



2022 Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Awards of Excellence Winners

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

- 1st Place New Albany Parks and Recreation | Miracle League of New Albany
- 2nd Place Norwalk Parks and Recreation | McGuan Park Revitalization Project
- 3rd Place Columbus Recreation and Parks | Livingston Park Playground Reimagined

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

- 1st Place City of North Canton | Possibility Playground at Dogwood Park
- 2nd Place Columbus Recreation and Parks | Uniting the Local Skate Community: Tuttle Park Lower Field Improvement and Skatepark
- 3rd Place Geauga Park District | Veterans Legacy Woods: Phase I

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

- 1st Place Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks | Quarry Trails Metro Park
- 2nd Place Mill Creek MetroParks | Ford Nature Center Redevelopment
- 3rd Place Great Parks of Hamilton County | Beechmont Bridge Connector Trail

Category 4: Management Innovation

- 1st Place Kettering Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts | Partners for Healthy Youth: We Are Kettering Project
- 2nd Place City of Toledo | Engaging Youth Through Community Partners
- 3rd Place Ohio State Parks and Watercraft | Ohio State Parks and Watercraft Assistant Park Manager Academy

Category 5: Marketing Innovation

- 1st Place Summit Metro Parks | Your Back Yard for 100 Years: The Summit Metro Parks Centennial Campaign
- 2nd Place Hilliard Recreation & Parks | The Path to Possibilities (Issue 22 Income Tax Campaign)
- 3rd Place Cleveland Metroparks | Cleveland Metroparks Zoo TikTok

Category 6: Natural Resources & Conservation

- 1st Place Metroparks Toledo | Howard Marsh Metropark Phase 2
- 2nd Place Cincinnati Park Board | Walnut Woods of Evanston Park
- 3rd Place City of Toledo | Penn 7 Wetland Restoration

Category 7: Adaptive Programs & Events

- 1st Place Beaver Creek Parks, Recreation & Culture | Beaver Creek Senior Center Transportation Service
- 2nd Place Stark County Park District | Stark Parks iCount
- 3rd Place City of Cuyahoga Falls | Adapted Program Expansion with All-Abilities Summer Camp

Category 8: Environmental & Interpretive Programs & Events

- 1st Place Erie MetroParks | Erie MetroParks Nature on Wheels
- 2nd Place Summit Metro Parks | Fighting Species Extinction with Wild Back Yards
- 3rd Place Cleveland Metroparks | Kid's Nature Lunch & Learn

Category 9: Health & Wellness Programs & Events

- 1st Place Medina County Park District | Medina County Food Distribution Partnership
- 2nd Place Grove City Parks and Recreation | Grove City Community Garden
- 3rd Place City of Toledo | Let's Get Moving Toledo

Category 10: Historical & Cultural Arts Programs & Events

- 1st Place Upper Arlington Parks and Recreation | Arts on Arlington
- 2nd Place Hilliard Recreation & Parks | "I have a Heart for Service"
- 3rd Place Ohio State Parks and Watercraft | Ash Cave Filled With Music

Category 11: Law Enforcement Programs & Events

- 1st Place Five Rivers MetroParks | Explorer to Ranger Progression
- 2nd Place Kettering Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts | My Park Campaign
- 3rd Place City of Powell | Badges & Buckets Basketball Camp

Category 12: Recreation Programs & Events

- 1st Place Metroparks Toledo | Glow-Tacular
- 2nd Place Columbus Recreation and Parks | Girls Empowerment Day
- 3rd Place Summit Metro Parks | Camping for All

Category 13: Sports Programs & Events

- 1st Place Columbus Recreation and Parks | Teaching Life Skills Through Sports
- 2nd Place Cincinnati Recreation Commission | Hoop it Up with Skills & Drills
- 3rd Place Mill Creek MetroParks | PGA Hope Program

Outstanding Youth Leadership

Christopher Kobs | Hilliard Recreation & Parks

Outstanding Citizen

Bob and Vicki Darden | Beaver Creek Parks, Recreation & Culture

Jack Hanna Resource Conservation

LaRae Sprow | Metroparks Toledo

Public Official of the Year

Governor Mike DeWine

Harvey Woods Lifetime Achievement

Rebecca Benná | Five Rivers MetroParks

Professional of the Year

Amanda Morris | Marysville Parks & Recreation

OPRA Hall of Fame

Kevin Haver | Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District

Governors Award

City of North Canton | Possibility Playground at Dogwood Park