



## Conference Agenda

### Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>

12:00pm-5:00pm  
 1:00pm-4:00pm  
 2:30pm-3:30pm  
 4:00pm-5:00pm

Registration and Check-in  
 Exhibit Hall Set-Up  
 MTRPA Business Meeting  
 Education Sessions: Roundtables

- Get Rec'd! – Recreation Roundtable Discussion by Mitch Lauenstein
- City Park Tree Issues by Patrick Plantenberg
- Aquatics Roundtable by Elizabeth Hill
- Park Operations Roundtable by Doug Eisenman

Welcome Social

5:00pm-8:00pm

### Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

7:00am-12:00pm  
 7:00am-8:30am  
 8:30am-9:00am  
 9:00am-10:00am

Registration and Check-in  
 Full Breakfast  
 Welcome  
 Keynote: Shaping the Future of Parks & Recreation at NRPA by Kristine Stratton, President and CEO of the National Parks and Recreation Association

10:00am-10:15am  
 10:30am-12:00pm  
 11:00am-11:30am

Announcements  
 Exhibit Hall Opens (Time with Exhibitors)  
 Speed Session 1

- I-Ho Pomeroy Peace Park: A Case Study on Pocket Parks & Partnerships by Kendra Piedalue
- Silver Bow Creek Greenway by Mike Brown and Dori Skrukud

11:45am-12:15pm

Speed Session 2

- Blending Nature and Play: Designing an Accessible and Sustainable Playground by Lessa Millard and Chris Brummett
- Random Acts of Silliness-the power of partnership in making art accessible to all by Danielle Thomsen

- 12:15pm-1:30pm  
1:45pm-2:45pm
- Lunch on your own  
Breakout Session 1
- Special Programming at Your Pool by Melissa Georgeson
  - Racquet and Paddle Sports: Facility and Program Development Including Park Agency Assessments, Grants, Design Services, Equipment and program Resources by Jodie Adams and Kim Reser
  - Showcasing Partnerships between Recreation, Tourism, Research, and Rural Montana: ITRR collaborations with nonprofits, managers, and communities by Megan Schultz and Carter Bermingham
  - Connecting Generations Through Playground Design: An interactive forum by Chris Brummett and Christina Hardeman
- 3:00pm-4:00pm
- Breakout Session 2
- Park and Recreation Foundations - where public park and recreation administration and the nonprofit world of philanthropy, fundraising, and volunteer management collide by Donald Ortale
  - The Healthy Brain and Exercising your Way to Healthy Aging by Kyla Rock and Melissa Dale
  - Applying an equity lens to your Parks & Rec planning by Donna Gaukler and Ryan Appelgate
  - Borrowing isn't Stealing by Jessica Compton
- 4:15pm-6:15pm
- Exhibitor Happy Hour  
Dinner on your own

**Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>**

- 7:00am-12:00pm  
7:00am-8:30am  
8:30am-8:45am  
9:00am-11:00am  
9:30am-10:30am
- Registration and Check-in  
Breakfast  
Announcements  
Exhibit Hall Tear-Down  
Breakout Session 3
- Certification - It's the Professional Thing to Do by Michael Biedenstein
  - Glen Lake Rotary Park: A Case Study on Public/Private Partnership by Danielle Scharf
  - How a linear park and path transformed downtown Kalispell by Katharine King and Mark Rohweder
  - Integrating Water Education into Montana Parks and Recreation Programs by Morgan Close
- 11:00am-12:00pm
- Breakout Session 4
- How to Build Financial Sustainability for Your Rec Center by Ken Gorman and Josh Carlson
  - Inservice Ideas and Staff Retention by Melissa Georgeson
  - FWP Trail Grant Opportunities by Hunter Harridge and Stephanie Clemens
  - From Barriers to Bridges: A More Connected Montana by Dylan Thornton
- 12:15pm-1:30pm  
2:30pm-4:30pm
- Member Meeting and Awards Lunch  
Site Visits
- Visit Our Most Haunted Park-How operations and history come together to maintain Sunset Hills Cemetery

- From Gras to Goals: Balancing maintenance and overcoming space limitations in Bozeman's sports fields
  - Story Mill Community Park and Center
  - Pete's Hill/Burke Park Expansion
- Dinner on your own

**Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>**

8:00am-9:30am

9:30am-10:30am

10:30am-10:45am

Breakfast

Closing Keynote: Making the Wild More Accessible to All by  
Jeremy McGhee

Closing Remarks and Announce Raffle Winners