• Park and recreation systems provide essential public services

• Park and recreation services are critical to personal health and community recovery

• Park and recreation resources are under increased usage pressures.
Celebrated every third Friday in July, it honors all who work tirelessly behind the scenes to provide the high quality programs and facilities we desire and expect in our parks and public spaces.
Popular expectations for when...

- you visit a park, it is clean, safe, and ready to use.
- your family goes swimming, the lifeguards are well-trained and the water quality is optimal.
- your grandchild visits the playground, you know it is maintained to all safety standards.
- your loved one with a disability wants to camp, swim, paddle or fish, all facilities are well-marked, well-maintained and easily accessible.
- you attend a public festival, all safety and security systems are capable and functioning.
- your elderly parents look for enriching and companionable activities, they can always find them.
- your children attend day camp, you are certain of their safe and appropriate physical, cognitive and social development.
- you visit urban woodlands, gardens and greenspaces, the attractive assets are well-cared for and healthy.
- your teens participate in youth sports, they thrive in the coaching, playing, and growing.
- you want to bike to the park, grocery store, library or work, you are able to make those connections, free from all hazards.
A Tribute
to the park and recreation professionals and volunteers who provide these indispensable services.

On July 16, consider it a tribute to your local park and recreation providers to visit a park and enjoy its facilities and services.
Pennsylvania Park and Recreation Professionals Day is celebrated during National Park and Recreation Month, and is a function of the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society.

The statewide marketing and branding campaign for local parks and recreation, *Good for You, Good for All* is used as a primary communications vehicle for engaging the public on the Day, using @GoodForPA social channels and other marketing.
GOOD IDEAS for meaningful recognition

- free day pass to the pool/gym/rec center
- extra day of personal leave
- go public with your appreciation
- handwritten note of appreciation
- ice cream sundae bar
- Dress Down / Dress Up Day
- gift card to favorite retailer
- stock breakroom with popular snacks
- Certificate of Appreciation
- pizza luncheon
- afternoon movie break

- sincere words of affirmation
- LinkedIn recommendation
- staff field trip to museum
- create a dog-friendly office
- small live plant or flower arrangement
- Starbucks gift card
- Wednesday afternoon cookies
- office upgrade allowance
- staff picnic lunch
- make part of decision making process
- recognition for non-work achievements
- team-building day out
- website appreciation for staff photos, bios
- hire a caricature artist to draw portraits
- 3 hour lunch break
- free car wash
- thank you video
- staff barbeque
- food truck lunch
- VIP parking spot
- random acts of fun
- share some swag
- half-day off
All recreation and park agencies are encouraged to honor their working professionals on or about July 16, and PRPS and the Good Campaign will amplify all their promotional events. Your Celebration may include:

- Local Proclamations
- Template materials from the PRP Day promotional toolkit, including customized logo
- Invite all employees and volunteers, park visitors, public, media to the event
- Provide refreshments, musical entertainment, performances or demonstrations
- Plan for photo opportunities of staff with elected officials
- A token of thanks to staff
- Brief ceremony including presentations of the proclamation, words of gratitude, other appropriate remarks
- Live Facebook or Instagram broadcast
GOOD JOB! Award

Presented annually to an individual whose contributions, through leadership, community outreach, facility management, maintenance or program and event planning, have directly influenced the health and vitality of the community.

Eligible Recipients: Any fulltime, part-time, or volunteer parks and recreation practitioner who has shown outstanding dedication to the field and has directly impacted the local community.

Nominee criteria:
1. Demonstrated community leadership qualities.
2. Involvement in innovative parks and recreation initiatives.
3. Contributions to system improvements in recreation and parks.
4. Outstanding, long-term impacts to the local community.

Nominations are submitted via online form, along with a short video or slides highlighting the nominee’s efforts and achievements. Candidates may be self-nominated.
Promotional Outreach Toolkit

www.prps.org/parkrecday

- Proclamation templates
- Sample media release
- Logo files
- Ideas for recognition
- Blog posts
- Email signature
- Website/Newsletter ad
- Social media graphics
Resolutions and Proclamations

The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 18 OF 2019

WHEREAS, the park and recreation industry is a diverse and comprehensive system that improves personal, social, environmental, and economic health; and

WHEREAS, Centre County Government recognizes the importance and benefits of park and recreation services that enrich the lives of its citizens, and help make this community a desirable place to live, work, and visit;

WHEREAS, the skilled work of park and recreation professionals strengthens community cohesion and resiliency, connects people with nature and each other, and provides and promotes opportunities for healthful living, social equity and environmental sustainability; and

WHEREAS, we value the essential services that park and recreation professionals and volunteers perform to provide recreational and developmental enrichment for our children, youth, adults and seniors; and to ensure our parks and recreational facilities are clean, safe, and ready to use;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim July 19, 2019 as “Pennsylvania Park and Recreation Professionals Day” in Centre County and encourages all residents to visit a park and enjoy the beauty of our community.

ADOPTED this 18th day of July, 2019.

The Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Representatives, do hereby cause this proclamation to be printed and published.

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this 18th day of July, 2019.

TOM WOLF
Governor

Margaret N. Gray, Administrator
Media Releases

FRI DAY, JULY 19, 2019

PRPS: Park & Recreation Professionals Day - July 19!

It's a safe bet we can all agree on the following. That when:

- You visit a park, it is clean, safe, and ready to use.
- Your family goes swimming, the lifeguards are well-trained and the water quality is optimal.
- Your grandchild visits the playground, you know it is maintained to all safety standards.
- Your loved one with a disability wants to camp, swim, paddle or fish, all facilities are well-marked, well-maintained and easily accessible.
- You attend a public festival, all safety and security systems are capable and functioning.

