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NNERPC

THE NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND RECREATION & PARKS CONFERENCE

JAN 13-15 2026

2026 NNERPC GOLD SPONSORS



We Make It Happen.



Pre-Conference Training - NAYS

National Alliance for Youth Sports

Monday, January 12, 2026
1PM - 5PM

NAYS has partnered with NNERPC to host this Pre-Conference and essential combination training that is open to all sports and recreation staff. Academy Prep Session to earn your CYSA or basic Frontline Sports Staff Training.

See website for pricing, registration information and course descriptions.

*A New England Network of Recreation and Park Professionals
celebrating 76 years of Continued Empowerment through
Networking, Training, Education & Vendor Relationships*



SCHEDULE AT GLANCE

January 12 – 15, 2026

MONDAY, JANUARY 12th



Time	Pre-Conference	Speaker or Host	Room:
1:00 - 5:00 PM	NAYS - Frontline Staff Training; Pre-Conf. Education for All Sports Staff	Lisa Licata, National Alliance for Youth Sports	White Tail Deer

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13th

Time	Registration & Keynote	Speaker or Host	Room:
7:00 - 2:00 PM	Grab & Go Breakfast and Lunch - on your own	Grand Summit Hotel at Attitash	Black Diamond
11:00 - 5:00 PM	Registration & Check In (Closed from 12:45 - 3:15 PM)	NNERPC Board Members	Lobby
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Vendor Exhibit Open	Hosted by NNERPC Exhibitors	Vendor Hall
1:00 - 2:00 PM	Keynote: Everybody Pulls The Tarp	Andrew Moses	Ballroom
Time	Block I Sessions	Speaker	Room:
2:15 - 3:15 PM	Everybody Pulls the Tarp - Follow Up Break Out Session	Andrew Moses	White Tail Deer
2:15 - 3:15 PM	Cultural Messages, Recreation and Youth Future Planning	Jayson Seaman and Cindy Hartman	Peregrine Falcon
2:15 - 3:15 PM	From Passion to Policy: Turning Your P&R Story into Advocacy Power	Sharon Locke	Bald Eagle
2:15 - 3:15 PM	Unlocking the Value of Parks and Recreation Associations	Courtney Carroll, Jessica Brodie, Katie Dupont, & Sabrina Best	Fox Den
Time	Afternoon & Evening Functions	Sponsor or Host	Room:
4:30 - 5:30 PM	Student and Newcomer Meet & Greet	Hosted by the University of New Hampshire	The Tap House
5:00 - 6:30 PM	Vendor Exhibit and Social	Hosted by NNERPC Exhibitors	Vendor Hall
6:30 - 7:45 PM	Buffet Dinner	Hosted by NNERPC Conference	Ballroom
8:00 - 11:00 PM	NuBingo Presented by Nulmage	Hosted by NNERPC Conference	Ballroom
11:00 - 1:00 AM	After Hours Social	Hosted by NNERPC Conference	The Tap House

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14th

Time	Block II Sessions	Speaker or Host	Room:
7:00 - 9:00 AM	Breakfast Buffet	Hosted by NNERPC Conference	Ballroom
9:00 - 10:00 AM	In Perpetuity is a LOOONNNNGGG Time	Lindsay Suhr and Eric Feldbaum	Fox Den
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Breathing Life Back into a Community	Bill Salvatore	Peregrine Falcon
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Fit, Fad or Flop	Bobbi Nance	Bald Eagle
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Park and Rec Pro: Part Artist and Part Army General	Jason Lang	White Tail Deer
10:00 - 11:15 AM	Coffee Break & Exhibitor Hall Open	Hosted by NNERPC Exhibitors	Trout
Time	Block III Sessions	Speaker or Host	Room:
11:30 - 12:30 PM	Coaching as a System for Recreation Staff	Jarod Wunneburger	White Tail Deer
11:30 - 12:30 PM	Evaluating Service from Different Angles	Bobbi Nance	Bald Eagle
11:30 - 12:30 PM	If You Build It; They Will Come... The Wins & Waves of Aqua Land	Aimee Gigandet and Sam Kerrigan	Peregrine Falcon
11:30 - 12:30 PM	It's Fine, We're Fine, Everything's Fine	Jaclyn Ciardi and Maureen Sammon	Fox Den
12:30 - 1:30 PM	Buffet Lunch	Hosted by NNERPC Conference	Ballroom
Time	Block IV Sessions	Speaker or Host	Room:
2:00 - 3:00 PM	Be a Goal Getter	Bobbi Nance	Bald Eagle
2:00 - 3:00 PM	Not Your Grandma's Workshop: Successful Senior Programming Ideas	David Tovey, Nicole Finitis and Art Jacobs	Peregrine Falcon
2:00 - 3:00 PM	Planning a Special Event	Marcie Glad	White Tail Deer
2:00 - 3:00 PM	What Do Pigs and a Park Bench Have in Common?	Jessica Brodie	Fox Den
Time	Block V Sessions	Speaker or Host	Room:
3:15 - 4:15 PM	Creating a Culture of Inclusion	Kate DeAngelis	Bald Eagle
3:15 - 4:15 PM	Program Coordinator 101: From Concept to Execution	Nick Campion, Jon Kazanjian and Christine Dean	White Tail Deer
3:15 - 4:15 PM	Ditch Three Strikes: Better Behavior Systems	Jarod Wunneburger	Peregrine Falcon
3:15 - 4:15 PM	Small Town, Big Standards: A VT Journey Through CAPRA & CPRE	Scott Hausler and April Cioffi	Fox Den
Time	Evening Functions	Sponsor or Host	Room:
5:00 - 6:00 PM	Cocktail Hour	Hosted by NNERPC Conference	Vendor Hall
5:00 - 6:00 PM	NHRPA State Meeting - All NH Park & Recreational Professionals	Hosted by NHRPA Board & Chairs	White Tail Deer
6:00 - 7:30 PM	Buffet Dinner	Hosted by NNERPC Conference	Ballroom
7:30 - 8:00 PM	Shuttle Bussing to Mount Cranmore	Compliments of Conway Recreation	Front Entrance
8:00 - 11:00 PM	Mount Cranmore Snow Tubing and S'mores	Hosted by NNERPC Conference	Mount Cranmore
11:00 - 1:00 AM	After Hours Social	Hosted by NNERPC Conference	The Tap House

