



Photo: Kevin C. O'Shea

Do you think of CVNP? Randywine Falls? Blossom Music Center? These are all real attractions in the area. Everywhere you go, you will find nature's remarkable fashion. Wild, vibrant colors; droplets in the mist; and autumn in the landscape with



Photo: Jim Stewart

In various stages of succession, plants enable a surprising diversity in a place so close to home and Cleveland. Even the elusive coyote (right), missing nearly 150 years, has a dam building has created for many other animal microhabitats for pond-breasted nuthatches, and in a more northern

woodland wildflowers, such as hepaticas and bloodroot, to late summer asters and goldenrod in open areas. Yellow and blue irises, cattails, and the American lotus bloom in wetlands in late spring and early summer.

Not to be missed is the stunning view of Tinkers Creek Gorge, the park's National Natural Landmark. The gorge overlook is along the winding Gorge Parkway in the Bedford Reservation of Cleveland Metroparks.

Especially mixed deciduous evergreens. Numerous species range from spring

Great blue herons and more than 100 other species of birds nest in the valley. To see this imposing 4-foot-tall bird with 7-foot wing span become airborne is always a thrill. Its spring courtship behavior—bowing, bill snapping, and raising of feathers—commands the most excitement, however. At their rookeries high in the trees you may catch their showy "twig offerings." Males present twigs to females, which, if accepted, are the first used to repair or build nests. This strengthens the pair's bond, and a new family will begin.



Hale Farm Homestead

Photo: Kevin C. O'Shea



Photo: Tom Jones

Here are just some of the attractions within Cuyahoga Valley National Park. For more information, call 216-524-1497.

Hale Farm & Village is owned and operated by the Western Reserve Historical Society. The farm portion centers around the 1826 brick farmstead of Jonathan Hale, one of the earliest settlers in the Western Reserve. Historic buildings from the region constitute the Western Reserve Village, located across from Hale Farm. Through first-person interpretation, potters, blacksmiths, spinners, weavers, candlemakers, and glassblowers demonstrate crafts of the mid-19th century. For more information, call 330-666-3711 or visit www.wrhs.org/sites/hale.htm.

The Cleveland Orchestra spends its summers here and offers a variety of programs. Come early and enjoy a picnic dinner or take a relaxing walk before the concert begins. The natural, grass amphitheater seats more than 15,000 people. For information about performances and tickets, call the Cleveland Orchestra at 216-231-1111 and Blossom Music Center at 330-920-8040 or visit www.blossommusic.com.

Porthouse Theatre is owned and operated by Kent State University. Summer stock includes Shakespeare, Broadway musicals, opera, and drama. For information on performances and tickets, call 330-929-4416 or visit www.theatre.kent.edu.

Explore and cultural CVNP while trails.

Blossom Music Center offers summer evening concerts that fill the air with classical and pop