

2023 TRAPS STATE INSTITUTE

FEB. 27-MAR. 3 2023

EDUCATION SESSION PREVIEW



EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER | 7600 JOHN Q HAMMONS DR, FRISCO, TX, 75034

2/28 TUESDAY PRE-INSTITUTES

TR TUESDAY AT FRISCO

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE THERAPEUTIC RECREATION (TR) BRANCH OF TRAPS, THIS PRE-INSTITUTE OFFERS A FULL DAY OF SESSIONS SPECIFICALLY FOCUSING ON RECREATIONAL THERAPY TOPICS.

[CLICK HERE FOR EVENT FLYER WITH SESSION AND EVENT INFORMATION.](#)

MAINTENANCE PLANNING BASICS

JAMIE RAE WALKER & LAURA MILLER, TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

ATTENDEES WILL GAIN AN OVERVIEW OF THE HOW, WHAT, AND WHY OF MAINTENANCE PLANNING. THIS WORKSHOP WILL REVIEW WHY PLANS ARE IMPORTANT, TYPICAL SECTIONS AND COMPONENTS OF PLANS, AND HOW TO GET STARTED IN DEVELOPING A PLAN. WE WILL START BY DISCUSSING THE KEY COMPONENTS OF A MAINTENANCE PLAN: ASSETS, LOCATIONS, SCHEDULES, PERSONNEL AND MORE, THEN LOOK AT SOME EXAMPLES FROM A VARIETY OF COMMUNITIES. YOU AND YOUR FELLOW TEAM MEMBERS ATTENDING THE WORKSHOP WILL ALSO HAVE TIME, AND BASIC TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, TO OUTLINE HOW YOU WILL DEVELOP OR UPDATE A PLAN THAT WORKS FOR YOU AND YOUR ORGANIZATION.

POST-SUCCESSION PLANNING

GLENN W. RICHARDSON II, FOUNDER & CHIEF TALENT ADVISOR - RHODIUM TALENT ADVISORS, COLLIN CORPORATE COLLEGE

ANY ORGANIZATION WOULD BE WISE TO PROMOTE THEIR MOST ENGAGED AND BRIGHTEST INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS WHEN A SUPERVISORY ROLE BECOMES AVAILABLE. KNOWING THAT THE LUXURY OF TRAINING TIME ISN'T ALWAYS THERE TO FULLY PREPARE THIS NEW LEADER FOR THEIR NEXT STEP, COLLIN CORPORATE COLLEGE HAS CREATED A 4-HOUR INTENSIVE TRAINING SPECIFICALLY FOR NEW AND EMERGING SUPERVISORS. THROUGH INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSION, PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN THE BASICS OF WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A LEADER OTHERS ARE EXCITED TO FOLLOW, REGARDLESS OF YEARS OF EXPERIENCE. THE COURSE HAS THREE MAIN FOCUS AREAS: INFLUENCING OTHERS, DYNAMICS OF MOTIVATION, AND SUCCESSFULLY NAVIGATING THE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART.

CERTIFIED PLAYGROUND SAFETY INSPECTOR (CPSI)

2/27-3/1

SPONSORED BY PLAYWELL AND THE NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION (NRPA) THE CERTIFIED PLAYGROUND SAFETY INSPECTOR COURSE PROVIDES THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE AND WIDELY RECOGNIZED TRAINING AVAILABLE ON PLAYGROUND HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND RISK MANAGEMENT. ADVANCED READING IS REQUIRED AND INCLUDES RESOURCE MATERIALS DEVELOPED ESPECIALLY FOR THIS COURSE. THE COURSE ALSO INCLUDES 10 HOURS OF CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION BY NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PLAYGROUND SAFETY EXPERTS AND AN OFF SITE VISIT TO A PLAYGROUND TO HELP IDENTIFY HAZARDS AND DO A SAFETY AUDIT. A MINIMUM CLASS SIZE OF 40 IS REQUIRED BY JANUARY 13 TO SECURE THE CLASS AND DISTRIBUTE BOOKS IN A TIMELY MANNER.

FEES:

CPSI COURSE: \$475 TRAPS/NRPA MEMBER, \$525 NON-MEMBER
CPSI EXAM OR RECERTIFICATION EXAM: \$175 FOR ALL

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR CPSI](#)

DIRECTORS' FORUM 3/1

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND, THIS EXCLUSIVE LEARNING AND NETWORKING EVENT GIVES DIRECTORS AND ASSISTANT DIRECTORS IN PARKS AND RECREATION AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS CHALLENGES UNIQUE TO THIS LEVEL OF LEADERSHIP WHILE BUILDING A STRONG COMMUNITY AND PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE OF THE INDUSTRY. THE 2023 DIRECTORS' FORUM WILL CONCENTRATE ON BATTLING FOR THE BEST IN A WORKFORCE THAT IS CHANGING BY THE DAY. LUNCH IS INCLUDED AND REGISTRATION IS LIMITED TO 50 INDIVIDUALS.

A.M. - SANSDEMIC: WITHOUT PEOPLE - STRATEGIES TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN A VANISHING WORKFORCE, NEIL IHDE, CEO, LIFE IQ

P.M. - EVOLVING LONG & SHORT-TERM RECRUITING AND RETENTION STRATEGIES
KATIE SEPE, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES, NAPERVILLE PARK DISTRICT

FEES: CPSI COURSE: \$325 TRAPS MEMBER, \$425 NON-MEMBER

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE FORUM](#)

GENERAL SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 8:00-9:30AM

RECREATE RECREATION, (0.1CEU), NEIL IHDE, CEO, LIFE IQ

COLLECTIVELY WE'VE EXPERIENCED SOME VERY CHALLENGING TIMES. BUT WE WERE ALSO GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON OUR VALUES, CIRCUMSTANCES, AND PURPOSE. WE BEGAN TO RECONSIDER OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH WORK AND OUR NEED AND DESIRE FOR RECREATION. RECREATION IS LITERALLY AN OPPORTUNITY TO RE-CREATE OURSELVES. CREATING SPACE TO LEARN, RELAX, AND CONTEMPLATE IS A LOST ART, BUT ESSENTIAL FOR CONTENTMENT.