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15th

Time	Block VI Sessions	Speaker or Host	Room:
7:00 - 9:00 AM	Breakfast Buffet	Hosted by NNERPC Conference	Ballroom
9:00 - 10:00 AM	OCR and American Ninja Warrior in Recreation	James Golisano	White Tail Deer
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Say More Without Saying More	Bobbi Nance	Bald Eagle
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Women in Recreation	Brinn Sullivan and Caroline Neel	Peregrine Falcon
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Parks & Rec vs. Library - Friend or Foe?	Elaine Prue & Dawn Dillasanta	Fox Den
Time	Endnote	Speaker or Host	Room:
10:15 - 11:15 AM	Endnote: Every Kid Needs a Champion	Jarod Wunneburger	Ballroom

SESSIONS & SOCIAL NETWORKING



TUESDAY - THURSDAY Pulling Together for Professional Growth

With up to 27 Educational sessions, packed in 3 days, this conference has everything you need to Pull your REC self together! All sessions are designed to stretch your thinking, strengthen your skills, and spark new ideas. Just like tarp pullers, we grow stronger when we lean in, learn together, and share the weight.

TUESDAY SOCIAL Pulling for the Win Music Bingo

This night is all about pulling together for team laughs and unforgettable moments. NuBingo is a high-energy, music-infused twist on traditional bingo, transforming it into an interactive experience filled with singing, dancing, and entertainment.



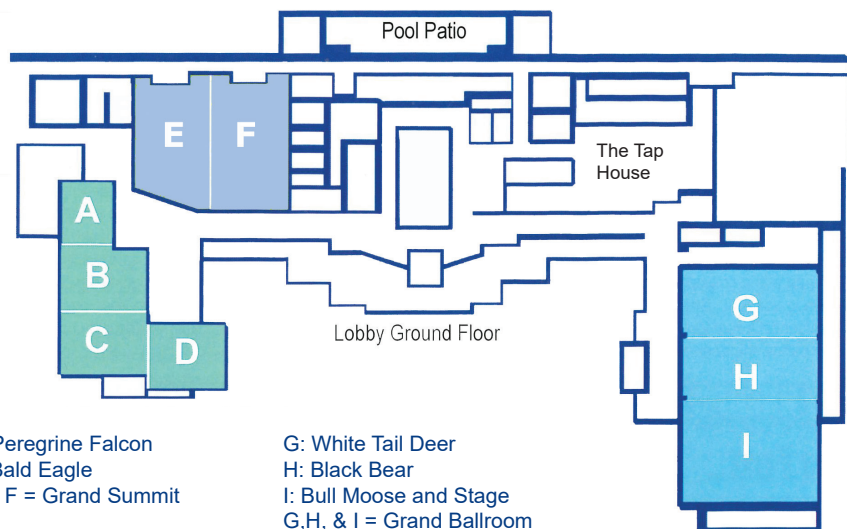
WEDNESDAY SOCIAL The After Pull! Snow Tubing

The tarp is down, but the energy's still up! Hold on tight, it's all downhill from here! Get ready for a night of tubing thrills at Cranmore Mountain. After, pull up by the fire for gooey s'mores, lite snacks, beverages, and warm conversations under the cool night sky. Dress in layers!

