ENRICHING OUR COMMINISTES

49TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION





















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Enriching Our Communities NJRPA 49th Annual Conference and Exhibition February 25-28, 2024 Harrah's Waterfront Conference Center

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

9am-1pm Registration/Packet Pick-up

1pm-4pm Packet Pick-up only

9am-11am Coffee Service

10am-4:30pm RYSRC Clinician's Workshop

11am-4pm Managing Your Budget & Purpose-Driven Pricing Strategies
11am-4pm The Who, What, Where, Why, When, & How of Special Events

2pm-3pm Afternoon Refreshment Break

9pm-12am Opening Night Social

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

7am-7:30am Early Morning Yoga

7:45am-2pm Registration/Packet Pick-up

8am-11am Coffee Service

8:30am-10am Sessions

10:30am-12pm Sessions

12pm-2pm Keynote Luncheon and Annual Meeting

2:15pm-3:45pm Sessions

3:30pm-7pm Trade Show Opens

9pm-12:30am All Delegate Social

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

7:30am-2pm Registration/Packet Pick-up

8am-9:30am Coffee Service

8:30am-10am Sessions

10am-1:30pm Exhibit Hall Hours and Lunch

1:30pm-3pm Sessions

3pm-4pm Afternoon Refreshment Break

3:30pm-5pm Sessions

7pm-10:30pm Annual Awards Dinner

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

9am-10:30am Buffet Breakfast & Networking

Enriching Our Communities NJRPA 49th Annual Conference and Exhibition February 25-28, 2024 Harrah's Waterfront Conference Center

Pre-Conference - Sunday, February 25

REGISTRATION & PACKET PICK-UP

9am-1pm / Registration Booth

PACKET PICK-UP only 1pm-4pm / Registration Booth

SUNDAY COFFEE SERVICE

9am-11am / Grand Hallway

Rutgers Youth Sports Research Council Clinician's Workshop

10am-4:30pm / Wildwood 8 / .6 CEU

This 6th edition course is designed for parks and recreation staff, coaches, volunteers, and youth sports administrators. This full-day session teaches the fundamentals of implementing the Rutgers S.A.F.E.T.Y. Clinic - Sports Awareness For Educating Today's Youth™ - which meets the stipulations of the NJ State "Little League" Law (P.L. 1988, c.87) and the Minimum Standards for Volunteer Coaches Safety Orientation and Training Skills Program (N.J.A.C. 5:52).

- 1. List the standards for receiving partial civil immunity under NJ State law protecting volunteer coaches.
- 2. Effectively administer the 6th edition of the Rutgers SAFETY Course for volunteer coaches.
- 3. Assist volunteer coaches with developing a philosophy of coaching consistent with the development of children.

Presenters:

Dr. Anthony Delli Paoli, Alejandro Diaz, and **Joanne Hunt** Rutgers Youth Sports Research Council

The Who, What, Where, Why, When, & How of Special Events

11am-4pm / Wildwood 10 / .4 CEU

Special events are one of the sexiest parts of Recreation & Park! This session will take you through the nuts and bolts of special events—from the theory behind them, to putting them together, and from paying for them to evaluating them! We'll share new event ideas, identify obstacles and opportunities, look at outsourcing, and address safety and risk management. Bring your event ideas and questions for this workshop exploring a variety of special event-related topics!

- 1. Identify at least three new special event themes / ideas.
- 2. Differentiate between multiple approaches to funding special events
- Utilize obstacles & opportunities to guide decisions surrounding your special events.

Presenters:

Ira Rosen, LLC, Festival and Event Consulting Jill Daggon, Mount Olive Recreation (retired) Debbie Oliver, Clifton Recreation Mike Kestin, JamFam Productions, LLC

Managing Your Budget & Purpose-Driven Pricing Strategies

11am-4pm / Wildwood 14 / .4 CEU

If you think the budget is something that you only work on a few months out of the year, then this workshop is for you! Finalizing the budget is just the first step in understanding costs. How do you handle the unexpected expense that inevitably derails your budget? What tools should you be using to monitor and forecast expenses throughout the fiscal year? We will also discuss how your budget ties into your department's goals and master plans. Then we will discuss how we set prices for our recreation and park services. That's a question that often gets answered with a shrug. While we all have our methods, often we are unaware of many factors that should come into play. We will learn about the various aspects that should be considered in setting pricesdemand, value, politics, psychology, and the marketing role. Bring your questions and be ready to see park and recreation finances in a new light!

- Learn the different budgeting techniques including zero-based, incremental, and priority budgeting and which one is best for your organization.
- 2. Explore the elements of budget management that occur year-round to better balance your finances.
- 3. Identify how to utilize pricing and cost recovery strategies to maximize revenue while still maintaining fees that your community can afford.
- 4. Implement financial strategy techniques in your organization to provide opportunities to situate your agency with more leverage with decision makers.

Presenter:

Bill Tschirhart, CGFM, CPRP, Five Rivers MetroParks, OH

AFTERNOON REFRESHMENT BREAK 2pm-3pm / Grand Hallway

NJRPA OPENING NIGHT SOCIA

Win Prizes

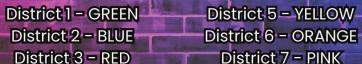
Satisfying

Refreshments until 11:00 pm

Join us for a night of fun and Line Dancing with Crystal at 10:00 PM!

District and individual contests to take place.

"Getting to Know You" - Wear Your District Color



District 6 - ORANGE District 7 - PINK

District 4 - PURPLE Commercial Members-TIE-DYE

FEBRUARY 25, 2024 9:00 PM - MIDNIGHT

Two beverage tickets will be provided for beer, wine, cocktail, or soda. Event ticket required.

