

76th Annual Vermont Conference on Recreation

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

Thursday & Friday, October 10 & 11, 2019
Lake Morey Resort | Fairlee, VT

Register Online NOW at: VRPA.ORG



Network • Learn • Empower



VERMONT
RECREATION & PARKS
ASSOCIATION

WELCOME TO THE 76TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Vermont Recreation & Parks Association is honored to host this year's 76th Annual Vermont Conference on Recreation. The Conference Committee has been working diligently each month since last December to develop a conference program that reflects the vast spectrum of recreational diversity in our small state. We promise this conference will not only be stimulating and thought-provoking, but also fun!

This is our association's largest event and consequently your best opportunity to network with Vermont's recreation community in the intimate, picturesque setting of Lake Morey Resort. The conference will feature municipal, state, and federal recreation professionals, recreation non-profits, volunteers and commercial partners from throughout Vermont, New England, and beyond.

The secret to our conference's success each year is based on a simple, time-tested formula: An inspiring, thought-provoking keynote speaker, high quality education sessions, ample time for networking with colleagues and exhibitors and finally, Vermont's Finest Silent Auction with thousands of dollars in merchandise, gift cards and products. Last, but not least, the conference features excellent food and entertainment, including a fireworks display!





Time spent in the Conference Exhibit Hall is sure to save you and your organization time and money, and it may win you some prizes. Chat with 40+ exhibitors and learn all about their latest products and services. Exclusive Exhibit Hall time, while no other conference activities are planned, is scheduled on both days of the conference so that you can attend whether you register for one day or both days.

This year we have a special incentive to boost attendance at our 76th conference—we're calling it the "Push for 150." Our conference means little without you, our recreation community, and to inspire you to come, we'll be giving away a free conference registration package and hotel room for the 2020 conference...if we get 150 registered attendees. Last year we had 125 conference registrations. Will you help us reach our goal of 150 registered attendees? We'll randomly draw a lucky winner at the end of the awards luncheon out of the total registered attendees (if we reach 150). Please help us reach our goal!



Become part of the Vermont Recreation Community's time-honored tradition this fall and join us at the Lake Morey Resort for the 76th Annual Vermont Conference on Recreation!



Network • Learn • Empower

We hope you will plan to attend both days of the conference but if that isn't possible, you have the option to select a single day registration for Thursday or Friday.

8:30a	Registration Opens
EDUCATION SESSIONS	
9a–12p	Build a Culture of Inclusion to Welcome, Engage & Support Campers with Diverse Abilities Small Town Recreation Forum MyRec.com Recreation Software User Group
9–10:30a	Supporting the Highest Quality Recreation Opportunities - Quantifying Visitation Supporting the Highest Quality Recreation Opportunities - Inclusive Programming Spaces
10:40a–12:10p	Supporting the Highest Quality Recreation Opportunities - Managing an Off-Leash Dog Guardian Program Supporting the Highest Quality Recreation Opportunities - Supportive & Sustainable Environment for Transitioning Employees
12–12:45p	Lunch Buffet
12:45–1:45p	Keynote Telling Your Story: How to Speak So People Listen Neelay Bhatt, Vice President & Principal, PROS Consulting and NRPA Board of Director
EDUCATION SESSIONS	
2–4:30p	RecTrac User Group
2–3:10p	If Seniors Can Bike, Everyone Can Bike How Confident Are You in Your Volunteer Background Screening Program? Working Smarter, Not Harder: Continuous Improvement Principles & Tools Outdoor Fitness: A Trend to Improve Health and Wellness of Residents
3:20–4:30p	Master Planning on a Budget In Pursuit of History: Rediscovering CCC Camp S-55 in Willoughby State Forest
 SPEED SESSIONS	
3:20–3:50p	Paying Attention to Details Can Make a BIG Difference Sharing Program Ideas Experiencing the Outdoors with Families
4–4:30p	Vermont State Recreation Survey – The Results Sharing Special Event Ideas Empowering Women in the Outdoors & Beyond
4:30–5:30p	Free Time – Good Time to Check into Your Room
5:30–7:00p	Exhibit Hall – Exclusive Time & Hosted Cocktail Hour
7–8p	Dinner with the Exhibitors
8–10p	Relax, Have Some Laughs with the Exhibitors & Karaoke
9p	Fireworks over Lake Morey

6:45–7:45a Sunrise Walk Along Lake Morey – Out & Back in Time for the First Session

6:45–8:45a Sunrise Walk Around Lake Morey – Walk the Entire 5.6 Miles Around the Lake

7–9a Breakfast Buffet

7:30am Registration Opens

EDUCATION SESSIONS

8:30–9:40a Grant Writing Tips & Tricks
Identifying Trends for an Uncertain Future
In Pursuit of a Big Splash!
Higher Level of Inclusive Play

9:50–11a Demographic Trends in VT & Northern New England & Implications for Recreation
Building Excellence Through Inclusive Youth Sport and Recreation Programming
Trail Stories – The Creation of Trails & Their Effect on Communities
Federal Legislative Update

11a–12p Exhibit Hall – Exclusive Time

12–1:30p Awards Luncheon, Governor Phil Scott (invited)

EDUCATION SESSIONS

1:45–2:55p Public Meeting Success!
Taking to the Trails - Expanding Traditional Recreation Program Spaces into the Wilds in Pursuit of Excellence
Know Your Audience – A Step-by-Step Guide to Creating Marketing Personas

3–3:30p Auction Final Bidding

SPONSORS

Thank You to Our Conference Sponsors



“

I look forward to this Conference every year. It just seems to get better & better!

”



“

A great conference for all recreation professionals from entry-level interns to administrative assistants and directors.

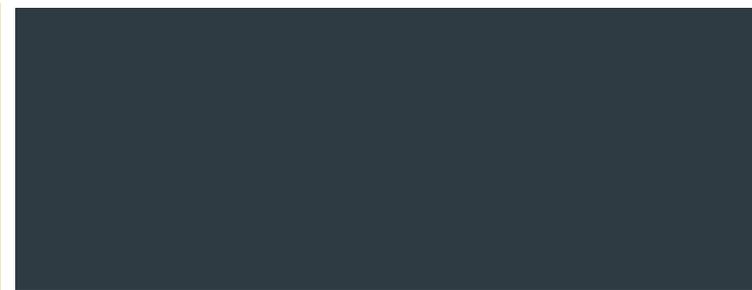
”



“

After a busy summer, what a great way to network with colleagues from all over the state to learn about their programs.

”



“

Relevant content with a beautiful back-drop, the VRPA conference at Lake Morey Resort is the perfect way to celebrate our profession and share ideas to keep it growing year after year!

”

“

"This was my first year attending and I felt so welcomed to the community - I can't wait to start implementing what I've learned!"

”

Register to attend both days or select the single day option and attend either Thursday or Friday.

THURSDAY october 10

EDUCATION SESSIONS

3 HOURS

9a–12p

1 Session = .3 CEU

Build a Culture of Inclusion to Welcome, Engage & Support Campers with Diverse Abilities

Lisa Drennan, Founder, MERGE Diverse Abilities Inclusion Consulting

Give your team the tools and strategies needed to offer Excellence-for-All by including campers with Autism, ADHD and other developmental disabilities with confidence.

