Serpent Mound
Hiking
Lodging
Outdoors
Quilt Barns
Amish Country
Ohio River

Ohio Brush Creek
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Dan Shetler: (937) 386-3183
Looking back in the rearview mirror all I can say is “What a year!” When I wrote this piece for last year’s visitor guide in January of 2020 I hadn’t a clue as to what was about to happen. After that everything seemed like a blur.

In 2020 most events took a hit, Serpent Mound closed down, the Red Barn Convention Center canceled concerts, the local mom and pop eateries went to carry out service and some just closed. Schools cancelled everything and everybody put a mask on. The residue of 2020 still grips us and that is reflected in the scaled back 2021 events calendar.

I probably repeated the phrase “Plenty of social distancing in Adams County” more times than I could count. While many CVBs laid off staff and saw their revenues plunge, our travel bureau didn’t skip a beat. People discovered, or had already known, that Adams County is a good place to escape from the suburbs, the city and the humdrum of daily life.

Our cabins and cottages had one of their best years as people still needed to get away, probably more so than ever. Our hiking trails, canoe launches and boat ramps were busy as people were practicing their best social distancing outside in the outdoors of Adams County. This year’s visitor guide reflects that shift to eco-tourism as we feature stories on the Ohio River, hiking destinations, canoeing and kayaking, bike riding, hunting, historical sites like Serpent Mound, and the quilt trail. Like I said before, “Plenty of social distancing in Adams County.”

Won’t you come join us on the hike? We’ve got room for you.

Tom Cross
Executive Director
Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau
509 East Main St.
P.O. Box 577
West Union, OH
www.adamscountytravel.org
info@adamscountytravel.org
(937) 544-5639 • (877) 232-6764

Cover photo: Looking down at Ohio Brush Creek from the historic old state Route 348 Bridge.
Photo by Judy Cross
CALENDAR

2021 Adams County Events

MARCH
20 1st annual Spring Mountain Bike Ride. Register at CCL Bicycle (937) 386-3368

APRIL
3 Family Traditions Animal Adventure opens. For hours visit their Facebook page or call (937) 515-8538

17 Spring Classic Auto Driving Tour IX through Adams County. sprgnclassicdrivingtour.org, info@springclassicdrivingtour.org

JUNE
18-20 Friends of Serpent Mound Summer Solstice Celebration. Soaring Eagle Retreat, 375 Horner Chapel Rd, Peebles. serpentmound.org

19-20 Free Fishing weekend. wildohio.com

20 Summer Solstice, first day of summer.

JULY
4 Fourth of July Celebration & Lion’s Club Parade. Parade at 10 a.m. Olde Wayside Inn.

4 Grand opening of Moone Doggie Canoe Liveree. 4440 Brush Creek Rd, Manchester. moondoggieliveree@gmail.com

11-17 130th annual Adams County Fair, West Union. adamscountyfairground.org

AUGUST
7 14th annual River Rats Boat & Jet Ski Poker Run on the Ohio River at Island Creek Boat Ramp. 1-5 p.m. (937) 217-3000

12 Friend of Serpent Mound Perseids Meteor Shower Viewing 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Soaring Eagle Retreat, 375 Horner Chapel Rd, Peebles. serpentmound.org

SEPTEMBER
2 Adams County Junior Fair Beef Barbecue, 4:30-7:30 p.m., Ohio Valley Career & Technology Center. (937) 205-0842

10-12 Annual Rarden Whitetail Deer Festival. rardendeerfestival.com

11 Erwin Farms & Corn Maze opens. 1365 Coon Hill Rd, Winchester. (513) 515-0084

11 Forgotten Way Farm & Corn Maze opens. 4675 Eckmansville Rd, Winchester. (937) 386-4048

11 Appalachian Artisans Guild Showcase. Cherry Fork Community Building. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. appragnnclassicdrivingtour.org

16-18 Skinny Fest Bluegrass Festival at Adams County Fairgrounds. facebook.com/SkinnyFest/

18-19 Annual Peebles Old Timers Days

22-25 107th Anniversary of the Seaman Fall Festival

24 Wheat Ridge Amish School Benefit Auction & Supper. Supper at 4 p.m., auction at 5 p.m. (937) 544-7566.

26 Jack Roush Day at the Riverbarn, US 52, Manchester. Date subject to change.

OCTOBER
2 44th annual Miller’s Anniversary Customer Appreciation Day & Cookout, Miller’s Bakery & Furniture. (937) 544-8524.

2-3 Draft Horse, Mule & Pony Field Days and Antique Tractor Show. Glen Dale Park, Fawcett.

8-10 13th annual Wheat Ridge Olde Thyme Herb Fair & Farm Festival. 817 Tater Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 544-8252.

27-29 Winchester Homecoming Festival

28-29 Autumn Classic Driving Tour through Adams County. sprgnclassicdrivingtour.org, info@springclassicdrivingtour.org

29 Hike for Health. Buzzardroost Rock Trail at Edge of Appalachia Preserve. Registration at 8 a.m., hike at 9 a.m.

NOVEMBER
11 Veterans Day Ceremony, Adams County Courthouse, 11 a.m.

28 Adams County Christmas, Adams County Courthouse, 5:30 p.m.

DECEMBER
21 Winter Solstice, first day of winter.

MARCH 2022
5 18th annual Adams County Amish Bird Symposium. (937) 544-5639, adamscountytravel.org

For additional and updated events go to adamscountytravel.org.
AMISH BUSINESS
1 CCL Bicycle
2 Keim Family Market
3 Miller’s Bakery & Furniture
4 Murphin Ridge Building Supplies
5 Raber’s Shoes & Saddlery

ATTRACTIONS
6 Adams County Fairgrounds
7 Brush Creek Motorsports Complex
8 Erwin Farms & Corn Maze
9 Family Traditions Animal Adventures
10 Forgotten Way Farm & Corn Maze
11 Grindstone Farm Antiques/Wheat Rdg Herb Fair
12 House of Phacops, Fossils & Minerals
13 MoonDoggie Canoe Liveree
14 Red Barn Convention Center
15 Sunshine Store
16 The Quilt Barn

DINING
17 Blake’s Pharmacy
18 Cruiser’s Diner
19 Olde Wayside Inn
20 The Greene Beanery
21 The Panhandler-BK Scoop

HERITAGE
22 Adams County Genealogical & Historical Society
23 Buckeye Station
24 Gov. Thomas Kirker Home & Bicentennial Barn
25 Harshaville Covered Bridge
26 John T. Wilson Homestead

27 Kirker Covered Bridge
28 Treber’s Inn & Zane’s Trace Monument
29 Wilson’s Civil War Soldiers Monument

HISTORIC MARKERS
30 Bradford Tavern
31 Cairn of Peace
32 First Settlement of Virginia Military District
33 Massie Station
34 Old Mineral Springs Resort
35 Serpent Mound State Memorial
36 Underground Railroad
37 Wickerham Inn
38 Lafferty Memorial Funeral & Carriage Collection
39 Morgan’s Raiders

LODGING
40 Amish House
41 Behm Mountain Cabins
42 Brush Creek Retreat
43 Budget Host Inn
44 Cave Hill Cabin
45 County Nights Inn
46 Cozy Hideway
47 Crosset Cottage
48 Deer Path Cabin
49 Hopewell Croft Cabin
50 McIntosh Cabin
51 Mound View Farm
52 Murphin Ridge Inn
53 Ohio Star Retreat
54 Pine Valley Cabins
55 Quality Inn
56 River Barn Village
57 River Haven B&B
58 Scenic View Cottage
59 The Farmhouse of Unity
60 The Red Barn Cabin
61 The Sanctuary

