



NACPRO News

December 2, 2014

The bi-weekly e-newsletter of the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials

Serving the needs of County, Regional and Special Park and Recreation District Professionals

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Best Practices Forum

Seeking advice on Off Leash Dog Area entry systems

Forest Preserve of Cook County (FPCC) is in the process of evaluating our off leash dog areas (OLDA) entrance gates. We're interested in moving away from issuing keys to patrons where they use a district issued key to unlock the gate. We would like to move to a system that would

allow membership ID cards or a passcode to gain entrance to the OLDA.

FPCC is for looking for agencies that are using a membership card or passcode to gain access to an off leash dog area or a similar type use area. I am also interested in learning about the vendors that offer keyless entrance systems.

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Got an issue you would like help with? Send your question to Brenda@nacpro.org with any background that will help our readers understand. We will publish it in the next NACPRO News.

Member News

Holland, Ottawa County work on lease deal that could connect parks

Courtesy of mlive.com

By Greg Chandler

HOLLAND, MI – Ottawa County could enter into a long-term lease with the city of Holland to manage a city-owned park across the street from the Macatawa Greenspace open area that was once part of the Holland Country Club.

City parks officials updated the City Council Wednesday, Nov. 12, on discussions with the county regarding Paw Paw Park, a 50-acre natural area on the south bank of the Black River. County officials earlier this summer expressed interest in leasing the land from the city, saying it would be a perfect natural connection to the Macatawa Greenspace, located across Paw Paw Drive.

“We feel the connectivity of the two sites is important,” county Parks Director John Scholtz wrote in a letter to City Manager Ryan Cotton earlier this summer. “Long-term, it would make sense to have a trail under the bridge. Short-term, we would like to have a crosswalk linking trails on the two parks.”

Read more: http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/11/holland_ottawa_county_work_on.html

After failure of Measure P, supervisors eye parks study

Courtesy of signalscv.com

By Luke Money

After Los Angeles County's proposed parks tax, Measure P, failed to win voter approval last week, county supervisors requested a study Wednesday on future parks and recreation needs and their costs.

Supervisors directed the county's chief executive officer and Department of Parks and Recreation chief to report back to the board within 30 days with a plan to create a "Countywide Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment."

That plan would look at potential parks and recreation projects needed countywide and include a projection of costs to complete them.

Read more: <http://www.signalscv.com/section/36/article/129821/>

News from the National Association of Counties

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Releases 2014 U.S. Election Insight Analysis

Details How the Election Could Impact County Priorities

The 2014 midterm elections have shifted the political balance in Washington, and despite a handful of unresolved races still pending, Republicans are poised to control both chambers of Congress in 2015. NACo has broken down the election results and provided analysis to prepare county officials for the lame duck period and beyond.

In the coming weeks, Congress could tackle a number of issues that would impact counties including FY 2015 appropriations, Marketplace Fairness Act and the Internet Tax Freedom Act, tax extenders, and funding for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Secure Rural Schools (SRS) programs.

Also learn how the new Congress could address important issues like tax and entitlement reform, transportation funding and reauthorization, and regulatory issues including the "Waters of the

U.S." proposed rule.

The NACo Analysis Examines:

- How County Federal Legislative and Policy Priorities Could be Impacted by the Elections.
- U.S. Senate Elections
- U.S. House of Representatives Elections
- Gubernatorial Elections
- State Legislature Races and State Ballot Initiatives
- Former County Officials in the 114th Congress

For more information: <http://www.naco.org/legislation/Documents/NACo-2014-Election-Analysis.pdf>

News from the National Recreation and Park Association

Call For NRPA Research Session Proposals

From Ed Gomez

Greetings everyone. There have been changes to NRPA's Leisure Research Symposium (LRS), and as Co-Chairs, Dart and I are responsible for trying to make the transition as smooth as possible. Prior to doing so we wish to note that several discussions were had between the leadership and members of the Academy of Leisure Sciences, the NRPA Education Network, and NRPA's Director of Research (George Butler's former position) and other NRPA staff, in order to be as inclusive as possible regarding the direction we wish to take LRS into the future to make it as vibrant and relevant and the premiere place for research in the field of parks, recreation and leisure.

