property is a former Underground Railroad Station that was purchased using the Clean Ohio Green Space Fund. Work on the property has been ongoing since the spring of 2020.

Through the Appalachian Community Grant, the property will be enhanced to both make it user friendly and to tell the uniquely Appalachian Ohio story of the land. Restrooms will be constructed on the property, a small abandoned milkhouse will be rehabilitated to serve visitors, a barn shell will be built where the historic barn once stood ovetop of a patio area (like the Benjamin Franklin House in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania).

The trails will be enhanced by the addition of the crushed limestone trails through the pollinator field and at the entrance of the park to make the areas more accommodating to visitors. Bridges will be added spanning Cedar Lick creek, and a boardwalk through the ecologically rich Beaver Meadow will be added. An additional bridge spanning the ravine will be added to allow users to access more areas of the park.

The property will serve as a hub of the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.

A sculpture of Jane Watt welcoming passengers on the Underground Railroad near the barn will be added as well as other smaller sculptures throughout the property.





William Hunter Campbell Park

Columbiana County

William Hunter Campbell Park

Located on the Main Street in the village of Salineville sits a recently remediated brownfield that is sandwiched between the Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks and the Nancy Run riparian.

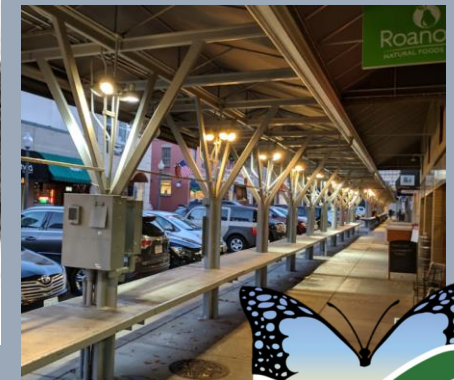
The property is one of the first locations you see when you enter the village as it sits at the intersection of Main Street and Elm Street where State Route 39/164 makes a 90 degree turn with a stop sign.

The property will be enhanced by the installation of a farmer's market stand that will sit paralleling the railroad tracks. The stand will allow for the vendors trucks to be backed up to the permanent stand structure. The stand will be designed in such a way as to look like the old early 20th century passenger railway covered platforms, complete with "Salineville" on the end facing State Route 39. This way, when the farmer's market stand is not in use, it will pay homage to the railroad history of the town, similar to those utilized in the historic railroad city of Roanoke, Virginia.

A small pollinator area will be added in front of the community gardens running parallel to Main Street and perpendicular from the end of the farmer's market stand.

In the middle of the pollinator area will be a bronze statue to William Hunter Campbell, who was from the Salineville area and was an integral figure in Andrew's Raid (aka The Great Locomotive Chase) during the Civil War. The men who took part in this expedition received the first Medal of Honors ever awarded by the government. However, Campbell did not as he was a citizen volunteer on the raid.

This downtown revitalization will make a transformative change in the eastern end of the village as well as provide healthcare care amenities and highlight historical and natural elements of the region.





Buckeye Furnace Park

Jackson County

Buckeye Furnace Park

Appalachian Ohio has long been linked to hard work and industry. Ohio, and much of America, rose from the blood and sweat of the Appalachian Ohioan who turned the region's natural resources into the building blocks of America and freedom.

The Ohio History Connection's Buckeye Furnace Park, located in Jackson County, Ohio, highlights these principles and allows visitors to see what once made the Appalachian Ohio region an economic leader. The iron forged at this site built a nation, and when freedom was questioned, the product of this furnace helped defend off all of those who challenged the founding principles of this country.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will see the restoration of this site and create a more user-friendly experience. Investments in visitor accommodations will also be a critical component of this activity.

The landscape of the Buckeye Furnace Property will be restored back to its 1840s appearance with the implementation of native prairies and pollinator areas that will also serve as a stop on the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.





John Rogers Simon Farm

Scioto County

John Rogers Simon Farm

Nestled along Pond Creek as it cuts its way through the rolling hills of Appalachian Ohio outside of West Portsmouth, Ohio sits the John Rogers Simon Farm. The farm was established in the mid-1800s by John R. Simon's great-great grandfather who came to the region with a dream and a grinding stone that he brought with him from France. Over the course of several generations, the farm grew and became a center of the rural community.

