

2010 GLPTI Schedule of Events

Monday / 22 February 2010

330PM Concurrent Sessions begin.

Implementing Green Parks Initiatives in Your Park / Crooked Lake Room

Sue Lehmann & Wendy Weis Smith, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

With a “green” wave sweeping the nation, our parks and recreation agencies need to advocate for more environmentally responsible practices. Get your organization involved with a green parks initiative using a few simple steps and changes modeled after national park units.

Communicating with the Public / Lake James Room

Jeff Cummings, Indiana DNR Fort Harrison State Park

Working in parks and recreation often means interacting directly with the public and in many different roles and settings. This session will identify key competencies that staff needs at all levels of an agency, from part-time to full-time, field personnel to executives, for effective public communication skills. Help your agency reap the benefits of having employees with focused communication skills.

Community Gardens in Parks: Connecting Communities with Food and Fun / Snow Lake Room

Krista Bailey, Unity Gardens, Inc.

Discover the many models of community gardens that exist in urban and suburban settings today. Learn how encouraging and allowing the development of community gardens on park land can create safer neighborhoods, preserve green space, and provide new options for family recreation. Find out how one community took several approaches to starting gardens on public lands and learn how to help get them started and sustained in a park system.

The ABCs of Mitigation / Wigwam Room

Thomas O. Swinford, IDNR Division of Nature Preserves

Mitigation made easy! Maintaining environmental quality sometimes requires development projects by public and private groups to improve the overall environment in a location, and sometimes benefits public lands for public agencies. This session discusses what goes into a mitigation project, how they can benefit park and recreation agencies, and the steps to take to complete it. Hear the headaches and smile at the successes!

5PM Dinner / *Historic Dining Room*

7PM Welcoming Reception, General Session, and Ice Cream Social

Lake James Room

Leadership—Are You Up for the Ultimate Challenge?

Steve Wolter, Eppley Institute

Leadership is at the cornerstone of organizational effectiveness. Leaders guide an organization to the fulfillment of its mission and prevent an organization from becoming stagnant and losing its way. Now, more than ever, leaders not only need to inspire and guide, but also need to possess a wide range of core competencies in order to be successful.

Effective leadership is an ongoing process of self-evaluation and continuous improvement. Understanding key characteristics of leadership allows a true leader the ability to assess their own strengths and weaknesses and

determine their personal development strategies. This keynote address will focus on the importance of self-awareness, accountability, power, and gender and how they factor into a success or failure in today's workplace.

Tuesday / 23 February 2010

7AM Breakfast / Historic Dining Room

730AM Registration Opens / Lobby

815AM General Session

The Economic and Intrinsic Values of Parks / Lake James Room

Steve Barker & Megan Lewis, JF New; Mary Eysenbach, Chicago Park District

Can you imagine a world without parks? Parks are not only beautiful places to recreate, but they provide a wealth of value both economically and intrinsically to individuals and communities. The benefits and contributions that parks generate are long known and quantified in this session. Next time someone asks you why you do what you do, you'll be able to tell them how important these public lands and your agency are!

10AM Concurrent Sessions

Communication Styles, Media Relations, and Communicating in a Crisis / Snow Lake Room

M. Jane Christyson, Cleveland Metroparks

This hands-on session will explore communication styles, day-to-day media relations, and communicating in a crisis. Learn tips, tricks, things to do, and things to avoid. Participants in this session will be exploring strategies and policy development with real-life examples.

A Priority and Commitment to Safety: Job Hazard Analysis (OSHA) / Jimmerson

Steve Iseminger, Wolverine Pipe Line Co.

Bill Johnstone, Huron Clinton Metroparks

Most park agencies are 'can do' people who work hard to make facilities and grounds look beautiful and function for the public. Yet, sometimes park agencies have the worst safety records. Put on your safety goggles and take a new look at your agency's hazard protocols in this session. Follow some models, including a corporate safety model, in order to check or improve your agency's safety culture! It is never too late to keep your workplace and your employees safe.

New Utility Vehicles: Making them Work! / Lake James Room

Wyatt Akers, Buddy Funk, Buzz Helser, and Tanner Schilke, Bobcat of Fort Wayne; Chuck Wyatt, Mark Nofziger, Hal-mark Sales and Rental

Hauling, mowing, dumping, sowing...park vehicles have to stand up to a lot of rough and dirty work. Check out the latest and the greatest in work utility vehicles and the benefits of using these safer, more effective vehicles in park operations. (Part of this session may take place outdoors...bring a jacket!)

Social Networking, Web 2.0 Made Easy! / Crooked Lake Room

Matt Wolf, Eppley Institute

Feeling overwhelmed by the explosion of social networking online? Not sure what Web 2.0 means and more afraid that the world will skip to Web 3.0 without you? Come straight to this session to learn how Facebook, Twitter, and more Web 2.0 collaborative processes are being used, how they can help your agency interact with the community, and why it is important to implement, not avoid, this societal phenomenon!