Through our conversations, we were seeking a balance between more inclusion of practitioners into the LRS sessions and a space for academicians from around the country (world?) to gather and meet to share ideas. With respect to the former, we wanted to ensure that the research that is being conducted is relevant and useful for a broader audience to encourage greater attendance, and more importantly, broader diffusion of the research we are conducting for the people who will be using it and listening to it. At the same time, we recognize that NRPA's Congress is the one place where we as academicians from disparate lines of research and areas of inquiry have a home where we can gather to both socialize and develop new areas of inquiry. Given these complementary foci, we sought to make some changes. Below is a synopsis of these changes:

1. The Leisure Research Symposium is now known as the NRPA's Research Sessions. This is in line with the current Education Sessions, but obviously focused on research.

2. Abstract submissions

a. We are changing the number of pages from 3 pages to 2 pages, single spaced (not including references).

b. We are also changing the number of abstract submission categories from 12 to 6.

- Conservation
- Health and Wellness
- Social Equity
- Management and Administration of Recreation Programs
- Methodology and Research Design
- Other

c. Lastly, the selection criteria is similar to previous years' submissions, with some modifications:

- Overall quality of the proposal
- Focused and well-defined topic
- Timeliness of topic
- Relevance to the park and recreation profession
- Practical application of material
- Applicability to a national audience

We are encouraging more panel sessions, as we hope that we can use panel sessions to open each day after the Butler Lecture.

In short, as “keepers” of the traditional research agenda at NRPA and George Butler-inspired agenda, our focus was to continue with excellence in research. We hope to inspire top-notch researchers from this and other countries. We know that there are several specific conferences people go to for outdoor recreation, interpretation, health, TR, tourism, etc., but we honestly feel that NRPA was the root of all of it. Given that in 2015, NRPA will celebrate its 50th year and in 2016 the National Park Service will celebrate its 100th year, we hope to inspire more research in our field and having the NRPA Research Sessions be the premiere venue for this dissemination of knowledge that can be used by academicians and practitioners alike.

2015 NRPA Congress & Exposition – Las Vegas, NV

- Proposal Deadline - January 30, 2015
- Proposal Reviews - February 6-March 6, 2015
- Proposal Acceptance/Rejection Notifications – by end of April 2015
- Revised Proposals to be included in digital book of abstracts – by June 16, 2015
- Event Dates – September 15-17, 2015

For more information: <http://www.nrpa.org/LRS/>

New Research and Resources

Making “carry-down” watercraft launch sites accessible

Courtesy of American Trails

By Janet Zeller, National Accessibility Program Manager, U.S. Forest Service

Do you paddle a canoe, kayak, raft, stand up paddle board or some other type of carry down watercraft? If you do, you are among thousands of people across the U.S. participating in the fast growing paddlesports.

As long as you have a legal access point on the body of water you want to paddle, you can carry your watercraft and paddling gear with you to that point and launch. You aren't limited to having to launch only at specially constructed facilities. Whereas the various types of larger watercraft such as motor boats, sailboats and so forth must be towed by a vehicle to a boat ramp.

When there is an opportunity to develop or improve a carry-down watercraft launch site consideration needs to be given to both the sustainability and accessibility of that water access point. The need for sustainability is obvious, what is constructed today needs to last to protect the resource and also to need as little maintenance as possible.

There are no accessibility standards or guidelines that apply to the water entry point of carry-down craft launch sites. At the same time that launch site is a program opportunity and under the laws there is a responsibility that when improvements are made the site is to be usable by people with and without disabilities.

Read more: <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/water/zeller-accessible-carry-down-watercraft-launch.html>

Guide to selecting accessible play area surfaces

Courtesy of American Trails

Choosing play surfaces that are accessible and that can be maintained as accessible surfaces, becomes one of the most important decisions during the playground design. Trail managers will

also benefit from integrating play opportunities in park and trail corridors. The purpose of this guide is to provide practical information on accessibility standards, accessible routes within the play area, and a wide variety of surface options along with research findings.