Learn what “Inclusion” means in recreation settings and how to set a foundation to change the culture within your programming. Explore the importance of organizational commitment, camp-wide “buy in” and developing an implementation plan that adopts the suggested preventative inclusion strategies. Leave with practical tips and best practices on the intake process, working with families, and communication. Wrap up the session using your newly learned skills to brainstorm solutions to camp-specific inclusion scenarios that will create successful experiences for ALL children.



Small Town Recreation – A Forum for Sharing Success Stories and Challenges

Facilitator - Cathy DeLeo, Retired Lyndon State College Professor & Department Chair

In our quest to provide something for everyone, we have planned this session to provide a special forum and networking opportunity for the volunteers and paid staff who are organizing recreational opportunities in small communities across Vermont. With a focus on enhancing quality of life through recreation for all, this promises to be relevant whether you are just

getting your department up and running or have been at it for a while. This lightning round session has been planned to include time to talk about recreation programming; parks, trails & facilities; volunteers; partnerships & collaboration; creative funding; resources and managing risk, and one or two more topics that you’d like to cover. Bring your questions and ideas, and come prepared to walk away with some new strategies.

MyRec.com Recreation Software User Group

Carla Bearup, Director of On-boarding, and Tracey Cooper, Marketing Strategist, MyRec.com Recreation Software

This session will cover areas from all modules of the software but will concentrate on the newest features including POS add-ons, activity simplification, POS, advanced activities including time-based activities, and scholarship funds, just to name a few. We will show you tips and tricks of the software that will make your life so much easier. There will be a question and answer period for all those involved. Let’s share how you simplify your recreation management!

Please indicate that this is a session you plan to attend when you register for the conference and also register directly with Tracey at: tracey@myrec.com.



90 MINUTES

9–10:30a

1 Session = .1 CEU | 2 of 4 Sessions = .3 CEUs

Supporting the Highest Quality Recreation Opportunities – Quantifying Visitation

Deonne VanderWoude and Heidi Seidel, City of Boulder (CO) Open Space and Mountain Parks

Outdoor recreation is a growing pursuit, and quantified visitor use data is fundamental to understanding and managing for resource protection and high-quality visitor experiences. To support the provision of the highest quality recreation opportunities, the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Department (OSMP) has implemented a comprehensive visitation monitoring program. In this session, the speakers will describe the goals and objectives of their visitor use monitoring program, and the procedures used to collect their data. They will discuss some of their findings and how the data informs best practice in their agency. Special care will be given to highlight the principles and methodologies used that could be adapted by any size community or organization and those with limited budgets.

Supporting the Highest Quality Recreation Opportunities - Inclusive Programming Spaces

Mara Iverson, Director of Education, Outright Vermont

This interactive workshop will help camp and recreation program staff to increase fluency with LGBTQ+ inclusive vocabulary and practices and also to consider approaches for making program environments and systems LGBTQ+ affirming. Participants will identify specific opportunities for and challenges to inclusivity in their particular program context. Participants will leave with broader knowledge of LGBTQ+ youth topics, methods for recognizing gaps in inclusivity, and ideas for how to make programming spaces more awesome for youth of all genders and sexualities!

LUNCH

90 MINUTES

10:40a–12:10p

1 Session = .1 CEU | 2 of 4 Sessions = .3 CEUs

Supporting the Highest Quality Recreation Opportunities – Managing an Off-Leash Dog Guardian Program

Heidi Seidel and Deonne VanderWoude, City of Boulder (CO) Open Space and Mountain Parks

As communities work to minimize conflicts between dogs and park users, a shared understanding of expected dog and dog guardian behaviors can contribute to more enjoyable visitor experiences. The City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Department (OSMP) has implemented a multi-faceted off-leash dog management program called the Voice and Sight tag program (V/S). Through the V/S program, dog guardians are allowed to walk dogs off-leash on some park properties if they complete a V/S education class and their dogs are responsibly controlled under voice and sight control and have a V/S dog tag. The OSMP dog management strategies and policies, and findings of their related research efforts will be presented in this session.

Supporting the Highest Quality Recreation Opportunities – Supportive & Sustainable Environment for Transitioning Employees

Mara Iverson, Director of Education, Outright Vermont

Historically the workplace has been a fraught place for LGBTQ+ employees, particularly those who are in a process of transitioning to bring parts of their lives into better alignment with the gender identity that they experience. To change that, we need to practice how to interrupt harmful messages about transitioning folks and amplify helpful ones. In this workshop we will discover what gender and sexual orientation are and how we could make changes within the workplace so employees of all genders and sexualities are supported and equipped to thrive.

45 MINUTES

12–12:45p

Lunch will be a delicious salad and sandwich deli buffet; vegetarian options will be available.

Want to meet some new people or brainstorm about a particular topic? Some of the tables will be identified as topic tables, we hope you will join one.

If you have a topic you'd like included, please contact the VRPA office or mention it when you check-in at registration.



THURSDAY SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

8:30a	Registration Opens
9a–12p	EDUCATION SESSIONS
12–12:45p	Lunch Buffet
12:45–1:45p	KEYNOTE
2–4:30p	EDUCATION SESSIONS
4:30–5:30p	Free Time & Check into Your Room
5:30–7p	Exhibit Hall – Exclusive Time & Hosted Cocktail Hour
7p	Dinner with Exhibitors
8–10p	Games, Music & Karaoke with Exhibitors
9p	Fireworks over Lake Morey

“With full inboxes and messy desks, it's easy to defer attendance due to workload. There is always too much to do, so make this a priority for YOU, your department and your community. The opportunity to connect with other professionals and friends, learn from experts and recharge the passion for what you do is essential. Block off your calendar for 2019 now! You will thank yourself later!”

CONFERENCE WELCOME & KEYNOTE



Telling Your Story: How to Speak So People Listen

Neelay Bhatt, Vice President & Principal, PROS Consulting and Member, NRPA Board of Directors

The successful implementation of the best of ideas often comes down to how it is communicated. Whether you are communicating to the elected officials or the community, your staff or colleagues, interviewing for a potential job or looking to recruit a potential partner or sponsor, how you deliver the message is critical to ensuring buy-in and support. Communication, rather, effective communication, is a critical skill that can and should be honed and enhanced over time.

In today's times with shrinking attention spans and a focus on simplicity that resonates, TED Talks have become the gold standard for how to deliver innovative ideas worth spreading. This session will share insights from a multiple TEDx speaker and currently a TEDx speaker coach that will help attendees be better communicators and to deliver 'their' TED talk, crucial skills in the pursuit of excellence.

Neelay Bhatt's career on five continents includes Disney, The Super Bowl, The Olympics, and several years of consulting, public speaking and training. TEDx, the global platform for ideas, describes him as a business and communications visionary, and his service on the National Recreation and Park Association's Board of Directors is committed to ensuring that 'no child is left indoors'.

Most recently, he was chosen by the Indianapolis Business Journal as one of Indy's Forty under 40 leaders having an impact on the city. As Principal at PROS Consulting INC., headquartered in Indianapolis, he has led 130+ strategic and master planning, sports facility development, customer service training, and marketing and branding projects. These projects have recommended facility development and infrastructure improvements totaling over \$2 billion USD and are helping to shape a better vision for parks, recreation, and sports all over the world.

