

Becoming Compliant with Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Areas

Post-Conference Workshop

Friday, April 24, 2015

Time: 12:00 – 3:00pm

Fee: Free



Presenter: Nathan Tolbert, Beneficial Designs

Description:

Combining the words "Accessibility" and "Outdoor Recreation" often strikes fear in the hearts of land managers and may seem overwhelming or unobtainable. Since the Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas became law as part of the Architectural Barriers Act in November of 2013, more and more land managers are compelled to address the issue. This workshop will provide an overview of the outdoor recreation guidelines, discuss who is required to comply, review methods to evaluate trails, access routes and features, and review the process to create a federally required transition plan to improve access in outdoor recreation facilities. Options for symbology and scenarios for dissemination of access information to the public will be presented for evaluation and comment. This workshop will also include a field exercise with the collection of accessibility data for outdoor recreation features using a new mobile device application created through a USDA grant funded research and development project.

Learning Objectives - Participant will be able to:

- Summarize the ABA Technical Guidelines for trails, access routes, and outdoor constructed features.
- Explain the value of, necessity and legal requirement for a Transition Plan document that identifies issues and provides a plan to improve access over time
- Discuss methods to inform the public of the level of access provided in Outdoor Developed Areas
- Describe the methods to evaluate trails, pathways, and features for compliance with the applicable ABA Guidelines

Itinerary

Introduction: Presenters, BD, Project, review materials

- Why Access and Transition plan is important/required
- How to begin the process of creating a Transition Plan
- Survey Items about Program Compliance and experience provided at the recreation area
- Determine elements that assist/facilitate the experience provided
- Prioritize those elements (Review results and open Discussion)
- Begin Self-Evaluation
- Review AGODA for trails and access routes
- Assessment Solutions for pathways
- HETAP/UTAP