John Rogers Simon grew up on the family farm and fell in love with the work ethic and determination of the people of the region and the pure reward of working the land. He soon found a passion for the music and stories of Appalachia and became a musician able to play any stringed instrument.

Following his father's advice, John went to school and became an educator but never left the farm, his music, nor culture. John earned a Ph.D. in music, became an educator, and eventually taught classes at Shawnee State University on Country and Appalachian music, Appalachian religious traditions, Appalachian sociology, and more. John wanted his students to gain an understanding and appreciation of the richness of Appalachian culture. Toward this purpose, he organized field trips deep into Appalachian America so that students could have meaningful first-hand encounters.

The John Rogers Simon Farm since 1982 has hosted the Sorghum Festival which highlights the art of making sorghum, the companionship of neighbors near and far, and the joy of Appalachian music.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will see the farm improved to more readily accommodate visitors as well as serve as a location on the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.





Clary Gardens

Coshocton County

www.heart-of-ohio.com

Clary Gardens

Clary Gardens is a 20-acre botanical garden that is free and open to the public. The garden's mission is to involve the community in developing and maintaining a public botanical garden that provides access to horticultural education, environmental stewardship, local history and the arts.

The hillside landscape makes for a unique experience for all. Recreational trails for all ages and varying levels of terrain, showcasing the rose garden all the way through our half-mile woodland loop, creates a fascinating area with natural geologic formations

Clary Gardens is a draw to the Appalachian Ohio region and has set itself up to host a multitude of events with an emphasis on weddings. This approach is attracting people from outside the Appalachian region to visit and stay in the region while simultaneously boosting the local economy.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will help Clary Gardens improve their woodland trail and showcase Coshocton's heritage as the capital of the Lenape Nation. The property will serve as a hub on the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail and help promote the beauty of the region.





Big Bottom Massacre Site

Morgan County

www.heart-of-ohio.com

Big Bottom Massacre Site

In Morgan County, resting along the Muskingum River, sits a stark reminder of the history of Appalachian Ohio. The history of the region goes back for millennia, and the area that comprises Appalachian Ohio was populated by the indigenous nations for a longer period of time than any other people.

When the Ohio Country was first beginning to be settled, the clash between the Native Americans and the pioneer settlers was constant to the point that the Ohio River became known as the “dark and bloody river”.

It is hard to judge the people of the past from a distant generation. The transgressions of history are often distorted or amplified depending on who tells the story. The Big Bottom Massacre Site was a scene of horror, but its impact was felt throughout Appalachian Ohio and the ramifications of the event are still interwoven into the fabric of region.

Through the HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project the property will be enhanced to make it more user friendly and visitor accommodations will be addressed. The site will be transformed into a place where people can come and reflect and learn the entire story. The historic field will serve on the Appalachian Pollinator Trail and be a destination for those who enjoy history.





Steubenville Streetscape

Jefferson County

www.heart-of-ohio.com

Steubenville Streetscape

The City of Steubenville was once one of the largest cities in Ohio as it was anchored by the steel, coal, glass, pottery, and textile industries that were fed by the Ohio River. As a result of these industries, the downtown core of the city was filled with flourishing businesses and buildings of great architectural style.

When the industries collapsed, so did the historic core of the city. However, in recent years there has been a resurgence within the community being driven by Franciscan University of Steubenville and grassroots efforts such as the Nutcracker Village and First Fridays. The downtown has been overlooked for generations, and a streetscape design from over 30 years ago has laid upon the shelves.

Through the Appalachian Community Grant and the HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project the streetscape design will be implemented and will bring transformational change to the city that will spur economic growth. The improvement to the aesthetics of the city will be a much-needed boost to the pride and sense of place within the city and its people.



Steubenville Streetscape

The Floto Building

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will transform the circa 1878 Floto Building from a structure on a demolition list to a vibrant building that promotes the entrepreneurial spirit of Appalachian Ohio.

The building will be transformed into a modern venue that will serve as a business incubator on the first and third floors and house meeting spaces on the second floor.

