



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