For more information: <http://atfiles.org/files/pdf/accessible-play-surfaces-NCA.pdf>

CDC releases new tools to improve community health through parks and trails

Courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

In the 19th century, Frederick Law Olmsted, famous landscape architect in the 1800s, said that great public parks, such as his proposed Greensward (New York's Central Park), would function as the "lungs of the city"—green open spaces where city residents could breathe clean air.

To encourage outdoor activity today, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developed a parks and trails toolkit that will help communities create parks with expanded health benefits. In addition to Olmsted's observations, access to parks can help kids get the 60 minutes of aerobic physical activity each day recommended to maintain good health. According to the 2014 CDC State Indicator Report on Physical Activity, less than 30 percent of youth (grades 9-12) in the United States get this recommended amount of aerobic physical activity. Additionally, more than 25 percent of adults report no leisure-time physical activity. Being physically active is one of the most important steps Americans of all ages can take to improve their health.

The Parks and Trails Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Toolkit has six components to empower individuals and help community planners address health when designing parks and trails. This framework allows public health departments, city planners, project managers, community groups, and other stakeholders work together to create healthier environments.

The toolkit includes:

- Resources that provide data about health issues in an area, for example, childhood obesity rates, mortality rates, or percent of low birth weight babies.
- Recommendations from existing HIAs, including ways to improve access by evaluating park entry points and support physical activity that can help improve cardiovascular health.
- Citations that support the recommendations.

For more information: http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/pressroom/2014/november_12_2014.html

Urban River Parkways are a Cost-Effective Cure for the Public Ill

Courtesy of kcet.org

By Carren Jao

The Los Angeles River is far from being the green oasis many advocates would like to see, but it is making some good headway. In the last three months alone, we've seen the opening of the North Valleyheart Riverwalk, the L.A. River headwaters, and an expanded Marsh Park. These are all causes for celebration for the communities they serve, but for readers not in proximity to those places, they may induce reactions such as "Oh, another park. What's new?"

Any jaded reaction could do well to read a recent report released by the Center for Occupational and Environmental Health in UCLA. The report, released by Dr. Richard J. Jackson, who chairs the Environmental Health Sciences department at UCLA and formerly served as California's State Health Officer and worked at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), reveals the many health benefits associated with a specific land use: urban river parkways -- such as what Los Angeles is trying to realize by the 51-mile Los Angeles River.

The report, the first of its kind, firmly links myriad health benefits to urban river parkways. "There is no medicine or treatment that works as well to reduce the negative effects of obesity and related illnesses as physical activity, such as walking, running, and bicycling," said Dr. Jackson in a statement. "River parkways can benefit physical, mental, community, and environmental health, as well as the overall economic well-being of the population at large."

Not only does it benefit individuals, but societies as well. It can build stronger community ties, increase environmental sustainability, and even add to a neighborhood's economical well-being. The report calls out a park in Greenville, South Carolina. The park, built in 2004, cost \$13 million but has brought over \$100 million investments to the surrounding area. In Camden, New Jersey the 1.4-mile greenway Ulysses S. Wiggins Park has brought 600 residents, 2,000 workers, and 2 million tourists since it's been constructed. Another study also found that property values in Pennypack Park in Philadelphia increased more than tenfold, from \$1,000 per acre at 2,500 feet from the park to \$11,500 per acre at 40 feet from the park.

More importantly, all these benefits outweigh the costs of building urban river parkways. The report highlights the finding that "every \$1 investment in trails for physical activity leads to \$2.94 in direct medical benefit." Another study cited notes that the cost per mile of bicycle and pedestrian trails is only between \$83 and \$592, whereas the annual cost per capita of physical inactivity is about \$622.

