Network • Learn • Relax

Great Lakes Park Training Institute

Pokagon State Park • Angola • Indiana
February Twenty Sixth – March First, Two Thousand Eighteen
Welcome to the Great Lakes Park Training Institute! The Institute will provide you with a week filled with educational sessions, social networking, and opportunities for relaxation.

The Great Lakes Park Training Institute is deeply rooted in the heart of professional park and recreation training history. In the mid-1940s, amidst the rapid growth of park districts, state parks, and recreation departments throughout the Midwest, many professionals realized that they needed quality training opportunities to advance their careers and improve their skills. At the invitation of Dr. Garrett Eppley at Indiana University, the summer of 1946 ushered in a meeting of representatives from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Dr. Eppley proposed an educational institute to include general sessions and detailed workshops. The group supported the idea and arranged for a pilot program to be held in late 1946. A total of 116 delegates attended the pilot program held at McCormick's Creek State Park in Indiana. The pilot was a huge success and provided much service to those departments in attendance.

The representatives met again the following year, this time adopting the name Great Lakes Park Training Institute, and agreed to continue the meeting. Throughout the years, the Institute has been polished and tailored to become what it is today. Costs have been kept low through aid from Indiana University. Each February, attendees from the surrounding Great Lakes states convene at Pokagon State Park for a week of fellowship and learning. As a 2018 attendee at this historic Institute, you are now helping to strengthen the parks and recreation field, as well as taking part in history.

Enjoy your week!

Stephen A. Wolter  
Director  
Great Lakes Park Training Institute

Institute Guidelines and Tips

Electronic Devices  
Please, for the professional courtesy and respect of all our participants and presenters, turn off your cell phones, pagers, and other electronics during presentations and sessions.

No Smoking  
The Potawatomi Inn is a smoke-free environment. Please observe this policy for the comfort of other guests and conference attendees.

Appropriate Attire  
Dress comfortably and neatly at the Great Lakes Park Training Institute! Layers will come in handy for any time you spend outdoors. Tuesday evening’s Awards Dinner requires business casual attire. Thanks!

Alcohol Policy  
Alcohol will be available during certain evening events for small fees. Please drink responsibly. No one under the age of 21 is permitted to consume alcohol. Also, any person who appears intoxicated will not be served. Attendees may be asked to produce proof of age/identification. You may consume alcohol in your room, but the hotel does not permit alcohol in any of the hallways or lounge areas.

CEUs  
If you are working toward earning CEUs at this year’s Great Lakes Park Training Institute, we are happy to help! The room host at each session will be equipped with a hole-puncher to confirm your attendance at the session. You are required to be present for the entire session. You can also pick up a copy of the session learning objectives at the registration desk.

Education Tracks  
The education sessions for the 2018 Institute are divided into three tracks: Leadership and Management, Nature Education, and Maintenance, along with other important and interesting topics. These tracks will help attendees identify sessions that are of interest. Each timeslot during the Institute will feature at least one session that is relevant to each of these tracks. Education track information is featured next to each session’s title in this program.

Need Help?  
Many people have worked hard to put together this slate of events for your training and networking pleasure—and they are not done working yet! Speak with a GLPTI staff member, regent, or someone at the GLPTI Registration Table. We will all be happy to help you in whatever way we can!

Break Area  
The Break Area in the Courtyard Café will have snacks and drinks available through the entire Institute. Snacks and beverages will be rotated every morning and afternoon to keep your energy levels up!
The Inn

