



Sue Landes

Certified Park and Recreation Executive

Sue Landes founded Recreation and Park Solutions to pursue her goal of making public parks and recreation an essential service in Pennsylvania. She has a proven track record as a progressive and innovative thinker who gets things accomplished. Her past experiences working in local government have fueled her passion to help communities provide the best parks and recreation services possible.

Professional Affiliations

- DCNR Peer Consultant
- PRPS Past President, Secretary, State Conference Chair, and District President
- PRPS RecTAP Consultant
- State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Technical Advisory Committee
- National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Council of Affiliate Presidents

Certifications

- NRPA Certified Park and Recreation Executive
- University of Wisconsin Certificate of Excellence in Non-Profit Leadership and Management
- Certified American Sport Education Program Sport Director
- University of Georgia/NRPA Executive Development School
- North Carolina State University/NRPA Revenue Sources Management School
- NRPA Marketing School

Publications

- Community Recreation and Parks
- Recreation and Parks Board Handbook
- Financing Municipal Recreation and Parks
- Multi-Municipal Cooperation for Recreation and Parks
- Hiring Municipal Recreation and Parks Staff
- Municipal Recreation Programming

As the former executive director, Sue managed the operation of the Lancaster Recreation Commission, serving a multi-cultural city/township population of 75,000 with a focus on social equity and health. In 2018, under Sue's leadership, her organization won the coveted Pennsylvania Parks and Recreation Agency of the Year Award.

Sue has significant expertise in recreation programming, youth sports, personnel administration, board development, recreation facility operation and maintenance, public relations and marketing, volunteer management, special event planning, revenue generation, and strategic planning. She specializes in multi-municipal planning and has helped to form 16 regional parks and recreation agencies in Pennsylvania, including recruiting their parks and recreation directors. Sue has authored six municipal technical assistance publications for the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society (PRPS), managed the preparation of the first strategic plan for PRPS, created the RecTAP program, and is a founding member of the Pennsylvania Urban Parks and Recreation Alliance and the Good for You, Good for All Marketing Campaign.

Education

Master of Public Administration, *Pennsylvania State University*
Bachelor of Science, Community Recreation and Parks,
Pennsylvania State University

Experience

- President, Recreation and Parks Solutions: 1990 - present
- Executive Director, Lancaster Recreation Commission: 1987 - 2018
- Recreation Services Coordinator, Chester County Parks and Recreation Department: 1981 - 1987
- Recreation Program Specialist, Westmoreland County Parks and Recreation Department: 1979 - 1981
- Middle School Girls' Basketball Coach, Cocalico and Warwick School Districts: 1998 - 2023

Awards

- YWCA of Lancaster Women of Achievement Award
- Penn State Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Management Outstanding Alumni Award
- Central Penn Business Journal Non-Profit Innovation Award
- PRPS Fred M. Coombs Honor Award
- NRPA Kudos Marketing Award
- PRPS Distinguished Member Award