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Clayton County Board of Commissioners



PRESS RELEASE

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Clayton County Parks and Recreation Earns National Park Accreditation

Clayton County is the only county with an accredited program in the state of Georgia

Jonesboro, GA– The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recently announced that Clayton County Parks and Recreation became one of only 104 park and recreation agencies nation-wide accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) in 2011. This distinguished accomplishment was announced during the NRPA 2011 Annual Conference that was held in Atlanta, Georgia.

“By successfully completing the CAPRA accreditation process, these agencies have proven their ability to provide the highest level services and programs. NRPA truly commends our 2011 accredited agencies for their overall excellence in serving their communities and contributing to the health and vitality of America” said Barbara Tulipane, CEO of NRPA.

National accreditation through CAPRA is an extensive multi-year process, which includes the completion of an application and detailed self-assessment report, a site visit by a committee of experienced park and recreation professionals, and a final assessment completed by the agency and the Commission. Accreditation requires agencies to respond to 144 standards representing elements of effective and efficient park and recreation operations. To become accredited, agencies must fully meet 36 standards deemed fundamental to a quality agency and at least 92 of the remaining standards.

"The Board of Commissioners and Clayton County Parks and Recreation Department are honored to have received this national accreditation from CAPRA. For over two years my staff worked diligently to ensure that the necessary documentation needed by the review committee was at their disposal" said Detrick Stanford, Director of Clayton County Parks and Recreation. "However, this honor must also be shared with the many departments in the county that provided support documentation throughout the process. Without their cooperation we would not hold the distinct honor and privilege of being the 6th municipality in the state and the only county in the state of Georgia with an accredited Parks and Recreation program." CAPRA accreditation is the only national accreditation for park and recreation agencies, and measures an agency's overall quality of operation, management and service to the community. Accreditation is valid for a period of 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.

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