62 The Ville Guest House & Cabin
63 Unity Woods Cabins
64 Valerie's House B&B

NATURAL AREAS & PRESERVES
65 Adams Lake State Park
66 Chalet Nivale Preserve
67 Chaparral Prairie Nature Preserve
68 Davis Memorial State Nature Preserve
69 Edge of Appalachia Preserve
70 Johnson Ridge State Nature Preserve
71 Plum Run Prairie
72 Rock Run Wilderness Preserve
73 Shoemaker State Nature Preserve
74 Whipple State Nature Preserve

RECREATION/OUTDOORS/CAMPING
75 Brush Creek Boat Ramp & Campground
76 Island Creek Boat Ramp & Campground
77 Mineral Springs Lake Resort
78 Sandy Springs Campground

VISITOR INFORMATION
79 Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau

For more information, please contact the Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau
(877) 232-6764
www.adamscountytravel.org
info@adamscountytravel.org
The Amish Community on Wheat Ridge began its humble roots in 1976 when seven families, looking for a fresh start, relocated from Melroy, Indiana, to Adams County because land was affordable and available. The late Bill Lafferty of West Union, who visited the Amish harness shops in Melroy, spoke favorably of the area. When the first Amish finally settled in Adams County it was noted many were at first hog farmers.

Over time the Wheat Ridge Amish gradually evolved from a farming community into a merchant, industrial and service community that now boasts nearly 100 Amish households.

Several factors have contributed to the prosperity of the Wheat Ridge Amish Community in those early years: the close proximity to state Route 32, the old Cedar Works factory, good cooking and self determination.

Over 30 years ago Roy Keim pulled a buggy under a shade tree on the newly completed state Route 32 Appalachian Highway to sell homemade bread and bakery products his wife and daughters had prepared the evening before. Miller’s Bakery & Furniture started out as a small kitchen bakery catering to tourists and locals that were attracted to an old-fashioned Amish bakery and their quaint horse and buggy transportation. Roy Raber started a small shoe repair on Murphin Ridge Road, and soon Amish lumber mills started operating and several Amish families found profitable enterprises in building bird houses for the new Cedar Works plant that opened near Peebles. The Wheat Ridge Amish Community saw substantial growth during the 1980s.

Wheat Ridge Amish Community allows visitors to experience a slower pace of life

BY TOM CROSS

Adams County’s Amish Community is known for its work ethic and quality goods.

2021 Amish School Benefit Auction & Supper

Don’t forget to attend the Amish School Benefit Auction & Supper! The public is invited to attend this annual event.

May 7 & Sept. 24
Supper at 4 p.m. (cost: donation)
Auction at 5 p.m.

Wheat Ridge Community Building
3735 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union

For more information call Ridgeway Lumber, (937) 544-7566
and 1990s, and so too did their various industries and businesses.

The Wheat Ridge Amish community now has four parochial schools, teaching approximately 40 to 60 students each.

Today’s Amish Community is not much different from those early days in the late 1970s when the sound of a horse and buggy’s clip-clop on the pavement was heard and school children pushed scooters and commanded the reins of small buggies guiding them to one-room schoolhouses where baseball is still the preferred sport. Clothes are still dried on backyard clotheslines and women still wear white sun bonnets and tend to large, perfectly manicured family gardens that are the envy of all who pass.

Travelers to Wheat Ridge still have to navigate narrow, winding uphill roads—perhaps a covered bridge if coming in from the west—all the while keeping a sharp eye out for horse and buggies, and the bicycles children ride. Once atop the ridge the beauty is evident as the rural surroundings haven’t changed much at all.

At the Wheat Ridge Amish Community, shoes can be repaired, a buggy can be fixed, furniture made, signs painted and horses can be purchased or traded. Amish tradesmen stand ready to replace a roof, construct a new house or barn or design handcrafted kitchen cabinets. Building supplies, rough lumber, and fresh farm produce and bakery products are all available and occasionally a handmade Amish quilt can be found at auctions to benefit local Amish schools. On Wheat Ridge the slower pace of life is plainly evident; a way of life that moves at a buggy’s pace.

2021 Adams County Amish Business Directory

The Adams County Wheat Ridge Amish community offers many shops and services from furniture, dry goods and bakeries to builders and craftsmen. All Amish businesses are closed Sunday.

Allan Miller Construction
620 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 544-7831

CCL Bicycle Shop
1195 Duffy Rd, Peebles. (937) 386-3368

Cedar Hill Machine
4830 Unity Rd, West Union. (937) 386-0068

Cedar Hill Pallet
4830 Unity Rd, West Union. (937) 544-9884

Country Lane Fabrics
1720 Freeland Hollow Rd, West Union. (937) 544-7260

Duffy Road Wood Products
380 Duffy Rd, Peebles. (937) 386-0086

Hillcrest Fencing
2260 Bailey Rd, Peebles. (937) 386-1461

Hilltop Cabinet
1553 Tater Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 386-1908

Hochstetler Construction
1493 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 544-4624

Keim Family Market
2621 Burnt Cabin Rd, Seaman. (937) 386-9955

L&R Woodworking
1700 Tater Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 798-9275

Mast Construction
1735 Freeland Hollow Rd, West Union. (937) 544-2323

Miller’s Bakery & Gifts
954 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 544-4520

Miller’s Bulk Foods
930 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 544-8449

Miller Carpentry
613 Clay Moore Rd, West Union. (937) 386-3266

Mills Furniture
960 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 544-8524

Murphin Ridge Building Supplies
67 Murphin Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 544-8010

Raber’s Shoes & Saddlery
1324 Duffy Rd, Peebles. (937) 386-9927

Ridgeway Lumber & Mulch
3735 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 544-7566

Schlabach Construction
1999 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 544-3964

Schmuckers Deer Processing
234 Duffy Rd, Peebles. (937) 386-0260

Sheeter Solar
1899 state Route 137, Winchester. (937) 386-3183

Schwartz Small Engine Repair
2535 Graves Run Rd, Winchester. (937) 386-1144

Stutzman Buggy Repair
1195 Duffy Rd, Peebles. (937) 386-3368

Unity Woodworks
2274 Unity Rd, West Union. (937) 544-8088

Wagler’s Roofing & Construction
1827 Tater Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 386-0330

Wheat Ridge Barns
1587 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 544-4178

Country Cabins
2965 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 544-0898

Wheat Ridge Fencing
4100 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 544-4162

Wheat Ridge Pallet
55 Poole Rd, West Union. (937) 544-8457
Back in the day, 18 covered bridges crossed streams in Adams County. Today, only two survive. Only one is still in use. The recently restored Harshaville Covered Bridge serves as a gateway to the county’s Amish Community. Adams County’s other covered bridge, the Kirker Bridge, was one of the last covered bridges retired from state highways.

The Harshaville Bridge, built in 1855 on what was then called Graces Run and Dunkinsville Pike, could be considered one of the oldest covered bridges still in use today. Spanning 110 feet across Cherry Fork Creek, horse and buggy traffic across the bridge is a common sight. The bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Historical records show the bridge underwent renovation in the 1940s and again in the 1960s. The most recent restoration was completed in 2013.