Promotional Support provided by:



Entertainment provided by:





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Monday, February 26

EARLY MORNING YOGA

7am-7:30am / Wildwood 5

REGISTRATION & PACKET PICK-UP

7:45am-2pm / Registration Booth

COFFEE SERVICE

8am-11am / Grand Hallway Promotional Support by:



Train to Save Lives – How Competition Can Enhance Lifeguard Skills, Competence, and Attitude

8:30am-10am / Wildwood 3 / .15 CEU

Lifeguard competitions are designed in the spirit to build teamwork, enthusiasm, motivation, and skills required of lifeguards to make their job both rewarding and fun. It measures individuals and teams in the lifesaving skills and standards in any Lifeguarding program. This seminar will provide viable information on how competitions can be tailored to various aquatic facilities. Experiential data has shown an increase in Lifeguards' skill performance, motivation, and teamwork and identifies potential leaders for your agency. It also helps with retention and recruitment.

- Design and develop a lifeguard competition specifically to test lifesaving skills based on your organization's certification program.
- 2. Develop a budget for a competition.
- 3. Define rules and event descriptions.

Presenter:

Richard Carlson, New Jersey Aquatic Safety Coalition

The Benefits of Native Plants

8:30am-10am / Wildwood 8 / .15 CEU

Have you heard about the ever-growing "kill your lawn" movement? Would you like to learn more about the science behind native plants? Join us as we take a deep dive discussion on the benefits of growing native plants, as well as the various ways you can convert your land into beautiful spaces for people and wildlife. During this session we will also explore native alternatives to invasive plants and ways to engage your community on these projects.

- 1. Convert land into low maintenance wildlife habitats.
- 2. Identify common native and invasive species in New Jersey.
- Engage their community in the implementation and outcome of eco-projects.

Presenters:

Jason Goldman, Monmouth County Park System

Hope Neis, Robbinsville Township

Turning Failure on Its Head: How to Stop What's Stopping You from Moving Forward

8:30am-10am / Wildwood 10 / .15 CEU

We all know deep down that failure is inevitable when we try something new, and that it can even help us produce better outcomes in the end, but despite this, we all work hard to avoid it (or even worse, ignore it), instead of embracing it. Learn techniques you can use to get unstuck when it comes moving past the emotions, uncertainty, and overwhelm that comes with fear of failure and help those around you navigate it as well. And see how sometimes you can even turn your fear of failure on its head and in order to move past avoidance and instead, turn it into an advantage.

8:30am-10am Sessions

- List the first steps that you can use to get unstuck when facing a fear of failure.
- Adapt some of the traditional methods used to tackle uncertainty to account for the special circumstances we're facing a fear of failing.
- 3. Use new techniques to face and overcome a sense of overwhelm. Presenter:

Bobbi Nance, CPRP, Recreation Results LLC, IL

Hot off the Press! How to Develop Accessible Print Materials and Documents

8:30am-10am / Wildwood 12 / .15 CEU

During this session, speakers will dive into defining disability and discuss the vast variety of impairments that make designing accessible documents so important. The session will review Title II requirements of the ADA related to communication, as well as the obligations of jurisdictions to provide accessible print materials. Speakers will provide techniques and examples of accessible documents, as well as provide resources for future development. During the session, participants will have the opportunity to ask questions and seek expert feedback related to the specifications for developing accessible documents and print materials. During this session, we will also explore documents that lack accessible components to documents that include accessible features.

- 1. Define disability and understand the varieties in impairments and their association with printed materials and documents.
- 2. Recognize, identify, and understand Title II entities' duty and obligations for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- 3. Identify and understand five easy fixes for enhancing accessibility of printed materials and documents.

Presenters:

Shelley Zuniga and Tatum Storey, WT Group, LLC, IL

Dealing With Challenging Behaviors Through a New Lens

8:30am-10am / Wildwood 14 / .15 CEU

Being disability inclusive takes intentional work to ensure that ALL are successful. But.... we recognize some children may be more challenging and may require a different mindset and strategies to set them up for successful participation in your recreation program. Let's look at behavior from a new lens, exploring best practice and strategies to use before, during, and after an incident. Pull it all together solving inclusion scenarios using the skills learned. Leave this conversation with the tools and confidence to reduce (or even better ELIMINATE) suspension practices within your recreation programs.

- Identify at least three preventative steps that can be taken/ implemented in your programs policies and procedures that would increase the opportunity for a child who has traditionally struggled with "behavior issues" to be successful at your program.
- 2. Evaluate and restructure your intake process for participants identified as needing inclusion supports, yielding a more positive start of the family and program relationship.
- Demonstrate at least three positive supporting techniques to use either before, during or after a challenging event where a participant may be struggling, resulting in a more positive engagement and solving of the challenging behavior.

Presenter

Lisa Drennan, MERGE Diverse Ability Inclusion Consulting, MA

Aquatic Facility Management Best Practices 10:30am-12noon / Wildwood 3 / .15 CEU

Aquatic Facility Management encompasses a myriad of tasks and responsibilities. Multi-tasking and jack of all trades are synonyms for the Aquatic Manager. This seminar provides some best and proven practices in managing aquatic facilities. For the new and/or novice manager, this seminar puts together some best practices which have proven successful in aquatic management. Why reinvent the wheel? Learn some of the pros and cons from experienced aquatic professionals.

- Develop a comprehensive selection and training program for staff.
- 2. Develop comprehensive policies, procedures, and budgets.
- 3. Discuss the legal and moral responsibilities of management. Presenter:

Richard Carlson, New Jersey Aquatic Safety Coalition

Web Browser Based GIS Solutions for Parks and Recreation

10:30am-12noon / Wildwood 8 / .15 CEU

GIS has always been a powerful tool for open space and recreation planners. You no longer need to be a GIS Professional to use and understand the vast amounts of GIS data that is available. This presentation will demonstrate GIS applications developed through collaboration with Park System Staff and County GIS professionals that created easy to use web browser-based tools for planning.

- 1. Describe the fundamentals of web-based GIS technology.
- Strategize ways to request similar GIS projects based on your own analytical needs.
- Refute the notion that GIS analysis requires advanced training in GIS.