The first floor will serve as a public market that will provide fresh and locally grown produce and meats, as well as have a commercial kitchen that will give local vendors utilities to help incubate their business and provide local foods to the nearby restaurants and coffee shops.

Meeting rooms will be made available to host work conferences, meetings, or small gatherings.



Steubenville Streetscape

The Great American Rail-Trail

As part of the HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project and the Steubenville Streetscape activity the development of protected bicycle trails will be added to the downtown region. These trails will serve as part of the main trunk of the national Great American Rail-Trail

The Great American Rail-Trail is a signature project of Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, the nation's largest trails organization—with a grassroots community more than 1 million strong—dedicated to connecting people and communities through a nationwide network of public trails, many from former rail lines. The “Great American” is the most ambitious project in its TrailNation™ portfolio—the organization’s initiative to encourage the rapid replication of regional trail networks across the country.





White Eyes Park & Trails

Coshocton County

www.heart-of-ohio.com

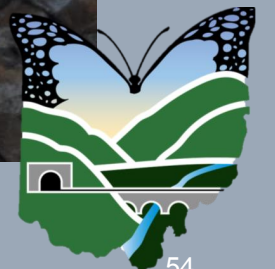
White Eyes Park & Trails

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will develop within the village of West Lafayette in Coshocton County a park with trails dedicated to the venerated Lenape Chief, White Eyes.

White Eyes a well-respected man who had great foresight and used his position to better his people. During the French and Indian War, he was an advocate for peace and during the Revolutionary War he sided with the Americans and provided great intelligence and aid. So respected was White Eyes, that a month after the Declaration of Independence was signed, he was invited to speak to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia. While there he signed a treaty that would establish the Ohio territory as a new state dedicated to Native Americans. However, before the treaty was ratified White Eyes was killed while leading a military expedition for the Americans.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio will utilize the Appalachian Community Grant to install trails that traverse Plain Hill on the northern edge of West Lafayette. The trails will pass the historic Native American ruins that remain on the property and connect to the village park. A pollinator field between the park and Plain Hill will be created with trails meandering through it that will also be on the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.

A statue to White Eyes will be installed at the site to bring visitors and to pay respects to his legacy.





New Lexington Reservoir

Perry County

www.heart-of-ohio.com

New Lexington Reservoir

The New Lexington Reservoir just north of the county-seat of Perry County is a long-established recreation and leisure area.

The New Lexington Reservoir was built in the 1930's by the Civilian Conservation Corps and is 36 acres in size and is accessible from a county highway. The reservoir constantly stocked causing it to be used heavily throughout the year and accessibility is limited to those with disabilities.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio project will see the development of better parking areas that are handicap accessible to accommodate visitors. Handicap accessible walkways and boat launches will also be added to make this facility more user friendly. These improvements will not just benefit all users and will attract citizens of the region and Ohio.

Additions of small pollinators areas will be added to add to the beauty of the reservoir as well as the ecological makeup of the area. These pollinator areas will be a part of the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.





Tremper Mound

Scioto County

www.heart-of-ohio.com

Tremper Mound

Of the many peoples inhabiting the Great Eastern Forest in what is now the United States, the Hopewell Culture, spanning 50 BCE to 400 CE was one of the most artistic and geographically influential. The Hopewell peoples were not the only American Indians to build earthworks, but they certainly were the most consummate. Their works span everything from solitary mounds and earthwork enclosures to immense sacred landscapes with multiple and connecting features, sometimes aligned to cosmic celestial events.

Tremper Mound was constructed on the west terrace of the Scioto River, five miles north of its confluence with the Ohio. Built late in the first century BCE, which was quite early in the Hopewell Cultural era, Tremper Mound's irregularly shaped 8-foot-tall mound was built on the burnt ruins of a large multi-chambered ceremonial building, enclosed by an oval earthen wall that was 500 feet across. Tremper Mound did not stand alone; it was part of a group of mounds and earthworks that were part of an even larger complex centered at the Mouth of the Scioto River. Known as the Portsmouth Earthworks, the complex spanned both sides of the Ohio River in three main centers of development.