The bridge gets its name from the small community of Harshaville, which was known in earlier times for the grist mills that operated along Cherry Fork Creek. The first grist mill was built of logs in 1817. In 1846 Paul and Martha Harsha from Pennsylvania purchased the mill, tripled its capacity and added a sawmill. Business at the mill attracted other businesses, thus the small community of Harshaville was born. It is speculated that during the 1850s the mill was converted to steam power. Around that time a covered bridge over Cherry Fork Creek was built, likely from timbers milled at Harsha’s sawmill. The mill, which operated for over 100 years, was closed in the 1920s.

The red brick two-story house still standing in Harshaville is speculated to have been built in 1853 by Paul Harsha, who was a bricklayer prior to his purchase of the mill, as a wedding gift to his oldest son, William B. Harsha. Paul and Martha Harsha built their brick home in 1846 high atop a hill overlooking the mill; it too still stands and is known as Hillcrest.

Perhaps the most famous to cross the historic bridge was General John Hunt Morgan and infamous Morgan’s Raiders on July 15, 1863, on their way out of Winchester. Unlike other bridges the raiders crossed they did not burn the Harshaville Bridge, leaving it to history. While in Harshaville, the raiders also visited the homes of Paul and William Harsha, where they confiscated nine horses. The fully restored Harshaville Bridge was re-dedicated on July 15, 2013, 150 years after Morgan’s Raiders crossed it.

The Harshaville Covered Bridge is a Gateway to the Past

BY TOM CROSS

The Harshaville Covered Bridge was built in 1855 and is still used by horse and buggies and motorized vehicles today.
Adams County Museums & Historical Societies

House of Phacops
Unique collection of trilobites and fossils from around the area. 29894 state Route 41, Locust Grove. (937) 205-3810

Lafferty Memorial Funeral & Carriage Collection
205 S. Cherry St., West Union. (937) 544-2121. Museum open by appointment, please call ahead for museum hours.

Page One Room School House
Located at the intersection of Page School and Vaughn Ridge Road, West Union. (937) 587-2043

Serpent Museum & Gift Shop
3850 state Route 73, Peebles. Open Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday noon-5 p.m.

Adams County Heritage Center
State Route 247, 507 N. Cherry St., West Union. Open noon to 4 p.m. Thursday and Saturday. (937) 544-8522.

Adams County Historical Society & Adams County Genealogical Society
Adams County Heritage Center, West Union. (937) 544-8522

17 locations in Ohio and Kentucky
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Summer Solstice Celebration Festival
June 18-20, 2021
Festival Hours:
(Friday) 3 pm – 7 pm
(Saturday) 10 am – 7 pm
(Sunday) 10 am – 5 pm

Perseid Meteor Shower Viewing
Aug. 12, 2021

www.serpentmound.org
The Adams County Quilt Barn Trail Celebrates 20 years

Adams County’s Quilt Barn Trail celebrates 20 years since the first quilt was hung in 2001, sparking a nationwide phenomenon. The artful display of colorful quilts on barns started with an idea in rural Adams County and has spread coast to coast and into Canada. By some estimates, 44 states, three Canadian provinces and countless communities turned Donna Sue Groves’ vision into dedicated quilt trails spanning the nation, all pulled together by enthusiastic community leaders and volunteers united behind one idea.

Below you’ll find one of the first articles ever written about the very first quilt square, the Ohio Star at Lewis Mountain Herbs on state Route 247, south of West Union.

**The Adams County Quilt Barn Project**

BY CELESTE BAUMGARTNER, *Country Living Magazine*, July 2002

Remember the Mail Pouch Barns? Well, picture this—20 different quilt squares painted on the sides of 20 barns. You follow a scenic driving tour to see the whole quilt. Someday, maybe you will even be able to buy a sample quilt made of the 20 squares.

If Donna Sue Groves has her way, that will be an Adams County reality. The idea might even spread throughout the state. An Ohio Arts Council field coordinator who learned quilting from her mother Maxine, a sixth-generation Appalachian, Donna had the idea of doing something special in her region.

Since Mail Pouch barns were everywhere in the area, Donna thought “What fun it would be to put a quilt square on barns in honor of my mother?” Judy Lewis liked the idea, had an available barn and said, “Yes, let’s do it!”

A local planning group, Planning Adams County Tomorrow (PACT), also liked the idea. PACT’s goal is to bring compatible economic development to Adams County, according to Pete Whan, co-founder of the organization. One of their strategies is “experiential tourism,” which includes nature-based tourism, heritage tourism and cultural tourism. PACT received a start-up $2,000 grant from the Ohio Arts Council for painting the first five quilts on barns.

The goal of the project will be eventually to have 20 quilt squares on 20 barns, and, according to Whan, “We could make a sampler quilt of the 20 patterns for retail and as a hook for folks to travel through the county and help economic condition here.”
Groves takes it a step further: “Maybe someday we can have postcards and a driving tour,” she said. “Then other counties might want to do the same thing. I envision it will be like a clothesline throughout Ohio. It will be something in memory once we’re gone that people will keep up and the traditional quilts will be there. Hopefully, it will get folks energized and excited about the ideas of murals as public art; a way of beautifying, of calling attention to the special things that are near and dear to us.”


The red barn symbol on the map (found within this guide) marks the 20 original quilt barns in Adams County. For maps and information about Adams County’s Clothesline of Quilts contact the Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau at (877) 232-6764 or visit us at adamscountytravel.org.

Updated Adams County Quilt Barn Trail brochures are available from the Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau. The new brochures have the locations and map of all 20 original Quilt Barns in the “Clothesline of Quilts” driving tour. To request one, send an email with your name and address to info@adamscountytravel.org.

“Where Memories are Made & Traditions Begin”

2064 Poplar Flat Rd.
West Union, OH 45693
(937)587-2555

www.mcccoysatpoplarflat.com
Take a look at the beautiful mural in Peebles just completed this summer by artist Pamela Kellough. In a project by the Adams County Arts Council for the village of Peebles, Kellough designed the mural, bringing together all the historical elements of the village and surrounding area, including Serpent Mound, into one work of art. The mural is located at the corner of Old state Route 32 and state Route 41—you can’t miss it driving north through town.

The Adams County Arts Council held a dedication of the mural in October. The mural welcomes visitors to Peebles with “postcard” images of Serpent Mound, the railway station, the Cairn of Peace and the Mineral Springs Hotel.

The Adams County Arts Council has another mural planned for the village of Manchester to be completed this summer. Kellough, a resident of Chillicothe, paints “both commercial and residential murals in an accurate and realistic way.” And she is quick to tell you she “LOVES” her job! More of Kellough’s murals can be seen at pamelakelloughmurals.com

If you wish to join the Adams County Arts Council, a membership application can be found at adamsctyartscouncil.org.
FESTIVALS

Wheat Ridge Olde Thyme Herb Fair & Farm Festival
Returns for Its 13th Year

The Wheat Ridge Olde Thyme Herb Fair & Farm Festival, one of Adams County’s largest annual events, brings together over 150 craftsmen and artisans for three days of crafts, antique farm machinery, herbal products and other natural items.

The fair is the creation of Herb and Kim Erwin, along with their son, Brad, on the family farm. During most of the year it’s a working farm with cattle and hay fields, but for three days in October, the Erwins turn it into a celebration of farm life and the nearby Amish countryside.

“We enjoy it but it’s a year-round effort and we’re always trying to improve it,” says Kim.

The Erwins launched the festival in 2008 with a lot of help from the Amish Community. “It feels like the whole community is involved,” she says.

The nearby Amish Community is heavily involved, baking from scratch, pressing fresh apple cider and preparing home-cooked meals to support the local Amish schools.

