The Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals (SORP) is proud to present the 2018 National Outdoor Recreation Conference: Building Resilient Communities, Environments and Economies. Outdoor recreation infrastructure and opportunities are now acknowledged as the catalysts for engaging current and future land stewards, building strong local economies, and contributing to a sense of community and belonging. Our location of Vermont provides an ideal location to see how investments in local conservation and outdoor recreation have contributed to a thriving economy and vibrant community.

The Program Committee is seeking examples from around the country that demonstrate how connecting people with the outdoors improves public health, reinvigorates local economies, and instills a life-long commitment to the environment. We are particularly interested in efforts that leverage multiple partners and relationships, and which bring together both recreation and non-recreation professionals on collaborative efforts to enhance and sustain outdoor recreation resources.

We are seeking presentations that provide tangible examples of HOW these relationships can and have occurred across the country and the IMPACTS of these collaborations. Specifically:

- Initiatives that display a depth of integration and cooperation between multiple partners (e.g., public health and recreation, economic development and recreation, community development and recreation, tourism and recreation), which contribute to greater resiliency for all partners, and/or
- Illustrate best practices in community development, recreation planning, growing diverse outdoor recreation participation, and/or economic strategies that benefit outdoor recreation that can be used to guide similar efforts in other locations.

The Program Committee will review and evaluate all proposals on their relevance to the overall conference theme, ability to touch on multiple thematic elements and perspectives, clearly stated learning objectives, and inclusion of practical applications.
Presentation Formats

Proposals should fit one of the presentation formats listed below:

- **Concurrent Sessions:**
  Thirty or 45-minute presentations that present a case study or topic and which allow time for interaction with the audience. The Program Committee will group 30- and 45-minute presentations together based on similar themes to fit within 90-minute concurrent sessions.

- **Panel/Roundtable Discussion:**
  Ninety-minute presentation during which multiple people present or facilitate a discussion or brainstorming session on a specific topic, issue, solution, etc. and which actively provide opportunities for the audience to interact with the presenters.

- **Poster Presentation:**
  Poster that displays a selected research and/or other outdoor recreation-focused project.

- **NORC Talk (similar to TED Talks) – new for 2018!**
  Short, focused presentation that highlights new and innovative ideas, topics, and/or strategies in outdoor recreation. These ideas and topics should have some connection with the theme. These TED Talk-style presentations will adhere to a strict 15-minute maximum time. These will be speaking only opportunities, no slides will be used. Additional information about this style of presentation can be found at the following links:


**Multiple Proposals**

You may submit multiple proposals. However, a separate submission is required for each proposal AND the Program Committee reserves the right to only accept one presentation per submitter.

Meeting rooms will be equipped with a laptop computer, digital projector, screen, and audio system (in the larger rooms). Requests for other equipment will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

**Presenter Expenses**

All conference presenters are expected to register for the conference and pay the conference registration fee. There are no complimentary registrations and registration fees will not be waived. Presenters are also expected to provide their own transportation to/from Burlington, VT, lodging, and meals not provided as part of registered events.
**Review and Selection**

All proposals will be peer-reviewed and selected on the basis of relevance and appropriateness for this conference. Because of the limited number of program times available, not all proposals are guaranteed a place in the schedule. All participants submitting a proposal will be notified regarding of their acceptance by mid-December 2017.

**Conference Information**


**Submittal Procedures**

Please submit proposals electronically using the conference presentation proposal form on [Submittable](https://goo.gl/9AnzUK) by November 7, 2017.

Conference presentation proposals should include:
- Main contact presenter’s name, title, email, phone and mailing address
- Name, title and affiliation of additional presenters or authors, if applicable
- Presentation title (not to exceed 60 characters with spaces)
- Presentation format (concurrent session, panel/roundtable, poster)
- Special equipment requests
- Description/abstract of presentation (200 word maximum)
- Learning objectives (3-5 specific objectives)
- Speaker and other presenter biography (200 word maximum)

**Questions?**

If you have any questions or experience any problems when submitting a proposal, please contact Sergio Capozzi, SORP Conference Coordinator, at sergio.capozzi@recpro.org or (908) 514-8002.