Through the HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project Tremper Mound will be enhanced and opened for the first time to public. This critical earthwork is the last of the Portsmouth Earthworks and the installation of a viewing tower and pollinator area will add to the visitor experience.





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American Heritage Museum

Jefferson County

www.heart-of-ohio.com

American Heritage Museum

The American Heritage Museum is a unique feature located in Appalachian Ohio. The museum is a multi-building complex that focus on the military and farming heritage of the people of Appalachian Ohio.

Founded in 2000 that by veteran Captain Fred Muesegaes and his family, the museum is a phenomenal experience for visitors of all ages. Muesegaes grew up hearing stories from his grandparents, parents, and neighbors about the history of the area and the defense and cost of freedom. Muesegaes ended up joining the military and flew several missions throughout the Vietnam and Cold War, most notably as the pilot who documented and captured the photographs of the missiles in Cuba.

The American Heritage Museum has a collection of military vehicles, farming equipment, and a host of memorabilia and models.

Through the HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project the American Heritage Museum will be developed to include training programs for veterans and a place for them to gather work on and repair equipment as well as their souls and mental health. The old family barn will be converted to a museum highlighting the equipment of the industry. Furthermore, a small trail will be added to the property with pollinator fields that will serve on the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.





Chauncey Park & Trails

Athens County

www.heart-of-ohio.com

Chauncey Park & Trails

On the outskirts of the village of Chauncey in Athens County sits the old Athen County Infirmary property. The property is rich with unique features that define Appalachian Ohio.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio project will see enhancements made to this significant outdoor space.

The property currently is well used yet lacks accommodations that would see it used on a larger scale.

Improvements to the park would begin with the addition of a large parking area off Sand Ridge Road. Visitors will leave the parking area and cross a new bridge spanning the small creek that leads to the beautiful Hocking River which is in sight of the property. From the bridge a board walk will traverse a renovated and improved wetland and end on the improved pond dam. A trail will circle the pond with a small fishing pier added.

The trail will leave the pond area and travel through a native prairie and pollinator field. The trail will extend into the forest and wrap around a large rocky bluff before emerging out of the woods near the pond once again.

The site will further be enhanced through the installation of restrooms, pavilions, benches, and signage.





Gun Club Park

Perry County

www.heart-of-ohio.com

Gun Club Park

Just outside of the New Lexington in Perry County sits the Gun Club Park property. This park has been in use for generations and provides significant outdoor space to the Appalachian Ohio region.

Through the HEART of Appalachian Ohio project Gun Club Park will be enhanced to make it more accommodating for visitors and a draw for people from within and outside the Appalachian Ohio region.

Through donations and public-private partnerships the Perry Soil and Water Conservation District has raised significant funds to improve the park and the Appalachian Community Grant will be able to make them realize their goals and dreams.

Funding will be utilized to install handicap accessible parking and a paved trail that leads to the pond in the center of the park. The old clubhouse will be converted into a large timber frame event center with office space. The old parking lot will be renovated and improved, and new restrooms will be added to serve visitors.

The grounds will be enhanced with large native pollinator and prairie fields that will be on the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail as well as improve the ecology of the property. Visitors amenities such as small trails, benches, and signage will also be added.





Alan Cottrill Studios

Muskingum County

www.heart-of-ohio.com

Alan Cottrill Studios

The Alan Cottrill Studios in Zanesville is one of the city's top tourist destinations and is free to the public to enjoy the amazing art of this citizen of Appalachian Ohio.

The working studio displays many of the artist's bronze sculptures and visitors can watch as the artist creates the next masterpiece.

Through the HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project the studio will be modified to better serve the people and visitors. Outdated components of the studio will be enhanced to allow better efficiency and allow opportunities for workforce development.

Moreover, the improvements will elevate the studio to one of the top sculpting studios in the world that will generate visitors from throughout the globe to come to Appalachian Ohio to learn and be inspired.