Herbs, lavender, medicinal teas, soaps, lotions, natural earth products and various odd antiques are offered at the festival. The artisans typically bring a variety of unique metal yard art, wood-crafted items, handmade pottery, sewn items, homemade jams, cheese, maple syrup and other farm products. There’s entertainment, too, from musical acts performing a variety of genres, such as Creole, Celtic, country and more.

This year’s festival dates are Oct. 8, 9 and 10, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., at 817 Tater Ridge Rd, West Union. Info at (937) 544-8252.

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Cozy Hideaway

Cozy Hideaway can be perfect for a relaxing escape, a romantic getaway, or the adventure of a lifetime. Tucked in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains in Beautiful Eastern Adams County Ohio you are just minutes from Amish Country, Antique Shops, several Historic Sites and just 2 minutes from “The Edge of Appalachia Preserve”.

Make “Cozy Hideaway” your vacation destination of choice when considering your next trip or hunting excursion.

415 Cozy Lane | West Union, OH 45693
www.cozyhideaway.org
(513) 315-3334 or (937) 544-7001

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www.wilson-realtors.net
Whether you’re a beginner or a seasoned boater interested in water skiing, cruising, fishing or just kayaking around an island watching wildlife, the Ohio River on the southern border of Adams County offers all these and more. The Ohio River along the southern shores of Adams County is a picturesque stretch of river with three uninhabited islands, two of which are part of the Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuge. Except for the occasional barge, river traffic is minimal and boaters will find plenty of room to cruise, explore, ski and run.

Of the three uninhabited islands, Manchester Island No. 1 can boast to having one of the best natural beaches on the Ohio River, with swimming and picnicking on the long sandy beach at the western end of the island. Just pull your boat up and enjoy a picnic or a walk on the beach. Boaters come from as far away as Cincinnati to enjoy life on the island. Volleyball, cookouts and socializing are all part of the island life during the summer weekends.

The island closest to the Ohio side is known as Manchester Island No. 2 and is the largest of the three river islands. It is also part of the part of the Ohio River Islands Wildlife Refuge.

According to some history there was said to be a third Manchester Island that supposedly washed away or was submerged when the first locks and dams were built on the river. That island was said to located just upriver from island 1 and 2. Some argue that Brush Creek Island is actually the “third” Manchester Island.

Upriver almost 8 miles is Brush Creek Island, the smallest of the three islands. It also has long sandy beach at the tail end of the island and is located across from the mouth of Brush Creek. Brush Creek Island is currently not part of the refuge.

All three islands are part of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. A reciprocal agreement allows Ohio anglers to fish the Ohio River with a current Ohio fishing license.

Two public boat ramps on the Ohio River in Adams County make launching a breeze. Brush Creek Boat Ramp is conveniently located off US 52 at the mouth Brush Creek, while the two Manchester Islands are best accessed by Island Creek Boat Ramp just east of Manchester.

Fuel can be had at the dock on the Ohio side of the river across from the west end of Manchester Island No. 2

For anglers, big blue cats, flathead and channel catfish are the primary game fish. Hybrid stripers around the islands also generate a lot of excitement. Largemouth, smallmouth and spotted bass inhabit the stumps, fallen trees, rocky shorelines and weed beds. Sauger is found around the
island’s gravel bars and sandy beaches. Campsites along the river include the two boat ramps as well as Sandy Springs Campground, 20 miles east of Manchester, near river mile 375. Overnight tent camping on the islands is also popular. For more information, visit fws.gov/refuge/ohio_river_islands.

Both commercial barges and recreational boaters make use of the Ohio River on the southern edge of Adams County. Those looking for a relaxing day on the water can enjoy fishing, swimming and picnicking near the three river islands.

**Boat Ramps**

**Brush Creek Boat Ramp & Campground**
17085 US Hwy 52, Manchester. Fee charged for launching and camping. (937) 549-3380

**Island Creek Boat Ramp & Campground**
8801 US Hwy 52, Manchester. Fee charged for launching and camping. (937) 549-1430
The Great Serpent Mound in Adams County, Ohio
From the observation tower above Serpent Mound one can see the raised earth clearly depicting the winding coils of a giant snake overlooking the bluffs above Ohio Brush Creek. Of the few effigy animal mounds still in existence on the North American continent, Serpent Mound is both the largest (stretching over a quarter mile) and the most impressive. Although archaeological evidence is limited, Serpent Mound was most likely built at least 1,000 years ago by Native American peoples. The sense of awe and wonder that the mound must have elicited in its original architects still stirs the same emotions in viewers today as visitors entertain theories regarding the original intentions of the Native American builders. The site will explain what archaeologists have discovered to date regarding one of North America’s most enigmatic earthworks—one of the few sites in the nation on the priority list for UNESCO World Heritage Site nomination.

A small interpretive museum includes displays of artifacts, including shards of pottery and handsomely crafted weapon points left behind by early Native American cultures. The fascinating geological history of the area is also interpreted—Serpent Mound was built within the ancient remains of a meteorite impact crater. Discover what this complex landscape feature means to geologists today, and what it might have meant to the ancient peoples who built Serpent Mound.

Bring a packed lunch to enjoy in the historic picnic shelter or spread a blanket on the grass beneath one of the ancient trees rimming Serpent Mound’s green park. A leisurely footpath winds around the perimeter of the earthworks and overlooks the valley. For nature lovers, an additional half mile trail hugs the cliff bordering Scioto Brush Creek. Here hikers can see scenic outcrops of the same dolomitic limestone that is found throughout much of Adams County. Serpent Mound is noted for its display of wildflowers in the spring and impressive fall colors.

Serpent Mound is owned by the Ohio History Connection and attracts over 30,000 people a year from all over the world with many making return visits.

**Serpent Mound Historical Site Information**
3850 state Route. 73, Peebles
ohiohistory.org/visit/museum-and-site-locator/serpent-mound
(800) 752-2757

Regular hours of operation begin Tuesday, March 30, 2021. Mon closed, Tu-Sa 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Su noon-5 p.m. Admission is $8 per vehicle. Masks are required and social distancing is encouraged.
Miller’s Furniture
Come To Wheat Ridge Where The Pace Is A Little Slower

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community news and coming events, visit www.adamscountytravel.org
The Nature Conservancy has announced the opening of the Helen C. Black Trail at the Edge of Appalachia Preserve System in Adams County. The trail offers new public access and an ecotourism destination for enjoying the spectacular Cedar Falls, a 15-foot cascade that spills over scenic limestone ledges.

The Nature Conservancy named the trail in honor of the late Helen C. Black from Cincinnati. Black was a board member and honorary life trustee of The Nature Conservancy as well as an avid hiker. “Helen worked tirelessly to conserve Ohio’s natural areas, especially at the Edge,” says Martin McAllister, Appalachian Forests project manager at the Conservancy. “She was known for her quiet generosity and loyalty to the cause, setting an example for all who want future generations to enjoy and conserve nature’s beauty.”

The 1.5-mile trail winds along a deep gorge flanked by 70-foot-high cliffs and terminates at a vista of Cedar Falls, a stunning sight in the spring when the water flowing through the gorge is highest. In autumn, the flow slows to a trickle, except following heavy rains. Before the trail’s construction, the falls had remained relatively unknown because they were difficult to reach and required a special access permit. The Conservancy funded the new, marked trail, parking area and interpretive signage to share the site’s history and serve as a draw for ecotourism in the county. A grant from the Clean Ohio Fund helped restore and develop the area near the trailhead.