Presenters:

Paul Gleitz and Jay Cummins, Monmouth County Park System

Great Customer Service Is Not Enough

10:30am-12noon / Wildwood 10 / .15 CEU

With customized, on-demand, Instagrammable services are quickly becoming the norm, how are park and recreation organizations supposed to compete? Learn why great service is important, but not enough to keep your customers loyal. Reshape your programs, facilities, and services as we run through a series of questions designed to help you eliminate pain points, anticipate, and proactively address customer barriers and stressful moments, inject surprises, and elevate experiences.

- Describe the subtle difference between customer service and customer experience, and the additional benefits of aiming for a great experience.
- Identify common pain points that exist for customers, even when providing great customer service.
- Integrate opportunities to take your services to the next level without breaking the bank.

Presenter:

Bobbi Nance, CPRP, Recreation Results LLC, IL

The SafeSport Act: What Recreation Professionals Should Know

10:30am-12noon / Wildwood 12 / .15 CEU

This session will review the liability process, standard of care, and how non-government bodies are handling compliance with the SafeSport Act. Attendees can obtain information on key resources regarding the SafeSport Act and a better understanding of the steps involved for coaches and recreational professionals to protect young victims from sexual abuse.

- Identify sources of exposure to "failure to disclose/report" liability and differentiate broad vs narrow scope of existing liability immunity.
- 2. Rank existing training and reporting policies from NGBs and Universities to meet this obligation.
- 3. Identify specific and potentially deficient policy areas to address with legal counsel to limit exposure to this distinct harm.

Presenter:

Jason V. Henderson, MMS, JD, Rutgers University

Inclusive Recreation: A Pathway Toward Friendship Between Kids With And Without Disabilities

10:30am-12noon / Wildwood 14 / .15 CEU

Isolation and loneliness are experienced by persons with disabilities at a higher rate than their non-disabled peers. Now more than ever, it is crucial that we work to create opportunities for social connectedness and belonging. Inclusive recreation programs provide an ideal opportunity for this to happen. When we focus on a person's gifts and values that they can share with their community we have taken the first step in facilitating a friendship to be fostered based on a mutual interest that two people might share. Join us to create a pathway to friendship FOR ALL.

- Summarize the importance of how having an authentic inclusive program model is the best setting for a friendship between a person with and without a disability to occur.
- Apply top inclusive strategies to build a culture that fosters the creation of friendship and share/demonstrate these strategies for other recreation staff/CIT's/Volunteers.
- Analyze the core elements of, and benefits of, friendship by using your personal experiences as an example of how important this friendship is for children with disabilities.

Presenter:

Lisa Drennan, MERGE Diverse Abilities Inclusion Consulting, MA

NJRPA KEYNOTE LUNCHEON & ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

Monday, February 26 12pm-2pm / Wildwood 4 .1 CEU Ticket Required



Ian Hill
The Changing Point, NV

Recreation and parks pump life into communities and make a community worth living in! In this inspiring and emotionally moving keynote address, lan Hill reminds us that in these unprecedented times, it is our department, our team, and our individual efforts that make the difference in the lives of our fellow citizens across New Jersey! From our parks to our youth programming, from our offerings to seniors, to our special events and open space, we touch every citizen in a meaningful way throughout their lifetime! lan will lay out for us the keys to fulfilling our vital mission in these rapidly changing times, actionable tools to do more with less, as well as the inspiration to go and change our own little corner of the world!"

- 1. Discuss the important role recreation and parks play in a community today.
- 2. Identify the keys to fulfilling our vital mission.







Monday, February 26

Do You Need a Hammer or a Socket Wrench? Tools to Improve Leadership

2:15pm-3:45pm / Wildwood 3 / .15 CEU

We are all called to be leaders regardless of our title or position. And let's face it, if we're doing the hard work of leadership, we should all be looking to improve our own skills and understanding of our leadership strengths. During this session we will focus on helping leaders at any stage in their leadership journey spruce up their toolkit. It's important that we ask ourselves questions such as how do we keep growing, recharge ourselves, develop skills, determine what matters, set expectations, etc. Regardless of what tools you have in your toolkit, this session will have you leaving the NJRPA Conference with new tools to use.

- 1. Identify new tools or concepts for your own leadership toolkit.
- 2. Explain how these new skills can be applied upon returning to your organization.
- 3. Reflect on your own leadership journey & identify key lessons learned in your personal growth.

Presenters:

John Roche, CPRP, East Brunswick Recreation and Parks Cory Zarrella, Neptune Township Recreation

National Study of Playgrounds

2:15pm-3:45pm / Wildwood 8 / .15 CEU

The National Study of Playgrounds (NSP), a joint research project of Studio Ludo and Dr. Deborah Cohen of Kaiser Permanente, is the first observational study of playgrounds to compare the impacts of playground design on play behavior and physical activity across gender, age group, and socio-economic status. This presentation will share critical findings from the study and give best practices for creating playgrounds that bring health and happiness for people of all ages, as well as giving examples from the field that follow these recommendations.

- 1. Discuss the impact of playground design on user behavior.
- Identify methods for assessing play behavior and physical activity.
- 3. Explain best practices in playground design to support all ages. Presenters:

Meghan Talarowski, Studio Ludo, PA

Will Your New Program Be a Fit, Fad, or Flop? 2:15pm-3:45pm / Wildwood 10 / .15 CEU

When it's time to add new recreation programs to your offerings each season, how confident are you that they will be successful? Instead of launching new programs and waiting to see what sticks, we'll explore a set of exercises and techniques you can use to brainstorm, test, and evaluate new program ideas before you even start writing that brochure description. In this session, you'll have the opportunity to take a more thoughtful approach to expanding your program offerings with the goal of increasing your new programs' potential for success.

- Discuss how setting programs goals and constraints actually increases creativity.
- Use new techniques to generate new program ideas more strategically.
- 3. Examine past successes and envision new program and recreation services ideas that build off of them.

