



Providence Parks Academy 2016

- ◆ For workshops designated as *Upon Request*, please contact info@providenceparks.org
- ◆ Workshops are **free** and open to all, but are often geared toward meeting the needs of those working in and for Providence's parks, green spaces, recreation centers, tree-scapes, and our community partners. In the event that space is limited, priority will be given to the aforementioned.

Workshop	Presenter(s)	Date(s)	Location
Using Social Media and the Web: What's new?	Geoff Meek, Founding member of the Partnership for Providence Parks	Available upon request	TBD
Description:	Learn how to use social media and web design to promote involvement in your park and events. Experienced already? Learn to kick it up a notch.		
Expected Outcome:	Improve or develop a social media campaign or web site to promote your park, group, or event.		
Park Consultation for Fitness in Your Park	Christy Claussen, Child Care Program Administrator, YMCA	If you would like to submit a specific fitness class request in your park for the 2016 season, contact Christy Claussen at cclaussen@gpymca.org —the earlier you get in your request the better!	
Description:	Christy is available to help you determine what types/ages/levels of fitness programming is appropriate for your park/community and then work with our consultants to plan, program, promote and evaluate a summer fitness class.		
Expected Outcome:	Develop a plan for a summer fitness or wellness initiative in your park.		
Community Build Projects in Our Parks	Brian Byrnes, Deputy Superintendent, Providence Parks Department WoJo, Director of Neighborhood Park Services	Thursday February 18 6:00 PM	RWP Boathouse
Description:	Learn how to get your park improvement project off the ground. From the development of a plan, to mapping out the improvements and how to partner with the Parks + Recreation Department to make your plans a reality		
Expected Outcome:	Development of a plan and path to a successful park improvement project		

Mapping Our Parks and Community Partners	Matthew Smith, PPP Communications Intern	Monday February 22, 6:00 PM	RWP Boathouse
Description:	Web based mapping services are our world's most direct way of connecting park goers with programming & features. In this workshop we will take a look at different electronic services that can be used to make parks more accessible to our neighborhoods, and discuss common objectives for unifying towards a more connected year in the parks. We will look at examples from across the US of different map options and facilitate a discussion about what folks would like to see here in Providence. We will compare and contrast these models with our own interactive map, and draft a vision for what the Friends Groups would like to see for our parks.		
Expected Outcome:	By the end of this night of democratic participation we hope to have a clear sense of how mapping our parks and resources can make our parks more accessible, and a strategy for developing, expanding, and maintaining our digital map assets.		
The Basics of Group Sustainability: Grant Writing and Fund Development	Jill Pfitzenmayer, Ph.D., The Rhode Island Foundation	Wednesday April 13, 6:00 PM	RI Foundation 1 Union St, Providence, RI 02903
Description:	We will cover the basic elements that are essential for a fund development plan. This will include where to find and how to prepare a grant application. Participants will be offered the opportunity to try their hand at writing an actual grant application from a local funder.		
Expected Outcome:	Prepare and submit a grant application on behalf of your park and create a preliminary fund development plan.		
Developing a Compelling Email Campaign	Lesley Lambert, PPP Project Manager	Thursday March 3, 6:00 PM	RWP Boathouse
Description:	Learn how to create eye-catching email marketing materials using free online email software programs. Keep your readers entertained and interested in your message, despite the overwhelming amount of online advertising.		
Expected Outcome:	Set up your own email marketing for your group, volunteers and supporters.		

Working with Volunteer Groups and Managing Service Projects	Maya Ambroise, Volunteer Services Coordinator Serve Rhode Island	Tuesday March 8, 6:00 PM	SRI Office, 655 Broad St. Providence, RI 02907
Description:	Determine your group volunteer needs, discuss how to work effectively with groups of volunteers, brainstorm creative ways to utilize volunteer groups, and learn how to work with Serve Rhode Island on recruiting, preparing for, and implementing group service projects throughout 2016.		
Expected Outcome:	Generate a list of potential group service projects at your park or site for 2016. Signup for an onsite assessment completed by SRI staff to further develop project details.		
Community Garden Best Practices: A New Guidebook	Catherine Mardosa, Resident Gardener	Thursday March 10 6:00 PM	RWP Boathouse
Description:	Interested in starting a new community garden in one of our parks? Or do you want your existing community garden to better address the needs of your community? In this session we will talk about "best practices" for community gardeners and how to deal with common problems. And get you ready for a great growing season.		
Expected Outcome:	Have your own guide to best practices for gardening.		
Tool Box Talks: Training for Identifying Playground Safety	Brian Byrnes, Deputy Superintendent, Providence Parks Department, 1033 training	March 21, 6PM April 8, 2PM	RWP Boathouse
Description:	This workshop is designed to help you identify the potential hazards in your park. From playground structures, swings and slides to uneven pavement, we will identify what needs to be repaired in your park to keep you safe.		
Expected Outcome:	Educate our 'friends' so they can alert us to real hazards in their parks—make our parks safer for all.		
Planning and Promoting Performing Arts and Play Events in your Park	Lizzie Araujo, Cultural Affairs Manager, Arts Culture + Tourism; and Helene Miller, Interim Director, Partnership	April 18, 6PM	RWP Boathouse
Description:	Develop a plan for a playful event or series at your park this summer! This workshop is specifically designed to be a resource to the groups that are applying for funding from the Celebrate Providence! Neighborhood Performing Arts Initiative 2016. We will work with you to develop a plan for selecting artists, incorporating opportunities for play, and promoting your event. <i>* Please note that anyone interested in applying for the Neighborhood Performing Arts Initiative grant for the first time is required to attend this session.</i>		
Expected Outcome:	Develop a plan for a playful event or series at your park this summer.		

Making your Park an Urban Refuge	April Alix, Urban Refuge Initiative Conservation Program Coordinator; and Janice Nepshinsky, Visitor Services Manager, Rhode Island National Fish and Wildlife Department	End of April	TBD
<i>*Date and location will be determined by the group once 5 or more people sign up</i>			
Description:	Participants will learn to assess park spaces in terms of visitor use planning with a guided tour of National Refuges in South Kingstown to see examples of trail adaptations first hand. Lunch following the tour will allow time for discussion of how to execute these practices within the individual parks as well as offer a time to collaborate with other park group representatives. Please plan on bringing a bag lunch.		
Expected Outcome:	Learn the steps to assess visitor use, as well as how to promote alternative uses at parks for a target audience. Experience examples of trail-adaptation options.		
Project Wild: Urban Refuges	April Alix, Urban Refuge Initiative Conservation Program Coordinator; and Kimberly Sullivan, Project Wild and Project Wild State Coordinator	Saturday May 7 9:00 AM -3:00 PM	Partnership Headquarters 11 West Drive, Providence, RI
Description:	Project WILD is an interdisciplinary conservation and environmental education program emphasizing wildlife. The program is designed for educators of kindergarten through 12th grade students. This program trains both informal and formal educators in activities adapted for both indoors and outdoors. This workshop will cater specifically to educators in areas that do NOT have a plethora of greenspace (such as most schoolyards and classrooms) as well as to individuals who want to host more educational programs in public parks. Participants will engage in many indoor and outdoor activities that can be done with kids of all ages. At the completion of this training, each participant receives a book full of activities that relate to a variety of subjects. Learn more at http://www.projectwild.org/ Light refreshments will be served, but please bring a bag lunch, as we will be here all day.		
Expected Outcome:	Learn how to engage kids in outdoor education/activities in both urban and natural spaces		