Read more: <http://tinyurl.com/ofk2qc3>

How to Choose the Right Social Media Network for Your Planning Project

Courtesy of Planetizen

By Simon Lapointe

In a national citizen survey conducted by the National Research Center, 76 per cent of adults age 35 to 44 never attended a local public meeting. 76 per cent! Think about 10 people you know well. According to this survey, eight of them will never attend a public meeting.

By now most planners agree that, in general, projects that don't directly and negatively affect people, don't generate a lot of public discussion. And residents who show up at public meetings tend to be the same characters weeks after weeks. It's really hard to get people talking about a project if it's close to them.

So, some local governments are taking steps to remedy this situation by going to where people are. Park City's Mayor Thomas goes door-to-door along the town's main corridor to gauge resident sentiment about everything from new development projects to air quality and garbage pickup.

Social media networking sites and the internet is a place where people hang out a lot. On average Canadians spend 45 hours per month for surfing the internet. 79 per cent of American adults said they use the internet regularly and nearly half of adults say they use at least one of social media networking sites.

Given the amount of time we spend online, it makes sense that connecting with citizens online is another step in moving towards making it convenient for citizens to connect with their local government while increasing participation in projects.

Plus social networks provide a direct and targeted way to communicate with citizens. This is exactly what you need to foster trust and create connections. Social media network communication will become an essential part of the engagement mix for planners, engineers and architects involved in projects of all scales.

Having a solid understanding of who your target citizen is and what type of content he or she is interested in, will go a long way. Baby boomers are on Facebook and Millennials hang out on Twitter.

Read more: <http://www.planetizen.com/node/72221>

Spurred by Middle Class, Boating Industry Enjoying Wave of Resurgence

Courtesy of Forbes and American Recreation Coalition

By David Lariviere

Contrary to the images portrayed on TV shows like “The Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous”, most American boaters aren’t sipping champagne on fancy yachts. In fact, two-thirds of boat owners have a household income of less than \$100,000 per year.

“The recession (of 2008-09) really hit us hard,” acknowledged Carl Blackwell, a spokesman for the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA). The reason is because boating is primarily a middle-class activity with fishing (at 70 percent) topping what owners do. Tubing and water skiing were second and third, respectively.

“As the middle class goes, so goes the boating market,” said Kevin Grodzki, president of global sales and marketing at Wisconsin-based Mercury Marine, a top engine manufacturer. Florida, Texas, Michigan, Minnesota and New York were the leading boating states last year with Americans returning to the water in record numbers. About 88.5 million Americans, or 36.6 percent of the population, participated in recreational boating in 2013. It was a \$37 billion industry in 2013.

According to Blackwell, about 95 percent of all power boats that are sold in America are made in America, compared to 2 percent of clothing.

Read more: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/davidlariviere/2014/11/08/spurred-by-middle-class-boating-industry-enjoying-wave-of-resurgence/>

Developing the Next Generation of Conservationists 2015 Request for Proposals

Courtesy of the River Management Society

Full Proposal Due Date: Tuesday, December 16, 2014 by 11:59 PM Eastern Time

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) in cooperation with its federal partners, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and Forest Service

(USFS) announce an initiative to connect youth to the outdoors by providing financial support for conservation employment programs. The initiative, Developing the Next Generation of Conservationists, brings together public and private partners to support those organizations that are developing innovative conservation job opportunities for youth on public lands. These job opportunities, in turn, expose young people, particularly urban, tribal and minority youth, to the natural world and career opportunities available in conservation.

For more information: <http://www.nfwf.org/youth/Pages/2015rfp.aspx#.VF4iyvnF-X1>

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Urban Waters Restoration Grants

Courtesy of the River Management Society

The Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Program seeks to develop nation-wide-community stewardship of local natural resources, preserving these resources for future generations and enhancing habitat for local wildlife. Projects seek to address water quality issues in priority watersheds, such as erosion due to unstable streambanks, pollution from stormwater runoff, and degraded shorelines caused by development.

