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MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM CONTINUES ITS NATIONAL ACCREDITATION



PICTURED – (l to r) Board of Recreation Commissioners Chair Fred J. Rummel, Freeholder Director and Park System Liaison Lillian G. Burry, and Park System Secretary-Director James J. Truncer

LINCROFT– On Monday, November 17, the Monmouth County Board of Recreation Commissioners received the good news that the Monmouth County Park System had once again earned accreditation through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) and the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). The Monmouth County Park System has been continuously accredited since 1994. This latest accreditation was awarded during the 2014 NRPA Congress and Exposition.

CAPRA accreditation is the only national accreditation for park and recreation agencies, and is a measure of an agency's overall quality of operation, management and service to the

community. This mark of distinction indicates that an agency has met rigorous standards related to the management and administration of lands, facilities, resources, programs, safety and services.

As part of the accreditation process, the Monmouth County Park System had to demonstrate compliance with 144 recognized standards and document all policies and procedures. Often the process helps identify efficiencies and heighten areas of accountability, all of which translate into higher quality service and operation to benefit the community.

“We are very pleased that we can offer a premiere Park System to the residents of Monmouth County and rank among the best in the country,” said Freeholder Director Lillian G. Burry. “My fellow Freeholders and I wish to recognize the work of the Board of Recreation Commissioners and the Park System Staff for their dedication and high standard of excellence.”

The process for accreditation involves self-assessments, a formal application, a site visit by a team of trained visitors that results in a written report, and a hearing with the commission to grant accreditation. Once accredited, the agency must uphold the standards and is reviewed again in five years.

The Commission is comprised of representatives from NRPA, the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration, the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials, the International City/County Management Association, the American Association for Physical Activity and Recreation, the Armed Forces Recreation Society, and the Council of State Executive Directors.

For more information about CAPRA accreditation, visit www.nrpa.org/CAPRA. The National Recreation and Park Association is a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing park, recreation and conservation efforts that enhance quality of life for all people. Through its network of 40,000 recreation and park professionals and citizens, NRPA encourages the promotion of healthy and active lifestyles, conservation initiatives and equitable access to parks and public space. For more information, visit www.NRPA.org.

To learn more about the Monmouth County Park System, please visit www.monmouthcountyparks.com or call the Park System at 732-842-4000. For persons with hearing impairment, the Park System TTY/TDD number is 711. The Monmouth County Park System, created in 1960 by the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, is Monmouth County's Open Space, Parks, and Recreation agency.

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