1145AM Lunch / Historic Dining Room

1PM Concurrent Sessions

Gadgets Returns! / Lake James Room

Hosted by Richard Sobecki, Huron Clinton Metropark Authority

Have you developed or used a gadget lately that has revolutionized your park's operations? From the smallest to the largest, every gadget you use could come in handy for someone else! Don't miss this show-and-tell for big kids that has been a part of the Great Lakes Park Training Institute from its earliest years!

Bridging Generations / Crooked Lake Room

Ben Wagner, Columbus Parks and Recreation

We all tend to associate ourselves with a certain generation, and with that generation comes a variety of stereotypes and assumptions about the way we think, work and play. From spinning an LP to downloading a new song right to your iPhone, all generations have things to teach and things to learn. By understanding all of our differences and focusing on our similarities we will best serve the communities in which we live. This interactive session will focus on the fundamentals of bridging generations.

Reconnecting the Disconnect: Families, Children, and School Groups / Snow Lake Room

Carly Martin, Cleveland Metroparks

So many things are disconnecting us from nature: busy lives, economic woes, technology, vicious attack chipmunks. Having a relationship with our natural world improves our physical and emotional health and will increase support for parks and natural lands. Join Cleveland Metroparks Naturalist, Carly Martin, to talk about ideas on how to reconnect families and children with the natural world around us, whether through school or family programs.

Lions, Tigers, and Bears—Oh My! Parks and Natural Hazards / Jimmerson

Amanda Smith and Megan Gutierrez, Hamilton County Parks

For our local parks the Wizard of Oz line should read "poison ivy, stinging nettles, bee stings, oh my!" The outdoors is fraught with nature "nasties," but with an ounce of prevention and education, you can help protect your patrons and your employees from ugly encounters. Help your visitors get over the fears and barriers to getting out in the parks through understanding the perceptions, problems and solutions presented by natural hazards.

215PM Concurrent Sessions

Gadgets Returns! / Lake James Room *(repeated from 1PM Tuesday)*

Bridging Generations / Crooked Lake Room *(repeated from 1PM Tuesday)*

Parks and Natural Hazards / Jimmerson *(repeated from 1PM Tuesday)*

Reconnecting the Disconnect: Special Events / Snow Lake Room

Carly Martin, Cleveland Metroparks

Continuing the reconnecting of nature and people, we will delve into another topic—special events. Whether the event is a unique exhibit or a day long nature-carnival, special events are a unique opportunity to break through people's busy lives and get them coming back for more! Come and discover how Cleveland Metroparks Naturalist, Carly Martin is working to connect visitors to nature through special events.

330PM General Session

Vision 2050—Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility /

Lake James Room

Scott Griffin, Greif, Inc.

How does a public and private organization continue to function well in tough economic times while managing the challenges of social change? Are there best practices that guide these agencies to make sure they survive change and flourish to meet their original founding mission and vision? The speaker will share real case examples from both national and international corporations on how and why they are spending an increasing amount of corporate energy focusing on their sustainability practices. This session will show the attendee to see what is really meant by the slogan "Think globally, act locally."

630PM Vendor Social & Dinner / *Lake James Room*

Roll up your sleeves and get your game face on! Tonight you'll enjoy an evening of food, fun, and frolicking! Make new pals, network, and interact with other attendees and regional vendors. Plus, fabulous prizes, a Baggo Tournament, and more!

Wednesday / 24 February 2010

7AM Breakfast / *Historic Dining Room*

Morning Bird Hike / *Meet at Coffeepots by the Sun Deck*

Join Pokagon State Park's own Fred Wooley and friends for an avian adventure. Bring your binoculars or borrow ours!

815AM General Session

Building Community Health in Parks / *Lake James Room*

Dr. David Compton, Indiana University

Everyone seems to understand that parks are good for health and that park agencies play an important role in community health. This session identifies the evidence-based data that support this general perception and proposes aggressive approaches and research to further place park and recreation agencies at the heart of the effort to build healthy communities in America. Hear the hard facts on the health benefits of parks.

10AM Concurrent Sessions

Communication Styles, Media Relations, and Communicating in a Crisis / *Snow Lake Room (repeated from 10AM Tuesday morning)*

A Priority and Commitment to Safety: Job Hazard Analysis (OSHA) / *Jimmerson (repeated from 10AM Tuesday morning)*

Recreation Access Audits: A to Z / *Lake James Room*

John McGovern, Recreation Accessibility Consultants, LLC

Parks and recreation agencies must meet several key requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). From the maintenance of accessible features, to new construction, to system-wide access audits of existing sites and facilities, staffs need to understand and meet these requirements. This session will review requirements for new construction, alterations, and additions; system-wide access audits, and the ever-present maintenance requirement. We'll also briefly review the status of design guidelines for recreation environments, and smart practices to complement these minimum requirements.

Bright Idea: Using New Lighting Technologies / *Wigwam Room*

Scott R. Triphahn, WT Engineering and Hoffman Estates Park District Park Board Commissioner

Keep your bright lights and your dark nights! New lighting technologies help make the parks more environmentally responsible and create new atmospheres at your agency. This session reviews the improvements in park lighting and how it can help your agency be more sustainable.