Presenter:

Bobbi Nance, CPRP, Recreation Results LLC, IL

2:15pm-3:45pm Sessions

Self-Care Strategies for Recreation and Park Professionals

2:15pm-3:45pm / Wildwood 12 / .15 CEU

Public recreation and park professionals often face unique challenges and stressors in their roles. The session will help participants understand the importance of self-care and guide them in creating personalized self-care plans that are practical and effective. Through interactive activities and discussions, attendees will gain insights and tools to prioritize their personal well-being and manage stress, as well as learn time management and prioritization techniques to incorporate self-care into their daily routines.

- Recognize the importance of self-care in maintaining mental and emotional well-being.
- 2. Identify personal stressors and specific stressors and challenges that are common in the field of public recreation and parks.
- Create a personalized self-care plan, including stress reduction techniques, including breathing exercises, mindfulness, and relaxation methods.

Presenter:

lan Hill, The Changing Point, NV

Youth Mental Health First Aid: An Overview of Today's Emerging Concerns

2:15pm-3:45pm / Wildwood 14 / .15 CEU

Fifty percent of all mental illnesses begin by age 14, and seventy-five by the mid-20s. One in five teens and young adults lives with a mental health condition. 10% of youth will be diagnosed with a substance use disorder in their lifetime. Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among children and adolescents ages 12-18.

- Discuss the common signs and symptoms of mental health challenges in this age group, including anxiety, depression, eating disorders, and attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD), and common signs and symptoms of substance use challenges.
- 2. Explain how to interact with a child or adolescent in crisis and how to connect the youth with help.
- Identify trauma, substance use, self-care and the impact of social media and bullying.

Presenters:

Debbie Millar, RN, **Craig Harley**, and **Ria Benerofe**, Penn Medicine Princeton Health

NJRPA TRADE SHOW OPENS!

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26 3:30PM-7PM / WILDWOOD 19



Explore exhibitor cutting-edge products and services. Don't miss the chance to gain valuable insights into the latest in recreation, park, and leisure offerings. As you peruse the exhibit hall, immerse yourself in the excitement of our 50/50 Raffle and Exhibitor Prize Drawings, culminating in the announcement of winners on Tuesday at 1pm.

Join us in recognizing excellence at the "17th Annual Best Booth Awards," where three outstanding exhibits will be honored. Cast your vote for your favorite booths. Remember, badges are required for admission to the exhibit hall—seize this opportunity to connect with industry leaders and discover the future of recreation and leisure.

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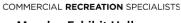












Monday Exhibit Hall Food Stations



Water Stations

ALL DELEGATE SOCIAL Monday, February 26 9pm-12:30am / Wildwood 4



Dress in your Classiest/Craziest Pajamas! Featured Band- Mushmouth

Join us for an unforgettable FUN night of dancing, great food, and cool prizes. Indulge in complimentary hot food and refreshments, plus enjoy two beverage tickets for beer, wine, cocktails or soda. Additional drinks are available for purchase. Access to this event is included in the Full Conference Package. Daily delegates can join the fun by purchasing an event ticket. **Event Ticket required.**

- Dress the theme to be entered in a great Gift Basket Giveaway. (must be present to win)
- Hot Food available until 11 pm.
- Random prize giveaways!



Promotional support provided by:











8:30am-10am Sessions

REGISTRATION & PACKET PICK-UP

7:30am-2pm / Registration Booth

COFFEE SERVICE

8am-9:30am / Grand Hallway



Creating a Culture of Safety in Aquatics

8:30am-10am / Wildwood 3 / .15 CEU

Do you create a culture of safety at your aquatic facility because you want to or because you have to? During this session we will focus on preventative policies, initial training, in-service training, drills, both announced and unannounced, and the daily management of staff as part of best practices for creating a culture of safety.

- 1. Discuss WHY a safe culture is important.
- 2. Explain how to create a culture of safety.
- Demonstrate ways to manage, both up and down the chain of command, a safety culture.

Presenter:

David Jacobs Kotz, National Safety Training Center, PA

Unplugged: How to Thrive in a Digital World with an Analog Body

8:30am-10am / Wildwood 8 / .15 CEU

In our ever-evolving digital world, the grind culture has led many of us down a path of burnout, impacting our physical and mental health. This program, led by a survivor of burnout with nearly 20 years of experience in the high-paced, high-demand meeting and events industry, aims to educate participants on the root causes of burnout and how to live with the human body rather than against it.

- Define the root causes of burnout symptoms in the body and how it impacts our daily lives.
- Describe practical techniques to avoid and heal from burnout, including setting boundaries, prioritizing self-care, and cultivating resilience
- Summarize insights on balancing the digital world's demands with the needs of our (analog) bodies, promoting overall wellbeing and success.

Presenter:

Clare Benyo, NJ

A Municipal Engineer and a Landscape Architect Do What, Exactly?

8:30am-10am / Wildwood 10 / .15 CEU

Engineering companies sponsor a lot of events. You see them at your town council meetings, and they are frequently at your parks, but is that what they actually DO and what is the role of the Landscape Architect on these projects? What are their roles in the municipality as it relates to the recreation department? What is the difference between a Municipal Engineer and a Landscape Architect? From conception to ribbon cutting, this session will explain how your engineer and landscape architect are a vital part of the process. This session will answer all your "oh, you do that" questions.

- 1. Define an engineer's role within a recreation department.
- Explain steps that need to be taken in order for your new or renovated facility to become a reality.

 Discuss the difference between a landscape architect's and an engineer's role within the process of building or renovating a facility.

Presenters:

Trevor Taylor, PE and Karen Twisler, LLA, CPRP, CME Associates

Interviewing 101: Mastering the Art of Interviewing: Your Journey to Success Begins Here!

8:30am-10am / Wildwood 12 / .15 CEU

Are you eager to land your dream job and stand out in the competitive world of interviews? Look no further! Our "How to Interview and Get the Job" session is your gateway to success. In this engaging and comprehensive session, you'll gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence to navigate the interview process effectively and increase your chances of securing that coveted position. Whether you're a recent graduate or a seasoned professional looking to advance your career, this session is tailored to help you achieve your goals. Don't leave your career to chance; take control of your future by attending this session. Unlock the doors to your dream job with the knowledge and confidence gained from "Mastering the Art of Interviewing." Your journey to success begins here!