HOTEL CONFERENCE FLOOR PLAN

2026 CONFERENCE ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Registration	Lobby near fireplace
Snack/Breaks	Trout Room
Meals	Grand Ballroom
Sessions	See Schedule-at-a-Glance
Outdoor Tubing	@ Cranmore Mountain
Entertainment:	Grand Ballroom
Vendor Hall:	Cougar Lynx & Wolf, Hall
Vendor Social	Cougar Lynx & Wolf, Hall
Hospitality Rm	The Tap House



GRAND SUMMIT - ROOM KEY:

A: Trout Room
B: Cougar Room
C: Lynx Room
D: Wolf Room
Fox Room upstairs from lobby

E: Peregrine Falcon
F: Bald Eagle
E & F = Grand Summit

G: White Tail Deer
H: Black Bear
I: Bull Moose and Stage
G, H, & I = Grand Ballroom



TUES N.N.E.R.P.C. SCHEDULE 2026

Conference Registration

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

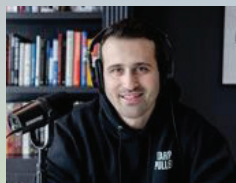
Visit with Exhibitors

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Keynote (value .1 CEU Keynote)

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Everybody Pulls The Tarp: The Mindset Powering the World's Most Successful People & Teams Maximizing Potential: A Journey to Empowerment!



Keynote Speaker: Andrew Moses - Weekly pod caster of "Everybody Pulls the Tarp"

Keynote Bio: Andrew Moses has interviewed over 240+ Olympians, pro athletes, TV personalities, Grammy winners, Broadway stars, CEOs, bestselling authors, & other high-performers about their success secrets & the power of leading by example on his weekly podcast Everybody Pulls The Tarp. Over the past nearly 6 years, Andrew's podcast has reached a diverse, global audience and has been listened to in over 135+ countries. Andrew is on a mission to build a world full of tarp pullers; a world where people never say "that's not my job" and do whatever it takes to help their organization, team, and community succeed.



Keynote Session: Andrew's trademarked 'Everybody Pulls The Tarp' mindset resonates deeply with audiences because it is simple, digestible, & actionable. He is on a mission to build a world full of tarp pullers — a world where people never say "that's not my job" and do whatever it takes to help their organization, team, and community succeed. Through engaging storytelling, Andrew leaves audiences inspired and, most importantly, ready to take action!

Block I Sessions: (value .1 CEU)

2:15 PM - 3:15 PM

1 Everybody Pulls the Tarp Follow Up Breakout

- Speaker: Andrew Moses .

Immediately after his keynote, podcast host & leadership expert Andrew Moses will facilitate an interactive discussion diving deeper into the power of the Everybody Pulls The Tarp mindset and how you can apply not only at work but in your life.



3 From Passion to Policy: Turning Your Park & Rec Story into Advocacy Power

- Speaker Sharon Locke

This session teaches you how to transform your day-to-day experiences into compelling advocacy narratives that resonate with residents, administrators, and elected officials. Learn how to build a persuasive case, communicate impact, mobilize supporters, strengthen the visibility of your department, engage stakeholders, and prepare conversations with elected officials. Great for those who want advocacy to feel natural, authentic, and effective.

2 Cultural Messages, Recreation and Youth Future Planning Truly Inclusive Aquatics

- Speakers: Jayson Seaman & Cindy Hartman

NNE's ongoing struggle to attract and retain a young workforce is often framed in terms of economic indicators: labor shortages, housing costs, student debt, or the scarcity of quality jobs. But beneath these material realities lie powerful and often implicit cultural narratives about what constitutes a "good life," and where that life can (or should) be pursued. In this interactive, research-informed workshop, we invite participants to explore how youth residential and employment decisions are shaped not only by economic conditions, but also by the messages they receive - from schools, workplaces, and public discourse - about work, place, and adulthood.

4 Unlocking the Value of Parks and Recreation Associations

- Speakers: Courtney Carroll, Jessica Brodie, Katie Dupont & Sabrina Best

This collaborative session brings together leaders from four state associations: MA, ME, NY, and VT - for an open and honest conversation about the real-world value of association membership. Participants will explore how associations support professionals at every career stage, foster partnerships across sectors, and offer vital resources for continuing education, leadership development, and advocacy. Through a mix of presentation and guided discussion, we will also ask attendees what they want from their associations, giving voice to emerging needs in a rapidly evolving field.

Student & Newcomer Meet & Greet

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

**Vendor & Exhibitor Social
Dinner Buffet & Entertainment**

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

6:30 PM - 11:00 PM

WED N.N.E.R.P.C. SCHEDULE 2026

Breakfast Buffet

7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Block II Sessions (value .1 CEU)

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

1 "In Perpetuity" is a LOOONNNGGG Time

- Speakers: Lindsay Suhr & Eric Feldbaum

Every park benefiting from LWCF assistance must be managed for public outdoor recreation in perpetuity. Learn about LWCF, its compliance strings, and how the program can and should be used to help you meet these stewardship obligations.

2 Breathing Life Back into a Community

- Speaker: Bill Salvatore

Parks and recreation are vital for community health and vibrancy. But what happens when these departments stagnate? Explore the impact of dormancy on program offerings, green spaces, and public events. This interactive session presents a real-world case study of a department's successful revitalization, revealing the techniques, challenges, and triumphs involved in reigniting community engagement. Ideal for new directors and aspiring leaders seeking to breathe new life into their departments.