Neelay continues to champion the transformational power of ideas while serving as curator and co-organizer for TEDxIndianapolis, TEDxIndianapolisWomen and TEDxCollegePark (MD) and has led a TED Global workshop in Canada, presented multiple TEDx talks and continues to coach TEDx presenters as well.

He is an alumnus of the Harvard Kennedy School and the #1 ranked Sports Management Program at Ohio University, and his keynotes and presentations on empathetic leadership, magical customer service and the art of storytelling have benefited executives, professionals, and students from North America to China and from Europe to New Zealand.

LS
landscape
structures®



PLAY

Play isn't one thing.
It's everything. Anything.

Play doesn't care what a body
can or cannot do. Because
play lives inside us. All of us.

And as we grow older. We come
back to what we know. That play
will always shape us.

Contact your local playground consultant

 **O'BRIEN
& SONS**

ELEMENTS FOR A GREAT OUTDOORS

800-835-0056
obrienandsons.com

©2019 Landscape Structures Inc.
All rights reserved.

**To see the new We-Go-Round®,
visit playlsi.com/We-Go-Round.**

EDUCATION SESSIONS

2.5 HOURS

2–4:30p
1 Session = .2 CEU

RecTrac User Group

Giles Willey, President, Vermont Systems
Cullen Barber, Support Manager, Vermont Systems

This session is geared to current RecTrac users who want to see new features and tricks



learned over the past year. Both 10.3 and 3.1 versions will be covered. Please indicate that this is a session you plan to attend when you register for the conference and also register directly with Amy at Vermont Systems at amyh@vermontsystems.com.

70 MINUTES

2–3:10p
1 Session = .1 CEU

If Seniors Can Bike, Everyone Can Bike

Anne Lusk, Research Specialist, Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, Harvard University

If seniors can bike, they improve overall health, lessen their risk of Alzheimer's, and benefit from socializing. Facilities for seniors to bike should include a trail for recreation but also a cycle track network to bike to work, the grocery store, or to get to grandchildren. Senior bicyclists might ride a heavier Dutch Oma/Opa fiets, a three-wheeled Easy Rider, or a two-seater Fun2Go with a spouse, all of which will require a wide cycle track. Seniors will want bathrooms along their route, places for help with a flat, and social bridge elements, like a picnic table, that enable positive interactions between strangers. Because seniors will take longer pedaling through an intersection, they will appreciate countdown bicycle signals at the intersections. Seniors would gladly share their bike facilities with the rest of the biking population.

Recreation, Youth Programs, Parks, and Avoiding Lawsuits: How Confident are You in Your City's Volunteer Background Screening Program?

Craig Picca, Park & Recreation Specialist, NCSI/SSCI

Professionals want to keep known "high-risk" individuals from gaining access to children on public facilities under their control. Low cost programs can leave a dangerously large number of criminal records going undiscovered, leaving the agency at risk for falling below the national standards. In this session, you will learn the details of criminal background check national standards and be given the tools to formulate a policy and procedures to bring a consistent background check approach to your user groups.

Working Smarter, Not Harder: Continuous Improvement Principles and Tools

Justin Kenney, Performance and Budget Analyst, State of Vermont, Agency of Administration

Frank Spaulding, Parks Project Coordinator, Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks & Recreation

This training is designed for professionals, supervisors, and teams who are interested in improving their work, reducing frustration, increasing team morale, and achieving better outcomes with limited resources. Using various real-life examples, presenters from the State of Vermont will provide an overview of continuous improvement principles and concepts, and discuss two structured approaches to solving problems and driving towards results: A3 Thinking and the Improvement Kata. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how you can work smarter, not harder.

Outdoor Fitness: A Trend to Improve Health and Wellness of Residents

Dr. Suzanne Quinn, Director, KOMPAN Play Institute Americas, KOMPAN Playgrounds & Fitness

Using case studies and empirical research, the presenter will show how a well-designed outdoor fitness area in an optimal location can have an immediate and positive impact on the residents who use it. A number of different design features will be considered in order to maximize the number of users, provide different types of training, exercise different muscle groups, and help assure the overall success of an outdoor fitness installation. Thinking about installing outdoor fitness equipment in your community? Learn how to select outdoor fitness equipment and design a complete outdoor fitness area to maximize usage and effectiveness.

70 MINUTES

3:20–4:30p
1 Session = .1 CEU

Master Planning on a Budget

Neelay Bhatt, Vice President & Principal, PROS Consulting

Failing to plan is planning to fail. With minimal staff and funding, agencies often delay or forgo planning efforts and end up being more reactive in nature while failing to create a long-term sustainable vision. Come learn the similarities and differences between a Systemwide Master Plan and a Strategic Plan and how each of them can help an agency achieve sustained long-term excellence. This session will share tips and insights for an agency to pursue excellence through Planning Ventures such as System Master Plans and Strategic Plans in a financially sustainable way.

In Pursuit of History: Rediscovering CCC Camp S-55 in Willoughby State Forest

Jean Haigh, President, Friends of Willoughby State Forest
Luke O'Brien, Field Recreation Specialist, Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks & Recreation

Learn about the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in America and a time in our history when groups were engaged in service for the public good – setting a standard of excellence that continues to this day. We will explore the legacy of the CCC and the efforts of the Friends of Willoughby State Forest to develop an interpretive trail through an historic CCC camp in a little-known corner of Vermont that will provide learning opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.



30 MINUTES

3:20–3:50p

2 Sessions = .1 CEU

Paying Attention to Small Details Can Make a BIG Difference

Nick Miele, Parks & Recreation Director, Town of Ludlow

The small pieces of the puzzle can make the biggest impact within your community or organization. In the parks and recreation profession, communication is critically important and it's our job to communicate effectively. The speaker will share how a website and app through "SportsEngine" has made a huge impact with his parents and coaches, and discuss which social media platforms are working best for him. Finally, he will discuss how he has found simple improvements to fields and facilities such as painting bases, watering fields, cleaning the court or backboard can make a huge difference with the athletes, coaches and parents.

Sharing Program Ideas

Todd Goodwin, Director, Williston Recreation & Parks

Adriane Martin, Program Coordinator, Essex Parks & Recreation

Whether you are in the market to add to your lineup or you want to squirrel away some ideas for later, you will get something valuable out of this session! We've compiled a list of successful and unique programs that our colleagues are offering in their communities. You'll walk away with ideas and practical steps for planning complete with description, demographic notes, contact information and more. There will be time for you to share what you are doing too.

Experiencing the Outdoors with Families: Pint-Sized Outdoor Experiences

Rebecca Roy, Conservation Education Coordinator, Vermont State Parks

Learn some tips and tricks and get some inspirational ideas on how to reach families and younger children with fun, hands-on, active outdoor explorations and activity.

30 MINUTES

4–4:30p

2 Sessions = .1 CEU

Empowering Women in the Outdoors & Beyond

Kelli Millick, Stowe Parks & Recreation

How can you inspire women to explore the plethora of outdoor opportunities this beautiful green mountain state provides? And why is it so important? Many women can feel out of place or intimidated to participate in outdoor recreation. In this speed session we'll discuss how we, as recreation professionals, can help break down the barriers and encourage women to have new experiences, boost their confidence, and help them build a tribe with other strong, relatable women.

