



WVRPA AWARDS & GUIDELINES

The following awards are being offered by the WVRPA for outstanding accomplishments under qualifications, rules and procedures listed herewith. Please read the list of available awards and submit any nominations you may have to the Awards Committee contact listed below by Sept. 21, 2025

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General Guidelines for All Nominations

1. The person placing the nomination before the Awards Committee shall be prepared to appear before the committee in order to answer any questions that members of the committee may have, and to supply any additional information that may be pertinent to the nomination but not included in the nominating materials.
2. Nominating documents for the awards shall be displayed at the annual conference, so format, design and presentation must be considered in this light. Nominating documents must be submitted in the appropriate protective binders.
3. All nominating documents will become the property of the WVRPA. In all likelihood, the materials will be returned, but as they are scheduled for display at the conference, the WVRPA cannot guarantee their return in the same condition as they were received.
4. All nominations must be submitted by a member of the WVRPA.
5. Nominees do not have to be members of the WVRPA, unless stipulated in the qualifications
6. A park, recreation or leisure service agency in West Virginia may nominate one of its own employees, programs, areas or facilities for an award.
7. An investigation committee composed of two members with the closest proximity to the agency that has been nominated for a program or a facility award must visit and make an evaluation, in writing, and report back to the full committee.
8. All nominations must be received by the chairperson of the Awards Committee by no later than September 1st.

Format for Nominating Documents

Include as many of the following criteria you feel necessary to showcase the impact of your nominee

Section I: A letter of presentation that identifies the nominee, the award being requested, a contact person for the Awards Committee to interview and a person to present the award if the nominee is selected.

Section II: Narrative materials that describe and "sell" the worthiness of the nominee or the award. Each element of the awards criteria must be fully addressed in this section.

Section III: Letters or documents of support for the nominee from various segments of the community.

Section IV: As appropriate, either a biographical sketch of the person or a chronology of the development of the program, area, facility, etc.

Section V: Supporting documentation such as press releases, brochures, photographs, architectural drawings and other visuals. (This is especially encouraged in the facilities category)

Limitation of Awards

It is to be understood that any or all of the awards offered by the WVRPA may or may not be given in any particular year. Unless obvious justification can be made for the presentation of an award, no award will be given, as to do so would reduce the prestige on the part of the previous recipients.

WVRPA Awards

The Awards Committee of the WVRPA is now accepting nominations for the awards listed on the following page.



AWARDS

John G. Scherlacher Fellow Award

Qualifications: Professional members of the WVRPA with at least 10 years of experience in the leisure service delivery system with at least 5 years of service with the WVRPA. The nominee must have demonstrated willingness to assume leadership within our organization. This is the highest award that can be given to a professional in the state of West Virginia by the WVRPA.

Austin C. Palmer Outstanding Facility Award

Qualifications: Outstanding facilities serving a large segment of a geographic area that are aesthetically pleasing, evidence of sound design, programmed to maximum potential and in operation for at least one year.

Richard P. Sebastian Leadership Award

Qualifications: Active membership in the WVRPA, nominees must be under 30 years of age or younger by January 1st of the current year, and nominees should exhibit qualities of ambition, creativity, dedication to the recreation profession and be cooperative, hardworking and loyal in nature.

Special Citation to a Citizen/Board Member

Qualifications: Nominee should have made significant contributions to the parks, recreation or leisure service field, exhibit a firm understanding of and commitment towards providing quality leisure services and exhibit a significant contribution to the leisure service delivery at the regional or state-wide level.

Eugene M. Fuller Program Award

Qualifications: Nominees must provide evidence of outstanding programming of superior quality in promoting activities that are traditionally associated with park, recreation and leisure services or in developing innovative programming ideas.

Legislative Award

Qualifications: Any member of the Senate or House of Delegates in the State of West Virginia or from the State of West Virginia with a firm understanding of the need of, and commitment toward, providing quality leisure services.

Presidential Citation

Qualifications: Presented by the President of the WVRPA to anyone making an outstanding contribution to the field of parks and recreation above and beyond the normal duties of their profession, involvement on the national or statewide level in improving the overall park and recreation services.

James L. McClelland Public Parks and Recreation Facility Award

Qualifications: Exceptional park and recreation areas, spaces or facilities, with emphasis placed on design, creativity, environmental adaptability, function, usage, and community and where applicable, inter-agency involvement in planning.