- Summarize the essential skills needed to excel in job interviews, including effective communication, body language, and articulation, enabling them to make a strong and lasting impression on interviewers.
- 2. Discuss the tools and strategies needed to prepare for interviews effectively.
- Demonstrate techniques for acing different stages of the interview process.

Presenter:

Roslyn Johnson, CPRP, Annapolis Recreation and Parks, MD

Mastering the Power of Change! Implementing Change in Recreation and Parks

8:30am-10am / Wildwood 14 / .15 CEU

Change is a constant in this field, and this session will equip participants with the knowledge and strategies needed to drive successful organizational transformations. Through case studies, discussions, and practical insights, attendees will gain the skills to navigate change in their workplaces and understand the importance of involving all relevant stakeholders and methods for their engagement in the change process. Attendees will learn skills for effectively communicating change including crafting key messages and handling objections.

- 1. Discuss the nature of change, its drivers, and the impact on public recreation and parks organizations.
- Identify common sources of resistance to change and develop strategies to address them.
- 3. Explain the essential steps and principles for planning and executing organizational change initiatives.

Presenter:

lan Hill, The Changing Point, NV

HALL

Experience the ultimate showcase at our Trade Show! Explore a diverse range of recreation, park, and leisure products and services offered by our esteemed exhibitors. Make sure to grab your tickets for the Exhibitor Prize Drawings, featuring a plethora of exciting prizes. And that's not all -play our Exhibit Hall Game for even more chances to score fantastic prizes. Join us for a day of discovery, prizes, and fun at the Trade Show.

Badges required for exhibit hall admission.

10:30AM

17th Annual Booth Winners Revealed

11:30 AM-12:45 PM

Lunch by General Recreation, Inc

1:00PM

Exhibitor Prize Drawings Starts

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To find a class, visit *princetonhcs.org/calendar*. To schedule a Community Wellness program at your location, email *deborah.millar@pennmedicine.upenn.edu*.





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- Master of Public Administration (MPA)
- 100% Online Master of Public Administration (MPA)

- Online Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA)
- Accelerated Master of Public Administration (BA/MPA or BS/MPA)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Public Administration (PhD)

Where Service Meets Leadership

Rutgers SPAA | spaa.newark.rutgers.edu

Teaching Empathy and Character Building to Your Young Staff

1:30pm-3pm / Wildwood 3 / .15 CEU

As youth leaders, we can change lives! By committing to making our participants feel seen, heard, and valued, we can accomplish so much in our short time spent with them. With a little help from Disney, we will discuss how our shared experiences allow everyone to be welcomed at our programs and encouraged to be their authentic selves. Participants will learn tools for teaching young staff inclusion and empathy-building practices in tandem with facilitation methods to support creating inclusive spaces for our communities to thrive.

- 1. Discuss the role empathy plays in creating inclusive spaces and how to foster it within our programming.
- Identify tools and tactics for teaching staff how to support inclusion.
- Navigate situations that cause exclusion such as conflict and challenging group dynamics.

Presenter:

Jenna Dunlay, American Camp Association, New York and New Jersey, NY

Get Your CPRP/CPRE: If We Can Do It, So Can You! 1:30pm-3pm / Wildwood 8 / .15 CEU

Have you contemplated getting certified as a CPRP or CPRE but have not taken the next step? In this session, we will demystify and decode the CPRP/CPRE process starting with reasons why you should acquire your certification, to the application/eligibility, to studying tips, to taking the test.

- Explain the CPRP/E certification process, including eligibility requirements, application procedures, and examination details.
- Identify the core knowledge areas and competencies covered in the CPRP/E examination, such as programming, operations, leadership, and advocacy.
- Discuss effective study strategies, time management techniques, and recommended resources (e.g., textbooks, online courses, practice exams) to prepare for the CPRP/Exam.

Presenters:

Kerry Klug, CPRE and **Alina Cabrera**, CPRP, Passaic County Parks and Recreation

Get it Done with CDBG Funding!

1:30pm-3pm / Wildwood 10 / .15 CEU

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) are a wonderful funding source for parks and recreation agencies! During this session you will learn the who, what, where, and when of CDBG funding and hear fellow professionals speak about their experiences using the funds and who in their community they partner with to make the projects a reality.

- Explain Community Block Grant Funding (CDBG).
- 2. Identify projects that are eligible activities for CDBG funding.
- Describe the general application process and who within HUD and CDBG they can contact.

Presenter:

Veronica Taylor, Plainfield Parks and Recreation Bradley Harrington, Department of Community Affairs

1:30pm-3pm Sessions

Revolutionizing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Crafting Your Path to Inclusivity

1:30pm-3pm / Wildwood 12 / .15 CEU

Join us for an engaging and informative session dedicated to the critical topic of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) policy development. In today's rapidly evolving world, DEI initiatives are more crucial than ever, fostering innovation, increasing employee satisfaction, and driving organizational success. This session is designed to empower you with the knowledge and tools needed to create a tailored DEI policy that not only complies with legal requirements, but also resonates with your organization's values. By the end of this session, you will be equipped with the knowledge and confidence to embark on the DEI policy development journey. Join us in creating a more inclusive and equitable future for your organization, your employees, and your community.

- Discuss the importance of DEI in the workplace and society and highlight the benefits of implementing DEI policies to agency policy makers.
- Create effective DEI policies tailored to their organization's needs, including key principles, strategies, and actionable steps to include using artificial intelligence (AI).
- Explore strategies for fostering an inclusive culture within an organization, focusing on building diverse teams, promoting equity, and addressing unconscious bias.