Rock River Refuge

Belmont County
www.heart-of-ohio.com

Rock River Refuge

Nestled in the southwest corner of Belmont County, this 200+ acre property has seen a rich history over the years. Little is currently known about the first humans to live on this land, and the cultures that were present before European colonists arrived. However, by the mid-1600s, the area was occupied by Native American tribes forced west into Ohio from their traditional lands by colonists. Between the mid-1600s to the late 1700s, the Lenape (or Delaware), Shawnee, and Wyandot tribes lived and hunted in the area. It also likely served as hunting ground for Iroquois tribes. In the late 1700s, the British and U.S. governments forcibly removed these tribes and distributed the land to American colonists. For the next two hundred years, settlers used the land for subsistence and agriculture.

Starting in the early 1800s, the property was a self-sustaining farm, home to the McLaughlin family for many generations. The family grew field crops, dairy cows, pigs, vegetables and an orchard. Wayne Mason purchased the property in the 1990s, with a goal to create a home for wildlife. He thus left the property mostly untouched until he donated it to the Conservancy in 2015.

In 2020, the Conservancy launched a plan to create a hiking trail to allow public access to a portion of the property, and share the natural beauty of stone rock faces, ravines and gorges, and mature hardwood forest. The property has been christened Rock River Refuge, to denote the tributary to Rock River (also sometimes called Rock Creek) that flows through the land and “Refuge” to indicate it as a place of peace, safety, and restoration for both people and wildlife.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio project will see the Rock River Refuge further enhanced to make the visitors' experience easier and all the more enjoyable and to further showcase the beauty and diversity of Appalachian Ohio. Finally, a native pollinator area will be added to the property that will also be a stop on the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.





Castle Hall & the Nutcracker Village

Jefferson County

www.heart-of-ohio.com



Castle Hall & The Nutcracker Village

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio project will transform the abandoned Castle Hall in Steubenville's Historic District into the Steubenville Cultural Trust's Artisan Center. Castle Hall will serve as a venue for local artist to create and sell their products as well as a training center teaching people the craftsmanship of different trades and arts.

Built as a Knights of Pythias Hall and later converted into the College of Steubenville the transformation of Castle Hall into an artisan center is a seamless fit. The building also serves an important place in entertainment history, as Walker Café, which was housed in the lower level of the building, was where Dean Martin first took the stage to perform according to an interview, he did in the 1950s.

The abandoned building will be completely renovated and updated to meet the needs of the artisan center.

Additionally, the building will serve as base of operations for the Steubenville Cultural Trust's Nutcracker Village. The Nutcracker Village has been in operation since 2015 and has seen tens of thousands of visitors come to Appalachian Ohio every Christmas season. Renovations to Castle Hall will allow the Nutcracker Village to exponentially expand which will result in more people visiting the region.

Furthermore, the development of Castle Hall will allow for other public art exhibits to be created and placed within the region attracting more people to the area and improving the quality of life for the citizens of the region.





Greener Future Program

Muskingum & Perry Counties

www.heart-of-ohio.com

Greener Future Program

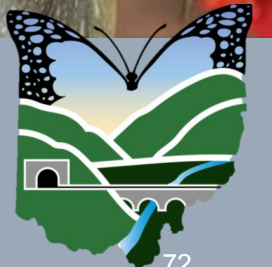
The HEART of Appalachian Ohio project will build greenhouses and community gardens at regional school districts that will serve as a way to provide food to under privileged children, food to the local foodbanks, and teach the students and community members skills that will allow them to be successful in the workforce.

The schools are Maysville Local Schools (Middle and High Schools), Franklin Local Community School and Foxfire Schools. Both Franklin Local and Foxfire are working to become STEM designated schools. None of these schools have any type of agriculture education programming or FFA, but would love to be able to offer their students an agricultural curriculum and eventually a career pathway in agriculture. Maysville is currently moving towards establishing multiple career pathways for their high school students. New Lexington High School, which has one of the largest FFA programs in the state, and they have offered any assistance/mentorship they can provide, including how they have come to partner with Hocking College and Central State University so that their students can earn an associate degree in agriculture while earning their high school diploma. Allowing for development which will let them go straight into the workforce.

All three schools have 100% of their students on the free lunch program. For example, Foxfire has a total of 430 students from 8 counties, 100% of which are underserved and 100% of which are food insecure.

