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# WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

## PRESS RELEASE

### RAY BRADBURY'S GREEN TOWN GUIDED WALKING TOURS

**WAUKEGAN, IL** (October 7, 2014) The Waukegan History Museum of the Waukegan Park District and the Waukegan Historical Society has a free guided walking tour titled “Ray Bradbury’s Green Town” coming up. There are two alternate dates for this tour, Friday, October 31 at 5:00pm (ID #4558) or Saturday, November 1 at 10:00am (ID #4572).

Walk the streets of author Ray Bradbury’s “Green Town” on a guided tour of downtown Waukegan. Ray Bradbury (1920-2012), one of Waukegan’s favorite sons, remembered his childhood home in numerous novels and short stories. The places, people, and events from Bradbury’s fictional Green Town (Waukegan) books, *Dandelion Wine*, *Farewell Summer*, and *Something Wicked This Way Comes*, as well as some of his short stories will be highlighted.

These free guided walking tours start at the Waukegan Park District’s Ray Bradbury Park at 41 North Park Avenue, Waukegan, IL 60085. The tour lasts approximately 1.5 hours and will include extensive walking and stairs. A shuttle bus will return participants back to Bradbury Park at the conclusion of the tour. It is recommended that participants park on Washington Street.

For all walking tours, please dress accordingly with comfortable walking shoes and also bring something to drink. Tours will be cancelled if raining or other inclement weather.

To register for these free guided walking tours, please call the Waukegan Park District Jack Benny Center for the Arts at 847-360-4740. Location of the Jack Benny Center is 39 Jack Benny Drive in Bowen Park. Register online at [www.waukeganparks.org](http://www.waukeganparks.org). Pre-registration is required.

## **About the Waukegan Park District**

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 48 sites and more than 735 acres of land, including the 18-hole Bonnie Brook and 9-hole Greenshire Golf Courses. Properties are managed to the highest environmental and conservation standards. Facilities operated by the district include the Field House Sports and Fitness Center, the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, the Waukegan SportsPark, the Waukegan Skate Park, the Waukegan BMX Track, recreational centers, an outdoor swimming pool, disc golf course, dog exercise area, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball and tennis. A full range of programs and services are offered year round for all ages, from infants to seniors as well as special needs populations. Healthy lifestyles, wellness initiatives, and a connection with the outdoors and nature are integrated throughout programs, services, and special events. Cultural events are provided by the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, the Bowen Park Theatre Company, and the Waukegan History Museum. There is something for everyone! The award-winning District employs 59 full-time and over 250 part-time, year round, seasonal, and temporary employees. The District is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), and Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). The district maintains national accreditation from the NRPA Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), the Illinois Association of Park District (IAPD) Distinguished Agency accreditation and the Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA) accreditation and sustains a Level A Loss Control Program. The district was a NRPA Gold Medal Finalist in 2012 and 2013, and awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013.

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