While you are here, do not forget to take advantage of the amenities offered by the Potawatomi Inn! The inn hosts an indoor swimming pool, whirlpool, sauna, library, satellite TV, movie rentals, Indiana gift shop, on-site ATM, a large sun porch facing Lake James, wireless internet services, guest laundry, exercise area, game room, nearby toboggan run, complimentary coffee and tea, and 11 miles of walking trails in the park.
The Eppley Institute is Indiana University’s unique outreach program for the park, recreation, and public land management professions and works to enhance the quality of natural, cultural, and recreational experiences for all people. With the resources of Indiana University, the Eppley Institute has access to experts and a technology support system that are difficult to duplicate. The Eppley Institute provides expertise in several areas, including technical assistance and research, planning and design, and training and education for the National Park Service and other organizations around the world. As a unit of the Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Studies, the Eppley Institute has a rich history and legacy in park and recreation management. Indiana University has been a leader in parks, recreation, and public lands education, research, and technical assistance since 1946. Visit our website at www.eppley.org to learn more about what the Eppley Institute can do for you. We have a wide range of training and educational resources for individuals and organizations!
2018 Great Lakes Park Training Institute Board of Regents

The Board of Regents assists with the programming, objectives, curricula, and related issues that should be addressed by the Great Lakes Park Training Institute. Board members maintain the highest possible knowledge of industry and professional trends, state and constituency needs for development and training, and practical and professional leadership needs for park operations and management activities. The 2018 Board of Regents consists of the following individuals:

Jim O’Brien (Chair) Michigan Department of Natural Resources State Parks Representative
Mary Beth Thaman (Chair-Elect) City of Kettering Parks and Recreation Ohio Representative
Brandt Baughman (Past Chair) Indiana Dunes State Park Ex Officio
Mark Young Parks Forever Consulting At Large Representative
Alan Buckenmeyer City of Rochester Hills Michigan Representative
Dan Caraher Deerfield Park District MIPE Representative
Jim Eby Batavia Park District Illinois Representative
Ginger Murphy Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs Indiana Representative

2018 Great Lakes Park Training Institute Trustees

The Great Lakes Park Training Institute Trustees include individuals who have retired from the Board of Regents and wish to continue their involvement in the Great Lakes Park Training Institute. This involvement includes assisting with sessions, offering advice, and serving on committees as needed. Current Trustees are listed below.

Ted Bohman Pokagon State Park, Indiana
Bill Brauer West Chicago Park District (Retired), Illinois
Terry Coleman Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs
Evelyn Kirkwood St. Joseph County Parks, Indiana
Dan Otto Schaumburg Park District, Illinois
Jerry Pagac Champaign County Forest Preserve District (Retired), Illinois
Allen Patterson Hamilton County Parks and Recreation At Large Representative

Software That Connects People with the Outdoors

Our mission is to cultivate a connected world through shared experiences. Aspira’s solutions allow outdoors business owners and state agencies to do just that. Whether you’re managing campgrounds, selling hunting/fishing licenses, providing ticketing/permitting, running a point-of-sale operation, or operating marinas, we help make it easy to manage all of your outdoors operations with one unified solution.

Visit our booth to find out how we can help streamline your outdoor operations, help increase participation and leverage the power of ReserveAmerica.com to expand your reach.

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Monday, February 26, 2018

1:00 PM – 3:15 PM  Workshops

Generations in the Workplace  
Lake James
Leadership and Management Track
• Amanda Foor (Human Resources Director, IN DNR)
  The current workforce encompasses several generations. This session will focus on the defining characteristics of the various generations and how their generational context may affect workplace dynamics. Participants will review strategies for communicating and engaging with a generationally diverse workforce and learn how to encourage an inclusive environment in their work teams.

Tree Identification Workshop  
Crooked Lake
Nature Education Track
• Phil Graf (Urban Forester, Graf Tree Care)
  This outdoor workshop will take participants on a walk in the park to identify various trees using bark patterns, branching habits, and bud scars.

Chainsaw Safety Training  
Snow Lake
Maintenance Track
• Ty Shields (Technical Field Specialist, Bryan Equipment/Stihl Inc.)
  This presentation offers an engaging experience using PPE, props, and real-life safety scenarios, basic cutting/felling techniques, proper starting and operating procedures, and a brief touch on unit preventative maintenance.

