From:	Cort Jones, NRPA Communications Manager
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Subject:	[External]Starting a Conversation on Building Anti-Racist Practices
Date:	Monday, June 1, 2020 2:02:53 PM

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THE TOP 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW THIS WEEK

Like so many of you, my heart hurts right now. The senseless acts of racism, violence, discrimination and injustice we have witnessed in our country for far too long are gut-wrenching. As an industry focused on bringing communities together, it is our duty to lead in the conversation of equity, ensuring that our parks and open spaces are welcoming and inclusive. I invite you to watch NRPA President and CEO Kristine Stratton's wrap-up video from last week, as she discusses the power of parks and recreation to bring people together and our collective role in the fight against racism.
—Cort, NRPA Communications Manager and Top Five Editor

COVID-19 Resource Center

NRPA actively monitors developments around COVID-19 and how it impacts parks and recreation. Our COVID-19 Resource Center contains the most up-to-date information on our response, as well as resources from NRPA, health organizations and federal agencies. Today, you can find resources for developing a communications plan; updated playground, splashpad and athletic field guidance; and considerations for training and protecting your staff. You can also find current data on how park and recreation leaders are confronting COVID-19 in the latest Parks Snapshot survey.

Read More

Conversation Starter on Building Anti-Racist Practices

NRPA Connect logo and word bubble with text: "Conversation Starter on Building Anti-Racist Practices"

Conversation Starter on Building Anti-Racist Practices

The recent, high profile incidents of racism across the country have put into high relief the need for anti-racism work in all our communities. NRPA is your ally in this effort. We support our community of park and recreation professionals and the work of making sure our precious public spaces are safe and welcoming for everyone. We live in a society that has institutional racism, and our role as public servants is to bring attention to it and to do our part to end it. To start this conversation, NRPA President and CEO Kristine Stratton invites you to share steps that your department has taken, or that you as an individual have taken, to confront things like implicit bias in service of creating safe spaces that are inclusive and welcoming for all.

Join the Conversation

National Construction Rentals

Ensure Full Funding for LWCF

Staff and program participants looking for items in a stream. Photo courtesy of Bend Park and Recreation District.

Ensure Full Funding for LWCF

Within the next few days, the U.S. Senate is expected to consider the Great American Outdoors Act, which would fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Since 1965, LWCF has provided critical funding that has expanded access to outdoor recreation in communities across the country. Since the program's existence, LWCF has only received full funding twice. The Great American Outdoors Act would ensure permanent full funding for LWCF and provide $900 million in essential funding each year for projects that increase access to outdoor recreation opportunities. Your Senators need to hear from you during this crucial time. Ask them to vote "YES" on S. 3422, the Great American Outdoors Act!

Take Action

Premier Webinar: The Future of Recreation

The Future of Recreation webinar graphic

Premier Webinar: The Future of Recreation

Join us for a webinar on Thursday, June 11 at 2 p.m. EDT, as a panel of park and recreation leaders share their ideas on emerging trends in recreation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Learn how you can create innovative programming in your agency as we discuss trends including virtual recreation, esports, augmented reality, drive-in events and more, while focusing on financial sustainability, partnerships and equity of access. Speakers include Neelay Bhatt, former NRPA board member and principal at PROS Consulting, who will revisit one of the 2019 NRPA Annual Conference's most popular topics in the context of NRPA's Path to Recovery framework. This is part of our Premier Webinar Series, which is free for Premier Members, $35 for all other members and $50 for non-members.

Register Now

A person taking an online fitness class

Bringing Health Into Your Home

According to NRPA's latest Park Pulse, more than four in five adults prize virtual health resources, like those delivered by local park and recreation professionals. Further, 89 percent of parents find virtual health resources valuable during the COVID-19 pandemic. Local park and recreation professionals and their agencies offer a wide variety of virtual classes and programs geared to people of all ages and abilities, including, but not limited to, fitness programs, health and safety courses, health literacy classes, academic classes, arts and crafts, mindfulness programs, and leadership and workforce development.

See the Results

NRPA Online Leadership Certificate

A compass with the word 'leadership'

NRPA Online Leadership Certificate

Take your career and your agency to the next level with the NRPA Leadership Certificate. This four-course online certificate program builds a foundation for park and recreation professionals aspiring to leadership roles. Whether you come from a large or small agency, the NRPA Leadership Certificate prepares you to handle any decision that comes your way. Course topics include strategic thinking (available as a free course), human capital management, operational leadership and diversity awareness. The certificate can be purchased as a full package (worth 1.2 CEUs) or as individual courses.

Learn More and Register

Listen to the official podcast of NRPA

I'll be in your inbox this time next week to let you know about some more opportunities you're not going to want to miss out on!

And just because five is never enough...

In case you missed it, NRPA released the following statement regarding the recent incidents of racism in communities across the country. How are you ensuring equity and inclusion in the spaces and programs you manage? Make sure to tag us in your social posts throughout the week for a chance to see your post here.

NRPA Statement

Photo from Instagram

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