- RECOGNIZE HOW WE CREATED OUR CURRENT STRESSED-OUT STATE AND THE INTERVENTIONS NECESSARY TO CREATE A HEALTHIER EXISTENCE.
- IDENTIFY THE BENEFITS OF RECREATION, COMMUNITY, AND PLAY.
- EXPLORE THE CONCEPT OF CONTENTMENT.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 8:00-9:15AM

BURNOUT OR A SLOW ROAST, (0.1CEU),

KATIE SEPE, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES, NAPERVILLE PARK DISTRICT

THE FIELD OF PARKS AND RECREATION IS ONE WHERE PROFESSIONALS ARE WORKING WHEN OUR PATRONS ARE ENJOYING THEIR DOWN OR OFF TIME. WE HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO WORK LONG HOURS SETTING UP SPECIAL EVENTS, PREPPING SOGGY BALLFIELDS, CLEANING UP WHEN OTHERS HAVE GONE HOME. BURNOUT ISN'T A NEW CONCEPT, BUT FACTORS SUCH AS STAFFING SHORTAGES AND MORE DEMANDING PATRONS HAVE FUELED THE FIRE. WE'LL EXPLORE THIS TOPIC AND METHODS TO MINIMIZE THE IMPACTS ON US AND OUR CO-WORKERS.

- RECOGNIZE BURNOUT IN YOURSELF AND OTHERS
- RECOGNIZE THE IMPACT OF BURNOUT ON THEIR DEPARTMENT/ ORGANIZATION
- WORK TOWARD A CULTURE THAT SUPPORTS STAFF AND VALUES A WORK LIFE BALANCE

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR INSTITUTE 2023](#)

REMEMBER TO LOG IN TO VIEW MEMBER RATES

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

*** - This session content is CE Pre-Approved by NCTRC**

Wednesday, March 1

Chair Chi: Seated Tai Chi for the Movement Impaired Populations*
(0.1CEU)

Pat Griffith, Founder and President, Chair Chi

Chair Chi is a gentle exercise program developed by Pat Griffith to help people receive the benefits of traditional Tai Chi Chuan in the comfort and safety of their chair. This allows people who cannot stand or do not feel confident with their balance, to participate.

- *Demonstrate some of the warm up and cool down (Chi Gung) exercises of Chair Chi.*
- *Demonstrate some of the breathing, massage and stretching techniques of Chair Chi.*
- *Demonstrate some of the Chair Chi form.*

Developing Creative City-Wide Sponsorship
(0.1CEU)

Cara Blackmon, Sponsorship and Event Development Manager, City of Frisco

In this session you will learn how to bundle city-wide assets to create multi-year sponsorship proposals resulting in higher dollars and less clutter. Enjoy the fun of working across departments and presenting your city as a whole, eliminating multiple people reaching out to the same sponsors.

- *Examine multi-year proposals across multiple departments, eliminating cookie-cutter sponsorship proposals.*
- *Identify tangible assets within the city.*
- *Learn how to bundle those assets.*

Humanizing Smart City Technologies for Parks and Trails
(0.1CEU)

Matt Bucchin, Regional Practice Leader over Planning, Halff Associates, Inc.
Lenny Hughes, Planning and Landscape Architecture Practice Leader, Halff Associates, Inc.

Our buildings, transportation, and infrastructure are becoming more intelligent, and our citizens are completely reliant on tech as part of our daily lives. This session introduces the concept of Smart Cities, its trends and benefits, and its growing applicability to building successful parks, trails, and other essential elements of our civic infrastructure.

- *Recognize the trends leading to the rise of Smart City technologies as part of our urban landscapes and built environments.*

- *Understand the benefits and constraints of using Smart City technologies as part of parks and trails projects and processes.*
- *Identify innovative Smart City technology-related opportunities to infuse into future parks or trails projects or processes.*

Photography for Parks Professionals

(0.1CEU)

Ann Beck, Marketing and Communications Manager, City of Mansfield

Nikki Funderburk, Marketing and Public Relations Specialist, City of Grand Prairie

A picture is worth a thousand words, but you don't have to be a pro to get great quality images to tell the story of your department and sell your programs! Learn basic (and slightly advanced!) photography that applies whether you're using a DSLR or your phone, as well as important editing tips and photo checklists to make sure you capture every fun, exciting, action-packed, memory-making moment.

- *Take great pictures and video with any camera in a variety of parks and recreation situations.*
- *Edit photos to get the best impact.*
- *Understand best practices and know what pictures to take and when.*

So Much Better Online - Aquatic Chemical Controllers

(0.1CEU)

Connan Campbell, Regional Sales Manager, ProMinent Fluid Controls

In this session, we will talk about the benefits of having chemical controllers online for swimming pools and splashpads. Talk ease of access to the controller, Chemical savings, and man hours savings.

- *Understand how to place the controller online.*
- *Understand the cost benefits of having the controller online.*
- *See the benefit of quick reaction to alarms on the controller.*

The Esports Blueprint

(0.1CEU)

Cody Wager, Recreation Coordinator, City of Carrollton

Justin Swaney, Recreation Supervisor, City of Carrollton

Interested in bringing esports to your Parks and Recreation department but don't know where to start? This session will give you the blueprint! Presenters Cody Wager and Justin Swaney will discuss City of Carrollton's new esports center, and share information on how to propose, determine a budget and program an esports space.

- *Understand how to propose a new esports center/program to different levels of management.*
- *Determine potential budget options that are right for their department regarding esports.*
- *Know what to look for in a potential esports partner.*

Unbusy Work Your Intern: Create a Win-Win Internship Experience for All* (0.1CEU)

Deidre Flores, Assistant. Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Kerrville

Internships are a necessity for students, but they can be a benefit for both the intern and the organization. If they are handled correctly, the student and the organization can both gain experience, knowledge, and create a resume builder for both involved. This session will provide you information on ways to maximize your intern while providing a strong experience they can take with them as they start their career.

- *Recognizing intern bias/misconceptions and ways to eliminate them.*
- *The Internship Manual. Provide examples of what internship manuals look like and how they can be useful.*
- *Ways to use interns/internships to benefit the agency and grow the skills of the intern and build the agency's event/program base.*

Coach Safely and Win Without Losses (0.1CEU)

Natalie Norman, Executive Director, Alabama Recreation and Parks Association
Steve Brown, VP External Affairs, CoachSafely Foundation

This is an introduction to a peer-reviewed, evidence-based safety training for volunteer coaches and personnel associated with 14-Under sports. The session will demonstrate how the CoachSafely course provides safety training and certification through educational data to include emergency preparedness; concussion and trauma; heat related injury; physical conditioning and equipment usage; issues leading to sudden cardiac death; communicable and infectious disease; and mental health and well being.

- *Demonstrate effective training process in order to provide equitable access to safe play environments in youth sports.*
- *Discuss three (3) like-minded partners/collaborators that will help increase coaches trained and thereby increasing the numbers of kids in safer environments.*
- *Discuss nine areas of injury recognition and prevention opportunity with coaches, personnel, and parents.*

Infinite Cosmic Power. Itty Bitty Living Space: Small Leadership* (0.1CEU)

Jordan Daniel, PhD, Associate Professor, Angelo State University
Will Doss, Program Coordinator, City of McKinney

Big challenge. Small solutions. Not everyone is the director, the superintendent, the "boss." But we all have a hand in our organizational culture and how lower case leadership is performed. This presentation looks at 5 practical applications of small leadership in recreation.

