

**Virginia  
Recreation  
and Park Society**  
www.VRPS.com

# Virginia Recreation and Park Society NSA Northern Service Area Fall 2013 Newsletter

Fall 2013

## Northern Service Area

### 2013 Officers

#### Chair:

Karen Lussier  
City of Fairfax Parks & Recreation  
703- 591-3689  
karen.lussier@fairfaxva.gov

#### Chair-Elect:

Lesley Stuler, MS, CTRS  
Arlington County Parks and  
Recreation  
703-228-4735  
lstule@arlingtonva.us

#### Secretary:

Kim Baldini  
Arlington County Parks and  
Recreation  
703-288-7140  
kbaldini@arlingtonva.us

#### Treasurer:

Sam Roberts  
McLean Community Center  
703-790-0123  
sam.roberts@fairfaxcounty.gov

#### Member-At-Large:

Ryan Brooks  
McLean Community Center  
703-448-8336  
ryan.brookes@fairfaxcounty.gov

#### Past Chair: (Nominations and Elections)

Blythe Russian  
Northern Virginia Regional Park  
Authority  
(703) 359-4624  
brussian@nvrpa.org

## Notes from the desk of our Chair

Congratulations to Brianne Baglini and David Miller, who have been elected to the 2014/2015 NSA Board. We look forward to working with them!

As the summer is winding down, and the fall is near, many exciting things are coming up in the Northern Service Area. On September 27, we will be holding an Emergency Action Plan Workshop in conjunction with the Aquatics Resource Group. This workshop will focus on reviewing your current plan, how to design and implement a plan, and how to manage major emergencies. Safety is always the priority and it would be beneficial for any Parks and Recreation professional to join us for this workshop to become more knowledgeable in this area. Register today on vrps.com!

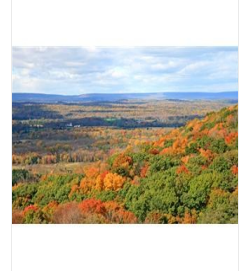
October 22 will be the Northern Virginia Events Network Annual Conference: Events 101: Strategic Solutions for Event Planners. This conference will look at subjects such as Understanding and Embracing Your True Mission, Visioning and Goal Setting for

Long-Term Success, Communications and PR for Event Producers, Revenue-Building Concepts and Operations Planning

for Event Producer, and more. Look for more information soon on the NSA page of vrps.com for full details.

If you plan to attend the VRPS conference in Williamsburg this year, please join us on Monday, Sept 9th from 5:30 – 6:00pm for an NSA meeting. This will be a great opportunity to get together before the fall events begin. Hope to see you all there!

*Karen Lussier, CPRP*



**Leadership Training Institute 2014**  
April 27-29, 2014  
Wintergreen Resort



Leadership Training Institute provides participants with the high impact tools and essential insights necessary to become truly exceptional leaders

What did I like best about LTI?...

"Many things. The setting, the instructors, and their subjects that always kept my interest, the format, and most of all, how a group of people who in most cases never met left after 3 days feeling like a big family!"

Don't delay...Talk to your supervisor today so you can be a part of the 2014 experience!

# Meeting Dates

DATE	LOCATION/EVENT	TIME
October 9	Rust Manor House and Nature Sanctuary 802 Children's Center Road, Leesburg	10:00 a.m.

## 2013 Sub-Committee Members

The NSA has several sub-committees that work alongside the Board to assist with various programs, trainings and publications. If you are interested in joining any of these sub-committees, please contact the group.

### Awards & Citations

Kim Baldini: kbaldini@arlingtonva.us

Laura McCarty: lmccarty@nvrpa.org

### Membership

Ashley Smith: Ashley.smith@fairfaxcounty.gov

Amy Maltese: amaltese@fallschurchva.gov

### Newsletter

Brandy Wyatt: bwyatt@viennava.gov

### Summer Social

Ryan Brookes: ryan.brookes@fairfaxcounty.gov

### Fall Workshop- Events 101

Karen Lussier: karen.lussier@fairfaxva.gov

Sam Roberts: sam.roberts@fairfaxcounty.gov

### Elections

Blythe Russian: brussian@nvrpa.org

### Holiday Social

Sam Roberts: sam.roberts@fairfaxcounty.gov

Maureen Sturgill: Maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov

### Annual Conference Program Committee Representative

Ann Marie Heiser, ann.heiser@herndon-va.gov

## News from NSA Agencies

### Herndon Parks and Recreation Department

welcomes Amanda Herzog, who has been selected to the position of Recreation Services Supervisor II. Amanda is from Meriden, CT, and was employed with the Colchester Parks and Recreation Department as a Recreation Specialist. She worked previously with Skyhawks Sports Academy, INC., was Assistant Director for the South Windsor Child Development Center and a Youth Coordinator for the Bristol Boys and Girls Club. Amanda has a BA in Recreation and Leisure from Southern Connecticut State University. Amanda replaces Ann Skildum who retired in June with 10 years in Herndon and more than 30 years in the profession.

### The Falls Church Recreation and Parks

Department gave their well wishes to Jenny Paxton last month. Jenny had been the Special Events Coordinator in Falls Church for over seven years. She moved on to a new special events adventure in Washington, DC. We are very happy and excited for her!

Falls Church will soon be recruiting for a Recreation Program Supervisor for the role of camps and teen programs. If you know of anyone that might be interested, please encourage them to check the Falls Church City's website – [www.fallschurchva.gov/careers](http://www.fallschurchva.gov/careers)



# Volunteering at Congress

NRPA and the Local Host Committee (LHC) for Houston, TX will be utilizing volunteers to help Congress events run smoothly. There are many different opportunities and several hundred volunteers are needed to accomplish a successful show. Please browse the volunteer options below.