Your Role in Risk Management  
Jimmerson Lake
Leadership and Management and Maintenance Tracks
• Bill Hooker (Training Program Supervisor, Park District Risk Management Agency)
  This presentation offers an engaging experience using PPE, props, and real-life safety scenarios, basic cutting/felling techniques, proper starting and operating procedures, and a brief touch on unit preventative maintenance.

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM  General Session
No organization or leader wants to be caught off guard when an undesired event occurs. Most know they should have a risk management program in place, yet a program is only as good as the actions and support provided by the organization’s leaders.

This program will provide new leaders with essential risk management concepts and veteran staff with peace of mind reinforcing “why we do, what we do”.

Using lecture, case study and a Jenga game activity, participants will collaborate and interact to discover the program components and commitment required to implement and sustain an effective risk management program.

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM  Dinner in the Dining Room
6:30 PM    Birds of Prey Social!

Join us at the CCC shelter for a warm fire, refreshments, and fun! Teresa Rody from the Upper Wabash Interpretive Center will be on hand with several birds of prey from the Salamonie Raptor Center.
Tuesday, February 28, 2017

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM  Breakfast
8:15 AM – 9:45 AM  General Session and Announcements

Verbal Defense and Influence  Lake James
Leadership and Management Track
• Drew Montgomery (Park Manager, Michigan DNR)
This session covers the major concepts of an organizational training entitled Vistelar. Vistelar focuses on verbal techniques used to help professionals prevent and manage conflict. The session is designed for the “contact” professional in any business or organizational setting. It will help you understand how to use some of the most powerful tools available: the right words at the right times. This training offers practical control tactics to communicate under pressure.

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM  Concurrent Sessions

Walk with a Doc: Innovative Active Health Care Solutions in Parks  Lake James
• David Sabgir M.D. (Founder, Walk with a Doc)
The U.S. Surgeon General stated that one of the single most important things we can do for our health is walking. Walking in a park or on a trail has even greater value. Studies have indicated that people are more likely to stick with a workout program when they exercise outdoors. The concept of doctors leading walks in local parks was operationized when Dr. David Sabgir launched the award-winning Walk with a Doc program in Columbus, Ohio in 2005. Park districts collaborating with the healthcare community is a win/win proposition. Learn how to start a Walk with a Doc program, and connect community members to your parks for healthy exercise, an informative health talk, and social interaction.

Playgrounds for Kids with Autism: Creating a Sensory Environment for All  Crooked Lake
• Michelle Kelly (Principal Landscape Architect, Upland Design, Ltd)
The Center for Disease control reports 1 in 68 children are identified with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. With so many children affected, how can our playground environments be designed to create positive environments to support kids with autism while creating sensory environments that all kids can enjoy. This session will explore fun and imaginative ways to enhance a playground from the equipment to the surfacing, and the landscape to the pathways. Participants will leave with a concrete list of ideas to enhance existing playgrounds as well as ways to design new or renovated playgrounds that reflect the needs of kids with autism and sensory processing disorder.

Improving Maintenance, Efficiency, and Control of your Irrigation System  Snow Lake
• Wayne Whitmill (President, Kettering Irrigation & Lighting)
Learn about ways to identify products and practices that save time, water, & money. After this session, you will understand how to select proper products to improve efficiency, be able to reduce maintenance costs and identify deficiencies in your irrigation system(s), and understand options available for central control and how they function.

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM  Lunch in the Dining Room

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM  Concurrent Sessions (Repeated at 2:15 PM)

Advantages of Electric Commercial Equipment  Lake James
Maintenance Track
• Peter Liakouras (Corporate Sales Manager, Russo Power Equipment)
• Zach Mersch (Inside Sales Manager, Mean Green Mowers)
Electric (battery) equipment is taking on a whole new meaning in the landscape industry. Mean Green Mowers and Russo Power Equipment will present end users, impact to the industry, what it takes to convert and how to prepare.