- *Understand community needs.*
- *Develop internal organizational cultural competencies.*

- *Design their own development plan for self growth and the growth of culture.*

Future and Young Professionals Branch Session: The Road to Leadership (0.1CEU)

Jeff Achee, Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Harker Heights

Geronimo Aguirre, Parks and Recreation Manager, City of New Braunfels

Are you looking to take your next step in the parks and recreation field, but not sure how? Or maybe you want to become more involved in TRAPS, but don't know how? During this session you will hear from leaders in the field on how they reached their current positions. We will talk about challenges they faced, impactful moments in their career, and dive into what they look for in people they hire. You will leave this session with helpful tips and motivation to pursue your career goals.

- Identify steps towards reaching their next career goal.
- Identify ways to improve their job application.
- Identify ways to become involved in TRAPS.

Let's Play!- An Adventure in Mobile Recreation

(0.1CEU)

Courtney Wright, Recreation Specialist II, City of Allen

Billy Diaz, Program Supervisor, City of Allen

Interested in a Mobile Recreation Unit? Learn how the City of Allen has developed and implemented their Recreation Enrichment Vehicle program to assist with community outreach, program overflow, internal and external departmental partnership, underutilized parks and fulfilling the gap in programming throughout the city.

- *Evaluate ways to develop or improve a mobile recreation program.*
- *Organize and development of program that reflect parks and recreation and external department needs.*
- *Use of Active software and communication channels to improve communications between department.*

Maximizing Your Municipal Golf Facility

(0.1CEU)

Dan Nicholas, Principal, FGM Architects

Richard DePalma, Principal, FGM Architects

As the amount of people playing golf has soared over the last two years, many golf courses are leveraging the love to improve the golf clubhouse experience and increase revenue. Learn from veteran golf clubhouse designer, Dan Nicholas, and researcher, Rich DePalma, on the best practices in golf clubhouse design that generate revenue and enhance the clubhouse experience for the community. Dan Nicholas has over 30 years of experience designing award winning clubhouses across the country.

- *Understand facility improvements that generate activity and revenue.*
- *Understand facility challenges that have a lower cost recovery and usership value based on collected data.*

- *Understand the funding and procurement options to implement golf facility improvements.*

Pay them Less: The Positive Impact of Community Service Programs (0.1CEU)

Tyra Bardin, Community Supervision Resource Officer, Collin County CSCD

At a time when many municipalities are experiencing a near labor crisis, learn how hosting community service workers can be mutually beneficial to your organization and your local community, without adding another salary to the payroll. We will discuss the most common needs of probationers completing community service hours, how to connect with your local Community Supervision and Corrections Department (CSCD), and common duties performed by community service workers.

- *Discuss 3 potential benefits to the municipality that has a community service program.*
- *Identify 3 needs of probationers.*
- *Discuss a partnership approach between corrections departments and Parks and Rec. Organizations.*

This Must Be the Place: Building a Culture of Trust in the Workplace* (0.1CEU)

Jessica Burke, State Parks Outdoor Education and Outreach Manager, Texas Parks and Wildlife

Ky Harkey, State Parks Director of Interpretation, Texas Parks and Wildlife

Trust is more than an agency core value; it is an imperative. A workplace must evolve, adapt, and grow to meet the needs of the communities we serve. A team can only identify the directions for this change through open and honest conversations, and for employees to contribute to a culture of innovation, they must feel safe giving and receiving feedback. In the era of the great resignation, this type of healthy workplace will help foster more sustainable systems and build lasting relationships.

- *Describe Psychological Safety*
- *Articulate the importance of Psychological Safety towards innovation and employee retention*
- *Facilitate at least one Trust Building Practice or Activity at their workplace*

Trending in Play and Design (0.1CEU)

Sarah Lisiecki, BCI Burke

Play is important to our communities and helps keep everyone engaged, active and developing. During this course, we will review and discuss the top trends in play design, what positive impact incorporating these trends into playspaces has on community members and examples and case studies to illustrate these trends in action. This session is useful for all audiences who design, advocate for, use or purchase play, recreation or outdoor fitness spaces.

- *Use statistics to support and advocate for outdoor spaces and show ROI on public play, recreation and outdoor fitness areas.*
- *List the top trends in play design and how they foster development, create play equity and help all community members spend more time outdoors.*
- *Review a case study of a community and how some of the latest trends in play helped create a space the entire community advocated for, supports and uses.*

A Custodian's Tale

(0.1CEU)

Jason Ringdahl, Principal, Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture

Craig Bouck, Partner and Principal, Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture

When designing and planning for a new recreation center, it's easy to get caught up in form over function or focus solely on the guest experience. What would be helpful is changing your viewpoint to consider ALL users of the space to design the most efficient center possible. We will go room by room, completing a custodian's checklist to get an empathetic look at how design can positively impact every user!

- *Gain a new perspective that will benefit their planning/design process.*
- *Recommend easy to implement design changes to benefit their staff long term.*
- *Recognize that this seemingly complex process of "planning for everything" can be stress free.*

Designing Events for Sponsorship Success

(0.1CEU)

Jasmine Lee, Event Consultant, JL Event Pro

Building a successful sponsorship program starts long before speaking with potential partners. Your event design can help you attract more sponsors and increase the value of the partnerships. Learn how to make your layout, schedule, activities and more work in your financial favor. Events of any size can increase sponsorship revenue through intentional design!

- *List at least three (3) areas of concern that impact the value sponsors place on an event.*
- *Demonstrate an event layout that appeals to potential sponsors.*
- *Discuss an example of how an event attraction can be redesigned to attract sponsors.*

Flip of a Coin: Leveraging Strengths for Next Gen TR*

(0.1CEU)

Corinna Flemming, CTRS, Shannon Hospital/Sonrisas

Jordan Daniel, PhD, Associate Professor, Angelo State University

For far too long, an artificial separation of theory and practice has been the norm. Thru co-curricular strategic planning and partnerships each side can leverage their strengths to enhance the field and the classroom that neither could do alone. In leveraging these strengths and benefitting off of the subsequent enhancements,

participants will be challenged on how best integrate theory and application by collaborating with small groups in order to strengthen the next generation of TR.

