

Media Advisory – May 6, 2009

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Former Parks staff member honored for work

The Washington Recreation & Park Association (WRPA) awarded Bill Karras its Distinguished Service Award during the 2009 WRPA Awards Banquet on April 30 at the Spokane Convention Center.

Karras retired Dec. 31, 2008, following 32 years at Snohomish County Parks and Recreation. He began his career in 1975 as a park ranger assigned to the newly-acquired Flowing Lake County Park near Snohomish. He was soon promoted to ranger supervisor and then recreation/programs supervisor, where he started Snohomish County's very first recreation programs in 1998. As a park ranger, he created countless slideshows and made presentations to public service groups and campers to promote the benefits of Snohomish County's parks system while encouraging environmental stewardship.

The Distinguished Service Award honors retired professionals for outstanding service in the field of parks and recreation. Criteria for the award require the recipient to demonstrate a broad range of experience and responsibility as well as accomplishments and contributions to WRPA.

WRPA is a professional and public interest organization comprised of nearly 1,500 members. The association plays a vital role in promoting and advocating public support for parks and recreation and increasing awareness of the necessity to preserve, enhance and utilize leisure resources for a balanced lifestyle.

For more information on Snohomish County Parks and Recreation or this award, contact Tom Teigen, parks director, at 425-388-6600 or tom.teigen@snoco.org.



Snohomish County Parks & Recreation
www.snocoparks.org