The program focuses on the stewardship and restoration of coastal, wetland and riparian ecosystems across the country. Its goal is to meet the conservation needs of important species and habitats, providing measurable and meaningful conservation and educational outcomes. The program requires the establishment and/or enhancement of diverse partnerships and an education/outreach component that will help shape and sustain behavior to achieve conservation goals.

Funding priorities for this program include:

- On-the-ground wetland, riparian, in-stream and/or coastal habitat restoration.
- Meaningful education and training activities, either through community outreach, participation and/or integration with K-12 environmental curriculum.
- Measurable ecological, educational and community benefits.
- Partnerships: Five Star projects should engage a diverse group of community partners to achieve ecological and educational outcomes.

This RFP closes February 2, 2015.

For more information: www.nfwf.org/fivestar

News Clippings

Parks and open space measures win in Silicon Valley, East Bay and nationwide

Courtesy of MercuryNews.com

By Paul Rogers

Although Election Day was mostly a disaster for environmentalists nationwide, in one area -- open space and parks funding -- they found success in the Bay Area and other parts of the United States.

Supporters of the largest open space measure in Northern California, Measure Q, a parcel tax to raise \$120 million over the next 15 years for open space preservation in Silicon Valley, declared victory Monday. With nearly all ballots counted, the measure had 67.64 percent of the vote, about 1 percentage point above the two-thirds threshold it needed to pass.

The \$24-per-year tax will give the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority money to buy development rights to preserve farmland, build trails for bikes, hikers and horse-riders, and add roughly 15,000 acres of open space preserves and parks in the cities and rural hills of Santa Clara County.

Read more: http://www.mercurynews.com/science/ci_26909871/big-election-parks-and-open-space-measures-silicon

Portage mayor calls for 'trail tax' for PATHS

Courtesy of WiscNews.com

By Craig Sauer

Portage, WI - Portage Mayor Bill Tierney has proposed a "trail tax" to pay for a large network of pedestrian and recreation trails throughout the community.

The tax, which could amount to about \$132 per year for a resident with a \$150,000 home, could fund the completion of the network known as the Portage Area Trails Heritage System (PATHS) as well as maintain it.

That adds up to an investment of about \$4 million in construction and about \$200,000 in annual maintenance — figures Tierney said were “on the high side” and very early estimates.

“Yes, I am going to say taxes,” Tierney told the Common Council at Tuesday night’s special meeting on PATHS. “That is not chump change to a lot of people and I understand that, but this is about more than just recreation. This is about wellness.”

Read more: http://www.wiscnews.com/news/local/article_d1cbdce9-cb14-59da-9c3e-17e2be322f81.html

Trail Towns meeting will discuss how recreation drives tourism

Courtesy of the Times Herald

By Beth LeBlanc

Port Huron, MI - A meeting Wednesday will focus on gateways to walking, biking and paddling in Port Huron.

Communities in the Discover the Blue advertising campaign received nine grants for the Trail Towns program, said Lori J. Eschenburg, a planner with the St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission.

The grants finance consulting help from Eschenburg and a Land Information Access Association representative at a series of three meetings in each community.

“The Trail Town program is capturing the economic dollar that walks, bikes and paddles your community,” Eschenburg said.

“At the end of the program, each community will get recommendations tailored to their own community on how they can sell their community for recreation tourism,” Eschenburg said.

Read more: <http://tinyurl.com/ohzlh6j>

Crowdfunded Parks Are Coming and That Isn’t a Bad Thing

Courtesy of NextCity.org

By Brady Dale

In the last four years, more than 30 new businesses have opened on Broad Avenue in the Binghamton section of Memphis. After years of decline, the wide, storefront-lined avenue is finally rebounding as the spine of a new arts district.

Ask locals what drove the change and invariably, they will mention the Hampline, a bike lane connecting Broad to some of the city's most popular neighborhoods and amenities. The Hampline is being built largely with federal, state and city grants, but when a \$75,000 budget hole cropped up in 2013, community leaders decided not to wait for more grant dollars from Washington and instead, turn to a new source of funding: the crowd.