Presenter:

Roslyn Johnson, CPRP, Annapolis Recreation and Parks, MD

Compliance in Youth Sports – Setting Standards and Enforcing Requirements

1:30pm-3pm / Wildwood 14 / .15 CEU

A young athlete's experience in sports is directly influenced by their coach. Coaching requirements like background checks, child abuse prevention trainings, concussion certificates, sport skills clinics, and code of ethics pledges exist to create a safe and positive environment for children. Whether your requirements for youth sports coaches come from local, state, and national legislation or from your agency's policies, tracking compliance with imposed requirements does not have to be a headache. In this session, we will review industry standards for youth sports coaches, share tools and tactics to maintain compliance with coach related policies, and we will review examples of successful agencies, including one large agency that set strict coaching standards and oversees thousands of coaches from nearly 60 youth sports user groups. Plus, we will discuss requirements for other youth sports volunteers, staff, officials, and parents.

- 1. Compare their coach requirements with industry standards.
- Identify various resources available to meeting key requirements.
- Evaluate new methods of tracking compliance with screening and training requirements.

Presenter:

John Engh, National Alliance for Youth Sports, FL

AFTERNOON REFRESHMENT BREAK

3pm-4pm / Grand Hallway

From Ordinary to Extraordinary: Turning Everyday Activities into Award Winning Programs and Events 3:30pm-5pm / Wildwood 8 / .15 CEU

Through the utilization of available resources in the community, building collaborative partnerships, and securing donations of inkind support and financial contributions from local businesses you can turn your programs from Ordinary to Extraordinary. This will be a fun and engaging collaboration between professionals where your common programs will become your best ideas!

- 1. Identify the resources available to them and develop new ideas based on their environment.
- 2. Develop bigger and better events through community partnerships.
- 3. Explain the benefits of partnering with specific local businesses to enhance community programs.

Presenter:

Tim Roetman, CPRP, Wayne Township Parks and Recreation

Engaging Youth Through Service, Volunteerism and Service Learning

3:30pm-5pm / Wildwood 10 / .15 CEU

Engaging youth, in particular junior high and high school students, can often be a daunting task. In this session, we will take a deep dive into youth driven service organization as a mechanism to teach the value of volunteerism.

- 1. Discuss the differences between service learning and volunteerism (labor vs. education),
- 2. Identify strategies for advising youth lead organizations; allowing for the youth voice to remain prominent.
- 3. Explain the steps necessary to develop a youth service organization.

Presenters:

Beau Byrtus, CPRP, Franklin Township Parks and Recreation **Ashley Faulcon**, East Brunswick Parks and Recreation

Mastering Marketing: What is Marketing and Why Should You Care

3:30pm-5pm / Wildwood 12 / .15 CEU

Understanding marketing and why it matters can make or break a program or organization. What makes your program or organization appealing and stand above the rest? This session will provide an overview of what marketing is (and what it isn't). Is your marketing ageist? We will discuss ageism in marketing and how it can negatively affect the success of your organization or program and provide tools and examples of marketing methods to develop a marketing plan that fits your organization's needs. You will learn the difference between marketing and branding, and how to develop a "branding toolbox". You ARE already a MARKETER - why not master it?

- 1. Define marketing and identify the differences between marketing and branding.
- 2. Develop a robust marketing plan using the strategies shared in this session.
- 3. Discuss marketing challenges and how to overcome them and explore effective tools and examples of marketing methods.

Presenter:

Anahita Feltz, Old Bridge Parks and Recreation

3:30pm-5pm Sessions

Making Youth Sports Parents Your Partners 3:30pm-5pm / Wildwood 14 / .15 CEU

Positive and passionate youth sport parents are a necessity when it comes to establishing a great youth sports program. Their involvement, through a variety of means, can greatly enhance a child's youth sports experience. However, negative parental behavior that goes unchecked can often lead to unnecessary conflict with league administrators and worse, detrimental outcomes for participants. In this session, we will learn how to properly introduce parents (and kids) into the world of youth sports. Then, through a proper introduction and orientation, we can set ourselves up to be "teammates" with all of our youth sport parents, pulling in the same direction, rather than "opponents" who are fighting for different results. Holding everybody involved accountable, whether they be administrators, coaches, officials, participants or parents, is an integral component to ensure a positive, fun and safe youth sports experience.

- 1. Implement developmental programming that focuses on positive parental involvement.
- 2. Conduct a proper and effective parent orientation.
- 3. Utilize behavior agreements to create a culture of accountability. Presenter:

Andy Parker, National Alliance for Youth Sports



NJRPA Annual Awards dinner



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27 6:30PM DOORS OPEN/7PM PROMPT START WILDWOOD 4 TICKET REQUIRED

Celebrate the trailblazers in New Jersey's recreation and parks community! Our evening gala begins with delectable cuisine, featuring the prestigious Agency Showcase Awards, Facility Design Awards, and Excellence in Programming Awards. The pinnacle is the presentation of our highest honors to those who've made exceptional contributions to parks and recreation. Included in the Full Conference Package, daily delegates can enhance their experience by purchasing an event ticket. Enjoy two complimentary beverage tickets for beer, wine, cocktails, or soda, with extra options available for purchase. Join us for an unforgettable night of recognition and camaraderie!

Promotional support is provided by:





Buffet Breakfast & JAM-10:30AM WILDWOOD 4 Networking TICKET REQUIRED

Seize your last chance to connect with colleagues and friends before heading home. This exclusive networking opportunity is a highlight of the Full Conference Package. Daily delegates, secure your spot by purchasing an event ticket. Maximize this moment to forge connections and create lasting memories!

Promotional support is provided by:





























Continuing Education Unit Program

All sessions earn CEU credits based upon the number of contact hours – 0.1 CEU per contact hour. Delegates for all sessions, including Sunday's Pre-conference Institutes, must attend the FULL session to earn CEU credit for that session. Credit for partial attendance will not be granted. Delegates are responsible for ensuring that their forms are properly punched to record attendance at the conclusion of each session. At the conclusion of the conference, total credit hours will be awarded to delegates who return completed forms at the conclusion of all sessions. Please note that the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification did not pre-approve CEU credits. CEU forms must be handed in at the end of the conference or on the last day that a delegate is attending the conference. NJRPA is governed by standards set by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) and not able to accept forms sent to NJRPA in the mail or by email after the conclusion of the conference. Delegates must submit the yellow copy of the CEU form to a room host/moderator or return it to the Registration Desk prior to departure.

