

2026 PRI Class Overview

Networking & Team Building: we will introduce the group to exercises that will promote teambuilding and comradery between different work groups. Session I & II

Utilizing Ambassador Animals in Programming:

Enhancing Park Patrol and Community Outreach Through

Mounted Patrol Operations: Mounted patrol operations can greatly enhance park patrol efforts and foster community engagement. This class will cover both agency-owned and volunteer-mounted trail patrol programs.: Session I

Snakes, How Too's & How Not Too's: Your patrons encounter a snake on the trail or in the park. This class will teach safe techniques on how to relocate the snake there by creating an opportunity to emphasis their importance to a healthy eco-system.: Session I

Trail Design & Maintenance with a practical at Grandfather Mountain Trails: Session I

Starting an Archery Program: This class will go over the logistics involved in starting an archery program. Site selection, types of necessary equipment that is needed, how to market your program to different user groups.: Session I & II

The 4th Amendment and How it Applies to Tents & RV's: Course will address motor vehicle exceptions, definitions of a motor vehicle, probable cause, curtilage, apparent mobility, tents, expectations of privacy and related case law. Very applicable to parks with homeless populations and campgrounds: Session I & II

Finance/FEMA Reimbursement Information: Even though you might not be the person responsible for the FEMA paperwork, you still need to know what types of things to document for that person in order to make the reporting process cleaner and timelier: Session I

Bird Song I.D.: Session I

Birding Hike: Session I & II

Crisis and Deaths in Parks: How to handle these types of situations when they arise. Does your agency have a protocol? Session I & II

Introduction to Full Range Leadership: Leadership models have drastically changed over the past several years. Learn techniques and styles for today's working environment.: Session I & II

Fly Fishing Techniques: Session I

Cultural Awareness/Cultural Competency: Things to be covered, Why does cultural diversity matter? Cultural values and Norms, Common misunderstandings/barriers to positive interactions, Community engagement strategies, 21st Century Policing, and Officer Safety and ethical policing: Session I

Dealing with People in Crisis: Session I

Capacity Issues-Are We Loving Our Parks Too Much? This will be an overview of capacity related issues in parks and dive into a case study using reservations as a solution: Session I & II

Building a Constituency for Your Park System: When budgets get tight, which department gets cut first? Different programs will be presented to elicit community support for your agency: Session I & II

Environmental Education: Our Path to Stewardship: This class will discuss Conservation, Preservation, Education, Rescue & Rehabilitation: Session I

High Adventure Programming: The trend towards high risk & adventure programs are continuing to grow. They are replacing traditional obstacle courses and are used by major corporations for team building exercises followed by a 2 hr. Zip Line Tour that afternoon; Session I

Grandfather Mountain Tour: See what Grandfather Mountain (one of NC's oldest tourist attractions) is doing along the lines of Conservation, Education, and Stewardship: Session I

Developing Programs Around Big Foot & Other Cryptids: Session I & Session II

Personal Finance: You may think retirement is a long way away, but you can't prepare too early. Are your finances enough for you to survive after retirement? Session I

Customer Service: The importance Session I & II

Learn the Night Sky: an Astronomy program: Session I & II

Outdoor Safety- Plants and Animals to be Aware of for Staying Safe in the Outdoors: Session I & II

Human Trafficking: Session I

Park Ranger Division Development: Logistics involved in starting a park Ranger Program, Selling the Administration on the idea: Session I

Dealing With Invasive Animals & Plants: Session I & II

Civilian Response to an Active Shooter: Do you know what to do if this were to happen in your park or recreation facility? Session I

Park Patrol Techniques for Non-Sworn Rangers: Session I

Developing Campfire Stories: How to develop stories based on myths and tall tales prevalent in your area: Session II

Dealing with Veterans in Crisis: This program will be led by staff from the U.S. department of Veterans Affairs. Focusing on dealing with veterans experiencing homelessness and issues involving the justice system. The goal is to provide outreach and proper services to veterans: Session II

Waterfowl I.D.: Session II

Round Table Discussion: Dealing with current issues people are experiencing and how they are dealing with them.: Session II

The Importance of Being Involved in The Planning Process: You need to have some say in the parks and facilities you are responsible for managing. Class will include an exercise where you get to design your ideal park: Session II

Dealing with Large Mammals: Bears, Deer, Elk, Cougars, etc. will be discussed: Session II

Things That Go Bump in The Night: When night falls the environment totally changes. Are you ready for what you might encounter? Session II

Vehicle Left in the Park-A first Responders Role: Whether you are sworn or non-sworn you have certain responsibilities and procedures that need to be followed; Session II

Autism and IDD Training for First Responders: Focuses on de-escalation strategies and is conducted through lecture, interactive learning and video base scenarios: Session II

The Benefits of Using Drones in Your Parks: Session II

Sworn vs. Non-Sworn Issues: explanation at the bottom of the Session II Agenda

TRIPS

Session I

Linville Caverns: Guide Tours leave every 10 minutes. Due to limited air flow inside the cavern, masks are recommended for immune compromised visitors. The fee is \$14, \$13 for seniors 62+. This is NC's only Show Cavern. Closes at 6pm

Mast General Store: The store survives on 3 principles: Sustainability, Environmental Impact, and Community. The store has 10 locations in NC, SC, and VA.

Trail Ride: Part II of Mounted Patrol Operations. Maximum of 8 riders, cost is \$75 - Contact Lora Goerlich directly to learn more. *Class participants will have the first opportunity to ride.*

Sun Valley Zip Line: This is 2hr. Zip Line adventure in the mountains around Boone. The \$50 fee is half price for our group.

Grandfather Mountain Attraction: John Caveny is waving the \$14 fee for our group. I encourage everyone to donate to help support their programs.

Session II

Indian River Lifesaving Station Tour: Built in 1876 by the US Lifesaving Service to respond to shipwrecks that occurred on US coastlines. The Lifesaving Station and museum honors courageous sailors and their heroic deeds. Donations are appreciated.

Cultural Resources Field Trip: A trip to a local historic site. Instruction will be provided in conducting archeological site work including digging test pits, screening and processing artifacts.

Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge: This evening trip is designed to watch the sunset and observe wildlife as the sun sets. Once the sun sets the refuge comes alive with the sounds of the night. This will be a good year to observe the elaborate American Woodcock courtship display flight.

Fort Miles Trip: An extensive tour of the Fort Miles Museum and Historical Area, a World War II Coastal Defense site. Tour will include the restored underground bunker Battery 519; an Artillery Park Walk and buildings in the historical area.

Cape Henlopen Birding Trip: A birding excursion around Cape Henlopen State Park. Led by the Nature Center Manager and accomplished birder Richard Julian.