Birds of Prey  Crooked Lake
Nature Education Track
• Leslie Grow (Naturalist, Indiana State Parks)
The session will introduce the Dwight Chamberlain Raptor Center and its two-fold mission of raptor rehabilitation and natural resource interpretation using live birds of prey and a teaching tool. The Raptor Center is owned and operated by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Wilderness First Aid  Snow Lake
• Dustin Brighton (Great Lakes Training Solutions)
Description

New...One Minute Manager  Jimmerson Lake
Leadership and Management Track
• Karen Hinton (Deputy Director, Indiana State Parks)
The “three secrets” of One Minute Manager are imperative tools in today’s business environment. They help managers produce greater results in less time. Participants will learn to get results through One Minute Goal Setting, by giving One Minute Praisings, and by giving One Minute Redirects when appropriate. Designed to provide an efficient and effective training for anyone who manages—whether they manage a home, a family, a park or a single area.

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM  Concurrent Sessions (Repeated from 1:00 PM)

Advantages of Electric Commercial Equipment
Birds of Prey
Wilderness First Aid
New...One Minute Manager
World renown community planning expert and chair of the board of World Urban Parks, Gil Penalosa, is passionate about cities where all people can thrive. A strong advocate for healthy communities, Gil has successfully led the design and development of over 200 parks in over 200 different cities across six continents. Gil will share his passion and perspective for creating vibrant cities and healthy communities for everyone, regardless of age; gender; and social, economic, or ethnic background. The presentation will focus on the design and use of parks and streets as great public places and on sustainable mobility—walking, riding bicycles, using public transit, and new uses of cars.

**6:00 PM – 7:15 PM**  
**Awards Reception and Heavy Appetizers**

Attendees will be treated to a poster presentation of award winners while enjoying dinner and bar service in the Lake James Room. During this event, a brief presentation will follow the poster session where the Great Lakes Park Training Institute will recognize the winners of the 2018 Garrett G. Eppley Scholarships, Great Lakes Park Facility and Recreation Program Awards, and the Richard Lawson Award for professional excellence.

Institute attendees receive two complimentary drink tickets that can be used at either the Awards Dinner or Game Night.

**Great Lakes Park, Facility, and Recreation Program Award**

The Institute presents this award in recognition of parks, facilities, and programs that represent the cutting edge of the leisure movement in the United States. Award winners represent innovative, cost-effective design; demonstrate community engagement; and create a significant impact on their community and agency.

**Richard Lawson Award for Professional Excellence**

Given annually by the Institute’s Board of Regents, the Lawson Award is presented to individuals who exemplify continued and significant contributions to the parks and recreation profession in the Great Lakes region. This is the highest individual honor that the Institute bestows.

**Garrett G. Eppley Scholarship**

This annual scholarship is available to young professionals and those who are new to the field in order to encourage them to pursue professional development opportunities and to provide important networking opportunities. The scholarship will cover Institute registration costs for those who are selected. Scholarship winners will be required to provide five hours of volunteer service during the Institute.
Recruitment and Retention of Seasonal Staff  
**Crooked Lake**  
Leadership and Management Tracks  
- Ryan Davis (Division Manager of Business Services, Kettering, Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Arts)  
Recruiting staff is a difficult task, recruiting seasonal staff year after year is even more difficult. The key to recruitment is retention; the more returning employees you have, the less recruiting you need to do. This session will explore some fundamentals, providing your team with tips, strategies and resources for your recruiting efforts. We will also discuss how to optimize your retention program and learn how to calculate the true cost of retaining employees. Want to peek behind the curtain of what this session will contain? The number one recruiting tool is word of mouth. The degree to which your existing employees will recruit for you is directly tied to their experience with your organization, which manifests itself in their returning to work with you year after year (retention matters!).