## NRPA Volunteer Opportunities Include

Bag Stuffing, Floor Captains, Volunteer Room, Bag Distribution, Flying Squad and Room Hosting for Education Sessions (Individuals can receive CEUs as a Room Host)

\* NRPA Volunteers must be NRPA members - \* Please verify your travel plans early! There is a \$100 cancellation fee for anyone who registers to volunteer at NRPA Congress and cancels before Congress.

## NRPA Volunteer Hours and Benefits

Those who volunteer through NRPA and are current members (volunteer hours will count toward a level of credit for event registration.)

- 15+ hours – Complimentary Full Package
- 10-14 hours – 75% Discount on Full Package
- 5-9 hours – 25% Discount on Full Package
- 1-4 hours – Expo Hall Only Pass



According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, over 205,850 injuries occur each year on playgrounds, and approximately fifteen children will die from playground related injuries. Sponsored by the National Recreation and Park Association, the Virginia Recreation and Park Society is hosting the Certified Playground Safety Inspector (formerly NPSI) course, the most comprehensive training program on playground hazard identification and risk management methods offered anywhere.

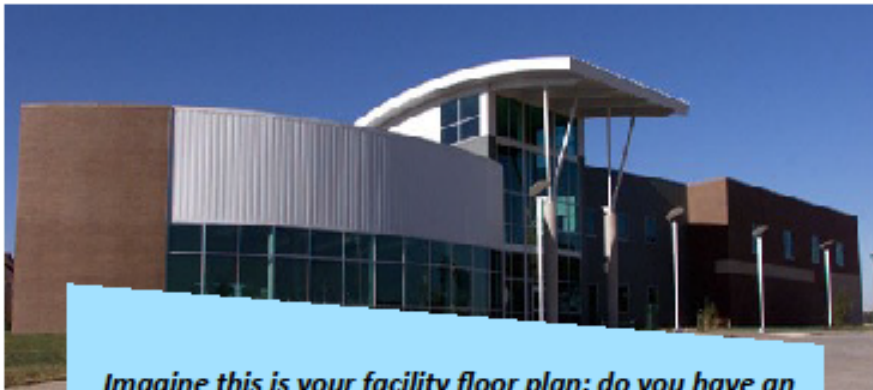
CPSI is designed to educate and train individuals to identify and reduce risks. Advanced reading and fifteen hours of training from nationally known playground safety experts will prepare participants to sit for the Certified Playground Safety Inspector examination offered at the culmination of the certification course; it is also approved for CEUs.

Topics include:

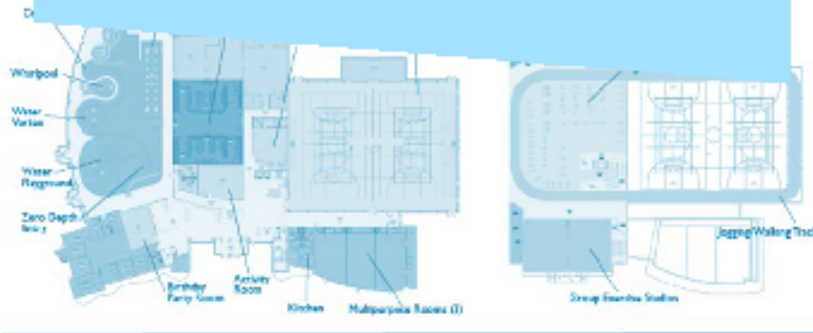
- identifying hazards on playgrounds
- developing risk management tools
- importance of comprehensive playground safety program from a legal perspective
- test methods for entrapments, protrusions, and entanglement
- national standards and guidelines.

\* Please plan your registration and payment accordingly. A minimum of three weeks of study time is recommended; NRPA does not advise sitting for the exam if materials have not been read thoroughly.

# Emergency Action Plan Workshop



*Imagine this is your facility floor plan; do you have an emergency plan? Does your staff know what it is?*



**Lunch Included**

**Register at  
VRPS.COM**

## Registration

VRPS Member	
Aug. 1 - 31	\$40
Sept. 1 - 15	\$45
Sept. 16+	\$50

Non-VRPS Member	
Aug. 1 - 31	\$50
Sept. 1 - 15	\$55
Sept. 16+	\$60

## CEU's Available

Additional Registration Fee	
Aug. 1 - 31	\$10
Sept. 1 - 15	\$15
Sept. 16+	\$20

## Questions

Laura Kowalski  
Pools@reston.org  
703-435-6528

# SEPTEMBER 27

## EAP: Are you prepared?

Why should an Emergency Action Plan be created? How do you get started? When was the last time you reviewed yours? What may happen if you are not prepared?

Join the VRPS Aquatic Resource Group and Northern Service Area in exploring emergency action planning with speaker David Barr, Aquatic's Director with Fairfax County Park Authority and Larry Newell, President/COO of Emergency Training Resources, and 2012 VRPS presenter, Case Studies in Aquatic Litigation: Drowning in a Sea of Litigation and EAP: Their Importance, Design, and Implementation.



**Stacy C. Sherwood**  
**Community Center**  
3740 Old Lee Hwy  
Fairfax, VA 22030

**September 27, 2013**  
**9:00am - 3:30pm**



If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call 703-591-3689 and speak with Karen Lussier at least 10 days before the workshop. TTY: 711