

Montana & Idaho Recreation & Park Associations

Annual Conference – Missoula, MT (Sept 25th-29th, 2012)



Call for Presenters

Submittal Deadline: February 1st, 2012

The **Montana & Idaho Recreation & Park Associations** Annual Conference will be held Sept. 25th to Sept. 29th, at the Holiday Inn Downtown, in Missoula, MT. The conference theme is "Outside & Active." We plan to highlight strategies and methods for developing quality parks, trails, healthy built communities and programs while also providing insight and strategies on long term maintenance of these amenities. Our delegates will include: municipal, state, and federal park & recreation professionals, students, citizen board members, NGO's and related businesses.

The conference committee is currently planning the agenda. We are seeking speakers and presentations that can provide information and proven methods to successfully manage and maintain parks, trails and programs, and any insight on the tracks listed below.

Program tracks include:

1. Vision & Relevance – Partnerships & Coalitions
2. Children & Nature
3. Professional Development – Achieving Excellence
4. Healthy Built Communities – Trails & Connectivity
5. Our Great Outdoors – Open Space/Wildlands

Topic ideas include, among others: practices for maintaining parks/facilities; innovative ways to provide recreation/resource education; drafting, adopting and implementing a conservation lands mgt plan; managing/reviving athletic fields; successful donation programs; alternative funding; facility and/or program planning; recreation's importance to youth; serving the aged and disabled population; safety in park or program operations; obtaining and managing citizen input; playground design/safety, cooperative programs among agencies; introducing Children and Nature; recreation and trails activities; safely connecting and transporting people between communities, parks, schools and cultural sites; ongoing research, new technologies, and success stories!

1. Sessions will be 1 hr & 15 minutes in length – there is a possibility for part I & part II back-to-back sessions if your topic warrants 2+ hours.
2. If you have specific questions about program concepts/formats feel free to contact the Program Chairs:
Jackie Corday – jcorday@ci.missoula.mt.us Bob Walker – mttrails@bresnan.net
Neil Moisey – moisey@forestry.umn.edu
3. Please submit proposals in electronic format via email to: jpignanelli@ci.missoula.mt.us

Please Provide:

- Cover sheet with your name, contact information (address, phone, e-mail) & who you are representing.
- Equipment needs & cost to present at the MT/ID RPA conference (Volunteer presentations welcome)
- One page proposal including:
 - a. Topic title & Track it would fall under (please be specific to the 5 tracks so we can get it to the right track)
 - b. Presentation description/session including learning outcomes (maximum 50 words for the program guide)
 - c. Speaker biography (not to exceed 30 words)
 - d. Program format: one speaker, panel (# of speakers). If panel, include names and biographies