

Tours

Friday, September 20th

It's Not All About Swings and Slides - Landscape Architects Making a Difference in the Parks and Recreation Planning, Design, and Development Division

3 CEU | Speaker: Chad Morris, PLA - Planning Design & Development Administrator, City of Virginia Beach, VA

There's much more to Parks and Recreation than just swings and slides! Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation manages athletic complexes, special use facilities, water access sites, active transportation, open space, recreation centers, and of course, parks, of every shape and size! This session and tour examines the responsibilities of Parks and Recreation landscape architects and planners in a government agency as they engage stakeholders and create sustainable infrastructure while working in an open office environment.

The tour consists of the Parks and Recreation Administration Building (constructed in 2018) and showcases some of the exciting work being done in the Planning, Design and Development Division. Then the participants will visit the Bow Creek Community Recreation Center (constructed in 2015) as well as learn about the future of the Bow Creek Golf Course as a resilient solution to flooding in the Princess Anne Plaza area of the City. Participants will tour award winning LEED certified facilities including and learn the importance of sustainable design, long-term stormwater solutions using recreational amenities, collaboration, and partnerships from the perspective of landscape architects and planners who serve the public of a four time nationally accredited agency (CAPRA). A variety of creative projects that have been recently completed or are in the pipeline will be shared by a team of talented professionals.



Chad Morris is a Professional Landscape Architect for Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation who leads the Planning, Design & Development Division consisting of landscape architects and planners who create quality, safe, and sustainable recreational facilities throughout the City. He is responsible for the financial management and coordination of the planning, design and construction of projects at seven recreation centers and hundreds of sites, including parks, trails, special use facilities, athletic complexes, water access sites, open space preservation areas, and golf courses.

He is a proven leader in strategic planning and capital improvement projects related to Parks and Recreation. His ability to balance creative problem solving with a common sense approach delivers high quality facilities and services to the citizens of Virginia Beach.

Chad Morris has 20 years design and management experience working in the private and public sector and holds a BS in landscape architecture from West Virginia University.

