



2022 Awards Ceremony Valdosta, Georgia May 15, 2022

National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials

NACPRO awardees represent excellence and truly set examples that others in the field can follow. If you are inspired by one of their stories, we encourage you to contact them for more information.

Outstanding Public Official

J. David VanderVeen

Oakland County Parks and Recreation, Michigan

Outstanding Contributor

The Lindsey Family

Everstream, Snip Internet and Cleveland Metroparks, Ohio

Outstanding Support Organization

Special Olympics Florida - Palm Beach County

Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Dept., Florida

Friends of The Legacy Trail, Inc.

Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources, Florida

Outstanding Volunteer

Gene Lau

Three Rivers Park District, Minnesota

Park and Recreation Program - Class I

Flags of Freedom

Valdosta-Lowndes County Parks & Recreation Authority, Georgia
Contact: Jessica Catlett, jcatlett@vlpra.com

Park and Recreation Program – Class II

Winter Wonderland, A Miracle on Centennial Boulevard

Charlotte County Government, Florida
Contact: Mike Norton,
Mike.Norton@charlottecountyfl.gov

Park and Recreation Program – Class III

Decades Sock Hop at Stonebridge

Chesterfield County Parks and Recreation, Virginia
Contact: Marlie Creasey-Smith,
creaseysmithm@chesterfield.gov

Park and Recreation Program – Class IV

Our Voice is Black History Exhibit

Lake County Forest Preserve District, Illinois
Contact: Mike Tully, mtully@lcpfd.org

Caminitos Al Parque

Sonoma County Regional Parks, California
Contact: Sandi Funke, sandi.funke@sonoma-county.org

Park and Recreation Facility - Class I

Matthew and Daniel Barton Memorial Hockey Rink

Hanover County Parks and Recreation, Virginia
Contact: Dan Smith, dcsmith@hanovercounty.gov

Park and Recreation Facility - Class III

Blandair Park

Howard County Dept of Recreation and Parks, Maryland
Contact: Anna Hunter, ahunter@howardcountymd.gov

Park and Recreation Facility - Class IV

Dumbarton Quarry Campground on the Bay

East Bay Regional Park District, California
Contact: Mona Koh, mkoh@ebparks.org

Palos Preserves Urban Night Sky Place

Forest Preserves of Cook County, Illinois
Contact: Lydia Uhler, lydia.uhler@cookcountyil.gov

Trails and Corridors – Class III

The Legacy Trail Extension Project

Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources, Florida

Contact: Hannah Benga, hbenga@scgov.net

Trails and Corridors – Class IV

Towpath Trail

Cleveland Metroparks, Canalway Partners, City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Contact: Nancy Desmond,
nd@clevelandmetroparks.com

Black Road Regional Trail Connection

Forest Preserve District of Will County, Illinois

Contact: Matt Novander, mnovander@fpdwc.org

Historical/Cultural Facility

Playland Grand Carousel & Derby Racer Pavilions

Westchester County Dept. of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation, New York

Contact: Loria Perri, Lepu@westchestergov.com

Conservation

Guy Gulch Property Acquisition

Jefferson County Open Space, Colorado

Contact: Matt Robbins, mrobbins@jeffco.us

Protecting Natural Lands

Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources, Florida

Contact: Hannah Benga, hbenga@scgov.net

Marketing

Marketing, Awareness and Promotion Plan - MAPP

Dakota County Parks, Minnesota

Contact: Niki Geisler, niki.geisler@co.dakota.mn.us

Decoding Nature

Five Rivers MetroParks, Ohio

Contact: Shelli DiFranco,
shelli.difranco@metroparks.org

Special Thanks to our Sponsors



Planning Initiative

Cleveland Harbor Eastern Embayment Resilience Study - CHEERS

Cleveland Metroparks, City of Cleveland, ODNR, ODOT, Port of Cleveland, Ohio

Contact: Nancy Desmond,
nd@clevelandmetroparks.com

Glass City Riverwalk Planning

Metroparks Toledo, Ohio

Contact: Dawn Dickerson,
dawn.dickerson@metroparkstoledo.com

Removing Barriers Initiative

Sensory Friendly Mondays at Kidscape

Johnson County Park & Recreation District, Kansas

Contact: Bill Maasen, bill.maasen@jocogov.org

Social Justice

Building Brains Anywhere

Gwinnett County Community Services

Contact: Tina Fleming,
Tina.Fleming@gwinnettcountry.com

Young Professional

Becky Blankenship

Forest Preserve District of Will County, Illinois

Kerri DeShetler

Metroparks Toledo, Ohio

Professional - Fellow

Cindy Walsh

Fairfax County Park Authority, Virginia

Professional – Lifetime

Gayle H. Preston

Broward County Parks and Recreation, Florida