Social Events and Educational Sessions

All NJRPA education sessions, tradeshow activities, and social events are smoke-free. All delegates and guests are subject to New Jersey Alcohol Consumption Laws. Conference social events are not appropriate for individuals under 21 years of age. Educational sessions are for a professional audience. Please do not bring small children or infants to sessions. Cellular telephones must be turned off or set to silent mode in all events. We thank you for your cooperation.

Accessibility

In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, the NJRPA Conference Committee will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. Please advise us of any modifications you may need no later than **Friday**, **February 2**, **2024**. If you have special needs regarding hotel accommodations, please contact Harrah's Resort at 609-441-5000.

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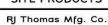




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Go Green! Download the App

The NJRPA 49th Annual Conference and Exhibition is green! We will again be using an interactive conference app that will provide you with comprehensive information, including complete session descriptions, speaker biographies, Exhibit Hall information, vendor descriptions, and social/networking opportunities.

We will be printing an abbreviated conference schedule, along with complete Exhibit Hall information. If you prefer printed session descriptions, then please bring this Registration Brochure. Also, the app will contain session handouts and any PowerPoints should the presenters provide them. NJRPA will not be providing them. If you prefer printed materials, then please print them prior to arriving.

Features of the app include the ability to:

- 1. View the full event schedule and create your own schedule
- 2. Download session handouts and powerpoints.
- 3. Find session and exhibitor locations with maps of the Exhibit Hall and session rooms.
- 4. Read about all of the exhibitors and sponsors.
- 5. Receive notifications about networking opportunities, contests, and other breaking news pushed directly to your device.
- 6. Connect and exchange contact details with other attendees.
- 7. Share your event experiences on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok. Use #njrpa.

You will receive a link by email to download the app before conference.





Harrah's Hotel Reservation Information

Harrah's Atlantic City offers the finest in accommodations, dining, recreation, and conference facilities. Discounted room rates are **February 23-28, 2024**. (There is limited availability for Friday and Saturday, February 23 and 24 at the same low rate). Rooms are Single/Double Occupancy in the Waterview Tower. The Waterview Tower is now fully renovated!

Resort Fee Breakdown:

- Room Wi-Fi for 2 devices
- Pool access
- · Fitness center access
- \$5 voucher toward self-parking
- Unlimited local phone calls

Room Rate Fees and Taxes Breakdown:

- \$75 room per night
- \$15 resort fee per night
- \$3 per night Assessment Fee
- \$2.27 per night State Tourism Fee
- \$2.27 per night AC Occupancy Fee

Total: \$97.54 per night with Tax Exempt Status

A 13.625% tax will be apply to the room rate and resort fee, per night, for those reserving without a tax exemption.

Total: \$109.80 per night without Tax Exempt Status

Check In/Out & Cancellation:

- · Check-in time is after 4pm.
- · Check-out time is 12noon.
- Expect later Sunday check-in at 6pm.
- Forty-eight (48) hours notice of cancellation is required for a full refund.

Call-in Room Reservations:

Phone: 888-516-2215 (8am-2am EST, 7 days a week)

Group name: Rec & Park Association 2024

Group code: SH02RP4

Online Room Reservations:

https://book.passkey.com/go/SH02RP4

Group rate cut-off date is Thursday, February 1, 2024.

Purchase Orders for Pre-Payment to Harrah's:

Please be advised that the Caesars Entertainment Atlantic City Hotel Casinos no longer accept Purchase Orders on a "Direct Bill" basis.

All Purchase Orders will be accepted on a "Pre-paid" basis only. Once your purchase order is received and the amount due is verified, we will sign and return to you for payment in advance.

Please mail check and Tax Exempt form to:

Harrah's Resort AC Attn: Linda/Paola - Front Desk 777 Harrah's Boulevard Atlantic City, NJ 08401

(Please note hotel name, guest name and confirmation code)

NOTE: If the payment due on the signed Purchase Order is not received at least 15 business days prior to arrival, guests will be asked for payment at check in time. The hotel **WILL NOT** accept a check upon arrival.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the below representatives Monday-Friday 9am-4pm EST.

Linda DiMeo

Convention Coordinator Harrah's Resort Atlantic City 777 Harrah's Blvd Atlantic City, NJ 08401 Phone: **609-441-5808**

E-mail: Idimeo@harrahs.com

Paola Ruales

Convention Coordinator Harrah's Resort Atlantic City 777 Harrah's Blvd Atlantic City, NJ 08401

Phone: **609-441-5738**E-mail: **pruales@harrahs.com**

NJRPA Pre-Conference Workshop Registration Form

Harrah's Waterfront Conference Center, Atlantic City Register online at www.njrpa.org or email this form to info@njrpa.org or mail to NJRPA, 1 Wheeler Way, Princeton, NJ 08540.

Workshop Registration is separate from Delegate Registration.								
Name	neTitle							
Agency								
Address								
City	s	State	Zip	_E-Mail	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
NJRPA Member? □ Yes □ No								
Pre-Conference Workshops								
■ Workshop #1 Rutgers Youth Sports Research Council Clinician's Workshop 10am-4:30pm, .6 CEU, \$149 Returning Clinicians, \$299 First Time Clinicians Must register through RYSRC. Email hondo.diaz@rutgers.edu .								
☐ Workshop #2 Who, What, Where, When, How of Special Events 11am-4pm, .4 CEU, \$99 Member, \$139 Non-Member								
Workshop #3 Managing Your Budget and Purpose Driven Pricing Strategies 11am-4pm, .4 CEU, \$99 Member, \$139 Non-Member Fee =								
Check or Money Order payable to: NJRPA								
Special Accommodations: Please tell us if you need disability accommodations.								
My requirements are:								

Credit Card Payment: Visa, MC, AmEx or Discover

The NJRPA office will email you a secure link if you would like to pay by credit card.