3 Fit, Fad, or Flop

- Speaker: Bobbi Nance

With the hectic schedules and increasing demands on recreation staff, it can be hard to take a thoughtful and strategic approach to developing new programs. But by not doing this, even more time and resources may go to waste in offering new programs that aren't successful. Instead of waiting to see what sticks, pick up a set of exercises and techniques you can use to brainstorm, test, and evaluate new program ideas before you even start writing that brochure description.

4 Park and Rec Pro: Part Artist and Part Army General

- Speaker: Jason Lang

Park and Recreation professionals struggle at times with communicating "how" the industry impacts communities, and what specific qualities shine through in these amazing public servants. This session crystallizes these qualities as "creative", "focused", indefatigable, "hardy" "visionary". Identify the unique challenges of the Parks and Recreation professional, Understand the shared qualities inherent in all Parks and Recreation professionals, Walk away with 3-5 workable programs or initiatives based on session activities.

Visit with Exhibitors & Coffee Break

10:00 AM - 11:15 AM

Block III Sessions (value .1 CEU)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

1 Coaching as a System for Recreation Staff

- Speaker Jarod "W" Wunneburger

Recreation professionals supervise diverse teams including seasonal staff, part-time employees, volunteers, and student workers - many with limited experience. Traditional "tell them what to do" supervision creates dependency and doesn't develop staff capacity. High turnover means constantly training new people. Effective coaching creates independent problem-solvers who grow professionally and deliver better programs. Most recreation supervisors lack formal coaching training, defaulting to micromanagement or hands-off approaches that neither support staff nor ensure quality. This session provides a systematic framework that transforms supervision into development, improving both staff retention and program outcomes.



3 If You Build It, They Will Come... the Wins & Waves of Aqua Land

- Speakers: Aimee Gigandet, & Sam Kerrigan

Thinking of building a splash pad? Join Newmarket Recreation's water soaked staff as they share the real story; the wins, challenges, and surprises; of creating Aqua Land. From cost considerations, to design decisions and seasonal highs & lows. They have learned it all and have given tours and fielded calls from towns across the region since its completion asking, "How did you do it?" Find out why families drive over an hour to visit and what makes this splash pad such a success. This session is perfect for anyone planning a similar project; or just curious about what all it takes to operate!

2 Evaluating Service from Different Angles

- Speaker: Bobbi Nance

Understanding our customers' needs, wants, and preferences has always been complicated, but with individualization and expectations on the rise, it's getting even harder. Before you send out another survey, discover new ways to gain insights about your customers - everything from simple observations to creative dives into your data, as well as tweaks that you can implement to make your current efforts and surveys more impactful.

4 It's Fine, We're Fine, Everything's Fine

- Speakers: Jaclyn Ciardi & Maureen Sammon

This fun session is designed for Parks and Recreation staff working in dynamic group settings, where formal team building is often impractical. Participants will learn practical, low-barrier strategies to build trust, resilience, and camaraderie amid daily challenges. The session re-frames everyday collaboration as an opportunity for team cohesion, offering enjoyable and immediately applicable tools without adding to staff workloads. No icebreakers, just real connection.

WED N.N.E.R.P.C. SCHEDULE 2026

Lunch Buffet & Announcements

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

Block IV Sessions (value .1 CEU)

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

1 Be a Goal Getter - Speaker: Bobbi Nance

Even though the New Year's rush has passed, now is an ideal moment to set your goals for the year ahead. Take an hour to participate in guided exercises and discussions, helping you refocus, identify and prioritize what matters most. By building a thoughtful plan, you'll position yourself to end this year not only as a goal setter, but as a goal-getter—transforming aspirations into real accomplishments.

2 It's Not Your Grandma's Workshop: Successful

Senior Programming - Speakers: Nicole Finitsis, David Tovey, & Art Jacobs

The U.S. population is aging, with 1 in 5 Americans projected to be 65 or older by 2040. Today's seniors are active and engaged, making them valuable advocates and supporters. This session explores effective programming for older adults, including intergenerational activities, partnerships, grants, and educational resources. Learn how to keep seniors involved, communicate effectively, and build support from boards to enhance recreational and social opportunities for this growing demographic.



3 Planning Special Events - Speaker Marcie Glad

This session empowers recreation professionals to move beyond routine event planning by providing practical frameworks; like Tuckman's group development and the S.P.O.R.T.Y. S.P.I.C.E. method for designing engaging, inclusive events. By blending theory with accessible strategies and even physics principles, attendees gain a repeatable formula for creating impactful programs for all ages.

4 What do Pigs and a Park Bench have in Common?

- Speaker: Jessica Brodie

We will discuss the importance of cross-sector collaboration in today's society, share examples of successful partnerships, and how the sectors overlap. This session will encourage parks professionals to explore potential partnerships with local agritourism businesses, inspire a collaborative mindset to enhance community connections through agriculture, recreation, and shared spaces, understand how these sectors contribute to community development, learn about the historical contributions of Native Americans to agriculture in the U.S., and identify where parks and agritourism overlap agriculture, recreation, and shared spaces.