- *Outline the importance of better working relationships between practitioners and educators.*
- *Identify potential strategic partnerships/plans to better inform the individual (student towards practice path).*
- *Create and describe best practices in program implementation/autonomy.*

Let's All Get Reel*

(0.1CEU)

Paul Macias, Aquatics Manager, City of Farmers Branch

We all need to get Reel about our staff recruiting strategies. It's no secret that video content is rapidly becoming the most consumed type of content on social media. This presentation will go through developing staff engagement and lead you through best practices of digital media. At the end of the session, you will learn to shoot your videos and photos, using the latest technology and popular resources to get it done.

- *Gain an understanding of how to read social media data and apply it.*
- *Gain an understanding of why video content is important to use.*
- *Gain an understanding of the staff engagement process.*

Program and Event Showcase

(No CEUs)

Jennifer Kashner, Assistant Recreation Manager, City of Frisco

This session will showcase all the amazing programs and special events that took places this past year from all over the state of Texas. Come network and get some amazing ideas to take back to your city!

Rethinking Innovation

(0.1CEU)

Lola Isom, Process Improvement Specialist, City of McKinney

When you think of innovation, what do you think of? Often times, the word "innovation" can be intimidating. This session will demystify the concept of innovation and bring it closer to your grasp. We must embrace innovation in this fast-paced, ever-changing world and this session will help you ignite creativity, rethink innovation, and you'll have fun doing it.

- *Provide a new way of defining "innovation" as it pertains to simply enacting positive change.*
- *Identify areas in their work (or even personal life) that have potential for innovation.*
- *Identify possible solutions to the area of opportunity (mentioned in outcome 2).*

Women's Empowerment Session: Girlfriend, I See You (And So Do They!)
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(0.1CEU)

*Renee' Johnson, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Dallas
Erica Lyght, Manager, Apex Centre, City of McKinney*

How do you climb a ladder that was not really intended for you? Sometimes the environmental culture is a space that promotes self doubt and indecisiveness. to get what you want in the workplace you must know that you are the dopest, the baddest and most unique individual. This is what we call The Power of the Woman!

- *Leverage your voice to be heard through assertive communication.*
- *Position yourself to move forward to achieve goals through strategic leadership.*
- *Establish relationships through mentorship, advocacy, and professional sponsorship that push you over the finish line.*

Better Engage Your Community with Resident Journey Mapping (0.1CEU)

Shai Haddad, Chief Revenue Officer, Amilia

Resident expectations have shifted drastically, and unlocking your resident journey is one way that your agency can keep up with their ever-evolving needs! Using real-life personas, this session will cover journey mapping: the why, the how, and most importantly – the what-to-avoid! Building personas and mapping journeys is an investment with tangible benefits: a better understanding of how each department contributes to the resident experience and faster identification of opportunities.

- *Define who their core residents are and create effective personas.*
- *Leverage their understanding of pain points to improve community experience with their organization.*
- *Map the key elements of their recreation journey and associate them with emotions.*

Let's Talk Teens: Teen Engagement in Your Community* (0.1CEU)

Sydney Elliott, Youth and Business Coordinator, City of DeSoto

Kevin Moore, Recreation and Sports Manager, City of DeSoto

In some cities, especially minority communities, teens are considered an underserved population. How do you communicate with them? How do you consider their interest? This session will share the journey that DeSoto Parks and Recreation has taken to make sure that teens are included not only in the agency but also in the planning and programming phase. This session will share tactics for getting multiple stakeholders involved and how to make teen engagement important.

- *Recognize new techniques to provide teen programming in attendee's community.*
- *Understand the importance of teens and the need for their engagement in the community.*
- *Incorporate strategies for engaging teens in a positive manner.*

Not a Blank Slate: Revitalizing Aging Park Infrastructure (0.1CEU)

Lisa Casey, Associate, Studio Outside

Marty Sillito, Parks Superintendent, City of McKinney

Forward thinking communities in DFW have recognized overlooked opportunities in revitalizing aging park infrastructure. These assets often already have considerable embodied energy and effort that streamline the cost of improvements, but require vision to make beloved park spaces anew while aligning with changing community expectations. Join a discussion on how the City of McKinney and other communities have improved the value of these maturing assets.

- *Identify previously overlooked opportunities for improvements in existing park infrastructure.*
- *Generate a vision for revitalization of an aging park asset within a park system. Identify potential phasing approaches to optimize improvements.*
- *Evaluate a vision for revitalization with ways to win at maintenance.*

Outdated Recreation Centers: Repair, Renovate or Replace?

(0.1CEU)

Mick Massey, Texas Regional Director, Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture

Jason Ringdahl, Principal, Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture

What can you do when you find yourself with an underperforming out-of-date center? Many things may make a recreation center obsolete—evolving needs both in programming and with the community's desires, physical forces like a deteriorating structure or inefficient building layout, and varying demographics within your community influencing the size or location. Traditionally it is one of three options: Repair, Renovate or Replace. All three are significant commitments with time, money and energy but the good news is you can prepare! Take a deep dive into the strategy for making the right choice for your facility.

- *Assess the market conditions in their community.*
- *Define both the current and future trends that have rendered many aging facilities obsolete.*
- *Outline a development plan of next steps toward making the project a reality.*

Promoting Pollinators in Your Parks and Other Managed Areas

(0.1CEU)

Janet Hurley, Senior Extension Program Specialist, Texas AandM AgriLife Extension Services

Both native and honey bees play a key role in pollinating flowering plants in urban landscapes. Urban gardens provide habitat and food resources to support a biodiverse pollinator population. Blending the balance of area recreational areas with plant diversification helps to promote all pollinators, bees, birds, bats, and others to ensure we have a balanced environment. This session will cover what groups need to understand to build and maintain pollinator areas including pesticide use.

- *Understand the variety of protentional pollinators in Texas*
- *Understand how they need to manage these areas through integrated pest management steps.*
- *Understand the balance between pollinator areas and the use of pesticides in and around these areas.*

The Lifestyle Pool of the Future (0.1CEU)

Craig Bouck, Partner, Principal, Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture

Doug Whiteaker, President, Water Technology, Inc.

Come 'meet' the lifestyle pool of the future! Using an interactive 3D model, we will introduce and walk through the various trends making waves in aquatic design today. The walls, water, enclosure, envelope, mechanical, and even programming all play a role in designing the pool of the future. Come explore the evolution of aquatics and discover what innovations lie on the horizon.

- *List the pros and cons of various aquatics trends.*
- *Identify the trends in a realistic setting within the 3D model.*
- *Compare innovative aquatic center design details which increase flexibility, playability and aquatic facility performance.*

Customer Service In A Box (0.1CEU)

Greg Guse, Athletics Manager, City of Arlington

Laura Derks, Customer Service Representative, City of Arlington

Feeling overwhelmed or frustrated by the constant training needed for your front line staff? Are you unsure where to start and wish you could copy and paste a training plan? We will discuss real life, practical examples of training your front line staff. Take home your "box" of proven strategies and items to improve your team's customer service and make your life easier!

