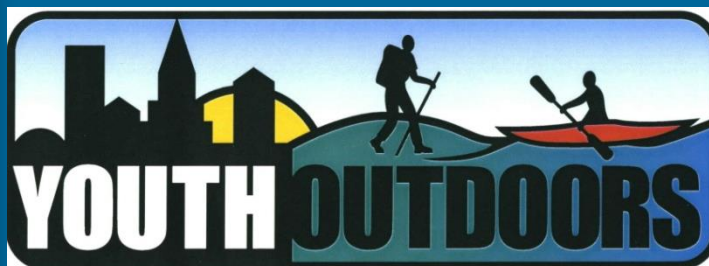


# Youth Outdoors Overview



**A partnership between**



Presentation to Cleveland Metroparks  
Board of Park Commissioners  
June 19, 2018

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# YO Partnership

- **Cleveland Metroparks**  
Provides co-leadership, outdoor staff and expertise, operating budget and facilities
- **Ohio State University Extension 4-H**  
Provides co-leadership, volunteer and youth development expertise
- **City of Cleveland**  
Provides connection to youth and support staffing on outings





# Addressing community needs for youth

- Providing healthy out-of-school time activities
- Facilitating positive youth/adult relationships and youth/youth leadership opportunities
- Building community
- Connecting the urban core to nature



# YO Core Activities

- Hiking
- Outdoor skills
- Fishing
- Canoeing
- Kayaking
- Biking
- Rock climbing
- Snowshoeing
- Cross country skiing
- Sledding/tobogganing
- Camping/backpacking
- Horseback riding
- Nature exploration
- Team building initiatives
- Service to parks and community



# How YO does it

- Partnering with community groups
- Special events
- Short term groups
- Creation of ongoing YO Adventure Clubs with monthly outings
- Activities sequenced to meet experience level of youth





# Why is YO successful?

- All programs are free
- Provide food, gear and outdoor clothing
- Provide some transportation
- Small group sizes
- Repeat participation of youth over time
- Utilization of trained staff and volunteers
- Grass-roots approach to building relationships with youth, adults, organizations and community



# Teen Engagement

Assists the transition into adulthood

- Peer leadership opportunities in Adventure Clubs
- Four clubs specifically for teens
- Leadership committees for Water Adventure Club and Horseback Riding program
- Youth Horseback Riding Volunteers and Horse Camp Counselors
- Career tour of Cleveland Metroparks
- Ohio 4-H Sea Camp on Kelleys Island
- Teen seasonal position within Youth Outdoors



## A collaborative approach (2017 statistics)

- 23 City of Cleveland Recreation locations participating
- 22 Other youth-serving organizations participating
- Programming included 28 ongoing Adventure Clubs, 4 horse clubs, 27 short-term groups and 5 special events



# Program Impacts 2017

- 568 programs delivered
- Total attendance (including special events) was 11,042 people representing 21,130 contact hours
- 713 individual youth participated in Adventure Clubs or short-term groups
- Youth attendance in outings and horseback riding programs was 2,337 youth representing 8,560 contact hours







# It's about the positive youth development through outdoor adventure...

