

News Release: For Immediate use.

Joyce L. Ritchie

joycelritchie@juno.com

419-929-2803/419-651-1600

Public Relations Volunteer for the Ashland County Park District

The Ashland County Park District and the Ashland City Parks invite the public to participate in the 2007 Fall Hiking Spree held between September 1st and November 30, 2007. The event will include up to six hiking areas of the Ashland County Parks and three of the Ashland City Parks.

Upon completion of six of the available hikes, all participants will receive a free hiking shield that is screw attached onto a hiking stick made available by the park systems for only \$6 each. Sticks will be available after December 15 and before the 31st.

Registered hikers, walkers, wheel chair operators, stroller riders or babies in backpacks will be awarded a shield. Forms may be picked up from

the Brookside Park and Recreation Department Building at 206 Claremont Avenue in Ashland. Completed forms must be returned by December 1, 2007.

If a self-addressed-stamped envelope is included, the shields will be sent back by return mail.

Ashland County Park District hiking will be available at Crall Woods of the Pine Hill Park, Byers Woods, Freer Field, Black Fork Bottoms, Riverwalk and Cool Springs. Included of the Ashland City parks are Sandusky Hollow-Oak Trail, Sandusky Hollow-Maple Trail and Jamison Creek.

Trails are rated from easy to difficult. Black Fork Bottoms, Cool Springs

and Riverwalk are considered hunting areas and, as such, are available to

hikers only at posted times. These times generally include Sundays only in September and closed in October and November altogether to hiking for

safety concerns.

Stop by the Recreation Department and get hiking this week. It's fun and

healthy. For additional information, check out the city and county websites or click on www.ashlandcountyparksdistrict.com.