“Outdoor excursions have exploded during COVID-19,” says Tom Cross, Adams County Travel and Visitors Bureau executive director. “Visitors to Adams County spent $27.9 million in 2019, helping to sustain more than 600 jobs. The new Helen C. Black trail builds on our county’s unique natural features as an ecotourism destination.”

The trailhead at the intersection of state Route 348 and Cedar Mills Road is located in what was once the heart of a bustling company town called Cedar Mills. Remnants of the town’s grist mill can be seen from the trail, which is open year-round from dawn to dusk.

“The hike is relatively easy but expect some slippery places and slight climbs. It’s worth the effort to reach our new viewing platform overlooking Cedar Falls,” McAllister says. The Nature Conservancy will maintain the trail. Hikers are reminded to stay on the designated path for their safety and to avoid damaging the rare plant communities found in the preserve.

The Nature Conservancy purchased the Cedar Falls property in 1989 from the Freeman family, sealing the area’s conservation for future generations. It is located in the northern portion of the 20,000-acre Edge of Appalachia Preserve System, the largest and oldest of the Conservancy’s preserves in Ohio. The preserve is co-managed by the Cincinnati Museum Center and is located 75 miles east of Cincinnati. For GPS users, the address to the Helen C. Black Cedar Falls Trail is 56 Cedar Mills Rd, Blue Creek.

For more information or to hike the trail virtually, visit nature.org/en-us/get-involved/how-to-help/places-we-protect/edge-of-appalachia-cedar-falls-trail/.
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A breathtaking deep ravine best describes the Rock Run Nature Preserve on the Ohio River. A true wilderness, Rock Run preserve protects 802 acres of Appalachian river hill country surrounding the deep ravine of Rock Run, named after a small, pristine creek that flows out of Shawnee Forest and into the Ohio River. Rock Run lies near the southwest border of the state forest tucked in the mountains between Sandy Springs and Buena Vista, and the trailhead is directly across from Sandy Springs Campground.

Rock Run’s wild Appalachian hill country is exceptionally scenic, highly bio-diverse and heavily forested. The larger Shawnee State Forest region, supplemented by preservation holdings of both the Arc of Appalachia and The Nature Conservancy, protects an extremely large block of forest, with some of the roadless areas worthy of the term “wilderness.” The state forest alone is over 60,000 acres in size.

Rock Run Preserve also includes a section of the Ohio River known as Sandy Springs. Here on the north shore of the river the preserve protects a notable Paleo archaeological site, an area that has produced the highest number of Paleo-Indian artifacts in the state. Half of the Clovis points registered with the Historic Preservation Office came from Sandy Springs, indicating that in ancient times this river crossing teemed with wild game over 11,000 years ago when the great continental glaciers were melting out of Ohio.

The 400-foot depth of Rock Run’s val-
ley is stunning, the vast forest shelters bobcat, timber rattlesnakes and over 10 rare and endangered plants. The hillsides show exposed layers of both shale and sandstone. The sandstone, heavily quarried in the mid 1800s, produced huge stone blocks that were transported to the Ohio River and floated downstream to Cincinnati and beyond, and cut into building blocks for some of the nation’s biggest cities. Remains of the old cut sandstone blocks are plainly visible, scattered along the forest floor, remnants of a once thriving but harsh industry.

A 3.3-mile loop trail takes hikers deep into the preserve. The 400-foot elevation difference between the region’s river and its ridgetops provides a landscape of extraordinary relief and outstanding panoramas. The trail is open to the public daily from sunrise to sunset except for closures during hunting season. For more information go to arcofappalachia.org/hiking-visiting/.

**Directions to Rock Run Preserve:** Follow US 52 west from Portsmouth or east from Cincinnati to Sandy Spring Campground at 27719, US 52, Stout. The trailhead and parking are directly across the road from the campground, on the north side of US 52.

Since 2004, the Arc of Appalachia has acquired properties in the watershed that were not part of the state forest with the goal to make Rock Run one of the best protected watersheds in Ohio. Photos courtesy of Arc of Appalachia, Jon Srofe and Michael Grossett

Rock Run preserve’s valley is 400 feet deep, and is home to bobcats, timber rattlesnakes and more than 10 rare and endangered plants.
This 2020 deer season was an exceptional year for Adams County hunters Cory Richmond and Shawn Clark. Both tagged a pair of mammoth bucks, which were among the top in the state this past season.

Richmond’s huge buck was taken in mid-October and sprouted a 17-point rack with an unbelievable outside spread of 28-5/8 inches. Richmond discovered the deer with pictures from a trail camera three years prior.

Relatively new to hunting, Richmond had never tagged a buck before. That opportunity came on a late Friday afternoon when Richmond sensed the conditions were right and headed to the woods for his first hunt of the season.

From his tree stand Richmond spotted a doe feeding in an old forest road that winds through the woods he was hunting. Seconds later that same giant buck he had pictures of walked out of the brush and up to the doe, then turned to follow a deer trail right past Richmond’s stand. When that massive buck stepped into an opening, Richmond drew his bow for that once-in-a-lifetime shot. The big deer scored a whopping 217-6/8 non-typical Boone & Crockett points.

Three weeks later an even larger buck would come out of Adams County. Shawn Clark, a resident of Indiana, Pennsylvania, harvested what could well be Ohio’s top buck for 2020.

Although neighbors knew of the giant whitetail, Clark knew nothing of the deer before he first laid eyes on it that Sunday evening on Nov. 8. Clark only gets to hunt a couple of weekends a year and that evening was his last hunt before heading back to Pennsylvania. Around 5 p.m. Clark heard a rustling in the leaves and then a small buck walked out of the woods, which got his attention. Minutes later Clark spotted movement and looked through his binoculars. He wasn’t prepared for what he saw next—the bone white color of massive deer antlers.

Once the giant buck got within bow range, it stopped, pawed the ground and raised its big rack into the overhanging tree limbs. He drew his bow and let the arrow fly. Clark then realized he had just arrowed perhaps the biggest buck in the state and readily admits it was the luck of being in the right place at the right time. His giant 24-point non-typical buck scored an impressive 239-7/8 Boone & Crockett points.

Tom Cross writes on the outdoors for the local paper, The Peoples Defender.

Photos courtesy of Cory Richmond and Shawn Clark
Public Hunting Areas
- Tranquility Wildlife Area
- Shawnee State Forest
- Brush Creek State Forest
- The Edge of Appalachia Preserve - by permit only

Local Outfitters
- Crawford Farms, crawfordfarmshunting.com
- Real McCoy Outdoors, realmccoyoutdoors.com
- Riverhills Whitetail, riverhillswhitetail.com
- Ohio Premier Trophy Outfitters, ohto.com

Public Fishing Areas
- Ohio River
- Ohio Brush Creek
- Adams Lake
- Winchester Lake.
- Tranquility Wildlife Area ponds

Public Boat Ramps & Canoe Launches are marked on the map within this guide.

