From:	Cort Jones, NRPA Communications Manager
To:	bbethune@cityofmyrtlebeach.com
Subject:	[External]Ensuring Access to Outdoor Recreation
Date:	Monday, June 8, 2020 1:34:36 PM

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THE TOP 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW THIS WEEK

June is Pride Month, a time to celebrate and reflect on the impact and contributions of LGBTQ+ people across the world and acknowledge the adversity and challenges that affect the LGBTQ+ community today. This Pride Month, we also find ourselves in a fight for racial equality. Recently we have witnessed inspiring amounts of people speaking out against institutionalized racism in the wake of the tragic killings of Black people across the country. As my colleague Allison Colman said in her recent blog post, "This is a time for the LGBTQ+ community to stand in solidarity with people of color. It is a time to use our collective voices to fight for real change." As an profession committed to social equity, parks and recreation can lead the way to meaningful change.

—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 new communications recommendations, staff training information and updated guidance on specific amenities.

Read More

Help Ensure Access to Outdoor Recreation

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

Help Ensure Access to Outdoor Recreation

The U.S. Senate will consider the Great American Outdoors Act this week, 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 — which is needed now more than ever. 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

Pilot Rock

New Path to Recovery Resources

Joe Pruitt with food for community members during COVID-19. Photo courtesy of Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation.

New Path to Recovery Resources

As communities begin to see reductions in virus transmission, local park and recreation professionals are developing plans for reopening spaces, facilities and programs impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. NRPA continues to add to our COVID-19 Path to Recovery resources for park and recreation professionals. In addition to this downloadable one-pager highlighting guiding principles for supporting COVID-19 recovery plans, you can also find new communications recommendations, staff training information, and updated specific guidance for athletic fields, splash pads and more.

Learn More

How to Support Mental Health in Your Community webinar graphic

Webinar: How to Support Mental Health in Your Community

Join us for a free webinar Wednesday, June 17 at 2:30 p.m. EDT as we discuss the role park and recreation professionals play as essential contributors to mental health and the overall well-being of their communities. During this webinar, presenters from the National Summer Learning Association, Alliance for a Healthier Generation and Florida International University will share ways to support the mental health of frontline staff, families, caregivers and other community members. In addition, you will learn how to engage and contribute to the development of youth in your community this summer.

Register Now

Family Health & Fitness Day Is Saturday!

2020 NRPA Virtual Directors School

NRPA Family Health & Fitness Day logo

Family Health & Fitness Day Is Saturday!

Now more than ever, park and recreation professionals are providing innovative ways for communities to remain active, connected and engaged, and Family Health & Fitness Day is a great way to bring awareness to your work. You can participate by sharing ways families can get active while practicing safe physical distancing on Saturday, June 13 — whether through virtual programs or in local parks where state and local ordinances allow. This year's theme is "Parks Build Healthy Communities" and we encourage you to share your Family Health & Fitness Day ideas, virtual events and photos with us on social media using #NRPAFamilyFitDay.

Get the Toolkit

A person on a computer with the NRPA Directors School logo on the screen

2020 NRPA Virtual Directors School

The NRPA Directors School is an exclusive two-year professional development opportunity that prepares new and potential park and recreation directors to be effective leaders. The 2020 Virtual Directors School will be delivered online over the course of two-and-a-half weeks. Students will participate in both simultaneous and non-simultaneous course facilitation and will have the opportunity to engage in optional office hours with instructors and other social interactions. Applications are also open for Virtual Directors School scholarships, through the generosity of The Toro Company and The Toro Foundation.

Learn More and Register

Aquatix

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...

This was the scene in many areas across the country over the weekend. In Brisbane, California, over 150 people peacefully gathered in the community park to honor George Floyd and stand for justice. How has your community been fighting for justice and equality? Make sure to tag us in your social posts throughout the week for a chance to see your post here.

City of Brisbane, California

Photo from @cityofbrisbaneca Instagram

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22377 Belmont Ridge Road, Ashburn, VA 20148