Sharing Special Event Ideas

Todd Goodwin, Director, Williston Recreation & Parks

Adriane Martin, Program Coordinator, Essex Parks & Recreation

Winter Carnival, Egg Hunt, Touch a Truck - many of us do them but we all do these events (and more) a little differently. Join us in a quick 30-minute run through of successful and unique events offered at different parks and recreation departments in our state. You will leave with back pocket event ideas to add to your lineup of community events complete with description, demographic notes, contact information and more. Bring your ideas to add too.

2019 Vermont State of Recreation Survey – The Findings

Drew Pollak-Bruce, Associate Planner, SE Group

In the spring of 2019, the SE Group, in partnership with the Vermont Recreation & Parks Association, conducted a survey to learn how Vermont recreation departments, commissions, and committees operate. The survey results are being compiled to show trends and generalized metrics for communities based on the size and type of recreation agency. This information will provide recreation and park agencies across the state, data to understand how they "stack up" with comparable agencies and what their strengths and needs are compared to statewide averages. The summary of findings is scheduled for completion just in time for the conference.

“Great event with lots of topics of interest and a perfect opportunity to create some “friendraising” in the recreation field.”

EVENING ACTIVITIES

4:30–5:30p

Free Time

Check into your room, get a little exercise, or catch up with friends before the Exhibit Hall opens.

5:30–7p

Exclusive Exhibit Hall Time

Don't miss this opportunity to chat with our conference sponsors and exhibitors. Meeting face-to-face with the exhibitors, new and familiar, is an important part of the conference experience. These commercial partners can show you new technologies and products that can dramatically improve your efficiency and enhance your work. We challenge you to meet with every exhibitor! This year's Exhibit Hall raffle prizes will be \$100, \$50, and \$25 Silent Auction gift certificates...you must be present to win. You'll be getting a raffle ticket from each of the exhibitors you visit and won't know which exhibitor basket the winning tickets will be drawn from...so plan to visit them all!



Throughout the Exclusive Exhibit Hall time, there will be a complimentary cocktail reception sponsored by Northstar Fireworks.

In the Exhibit Hall, visit with representatives of these companies...and even more by conference time.

- Allied Equipment
- Atlantic Golf & Turf
- Clivus New England
- Cousineau Forest Products
- Durgin & Crowell Lumber
- Eco-Equipment Supply
- Franklin Paint Company
- GameTime Park & Playground Equipment/MRC
- Grassland Equipment & Irrigation
- KOMPAN Playgrounds & Fitness Solutions
- M.E. O'Brien & Sons
- Milone & MacBroom
- Musco Sports Lighting
- MyRec.com- Recreation Software
- NCSI/SSCI
- New England Park Association
- New England Recreation Group
- Northstar Fireworks
- Pettinelli & Associates
- Pioneer Athletics
- SE Group
- UFO Party Rentals
- UltiPlay Parks & Playgrounds
- USTA New England
- VT Dept. of Forests, Parks & Recreation
- Vermont Display Inc
- VT League of Cities & Towns
- Vermont Systems
- VT Youth Conservation Corps
- Weston & Sampson
- Wicked Cool for Kids

7–8p

Dinner with the Exhibitors

Be sure to invite an exhibitor or two to join you for dinner. Dinner this year is going to be a taco bar, with vegetarian options.



8–10p

Relax and Have Some Laughs with the Exhibitors

In the Morey Room, there will be jenga, four-square, cornhole and more, along with a little music. Don't miss this opportunity to grab an exhibitor or two and play a friendly game. Looking for something a little livelier? Head to the Steamboat Lounge for karaoke, with a set before the fireworks and another one afterwards.

9p

Silent Auction Bidding

The annual conference "Vermont's Finest" Silent Auction is quite the event! Year after year, it boasts 150+ great items with values up to several hundred dollars. There is always something for everyone. It is a great place to start your holiday shopping! Auction bidding will begin Thursday morning, continue until the Fireworks, and open again on Friday morning.

Fireworks Over Lake Morey (Weather Permitting)

Come on out to the front terrace for a perfect viewing spot. You won't want to miss this show...Northstar always does it up special for us!



Thank you Northstar Fireworks!





Register to attend both days or select the single day option and attend either Thursday or Friday.

MORNING ACTIVITIES

6:45a

Sunrise Walk Along Lake Morey

Start the day off right with a nice walk along the shores of Lake Morey. You have two choices – walk out and back and return in time for the first block of education sessions or walk the entire 5.6 miles around the lake and get back for the second block of sessions. Walk leaders, Jill Niles (Norwich) and Sarah Jennings (Burlington). Bring your headlamp if you have one.

7–9am

Breakfast

Be sure to wake up in time for breakfast, it'll be a good one! The breakfast buffet menu will include fruit, toast & pastry station, hot & cold cereal, yogurt & granola, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, breakfast potatoes, French toast with real Vermont maple syrup, juice & coffee. What a way to start the day!

7:30 am

Registration Opens & Silent Auction Bidding Continues

EDUCATION SESSIONS

70 MINUTES

8:30–9:40a

1 Session = .1 CEU

Grant Writing Tips & Tricks: In Pursuit of Funding!

Bob Barcelona, Dept. Chair & Associate Professor, University of New Hampshire

Matt Frye, Clinical Assistant Professor, University of New Hampshire

In tight budget times, recreation organizations are pursuing grant funding to help run programs and build facilities. Join us for this interactive workshop if you've ever wondered how to navigate through the murky waters of the grant industry, how to work through a maze of funding opportunities, or how to write a successful proposal to get projects funded. Be sure to bring project ideas, as we will work through the grant writing process, from determining your funding needs to writing the actual grant proposal.

EDUCATION SESSIONS

Identifying Trends for an Uncertain Future

Neelay Bhatt, Vice President & Principal, PROS Consulting

As agencies continue to focus on NRPA's 3 Pillars (Conservation, Social Equity, and Health & Wellness), this session will help them predict trends and plan for future shifts in an increasingly unpredictable time. Also, it will share insights for how to build an agency culture and mindset that can innovate and thrive in a changing landscape as parks and recreation agencies look to changes to their communities, policies, park and facility designs, financial sustainability, marketing and communications, partnerships, program delivery and innovation in general.

In the Pursuit of a Big Splash!

Mark Mariano, Project Manager, Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc.

Many community pools around Vermont have aging swimming pool infrastructure with uncertain futures. This seminar will provide you with the tools to prolong the life expectancy of your pool system. Also, we will provide information on the proper steps to take when facing the reality that the pool facility has reached its service life, drawing out a road map on the steps needed to take that new facility from vision to reality. We will also touch on some current aquatic trends on the market, and what this all means from capital costs, operational costs, and potential revenue.