Purchase Orders: NJRPA registration system will generate an invoice once you enroll. Send your purchase order to info@ njrpa.org for quick processing. If you need an invoice with multiple registrants, email us and let us know. We can create one for you!

Cancellation Policy:

Full refund will be made if a written request is received by January 31, 2024. A 50% refund will be given if a written request is received between February 1 and February 12, 2024. No refunds will be made for cancellations received after February 12, 2024. Full Conference Package Registration: Includes all educational sessions on Monday and Tuesday, entrance to Trade Show, and admission to all banquet and social events. Daily Registration: Includes all educational sessions, programs, refreshment breaks, and entrance to Trade Show. Monday Daily includes Keynote Luncheon and Exhibit Hall. Tuesday Daily includes Lunch and Exhibit Hall. NOT included in daily registrations: Sunday Social, Monday Night Social, Tuesday Awards Banquet, and Wednesday Buffet Breakfast. Registration Tips: Treasury Regulation 1-162-5 permits a personal income tax deduction for personal expenses (fees, travel, meals, lodging) undertaken to maintain or improve skills. BADGES ARE REQUIRED AT ALL FUNCTIONS. TICKETS TO MEAL AND SOCIAL EVENTS ARE LIMITED AND CANNOT BE GUARANTEED TO LATE REGISTRANTS.

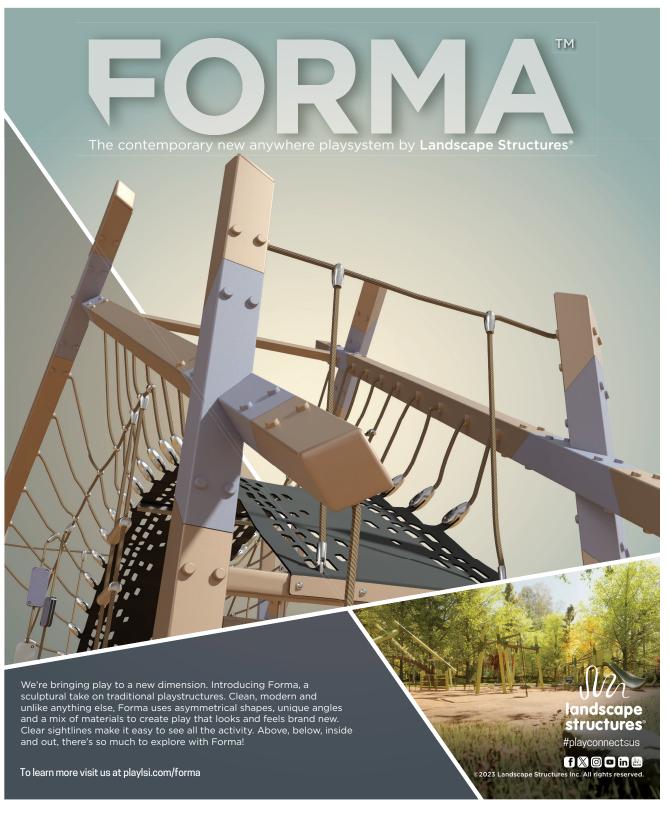
NJRPA Conference Registration Form

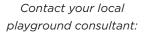
Please register online at www.njrpa.org.

Name			_ Title					
Agency			E-Mail					
Address			State	·	_ Zip			
Phone			_					
Special Accon	nmodations: Please tell us if	you require any s	pecial diet or if yo	u need disability accor	nmodations.			
My requiremen	nts are:				 			
REGISTRATIO	N PACKAGES for February	26-28, 2024 Con	ference (Please d	check one)				
		·	•	After January 31, 20				
		NJRPA Member	Non-Member	NJRPA Member	Non-Member			
Full Conference		D #405	D #60F	□ ¢475	D			
Package	Delegate Retired Professional/Spouse	□ \$425 □ \$300	□ \$625 □ \$350	□ \$475 □ \$350	□ \$675 □ \$400			
	Student	□ \$240	□ \$280	□ \$240	□ \$280			
	Package includes: Monday Keynote, Monday Social	, Tuesday Lunch, Av	vards, Wednesday E	Breakfast, Educational Se	essions, Exhibit Hall			
Daily (per day)	Delegate	□ \$225	□ \$425	□ \$250	□ \$450			
	Retired Professional/Spouse	□ \$175 □ \$130	□ \$200	□ \$200	□ \$225			
	Student (w/Meal)		□ \$130	□ \$130	□ \$130 □ \$230			
	Student (Edu Only)	□ \$60	□ \$60 □ \$60	□ \$60	□ \$60			
Daily Registration	Trade Show Only ns Must Indicate Days Attending	'			□ \$60			
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Daily Package in Educational Sess	<u>ncludes:</u> sions, Monday 2/26 includes Ke	ynote Lunch and Ex	hibit Hall, and Tues	day 2/27 includes the Ex	hibit Hall and Lunch.			
INDIVIDUAL TIC	KETS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS							
Sunday	y Night Social □ \$50		Tuesday Exhib	it Hall Lunch □ \$6	0			
	y Keynote Luncheon ☐ \$60		Tuesday Award					
Monda	y Night Social ☐ \$60		Wednesday Cl	osing Breakfast 🔲 \$5	0			
Mail registration and payment to: NJRPA, 1 Wheeler Way, Princeton, NJ 08540 OR email registration to <u>info@njrpa.org</u> Make checks/purchase orders payable to: NJRPA or register online at <u>www.njrpa.org</u>								
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☐ Credit Card: The NJRPA office will email you a secure link if you would like to pay by credit card.								
We accept Mastercard, Visa, Amercian Express and Discover.								

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"Developing the Child Behind the Athlete"



Youth Sports Research Council

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ysrc@kines.rutgers.edu

