

Creek Bend Farm

720 South Main Street, Lindsey, OH 43442



Creek Bend Farm is located just south of Lindsey on State Route 590. Creek Bend was given its name because it is situated right alongside Muddy Creek. The 310-acre property was originally purchased from the State of Ohio by David Hess in 1825 for \$174.09. Hess was also the founder of Hessville. In 1836 he sold the property to David Higgins, then repurchased it in 1837. Hess then sold it to J. Nicodemus in 1850. In 1852 the property was sold to Phillip Overmyer, beginning the Overmyer-Waggoner-Roush legacy. Phillip and his wife Margaret Waggoner Overmyer constructed the farmhouse in 1862 and the barns in 1871. They sold the property to Margaret's cousin John J. Waggoner in 1878.

In 1951 Grace Waggoner Roush, John Waggoner's only child, took ownership of the property. Grace's husband, Ernest, in conjunction with the Ohio Division of Forestry, established the tree farm on the property. Ernest and his son Robert also worked in cooperation with the Ohio Division of Wildlife to stock Muddy Creek with fish. Robert Roush received ownership of the property in 1964, approximately one year after his mother's passing. However, Robert had been managing the operations of the farm since 1940. Robert died in 1999, leaving the property to his wife Frances Magsig Roush. In 2002 Frances and her children generously donated the historic homestead to the Sandusky County Park District.

When the park district acquired the property in 2002, the barns needed many repairs. Some of the buildings were taken down, and others required new foundations, siding, flooring, and paint. The Homestead House also became a part of the park, and many of the items in the home were also donated. The house is being renovated to depict the 1940s, and is open for special events like the Homestead Holiday in December.

Creek Bend Farm opened to the public in September of 2008. The Wilson Nature Center was opened in November of 2014. Previous to this, the program staff had offices at Countryside Park and in the Homestead House. The new building was made possible by many generous donations, and it gave the park district a large space to host program events. Today, the nature center is used for public programming, school groups, and events like Nature Camp, and is home to our education animals. Besides the nature center, Creek Bend also has a rentable barn, playground area, sidewalk loop and event lawn, and more than two miles of trails. Sections of the property are still farmed by the Sandusky County Restorers of Antique Power.