A Higher Level of Inclusive Play

Jill Moore, Marketing Specialist, Landscape Structures

John McConkey, Marketing Insights Manager, Landscape Structures

The playground should be a place for laughter, friends and fun, for all. Traditional universally accessible playgrounds tend to focus on accessible design and age or developmentally appropriate play activities. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, one in 59 children has autism. Sensory Processing Disorder, prevalent among children with autism, makes it challenging for them to interpret sensory messages and to engage in play, interact and learn. All children learn through their senses. Sensory focused play activities develop functional skills, build confidence, imagination and social skills. New research shows intentionally designed sensory-rich playgrounds can foster social interactions and develop play skills among children of all abilities, thereby providing a higher level of inclusive play for all.

70 MINUTES

9:50–11a

1 Session = .1 CEU

Building Excellence Through Inclusive Youth Sport and Recreation Programming

Bob Barcelona, Dept. Chair & Associate Professor, University of New Hampshire

Matt Frye, Clinical Assistant Professor, University of New Hampshire

Building a culture that fully includes youth with and without disabilities in community youth sport and recreation programs is a key goal of an excellent department. If you know inclusion is important, but have wondered about how to do it in practice, then this session is for you! We will review the concept of inclusion in sport and recreation programming, develop a set of best practices for inclusion, and put best practices in action in a hands-on, experiential way. You will also leave with an inclusion tool-kit that will help you pursue (and build) a culture of inclusion in your department.

Demographic Trends in Vermont and Northern New England and Implications for Recreation

Kenneth Johnson, Professor of Sociology and Senior Demographer, University of New Hampshire

This session will examine demographic trends in Vermont and Northern New England using current data. The region has experienced minimal population increase over the past decade. Its aging population no longer produces many more births than deaths, so population gains increasingly depend on migration, both from other parts of the U.S. and from outside the country. The plentiful recreational amenities and scenic areas of the Vermont and the region are an important factor in attracting migrants as well as visitors and second home owners. The session will examine the impact of amenity migration on the state and region's demographic structure.

Trail Stories: The Creation of Trails & Their Effect on Communities

Josh Ryan, Principal, Timber & Stone LLC.

A well-built recreational pathway provides a place for visitors to recreate, contemplate, and educate. Each time a trail is used, the visitors leave with their own Trail Story. This workshop will share the design and construction standards that are involved in professionally built trails in public spaces and will reveal the trail's ability to create individual memories, experiences, and trail stories for each user. Timber & Stone, LLC's new documentary "Trail Stories" will be presented as part of this workshop. The film captures construction sequences as well as user testimonials along trails built throughout New England. A trailer for the film can be seen at timberandstonellc.com.

Federal Legislative Update

Tom Berry, Senator Patrick Leahy's Office

Haley Pero, Senator Bernie Sanders' Office

Thea Wurzburg, Congressman Peter Welch's Office

Representatives of Senator Leahy, Senator Sanders and Congressman Welch will provide an update of the latest federal legislative and federal funding developments impacting recreation. They will also describe how to work with Vermont's Congressional delegation to effect legislative change and access federal dollars.

“ You folks put on a very fine conference for people to learn and rejuvenate. The workshop offerings vary and the facilities were excellent. ”

FRIDAY SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

6:45a	Sunrise Walk Along Lake Morey
7 –9a	Breakfast
7:30a	Registration Opens
8:30–11a	EDUCATION SESSIONS
11a–12p	Exhibit Hall – Exclusive Time
12–1:30p	Awards Luncheon
1:45–2:55p	EDUCATION SESSIONS
3–3:30p	Silent Auction Final Bidding

EXHIBIT HALL

11a–12p

Exclusive Exhibit Hall Time

Don't miss this second opportunity to chat with our conference sponsors and exhibitors. Meeting face-to-face with the exhibitors, new and familiar, is an important part of the conference experience. These commercial partners can show you new technologies and products that can dramatically improve your efficiency and enhance your work. We challenge you to meet with every exhibitor! This year's Exhibit Hall raffle prizes will be \$100, \$50, and \$25 Silent Auction gift certificates...you must be present to win. You'll be getting a raffle ticket from each of the exhibitors you visit and won't know which exhibitor basket the winning tickets will be drawn from...so plan to visit them all!

AWARDS LUNCHEON

12–1:30p

Governor Phil Scott (Invited)
Master of Ceremonies, Rob Peterson,
Conference Committee Chair



Join us for a delicious buffet luncheon and presentation of the 2019 Theresa S. Brungardt Awards. Members of Mrs. Brungardt's family will be on-hand to help with the award presentations.

EDUCATION SESSIONS

70 MINUTES

1:45–2:55p

1 Session = .1 CEU

Public Meeting Success!

Cindi Wight, Director, Burlington Parks, Recreation & Waterfront
Jessica Savage, Recreation Program Manager, Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks & Recreation
Drew Pollak-Bruce, Associate Planner, SE Group

Did your last public meeting get sabotaged by a few people? Did you find it hard to gather meaningful input? Come learn how to incorporate the open house style into your next public meeting through hands on participation and claim success at the end!

EDUCATION SESSIONS

Taking to the Trail—Expanding Traditional Recreation Program Spaces into the Wilds in Pursuit of Excellence

Janet Steinert, Educator and Author

Research shows that those who volunteer in their youth are twice as likely to become stewards in their adult life. By providing opportunities for experiences in the natural world, we are preparing future stewards who will want to protect wild spaces. Trail to Every Classroom (TTEC) is a place-based service-learning program designed to give educators and recreation programmers tools to expand traditional teaching by taking children out into the open spaces of the natural world. TTEC engages children in projects with community partners. Through their exposure to wild spaces, children gain an appreciation for the trails and surrounding woods and wildlife. This appreciation translates into advocacy as the children work on real problems within their community. Participants will engage in activities which illustrate the principles of place-based service-learning and will receive hands-on tools that they can use to engage youth and families on the trail.

Know Your Audience. A Step-by-Step Guide to Creating Marketing Personas

Diana Wood, Marketing & Outreach Manager, Burlington Parks, Recreation & Waterfront

To best serve all members of your community, it is important to understand your audience. In this session you will learn how to research your audience, create personas to guide your marketing and communication efforts, and design a communication strategy to reach targeted audiences. You will learn where to find the demographic information you need too. You can expect some hands-on exercises during the session - based on pre-compiled demographics, groups of 3-6 people will work together to fill out a persona worksheet.

AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

3–3:30p

Silent Auction Final Bidding

With 150+ great items and item values up to several hundred dollars, there is something for everyone and every budget in this auction. Don't head home without checking to see how your bids are doing and to see which items are looking like they will be really good deals. The real action happens in these last thirty minutes, don't miss out. Remember to bring cash or a checkbook because we don't take credit cards.



PUSH FOR 150



Will you help us reach our goal of 150 registered attendees?

This year we have a special incentive to boost attendance at our 76th conference—we're calling it the "Push for 150." Our conference means little without you, our recreation community, and to inspire you to come, we'll be giving away a free conference registration package and hotel room for the 2020 conference...if we get 150 registered attendees. Last year we had 125 conference registrations. We'll randomly draw a lucky winner at the end of the awards luncheon out of the total registered attendees (if we reach 150). Please help us reach our goal!



