

WCIA rings in the New Year with changes to the 2016 COMPACT and more grant opportunities!

By Robin Aronson

Happy New Year to all of our members! With the last of the holiday candy and cookies polished off, WCIA is in full swing, getting ready to roll out the 2016 COMPACT and prepare for the third year of the grant program.

Thank you to the 2015 Long Range Planning Committee which met this past August to discuss WCIA staff recommendations for the 2016 COMPACT. Members of the committee included Deborah Knight-Stanwood; Kristin Banfield- Arlington; David Kline-Tukwila; Lyman Howard-Sammamish; Paul Schmidt- Chelan; Dave Timmons- Port Townsend; Noel Treat- Mercer Island; Joel Walinski-Leavenworth, and Arlene Fisher- Mountlake Terrace.

For the 2016 COMPACT, members will be provided with a more tailored approach to the risk management audit than in years past. Members will be presented with three options for consideration, and will work with their assigned Risk Management Representative to select the option that best meets the individual member's needs, and in keeping with the primary goal of improving the pool's loss experience. The three options for 2016 include the following:

Option 1: Traditional Audit

The member and Risk Management Rep together will work to choose from one of three audit questionnaires, selecting the topic that is most beneficial to the member based upon loss history and need. The three selected audit topics include Parks and Recreation Programs, Volunteers, and Fleet.

Option 2: Targeted Risk Management Review

The Risk Management Rep will meet with the member and provide all or part of the following Targeted Risk Management Review based upon individual member need and applicability:

- Contract Review/Right of Way Ordinance review
- Special Events Review/Facility Use Agreements review
- Premises walk through and inspection for liability exposures of select facilities (e.g. parks, senior centers, swimming pools, community centers, marinas, playgrounds)

Option 3: Loss and Exposure Reduction Plan

The member will work with their assigned Rep to review their risk profile and loss runs to identify the member's top risk management priorities based upon loss history. They will then work to develop an action plan addressing 1 to 4 issues, depending upon the level of complexity.

Education Component to COMPACT:

The Education component to the 2016 COMPACT will also see a change. Members will again be required to attend three WCIA educational sessions. For this year one educational session must be from the 2016 CORE topic training list which is correlated to areas of loss experience and/or best risk management practices. Core topics include: Employment, Law Enforcement, Land Use or WCIA staff trainings (Claims & Incidents, Council Do's and Don'ts, and Risk Management).

Watch for more communications in January and February as we get set to roll out the 2016 COMPACT.

And now to address a frequently asked question.....what about the Grant Program?

Yes! WCIA is pleased to be able to once again administer the Risk Reduction Grant program! With increased funding this year, we hope to be able to support even more great projects in 2016. As in past years two types of risk reduction grants are available, mitigation grants and staff development grants. For 2016, members who did not receive a mitigation grant in 2015 will be eligible to submit up to two mitigation grant applications. In addition, members may also submit one staff development grant application if a similar grant was not received in 2015. Applications and guidelines will be sent to delegates via e-mail on January 22 and be due back February 25th. Consideration will be given in particular to those projects linked to potential loss exposures and loss history. Start thinking of those projects now! A list of the 2015 projects can be found on the WCIA website under Risk Management.

2016 looks to be a busy and exciting year; we look forward to getting out and visiting once again!