

Personal Safety

Cleveland Metroparks is a great place to enjoy nature and recreation. However, when in the Park District, remember to practice the same personal safety routines you would anywhere else.

If faced with an emergency, notify the Ranger Department immediately by calling (440) 333-4911, or contact the nearest Park District employee who will alert the Ranger Department, or call 911.

Remember these personal safety tips:

- Carry a cell phone in case of emergency.
- Be aware of nearby people and vehicles.
- If using headphones, let them hang around your neck. It's important to hear, as well as see, what's happening in the vicinity.
- If it's necessary to call for help, be able to relay an exact location by knowing the nearest Park District area, intersection or major landmark.
- When possible, visit Cleveland Metroparks with a friend or in a group.
- Avoid isolated areas. Keep roadways in sight, especially if alone.
- Carry a whistle to make a loud noise in case of an emergency.
- Always be observant, particularly of suspicious people.
- If someone becomes a crime victim, a good description will assist in identifying the attacker.
- If a vehicle is involved in a crime, try to get the license plate number. It could prove essential in assisting the rangers' investigation.
- If jogging along the parkway in dusk or dawn hours, wear bright clothing or a reflective vest.
- If bicycling on the parkway, ride with traffic in the right lane and obey traffic laws.

Child Safety

For a child, Cleveland Metroparks can be an enticing place to explore. It can also be a dangerous place to play. When in the Park District, parents should always know the whereabouts of their children. Parents should remember that while visiting Cleveland Metroparks they are responsible for the supervision of their own children.

- Young children should never be allowed to venture off by themselves.
- Keep close visual contact with children at all times, especially if a roadway or body of water is nearby.
- Teach children they should never talk to strangers, or accept invitations to go anywhere with someone they don't know.
- Educate children about rangers and police officers. Explain they are there to help, and that it's okay for an officer to assist them.
- Teach children how to contact help in an emergency by calling 911 or 440-333-4911.



Vehicle Safety

When parking a vehicle in Cleveland Metroparks, try to follow these crime prevention suggestions:

- Lock any and all valuables (purses, wallets, cameras, etc.) in the trunk before entering the Park District.
- Lock car doors and close the windows after checking to make sure keys are removed from the vehicle.
- Have keys ready when returning to the car.
- In the event of vehicle trouble, contact the Ranger Department at (440) 333-4911.
- Before entering the Park District, only bring essentials like your keys, driver's license and cell phone.
- Engrave identification on items like cameras, portable electronic devices and removable stereos.
- Keep an updated record of serial numbers and credit card numbers at home. Have it available for Rangers in the event of a theft.
- Install a locking gas cap so a thief can't siphon gas.
- Consider the use of a steering wheel lock or install an alarm system.
- Keep a pen and paper in the car for notes in the event of a crime.

For More Personal Safety Information Contact:

Cleveland Metroparks Ranger Department
4600 Valley Parkway
Fairview Park, OH 44126
440-331-5530 (Non-emergency)
440-333-4911 (Emergency)

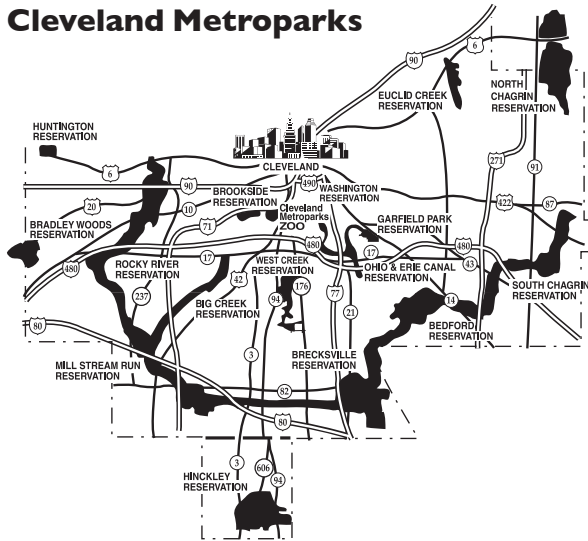
Cleveland Metroparks Ranger Department



Cleveland Metroparks Rangers are the law enforcement officers of Cleveland Metroparks. All rangers are graduates of accredited police academies, and have the same powers of arrest as municipal police officers. Cleveland Metroparks Rangers are on duty 24-hours a day, seven days a week patrolling parklands on foot, in vehicles, on horseback and on bicycles. The rangers have a detective unit to investigate crimes, a traffic/K-9 unit to enforce the rules of the road and a dive unit to assist in water rescues and recoveries.



Cleveland Metroparks



Cleveland Metroparks is Cleveland's "Emerald Necklace," an open space of natural beauty and diversity. The Park District is dedicated to conservation, education and recreation. It offers an array of facilities and opportunities from picnicking, golfing and fishing to water and winter recreation areas, wildlife areas, and outdoor education and recreation programs.

Cleveland Metroparks was established on July 23, 1917 to provide open space for the people of Greater Cleveland, as well as to conserve and preserve the natural valleys of the area. Today, Cleveland Metroparks consists of nearly 21,000 acres of land in 16 reservations, over 100 miles of parkways, and Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

Cleveland Metroparks events are featured in the Emerald Necklace. This free monthly publication is available to residents of Cuyahoga County and Hinchley Township in Medina County. (There is an annual \$10 subscription fee for others.) To be placed on the mailing list, send your name and address to the address below.

Cleveland Metroparks does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability in employment, services or access to programs or activities. Call (216) 635-3264 in advance if special assistance is needed.

In case of accident or emergency, call Ranger Headquarters at (440) 333-4911.

Administrative Offices
4101 Fulton Parkway
Cleveland, Ohio 44144-1923
(216) 635-3200
FAX (216) 635-3286
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Personal SAFETY & CRIME Prevention