Bob Barcelona is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Recreation Management and Policy at the University of New Hampshire. In addition to his work at UNH, Bob has been on the recreation and sport management faculty at Indiana University and Clemson University, and continues to teach in the distance education Master's degree program for North Carolina State University. Bob has written extensively on recreation and sport as developmental contexts for youth, and his research focuses on the ways that recreation and sport organizations build healthy and sustainable programs and communities. In addition to his professional duties at UNH, Bob is engaged in recreation planning, consulting, and program evaluation projects with community recreation and youth development organizations throughout the country as a Co-Director of UNH's Community Planning and Research Collaborative (CPARC).

Carla Bearup is the Director of On-boarding at MyRec.com. Her unique combination of education and experience makes her an integral part to making sure that organizations have smooth start up with their new recreation software. Carla has a degree in Recreation Administration & technical training certified for IT support. With over 15 years of experience in the recreation field, 13 of those as an assistant parks and recreation director, where she used a wide selection of management software, Carla has the ability to see the needs of clients through their perspective.

Tom Berry worked for 14 years in municipal land use planning and environmental advocacy before becoming a congressional staff person. He now has 20 years of experience on the staff of members of Vermont's Congressional delegation including Senator Jeffords, Senator Sanders and for the past 10 years and counting, with Senior Senator Patrick Leahy, advising on environment, agriculture and energy issues. Tom is actively engaged in outdoor recreation in Vermont as an avid back country skier, biker, paddler, fisherman and hunter.

Neelay Bhatt's career on five continents includes Disney, The Super Bowl, The Olympics, besides several years of consulting, public speaking and training. TEDx, the global platform for ideas, describes him as a business and communications visionary, and his service on the National Recreation and Park Association's Board of Directors is committed to ensuring that 'no child is left indoors'. Most recently, he was chosen by the Indianapolis Business Journal as Indy's Forty under 40 leaders having an impact on the city. As a Principal at PROS Consulting INC. (headquartered in Indianapolis), he has led 130+ strategic and master planning, sports facility development, customer service training, and marketing and branding projects.

Catherine DeLeo, PhD, joined VRPA circa 1977 while teaching in Lyndon State College's Recreation & Leisure Studies program. She holds Recreation degrees from Northeastern and Boston Universities and now devotes time volunteering with local, regional and global organizations. Her volunteer work includes Lyndon Rescue (EMT), Guiding Eyes for the Blind (Pup raiser), MCWGlobal – Miracle Corners of the World (Young Leader's Program), and Daniel Webster Homesite (Docent).

Lisa Drennan has a long career dedicated to supporting individuals with diverse abilities to be active and engaged within their community. As the Director of Inclusion for her local YMCA, she created an array of programming and a fully inclusive model at 3 day camp sites. At her company, MERGE, she provides comprehensive consultation and staff

training to community, recreation, camp, & sport program providers to help them meet their inclusion goals. Lisa graduated from Saint Michael's College and she lives with her family in Pembroke, MA.

Matt Frye is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Recreation Management and Policy at the University of New Hampshire. Prior to his work in academia, he served as a Program Director and Recreational Therapist with a large non-profit organization. His work and research is centered around the therapeutic use of recreation for youth, increasing opportunities for youth and adults with disabilities in public parks and recreation programs, and community integration. Professor Frye works with multiple municipalities in order to maximize inclusive programming and facility accessibility as well as conducting inclusion trainings. Additionally, he conducts community needs assessments for recreation programs utilizing focus groups, surveys, and on-site observations.

Todd Goodwin is currently the Williston Recreation & Parks Director. He has 39 years of recreation and camp experience. Todd has experience as a counselor, program director, assistant director and now as director. He has been involved in running highly successful programs and camps for all ages. Todd also has had over 12 years of experience teaching physical education to pre-school through 8th grade students and coaching team sports at the high school level.

Jean Haigh is founder and president of the Friends of Willoughby State Forest. She is active with the Green Mountain Club, serving as past president, executive committee and board member, and director and past president of the Northeast Kingdom section. She is a hike leader, trail adopter, and sits on six committees including as past chair of the Trails Management Committee. Jean works for the Agency of Education and the University of Vermont as a consultant, trainer, and coach in Positive Behavior Instructional Support and offers services to schools and educators throughout northern Vermont. She lives in Craftsbury with Bodi the magic dog.

Kenneth Johnson is senior demographer at the Carsey School of Public Policy and professor of sociology at the University of New Hampshire. He is a nationally recognized expert on U.S. demographic trends. His research examines national and regional population redistribution, rural and urban demographic change, the growing racial diversity of the U.S. population, the relationship between demographic and environmental change and the implications of demographic change for public policy. Dr. Johnson has published a book and more than 250 articles, reports and papers. Dr. Johnson was recently named an Andrew Carnegie Fellow which is the country's most prestigious fellowship to advance research in the social sciences and humanities.

Justin Kenney is a Performance and Budget Analyst at the Vermont Agency of Administration (AOA) who plays a key role in coordinating continuous improvement efforts throughout state government. Justin's keen ability to synthesize information and use systems thinking to solve problems served him well in his former role as Lean Coordinator at the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VTDEC), where he helped facilitate, support, and shepherd over 40 improvement projects of varying sizes. In January 2017 Justin assisted in the development of the state-wide Program to Improve Vermont Outcomes Together (PIVOT) and in March 2018 was hired into his current role.

Anne Lusk has 38 years of experience working on bicycle facilities with the first 16 years as a practitioner building and lecturing about bike facilities followed by 22 years as an academic in training, teaching, and conducting bicycle research related to public health. Her research focuses on comfortable and safe environments that will motivate women, children, seniors, parents, ethnic-minority and lower-income individuals, and populations around the world to bicycle. Her studies have focused on bicycle environments in association with weight control, injury, motivation, crashes, crime, environmental preferences, sustainability, Climate Change, and joy.

Mark Mariano grew up in a construction family and has personally built over 1000 residential and commercial swimming pools. After graduating from the University of Massachusetts with a degree in Civil Engineering, he started work at Weston and Sampson managing construction projects for water and wastewater treatment plants and large municipal and commercial aquatic projects. Later, he transitioned over to the engineering and design side of Weston & Sampson and has worked on teams that have successfully completed projects all around the US and beyond.

Adriane Martin is the Program Director of Community Recreation with Essex Parks and Recreation. She has been with the Town of Essex for close to 5 years with various recreation and community services experience prior to that. Adriane is currently the chair elect of the Conference Committee of which she has been part of for three years.

John McConkey serves as Market Research and Insights Manager at Landscape Structures. He brings over 15 years of experience in the healthcare field and offers a unique perspective on inclusion, health, fitness and children's play on the playground. John researches and tracks societal and industry trends to help create innovative design solutions. John develops and delivers IACET and LACES accredited continuing education programs throughout North America and internationally. The focus of his recent programs includes playground universal design and inclusion, designing playgrounds to maximize physical activity, reconnecting children with nature, and designing literacy-rich play environments.

Nick Miele graduated with a Bachelor of Science from Colby-Sawyer College in 2018. While attending Colby-Sawyer, he studied sport management, with a concentration in Sport and Recreation Leadership, a business minor and a coaching certificate. His internship at Southern NH University with their field operations staff prepared him to maintain athletics fields, while his practical experience with Mill River Union High School athletics allowed him the experience of managing different high school sports. He currently is Director of Parks and Recreation for the Town of Ludlow.

