Thursday, November 12, 2026 Check in 8:30 a.m.

	Recreation (Room: Dogwood)	Parks/Natural Resources (Room: Maple)	Professional Development (Room: Oak)
9:00 - 10:00 AM	**First Responder Camp: Planning, Execution, and Follow-Through (.1 CEU)** *Sergeant Brandon McCrary, St. Louis County Police Outreach Unit* *Officer Brandon Sierra, St. Louis County Police* Learn actionable strategies for building partnerships with local police, fire, and EMS agencies. We will cover curriculum design, hands-on safety training protocols, budget logistics, and community engagement tactics to inspire the next generation of emergency personnel.	**St. Louis County Tree Initiative: Rooted in Resilience (.1 CEU)** *Michael Garrett, St. Louis County Department of Planning* *Jason Pratte, St. Louis County Parks* *Mark Grueber, St. Louis County Parks* The St. Louis County Departments of Planning and Parks and Recreation have been working to develop a county-wide initiative promoting how trees provide lasting community benefits across the region. The project team will share their insights with the audience and discuss opportunities for future growth.	**Developing Your Team (.1 CEU)** *Ali Carson, Movere Coaching, LLC* High-performing teams aren't built on talent alone—they're built on trust. In this session, explore Lencioni's team model, identify trust builders and trust busters, and learn practical strategies to strengthen connection and accountability. Walk away with clear tools to develop stronger, more effective teams.
10:20 - 11:20 AM	**Game-Changing Partnership: How Parks and Recreation and Special Olympics Unify Champions (.1 CEU)** *Penny Williams, Missouri Special Olympics* *Scott Williams, Cape Girardeau Parks & Recreation* Discover how a partnership can create meaningful, inclusive recreational opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities. Learn how collaboration, community support, and a commitment to inclusion turned a trial program into a mutually beneficial partnership that has served athletes and the community for over 30 years.	**From Handshake to Stewardship: Building Sustainable Inter-Agency Partnerships (.1 CEU)** *Tony Fouts, Great Rivers Greenway* Almost every park district struggles with the long-term "who actually mows/maintains this?" question once the ribbon is cut. Join this session to share best practices and learn how to apply a consistent approach to build sustainable inter-agency partnerships.	**Productive Conflict (.1 CEU)** *Ali Carson, Movere Coaching, LLC* Conflict is inevitable—but poor handling erodes trust and performance. In this session, leaders will explore common conflict triggers, understand the escalation cycle, and learn practical tools, including the Thomas-Kilmann model and a five-step resolution process, to address tension early and turn conflict into productive dialogue.
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Lunch & Region Meeting			
1:00 - 2:00 PM	**Branching Out: How Faust Park's Whimsical Woods Came to Life (.1 CEU)** *Andries Alberts, St. Louis County Parks* *Krista Farrow, St. Louis County Parks* Discover how an idea blossomed from a simple observation into an enchanting reality. This presentation explores the creative vision, community effort, and behind-the-scenes milestones that brought this magical, nature-inspired landscape to life.	**Tools for Data Storytelling (.1 CEU)** *Victoria Babb, Cunningham Recreation/ Playcore* In today's data-centric world, community stakeholders are asking parks and rec departments to prove their value through data collection and interpretation. Hear from a data analyst and seasoned fundraiser to identify key tools to capture, understand, and share data.	**Moving from Peer to Leader (.1 CEU)** *Ali Carson, Movere Coaching, LLC* Stepping into leadership over former peers is one of the toughest career shifts. This session provides practical strategies to navigate changing dynamics, establish boundaries, and build credibility—so you can lead former colleagues with clarity, confidence, and trust.
2:20 - 3:20 PM	**Identify the Gaps in Your P&R Programming (.1 CEU)** *Michael Biedenstein, National Recreation & Park Association* Is your agency thriving in sports and fitness programming, but lagging in social or intellectual wellness? This session utilizes NRPA's Seven Dimensions of Well-Being: cultural, economic, environmental, intellectual, mental, physical, and social. We'll work to identify hidden gaps and opportunities to ensure your agency wholistically serves all your community's needs.	**Wheels of Change (.1 CEU)** *Mitchell Fransen, Champaign Park District* Urban Mobility & Parks: "Wheels of Change" examines how micromobility—e-bikes, e-scooters, and similar devices—is reshaping parks and trails by expanding access, equity, and visitation. This session highlights research on inclusion, health, sustainability, and economic benefits, equipping park professionals to integrate micromobility into their planning and sustainability efforts.	**On Trend with Reels (.1 CEU)** *Mandy Alt, Essential Marketing Group* Learn the basics of creating Instagram Reels, from filming to editing to trending audio. We'll break down what's popular right now and how to adapt it to fit your department's voice — so you can create fun, on-brand content without feeling like you're forcing a trend.

3:30 - 5:00 PM: Join us for a networking social at Rosalita's Cantina Des Peres. Beverages will be provided.