




COMMISSION FOR ACCREDITATION OF PARK AND RECREATION AGENCIES

To: Accredited agencies, applicant agencies, and accreditation visitors
From: Sara L. Hensley, CPRP, CAPRA Chair 
Subject: Fall 2015 CAPRA Update
Date: October 16, 2015

The Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) held the Fall meeting and hearings in conjunction with the 2015 NRPA Conference in Las Vegas on September 14, 2015. Now that it's over and we are preparing to move in to 2016, the CAPRA Board wanted to follow up with key information to keep you in the know!

Congratulations again to the Re-Accredited Agencies:

These Agencies/Installation achieved 100% of the required standards:

- Tucson Parks and Recreation Department, AZ.
- Collier County Parks and Recreation Division, FL
- City of St. Petersburg Parks and Recreation Department, FL
- City of Tamarac Parks and Recreation Department, FL
- City of Dublin, Department of Parks and Recreation, OH
- City of Miamisburg Parks and Recreation Department, OH
- United States Army Garrison Hawaii Community Recreation Division
- City of Westerville Parks and Recreation, OH

These Agencies met the required standards:

- City of Hollywood Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts, FL
- Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces, FL
- City of Oakland Park Parks and Leisure Services Department, FL
- City of Winter Park - Parks and Recreation Department, FL
- Gainesville Parks and Recreation Agency, GA
- Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, MN
- City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department, MN
- Cincinnati Recreation Commission, OH
- City of Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation Department, SD
- City of Coppell Parks and Recreation Department, TX
- City of Bellevue Parks and Community Services, WA

Congratulations to the Agencies/Installation that received Initial Accreditation:

These Agencies/Installation achieved 100% of the required standards:

- Park District of Oak Park, IL
- Fort Riley Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation, KS

These Agencies met the required standards:

- City of Buckeye Community Services Department, AZ
- City of Carlsbad Parks and Recreation Department, CA
- Jurupa Community Services District Parks and Recreation Department, CA
- Town of Castle Rock Parks and Recreation Department, CO
- Durango Parks and Recreation Department, CO
- Garner Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department, NC
- New Bern Parks and Recreation, NC
- Union County Parks and Recreation, NC
- Bend Park and Recreation District, OR

The CAPRA Board worked extremely hard in 2014 to re-write the standards. Please make special note that the New 2014 standards are in place. The 2014 CAPRA accreditation standards can be found at this link: [CAPRA Standards \(5th Edition\)](#) Since the release of the 2014 Standards, the CAPRA Commission made minor revisions to Standards 4.1.5 and 10.5.3.

CAPRA accreditation is highly valued by agencies and communities and is considered the Best of the Best. To continue the high caliber of park and recreation agency expectations, the Commission voted to change the number of non-fundamentals that may be missed and still achieve accreditation. Beginning with 2016 visits: Accreditation is based on an agency's compliance with the 151 standards for national accreditation. To achieve accreditation, an agency must comply with all 37 Fundamental Standards, which are indicated by the ★ icon in the Standards publication, and 104 of the 114 Non-Fundamental Standards upon initial accreditation and 108 of the 114 Non-Fundamental Standards upon re-accreditation.

In addition, we want agencies to be well prepared for their visits. Please take advantage of the trainings offered regarding CAPRA:

1. Wisconsin Park & Recreation Association, November 3, 2015 [Register Today!](#)
2. Texas Recreation and Park Society, March 4, 2016
3. CAPRA Visitor Training Webinar
4. Visitors Live Chat Transcript
5. Two 2014 Standards Live Chats
6. Standard Chapters Webinars – in development

This year, we will be offering CAPRA Visitor Training, as well as having a refresher course for the Team Visitation Chairs.

Management of Parks & Recreation Chapter presentations are being developed and will be completed soon. These presentations will assist you in understanding standards that may need further clarification.

Mentor's from the Board will be assigned to all agencies whether you are going through accreditation or re-accreditation.

We are in the process of overhauling our agency evaluation sheet. Should you have any suggestions, please submit them to Brenda Beales CAPRA@nrpa.org.

Many agencies already use a software management application for assistance with accreditation materials. A list of vendors that offer this service is available and can be obtained from Brenda Beales CAPRA@nrpa.org

(*CAPRA/NRPA will not recommend a particular vendor or application.)

Finally, we thank you for continuing your interest in CAPRA. Please do not hesitate to contact me, one of our Commission Members, or Brenda Beales. We are dedicated to assisting you in your CAPRA efforts.

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