



PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM
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NEWS RELEASE

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Roanoke County Parks Receives Four State Awards

(ROANOKE COUNTY, Va.) December 9, 2014 – Roanoke County's Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism took home four awards this week at the Virginia Recreation and Park Society's annual conference, held this year at the Homestead Resort. The County was recognized for excellence in special events with an award for the Roanoke Zombie 5k race, as well as excellence in environmental sustainability for "The World Is Not Your Ashtray" public information campaign. The department was also recognized for outstanding promotional efforts including a Green Ridge Recreation Center video production and a facility rental brochure.

Over a hundred applications were received, vying for awards in 14 different categories. Judged by a jury of peers, Roanoke County was among the most awarded organizations this year. According to Parks, Recreation and Tourism Doug Blount, this year's strong showing was a positive reflection on the community. "These awards demonstrate our dedication to improving quality of life by providing engaging recreational opportunities for our citizens. We're proud to offer such a diverse selection of program offerings, and we're proud of the hard working staff and volunteers that make them possible." Awards presented to Roanoke County at the conference include:

Best New Special Event (Population 50,0001-100,000)
ROANOKE ZOMBIE 5K

Best New Environmental Sustainability (Population 50,0001-100,000)
THE WORLD IS NOT YOUR ASHTRAY CAMPAIGN

Best Promotional Effort – Specialty (Population 50,001-100,000)
GREEN RIDGE FUN, FAMILY, FITNESS TV AD

Best Promotional Effort – Traditional (Population 50,001-1000)
FACILITY RENTAL GUIDE

The Virginia Recreation and Park Society is a private, non-profit professional organization, whose mission is to unite all professionals, students, and interested lay persons engaged in the field of recreation, parks, and other leisure services in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Over 1000 delegates from around the state gathered this week at the 50th annual conference, providing an opportunity for recreation and park professionals to discuss areas of common interest. For information about Roanoke County's participation in the conference, contact our office at 387-6078 ext. 0. For information about the Virginia Recreation and Park Society, contact the state office at 804-730-9447, or visit www.vrps.com.