Ohio Brush Creek Canoe Access
- State Route 73 bridge over Ohio Brush Creek at Serpent Mound
- State Route 125 bridge over Ohio Brush Creek east of West Union
- State Route 348 bridge over Ohio Brush Creek east of West Union
- Edge of Appalachia Creeks Bend access on Waggoner Riffle Road

Canoe-Kayak Rental
- MoonDoggie Liveree, 4440 Brush Creek Rd, Manchester. moondoggieliveree2020@gmail.com

Paddler’s Guide to Ohio Brush Creek
adamssoilandwater.org/a-paddlers-guide-to-ohio-brush-creek

Ohio River Boat Ramps & Campgrounds
- Brush Creek Boat Ramp & Campground - 17085 US Hwy 52, Manchester. Nine miles east of Manchester on US 52. Fee charged for launching and camping. (937) 549-3380

Island Creek Boat Ramp & Campground - 8801 US Hwy 52, Manchester. One mile east of Manchester on US 52. Fee charged for launching and camping. (937) 549-1430

Sandy Springs Campground - 27719 US Hwy 52, Stout. One mile east of Sandy Springs on US 52. (701) 640-7858, sandyspringscampground.com, sandyspringscampground@gmail.com

13th Annual Wheat Ridge Olde Thyme Herb Fair & Harvest Celebration

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Riding Bicycles on Rural Country Roads
BY TOM CROSS

Adams County’s country roads offer cyclists a chance to view the beautiful countryside of southwestern Ohio on roads less traveled. The back roads and country byways of Adams County have little traffic and are perfect for an afternoon of two-wheel peddling.

Wheat Ridge and Graces Run roads are the heart of Adams County’s Amish Community where you’ll likely have to share the road with horse and buggies and light tourist traffic on the weekends. Occasionally a semi hauling lumber or a pickup towing a trailer with an Amish-built shed will be on the road during the work week. Don’t worry—the road is plenty wide enough for everybody.

The great outdoors are wide open.
Richard & Lucile Durrell Edge of Appalachia Preserve System

5 hiking trails
25 miles
20,000 acres
of biodiversity
and the side roads like Tater Ridge, Unity and Duffy Road are pretty lonesome most of the time. On Wheat Ridge, Miller’s Bulk Foods and Miller’s Bakery have doughnuts, coffee, sandwiches, water and pop for a refreshment break. At the bottom of the hill on Graces Run is the newly renovated and historic Harshaville Covered Bridge you can ride through.

A little further east in Adams County are several county roads that are lightly traveled by autos. Mineral Springs Road is perhaps one of the most scenic. Cyclists can enjoy a long ride past Mineral Spring Lakes and within sight of Peach Mountain, the highest point in Adams County. The little burg of Mineral Springs is a postcard village with some interesting history, and you will ride past the still flowing spring that the village takes its namesake from.

At the southern end of Adams County Waggoner Riffle Road follows Ohio Brush Creek through the 20,000-acre Edge of Appalachia Preserve ending at Abner Hollow. About midway through is the Creeks Bend Overlook picnic area with a stunning view of Ohio Brush Creek and a restroom, which makes a for a bathroom break.

Adams County’s offers the perfect escape for a scenic afternoon or a day-long bicycle ride. The many county and township roads that wind through the countryside have wonderful views, little traffic and are perfect for a day of bike riding. It’s easy to get lost on Adams County back roads, but don’t worry—half the fun is finding your way back.

Maps showing county and townships roads are available from the Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau office, 509 East Main, West Union. (937) 544-5639. To rent a bicycle for the day or the hour, or to purchase, contact CCL Bicycle Shop at (937) 386-3368, located at 1195 Duffy Rd, Peebles, in the heart of Adams County Amish Country.

### Cycling Events

**March 20** - 1st Annual Spring Mountain Bike Ride. Information and Register at CCL Bicycle (937) 386-3368

**Oct. 2** – Cycling Scenic Adams County 2nd Annual Fresh Air Ride. 60-mile bicycle ride through Adams County. Starts and ends at CCL Bicycle, 1195 Duffy Rd, Peebles. Information and registration at (937) 386-3368

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250 Cemetery Road - Manchester, OH 45144
937.549.4900
The Nature Conservancy has upgraded and improved the trail leading up to the Buzzardroost Rock at the Edge of Appalachia Preserve (EOA), one of the most popular hikes in Adams County.

Acquired as a conservation area in the 1960s, Buzzardroost Rock was first opened to the public in the early 1980s. “When we acquired land on Weaver Road, the first official trailhead to Buzzardroost Rock was built there and it went across state Route 125, requiring people to cross the highway to get to the trail,” says Martin McAllister, forest project manager for the EOA. “Years later another piece of property was acquired and the trail was moved to where it is now, just west of Lynx on the south side of state Route 125.”

The current trail is a 4.5 mile round-trip. Its main feature is the breathtaking view atop its limestone promontory.

“The grand attraction is the overlook at Buzzardroost Rock itself and the fabulous vista of the Ohio Brush Creek valley below,” says McAllister.

When Buzzardroost Rock first came on the radar screen of naturalists, visitation to the site was minimal and mostly from local people, which didn’t adversely impact the area. “It was private property then and obviously not a tourist attraction. The entire area was covered with prairie plants, some of which are considered quite rare in Ohio. Not only was it a unique geological formation but it was also a unique plant community. Once it became protected and known, many people wanted to see it and you can imagine all the foot traffic going to the same spot all in an effort to see the view and how it impacted the rare plants,” says McAllister. “The foot traffic alone nearly trampled all of those plants out of existence.”

In 1984, the first structure built on Buzzardroost Rock was a small boardwalk and deck with railing so people could safely take in the view. “Unfortunately, many visitors did not stay on the structure and there was still some serious trampling taking place,” says McAllister.

Upon approaching the overlook, visitors were tasked with descending a steep hillside, which had become heavily eroded and difficult to navigate. “The improvements to the trail consist of a 182-foot-long staircase that helps get visitors down the steep embankment safely and an upgraded boardwalk and observation platform on the rock itself. All these efforts are to improve the visitor experience, keep them safe while they’re near the cliff edge and also to help conserve the unique natural features that the area was first acquired for,” says McAllister.

The improvements were done in-house by the staff of The Nature Conservancy and the Cincinnati Museum Center while the lumber was donated by Kibler Lumber Company in Mt. Orab.
“After The Nature Conservancy purchased Buzzardroost Rock in the 1960s, it transferred the site to the Cincinnati Museum Center (CMC) for management. For over 50 years CMC has carefully managed the site and now, with help from The Nature Conservancy, the site is getting some timely renovations,” says McAllister.

McAllister says future plans for the site include trying to reestablish those rare and endangered plant communities that once thrived there.

Ashley McCarty is a reporter for The People’s Defender newspaper. Photos provided by Martin McAllister and Eric Porter.

Hikers Guide to Adams County Ohio
The Hikers Guide to Adams County Ohio is now available. A team effort by Leadership Adams resulted in a full-color, 38-page hiking guide to Adams County. All 22 public hiking trails in Adams County are covered plus four fitness trails and nearby Shawnee State Park. The guide features trail maps and information on each trail. The hikers guide is available at the Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau office, 509 E. Main St., West Union; The Eulett Center, 4274 Waggoner Rifle Rd, West Union; and the Adams County Economic Development office in West Union. A digital copy of the AC Hikers Guide can be downloaded under the hiking icon from the homepage of the Adams County travel bureau’s website, adamscountytravel.org.
Ohio Brush Creek in Adams County offers great fishing, floating and wildlife viewing and, with three canoe/kayak access sites, it has never been easier.

Two access sites are located at the state Route 348 Bridge over Ohio Brush Creek and at the state Route 125 Bridge. A third access at the Edge of Appalachia Preserve’s Creeks Bend is located approximately 3 miles south of state Route 125 on Waggoner Riffle Road. Each site has approximately three “creek miles” between them. All together the three sites make for a day long beautiful 9-mile float. If adventure harkens to your soul, then it’s about an additional 5.5 miles float to the Ohio River from Creeks Bend. A Corps of Engineers public boat ramp off US 52 marks the confluence of Ohio Brush Creek and the Ohio River.

