



National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials

2018 Summer Meeting - Nashville, Tennessee July 14-16, 2018

All NACPRO events will occur at the Sheraton Grand Nashville Downtown where NACPRO has reserved a block of rooms.

Registration Deadline: July 10, 2018

Register here: <http://nacpro.org/meetinginfo.php?id=5&ts=1525713431>

Schedule at a glance

Saturday, July 14 - Metro Parks Nashville Tour, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (\$65/person)

Sunday, July 15 - Board and Membership Meeting, 9:00 am to Noon

Sunday, July 15 - Annual NACPRO Awards Banquet, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm (\$70/person)

Monday, July 16 - Educational Program, 9:00 am to Noon (\$25/person)

County Parks Tour - Saturday, July 14

The Metro Parks Tour of their innovative and historical facilities is scheduled for Saturday, July 14. The bus will leave the Sheraton Grand Nashville Downtown at 8:00 am. Lunch, drinking water and healthy snacks will be provided. The bus will return to the Sheraton at approximately 4:00 pm.

Tour Itinerary

Centennial Park is one of the crown jewels of urban parks and one of the city's top tourist destinations. This 132-acre park is often referred to as the "heart and soul of the city," because of its many festivals, weddings, and recreational amenities. The 101-year old park features the iconic Parthenon, a one-mile walking trail, Lake Watauga, the Centennial Art Center, historical monuments, a performing arts center and Black Box Theater, a beautiful sunken garden, a band shell, an events shelter, sand volleyball courts, dog parks, and an exercise trail. Millions of people visit the park each year to visit the museum, see exhibits, attend festivals, and just enjoy the beauty of the park.

Hadley Park is believed to be the oldest African American park in the nation. This 106-year old park is located between three historically black universities – Tennessee State, Fisk and Meherry Medical College. This 34-acre park has been more than just green space; it has been the site of historic events, community celebrations and of course, neighborhood recreation. The **Hadley Park Regional Community Center** provides a wide range of programs and services to all members of the community. In addition to the unique historical kiosks, the center features a year-round indoor pool, state of the art

fitness center, indoor walking track, gymnasium, computer lab, game room, crafts area, meeting rooms, and areas exclusively devoted to seniors. The **Hadley Park Tennis Center** houses nine outdoor hard courts and six 60-foot outdoor permanent courts for ages eight, four indoor courts, and a practice wall. The Tennis Center offers programs for almost any age and ability.

The **Shelby Park Nature Center** is a place where people can enjoy learning about our natural and urban landscape, the flora and fauna that call it home, the cultural history of the area, and the many complex interactions of what we so simply call “nature.” It is a place to learn (or remember!) that we are a part of nature. The center is a great starting point for exploring the more than 950 acres of Shelby Bottoms Greenway and 336 acres of the adjacent park. The facility includes the nature center which houses natural and cultural history exhibits, programming space, art and photography exhibition space, and a library with many field guides, natural and cultural history titles and children’s books; an organic demonstration and teaching garden; a Cumberland River Compact rain garden; a children’s Nature Play area and trails; and the trailhead for approximately five miles each of primitive hiking trails and paved accessible trails.

Cumberland Park, Ascend Park and Amphitheater, Riverfront Park and Fort Nashborough are located on the banks of the Cumberland River in downtown Nashville. These four facilities are highly visited tourist attractions. **Cumberland Park** is an innovative play space for children and families incorporating unique play structures and water features. The 6.5 acre park includes an outdoor amphitheater, which accommodates approximately 1,200 people for events.

The 11-acre **Ascend Park and Amphitheater** features over one mile of multi-use greenway trails, the city’s first downtown dog park, ornamental gardens and adult-friendly swings. The area known as “The Green,” a 1.5-acre event lawn features exercise and sports facilities, including two basketball half-courts.

Riverfront Park is located on the river’s west bank and is the site of a variety of festivals and special events. It is less than one block from the historic and recently renovated **Fort Nashborough Interpretive Center** which features an open plaza, four hand-carved log cabins of different sizes, a prominent feather monument acknowledging the history of Native Americans, new landscaping, sidewalks, exterior lighting, and log structures accurate to the period.

