

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Waukegan Park District Receives Two Readers' Choice Awards from the Lake County Suburban Life and Great Lakes Bulletin

Waukegan, IL (October 27, 2014) – The Waukegan Park District is proud to have received two Readers' Choice Awards from the Lake County Suburban Life and the Great Lakes Bulletin. The Field House at Hinkston Park was named the Best Fitness Center and Bowen Park was named Best Neighborhood Park. Terry Duffy, Waukegan Park District President stated, " We are excited to have received two Readers' Choice Awards, especially since this is the first year of the contest for the Lake County papers and voting was open-ended in an online poll with defined categories such as best fitness center, neighborhood park, new restaurant, etc. The awards are a public confirmation of the district's overall commitment to excellence and service."

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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