Block V Sessions (value .1 CEU)

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM



1 Creating a Culture of Inclusion

- Speaker: Kate DeAngelis

Inclusion is a verb—it takes the commitment and efforts of an entire organization, and as Parks and Recreation professionals, it is our job to create a culture of inclusion that provides everyone the opportunity to participate and access their community's offerings. During this session, attendees will get an inside look into an established Therapeutic Recreation program and identify the steps they can take to implement strategies into their roles to create a culture of inclusion within their own organization.

2 Program Coordinator 101:

From Concept to Execution

- Speakers: Nick Champion, Jon Kazanjian Christine Dean

Whether you're new to programming or seeking to improve your process, this seminar covers the key steps for developing effective community programs - from initial idea to participant evaluation. We'll address identifying needs through surveys, planning inclusive programs, budgeting with templates, making data-driven decisions, managing timelines and communication, marketing for engagement, and determining when to conclude a program that's plateaued or declined.

3 Ditch Three Strikes: Better Behavior Systems

- Speaker: Jarod "W" Wunneburger,

Traditional "three strikes" behavior systems disproportionately exclude children from low-income families and communities of color - the very populations public recreation serves. These punitive approaches push out kids who need programs most, perpetuating inequity rather than building community. Recreation professionals need practical alternatives that keep all children engaged while maintaining program quality. This session addresses a critical gap between stated inclusion values and actual practices, providing a proven framework that transforms how teams respond to challenging behaviors.

4 Small Town, Big Standards: A VT Journey Through

CAPRA & CPRE - Speakers: Scott Hausler and April Cioffi

Learn from Vermont experts as they share practical steps for achieving CAPRA accreditation, including proven strategies and common challenges. Discover what it takes to earn the CPRE credential, its benefits for advancing your career, and how professionals can best prepare for certification. Gain actionable insights to strengthen your agency and professional growth - all rooted in Vermont experience.

NHRPA State Meeting

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Cocktail Hour & Buffet Dinner

5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Mount Cranmore Snow Tubing and S'mores

8:00 PM - 11:00 PM

THURS N.N.E.R.P.C. SCHEDULE 2026

Buffet Breakfast 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Session VI (value .1 CEU) **9:00 PM - 10:00 AM**

1 OCR and American Ninja Warrior in Recreation

- Speaker: James Golisano

Obstacle Course and Ninja Warrior events attract over 6 million participants worldwide annually. Parks and Recreation facilities are well-positioned to host these events, promoting healthy competition and community engagement. This session will cover how to introduce OCR and Ninja elements into field trips, large events, and in-house fitness programming, as well as strategies for generating revenue through such offerings. The session features both presentation and hands-on learning with course elements.

2 Say More Without Saying More

- Speaker: Bobbi Nance

One skill that remains as valuable on the first day of your career as it does on your last is communication. Get an insightful primer into how we process information and see how the ways we typically share information works against us and discover simple ways to increase the impact of your message without increasing your word count.

3 Women in Recreation

- Speakers: Brinn Sullivan & Caroline Neel

Women in parks and recreation need a space to share program ideas and discuss challenges unique to working in a male-dominated field. This session will focus on advocating for yourself, building confidence, balancing work and home life, and creating a supportive network. Attendees can expect to leave with new peers and potential mentors.

4 P&R vs. Library - Friend or Foe?

- Speakers: Elaine Prue and Dawn Dellasanta

This session examines how Parks & Recreation and the Library can build a collaborative partnership. Participants will learn how aligning missions and sharing resources expands community impact and fosters more inclusive, resilient communities.

Endnote: (.1 CEU for Endnote) **10:15 AM - 11:15 AM**



Every Kid Needs a Champion

Endnote Speaker - Jarod "W" Wunneburger

We entered recreation work to make a difference, but transforming good intentions into consistent reality requires more than caring - it demands systematic design. Recreation professionals often struggle to move from inspiring ideas like "every kid needs a champion" to actual implementation that works daily. This session explores how to actualize your mission through three essential elements: individual habits that sustain your work, intentional culture that reinforces your values, and robust systems that ensure no participant falls through the cracks. Learn how to build frameworks that turn your "why" into sustainable, measurable impact.

About the Conference



The Northern New England Recreation & Parks Conference has become one of the highest quality parks and recreation conference in all of New England. The conference is organized by a committee made up of parks recreation professionals and exhibitor representatives from New Hampshire, Vermont, & Maine & Massachusetts. Our number one goal is to produce a top quality educational experience. Each year the conference host rotates between New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine and Massachusetts, but the conference's location always stays in New Hampshire each year. If you would like further information on the conference our web-site is updated annually @ www.northernnewenglands.com

