

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

February 22, 2017

Jen Croneburger

SCHEDULE SESSION TRACKS:

General Session-

Maintenance-

Management-

Recreation/Programming-

Silent Auction-

PESTICIDE CREDITS

Sessions indicated by an asterisk (**) are sessions that qualify for CEU credits. Please refer to the detailed list below to assist you in planning out your conference schedule.

SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND

- 8:00 Registration
- 8:45 Announcements,
Presentation of Flag, Delaware State Parks Honor Guard
- 9:00 Keynote Address- Jen Croneburger
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 Breakout Session 1
Using Tree Risk Assessment Logic in Planning Public Tree Locations**-Scott Sjolander
Operating from a Strengths-Based Perspective-Jennie Yeow
Nature on the Go: Connecting with our Urban Visitor-Liz Androskaut and Kate Calais
- 11:30 Breakout Session 2
Playground Safety and Maintenance-Eddie LaRocque
Partnerships: The Continuum from Communication to Collaboration-Tina Morrow
Keynote breakout-Jen Croneburger
- 12:30 Lunch Buffet
Networking
- 1:45 Breakout Session 3
The Biology and Uses of Wood**-Dr. Timothy Block
Fundraising for the Parks and Rec-Rich Przywara, CFRE
Keynote breakout-Jen Croneburger
- 3:00 Breakout Session 4
The Right Materials and When to Use Them-Christian McCone
Grants 101-Karen Minner
Festivals and Fun! Programming in Business Districts-Sharon Bruen, Mary Betts, and Megan McNerney
- 4:15 DRPS Social-

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS:
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND

10:15-11:15

Using Tree Risk Assessment Logic in Planning Public Tree Locations -Scott Sjolander**

This talk uses Tree Risk Assessment training in considering the likelihood that a tree failure would harm persons, cause property damage, or disrupt critical services. It poses a few guides in placing landscape components to reduce risk exposure.

Operating from a Strengths-Based Perspective -Jennie Yeow

Based on Gallup research, great managers assume that: (1) every employee's talents are enduring and unique; and (2) everyone's greatest room for growth is in the area of his/her/their strengths.

Participants in this session will name their strengths and learn how to recognize them in others. They will discover the value of working and managing from a strengths-based perspective.

Nature on the Go: Connecting with our Urban Visitor -Liz Androskaut and Kate Calais

Pretend to be a bird searching for insect under tree bark, make music with animal sounds or roll like an apple. These are some of the things visitors can do when visiting the Nature on the Go Cart at Alapocas Run and Wilmington State Parks. This presentation will discuss the creation and implementation of mobile interpretive programs in our urban state parks. Successes and downsides will also be covered. During this presentation attendees will be able participate in some hands on activities from the Nature on the Go program.

11:30-12:30

Playground Safety and Maintenance -Eddie LaRocque

For a playground to thrive, good maintenance is essential. Learn how to maximize playground maintenance efforts by properly identifying and correcting potentially hazardous conditions on the playground. This interactive session will cover inspecting, identifying hazards, developing a comprehensive maintenance plan, and reporting.

Partnerships: The Continuum from Communication to Collaboration -Tina Morrow

Participants will identify important factors to consider when building partnerships, reflect on a current or potential partnership and develop strategies to strengthen collaboration efforts within the dynamic.

Keynote Breakout – Jen Croneburger

1:45-2:45

The Biology and Uses of Wood -Dr. Timothy Block**

Wood appears in our everyday lives in myriad ways. Why is this seemingly simple substance so useful and adaptable? In fact, wood is one of the most complex tissues produced by plants. Learn about the many cell types found in wood and the many ways in which those cells are combined to produce

material light enough to use in aircraft or heavy enough to sink in water. Why are some woods better for construction while others are better for baseball bats? Learn why it all depends on the biology of trees!