- *Demonstrate ability to measure customer service.*
- *Demonstrate ability to implement front desk ongoing training.*
- *List three (3) practical applications for staff training.*

Designing Play Spaces for True Inclusion: Tips from Parents Who Know* (0.1CEU)

Jaime Zwiener, Senior Associate, TBG

Meade Mitchell, Principal, TBG

Through the eyes of a landscape designer, who is also the mother of a 7-year-old with physical and cognitive disabilities and a landscape architect, who is also the father of a teenager with exceptional learning abilities, this panel will empathetically explore why we as designers, researchers, policy makers, equipment manufacturers, and community leaders must demand a shift from play that is accessible to play that is truly inclusive.

- *Identify the wide range of disability types that should be considered when designing or operating a play environment so that ALL children can actively engage in a play environment.*
- *Recount firsthand real life play experiences of what inclusive play does and does not look like.*
- *Recognize that, as designers, park operators, manufacturers and community members, they hold the power to advocate for those of all ability levels.*

Empowering Communities: Self Efficacy and Programming (0.1CEU)

Lisa Henderson, Outdoor Education Supervisor, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Luis Padilla, Supervisor – Buffalo Soldiers Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Schedule a trendy program and no one showed up? Reached out to new audiences but still seeing the same faces? Well, are you teaching people to fish, or are you fishing for them? Come join the Texas State Parks Outdoor Education and Outreach team to learn how including self-efficacy strategies into your programming can empower your community! Not quite sure what self-efficacy is and why it's important? We'll cover that too as we showcase real world examples through interactive activities.

- *Define the difference between self-esteem and self-efficacy.*
- *Identify the four (4) sources of self-efficacy beliefs (mastery experiences, vicarious experiences, verbal persuasion, physiological feedback).*
- *Understand how the Texas State Park Outdoor Education and Outreach team incorporates self-efficacy into their programming to empower communities and the learner will gain ideas to replicate at their own agency.*

Forget Raving Fans...Create Swifties: Community Building by Taylor Swift (0.1CEU)

Ann Beck, Marketing and Communications Manager, Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department

Drawing a Blank Space when it comes to resident engagement? Need to heal some Bad Blood with residents and turn your brand story into a Love Story? We know the feeling All Too Well! No matter your musical tastes, you'll be Enchanted by the incredible branding, marketing and community-building power of Taylor Swift. Whether you love her music or just want to be Fearless in your marketing this year, You Belong With Me in this fun, fast-paced session you won't soon forget. Are you Ready For It?

- *Understand the concepts of branding and community-building.*
- *Identify new strategies to engage with residents and build loyalty.*
- *Identify marketing and branding strategies in daily life (like on the radio).*

NRPA is Coming to Texas! (0.1CEU)

Michael Biedenstein, CPRP, AFO, Volunteer and Awards Manager, National Recreation and Park Association

Stacie Anaya, CPRE, Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Lewisville

The NATIONAL Recreation and Park Association Annual Conference is coming to Dallas in October 10-12, 2023! This session will be a crash-course covering all things NRPA: how to get involved, what to expect, when/what to do, how to maximize your time, etc.

- *Identify the opportunities for learning and networking at the NRPA Annual Conference.*
- *Prioritize for themselves how to get involved by volunteering before and during conference.*
- *Identify the timeline to register, present, volunteer, etc. for/at conference.*

Partnerships that Work: Creating a Successful P3 (0.1CEU)

Arash Izadi, Principal, Director of Sport + Recreation, LPA

Jon Hughes, Executive Vice President, Griffin Structures

In difficult times, public-private partnerships (P3) provide a financing strategy to build facilities, while managing costs and addressing broader community goals. But making a P3 work takes careful planning, open communication and a clearly defined framework. This session will analyze the potential for a P3 to bring community goals to life from the perspective of designers and executives who have successfully completed projects.

- *Understand the benefits of a public-private partnership.*
- *Understand the methodology behind P3's and create a financing strategy that benefits all stakeholders involved.*
- *Understand how this delivery method can address broader community goals.*

Senior Centers – Improving Lives throughout the Ages (0.1CEU)

Dianne Stone, Associate Director, National Council of Aging

Since 1943, Senior Centers have provided programs and services that improve lives as people age. Today there are 10,000 Senior Centers that reflect the communities they serve. Learn where senior centers began, what senior centers are doing today and how they can continue to evolve. Learn how NCOA connects senior centers to supports, best practices and to each other through NISC and the new Modernizing Senior Centers Resource Center and how NCOA is improving the lives of 40 million older adults.

- *Understand the evolving role of senior centers in improving lives.*
- *Identify best practices that can be implemented.*
- *Define how NCOA is supporting senior centers through NISC and the Modernizing Senior Centers Resource Center.*

Surveys: Rubbish or Relevant* (0.1CEU)

Joseph Walker, Principal Lecturer, University of North Texas

Jamie Rae Walker, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, Texas AandM AgriLife Extension

This session will highlight best practices in survey research, common mistakes and assumptions, and key takeaways to consider when designing and implementing surveys.

- *Review general best practices in survey design and implementation.*
- *Discuss the assumptions often made when collecting, analyzing, and presenting survey data and reporting sampling power.*
- *Identify relevant best practices for specific situations.*

Diving Into Your Data Without Drowning* (0.1CEU)

Bobbi Nance, President, Recreation Results LLC

Curious about what insights your data holds, but unsure where to start? Using real-life, relatable examples, we'll walk through questions you should ask of your data, key areas that will make a big impact on your data efforts, and small tweaks to make your results stand out. Taught in a fun, approachable way – this promises to inspire you to change your relationship with your data from avoidance to asset.

- *Think more critically about your data and ask better questions of it.*
- *Feel more confident in using simple tools like Excel to dive into data.*
- *Make tweaks to charts and graphs that make results more engaging and easier to understand.*

Enriching Your Community Canvas with Public Art and Architectural Enhancement (0.1CEU)

Jim Browne, Director of Recreation Business Development and Planning, Brinkley Sargent Wiginton Architects

Stephen Springs, Senior Principal/Architect, Brinkley Sargent Wiginton Architects

What are the opportunities for your parks and recreation department to establish or improve processes and build the partnerships necessary for public art and creative design to thrive? How can your public spaces and recreation facilities capture the public's imagination and demonstrate commitment to iconic recreation buildings and public spaces while strengthening public support for continued investment in public art and great design in public buildings?"

