

News Release

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Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation Takes Home Record Number of Awards

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Salt Lake County's <u>Parks & Recreation</u> won a record six awards at the annual Utah Recreation and Parks Association (URPA) conference, including *Outstanding Department for 2013*.

"It's great to see our Parks & Recreation staff recognized for their dedication and hard work," said Mayor Ben McAdams. "Salt Lake County has a Parks & Recreation team that enriches our community through their parks, recreation centers and programs," continued Mayor McAdams.

Parks & Recreation Director Michele Nekota is excited her team is taking home well-deserved awards.

"I am proud of the programs we provide through Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation. The goal of every single program and facility we run is to make Salt Lake County residents' lives better. It's great to be recognized for our excellent programs and hard work," said Nekota. Salt Lake County's Parks & Recreation runs 94 parks, six golf courses and 21 recreation centers throughout Salt Lake County. Their programs, parks and facilities see four million visitors annually. Parks & Recreation is a model for the great regional services Salt Lake County provides.

"The citizens' value recreation centers, parks, and trails because they provide fun places for us to get together with our families and friends. Our Parks & Recreation team is integral to building up our communities through people, parks and play," Mayor McAdams said.

More information about the awards can be found on the Utah Recreation and Parks Association website at www.urpa.org.

won the following awards:

Outstanding Parks & Recreation Department of the Year Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation

Outstanding Facility of the Year Wheeler Farm

Outstanding Young Parks &
Recreation Professional of the Year
Ben Hill, Holladay Lions Recreation Center Manager

Outstanding Professional in Recreation
Kay Cameron, Northwest Recreation Center Manager

Outstanding Professional in Parks Maintenance Wayne Johnson, Associate Director, Parks

Outstanding Citizen Advocate/Volunteer

Susan Lind, Wheeler Farm