Fundraising for the Parks and Rec-Rich Przywara, CFRE

Keynote breakout-Jen Croneburger

3:00-4:00

The Right Materials and When to Use Them-Christian McCone

I will discuss the thought process that goes into selecting various building materials for your facilities. A few materials we will discuss are: LED lights versus Fluorescent; wood floors versus rubber floors; natural grass versus artificial turf; and HVAC systems.

Grants 101-Karen Minner

An overview of grant funding for Parks and Recreation. Topics covered will include what is a grant, how to find a grant, is the project a good fit, how to apply, awards and reporting.

Festivals and Fun! Programming in Business Districts-Sharon Bruen, Mary Betts, and Megan McNerney

What could be more fun than a festival or parade on the streets of your city or town? Festivals and events held in downtown business districts can be both a blessing and a challenge. Parks & recreation staff, downtown business associations, business owners, residents, and visitors all have different visions and goals for festivals, events, and programs in downtown areas. Find the perfect blend and you can create an amazing experience for the community.

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

8:00 Registration

8:45 Announcements

9:00 Breakout Session 5

Pollinator Forage Availability and Preferences in the Context of Behavior**-Dr. Deborah Delaney
Survey and Evaluation-Mary Voshell and Andy Mackel

Management of Unique Collections-panel discussion

10:15 Breakout Session 6

Hardscaping: Design, Installation, and Maintenance**-Brad Groff

Survey and Evaluations Part II-Mary Voshell and Andy Mackel

University of Delaware Athletics: Facilities, Operations, Capital Projects, Championships, and
Guest Services-Joe Shirley

11:15 Break

11:30 Breakout Session 7

Drainage Solutions**-Jim Dowd

Social Media Magic-Abby Shepard

University of Delaware Athletics: Facilities, Operations, Capital Projects, Championships, and Guest Services Part II-Joe Shirley

- 12:30 2017 DRPS Awards Banquet & Ceremony-
Silent Auction Closing
- 1:00 Play OutsiDE web tool launch announcement
- 3:00 Closing Remarks

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS:
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

9:00-10:00

Pollinator Forage Availability and Preferences in the Context of Behavior -Dr. Deborah Delaney**

This presentation will touch on two projects looking at flower visitor preferences and the behavior of flower visitors. Participants will also discuss the leading causes behind pollinator declines. Participants will understand the importance of pollinators to human well-being and ecosystem health. The difference between flower visitors and pollinators will be explored using behavioral examples. Attendees will leave with an understanding of important plants that provide nutritious floral rewards for flower visitors.

Survey and Evaluation-Mary Voshell and Andy Mackel

Management of Unique Collections-panel discussion

Jan Broske-Collections Manager, University of Delaware Museums

Carey Corbin-Coordinator of Marketing and Outreach, NCC Department of Community Services

John McCarthy-Cultural Preservation Specialist, Delaware State Parks

Keith Minsinger-Registrar, Hagley Museum

Paul Nasca-Curator of Archaeology, State of Delaware Historical and Cultural Affairs

Jean Woods-Director of Collections and Curator of Birds, Delaware Museum of Natural History

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10:15-11:15

Hardscaping: Design, Installation, and Maintenance -Brad Groff**

In this session Brad demonstrates how design, installation and maintenance affect the longevity of your next hardscape project. Brad will address the pros and cons of paver and wall options in different setting including around existing trees.

Survey and Evaluation-Mary Voshell and Andy Mackel

University of Delaware Athletics: Facilities, Operations, Capital Projects, Championships, and Guest Services-Joe Shirley

The University of Delaware Athletic Department manages over 300 events and 650,000 visitors each year which include athletic events for 21 team sports, concerts and trade shows. In this two part session we will discuss maintenance of athletic facilities, event management, staff coordination and

communication, safety procedures and more. See how good event preparation and coordination can have a great impact on the Student Athlete and fan experience. At the end of the session there will be a tour of the University of Delaware Blue Hen Athletic facilities.

