

Washington Recreation & Park Association Announces Annual Award Recipients

The **Washington Recreation and Park Association (WRPA)** honors public agencies and individuals for outstanding and unique achievements. Park and Recreation professionals, facilities, special programs and media materials from throughout Washington State were recognized during an awards ceremony at the WRPA Annual Conference & Trade Show on Thursday, May 3, 2012 at the Meydenbauer Convention Center, Bellevue WA.

PROFESSIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Honor Fellow

Richard Bemm, CPRP Longview Parks & Recreation

Distinguished Service

Richard Bemm, CPRP Longview Parks & Recreation

Andy Sennes, Chehalis Parks & Recreation

Doug Strong, Richland Parks & Recreation

Citation of Merit – Legislative

Congressman Norm Dicks

Citation of Merit – Individual

Larry & Lynnette Scheidt, Metro Parks Tacoma

Citation of Merit – Organization

Mount Baker Boating Advisory Council, Seattle Parks & Recreation

Citation of Merit – Professional

Leslie Betlach, Renton Community Services Department

Young Professional

Jeron Gates, Seattle Parks & Recreation

President's Award

Dave Johnson, Tukwila Parks & Recreation

SPOTLIGHT AWARD RECIPIENTS

Facilities and Parks

Best Park Design

Evans Creek Preserve, Sammamish Parks & Recreation

Best Facility

Class 1: Rosehill Community Center, Mukilteo Parks & Recreation
Class 2: Wren Pierson Community Center, Cheney Parks & Recreation

Best Trails

Class 1: Chelatchie Prairie Rail with Trail, Vancouver-Clark Parks & Recreation
Class 2: Beach Park Trail, Des Moines Parks & Recreation

Best Special Use Site

Mercer Slough Environmental Ed Center Wetlab 2, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Best Sports Complex

Class 1: Luke Jensen Sports Park, Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation, Clark County
Class 2: Lake Stevens Community Park, Snohomish County Parks & Recreation

Media Awards

Best Interpretive Signage or Map

Des Moines Beach Park Heritage Trail, Des Moines Parks & Recreation

Best Brochure

Basin Summer Sounds Music Festival, Ephrata Parks & Recreation

Program Awards

Youth & Adult Programs

Class 1: Middle School Community Learning Centers, Seattle Parks & Recreation
Class 2: Let's Move, Cheney, Cheney Parks & Recreation

Events, Fairs & Festivals

Class 1: Crossroads Community Center Month of Caring, Bellevue Parks & Recreation
Class 2: Celebrate, Des Moines!, Des Moines Parks & Recreation

Cultural Competency

Randy Wiger, Seattle Parks & Recreation, Celebrating Our Differences and Born This Way
Kafe
Conversations about Race and Culture, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

SECTION AWARD RECIPIENTS

Aquatic Section

Outstanding Professional

Pat Patterson, City of Covington, Recreation & Aquatics Manager

Athletic/Fitness Section

Outstanding Community Organization

Auburn Dairy

Outstanding Professional

Megan Vining, CPRP

Scholarship Award

Kim Best, Cheney

Park Resource Section

Outstanding Professional

Bob Leonard, Snohomish County

Outstanding Field Staff

Paul Davis, Kent Parks & Recreation

Teen Section

Outstanding Teen Program

Old Town Center After School Youth/Teen Center, Tumwater

Outstanding Teen Program

Bellevue Youth Link's Teen Closet

Facility Section Awards (Awarded at Mid Year 2011)

Innovative Facility Practice

South Bellevue Community Center

Outstanding Professional

Rachel Gilbert, Burien Parks & Recreation

Customer Service

Janet Peterson, Burien Parks & Recreation