

3rd Annual  
**SUMMER OPERATIONAL  
FORUM**

Jubilee Pavilion, Lakeview Park • Oshawa, Ontario  
Wednesday, June 24, 2009



*Register now!*

**PARKS AND OPEN SPACE  
ALLIANCE**



The Ontario Recreation Facilities Association, the Sports Turf Association and the Ontario Parks Association are working in collaboration as the Parks and Open Space Alliance to once again celebrate “June is Recreation and Parks Month” by offering a professional development opportunity for our collective memberships. Topics have been selected by each organization for the Summer Operational Forum based on past inquiries and emerging issues that are affecting our sector.

It is important to note that the Occupational Health and Safety Act defines required competency for all workers as:

*(a) qualified because of knowledge, training and experience to organize the work and its performance; (b) familiar with this Act and the regulations that apply to the work, and; (c) has knowledge of any potential or actual danger to health or safety in the workplace; (“personne compétente”)*

With this definition in mind, this year’s Summer Operational Forum has been designed to assist those who work or supervise workers in a park or open space environment stay current with industry related issues, while at the same time helping to maintain existing level of competencies.

## **PARKS AND OPEN SPACE A L L I A N C E**



### **MISSION**

is a coalition dedicated to strengthening parks and open space practitioners through professional development, recognition and advocacy

### **VALUES**

#### ***Professional Development***

- provides education and resources that meets industry needs.

#### ***Recognition***

- acknowledges professional competency.

#### ***Advocacy***

- supports and represents leadership within the profession.



## FORUM AT A GLANCE

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### OUTDOOR SESSIONS/INDOOR SESSIONS

- 8:30 am Ontario Cosmetic Pesticides Ban
- 9:15 am Flowering Shrubs for Ontario Parks
- 10:30 am Understanding Security Needs and Regulations
- 12:30 pm Beach Maintenance Best Practices
- 12:30 pm Understanding Your Parks Budget
- 1:45 pm Soccer Pitch Maintenance Best Practices
- 1:30 pm Using Scuba Divers For The Simplest Task Can Place You at Risk!

### 2009 SUMMER OPERATIONAL FORUM AGENDA

**7:15 – 8:00 am Exhibitor Set Up**

**8:00 – 8:30 am Registration and refreshments with exhibitors**

**8:30 – 9:15 am Ontario Cosmetic Pesticides Ban – STA (INDOOR)**

There's a new game in town...know the limit, work within it!

The Cosmetic Pesticides Ban Act, 2008

In this session Violet van Wassenaer, Pesticides Regulatory Scientist/Ontario Ministry of the Environment, will update us on the Cosmetic Pesticides Ban Act, 2008. Learn what, where, when, and how pesticides can be used under the new ban.

Pam Charbonneau, Turfgrass Specialist/Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, will outline a holistic approach using cultural best practices and the use of allowed pesticides to maximize turf quality and minimize pest damage.

**9:15 – 10:00 am Flowering Shrubs for Ontario Parks - OPA (INDOOR)**

Your municipal park gardens need hardy perennials that will provide interest and colour but still thrive with minimal maintenance. Flowering shrubs are a staple that can provide glorious colour for a week or two, while bringing benefits to your parks with the year-round aesthetic value of their unique bark, fruit, fall colour or shape. This illustrated presentation explores the range of flowering shrubs appropriate for Ontario parks along with tips for their selection, placement and cultural requirements.

**10:00 am Break with Exhibitors**

**10:30 – 11:30 am Understanding Security Needs and Regulations – ORFA (INDOOR)**

Securing Public Events Has Never Been So Important!

Ontario's parks and open spaces often hold significant community events that require security to be in place. The increased responsibilities when alcohol is served in these same environments has once again been drawn to the forefront with the charges laid against 16 workers at a Muskoka golf course. This workshop will investigate the changes to the Security Guard Act that recently came into effect as well as the necessity for all recreation practitioners to revisit their own Municipal Alcohol Policies to ensure that internally you are being compliant to these in-house requirements – that often increase the obligations of the Liquor License Act.

**11:30 – 12:30 pm Lunch with Exhibitors**

**12:30 – 1:30 pm Beach Maintenance Best Practices - OPA (OUTDOOR)**

Top Ten Beach Maintenance Tips

Public and community beaches must be maintained to uphold the recreational features they offer, but such activities can potentially result in negative impacts to the natural habitats. This session will share some best practices in basic beach and waterfront maintenance including weed and waste management techniques that comply with the measures set out in the Fisheries Act. Instruction will cover topics such as preventing erosion, adding new material, removing vegetation, maintaining safety standards and protecting wildlife.

**12:30 – 1:30 pm Understanding Your Parks Budget - OPA (INDOOR)**

Being Creative Within Budget Limitations

Budget constraint will be the watchword for all future municipal operations. What can you do with your parks budget when the directive is to cut, limit and under no circumstances overspend? Some imagination and innovation can create new opportunities and fresh approaches that will overcome many budget limitations. In this panel discussion, our speakers will share real world examples of creativity and accomplishment in managing resources including utilization of the best practices reviews from the Municipal Performance Measures Program.

**1:45 – 2:45 pm Soccer Pitch Maintenance Best Practices - STA (OUTDOOR)**

When do you core? When do you slice? Do you always have to topdress when you overseed? Is there something I should not do when it's dry? Are there actions I can take to assist with draining surface water? Should I rest the field? For how long? When? How will temperature effect fertilizing?

These and other cultural practices will be demonstrated to initiate an interactive discussion and sharing of ideas among turf professionals. Bring your questions, suggestions, ideas, and experience!

**1:30 – 2:30 pm Using Scuba Divers For The Simplest Task Can Place You at Risk! - ORFA (INDOOR)**

Many Ontario municipal parks and recreation departments are often responsible for marina operations as part of their portfolio. At times, work must be conducted in the water that requires scuba divers. This workshop will take a close look at the pitfalls related to not being completely up to date on the strict obligations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act when conducting work underwater.

**2009 Summer Operational Forum Map, Directions and Optional Accommodations**

**Jubilee Pavilion, Lakeview Park**

55 Lakeview Park Avenue, ON L1H 8S7

**SUGGESTED ACCOMMODATION**

Holiday Inn Oshawa 1011 Bloor St. East L1H 7K6 • 800-356-3584