The **Fort Negley Visitors Center** is a historical education and outdoor recreation center where people and history come together. It is a place to learn that we are a part of history. The visitor’s center is a resource for exploring the delicate relationship between Nashville and the federal government during the Civil War and for learning about the site’s relevance in the 20th century and beyond. Recently featured in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal and several other national media outlets, the facility offers: interactive exhibits and two 20-minute videos covering the 1862 surrender of Nashville and the building of Fort Negley, education panels along paved paths for self-guided walking tours, home of the Nashville Civil War Roundtable and Fort Donelson Camp 62, and Sons of Union Veterans.

The Tour is \$65/person.

Board and Membership Meeting - Sunday, July 15

The Board Meeting will be held on Sunday, July 15 from 9:00 am to noon in the Studio 5 Room on the 5th floor of the Sheraton Hotel. Members are welcome to attend. Coffee, tea and soft drinks will be available.

Awards Banquet - Sunday, July 15

The annual Awards Banquet will be held from 6:00 to 9:00 pm in Ballroom 1 on the 2nd floor of the Sheraton Hotel.

A cocktail reception begins at 6:00 pm (cash bar) and dinner begins at 7:00 pm. Following the meal, the NACPRO Awards of Excellence will be announced and new board members and officers will be installed.

The Banquet is \$70/person.

Educational Program - Monday, July 16

The Educational Program will be held from 9:00 am to noon in the Studio 5 Room on the 5th floor of the Sheraton Hotel. Coffee, tea and soft drinks will be served.

Cultural Diversity Workshop

Stevon Neloms

9:00 to 10:00 am

Metro Parks Assistant Parks Director for Community Programs Stevon Neloms leads this dynamic educational session that explores the necessity of diversity in programming, administration and outreach. He will discuss hiring strategies, acquisition of green space in underserved communities and programming culture for the masses. You'll leave this session with hands-on knowledge about recruitment and the new workplace.

Stevon spent the majority of his 16-year career with Parks managing Coleman Community Center which is located in the most culturally diverse area of Nashville. His hands-on knowledge involved recruitment of staff, programming, communicating cross-culturally, partnerships, and outreach. He knows, and can communicate, the challenges and rewards of facilitating cultural diversity.

Plan to Play: A Master Plan for the Future!

Tim Netsch

10:00 to 10:45 am

Nashville emerged into the 21st century as a world-class "It" city. Among its many attributes is a valuable parks and greenway system that provides residents and visitors access to great park land, natural environments, greenway trails, and varied recreation facilities and programs. Plan to Play is the city's Countywide Parks and Greenways Master Plan. During this session, Assistant Parks Director for Planning and Facilities Development, Tim Netsch, summarizes the planned future for Nashville's park system and shares valuable insight on plan development, funding, community buy-in and navigating the sometimes turbulent political process.

The Ins and Outs of Background Checks

Chris Goodman, SSCI

11:00 am to Noon

How confident are you in defending your background check program, if and when the media calls? Are you concerned about keeping "high-risk" individuals from gaining access to children on public facilities under YOUR control?

Identify the steps to compliance with the criminal background check standards in the field of parks, recreation, and conservation.

The Educational Program is \$25/person.

Hotel and Meeting Venue

All NACPRO events will occur at the Sheraton Grand Nashville Downtown where NACPRO has reserved a block of rooms for NACPRO guests from July 13-16, 2018. The group rate is available 3 days before and after, subject to availability, if you want to extend your stay.

The hotel offers the following amenities: free Wi-Fi in guest rooms, fitness center, indoor pool, room service, and an onsite restaurant and bar.

The Sheraton gives you the opportunity to "Make A Green Choice" by forgoing your housekeeping for the day (except day of departure). In exchange for helping us conserve our natural resources, we'll reward you with \$5 to use in our food & beverage outlets or 500 SPG Starpoints® for each night you participate.

Sheraton Grand Nashville Downtown

623 Union Street, Nashville, TN 37219

Reservations: <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/NACPRO2018SummerMeeting>

Group Block Name: NACPRO Summer Meeting

Group Rates:

- \$239 - Single or double occupancy room
- \$259 - Triple occupancy room
- \$279 - Quadruple occupancy room

Make your reservation on or before June 19 to get the group rate.

Register here: <http://nacpro.org/meetinginfo.php?id=5&ts=1525713431>

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