11:30-12:30

Drainage Solutions-Jim Dowd**

Speaker will cover drainage requirements, solutions and components in the marketplace. BMP designs for stormwater and MS-4 compliance and growing stormwater needs.

Social Media Magic-Abby Shepard

Discover how the best managed state parks system manages its social media! This session will cover how to turn social media platforms into engaging and exciting business tools that encourage conversations and lead visitors to more information.

University of Delaware Athletics: Facilities, Operations, Capital Projects, Championships, and Guest Services-Joe Shirley

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Liz Androskaut

Liz Androskaut is the Interpretive Programs Manager for Alapocas Run & Wilmington State Parks. She has over 18 years of experience in the interpretation field working for both State Parks and Botanic Gardens. A graduate of Purdue and Clemson University, Liz completed the Certified Interpretive Manager and Interpretive Guide Program with the National Association for Interpretation.

Mary Betts, MA - Recreation Superintendent at Milford Parks & Recreation

Mary has enjoyed a long career in recreation and special events coordination. Currently, her largest festival is the Spring Arbor Day festival called, The Bug and Bud Festival. This event is co-chaired by Milford P&R and the Downtown Milford, Inc. group. There are several special events that these two groups work together to put on in the downtown area of Milford. Milford Parks and Rec also works closely with our local Chamber of Commerce to bring exciting events and activities to residents and visitors in our area of Delaware.

Dr. Timothy Block

Tim Block completed his Ph.D. at Miami University (Ohio) in 1996. Dr. Block is co-author of *The Plants of Pennsylvania: An Illustrated Manual*, *Trees of Pennsylvania: A Complete Reference Guide*, and *Aquatic*

Plants of Pennsylvania: A Complete Reference Guide. Dr. Block currently serves as the John J. Willaman Chair of Botany at the University of Pennsylvania's Morris Arboretum.

Sharon Bruen - Recreation Supervisor, Newark Parks & Recreation

With over 30 years of recreation experience, Sharon brings events and activities to life for the City of Newark Parks & Recreation Department. She works with downtown Newark entities and partners with the University of Delaware regularly to bring fun and exciting programs and activities to residents of the Newark area.

Kate Calais

Kate Calais is the Lead Naturalist at Alapocas Run & Wilmington State Parks. She has over 13 years of experience in the field of Interpretation. Prior to coming to Delaware, Kate worked at Shenandoah National Park and the Florida Museum of Natural History. She is a graduate of Gettysburg College.

Dr. Deborah Delaney

Deborah Delaney is an assistant professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware where she mentors graduate and undergraduate students working on various aspects of pollinator health and productivity. She teaches Insects and Society, Apiculture and Pollination Ecology.

Jim Dowd

Jim possesses over 26 years working within the construction industry. Throughout this time he has worked with specifiers both in the Architectural and Engineering fields to successfully contribute toward projects. Jim's emphasis and passion is selling through educational awareness. Jim is a current ICPI and NCMA Instructor and has worked toward training installers in best practices as well. Currently, Jim teaches about porous and permeable pavements as well as MS-4 compliance, which has become an area of specialty. Jim, is a current AIA member is an accredited AIA CES Provider.

Brad Groff

Brad Groff is the co-owner of River Valley Landscapes, which was started in 1991. He has many award-winning projects published nationally, regionally, and locally. Currently River Valley is comprised of three divisions: Landscapes, Organics, and Recreation. Brad has been speaker across the country for over a decade.

Eddie LaRocque, CPSI – General Manager of Playground Guardian

Eddie LaRocque has many years of experience in all aspects of the playground industry – from manufacturing to installation to inspections. Eddie has inspected thousands of playgrounds throughout the US, as well as performed safety surface impact attenuation. He has also conducted training sessions about playground safety, and the importance of implementing a playground maintenance plan. He attended Northern Michigan University.