Conference Board Members

- 2026 Host State: MA - Christine Dean and Nick Campion
- Other State Reps: NH - Greg Bisson, Aimee Gigandet
- ME - Lisa Thompson & Julio Santiago, VT Chair: April Cioffi
- Treasurer: Matt Tobin
- Registration & Website: Christine Dean & Jason Hanken
- Vendor Relations: Colin Drury & Alan Grady
- Students & Scholarships: Julio Santiago & Jessie Tennis
- Audio Visual: Greg Bisson
- Social Media: Christine Dean & Aimee Gigandet
- Digital Brochure & Banners: Aimee Gigandet
- Food & Beverage: Lisa Thompson
- Commercial Representatives: Colin Drury, and Matt Tobin
- Speaker Representative: April Cioffi



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www.VRPA.org Vermont Recreation & Parks Assn
www.NHRPA.com New Hampshire Recreation & Parks Assn
www.MERPA.org Maine Recreation & Parks Assn

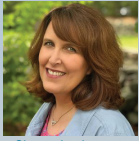
SESSION SPEAKERS BIOS 2026



Cindy Hartman

Block I Session 2 Cindy Hartman and Jayson Seaman

Both Cindy and Jayson (with Dr. Andrew Coppens) are leaders of the NH Youth Retention Initiative, a research program designed to deepen understanding of how youth and emerging adults are considered in efforts to retain and recruit young people as a key part of New Hampshire's community, economic, and workforce development plans.



Sharon Locke

Block I Session 3: Sharon Locke, Legislative Chair for MRPA

Sharon is a seasoned recreation professional and the current Legislative Chair for MRPA, where she champions state-level policy and civic engagement. A graduate of the NRPA Director's School and Gordon College, Sharon founded the annual MRPA Advocacy Day at the State House to amplify the profession's voice on Beacon Hill. Inspired by the NRPA Park Champion Initiative, Sharon remains a dedicated advocate for community enrichment and professional leadership.



Lindsay Suhr

Block I Session 4: Courtney Carroll, Jessica Brodie, Katie Dupont & Sabrina Best:

We are honored to have executive leaders and board members from NY, MA, ME, and VT state associations who bring extensive experience in parks and recreation, advocacy, professional development, and member engagement. Each speaker represents their state's efforts to support and elevate recreation professionals through education, partnerships, and leadership initiatives. They are dedicated to advancing the field through collaboration, leadership training, and strategic partnerships that strengthen communities and support professionals at every career stage.



Eric Feldbaum

Block 2 Session 1: Lindsay Suhr and Eric Feldbaum

Lindsay Suhr is the Office Director for the Land Acquisition and Management (LAM) Unit at Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), which is the real estate office of the agency. Eric Feldbaum runs NH state LWCF programs in NH and has been active at the national level in the National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers Association for more than a decade.



Bill Salvatore

Block II Session 2: Bill Salvatore, Director of Parks & Recreation in Cheltenham Township

Prior to his appointment in Cheltenham, Bill served Philadelphia Parks and Recreation in numerous roles over 20+ years of service. Those roles included Recreation Leader, Leadership and Organizational Development Manager, Director of Strategic Partnerships, and Deputy Commissioner of Programming. Bill was crucial in the implementation of the department's first strategic plan. Bill has a passion for leadership development and coaching, often spending time at conferences and clinics.



Bobbi Nance

Block II Session 3: Block III Session 2: & Block IV Session 3: Bobbi Nance

Bobbi Nance is an expert at helping bring real change to real life. Whether she's helping park and recreation teams find value in their data, evaluate their offerings, or set a new strategy, Bobbi has a knack for making it fun, relatable, and actually doable. She's regularly described as both "passionate and practical," and brings that unique mix of energy and expertise to all of her work, giving people the tools to improve along with the confidence to move.



Jason Lang

Block II Session 4: Jason Lang, Parks & Recreation Director for East Goshen Township,

located in West Chester, Pennsylvania. His community is located 45 miles outside Philadelphia and has a population of 18,000 residents. This "small but mighty" two-person department was the 2019 Pennsylvania Department of the Year and was NRPA Gold Medal Finalists from 2019-2022.



Jarod Wunneburger

Block III Session 1: Block IV Session 1: & End Note: Jarod Wunneburger

Jarod "W" Wunneburger owns Thrive Point Studio, specializing in leadership development for youth-serving organizations. Former Director managing 250+ seasonal staff across seven programs and NYC special education teacher/administrator. MA degrees from Harvard (School Leadership) and St. John's (Special Education). Developed systematic coaching frameworks used by recreation professionals nationwide. Regular presenter at 11+ conferences, focusing on practical supervision tools that transform staff performance and retention.



Aimee Gigandet

Block III Session 3: Aimee Gigandet CPRP & Sam Kerrigan COP

Aimee, Newmarket Recreation Director, has over 35 years of planning experience in the Recreation / Hospitality industries. Known for her creative out-of-the-box enthusiasm, she has spoken at NNERPC, NRPA, and has received state awards for innovative programs, including receiving a Guinness World Record, and created National Water Balloon Day. Sam, Assistant Rec Director, manages all Newmarket Recreation's outdoor facilities, including Aqua Land splash pad operations. He has extensive background in the construction industry and helped championed the efforts with Newmarket's recent Master Plan process.