The three schools would receive, through the HEART of Appalachian Ohio project, a greenhouse with the necessary equipment and supplies, and curriculum for the teachers (K-12) and community gardens. The students would grow food as a community garden, with the produce either going directly into their school lunch program, or it being donated to the students in need, or local food pantries. Plans are for the students to eventually work with Food Works Alliance to create a shelf-stable product from their produce that they could sell to raise money for their programs. In this process, students would not only learn about growing food, but would also learn many business skills as well. Again, work force development is being addressed, as is education and community health.

The greenhouses may also be able to produce native pollinator plants that could support the continued growth





Holmes County Pollinator Parks

Holmes County

Holmes County Pollinator Parks

The State Route 39 Corridor in Holmes County is arguably one of the most travelled roads by tourist in all of Appalachian Ohio. While picturesque the route is well developed and commercialized and some of the natural beauty of the region is lost.

The Holmes Soil and Water Conservation District through the HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will see the development of a series of parks along the corridor that will bring small transformational change to the aesthetics of the region.

By focusing on the native plants of the region these small parks will serve as waystations for pollinators and tourist alike. Additionally, these parks will highlight the beauty of Appalachian Ohio and provide great photo opportunities for all generations of visitors. This extended streetscape of sorts will be a welcomed addition to the region and serve as hubs on the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.





Junction Earthworks

Ross County

www.heart-of-ohio.com

Junction Earthworks

Located in Chillicothe, Ohio, Junction Earthworks Preserve is 266 acres in size and includes two Hopewell-era Earthwork Complexes: Junction Earthworks and Steel Earthworks. Uniting two Hopewell earthworks in one contiguous preserve is a notable first-ever achievement in the quest to conserve Ohio's indigenous earthworks.

Although the earthwork features have been nearly leveled by over a century of plowing, the mounds at Junction Earthworks are selectively mowed to make them visible to the eye and are made more meaningful through interpretive signage.

Junction Earthworks Preserve is handsomely back-dropped by blue Appalachian hills and bounded by 1.25 miles of shoreline along Paint Creek, not far from its confluence with the Scioto. Attractions include 100 acres of riparian and hillside forest, a showy 70-acre planted prairie that is in peak bloom in early July, and birdwatching in the preserve's riparian and river terrace forests.

Through the HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project, Junction Earthworks will see the installation of a viewing tower and the pollinator area enhanced and placed on the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.





Wintersville Community Park

Jefferson County

Wintersville Community Park

The village of Wintersville in the center of Jefferson County will use the HEART of Appalachian Ohio project to construct a community park. Currently, Wintersville is lacking in significant outdoor space that is open to the public and is looking to develop 13-acres of property just off of Main Street into a park that will serve the people of the region and improve the quality of life of its citizens.

Wintersville has recently seen a great influx of new business and people moving to the area, but spaces are lacking where people can walk from their homes and be outdoors. If support through the Appalachian Community Grant comes, the HEART of Appalachian Ohio project will develop this property and bring transformational change to the community and region.

Plans will to be add walking trails all around the property with connections made to the regional trails in the area. Community gardens will be placed on the property and a permanent farmers' market stand. The property will be anchored by a large modern dog park that will serve the residents and their families, and by a new amphitheater that will be built into the hillside. A small pond to will be developed on the property to give residents a tranquil and peaceful place to visit and be one with nature. Finally, a native pollinator area will be added to the property that will also be a stop on the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.





Appalachian Ohio Garden Park

Muskingum County

Appalachian Ohio Garden Park

Along Underwood Street off one of the major Interstate 70 exits the HEART of Appalachian Ohio project will develop through the Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District a large community garden and pollinator area complete with local art features.

This public-private undertaking will highlight the beauty and creativity of Appalachian Ohio and bring transformational change to an old abandoned property right on the main thoroughfare that is a gateway to Appalachian Ohio.

The garden will allow people to experience the biodiversity of the native Appalachian Ohio plants. Visitors will have a complete experience as native plants will be utilized that touch on all the senses whether its through their vivid colors, aromatic scents, or diverse textures.

The garden Park will also feature local art work from the Appalachian Ohio region, and some will be rotated in and out to constantly showcase different artists from the region as well as encourage visitors to come back over and over again.

The Appalachian Ohio Garden park will restore a vacant area into one that showcases the region and will improve the quality of life for the citizens while also serving as a wonder welcoming place to those entering Appalachian Ohio.





