Information copied from the Cleveland Metroparks website 10/21/21

* 18 reservations spanning more than 24,000 acres with more than 300 miles of trails, eight golf courses, eight lakefront parks and a nationally-acclaimed zoo.
* Since 2013, Cleveland Metroparks has acquired nearly 1,000 acres of quality wetlands, streams and forests.
* Park District has received national attention for making watershed stewardship a priority through education, scientific monitoring and environmental restoration.
* Cleveland Metroparks has lowered regional stormwater management costs by $5.12M annually.
* Invasive plants and animals, storm water, deer, and people all place enormous amounts of pressure on the natural ecosystems found in Cleveland Metroparks. For example, emerald ash borer threatens all ash trees, which may include up to 10% of our forest trees. Lesser celandine, Japanese knotweed, purple loosestrife, and garlic mustard are just of few of the exotic plants that are replacing our native wildflowers, grasses, and sedges.
* High deer populations lead to excessive browsing, which reduces or eliminates native plants, jeopardizing future forest regeneration and affecting other wildlife such as forest nesting birds.
* In 2009, Cleveland Metroparks launched a program with the goal of greatly reducing the impact from the Top Ten exotic plant invaders of Cleveland Metroparks. The program is managed by the Invasive Plant Coordinator within the Natural Resources Division, although staff from Park Operations, Forestry, Marketing, and Outdoor Education are also involved. Much of the "front-line" work is carried out by a "strike-team" composed of qualified, well-trained, seasonal employees.