- *Demonstrate the ability to define and summarize the components of a strategically designed Public Art Master Plan.*
- *Respond with three (3) examples of community based organizations, non-profits or governmental advisory boards that are critical partners for successful Public Art Plans.*
- *Demonstrate a greater awareness of traditional and non-traditional architectural enhancement techniques that can add value to the community's public art vision and goals.*

Park Operations and Planning – Current Trends (0.1CEU)

Tim Speyrer, East District Park Manager, Travis County Parks

Richard Clarke, Parks Superintendent, City of Carrollton

This session will focus on current trends in park maintenance and how it affects the park design and daily operations of park staff. Topics will include new technology to maintain parks – (autonomous machines and electric vehicles) and reducing mowing needs through identifying no-mow zones and pollinator areas.

- *Identify three (3) pros and three (3) cons of automated maintenance equipment and fully electric equipment.*
- *Recognize number of hours spent mowing. Use session content to identify areas within their park that can be converted to 'no-mow' zones and calculate amount of time saved.*
- *Identify at least one (1) area in their parks that meet requirements to be a pollinator zone.*

Preparing Programmers to Meet the Needs of Military-Connected Children*
(0.1CEU)

Georgia McKown, Director- Planning, Analysis, and Evaluation, Military Child Education Coalition

Andrea Janoe, Director- Implementation, Military Child Education Coalition

Texas has more than 120,000 Active Duty military service members, and their families are integral to our communities. Join us in this session to learn about how to engage and support military-connected children and their families in therapeutic and recreational activities.

- *Identify military-connected children in their programs.*
- *Describe how different features of the military-lifestyle may impact military-connected children.*
- *Discuss how to support the social-emotional needs of military-connected children (MCC) in their programs.*

Texas Sized Toxicology
(0.1CEU)

Joseph Lozada, Director of Training Development, Strategic Trauma Solutions

The Great State of Texas is home to many wild critters. Some of these critters don't play well with others. In fact, some of these animals are downright hazardous to our health. In this session we will discuss the how to keep the community safe from living toxic hazards and how to provide initial treatment until advanced help arrives.

- *Effectively describe the basic difference between poison and venom.*
- *Describe skills and care for persons in order to prevent further injury and promote recovery.*
- *Discuss varying types of envenomations that may occur around North Texas.*

The Bakari Williams Protocol
(0.1CEU)

Venera Flores-Stafford, Assistant Director, City of Arlington

Michael Debrecht, Interim Assistant Director, City of Arlington

The City of Arlington will discuss how the department responded to the death of 3-year-old Bakari Williams after visiting Don Misenhimer Splashpad. In addition, the presentation will discuss the improvement and upgrades of equipment and implementation of the QR code and the updated policies, procedures, and protocols for the aquatic facilities.

- *Identify redundancies to ensure staff compliance in chemical recordings.*
- *Learn ways to share chemical information with customers to provide confidence in the facility.*
- *Understand leadership roles in the wake of dealing with a a major tragedy.*

Throw Spaghetti on the Walls: Team Engagement Methods that Stick
(0.1CEU)

Travis Cunniff, Recreation Services Manager, City of Allen

Hear the firsthand story of an organization that has deployed major strategic initiatives to combat staff burnout and increase engagement across all levels of the team. From "Programmer Summits" to an all-staff internal conference, Allen Parks and Recreation will share several pages from their team engagement playbook, equipping session attendees with the logistics, cautions and potential outcomes of several out-of-the-box ideas. Attendees will leave with a custom Team Engagement Action Plan.

- *Identify and discuss three (3) proven Team Engagement activities/ideas.*
- *Create a Team Engagement Action Plan for their organization/team.*
- *Discuss effective ways that all levels of staff can impact team engagement regardless of the size of the team or organization.*

TRAPS Townhall
(No CEUs)

Erin Franz, Executive Director, Texas Recreation and Park Society

Join TRAPS Executive Director, Erin Franz, along with TRAPS leadership, in an update about the strategic plan, initiatives and news on the horizon. Learn about how TRAPS is serving our members through new benefits, opportunities to engage with the organization and various committees, and our most recent advocacy efforts. If you are a lifetime member or just considering joining, this session is for you.

Thursday, March 2, 9:30-10:30AM, 10:45-11:45AM

A Frisco Park for the Future: Ecology and Recreation Symbiosis
(0.1CEU)

Conners Ladner, Principal, Design Workshop, Inc.

Emily Manderson, Senior Environmental Designer, Blackland Collaborative
Public parks and nature preserves are too often seen as disparate spaces.

Northwest Community Park represents a new vision for public green space, where ancient remnants of Blackland prairie are interwoven with mountain biking trails and nature-driven playgrounds, interpretive elements, and gathering spaces. The park is an opportunity to create a living laboratory and a celebration of both the Frisco community and North America's most endangered ecosystems.

- *Give specific examples of how new parks can embody both community programming and nature preservation/restoration.*
- *Name retrofit interventions that can turn existing parks into ecologically functional spaces.*
- *Identify specific projects suitable for the community programming/ecological restoration hybrid model for public parks.*

Be a Thermostat, Not a Thermometer

(0.1CEU)

Ann Beck, Marketing and Communications Manager, Mansfield Parks and Recreation Depart

Feel like you're always reacting to the chaos swirling around you? You'll never get ahead chasing someone else's vibes, a thermometer that bounces up and down with the sun. Instead, try being the thermostat: set the tone for what's expected and what's tolerated, then motivate your staff, leadership and community to rise (or chill) to your level. From calming social chatter to motivating leadership, the power is yours if you want it!

- *Identify ways that others are pulling focus and attention from what matters and learn how to resist those conflicts.*
- *Learn how to get a better handle on social media chatter and rally the community in your favor.*
- *Learn how to help staff and leadership understand their role in the impression of your brand within the community and how they can help (or at least not hurt).*

Can Using Aquaticity Skills Improve Your Swim Programs?

(0.1CEU)

Jo An Zimmermann, Associate Professor, Texas State University

Stacey Herzog Bender, Senior Lecturer, Texas State University

There are many approaches to teaching swim lessons, and each has its own levels with testing processes. This session will discuss a method of skills testing that works regardless of lesson type. It gives participants a numeric score on six skills known to show the level of one's comfort in the water (aquaticity) and lines up with skills suggested by the AAP as basic water competence. We will discuss research conducted with both adults and children. Practical applications will be discussed.