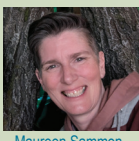
Sam Kerrigan

Block III Session 4: Jaclyn Cicardi & Maureen Sammon

Jackie blends her background in environmental science, education, and psychology with hands on experience, evolving from a part time to full time leader of inclusive, community driven programs. With 20+ years in experiential education, Maureen Sammon (aka Moe) turns unpredictable moments into meaningful connection, proving team building works best when it doesn't feel like work.



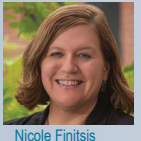
Jaclyn Cicardi



Maureen Sammon

Block VI Session 2: Nicole Finitis, Art Jacobs, and David Tovey

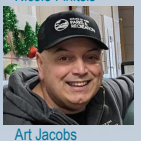
Nicole Finitis, Senior Services Supervisor in Portsmouth, NH oversees the Senior Activity Center and has 17 years experience working with older adults. Art Jacobs, Program Coordinator at the Center for Active Living in York, ME, holds over 30 years experience in the field. Assistant Director of Exeter, David Tovey, brings 10 years of experience in the field and organizes adult and senior programs in Exeter.



Nicole Finitis

Block IV Session 3: Marcie Glad - founder of Help My Spreadsheets

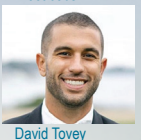
After 15 years in the camp industry, Marcie founded Help My Spreadsheets to help camps, schools, and small businesses work smarter with their time and data. She holds an MBA from Boston University and is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP). Marcie also teaches certification courses in archery, lifeguarding, and CPR, blending logistics, leadership, and learning in every setting.



Art Jacobs

Block IV Session 4 Jessica Brodie, Executive Director of the VRPA

Prior to this role, Jessica served in the municipal parks & recreation sector as a Parks & Recreation department director of two different departments in Massachusetts, and as an assistant director in another over the span of 10+ years. Jessica is a graduate of the NRPA Director's School, receive her CPRP certification in 2009, and has a degree from the University of New Hampshire in RMP/. In her spare time, you can find Jess recreating outdoors with her three kids & husband in a variety of activities and adventures.



David Tovey



Marcie Glad

Block V Session 1 Kate DeAngelis, Therapeutic Recreation Specialist

Kate currently at Lexington Recreation is dedicated to creating inclusive recreational opportunities for people of all ages and abilities. With experience in adaptive programs, staff training, and supervising inclusion staff, she also serves on the Executive Board of the Massachusetts Parks and Recreation Association. Kate enjoys collaborating th parks and recreation professionals statewide, aiming to expand access, inclusion, and belonging throughout New England.



Jessica Brodie

Block V Session 2: Nick Campion, Jon Kazanjian, & Christine Dean

Nick, Assistant Director is passionate about fostering positive team cultures and efficient organizations. He holds a Master's in Public Administration and is Vice President of MRPA. Jon "Kaz" Kazanjian, Program Coordinator for Littleton, MA, spent 13 years as a stay-at-home dad before discovering his love for recreation through creating 'Camp Kaz' for his kids. Christine Dean, Community Center Director, Lexington, MA previously worked in Brookline leading environmental education programs and in Danvers as a Park Ranger Supervisor. She has 15 years of experience leading outdoor programs for youth and families.



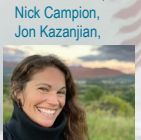
Kate DeAngelis



Christine Dean, Nick Campion, Jon Kazanjian,

Block V Session 4: Scott Hausler and April Cioffi

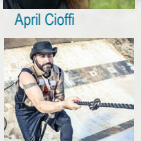
As of 2026, Scott Hausler and April Cioffi are veteran leaders in Vermont's parks and recreation sector. Hausler has served as the Director of Parks & Recreation for Hartford, VT, since 2017, bringing over 30 years of experience in facility development and capital fundraising to the role. Cioffi, a nearly 20-year veteran of the Rutland Recreation and Parks Department, was confirmed as its Superintendent in October 2025. Both hold elite certifications from the National Recreation and Park Association—Hausler as a CPRP and Cioffi as one of the state's few CPRE-certified executives.



April Cioffi

Block VI Session 1: James Golisano - Tough Mudder Expert

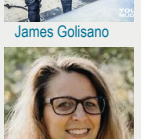
13 Years of OCR and Ninja experience, 84 Tough Mudders, 7 Worlds Toughest Mudders (24hr long OCR), Tough Mudder Brand ambassador for 5 years., Countless races with other brands such as Spartan Race, Savage Race, and Viking Race, Race Director for the Naticook Challenge OCR for Merrimack Parks and Recreation, Lead Ninja Specialist for YMCA Mountain Ninjas Gym, World Ninja League Certified Coach.



