



Maggie Martin

**Recreation Events Coordinator
St. Louis County Parks**

I am happy to nominate Maggie Martin for the MPRA Member Spotlight in recognition of her outstanding contributions to St. Louis County Parks over the past two decades. Maggie's journey with the organization began during her high school years, and her dedication and passion for enhancing community spaces have only grown since then. With a diverse background in various positions within the county, Maggie currently serves as the invaluable manager of special events across nearly 70 parks. Her role extends beyond event coordination, as she diligently ensures the efficiency of our call center.

As a tenured employee, Maggie not only exemplifies a wealth of knowledge and expertise but also generously shares her insights to facilitate the seamless functioning of the department. Her commitment to excellence and mentorship sets a commendable standard for all employees, making Maggie Martin a true asset to St. Louis County Parks.

-Alyssa Groeteke
St. Louis County Parks



ABOUT MAGGIE

Hometown: St. Louis, MO

Current Position and Duties?

I am the Recreation Events Coordinator for St. Louis County Parks. I assist not-for-profits and other organizations host large-scale events within the St. Louis County Park system. These events include 5Ks, concerts, car shows, fundraisers, and all sorts of other activities. I also help manage the Parks Call Center. This is mainly used as a reservation line, but I could write a book on the wide range of calls that come in. Everything from "there is bison on the road preventing our car to pass through Lone Elk Park" to "I woke up and there is a peacock in my yard... is Suson Park missing theirs? If not, what do they eat? I don't want it to starve while stuck in my yard!" My favorite duty though is helping out at Winter Wonderland.

How long have you been working in parks and recreation?

Somehow, I have been working for the parks department for 15 years - this is so strange since I am only 29 :)

What are your interests or hobbies?

I have seven- and eight-year-old boys at home, so most of my free time involves them. I help coach soccer, basketball, and am even the baseball bench coach (you know, making sure no one gets hit by a bat in the dugout). When I have downtime, I enjoy traveling with my husband, reading, and playing

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board games. You can also find me in the kitchen trying out new gluten-free baking recipes.

How did you end up working in parks and recreation?

It seems like just yesterday I was in high school looking for a summer gig. I ended up at North County Recreation Complex as their summer cashier. That turned into the winter cashier at the ice rink at NCRC. Fast forward a couple years, and I was the day camp director. I graduated from Missouri State University and after some transfers and promotions I ended up where I am now.

What do you love about working in parks and recreation?

I love being able to help others obtain their goals. I work with a number of small not-for-profits trying out their fundraisers for the first time, and seasoned organizers trying to revamp their events. Each event has its own goal and I enjoy making that a reality. I also like the fact that each work day is different. Variety is the spice of life!

What advice do you have for future parks and recreation professionals?

Don't be afraid to make mistakes. Everyone makes them, but it shows that you are trying. Own up to it and learn from it. When you make the really bad ones, you tend to do it only once as it makes a giant impression. When it has been resolved, try to get a good night's rest, put it in the rear-view mirror, and prove yourself the next day.