Partnering with Tourism Agencies to Promote Programs and Events  
**Snow Lake**  
This session will cover the value of partnerships, identifying key attributes for what makes a partnership effective or not effective. Through specific case studies from Indiana Dunes Tourism this session will examine how Indiana Dunes Tourism’s partners were able to fulfill the missions of their organizations and businesses due to effective partnership strategies.

Adventure Recreation: Planning, Programming, and Management  
**Jimmerson Lake**  
Leadership and Management and Nature Education Tracks  
- Amy Dingle (Director of Outdoor Connections, Five Rivers Metroparks)  
Adventure recreation is one of the fastest growing segments of the park and recreation industry. Most of the activities are resource-based, and participants’ interaction with the natural environment is part of the recreation experience. Primitive camping, backpacking, climbing, canoeing/kayaking, mountain biking, tree canopy ziplining are just a few adventure recreation activities. A common thread in all adventure recreation activities is the varying levels of risk. These questions and more will be answered in this interactive session. What facilities and resource access does my agency need to develop an adventure recreation program? What are the costs? How do I recruit and train staff? How do I manage for inherent risks and potential liability? How do I leverage adventure recreation as an economical driver in your community? How can I develop a successful adventure recreation program in an urban setting?

**2:15 PM – 3:15 PM**

**Fireside Chat  **  
**Lonidaw Lounge**  
Leadership and Management Track  
- Mark Young (Parks Forever Consulting and Advocacy)  
- MaryBeth Thaman (Kettering Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Arts)  
Especially for professionals who have been in the field of parks and recreation for ten years or less, the Fireside Chat is a highly interactive session featuring round table discussions and opportunities for networking and brainstorming.  
During the Fireside Chat you will:  
- Utilize your networking skills to connect with seasoned professionals.  
- Engage with your peers in the field.  
Drop in and chat! No reservation required!

**Concurrent Sessions (Repeated from 1:00 PM)**

Recruitment and Retention of Seasonal Staff  
Session  
Partnering with Tourism Agencies  
Adventure Recreation  

**General Session and Announcements**

**Public Lands, Democracy, and America’s Common Wealth  **  
**Lake James**  
- Scott Russell Sanders- Author, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Indiana University  
Earlier generations of Americans established parks as democratic alternatives to the private estates of Europe, where nearly all of the once commonly-shared lands had been enclosed for use by the rich. We are now faced with relentless efforts to enclose and exploit our public lands—for mining, drilling, clear-cutting, and over-grazing, or for conversion into private property. We need to defend these great natural legacies, out of gratitude toward our ancestors who protected them, and out of concern for the generations that will come after us.

**6:30 PM – 10:30 PM**  
Game Night!  
Game Night provides attendees with the opportunity to relax, have fun, and make new friends. The Game Night will kick off in the Lake James Room with a buffet dinner and bar with our annual Trivia Contest to follow. Other games will be available for open play. Door prizes will be drawn throughout the evening.
Thursday, March 1, 2018

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM    Continental Breakfast
8:15 AM – 9:15 AM    Workshops

Historic Bridge Restoration   Lake James
- Allen Patterson (Director, Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department)
- Jim Barker (PE, VS Engineering)
- Randy Strasser (Business Development, VS Engineering)
- Dan Kurdziel (PE, VS Engineering)
- Kenny Birk (Director of Business Development, VS Engineering)

The workshop will be geared towards park departments and districts in which trails are one of their treasured assets. Specifically, in situations where crossings are necessary, and bridges are being considered. Historic bridges are available for relocation to be re-used as pedestrian bridges- think Strawtown/Koweeti Park in Hamilton County. Even if the bridges are from another location or community, such projects add a sense of hometown pride and connection to the past. Aside from that, they are just cool!

