

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACTS

Sarah Lowry Zack Svette
slowry@cfmv.org zsvette@trumbullmetroparks.org
330-743-5555 330-675-3072

September 14, 2022

Inaugural Mahoning Valley Park Professionals Leadership Summit Set for October 14

Youngstown, OHIO - Parks and recreation professionals, community partners, and elected officials are invited to the inaugural Mahoning Valley Parks and Recreation Professionals Leadership Summit. The summit is being organized by the Healthy Community Partnership-Mahoning Valley and the Trumbull County Metroparks.

The summit will focus on strengthening relationships between parks and recreation professionals, community partners, and elected officials as well as presenting information about resources to support parks and recreation capital and capacity needs. The event will also provide the opportunity to recognize and celebrate our many incredible local parks.

The Mahoning Valley Parks and Recreation Professionals Leadership Summit will take place on Friday, October 14 from 9 AM-3 PM at Packard Music Hall in Warren, OH. CEUs will be available for Certified Park and Recreation Professional certification.

The day will be divided into two sessions: the morning session will feature Derek Gordon from Stark Parks who will focus on partnerships and parks promotion. The afternoon session will feature a resource roundtable with representatives from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Eastgate Regional Council of Governments, OSU Extension Services, the Youngstown Warren Regional Chamber, the Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley, and more.

The inspiration for this summit arose after numerous conversations with parks and recreation professionals throughout the Mahoning Valley. Parks and recreation professionals expressed the need for resources to expand physical and programmatic impact in our communities. As often is the case, many individuals performing park and recreation related duties have many additional responsibilities they are expected to perform, which strains and limits their ability to manage or grow their parks. Identifying community partners that can offer support for parks and recreation efforts are critical to their sustainability as critical community assets and attractions.

Anyone who has a professional connection to park and recreation responsibilities is invited and encouraged to attend. Community partners and elected officials who share a commitment to investing in parks and recreation opportunities are also valued and encouraged to participate.

Individuals should RSVP by Friday, September 30 by email to info@hcpmahoningvalley.com or by phone to 330-743-5555.

Questions or comments can be directed to Sarah Lowry, Director of the Healthy Community Partnership (slowry@cfmv.org) or Zachary Svette, Executive Director of Trumbull County MetroParks (MPsvette@co.trumbull.oh.us).

The Healthy Community Partnership of the Mahoning Valley is bringing together organizations and individuals who share a commitment to a healthier, more equitable Mahoning Valley and improving health, wellbeing, and health equity for residents in Mahoning and Trumbull Counties. There are three focus areas through which HCP-MV is developing strategies to achieve long-term, sustainable change: Healthy Food Retail, Active Transportation, and Parks and Green Spaces. The generosity of the following funding partners support the efforts of the Partnership: Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley, Western Reserve Health Foundation, the Trumbull Memorial Health Foundation, the William Swanston Charitable Fund, the Mercy Health Foundation Mahoning Valley, and the Frank and Pearl E. Gelbman Foundation.

The mission of the Trumbull County MetroParks is to conserve, manage, protect, and promote Trumbull County's natural resources for the benefit of the public's recreational needs, environmental education, awareness, health, and enjoyment.

###

AT A GLANCE

WHO: Mahoning Valley Park and Recreation Professionals, Community Partners, Local Officials

WHAT: Inaugural Mahoning Valley Park & Recreation Professionals Leadership Summit

WHEN: Friday, October 14 9 AM-3 PM

WHERE: Packard Music Hall, 1703 Mahoning Ave NW, Warren, OH 44483

WHY: The purpose of the Mahoning Valley Park & Recreation Professional Leadership Summit is to strengthen relationships between parks and recreation professionals, community partners, and elected officials as well as presenting information about resources to support parks and recreation capital and capacity needs. The event will also provide the opportunity to recognize and celebrate our many incredible local parks.

###