

Title/Description	Presenters
<p>Everyone is an Event Planner</p> <p>This presentation equips recreation coordinators and supervisors with essential skills for organizing events of all sizes. Topics include budgeting, permits, marketing, volunteer, and vendor management. Attendees will learn to create timelines, manage tasks, and use budget templates. Interactive elements, like group brainstorming, reinforce concepts, providing practical knowledge for planning successful events.</p>	Arianna Such, Special Events Supervisor, City of Denton
<p>Creating Safe Spaces and Strong Teams: A Coordinator's Guide</p> <p>In this engaging session, we delve into the crucial role supervisors and managers play in fostering safe and supportive environments for their teams. Drawing from the unique perspective of a coordinator, attendees will gain practical insights and strategies to enhance team cohesion, trust, innovation and collaboration. Supervisors will leave equipped with the tools and mindset needed to cultivate a positive and supportive work environment that empowers their teams to thrive.</p>	Tori Hill, Special Events Coordinator, City of Denton
<p>Empowering Every Role: Making Your Part-Timers Feel a Part of the Team</p> <p>Unlock the potential of part-time parks & recreation staff! Join our session to explore strategies for empowering part-timers in recreational settings. Learn effective communication, leadership, and motivation techniques to enhance team performance and community engagement. Elevate your staff's impact and foster a culture of inclusivity and enthusiasm. Let's empower together!</p>	Shelby Griffin, Training & Volunteer Coordinator, City of Allen Jennifer Robinson, Strategic Projects Manager, City of Allen
<p>The Path to Effective Interpretive Panels</p> <p>The session discusses the best interpretive sign practices to connect with park visitors. The one-hour presentation will cover the process of creating effective interpretive panels, the benefits of location-based interpretation, and what it means to make intellectual, physical, and emotional connections. Session attendees will learn the importance of goals, themes, and storylines and what makes for effective interpretive panel solutions.</p>	Matt Kaser, Certified Interpretive Planner, Kaser Design
<p>Cities & Non-Profit Partnerships: Activating Historical Spaces</p> <p>Join me in exploring the intersection of cities and nonprofit partnerships in the activation of historical sites. Let us consider the transformative potential of collaborative action in breathing new life into cherished urban landmarks.</p>	Mary Foster, Heritage & Cultural Arts Program Manager, City of Allen
<p>CAPRA Made Me Do it</p> <p>We could all use a little help getting our house in order, and there's no better motivation than CAPRA accreditation to step back and examine all your processes, systems and organization (or lack thereof!) We've been there...and we can help! From digital drives to buckets of basketballs, employee engagement to policies and procedures, learn out-of-the-box but easy-to-implement tips and tricks to improve your department, whether you're preparing for CAPRA or just want a more efficient everyday.</p>	Coco Garcia, Interim Recreation Services Manager, City of Mansfield Sarah Speer, Administrative Assistant II, City of Mansfield
<p>How to Make Your Inclusive Playground Fun For All</p> <p>Inclusive playgrounds and park spaces are an important asset for every community. Learn about the research in inclusive all abilities play on playgrounds and how to design your spaces so that all ages and all abilities will want to stay and play. Learn how to design for functionality, fun and equity.</p>	Suzanne Quinn, PhD, Kompan Play & Fitness
<p>Inclusive Play Matters: Evidence-Based Design Best Practices for Play and Recreation</p> <p>Thoughtfully break down physical and social barriers to create a welcoming atmosphere and ensure parks intentionally support the developmental benefits of inclusive, intergenerational play! Research findings and new data offer unique insights to demonstrate the positive impact of designing outdoor destinations to address the diverse needs of the whole child, the whole environment, and the whole community!</p>	Bruce Thompson, Regional Manager, GameTime
<p>Safety & Maintenance Considerations for Successful Splashpad Design</p> <p>The key to successfully maintaining a Splashpad is to design and install it with maintenance in mind. In this presentation you will explore the difference in maintenance requirements between a flow through and recirculation water management system, and how this impacts design; discover Splashpad design strategies to mitigate some of the more common maintenance issues; understand systems, maintenance requirements, lifecycle and how to integrate the right solutions at the project design stage.</p>	Jeff Goodman & Erin Hart, Design & Sales Consultants, Kraftsman
<p>Getting Strategic: Making the Transition from Reactive to Modern Park Asset</p> <p>Whether your park system is tiny or massive, there are concrete steps you can take to modernize your approach to asset management, starting with creating a digital inventory of all your park assets. Attend this session for a step-by-step roadmap to making the transition from a reactive to strategic approach in park asset management, including tips on setting benchmarks, establishing park asset categories, creating an asset inventory, and—a key strategic step—prioritizing your work based on data.</p>	Scott DeGrant, Customer Success Engineer, OpenGov
<p>Laughing at Our Numbers</p> <p>The Enneagram is a powerful tool for self-awareness and personal growth. In this interactive class, we'll explore the nine Enneagram personality types, their core motivations, and how they impact our behavior. Whether you're new to the Enneagram or seeking deeper insights, this workshop will guide you toward understanding yourself and others on a profound level. Now who's ready to read each other's mail!</p>	Christian Garcia, Planning Technician Supervisor, City of Denton
<p>Learn from a Reel Amateur</p>	Paul Macias, Aquatics Manager, City of Farmers Branch

Learn from a Reel amateur about staff recruiting and marketing strategies. It's no secret that video content is rapidly becoming the most consumed type of content on social media. This presentation will go through developing staff engagement and lead you through best practices of digital media. At the end of the session you will learn to shoot your own videos and photos, using the popular resources to get it done.