1145AM Lunch / *Historic Dining Room*
Board of Regents Meeting / *Crooked Lake Room*

1PM Concurrent Sessions (repeated at 215PM today)

Realize Operational Reductions through Electric Energy Efficiency / Wigwam Room

Craig Burgi, Steuben County REMC

Get some bright ideas when this session explains how to target big ticket electric energy efficiencies that result in operational reductions and wiser use of utility resources.

Smart Irrigation: A Sustainability Tool / Snow Lake Room

Schuyler Stutzman, John Deere Landscapes

Conserve water and keep your parks green with smart irrigation. This basic of sustainable park and public land management is improving annually. Discover pools of information on how to be a good steward of our water resources and maintain your properties in a flood of flora.

Trail Stewards: A Different Approach to Volunteerism / Lake James Room

Jerry Pagac, Champaign County Forest Preserve District

Fire up the community for volunteering at the parks! How does an agency find willing workers to help fill the ranks at your park? This session shares some basic building blocks for volunteers in action, using a very successful model from the Champaign County Forest Preserve District. The CCFPD's volunteer model emphasizes commitment, training, camaraderie and education through the use of half-day workshops.

Natural Playscapes: Encouraging Children's Imaginative Play and Healthy Development / Jimmerson

Scott Crawford, ASLA, LEED AP; Mike Bell, ASLA; RDG Planning and Design

With the epidemic of our youth becoming increasingly withdrawn from the world outdoors it is critical we as a society create environments that are safe and accessible for children to experience nature through informal and non-programmed recreation. This session will engage participants to explore the following areas of natural playscapes: Process of community input, programming, planning, designing, and constructing; Materials; Accessibility; Safety; Educational, cultural and artistic considerations; Health benefits; Maintenance; Risk assessment; Potential economic impacts.

215PM Concurrent Sessions (repeated from 1PM today)

Realize Operational Reductions through Electric Energy Efficiency / Wigwam Room

Smart Irrigation: A Sustainability Tool / Snow Lake Room

Trail Stewards: A Different Approach to Volunteerism / Lake James Room

Natural Playscapes: Encouraging Children's Imaginative Play and Healthy Development / Jimmerson

330PM General Session

Celebrating 100 Years of Contributions by the Boy Scouts of America / *Lake James Room*

Steve Harris, BSA Detroit Area Council

A century of scouting has made definite impacts on the world's young men, but also on many local park and recreation agencies in the projects performed by an army of young volunteers committed to community service. Hear the history and hopes for the future behind one of the world's most influential youth programs, and how it has helped public parks.

6PM Awards Dinner / *Lake James Room*

The Flaherty Award, Attendance Awards, Lawson Awards, and the annual Gadgets Award will be presented.

730PM Toboggan Run Open / Park Property

Thursday / 25 February 2010

7AM Breakfast / Historic Dining Room

815AM General Session

The Hunt for the Ivory Billed Woodpecker / Lake James Room

John Schaust, Wild Birds Unlimited

Follow one of history's mysteries in the pursuit of the Lord-God Bird. John Schaust, Chief Naturalist for Wild Birds Unlimited, will give us the background and updates on this "ghost bird," the status of this species, and the hopes for the future.

10AM Concurrent Sessions

Below the Surface: Aquatic Invasives / Jimmerson

Doug Keller, Indiana DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife

Lurking beneath the sparkling blues of our waterways and lakes are an astonishing assortment of aquatic invasives. Discover how park agencies and individuals can identify, prevent and treat water resources for invaders. This session provides a review of techniques to keep your water resources invasive-free and native-friendly will provide agencies with practical 'how to' information.

Community Engagement / Snow Lake Room

Jack McGriffin, Indiana DNR Division of Reclamation

As the demand for accountability in government continues to increase, providing transparency through community engagement affords public agencies credibility and efficiency in working with stakeholders and citizens. This session will outline the importance of community involvement and feature a step by step process for successful community engagement/involvement.

The How to Prairie Restoration Session / Lake James Room

Nate Simons, Blue Heron Ministries

Native prairies are an ever-increasing heritage landscape that are being recreated and cared for by park and public land management agencies. Provide habitat, protection, and natural beauty for animals and visitors alike, the prairie once dominated much of the Great Lakes region and is an important sustainable landscape for plants and animals. This instructional session will get you started on restoring a pretty patch of prairie land on your park property.

Introduction to the National Incident Management System / Wigwam Room

Ron Crowell and Karl Holder, City of Rochester Hills Fire Department

Overview of the National Incident Management System and the importance of a coordinated approach to incident management. Session includes a discussion of the need to coordinate communications with different agencies, the Incident Command System, and the role parks can play in incident management and record keeping required by FEMA. It is suggested that attendees take ICS 100 and 200 on-line prior to attending this session.

1145AM Keynote Lunch and Institute Closing / Lake James

Effective Teamwork: Together Everyone Achieves More

Jack McGriffin, IDNR Division of Reclamation

Discover how focused teamwork can make your organization more successful and effective. Strategies for initiating team practices, as well as look at group dynamics, will be discussed. Walk away from the 2010 GLPTI with a spring in your step and plans for a team-oriented workplace in your pocket!