



# 2022 BLUE WEEK SCHEDULE

## Blue Week Kickoff Day – Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>

- 9 am - 1 pm     [Public Archery Shoot – Spring Bear & Turkey](#)     [TOMAHAWK ARCHERS CLUB, MI](#)  
Have you ever wanted to learn archery? Join us to learn one of the greatest hobbies of all time as we shoot a field course that winds through The Oak Openings. No experience or equipment is necessary. Tomahawk Archers will provide everything you need to have a fun filled experience. Kids- Free, Teens \$5, and Adults \$10. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- 10 am - 12 pm     [Adopt-a-Natural Area - Cub Scout Pack 27](#)     [VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS, OH](#)  
In the Village of Ottawa Hills, Cub Scout Pack 27 will officially ‘adopt’ a parcel of Village owned floodplain through the Green Ribbon Initiative’s (GRI) Adopt-a-Natural Area program (AANA). Through this program, the troop will have an opportunity to take an active part in enhancing habitat for wildlife and native plants. Nature Conservancy (TNC) staff will work with the scouts on plant identification and management techniques and will help lead events such as invasive species removal and trash clean-ups. *NOTE: This event is only open to Cub Scout Pack 27 members.*
- 3 pm - 5 pm     [Ottawa River Invasive Species Cleanup](#)     [VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS, OH](#)  
Help kick off the Oak Openings Region Blue Week with an invasive species removal event along the Ottawa River in the Village of Ottawa Hills. Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) will provide interpretive programming on native and invasive species, water pollution and impacts to wildlife. Safety gloves and goggles and tools will be provided, as well as pizza after the event. This event is organized by ODNR Conservation Teen Advisor Council (ConTAC) and The Nature Conservancy and is supported by the Village of Ottawa Hills. [REGISTER HERE](#)

## Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>

- 9 pm - 10 pm     [Nature at Night: Flower Moon](#)     [SECOR METROPARK, OH](#)  
Celebrate Oak Openings’ Blue Week with a walk under the light of the Flower Moon. Discover what blooms are carpeting the forest floor and learn about the nocturnal animals that call the globally rare Oak Openings Region home. [REGISTER HERE](#)

## Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>

- 9 am - 10:30 am [All Things Blue Walk](#) [OAK OPENINGS METROPARK, OH](#)  
Discover all things blue during this year's Blue Week! Celebrate the diversity of the Oak Openings region as we will look for Wild Blue Lupine, Blue Jays, Blue Birds, Blue Racer snakes and more. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- 10 am - 12 pm [Nurture the Nursery Volunteer Program](#) [J.C. REUTHINGER MEMORIAL PRESERVE, OH](#)  
Help make the native plant nursery the gem of Wood County by assisting with planting and maintaining the beds. All tools provided. Training will be provided at the beginning of the program. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- 6 pm - 7:30 pm [Land Management in the Oak Openings](#) [PETERSBURG, MI](#)  
Join Wild Ones Oak Openings for an in-person workshop where you will learn how to identify and manage invasive plants on your land, plus how to establish a native plant community. This workshop is family friendly for those 10 years of age and up. Accessing the site involves a 1/2-mile walk; please wear long pants and closed toed shoes. This event is free, but registration is required. [REGISTER HERE](#) *Note: Directions will be emailed to registrants by May 16th.*
- 5:30 pm - 8 pm [Intro to Photography](#) [BRADNER PRESERVE, OH](#)  
Interested in capturing the wonders of the outdoors in photographs, but unsure of how to use those camera settings to your advantage? Bring your camera and practice honing your skills. Program will begin with an indoor presentation followed by a practical hands-on session to help hone your skills. [REGISTER HERE](#)

## Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>

- 9 am - 10 am [Spot the Sparrow!](#) [OAK OPENINGS METROPARK, OH](#)  
The Lark Sparrow is an endangered species here in Ohio and only visits for a short time in the spring and summer. These birds nest on the ground and occupy open grassy areas along open sandy beach ridges. Bring your binoculars or use ours as we celebrate this year's Blue Week with this beautiful bird. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- 6:30 pm - 8pm [Fire and American Indians](#) [KITTY TODD NATURE PRESERVE, OH](#)  
We often say the Oak Openings is a fire dependent ecosystem. Were these fires due to natural causes or did humans start them? Who was here before us and why did they burn the landscape? A presentation followed by a short walk. [REGISTER HERE](#)

## Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>

- 7 pm - 9 pm [Nature Detective](#) [TOLEDO BOTANICAL GARDEN METROPARK, OH](#)  
Come out for an evening of investigating at the Toledo Botanical Garden! We aren't going to be looking at a crime scene, but rather all the interesting signs of nature that surround us. Our walk will take a through the woodland garden, the herb garden, and places in between. Rain or shine. If it is raining, we will meet indoors at the Crosby Conference Center. Prizes will be awarded to the top nature investigators! The program is for all ages. We will meet outside the Crosby Conference Center. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Stone at 419-574-0986. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- 7 pm - 9pm [A Visit to Irwin Prairie II](#) [IRWIN PRAIRIE STATE NATURE PRESERVE, OH](#)  
Join the Toledo Naturalists Association and meet leader Todd Haggard at 7 pm in the Irwin Prairie parking lot on Bancroft St, ¼ mile west of Irwin Road. We will be searching for late spring migrants and listening for rails. [REGISTER HERE](#)

Visit [www.oakopenings.org](http://www.oakopenings.org) for more details!

