

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE A L L I A N C E



Update Summer 2009

The first offering of the Parks and Open Space Professional Training Program – Level I in its entirety was held at the University of Guelph April 27 – 30 during the Ontario Recreation Facilities Association Professional Development Program. The three requisite programs, Parks Maintenance and Operations, Parks Equipment Safety Operations and Sports Turf Management and Maintenance, will again be offered in Petawawa September 28 – October 1. For further details including registration information, individual course offerings, and the Level 1 application form visit any of the POSA partners' websites:

- Ontario Parks Association www.opassoc.on.ca
- Ontario Recreation Facilities Association www.orfa.com
- Sports Turf Association www.sportsturfassociation.com

Requirements for the Parks and Open Space Professional Training Program – Level II have now been established and include:

- Level 1 certificate
- minimum of 60 months practical work experience in the parks and open space industry
- current WHMIS and First Aid Training
- twelve additional POSA recognized continuing education units. A maximum of 1/3 of these credits may be obtained through approved non-POSA training opportunities

The City of Oshawa hosted the 3rd Annual Summer Operational Forum, June 24th at the beautiful Lakeview Park on the shores of Lake Ontario. This professional development opportunity for our collective memberships provided educational sessions based on past inquiries and emerging issues that affect our sector: *The Ontario Cosmetic Pesticides Ban and Cultural Best Practices, Flowering Shrubs for Ontario Parks, Understanding Security Needs & Regulations, Understanding Your Parks Budget, The Use of Scuba Divers; Obligations Under the Occupational Health and Safety Act*, and outdoor sessions *Beach Maintenance Best Practices* and *Soccer Pitch Maintenance Best Practices*. Appreciation is expressed to our host, speakers and to the exhibitors who participated in the event. We are now accepting expressions of interest for the host municipality for the 2010 Summer Operational Forum. Please contact any of the POSA partners for the list of criteria.