New this summer is canoe and kayak rental on Ohio Brush Creek at Moon-DoggieLivree, 4440 Brush Creek Rd, Manchester. For info email them at moondoogieliveree2020@gmail.com.

Ohio Brush Creek is a beautiful stream, considered one of the gems in southwest Ohio. Bobcats, otters, eagles, herons, deer, coyotes, wild turkey, muskrats, beavers and bears are some of the wildlife that has been observed along the stream or in the surrounding forest nearby. Your float will truly be a memorial one.

Tom Cross is director of tourism in Adams County and author of the book Fishing Ohio.

All public canoe access sites on Ohio Brush Creek are noted on the map in this guide.
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(937) 544-2263 or (877) 687-7446, murphinridgeinn.com

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A beautiful B&B on the riverfront offering six spacious rooms with private bath.
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(937) 549-1999, ohioriverhaven.com, riverhaven45144@yahoo.com

Valerie’s House B&B
Built in 1883 this Victorian home is a historical landmark in Adams County. Three elegant suites are available for the night or week, and for special occasions or meetings.
530 E Mulberry St., West Union.
(937) 779-3502 or (833) 303-7796, valerieshouse530.com

Cabins/Cottages/Retreats
The Amish House
The Amish House, located on Wheat Ridge Road next to Miller’s Bakery & Furniture, features five guest rooms with private baths, furnished living room, full kitchen and a front porch to enjoy our rural community.
1246 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union.
(937) 544-2263 or (877) 687-7446, murphinridgeinn.com

Behm Mountain Cabin
This relaxing cabin in the wilds of Adams County was reconstructed from the hand-hewn logs of historical structures originally built over 100 years ago. Pet friendly.
1561 Coon Hollow Rd, Blue Creek. (937) 587-5144, behmmountaincabin.com

Brush Creek Retreat
The cabin has two bedrooms and full bath surrounded by over 1,000 acres of nature preserve property. The back deck has a breathtaking view of Ohio Brush Creek.
4786 Spurgeon Hill Rd, West Union.
(937) 515-0406, brushcreekretreat.weebly.com, brushcreekretreat@gmail.com

Cave Hill Cabin
Offers all the amenities in a quiet wooded setting at the end of a private road where wildlife and nature abound.
778 Cave Hill Rd, Winchester.
(513) 580-882, cavehillcabin.com

Cozy Hideaway
A vacation destination that is perfect for a relaxing escape or romantic getaway. Newly renovated cabin for hunting or the adventure of a lifetime. Pet friendly.
415 Cozy Lane, West Union.
(513) 315-3334, cozyhideaway.org

Crosset Cottage
The Crosset Cabin is a modern two-bedroom, two-bath cottage in the middle of beautiful Amish Country situated on 142 acres of rolling woodland and farmland with breathtaking vistas of the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains.
1040 Murphin Ridge Rd, West Union. crossetcottage.com

Deer Path Cabin
The fully furnished cabin has three bedrooms, two baths, a kitchen and a gas fireplace, a spacious back porch with an outside fire pit with firewood, and a 1-acre pond for fishing.
657 Tom Brown Rd, Winchester.
(937) 779-6122, vrbo.com/1271069

Hopewell Croft Cabin
Relax at this spacious, yet cozy and comfortable cabin. Cook up a feast in the well-equipped kitchen. Explore the winding trails. Rest by the peaceful stream. Pet friendly.
2626 Suck Run Rd, Bentonville. hopewellcroft.com

McIntosh Cabin
Fishing, boating and hiking. Close to Buzzardroost, Lynx Prairie and Shawnee State Park. Sleeps six, with four bunks, one full bath and kitchen. Pet friendly.
1708 Bethany Ridge Rd, West Union.
(937) 544-7294 or (937) 259-4502
Mound View Farm
Get away from it all at this secluded cabin in the woods, the perfect place for a family vacation or weekend hunting retreat. Pet friendly.
203 Hendrick Rd, Peebles.
(937) 587-3489, moundviewfarms.com

Pine Valley Cabins
Nestled among the pines are four cabins with bath, shower, heating, air, washer and dryer. Kitchen, living room, two bedrooms, outside fire ring. Sleeps six, deer hunters welcome.
1040 Bailey Rd, Peebles.
(937) 798.5426

River Barn
Located on the river front, they offer cabins and camping. Pet friendly.
7021 US 52, Manchester.
(937) 549-3033, adamscolumber.com

Riverhills Fossils & Vacation Rental
Fossil hunting or deer hunting, Riverhills Fossils and Riverhills Whitetail offers two cabins with all the amenities. Cabins are located off US 52 Scenic Byway and at Moores Run Rd.
(937) 549-4433, riverhills_whitetail@yahoo.com, riverhillswhitetail.com

Scenic-View Cottage
Located across the road from the Ohio Brush Creek, visitors will enjoy the quaint valley in a private cottage. Pet friendly.
20913 state Route 41, Peebles.
(937) 587-2874, scenicviewcottage.com

The Sanctuary
A full-sized home situated on a secluded ridge on 8 private acres that adjoin Brush Creek State Forest.
1620 Coffee Hollow Rd, Peebles.
(937) 231-2604, vrbo.com/354078

The Red Barn
Located on a secluded dead-end road in the midst of Brush Creek State Forest is the perfect couple’s getaway. Stocked pond and fire pit with free firewood.
91 Cole Lane, Peebles.
(937) 231-2604, vrbo.com/782567

The Ville Guesthouse
Nestled in the Ohio River foothills is a majestic 1870s farmhouse with five bedrooms and four baths for rent with access to a pier and dock on the Ohio River.
350 state Route 247, Manchester. (937) 217-3000, thevilleguesthouse.com

The Ville Guesthouse Cabin
Overlooking the beautiful Ohio Rivers hills this cabin features three bedrooms and two baths, full kitchen and laundry. Outside shelter, fire pit and walking trail.
1069 state Route 247, Manchester. (937) 217-3000, thevilleguesthouse.com

The Farmhouse of Unity
A vacation rental in the heart of Adams County Amish Country. Sit on the porch and watch the Amish buggies go by. Three bedroom, two baths and a fire pit under the stars. Sleeps eight. Great for family getaways.
4361 Unity Rd, West Union.
(513) 910-5640, vrbo.com/2044793

The Crosset Cottage
The Crosset Cabin is a modern cottage in the middle of Amish Country in Southern Ohio. It’s near a quaint bed & breakfast in Adams County situated on 142 acres of rolling woodland and farmland with breathtaking vistas of the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains.

