



## 2023 Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Awards of Excellence Winners

### Category 1: Capital Improvement Projects – Up to \$1.0 Million

- 1st Place Upper Arlington Parks and Recreation | 3132 Family Sport Court
- 2nd Place Whitehall Parks and Recreation | Columbus Blue Jackets Foundation & Whitehall Street Hockey Rink
- 3rd Place Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks | Via Ferrata at Quarry Trails

### Category 2: Capital Improvement Projects – \$1.0 Million to \$2.5 Million

- 1st Place Prairie Township | Prairie Township OneField
- 2nd Place City of New Albany | New Albany Pickleball Complex
- 3rd Place Ohio State Parks and Watercraft | Kelleys Island Glacial Grooves

### Category 3: Capital Improvement Projects – \$2.5 Million and Up

- 1st Place Metroparks Toledo | Glass City Metropark
- 2nd Place Ohio State Parks and Watercraft | Hocking Hills Lodge & Conference Center
- 3rd Place Akron Recreation and Parks | Perkins Woods Pool Renovation

### Category 4: Management Innovation

- 1st Place Medina County Park District | Brown-Trump Homestead
- 2nd Place Whitehall Parks and Recreation | Community Connections
- 3rd Place Hilliard Recreation & Parks | Lifeguard P.E. Credit Program

### Category 5: Marketing Innovation

- 1st Place Powell Parks and Recreation | Caught Being Cool
- 2nd Place Washington Township RecPlex | 30th Anniversary for Woodland Lights
- 3rd Place Great Parks | Find Your Winter Wild

### Category 6: Natural Resources & Conservation

- 1st Place Centerville-Washington Park District | Bill Yeck Park Master Plan
- 2nd Place Summit Metro Parks | Restoring & Protecting Sand Run
- 3rd Place Columbus Recreation and Parks | Reforesting a Vulnerable Neighborhood

### Category 7: Adaptive Programs & Events

- 1st Place Independence Recreation | Independence ICAN! Program
- 2nd Place Cincinnati Parks | Summer Camp for All
- 3rd Place City of Dublin | Adaptive Extravaganza

### Category 8: Environmental & Interpretive Programs & Events

- 1st Place Cincinnati Parks | The Green Team
- 2nd Place Cleveland Metroparks | World Water Day
- 3rd Place Metroparks Toledo | Toledo Tree Tots Club

### Category 9: Health & Wellness Programs & Events

- 1st Place Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District | Capture the Canvas  
Centerville-Washington Park District | The Centerville-Washington Fun Run Series; sponsored by Dayton Children's Hospital
- 2nd Place Children's Hospital
- 3rd Place Summit Metro Parks | Cycling Without Age

## **Category 10: Historical & Cultural Arts Programs & Events**

- 1st Place Centerville-Washington Park District | The Wall That Heals
- 2nd Place Stark Parks | Kinder Concert: MusiCall of the Wild
- 3rd Place Streetsboro Parks & Recreation | Living History - A Night of Stories

## **Category 11: Law Enforcement Programs & Events**

- 1st Place Greene County Parks & Trails | Warrior Resiliency Series with GCP&T Ranger Division
- 2nd Place City of Reminderville | Operation Tiger Strike
- 3rd Place Ohio State Parks and Watercraft | O.A.K. Camp

## **Category 12: Recreation Programs & Events**

- 1st Place Summit Metro Parks | Summit Lake Community Garden: Fresh Food, Learning and Empowerment
- 2nd Place Great Parks | Kids Outdoor Adventure Expo
- 3rd Place Great Parks | Urban Thrive Festival

## **Category 13: Sports Programs & Events**

- 1st Place Whitehall Parks and Recreation | Thursday Night Thrillers
- 2nd Place Whitehall Parks and Recreation | Street Hockey League
- 3rd Place Gahanna Parks & Recreation | Sips and Tips FORE! Ladies

## **Outstanding Youth Leadership**

Kelly Shaw | Worthington Parks and Recreation

## **Outstanding Citizen**

Jo Ferguson | City of Beavercreek

## **Youth Sports Coach of the Year**

Dan Bogan | Kettering Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts

## **Harvey Woods Lifetime Achievement**

Carol Kennard

## **Professional of the Year**

Bill Tschirhart | Five Rivers MetroParks

## **OPRA Hall of Fame**

David Williams

## **Governors Award**

Metroparks Toledo | Glass City Metropark