



Ideas and Topics for 2024 Soaring to New Heights Conference

Top 10 suggestions from 2023 conference attendees:

- Crisis management
- Emerging/Trending programs
- Advanced IT solutions
- Event planning - planning, vendors, ticketing, efficient use of space, adult vs kid focused events
- Mental health and wellness awareness and action items; managing burnout
- Physical accessibility for people w/ disabilities
- Support for administrative specialists
- Grant programming for park and rec agencies
- Survey best practices
- Legislative updates

Additional Topic Suggestions from 2023 conference attendees:

- Employee assistance program
- Social media policy
- Effective delegation
- Graphic design
- Conflict resolution
- Time management
- Staff recognition programs
- Leading those above you; coaching up
- Succession planning
- Early childhood planning
- HVAC replacement schedules
- Facilitating group interviews
- Golf course/ice area management and maintenance
- Diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging; agency equity audits
- Planning for a referendum; lessons learned from a failed referendum
- Working with volunteers/contracted groups
- SRA best practices; employing people with disabilities
- Onboarding staff; higher staff engagement
- Transitioning to Executive Director; a day in the life of an Executive Director
- New and emerging sports
- Workflow management
- Intergovernmental agreements with school districts
- Summer camp staff training ideas
- CPRP exam preparation

- Green infrastructure and clean energy; sustainability
- Customer service
- Senior programming ideas
- Generations working together – implementation and best practices
- Facility rentals
- Basic data analysis
- Age-ism in the work place
- Career pathways; advancing in parks and recreation
- Sports-related topics
- Preparing a tax levy
- Performance review content; effective coaching tools for poor performers
- Cultural arts programming
- Playground inspections
- Synthetic turf maintenance
- Programming and topics geared toward smaller park districts
- Tree equity
- Fillings required by local government
- OSHA
- Safety Inspection best practices
- Aquatic sessions
- Resume building/writing
- RecTrac; ActiveNet
- Fitness program management
- Gymnastics/tennis administration
- Comprehensive master planning; strategic plan development
- Bidding 101
- Staff disciplinary actions/procedures