Mosquito and Tick-borne Diseases in Indiana   Crooked Lake
Nature Education Track
- Bryan D. Price (Sr. Vector-borne Epidemiologist / Entomology Director, Indiana State Department of Health)

This session will give a background on the mosquitoes and ticks that are of public health importance in Indiana. The diseases they can vector will be described as well. Also, information will be shared regarding recent case numbers of the diseases. Finally, bite avoidance methods and breeding habitat remediation will be discussed.

Asphalt Hard Surface Options   Snow Lake
Maintenance Track
- Kirsten Pauley (Technical Director, APAI)

Asphalt pavement is a 100% recyclable hard surface that is used throughout parks in many different applications: roads, parking lots, trail, and recreational facilities. This session will cover the basics of the different types of asphalt pavement and how to make sure you are getting the best value and longest lasting asphalt surface with correct specifications and construction best practices. Porous pavement will be presented as an low maintenance option that offers substantial cost savings because of the elimination of drainage systems.

9:15 AM – 10:00 AM    Brunch Buffet
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM    General Session

Michigan’s Iron Belle Trail- Developing a Long-Distance Trail   Lake James
- Paul Yauk (Michigan State Trail Coordinator, Trails Program Section Chief, MI DNR)

With over 12,500 miles of state dedicated trails, Michigan is a leader in providing motorized and non-motorized trails and is known as the Trails State. Currently Michigan is developing the longest state managed trail in the nation “the Iron Belle Trail” this 2,000-mile trail will allow bikers or hikers to travel between Detroit to Ironwood in the western Upper Peninsula. The Bicycle route is 791 miles long and follows U. S. 2, a national designated bicycling route. The 1,273-mile hiking route incorporates a large segment of the existing North Country National Scenic Trail. This session will explain the process of working with public and private partners to acquire, develop, maintain and fund this system.

12:00 PM    Institute Closing

THANK YOU! SEE YOU AGAIN NEXT YEAR!

Help us out! Turn in your Institute Evaluations!
We hope you enjoyed your time at the Great Lakes Park Training Institute. We strive for excellence and hope that you will support us in that mission by returning your evaluations to the Registration Table on your way out of the Potawatomi Inn. As a small token of appreciation for taking the time to complete the survey, we will randomly award two FREE registrations to the 2019 Great Lakes Park Training Institute! Have a safe drive home!

2019 Great Lakes Park Training Institute
Mark your calendars for the 72nd Annual Great Lakes Park Training Institute. The 2019 Institute will be held February 25 –28, 2019 at the Potawatomi Inn in Pokagon State Park, Angola, Indiana.

2019 Awards Nominations
Would you like to nominate a coworker, park, or program for an award at the 2019 Great Lakes Park Training Institute? Please email us at glpti@eppley.org and we will send you an award nomination form.

CEU Cards & Nametags
Don’t forget to turn in your CEU cards and nametag holders at the Registration Table on your way out!
Please take a moment to share your comments and suggestions to help the planning committee for the 2019 Great Lakes Park Training Institute.

Please rate the following on a scale of 1 to 5. (5 is excellent, 1 is poor.)

General Sessions  1  2  3  4  5
Concurrent Sessions  1  2  3  4  5
Toboggan Social  1  2  3  4  5
Awards Dinner  1  2  3  4  5
Game Night  1  2  3  4  5
Publications/Information  1  2  3  4  5
GLPTI Staff  1  2  3  4  5
Food  1  2  3  4  5
Lodging  1  2  3  4  5
Meeting Rooms  1  2  3  4  5

What were the highlights of the Institute for you? What did we do really well?

What suggestions for improvements do you have for us? What would you like to see happen next year?

Any other comments?

OPTIONAL: Enter to Win a FREE 2019 GLPTI Registration
Interested in being eligible to win a FREE 2019 GLPTI Registration? Please write your name and e-mail address below. Please note, this is completely optional, we would sincerely appreciate your return of this survey if you would prefer to remain anonymous.

Name: ___________________________  E-mail: ___________________________

Please return your completed evaluation to the collection box on the Registration Table. Thank you so much for doing this!