The non-profit Broad Avenue Arts District and other local organizations came together to create a campaign on lobby, a non-profit platform for fundraising for projects that do civic good.

Soon enough, they had raised the needed money and in the process, connected with hundreds of new Hampline supporters, bringing new attention to the project and to the changing identity of Broad Avenue. "I think the campaign helped Memphis understand what the Hampline was," said Sarah Studdard, a spokesperson for the Broad Avenue Arts District.

Read more: <http://nextcity.org/daily/entry/in-public-crowdfunding-parks>

Nearly 6 Acres of New Green Space Coming Soon to Lakefront

Courtesy of Chicago.Curbed.com

By AJ LaTrace

Yesterday, Mayor Rahm Emanuel, CDOT, the Chicago Park District and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers kicked off the \$31.5 million effort to update the revetment at the lakefront near Fullerton Avenue and bring 5.8 acres of new green space to the area surrounding the Theater on the Lake. Called simply the Fullerton Revetment project, the city says that the project will create new green space and protect the existing land from flooding and erosion as well as improve congestion on the popular Chicago Lakefront Trail, which bottlenecks at the theater.

Read more: <http://chicago.curbed.com/archives/2014/10/14/nearly-6-acres-of-new-green-space-coming-soon-to-lakefront.php>

Mayors Get It: Parks Are Problem-Solvers

Courtesy of NextCity.org

Ask Fort Worth Mayor Betsey Price about parks, and she'll tell it to you straight: "Great cities all have strong parks. If you look at some of our European model cities, if you look at some of our Asian cities, they all have strong parks," she says. "In the end, for cities to be very vibrant and very strong, citizens have to be engaged. They have to know each other. They have to know a little bit about their city. They have to know their elected officials. There's no better place to do that than get people out in a green space, on a trail, along the river, wherever it might be."

Last December, Price teamed up with Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock and the City Parks Alliance to raise awareness about the necessity of strong urban park systems.

"As we compete to keep our cities and our country competitive in the rapidly changing global economy, we must make our cities more livable to support diverse populations and highly skilled workforces," Hancock says. "Creating and maintaining a strong system of parks and open recreational spaces is key to standing out above the rest."

Both mayors also support permanent funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), an incredibly important parks program that could sunset next year. With a tradition of bipartisan support for the LWCF — Hancock is a Democrat and Price is a Republican — they chair the Mayors for Parks Coalition, which now includes 35 mayors representing cities across the country who support reauthorization of LWCF.

Read more: <http://nextcity.org/daily/entry/mayors-parks-problem-solvers>

Training Opportunities

Request for Presentations Extended - 2015 National Outdoor Recreation Conference

April 12-16, 2015 – Annapolis, Maryland

The Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals (SORP) and the Northeast Recreation Research Symposium (NERR) are proud to join forces and present the 2015 National Outdoor Recreation Conference. This year we are seeking presentations from outdoor recreation professionals (e.g., planners, managers, academics, etc.) and students that demonstrate how you or your organization are celebrating the past, while addressing and crafting the future of outdoor recreation. Tell us about your research projects, creative approaches to current and future challenges, modern vision for outdoor recreation, innovative partnerships, new and exciting

collaborations, use of technology, entrepreneurial solutions, cultivating political and community support, and other case studies that present new ideas and tools that contribute and create a lasting and sustainable future for outdoor recreation.

The deadline for proposals has been extended to December 6, 2014.

For more information: www.recpro.org/2015-conference

Hulet Hornbeck Emerging Leaders Scholarship Application is now available!

Courtesy of American Trails

Through funds provided by generous sponsors, American Trails is proud to offer 20 scholarships for the Hulet Hornbeck Emerging Leaders Scholarship Program to young adults between the ages of 19-25 to attend the 22nd International Trails Symposium in Portland, OR.

Deadline for Scholarship applications is December 19, 2014.

