2019 OPRA Awards of Excellence Winners

Category 1: Capital Improvement Projects - Up to $1.0 Million
1st Place  Stark County Park District  |  Mindfulness Walk
2nd Place  Ohio State Parks & Watercraft  |  Rocky Fork Fishing Pier
3rd Place  Metroparks Toledo  |  Beach Ridge Singletrack Trail Experience

Category 2: Capital Improvement Projects - $1.0 Million to $2.5 Million
1st Place  Gahanna Parks & Recreation  |  Big Walnut Trail #4/McKenna Creek Restoration
2nd Place  Geauga Park District  |  Holbrook Hollows
3rd Place  Ohio State Parks & Watercraft  |  Catawba Boat Launch Facility

Category 3: Capital Improvement Projects - $2.5 Million and Up
1st Place  Ohio State Parks & Watercraft  |  Hocking Hills Visitor Center
2nd Place  Oxford Parks & Recreation  |  Oxford Aquatic Center
3rd Place  Ohio State Parks & Watercraft  |  Buckeye Lake Multi-Purpose Path

Category 4: Programs - Special Event
1st Place  Summit Metro Parks  |  Promises in the Park - A Wedding Event
2nd Place  Metroparks Toledo  |  Wintering the Towpath
3rd Place  Reynoldsburg Parks & Recreation  |  Reynoldsburg Tomato Festival

Category 5: Programs - Historical & Cultural Arts
1st Place  Kettering Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts  |  Bee Ambitious Sidewalk Public Art
2nd Place  Miamisburg Parks & Recreation  |  Harmony in the Park
3rd Place  Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District  |  Pleasant Hill Lake History

Category 6: Programs - Environmental & Interpretive
1st Place  Five Rivers MetroParks  |  Fishing Line Recycling Program
2nd Place  Great Parks of Hamilton County  |  Holiday Lights Recycling
3rd Place  Summit Metro Parks  |  Summit Lake Nature Club

Category 7: Programs - Health & Wellness
1st Place  Five Rivers MetroParks  |  2nd Street Market/Homefull Partnership
2nd Place  Miami County Park District  |  Children's Rx for Nature
3rd Place  Metroparks Toledo  |  Metroparks Forest Therapy

Category 8: Programs - Sports
1st Place  Middleburg Heights Community Center  |  Warrior Week/Clash of the Heightans
2nd Place  Worthington Parks and Recreation  |  Pickleball Finds a Permanent Home in Worthington
3rd Place  Columbus Recreation and Parks  |  Cleveland Browns Free Football Clinic

Category 9: Programs - Adaptive
1st Place  Solon Recreation Department  |  Boxing Buddies - Solon Blue Ribbon Adapted Recreation
2nd Place  Summit Metro Parks  |  Autism Friendly Touch-A-Truck
3rd Place  Washington Township Recreation Department  |  Sensory-Friendly Performance of Disney Frozen Jr.
Category 10: Programs - Recreation
1st Place  Sandusky Recreation Department | Midtown Supper Club
2nd Place  Willoughby Parks & Recreation | 3rd Annual Willoughby Pumpkin Chunkin
3rd Place  Miami County Park District | Date Night Series

Category 11: Law Enforcement
1st Place  Metroparks Toledo | Ranger Department Pursuit of Excellence

Category 12: Natural Resources & Conservation
1st Place  Five Rivers MetroParks | Eastwood MetroPark Tree Sinking
2nd Place  Cleveland Metroparks | Cuyahoga River Revival through Innovation
3rd Place  MetroParks of Butler County | Nature Delivered - Elk Creek MetroPark

Category 13: Marketing Innovation
1st Place  City of Dublin | The Dublin Irish Festival App Fueled by EASE Logistics
2nd Place  Cincinnati Parks | NRPA ‘Game On’ Campaign
3rd Place  Summit Metro Parks | My SMP Adventure

Category 14: Management Innovation
1st Place  City of Dublin | Aquatics Summer Staff Incentive Program
2nd Place  Cincinnati Recreation Commission | Serving Through Licensing
3rd Place  Upper Arlington Parks and Recreation | AEDs in Our Parks

Outstanding Youth Leadership
Owen Troutman  |  New Albany Plain Local Joint Parks District

Outstanding Citizen
The Garg Family  |  Washington Township Recreation Department

Jack Hanna Resource Conservation
Mike Johnson  |  Summit Metro Parks

Harvey Woods Lifetime Achievement
Jonathon Dobney  |  Greene County Parks & Trails

Legislator of the Year
Senator Kirk Schuring

Professionals of the Year
Sergeant Eric Lane, Five Rivers MetroParks
Ranger Kyl Caldwell, Five Rivers MetroParks
Ranger Amanda Chiles, Five Rivers MetroParks
Ranger Rebecca Dieker, Five Rivers MetroParks
Ranger Scott Janicki, Five Rivers MetroParks
Ranger Elyzabeth McDonald, Five Rivers MetroParks
Ranger Cory Reis, Five Rivers MetroParks

Governors Award
Mindfulness Walk  |  Stark County Park District