- *Discuss the term aquaticity.*
- *Apply aquaticity skills to both swim and water safety courses.*
- *Create a plan for using measures of aquaticity to improve swim and water safety courses.*

Cross-Training With Emergency Services (0.1CEU)

Emily Marecle, Aquatic Supervisor, City of Grapevine

"EMS arrives and takes over." We all use this prompt in our scenarios, but what comes next? This session will explore the many benefits of meeting with the first responders who are dispatched to your facility in an emergency. We will also briefly discuss an in-service plan that includes running an EAP with your EMS department all the way up to loading the victim into the ambulance.

- *Identify who to reach out to and how to initiate the conversation with their Fire/EMS Department to get started.*
- *Ask targeted questions and know what topics to cover for their specific situation or set up.*
- *Plan and execute a successful training with their Fire/EMS Department to better serve members and guests.*

Do Your Facilities Make the Grade? (0.1CEU)

Kim Bybee, Parks Manager, City of Carrollton

Parks and Recreation facilities are in constant need of maintenance, repairs, renovation, and eventually replacement. Prioritizing which facilities to tackle each year can be a difficult task with limited budgets. Come learn how to integrate a report card process within your department to apply grades to your facilities and easily determine the areas that need the greatest focus so you can create a plan to budget funds appropriately.

- *Identify the necessary steps for effectively evaluating Parks and Recreation facilities.*
- *Define criteria that will contribute to an overall grade/score for different types of amenities.*
- *Apply these tools to actual facilities and see the results in action.*

Friday Night Lights - Planning a Regional Trail to Unite Midland and Odessa (0.1CEU)

Timothy Hair, Principal, Dunaway Associates

Cameron Walker, Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO

The Permian Basin has traditionally been less than friendly to drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians alike. The session will outline the planning process for the Wildcatter Trail, including public engagement, and building diverse local support for a significant project to link two cities in the nation's busiest oil field.

- *Understand the impact of infrastructure on planning and design.*
- *Understand how to increase stakeholder engagement in the project and go from planning to project.*
- *Plan for conflicting land uses and regulatory processes.*

Intentional Recreation Programming: Programming with a Purpose (0.1CEU)

Willette Middleton, Recreation Operation Supervisor, City of West University Place
Why is Intentionality important when considering recreation programming offered to the community? Intentionality in recreation programming allows for us to ensure we are upholding our organizations missions, goals and values. Every recreation professional should ask themselves, what impact am I truly making through the programs I am offering. Let's explore programming with a purpose!

- *Define programming intentionality.*
- *Demonstrate three (3) ways to effectively promoting programming intentionality in their organization.*
- *Discuss two (2) effective marketing practices to aid in program intentionality.*

**Our Three Leadership Brains: Smarts, Compassion and Courage*
(0.1CEU)**

Jamie Sabbach, President and CEO, 110% Inc.

The pandemic ushered in an unprecedented series of challenges that have required an ethical core, compassion, and competence - essentially, the three leadership brains. Parks and recreation must have strong, capable, and courageous leaders at the helm now more than ever. The future will always rely on the choices we make – and those choices will lead to the next chapter of the parks and recreation story that future generations will read and judge.

- *Define and describe society's influence on character and values*
- *Identify political and social ethical issues that affect the field of parks and recreation*
- *Determine the impacts of teaching, enforcing, advocating, and modeling that ultimately contribute to a greater good*

Services for Ages 50+: It's a Balancing Act*

(0.1CEU)

Kelly Gaydos, Recreation Center Supervisor, Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department

Working with older adults can be a balancing act. Do they want to be called "seniors" or "active adults"? Will they participate in a group exercise class or only want cards and games? Are members willing to pay for a program, or will only participate if it is included in their membership? This session will showcase the programs and operations of the Allen R. Baca Center in Round Rock and how it is possible to juggle the needs and wants of this older population.

- *Assess why Baby Boomers matter.*
- *Discuss how to adapt programs to meet the changing needs of customers.*
- *Analyze the operational side of the Baca Center.*

Aging Mastery: Creating Community, Empowering Lives

(0.1CEU)

Susan Stiles, Senior Director - Healthy Aging Innovations, National Council on Aging

The Aging Mastery Program® (AMP) is an aspirational and fun evidence-informed program developed by the National Council on Aging. AMP helps older adults reframe aging for themselves and build their own playbook for aging well. More

than 30,000 people have participated in AMP with high satisfaction and graduation rates. This workshop will provide an overview of the program and show you how to offer it in your community using examples from several AMP sites in Texas and also nationwide.

- *Understand the importance of having older adults change their mindset about aging.*
- *Learn techniques for engaging older adults in behavior change.*
- *Gain insights and recommendations for adapting the program for a variety of audiences.*

Career Development Bootcamp - How To Standout* (0.1CEU)

Michael Biedenstein, CPRP, AFO, Volunteer and Awards Manager, National Recreation and Park Association

Cassie Paddock, CPRP, Recreation Manager, City of Schertz

Are you looking for ways to take your career to the next level and develop soft skills? Do you feel like you're being held back at work or could be contributing at a higher level? This session will discuss four different laps/phases of a career and what to do at each level to get yourself ready for the next step. You'll leave this session with concrete ideas to improve yourself, expand your influence and position yourself for a promotion.

- *Understand where they are at in their career and what many professionals have done already up to that point in a career.*
- *Develop a roadmap (identify opportunities to pursue) to the next career step to help achieve their goals.*
- *Identify professionals to model their career after and identify other professionals in a similar career phase as themselves -- both providing accountability and support to the learner going forward.*

Design Trends for Risk Management in Aquatics (0.1CEU)

Justin Caron, Principal, Aquatic Design Group

In today's world, aquatics risk management starts in the facility design process and plays a heavy role in the renovation process as well. This session will feature a display of trends for managing risk in aquatic centers that occur in both the design process as well as the renovation process. There will be a focus on decking materials, splashpads, in-light drowning surveillance systems, adding UV disinfection on swimming pools, and much more.

- *Identify risk management trends that are incorporated into the design process.*
- *Identify risk management trends that are incorporated into the renovation process.*
- *Understand average costs for incorporating risk management trends into the design process.*

Have You Played Today?

(0.1CEU)

Shannon Coates, Director, City of Frisco

This question should be just as important as, "Did you eat breakfast?" or, "Did you brush your teeth?" As park and recreation professionals we all know the importance of play. It stimulates the mind, boosts creativity, helps form connections, and lowers blood pressure. If play is so powerful, why aren't more people playing? From teambuilding ideas to community-building ideas, join me to #FindYourPlay.