Kelli Millick has been an avid outdoorswoman since her early teens, building her passions with her father on backpacking trips from Pennsylvania to New Mexico. She has worked on various team-developing courses in Pennsylvania, New Mexico, and Virginia. As a new mother and wife, she is determined to show herself that pursuing her passions doesn't need to stop after having a child. She became an Ambassador for Women Who Explore to connect and encourage other women to pursue their goals and take a small step out of their comfort zone.

Jill Moore has recently joined the Landscape Structures team working between marketing and product development to design and promote for inclusive play. She grew up near

Charlotte, North Carolina where she became involved with adaptive athletics at age nine. During her high school career, Jill helped to write the state regulations allowing those with disabilities to compete and score for their school track teams. Her love of track transitioned to a scholarship at the University of Illinois where she received her Bachelor's in industrial design. In 2015, Jill moved to Asia for 6 months to study medical design at the National University of Singapore. During her time abroad, Jill made the United States World Team where she competed in wheelchair racing in Doha, Qatar; as well as the ParaPan American Team, where she placed 4th in the America's region competing in Toronto.

Luke O'Brien is a Field Recreation Specialist for the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation in the St. Johnsbury District office. He manages recreational access on public lands in the Northeast Kingdom, working with multiple recreation groups, organizations and communities. He is a professional trail builder with over twenty years developing, maintaining, and managing trail systems. He is the former Trails Director at NorthWoods Stewardship Center where he led the NorthWoods Conservation Corps for many years. Most recently, he provided support and direction of the 20-mile Kingdom Heritage Trail in northeastern Vermont.

Haley Pero has served as an outreach representative for Senator Bernie Sanders since 2013. Her portfolio includes energy, environmental, and outdoor recreation issues. In her role as an outreach representative she travels statewide to connect with Vermonters working in these fields. The feedback she receives helps better inform Senator Sanders, who is a member of the Senate Environment and Energy Committees, and his policy team when drafting and voting on legislation. Haley holds a Master's degree from Suffolk University and a Bachelor's degree from McGill University.

Craig Picca is an expert in the field of volunteer background screening and youth sports league management with over 5 years in the industry with SportsSignup, SI Play, SportsEngine, and SSCI. SSCI is responsible for establishing the National Recreation and Park Background Screening Guidelines in 2006. Craig has advised over 1500 recreation departments and youth sports organizations. Mr. Picca, a graduate of Siena College, is a key member of the Parks and Recreation Team at NCSI/SSCI and brings a unique and energetic perspective to the background screening profession.

Drew Pollak-Bruce is an Associate Planner with SE Group who manages trails and recreation projects throughout the US. He has worked as a professional planner, advocate and journalist, often focusing on the confluence of recreation, communities, and economics. In addition to publishing frequent nationally distributed articles on parks and recreation, Drew has led trails workshops throughout the US and spoken at numerous state and national conferences, including the National Outdoor Recreation Conference, the Creating Healthy Places Conference, and the National Ski Areas Association's Mountain Bike Summit. Drew is a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP) and holds a Master of Regional Planning from Cornell University and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder. He is an at-large member of the VRPA Executive Committee.

Dr. Suzanne Flannery Quinn is an expert in early childhood research and currently Manager of the KOMPAN Play Institute for the Americas. She recently joined KOMPAN after spending nearly a decade as a Senior Lecturer of Early Childhood Studies at the University of Roehampton, London (UK), where she was also Programme Convener of the MA degree and research member at the Early Childhood Research Centre. Suzanne conducts international research on a range of issues related to young children, their families, and teachers who work with children and families. With expertise in Froebelian pedagogic principles, particularly those related to play, materials, activities and environments, Suzanne brings this unique knowledge and expertise to the team at KOMPAN.

Tracey Rivera Cooper is a Marketing Strategist at MyRec.com. Coming from the parks and recreation field, Tracey has over 8 years of experience as a program coordinator. She knows first-hand how to help, facilitate, and work the software from the user's side. Tracey's position also involves the marketing, social side of the company - allowing potential users to keep up with what lies ahead and providing a place for users to connect.

Rebecca Roy works as the Conservation Education and Project Learning Tree Coordinator with Vermont State Parks. Her passion for interpretation and environmental education started with a degree in Environmental Education and Interpretation from Unity College in Maine and a job as a natural science educator at the College of the Atlantic (many years ago). This followed with a Master's degree in Science Education from the University of Maine and over 15 years working seasonally as an interpreter, naturalist, camp director, park ranger, ski instructor, and classroom teacher. Currently she enjoys her role as a mom and loves exploring all the beautiful places in the Vermont outdoors with her young daughter.

Josh Ryan is Principal of Timber & Stone, LLC, a recreational trail design and construction business based in East Montpelier, VT. Since 2005, Timber & Stone, LLC has offered a full range of services to land managers and entities throughout the Northeast who seek a sustainable approach to recreational trail construction. Josh is an active member of the Professional Trailbuilders' Association, the local East Montpelier Trails Committee, and is a Governor appointed member of the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC) task force.

Jessica Savage is the Recreation Program Manager for the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. She grew up on the ocean, but her heart belongs to the mountains. She's been a trail designer and builder, an environmental educator and chainsaw instructor. Nowadays she's running as much as possible and being a mom to a five-year-old and a one-year old.

Heidi Seidel joined the Boulder, CO Open Space and Mountain Parks Department 4.5 years ago. She started off on the Education and Outreach team, where she enjoyed providing visitors with relevant information to enhance their experiences in the natural world and taught the educational class for the Voice and Sight off-leash dog guardian program. Heidi quickly found a deep interest in learning more about the park visitors and further understanding their attitudes, behaviors, perceptions, and values of the

natural landscape. Heidi's degree in Environmental Education and love of the outdoors contributes to her desire to conserve, protect, and make data-driven decisions to best support land managers in providing overall positive visitor experiences and properly aligning program development.

Frank Spaulding is the Parks Projects Coordinator for Vermont State Parks, where he manages the multi-million-dollar annual capital construction program. A green-belt facilitator, Frank has led process improvement events using the principles and tools of A3 Thinking and the Improvement Kata. Frank is also an instructor at NRPA's Parks and Recreation Maintenance Management School at the National Training Center, Oglebay Resort in Wheeling, West Virginia.

Janet Steinert has lectured throughout the North Country of New Hampshire and Vermont, providing motivation to the young and young-at-heart. As co-founder of The Wilderness Explorers, an outdoor education group at The Whitefield School in Whitefield, NH, she introduced children and their families to the mysteries of the wilderness. After spending years teaching the value of wild spaces, Steinert retired to thru-hike the Appalachian Trail. Author of the book, *Slow Boots n' Steady Limbs*, Janet Steinert continues to entertain audiences of all ages with her stories of discovery, humor and hope.

Deonne VanderWoude has over 15 years of experience in monitoring human systems within public lands and has been working with City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Department (OSMP) since 2004. She started in a seasonal visitor use technician position and eventually championed the development and management of a formal Human Dimensions Program. Her areas of interest include study design, social science theory, application of social science to interdisciplinary problems, social psychology and quantification of the human system in public lands. She has degrees in Environmental Anthropology and Environmental Studies and enjoys the application of these fields to real-world situations.

