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“Wild & Scenic Film Festival” returns to Cincinnati June 8

CINCINNATI, OHIO (May 7, 2019) – The persistence of a regular citizen helps expose the Flint water crisis and sparks government action. Tiny bats swoop across the Sea of Cortez, catching fish that elude researchers with high-tech gear. A 97-year-old man races up the northeastern U.S.’s tallest peak, the memory of his late wife pushing him forward.

These are just three of the 12 engaging short films that will be part of this year’s “Wild & Scenic Film Festival on Tour.” Ohio River Foundation (ORF) is bringing this national showcase of environmental and adventure films back to Cincinnati on Saturday, June 8. The third annual event will take place at Great Parks of Hamilton County’s Winton Centre, 10245 Winton Road in Springfield Township.

The “on tour” event, held at locations around the world, grew out of the annual, five-day Wild & Scenic Film Festival in Nevada City, California. Founded in 2003, it’s one of the largest festivals of its kind in North America and showcases films that speak to both environmental concerns and celebrations of our planet. The South Yuba River Citizens League started the festival in commemoration of the organization’s landmark victory to get “Wild & Scenic” status for 39 miles of the South Yuba River in 1999.

At the Cincinnati event, films will cover topics ranging from protecting waterways and animal species to fostering a love of nature in young children. These themes fit well with ORF’s work in environmental education and other conservation activities geared toward increasing environmental stewardship in the Ohio River watershed.

“The films are a fun and inspiring reminder of the impact that dedicated individuals and groups can make in helping our planet,” said Sara Luse, the event organizer. “We want people to leave the festival feeling that what they do can make a difference.”

The local event will kick off with an optional 5 p.m. nature hike. That will be followed by 5:30 p.m. reception, during which attendees can connect with local environmental groups and have animal encounters while enjoying complimentary light bites. A cash bar will be available. The first film begins at 7 p.m., with a raffle held during intermission.

Tickets are \$15 until June 1; \$20 after that date.

For more information, visit ORF's website (www.ohioriverfdn.org) and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ohioriverfdn).

About Ohio River Foundation

Ohio River Foundation (ORF) is dedicated to protecting and improving the water quality and ecology of the Ohio River and all waters in its 11-state watershed. ORF works towards these goals through environmental education and conservation activities that serve to inspire environmental stewardship for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future citizens. For more information, visit www.ohioriverfdn.org.