"That Kid's Too Tall!" Eligibility Verification for Today's Youth Sports

Jonathan Weeks, Athletic Supervisor, City of Southlake

Have you been surrounded by a gaggle of parents and/or coaches clamoring that a player on the opposing team is not eligible to play because they're too old? Are you overwhelmed and tired of running a league where no one seems to trust each other? In Southlake, Athletics Supervisor Jonathan Weeks has created a robust player eligibility and verification system that in its two years of practice has led to zero instances AND allegations of cheating across fifteen leagues. Let's talk about it!

Seniors & Technology

Kathryn Dye, Active Adult Coordinator, City of Lewisville

Helping seniors use basic modern technology and encouraging their technical learning.

Envisioning the Future of your Recreation Space

Keith Beason, Community Engagement/Park Projects Manager, City of Texarkana

Developing your Parks Master Plan and imagining what the future of your agency's facilities and property will look like, and how it will serve your constituents.

Brain & Body Total Fitness for Seniors

Jeff Carnivale, Fitness Specialist, City of Dallas

Demonstrate the importance of Brain Health and Cognitive Activities for our 60+ fitness and wellness programs. Highlight methods to combine cognitive and physical fitness as well as discuss opportunities for partnerships with organizations that provide evidence-based curriculum.

Vanishing Vandalism: Art of Graffiti Removal

Eric Manley, Assistant Field Operations Supervisor, City of Fort Worth

We aim to conduct a hands-on demonstration showcasing graffiti removal techniques. The session will incorporate various chemicals that have been extensively used and tested by our team. We will offer an overview of the removal of graffiti from diverse surfaces and materials, emphasizing methods to prevent damage. We will demonstrate the use of different equipment, covering aspects such as maintenance, PPE, ensuring personal safety, and addressing environmental concerns integral to our program.

Aquatic Center Design Glitches & Building Blunders

Mick Massey, Texas Regional Director/Project Planner, Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture

Hindsight is 20/20. "What would you do differently?" is the question owners and operators should be asking prior to planning and building an aquatic facility. Drawing from the experience of over 250 projects built over the last 30 years, this session uncovers the top lessons learned shared by community aquatic center leaders, operators, contractors and designers.

Teenage Learning: Bridging The Gap Between School and Real Life

Phillip Colley, Recreation Programmer, City of Fort Worth

A discussion related to creating programming and finding innovative and engaging methods to teach, prepare, and inform teens on ways to become the best version of themselves while navigating their way through the systematic routines of school.

Adaptive Programming for Participants of All Abilities

Tamica Clement Moore, Owner/Lead Consultant, Moore Recreation Therapy & Consulting Inc.

Moore Recreation Therapy & Consulting Inc. conducted assessments for several parks and recreation departments, evaluating programs, classes, and practices to identify best practices and areas for improvement in serving persons with disabilities. Through this case study, participants will learn about the assessment process and discover strategic methods to adapt current programs and develop new adaptive recreation programming, ensuring appropriate opportunities for individuals with disabilities. **THIS IS A TWO-PART SESSION.**

*****2-Part Session*****

Working with Referees to Lessen Negative Interactions

Jared Shuck, Athletic Program Supervisor, City of Garland

The US is losing referees at an astounding rate. This session will cover how we can support our referees during tough interactions utilizing de-escalation tactics. Having experience as a referee and administrator, additional resources and tips will be provided on how we can better support our referees.

Beyond the Noise: AI in Parks & Recreation

KJ Shah, Co-Founder & COO of Kaizen Labs

Artificial intelligence, a major trend since 2023, is here to stay. While promising, AI can feel overwhelming with terms like LLM, GPT, machine learning, and NLP. How will AI impact parks & recreation? What are practical, responsible, and user-friendly use cases? How will AI change resident engagement with services? This session will cover these topics and help parks & recreation professionals stay current and address challenges and ethical considerations in adopting AI solutions.

Creative Funding Streams: Navigating Grants and Public Bonds for Community Projects

William Spencer, PE, Managing Partner, MHS Planning & Design

This panel will cover essential strategies for securing and managing funding for community projects. Learn to craft successful grant applications, including those through Texas Parks & Wildlife (TPWD) and the Support Healthy Aging through Parks and Recreation (SHAPR) through NRPA. Additionally, gain insights into navigating public bonds for major capital projects, with tips on increasing bond pass rates and a helpful flowchart for the process.

Ziad Kharrat, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation, City of Denton
Escoto, Park Planner, City of Denton
Fitness Specialist, City of Dallas

Chris
Jeff Carnivale,