



# IOWA LEAGUE OF CITIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBIT

## Splash Pads as a Design Alternative

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**HANDOUTS & PRESENTATIONS ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE EVENT APP**

# CANNONBALL!

## HOW TO MAKE A BIG SPLASH WITHOUT A POOL



Architecture  
Engineering  
Environmental  
Planning  
ISGInc.com



COMMERCIAL RECREATION SPECIALISTS



# WE'RE EXCITED TO BE HERE!

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Public Works Business Unit Leader  
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Recreation Specialist  
Commercial Recreation Specialists







# LET'S LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY

Does your community  
have a pool?

Do your residents  
express interest in a pool?

What keeps you from investing  
in a community pool?



# LET'S LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY

Do any of your communities  
have a splash pad?

Has it been well received?

Is it a recirculated or  
pass-through system?

What positive feedback  
have you heard?

Have you heard any complaints?



# TODAY'S AGENDA

By the end of this presentation you will be able to:



**Define a  
splash pad**



**Explain the  
advantages  
of a  
splash pad**



**Recognize  
the key splash  
pad design  
considerations**



**Understand  
typical  
splash pad  
operational  
requirements**



**Provide  
a few  
examples of  
successful  
splash pads**



# WHAT IS A SPLASH PAD?

Interactive,  
zero-depth  
aquatic attraction

Has no pooling water

Can be independent or  
adjacent to a pool

Designed for all ages  
and abilities

Provides inclusive  
and intuitive play





# SPRAY FEATURES





# ADVANTAGES

What are the advantages  
of a splash pad?

**01**

No pooled water



**02**

No lifeguard needed



**03**

Accessible to all ages



**04**

Accessible to all ranges  
of mobility



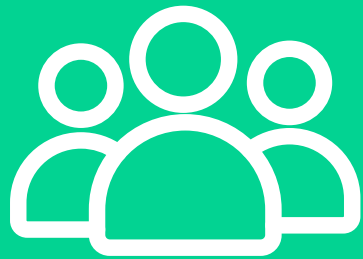
**05**

Lower cost than a pool



# BENEFITS

What are the benefits of a splash pad?



## COMMUNITY

Enhanced quality  
of life

Fosters pride and a  
sense of belonging

Strangers  
become friends

Promotes health and  
well-being



## OWNER

Increases  
park usage

Reduces vandalism



## ENVIRONMENTAL

Automated and  
user activated

Conserves water  
compared to a pool

Materials  
are recyclable



# DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Electrical service



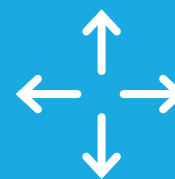
Non-recycled water/recycled treated water

Pump tank, equipment,  
and chemical storage



Features such as shape,  
size, and concrete color

Auxiliary elements  
such as showers



Expandability





# SMALL VERSUS LARGE

## Recirculated System

Wetted area of spray pad  
Gallons per minute flow  
Multiple bays  
Big water features



## Pass-Through System

Wetted area of spray pad  
Gallons per minute flow



# OPERATIONS





# SPLASH PAD SUCCESS #1

Meskwaki Recreation Center  
Tama, IA







# SPLASH PAD SUCCESS #2

Elma Park  
Elma, IA



# SPLASH PAD SUCCESS #3

Waterworks Park  
Grimes, IA







Solon, IA

# SPLASH PAD SUCCESS #4

# KEY TAKEAWAYS



## BENEFITS

- Simple to use
- Encourages physical and social development through tactile experience
- Variety of water effects
- Team and interactive play

## DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Shape
- Size
- Features
- Bays

## OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Water management and quality systems
- Staffing
- Winterization and maintenance



# THANK YOU!



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