Andrew Mackel

Andy Mackel is a Management Analyst for the Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation where he performs business case analysis for various functions such as concession agreements and park projects;

revenue estimation, and budget reporting. Immediately prior to joining DNREC he was the Director of Finance for Wicomico County Maryland and before that was the Director of Planning and Logistics for Medifast Corporation. Andy is a retired United States Navy Supply Corps Commander where he served for 27 years in various logistics, financial management, contracting and educational positions in the United States, at sea and overseas.

John McCarthy

John brings almost 40 years of professional experience in archaeologist and architectural history to the management of DNREC's cultural resources. Widely published, he is regarded as an expert on many aspects of archaeology and historic preservation. He leads State Park's Time Traveler program.

Christian McCone

Christian is a project manager with 29 years in the design and construction industry. I have been with EDiS Company for nearly 16 years. Most recently I worked on the Kent County Recreation Center, Dover Public Library, and Polytech High School Performing Arts Center. I have extensive experience with lodging facilities, medical facilities, industrial facilities, educational buildings, and commercial office buildings.

Megan McNerney

After transitioning out of the television world, Megan McNerney joined the City of Newark as the community affairs officer. She has spent the past year coordinating the City's social media pages and creating content for Newark's public access channel, Channel 22. She also serves as the administrator for the Downtown Newark Partnership, which is a public partnership dedicated to the aesthetic, economic, cultural and social enhancement of downtown Newark. Prior to joining the City, she worked for WFMZ-TV in Allentown, Pennsylvania for almost three years as a news producer. During her time at WFMZ-TV Megan covered national headlines, as well as government, crime and community topics in the Lehigh Valley and surrounding area. Megan earned her bachelor's degree in Broadcast Journalism from Temple University in Philadelphia. She currently lives in Elkton, Maryland.

Karen Minner

Karen Minner currently serves as Grant Administrator for Delaware State Parks. Karen and her team of grant writers have been awarded over \$1 million in grant funds. Karen has an extensive background in fundraising to include donations, planned giving, events, volunteers, and grants. She also serves as AmeriCorps Program Director for the Delaware State Parks Veterans Conservation Corps. She was born and raised in Texas. She currently lives in Smyrna, Delaware with her husband and two children.

Tina Morrow

Over the course of her career Tina has worked in various roles throughout corporate, nonprofit, government and educational institutions. In 2003, Tina joined the Public Allies Delaware program team and then assumed the role of Director in 2008. For more information on Public Allies, we invite you to visit www.publicallies.org

Rich Przywara

Richard T. Przywara, CFRE is the Executive Director for the West Chester University Foundation. In this role he is responsible for a \$50 million capital campaign. He also leads a \$240 million revitalization project of the residence halls.

Abby Shepard

Abby graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a degree in Environmental Science and Graphic Design. After working as a naturalist at Cape Henlopen, she transferred to the marketing department of Delaware State Parks where she manages all social media. She enjoys illustrating books and looking for horseshoe crabs.

Joe Shirley**Scott Sjolander**

Sjolander serves as urban and community forestry educator in northwest Pennsylvania since 1995. Scott holds a BS Forestry from the University of Missouri and an MBA from Penn State University, Erie, is ISA BCMA with Utility Specialty, is a TRAQ instructor, and PennDel ISA Chapter Certification Liaison.

Mary Makdad Voshell

Mary is a parks and recreation professional with over 35 years of experience in the business functions of the industry. For the past 29 years, Mary has worked for the Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation. Mary currently manages the Office of Business Services with eight staff members; administering contracts, campgrounds, entrance fees, concessions, retail stores, e-government and Special Event and Meeting Facilities for the Division.

Jennie Yeow

Jennie Yeow is a native Wilmingtonian. She is personally and professionally passionate about grassroots community development and social justice. She is currently employed as Public Allies Delaware's Community Partnerships and Engagement Manager. In her free time she enjoys going on adventures with her husband and their four year-old daughter.