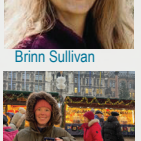
James Golisano

Block VI Session 3: Brinn Sullivan and Caroline Thuma Neel

Brinn Sullivan, also known as the "parade queen" of Portsmouth, has spent the last 24-years working in Recreation biz. Brinn is the Assistant Director for Portsmouth Recreation & Senior Services as well as the coordinator for many of the City's special events. During her tenure, Brinn has been a leading force in bringing the City's new Senior Activity Center to fruition, played an integral role in two-multimillion-dollar recreation facility renovations, and has designed and implemented hundreds of programs for people of all ages. Brinn has a passion for women's leadership and recently received Portsmouth's Chamber Collaborative Celebrate Her award for large businesses.



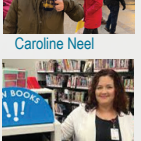
Brinn Sullivan



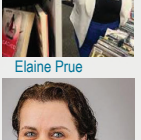
Caroline Neel

Block VI Session 4: Elaine Prue and Dawn Dellasanta

Elaine Prue, CPRP, CYSA, Superintendent of Recreation, Framingham Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Affairs, President of the Massachusetts Recreation & Park Association - Elaine began her recreation career in 1996, advanced through multiple NY roles and leadership honors, and since 2007 has served Framingham as Recreation Supervisor, Activities Supervisor, and now Superintendent of Recreation. Dawn Dellasanta, Director, Framingham Public Library - Marine Veteran, Dawn has served in key Framingham Public Library roles since 2012, leading technology, branch services, and operations before becoming Library Director in 2024.



Elaine Prue



Dawn Dellasanta



Continuing Education Units Record Sheet

January 12 - 15, 2026,

Grand Summit Resort at Attitash, located in Bartlett, NH

Name: _____ City: _____ State: _____

TIME	Monday - Pre-Conference	CEU'S	SIGNATURE
1:00 - 5:00 PM	NAYS - Frontline Staff Training; Pre-Conf. Education for All Sports Staff	0.4	
TIME	Tuesday - Keynote	CEU'S	SIGNATURE
1:00 - 2:00 PM	Keynote: Everybody Pulls The Tarp	0.1	
TIME	Tuesday - Opening Sessions	CEU'S	SIGNATURE
2:15 - 3:15 PM	Everybody Pulls the Tarp - Follow Up Break Out Session	0.1	
2:15 - 3:15 PM	Cultural Messages, Recreation and Youth Future Planning	0.1	
2:15 - 3:15 PM	From Passion to Policy: Turning Your P&R Story into Advocacy Power	0.1	
2:15 - 3:15 PM	Unlocking the Value of Parks and Recreation Associations	0.1	
TIME	Wednesday - Session Block I	CEU'S	SIGNATURE
9:00 - 10:00 AM	In Perpetuity is a LOOONNNNGGG Time	0.1	
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Breathing Life Back into a Community	0.1	
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Fit, Fad or Flop	0.1	
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Park and Rec Pro: Part Artist and Part Army General	0.1	
TIME	Wednesday - Session Block II	CEU'S	SIGNATURE
11:30 - 12:30 PM	Coaching as a System for Recreation Staff	0.1	
11:30 - 12:30 PM	Evaluating Service from Different Angles	0.1	
11:30 - 12:30 PM	If You Build It; They Will Come... The Wins & Waves of Aqua Land	0.1	
11:30 - 12:30 PM	It's Fine, We're Fine, Everything's Fine	0.1	
TIME	Wednesday - Session Block III:	CEU'S	SIGNATURE
2:00 - 3:00 PM	Be a Goal Getter	0.1	
2:00 - 3:00 PM	Not Your Grandma's Workshop: Successful Senior Programming Ideas	0.1	
2:00 - 3:00 PM	Planning a Special Event	0.1	
2:00 - 3:00 PM	What Do Pigs and a Park Bench Have in Common?	0.1	
TIME	Wednesday - Session Block IV	CEU'S	SIGNATURE
3:15 - 4:15 PM	Creating a Culture of Inclusion	0.1	
3:15 - 4:15 PM	Program Coordinator 101: From Concept to Execution	0.1	
3:15 - 4:15 PM	Ditch Three Strikes: Better Behavior Systems	0.1	
3:15 - 4:15 PM	Small Town, Big Standards: A VT Journey Through CAPRA & CPRE	0.1	
TIME	Thursday - Closing Sessions	CEU'S	SIGNATURE
9:00 - 10:00 AM	OCR and American Ninja Warrior in Recreation	0.1	
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Say More Without Saying More	0.1	
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Women in Recreation	0.1	
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Parks & Rec vs. Library - Friend or Foe?	0.1	
TIME	Thursday - Endnote	CEU'S	SIGNATURE
10:15 - 11:15 AM	Endnote: Every Kid Needs a Champion	0.1	

Instructions for Use:

- Turn in this sheet at the start of each session to be authorized and collect it at the end of the session to confirm attendance.
- Retain a signed copy of this sheet as proof of completion. You will need it to reference specific details when recording credits in your NRPA Online Certification Center account.
- CPRP Requirement: Must earn 2.0 CEUs every 2 year certification cycle; CPRE: Must earn 3.0 CEUs every 3 year certification cycle.



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