- *As park and recreation professionals we all know the importance of play. It stimulates the mind, boosts creativity, helps form connections, and lowers blood pressure. If play is so powerful, why aren't more people playing?*
- *Small group discussion.*
- *Think - Pair- Share.*

Making Parks and Recreation Enjoyable and Accessible for All*

(0.1CEU)

Kristi Avalos, President and CEO, Accessology Too, LLC

A park can be almost anything. It can be as small as a green space or as large as a theme park. Regardless of its size, it is required by law to be accessible. Whether the park has water features, hike/bike trails, or amusement rides, accessibility is needed to offer recreational opportunities for individuals with disabilities. This class is designed to assist participants in understanding how to make the many varieties of parks compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- *Name 5 examples of specific ways to incorporate all of the senses into outdoor experiences making them accessible and enjoyable for individuals with different types of disabilities.*
- *Identify 2 characteristics of compliant trails on 2 types of topography.*
- *Describe 5 modifications for playgrounds to make them accessible.*

Natural Connections: Building Partnerships that Support Nature

(0.1CEU)

Kelsey Scherschel, Special Projects Manager, City of San Antonio

This session will present information on the role of parks in connecting people to nature, stewarding natural resources, and building partnerships that support and extend capacity to do so. Session participants will map out opportunities that exist within their community to build partnerships, and the resources needed to execute those actions.

- *Understand the role of parks as a public trust resource.*
- *Become familiar with different types of partnerships that support connections to nature.*
- *Identify opportunities and resources needed to develop partnerships within parks/communities.*

Turfgrass Mathematics 101

(0.1CEU)

Chase Straw, Assistant Professor, Texas AandM University

Weston Floyd, Research Specialist II, Texas AandM University

Fertilizers and pesticides should be applied at the proper rate to achieve maximum efficiency and reduce environmental impacts. This two-part session will cover the basics regarding fertilizer and pesticide calculations, as well as recap sprayer and spreader calibrations. Bring your calculators!

- *Read a fertilizer and pesticide label to identify appropriate application procedures.*
- *Determine the proper amount of fertilizer and pesticide to apply to a given area.*
- *Properly calibrate a sprayer and spreader to deliver fertilizers and pesticides at the appropriate rate.*

Will it be a Fit, Fad, or Flop?

(0.1CEU)

Bobbi Nance, President, Recreation Results LLC

When it's time to add new programs to your offerings each season, how confident are you that they'll be successful? Instead of waiting to see what sticks, pick up 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. Take a more thoughtful approach to expanding your offerings - all with the goal of increasing your new programs' potential for success.

- *Evaluate recreation programs before they are offered for fit and their potential for success.*
- *Examine past successes and envision new program and recreation service ideas that build off of them.*
- *Test new ideas before offering them as a full recreation program.*

TRAPS Advocacy: Legislative Update and how YOU Can Get Involved
(0.1CEU)

Jeff Achee, Director, Harker Heights Parks and Recreation

This session will discuss the Texas Legislative process, how the TRAPS Legislative Committee works for its membership, how the 88th Texas Legislative session may impact the parks and recreation industry, and how YOU can get involved.

- *Define and discuss the basic concepts of the legislative process in Texas.*
- *Interpret information from previous Texas legislative sessions and determine impact on own community.*
- *Discuss effective ways to get involved in the legislative process both statewide and nationally through a 'town hall' styled question and answer forum.*

Bring Fishing and Archery Programs to Your Site with Texas Parks and Wildlife
(0.1CEU)

Adam Comer, Aquatic Education Training Specialist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Adam Michael Lewis, Community Archery Specialist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Fishing and Archery is a fun and active pursuit that can be enjoyed by all ages and experience levels. Discover and explore trainings and resources through Texas Parks and Wildlife Outreach and Education that bring fishing and archery to your recreation center or park at little or no cost.

- *Discuss implementing one (1) activity at the participant's site.*
- *Give two (2) examples of TPWD Outdoor programming that a site can provide for their visitors.*
- *Recall two (2) ways a participant's site can utilize TPWD programming and resources.*

Central Irrigation Control and Flow Sensing to Save Water, Time, and Money (0.1CEU)

David Garrison, North Texas Technical Sales, Calsense

In this session, attendees will learn what central control is relative to irrigation management and how it can be used to address inefficiencies in managing landscape water use. We will also address flow monitoring, which can be managed by central control. We'll look at the use of weather-based programming and remote monitoring in a central control and water budget forecasting context, and demonstrate how these elements can be utilized to save on water, labor and overall operational costs.

- *Explain the concept of central control in irrigation management and how it can be used to address inefficiencies in managing landscape water use.*
- *Demonstrate how flow monitoring can be managed by central control.*
- *Show how central control concepts can be implemented in their organization to save water, energy and labor.*

Cultivation Practices for Turfgrass Sports Fields (0.1CEU)

Weston Floyd, Research Specialist II, Texas AandM University

Chase Straw, Assistant Professor, Texas AandM University

Soil compaction on high-use turfgrass sports fields can compromise aesthetics, playability, and safety. There are a plethora of cultivation options to alleviate soil compaction, but not all are equal. This session will describe their differences and leave participants with several useful options.

- *Understand the importance of cultivation for successful sports fields.*
- *Understand differences between the many different available cultivation pieces of equipment.*
- *Understand the effectiveness of each cultivation practice described.*

Have No Fear of the Volunteer: Fostering Altruistic Relationships* (0.1CEU)

Michael Kowski, Director of Parks and Recreation, City of McKinney

Marty Sillito, Parks Superintendent, City of McKinney

Volunteers directly contribute to the success of a community's parks system. This session will focus on the volunteer network in McKinney, TX, and showcase how this

fast-growing North Texas city transitioned from fragmented undertakings to organized and meaningful volunteer partnerships. This story will center around the McKinney Parks Foundation and the Dallas Off-Road Bicycle Association and reveal how their qualitative and quantitative impacts can be experienced, measured, and replicated.

- *Understand how to form and nurture volunteer groups to operate as independent agents that advance projects with minimal oversight.*
- *Develop a menu of predetermined volunteer opportunities that satisfy community needs and meet volunteer expectations and abilities.*
- *Design volunteer workdays – marketing, timeframe, training – and define the degree and type of support provided by a Parks and Recreation Department.*

Marching Your Madness into a Strategic Playbook* (0.1CEU)

Kate Meacham, Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Allen

Jen Robinson, Strategic Projects Manager, City of Allen

In our day-to-day madness it is easy to lose sight of the bigger picture. By focusing on your Raving Fans (your customers) and developing Player Profiles of your Team Members, you can build a successful playbook that has everyone marching in the same direction! Learn how to develop a Strategic Plan that all levels of your organization can score a touchdown with!

- *Understand how to identify tools within their organization to initiate a Department level strategic plan.*
- *Understand how to analyze high level information and bring it down to front-line team members in a simplified approach.*
- *Understand how to build a department strategic plan that is people-focused.*



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