Steubenville Riverfront

Jefferson County

Steubenville Riverfront

The City of Steubenville emerged and grew from the waters of the Ohio River. The river was a source of life and industry for all that called the city home. From its founding the river and city were inseparable and were viewed as one.

However, after the modern State Route 7 was constructed, the city became largely disconnected to the river and the sole identity of the river and city was severed.

Through the HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project the city will be once again reunited with the river through the development of the Washington Wharf and Steubenville Marina.

By utilizing models that have proven successful in Hannibal, Missouri, Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Wilmington, Delaware the riverfront will undergo a transformational and modern rejuvenation that will attract people from throughout the region and beyond to leisurely enjoy respite along the flowing waters of the river.





Highlands Nature Sanctuary

Highland County

Highlands Nature Sanctuary

The Highlands Nature Sanctuary is the nonprofit Arc of Appalachia's oldest and largest preserve. The heart of the 3000-acre preserve is the breathtakingly beautiful Rocky Fork Gorge, a 100-foot high steep-walled dolomite canyon with breath taking rock formations, ancient white cedars, grottoes, springs, and stone arches. The Highlands Nature Sanctuary is known for its superb hiking trails, overnight nature retreats, wealth of botanical diversity and spectacular spring wildflower displays – some of the most stunning showcases in all of Eastern United States Delaware the riverfront will undergo a transformational and modern rejuvenation that will attract people from through the region and beyond to leisurely enjoy respite along the flowing waters of the river.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio Project will see the visitors' amenities improved including parking lot improvements and restrooms to make this jewel of Appalachian Ohio that much better.





The Lenape Diaspora Memorial

Tuscarawas County

The Lenape Diaspora Memorial

The Lenape Diaspora Memorial site will be located where the Lenape village of Gekelmukpechunk once stood. This village was established c.1759 by one of the figures represented in the monument, Chief Netawatwees, “Skilled Advisor”, who the early English and French traders called “The Newcomer”. During the American Revolution this Lenape village was home to 800 people. The site of the monument will be set on a 58’ wide by 40’ deep tract adjacent to the Temperance Tavern Museum and the Olde Main St. Museum on West Canal St. in Newcomerstown, Ohio.

The HEART of Appalachian Ohio will see the completion of this project which has been heavily invested in utilizing both public and private dollars.

The installation will feature six, 7 ft tall bronze sculptures of historic and successive generations of a Lenape family from 1625 to 1850. Each figure will be set in a pose that reflects an important historical moment during their lifetime.

An 8’ handicapped accessible brick walkway leading from the sidewalk and around this monument will include twenty historic narrative plaques, 20” x 12”, each mounted on a shin high 260-pound gray granite base. Installation of a small pollinator area and native prairie grasses will be added to highlight the aesthetics the Lenape would have known and to serve as a destination on the Appalachian Ohio Pollinator Trail.

The back side of the site will be planted with tall evergreen shrubs that will provide a nice backdrop while viewing the monument and provide a visual separation from the parking area.





HEART of Appalachian Ohio Partners

Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District • Ohio History Connection •
Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District • East Liverpool
Community Improvement Corporation • Meigs Soil and Water Conservation
District • Brush Creek Township Trustees (Jefferson County) • Perry Soil and
Water Conservation District • Village of Salineville • Athens Soil and Water
Conservation District • Meigs County Commissioners • Holmes Soil and
Water Conservation District • American Heritage Museum • Jefferson
County Commissioners • Arc of Appalachia • Clary Gardens • City of
Steubenville • Village of West Lafayette • Perry County Commissioners •
Athens County Commissioners • Alan Cottrill Studios • Captina Creek
Conservancy • Steubenville Cultural Trust • Maysville Local Schools (Middle
and High Schools) • Franklin Local Community School • Foxfire Schools •
Village of Wintersville • Newcomerstown Historical Society



HEART of Appalachian Ohio

History • Environment • Arts • Recreation • Tourism

500 Market Street Mezzanine Suite 4 Steubenville, Ohio 43952 • 740.264.9790 • Aaron R. Dodds - Projects Manager

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