Recipients will:

- Receive a full registration to the Symposium.
- Spend on entire day in the field, visiting various trails and talking to experts about trail design, construction, and maintenance, as well as opportunities for visitor use and engagement.
- Work together on a trail-based service project.
- Network with Symposium participants.
- Be paired with a mentor already established in the field.
- Deliver a group presentation on their Symposium experience to an audience of 30-50 conference attendees.

For more information: <http://americantrails.org/ee/index.php/symposium/2015-youth>

RMS Webnetwork 2014-2015 Series

Courtesy of the River Management Society

RMS is pleased to offer a series of presentations and workshops via webinar beginning December 10th and running through late June. Presentations represent the multi-disciplinary nature of river management and showcase the extraordinary array of expertise among RMS members and colleagues working for a prudent path our nation's rivers.

For more information: <http://rms.memberclicks.net/assets/Workshops/2015Web/2014-15%20webnetwork%20schedule%20and%20abstracts.pdf>

Webinar: Towards a Mountain Trail Sustainability Ethic

Courtesy of the Federal Lands Transportation Institute

Date: December 11, 2014

Time: 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm ET

Cost: \$35members/ \$55 non-members

Organization: American Trails

The goal of a trail sustainability ethic is protection of natural and cultural resources, inspired by federal land management agency trail management traditions, and implemented with consideration to a wilderness ethic of minimum alteration of natural system.

Attendees will be challenged to reflect their role as leaders in the mountain trails community and how to use Art, Science, and Inspiration to craft successful multiple use Sustainable Mountain Trail projects. The presentation is geared to the novice, intermediate and expert trail planner and designer. While the presenter's experience is predominantly with mountain trails, the principles presented will apply to all natural and soft surface trails.

For more information: <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/ManageMaintain/webinar-Sustainable-Mountain-Trails-Duffy-3.html>

2015 National Bike Summit

Courtesy of the Federal Lands Transportation Institute

Location: Washington, DC

Date: March 10-12, 2015

Organization: The League of American Bicyclists

The theme of the 2015 National Bike Summit perfectly describes the League's new strategic direction: bikes add value in so many ways. Instead of saying "Look at what the bike has done for us!" we're asking "How can the bike help you achieve your goals?" -- whether you're a health professional, community planner, traffic engineer, neighborhood leader, tourism agency,

grandmother or student. That's a significant shift -- and we'll be listening and learning from many of these groups during the Summit.

For more information: <http://bikeleague.org/content/summit-2015>

Leadership in Accessibility Management for Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Settings

Courtesy of the Federal Lands Transportation Institute

Date: April 13-17, 2015

Location: Kansas City, KS

Organization: National Center on Accessibility (NCA)

A comprehensive accessibility management program is the key to success for park and recreation agencies as well as cultural venues. This NCA training course is designed to give accessibility coordinators in parks, recreation and cultural settings a broad perspective and foundation for implementing an accessibility management program. This course is ideal for professionals with newly appointed responsibilities and for those looking to brush up on the latest information for accessibility compliance. Previous participants have found that this training has been very beneficial; not just for park and recreation professionals but for those who work in zoological parks, botanical gardens, museums, visitor centers and historic sites. Sessions will include discussions of the characteristics and needs of people with disabilities, legislative mandates and litigation, accessibility standards and common errors, the application of universal design to park, recreation and cultural environments, program access, considerations for conducting accessibility assessments, visitor use and marketing, and comprehensive planning. Examples and best practices in accessibility management will be presented throughout the sessions. Field exercises will give participants an opportunity to understand how to identify and determine physical and programmatic barriers, along with good examples that have been implemented, and also discussion of the considerations for prioritization of physical and programmatic barrier removal.

For more information: http://www.ncaonline.org/events/access_management_04-2015.shtml

About NACPRO

The National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials is a non-profit professional

organization that advances official policies that promote county and regional park and recreation issues while providing members with opportunities to network, exchange ideas and best practices, and enhance professional development.

Learn more about us at: <http://www.nacpro.org>

Deadline for the Next Issue

The next issue of NACPRO News will be delivered on December 16.

If you have news or an article to share, please send it to Brenda@nacpro.org by December 15.

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