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www.adamscountytravel.org
Unity Woods Cabins
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1095 Marjorie Johnson Rd, West Union. (937) 544-6908, unitywoods.org

Camping

Brush Creek Boat Ramp & Campground
Boating, fishing, & camping, launch ramp, food, picnic areas, and fuel on lower Ohio Brush Creek. Open April through September. Boating access to Brush Creek Island.
17085 US 52, Manchester. (937) 205-7732

Island Creek Boat Ramp & Campground
Offering camping and picnic area along the Ohio River, with a boat launch offering a perfect view and access to the Ohio Islands National Wildlife Refuge.
8801 US 52, Manchester. (937) 549-1430, islandcreekmarina.webs.com

Long’s Retreat Family Resort
An excellent destination for families, RV and tent camping, cabin rentals, swimming, waterslides, mini golf and go carts.
50 Bell Hollow Rd, Latham. (937) 588-3725, longsretreat.com

Mineral Springs Lake Resort
Offering cabins, seasonal camping with electric hook-ups, a beach, a mini putt-putt golf course, and a 100-acre lake.
162 Bluegill Rd, Peebles. (937) 587-3132, mineralspringslakefarmresort.com

Sandy Springs Campground
Forty campsites located along the banks of the Ohio River. Tent camping and RV hookup, restrooms and showers. Daily, monthly and seasonal rates. Ramp for small boat launching.
27719 US 52, Stout. (701) 640-7858, sandyspringscampground.com

Hotels/Motels

Budget Host Sunset Inn
Reasonable rates and clean rooms, located at the intersection state routes 32 and 136. Pet friendly.
18760 state Route 136, Winchester. (937) 695-0381 or 800-BUD-HOST

Quality Inn
Relax in one of 34 rooms, with an outdoor pool. Pet friendly. Conveniently located at the intersection of state routes 247 and 32.
55 Stern Drive, Seaman. (937) 386-2511 or (888) 386-2511

Country Nights Inn
Offering 19 rooms in the heart of West Union’s business district. A short walking distance to many restaurants.
11255 state Route 41, West Union. (937) 544-9761

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- Modern amenities & spacious
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Custom built historic log cabins with modern amenities
Wood burning fireplaces
Secluded 40 acres
Well equipped kitchens
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937-587-5144 • VRBO listing # 929128 and 2133560
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Fine Dining

Murphin Ridge Inn
The historic 1826 dining house is open Tuesday through Saturday evenings for dinner, 5:30-8 p.m. Reservations recommended. 750 Murphin Ridge Rd, West Union. (937) 544-2263 or (877) 687-7446

In the Wheat Ridge/Amish Community

Keim Family Market Deli & Bakery
2621 Burnt Cabin Rd, Seaman. (937) 386-9995

Miller’s Bulk Foods Deli & Millers Bakery
960 Wheat Ridge Rd, West Union. Deli (937) 544-8449, Bakery (937) 544-4520

Familiar Franchises

Dairy Queen
West Union. (937) 779-3149

Domino’s Pizza
West Union. (937) 544-4242

Frisch’s
West Union. (937) 544-8985

Gold Star Chili
Seaman. (937) 386-1397

KFC/Taco Bell
West Union. (937) 544-9019

McDonalds
West Union, Peebles & Seaman

Snappy Tomato Pizza
West Union (937) 544-5583, Peebles (937) 587-1717 & Seaman (937) 386-1010

Subway
Winchester (937) 695-0405 & West Union (937) 544-3000

Wendy’s Old Fashioned Hamburgers
West Union. (937) 544-4646

Local Favorites

Ayer’s Eat & Treat Dairy Bar
Manchester. (937) 549-2236

BeeKay Sweets
39 Vine St., Peebles. (937) 798-4154

Valerie’s House Café
Offering a variety of sandwiches, soups and salads, as well as soda, coffee, tea and milkshakes. Open 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. 530 East Mullbery St., West Union. (937) 217-2512

Unique Dining

BK Scoop
Old-fashioned ice cream parlor serving milkshakes and banana splits, with over 30 specialty hot dogs and footlongs to choose from. Open Monday through Saturday. Panhandle Ave., West Union. (937) 544-1634

Blake Pharmacy
Five-cent Cokes served from a 1961 soda counter. Enjoy sandwiches and milkshakes from an old-fashioned pharmacy. Soda fountain open every day except Sunday. 209 North Market St., across from the courthouse in West Union. (937) 544-2451

Cruiser’s Diner
Dine in an old-fashioned ’50s-style dinner. Conveniently located off state Route 32. Open seven days a week. 155 Stern Drive, Seaman. (937) 386-3330

Greene Beanery Coffee Roastery
The Greene Beanery is a small-batch coffee roaster based in Peebles. Fresh coffee from eight different origins, Amish made doughnuts and pastries, soup and sandwiches. Open Monday through Saturday. 25675 state Route 41, Peebles. (937) 798-4023, greenebeanery.com

Olde Wayside Inn
Home-cooked meals at the historic Bradford Traven built in 1804, a registered Historic Landmark. Open Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Sunday buffet 11 a.m.-3 p.m., closed Monday & Saturday. 222 Main St., West Union. (937) 544-7103

Black Diamond County Store and Restaurant
Peebles. (937) 587-2900

Blue Creek General Store and Restaurant
Blue Creek. (937) 544-5147

Crossroads Dairy Bar
Seaman. (937) 386-2574

Eight Ball Pool Hall
Manchester. (937) 549-3080

Fancy’s Pizza
Winchester. (937) 695-0612

Giovanni’s Pizza
Manchester (937) 549-2291, Peebles (937) 587-3308, Seaman (937) 386-2121 & West Union (937) 544-7100

Hometown Pizza
Peebles. (937) 587-5000

JT’s Stovetop BBQ
West Union. (937) 544-7447

Locust Grove Dairy Bar
Locust Grove. (937) 587-2760

Mel’s Main Street Grill
Peebles. (937) 587-2000

Mi Camino Real
West Union. 937.779.3015

Mikey’s Restaurant
West Union. (937) 544-7103

Reid’s Dairy Bar
Winchester. (937) 695-8019

Sexton’s Dairy Bar
Peebles. (937) 587-6555

S&G Pizza Pound
Manchester. (937) 549-2992

Taste of China
West Union. (937) 544-4068

White Star Restaurant
Peebles. (937) 587-5750
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PRESERVE SYSTEM

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Christian and Emma Goetz Buzzardroost Rock Preserve Trail
 Traverse the front of the Appalachian Escarpment to a rock promontory situated 400 feet above the Ohio Brush Creek. This is a 4.5-mile, round-trip trail that includes newly-constructed stairs and a refurbished boardwalk.

E. Lucy Braun Lynx Prairie Preserve Trail
Walk 1.6 miles and meander through multiple prairie openings in an otherwise forested area.

Joan Jones Portman Trail / Buckeye Trail
Experience a panoramic view of the Ohio Brush Creek Valley on this 1.5-mile, round-trip trail extending through prairie and forest. The 1,400-mile Buckeye Trail continues eastward from the overlook but is designed for long-distance and through-hikers only. It does not return to the parking area.

Helen C. Black Trail at Cedar Falls
Discover Cedar Falls, the Edge Preserve’s newest trail. This 3-mile, round-trip trail begins among a grove of eastern red cedar trees and ends at a dramatic overlook perched on the edge of a cliff above the falls.

George Rieveschl Jr. Creek’s Bend Overlook
Stop by the preserve’s visitor information area to learn more about the preserve, get maps, or launch a canoe on Ohio Brush Creek.

Looking to get outside and connect with nature? Just 75 miles east of Cincinnati, you’ll find a 20,000-acre nature preserve that boasts more than 1,100 recorded plant species as well as striking geological formations like cliffs and promontories. Home to more than 100 rare plant and animal species, The Richard & Lucile Durrell Edge of Appalachia Preserve System in Adams County, Ohio protects 11 unique preserves, four of which are recognized as National Natural Landmarks. Explore the largest privately owned natural area in Ohio, protected by Cincinnati Museum Center and The Nature Conservancy for 60 years.

Edge of Appalachia Eulett Center
The Eulett Center is available to rent for conferences and business meetings.

Contact: (937) 544-2880, ext. 11

Please visit cincymuseum.org/nature or nature.org/edgeofappalachia for more information and directions.
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*BAKERY HAS SEPARATE HOURS

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