Thea Wurzburg works for Representative Peter Welch out of his Burlington office. She helps advance Representative Welch's efforts to address environmental and energy issues, economic development, hunger and nutrition, and women's and LGBTQ issues here in Vermont. She also handles numerous areas of casework, including with the U.S. Postal Service and the Department of Education. She previously served as the Congressman's Legislative Correspondent in Washington, D.C.

Cindi Wight is the Director for Burlington Parks, Recreation & Waterfront. She has been in the profession for over 25 years and is thankful to have found a career she loves. Cindi is a Certified Park and Recreation Executive and a member of the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration. She started her career in the San Juan Islands off the coast of Washington State and then headed back east for a short stint with Middlebury Parks & Recreation and then 16 years with Rutland Recreation & Parks. Cindi loves to play and her happy place is outdoors!

Diana Wood is Burlington Parks, Recreation & Waterfront's first marketing person and has helped the department to strategically improve communications through their new website, print design, signage, social media, email and more. She brought to the team, many years of design and branding experience, and is fueled by her passion for customer-focused marketing and collaboration between engaged partnerships.



COST



Good Thru Sept. 6

(add \$20 to all registration fees after September 6)

	Both Days	One Day
Professionals		
Member VRPA, VTGC, NE State Rec Assoc, & NRPA	\$195	\$130
Non-Member	\$225	\$150
Community Volunteers/Retirees/Friend		
Member VRPA, VTGC, NE State Rec Assoc, & NRPA	\$130	\$80
Non-Member	\$150	\$90
Student[‡]	\$125*	\$80*

[‡]Fees waived for student volunteers
*Price includes a one-year student membership

Room Reservations - Lake Morey Resort

Room Rate/Night	\$109* (single or double)
------------------------	---------------------------

- Book by September 9**
 Reservations received after this date will be accepted on a space available basis. A credit card is required to confirm all room reservations.
- Call: 1-800-423-1211**
 Web reservations are not available for groups. You can email your reservation request to shanna@lakemoreyresort.com. Mention you are with the Vermont Conference on Recreation.
- Guest Room Cancellation Policy**
 If you cancel your reservation at least 7 days prior to your arrival date your deposit can be applied to a future stay within one year of cancellation. If you cancel within 7 days of your arrival date you forfeit your deposit.

*9% VT rooms & meals tax not included

REGISTRATION

- Visit vrpa.org, click on the conference registration link under “Upcoming Events.”
- Scroll down the page and click on “Register.”
- Enter your email, click “Next.”
- Choose your registration type, click “Next.”
- Complete all required fields* and choose your education sessions. This helps us with room assignments.
- Choose meal options if extra meals are needed. **Meals are included in your registration fee for the days you register; use this for extra meals only, if needed.** Click “Next.”
- If you want to register multiple people and include them all on one invoice, follow the instructions above and prior to clicking “Done”, click on the “Add Guest” button in the upper left part of the page and enter the info for the next person(s). You can add as many registrations as you need.
- Review your registration and click “Confirm.”
- At the end of the registration process you will have the choice to pay with a credit card or pay with a check. If you prefer to pay with a check, please print off the invoice and mail the invoice and payment to: VRPA, PO Box 33, Brownsville, VT 05037.

Need help? Contact Jessica Brodie at jessica@vrpa.org or 774-254-0071.



GENERAL CONFERENCE INFO

Discounted Registration Rates

Discounted registration rates are offered to members of VRPA and any of the six New England recreation associations, the Vermont Trails & Greenways Council, and NRPA.

Meals

Meals are included with your conference registration. Thursday registration includes lunch and dinner. Friday registration includes breakfast and the awards luncheon. Two-day registrations include all four meals. A LA CARTE MEALS MAY BE PURCHASED IF YOU ARE GOING TO BE PRESENT FOR A MEAL BUT NOT REGISTERED FOR THAT DAY. For example, if you are registered for Friday only and want to arrive on Thursday evening, you will need to buy a ticket for Thursday dinner. You can also purchase extra meals if you have a guest who would like to join you for meals.

Online Registration

All conference registration is done online. We have provided tips to help you with the online registration and contact information if you need help. We are happy to help anyone having a problem.

Session Selection

When you are registering, please take the time to indicate which sessions you plan to attend. This does not commit you to attending that session but it helps us to plan in which rooms to hold the sessions. Thank you.

Special Accommodations

If you need any special accommodations, including dietary, there is a place to indicate this when you are registering.



Interested in volunteering to be a room moderator?

Contact the VRPA office at
jessica@vrpa.org

Refund Policy

Cancellations must be received in writing by 5:00 pm on Friday, September 27, 2019. All cancellations are subject to a \$25 cancellation fee. No refunds will be given after September 27th but name substitutions will be allowed; please submit substitutions in writing.

Liability

The Vermont Recreation and Parks Association and the conference committee are not responsible for any injury, loss or damage that may occur to any attendee, nor to any attendee's property or personal belongings from any cause whatsoever, prior, during or subsequent to the period of the conference. The attendee expressly releases VRPA, its officers, and the conference committee from any and all claims for such loss, damage, or injury when submitting a registration for the 2019 Vermont Conference.

SCHOLARSHIP

Don't let the registration fees stop you from attending! Apply for a VRPA Conference Scholarship!

If you would like to attend the 2019 Vermont Conference on Recreation but just can't swing the entire cost of registration, consider applying for a scholarship for up to 50% of either the one-day or two-day registration fee.

Scholarship requests received from current VRPA members and first time conference attendees by September 1 will be given priority. Scholarship awards will be announced prior to the early registration deadline of September 6th. These scholarships are being funded with proceeds from the Silent Auction at last year's Vermont Conference on Recreation.

> Download the scholarship application at vrpa.org under the "Education" and "Conference" tabs.

2019 Conference Committee

Rob Peterson, Chair
Adriane Martin, Chair-Elect
Joanna Bisceglia
Emily Boek
Todd Goodwin
Candice Holbrook
Muriel More
Joanne Putzler
Evan Steele
Betsy Terry
Kathryn Wrigley

2019-20 VRPA Executive Committee

Melissa Cate, President
Ally Vile, President-Elect
Scott Hausler, Past-President
Jenn Turmel, Treasurer
April Cioffi, Secretary
Matt Frazee
Brett Leonard
Rob Peterson
Drew Pollak-Bruce

Questions? Contact:

Rob Peterson
Conference Chair
robert.peterson@vermont.gov
802-279-8329

Jessica Brodie
VRPA Executive Director
jessica@vrpa.org
774-254-0071



Lake Morey Resort

1 Clubhouse Road, Fairlee, VT 05045

From Burlington:

Take I-89 South to Exit 7 (Berlin/Barre). Take Route 302 East through Barre to Orange. Take Route 25 South to Bradford. Take I-91 South to Exit 15 - Turn right off exit ramp. Take next right (granite Lake Morey Resort sign on corner). Follow the golf course (on left) and take your first left onto Clubhouse Rd. Resort is on the right.

From Hartford & Points South

Take I-91 North to Exit 15 in Vermont. Turn left off exit ramp. Take first right (granite Lake Morey Resort sign on corner). Follow the golf course (on left) and take your first left onto Clubhouse Rd. Resort is on the right.