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- PA Coastal News

About Me

David E. Hess

This Blog is a companion to www.PaEnvironmentDigest.com, the weekly online newsletter and a product of PA Environment News LLC. I can be contacted by sending email to: PaEnvirorDigest@gmail.com. I served as Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection from 2001 to 2003, Executive Deputy at DEP from 1995 to 2001, as staff to the PA Senate Environmental Committee and various positions in the legislature.

Pa Park & Recreation Professionals Day is July 19

On July 19, Pennsylvania is celebrating the first ever Park & Recreation Professionals Day.

On July 19, Pennsylvania is celebrating the first ever Park & Recreation Professionals Day. To mark the day,swith PA RecPros Day, PA RecPros Day, we are highlighting the contributions of professionals in the field of parks and recreation. This day is meant to recognize the hard work and dedication of those who work in public parks, local government, recreation centers, and more.

For more information about the event, visit www.PaEnvironmentDigest.com or follow us on Twitter @PAEnvirorDigest.
Email Outreach

Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society and Centre Region Parks & Recreation invite you to experience Centre Region’s new “Rec On The Go” camps and celebrate Pennsylvania’s first official Park & Recreation Professionals Day.

**Join Us!**

**WHEN**
Friday, July 16 @ 1:30 PM

**WHERE**
Orchard Park Pavilion
1000 Bayberry Drive, State College, PA

**REGISTER**
PRPS.org/parkrecday

**MORE INFO**
Email PRPSinfo@PRPS.org

**REGISTER NOW**
Follow, participate, and stay tuned:
#ParkRecDay GoodforPA.com

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**Proclaim PRP Day in Your Community!**

Greetings!

With Park & Recreation Professionals (PRP) Day only 5 weeks away, it’s now time to make a proclamation! Invite your municipal officials to present the proclamation on Friday, July 16, to show the importance of parks, recreation and the benefits it provides to your community. This is also a great way to create community and media awareness for your event. You can find the sample proclamation template in the toolkit.

We haven’t heard from you yet. What are your plans for this day? Let us know by emailing PRPSinfo@PRPS.org. We can’t wait to hear and share what everyone is doing. Once you receive your proclamation, feel free to share that too!

Download The Template Proclamation

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**explore local parks**

PARKS by DEPT. OF CONSERVATION & NATURE RESOURCES

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**IF THERE IS SOME WAY OUR FIELD CAN IMPROVE SOMEONE'S LIFE, THEN I WANT TO CREATE THAT OPPORTUNITY FOR THEM!**

PAMELA SALOKANGAS
Director, Centre Region Parks & Recreation

In anticipation of Park & Recreation Professionals Day, we asked Pam about what inspired her to pursue a career in parks and recreation.
Memes & Event Graphics

COMMUNITY POOL
“Looking forward every year to getting my pool open and seeing the families come and enjoy it!” Brian Foster, Mercer County

PARK & RECREATION PROFESSIONALS DAY
JULY 16, 2021
Let’s Celebrate PA’s Park Professionals

#PARKANDRECDAY
PARK & RECREATION PROFESSIONALS DAY
JULY 16, 2021
COMMUNITY
COUNTRY
GLOBAL

Whatcha’ Doin’?
FOR PARK AND RECREATION PROFESSIONALS DAY
JULY 16, 2021
We want to hear your ideas and see your preparation photos!
email: ESchmitlaugh@prps.org

SUMMER IS COMING
“The countdown to summer fun has begun!”
Emily Croke, CPRP, CySA Springfield Township

PARK & RECREATION PROFESSIONALS DAY
JULY 16, 2021
Quotes from professionals

FEELING LIKE SUPERMAN

WHEN WE TRANSFORM FROM EVERYDAY PROGRAMMING TO SUMMER CAMP!
BILL MARTIN, PROGRAM COORDINATOR, NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP

AS A PARK AND RECREATION PROFESSIONAL, I MEASURE MY SUCCESS IN SEEING RESIDENTS OUT AND SMILING. I CHERISH EACH MOMENT THAT I SEE A PERSON ATTENDING AN EVENT, PARTICIPATING IN A REC PROGRAM, OR ENJOYING OUR LOCAL PARKS

JHANE KUNKEL, PARKS DIRECTOR, EAST HANOVER TOWNSHIP

IT IS IN PARKS WHERE I’VE DEVELOPED MY STRENGTH AND DEEPENED MY UNDERSTANDING OF MYSELF, MY WORLD, AND THOSE WITH WHOM I SHARE IT.

KEELEY TESLIK
MARKETING ASSOCIATE, PITTSBURGH PARKS CONSERVANCY
Being well, having fun, and strengthening our communities are some of the ways that local parks and recreation enhance the lives of all Pennsylvanians. It’s good for you. It’s good for all. We welcome you to start finding some good of your own. Use our site to stay connected and to find local parks in PA.
#ParkandRecDay

Tag PRPS and Good for PA in your posts!

Follow:

Facebook: @PARecandPark
@GoodforPA

Twitter: @PA_Rec_and_Park
@GoodForPA

Instagram: @paparkrec
@goodforpa
Press coverage

Give it up for PA’s park and recreation professionals

Thank those who keep parks safe

Celebrating public park professionals (letter)

THREE CHEERS FOR PARKS AND RECREATION
Park & Recreation Professionals Day highlights the importance of those behind-the-scenes individuals that enrich the lives of their communities.