



# FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927 • Fairfax, VA 22035-5500  
703-324-8700 • Fax: 703-324-3974 • [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks)

## Information Release

Judy Pedersen, PIO

November 13, 2015

E-mail: [parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov)

IR-114

Inquiries: 703-324-8662

### Renovation, Special Events and Volunteers Honored

## Fairfax County Park Authority Wins Three VRPS Awards

The Fairfax County Park Authority has been honored with three awards from the Virginia Recreation and Park Society (VRPS). At its recent 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference in Virginia Beach, VRPS presented the Park Authority with awards for renovation, special events and volunteerism.

“We are happy to see our efforts being recognized on a statewide level,” said Kirk Kincannon, FCPA Director. “The Park Authority has worked hard in the past year to provide the kinds of facilities, events and personnel that enhance the parks system for residents of Fairfax County. Both staff and volunteers at this agency perform consistently at the highest levels and I am very proud of these accomplishments.”

Oak Marr RECenter received honors for the Best New Renovation/Addition (Brick and Mortar) for areas with a population greater than 100,000. The renovation project included an updated lobby and administration area, a new entrance to improve facility access and security and a two-story, 5,500 square-foot fitness center with state-of-the-art equipment. Earlier this year, the project received a 2015 Fairfax County Exceptional Design Honor Award for recreational design excellence. Find out more about this facility at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/oakmarr/>

Pirate Fest was honored in the category of Best New Special Event. Pirate Fest was a nautical-themed family festival with programs targeted to adults and families with elementary and preschool children. The one-day celebration of Virginia’s seafaring past allowed aspiring pirates to hoist sails, tie knots and search for treasure at Lake Fairfax Park. The event’s wide-ranging topics educated county residents about local history and the treasures of Fairfax County in an entertaining manner. Stay tuned for a repeat performance of this popular festival in 2016.

Bob Dinse was recognized by VRPS as a Distinguished Volunteer. Dinse monitors trails for safety and erosion problems at Hidden Oaks Nature Center in Annandale, Virginia. He has also helped enhance the appearance of the center by with native plantings, the installation of a wood chip path and new fencing. In addition, Dinse gives time to the Park Authority’s Invasive Management Program (IMA), where he serves as a site leader at Annandale’s Mason District Park.

VRPS is a private, non-profit professional organization, founded in 1953. Its purpose is to unite all professionals, students, and interested lay persons engaged in the field of recreation, parks and other leisure services in Virginia.

For more information, please contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.



If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354.

###