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## Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>

- 10 am - 12 pm [Blue Week: Tallgrass Prairie Trek - AM](#) [OAKWOODS METROPARK, MI](#)  
Join an Interpreter for a walk into our tallgrass prairie to discover and discuss some of the special plants and animals that can be found here. We will also focus on the unique history of the Oak Openings Region; and how prairies like this one are a window into the past. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- 2 pm - 4 pm [Blue Week: Tallgrass Prairie Trek - PM](#) [OAKWOODS METROPARK, MI](#)  
Join an Interpreter for a walk into our tallgrass prairie to discover and discuss some of the special plants and animals that can be found here. We will also focus on the unique history of the Oak Openings Region; and how prairies like this one are a window into the past. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- 4 pm - 4:45 pm [What's the Buzz about Native Bees?](#) [PAT AND CLINT MAUK'S PRAIRIE, OH](#)  
Join us to discover the importance of native bees in our community! Adelle Rodriguez of Stony Ridge Apiaries will share fun and fascinating native bee facts and stories. We'll also make a native bee house to take home. After the event, we invite you to take a walk along the prairie path and read our featured story trail book, Begin with a Bee! This event is free and geared towards 5–10-year-olds and their families. Registration is required – email: [lrodriguez@blackswamp.org](mailto:lrodriguez@blackswamp.org) or call (419) 833-1025
- 7:30 pm - 9 pm [A Frogstastic Night: Understanding Frogs Helps Us Understand Our Environment](#) [SECOR METROPARK, OH](#)  
Join Bowling Green State University graduate students and hop over to Secor Metropark for a Frogstastic Night of Fun and Learning! Kids come early (7:30pm) to play a frog lifecycle game for prizes! Later (8:00pm), you will learn the calls of the native frogs and toads that reside at the park and more about the importance of our local frogs. Then you will get to test your new knowledge in the field to find and identify frogs and toads, and adults can help inform local conservation action with a quick survey! [REGISTER HERE](#)

## Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>

- 10 am - 4 pm [Blue Week: Plant Sale](#) [BLUE CREEK SEED NURSERY, OH](#)  
Help restore nature and bring more wildlife to your yard by growing native plants sourced from the Oak Openings Region and Great Black Swamp. Proceeds go to the Oak Openings Green Ribbon Initiative & Wild Ones programs. *Note: NO Registration required.*
- 10 am - 4 pm [Metroparks Toledo Outdoor Expo](#) [SIDE CUT METROPARK, OH](#)  
At Outdoor Expo, everyone will have the opportunity to try out rock climbing, tree climbing, archery, kayaking, canoeing, mountain biking, Kids Zone and much, much more. Metroparks outdoor skills experts will be on hand to guide you as you discover your next outdoor passion – regardless of ability. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- 5 pm - 6:30 pm [Jane Forsyth Preserve Opening](#) [MEET AT PARKING LOT OF DORR ST. SCHOOL, OH](#)  
The dedication of the new Jane Forsyth Preserve owned by the Oak Openings Region Conservancy. Formerly called the Door and King wetland this new preserve has great potential for restoration. Learn about our preserves namesake followed by a short walk. Meet at the Door St. school parking lot. [REGISTER HERE](#)

## Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

- 8 am - 10 am [Sunday Songsters](#) [HARROUN COMMUNITY PARK, OH](#)  
Will you be the early bird that gets the worm? Join The Nature Conservancy's Oak Openings Restoration Manager, Pete Blank, for a walking tour to see the birds of Harroun Community Park. TNC's Oak Openings Restoration Crew is currently working in the park to control invasive plants. This tour will focus on birds of the region and the work being done to improve wildlife habitat. Plus, it's the peak of spring bird migration. Come out and see what migrating birds are passing through. Meet at the upper-level parking lot off Main St. at 8 AM. Bring binoculars if you have them. All ages are welcome. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- 10 am - 4 pm [Blue Week: Plant Sale](#) [BLUE CREEK SEED NURSERY, OH](#)  
Help restore nature and bring more wildlife to your yard by growing native plants sourced from the Oak Openings Region and Great Black Swamp. Proceeds go to the Oak Openings Green Ribbon Initiative & Wild Ones programs. *Note: NO Registration required.*
- 10 am [Mute Swan Talk](#) [STERLING STATE PARK, MI](#)  
Join us as we learn from the Michigan DNR Outdoor Adventure Center as they lead a guided walking tour of Sterling State Park to learn about Mute Swans, their habits, management actions and much more. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- 1 pm - 4 pm [Sandhill Crane Wetlands Grand Opening](#) [SANDHILL CRANE WETLANDS, OH](#)  
Celebrate the opening of The Nature Conservancy's Sandhill Crane Wetlands by joining TNC staff for a ribbon cutting ceremony, guided site tours, and activities for kids. Be the first to enjoy the beauty of the biggest wet prairie restoration in Northwest Ohio! [REGISTER HERE](#)
- 4 pm - 6 pm [Blue Week: Lingerin Ash Training](#) [WILDWOOD PRESERVE METROPARK, OH](#)  
To assist the US Forest Service with finding additional ash trees in the Oak Openings Region for their inventory of emerald ash borer surviving ash (lingering ash) we are holding a training for community volunteers and private woodland owners. This training will focus on lingering ash found in either public or private forested settings. Resources related to private woodland management will be shared, but the training will focus on the background story of lingering ash, how to identify ash trees, how to survey public areas or your own forested land, and how to identify and report lingering ash. We will cover how to report your findings with smart phone apps TreeSnap and Anecdota. We will also walk down to the Wildwood boardwalk to see the remnant ash population. [REGISTER HERE](#)

