

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Waukegan Park District Youth Recreation Corps Grant

Waukegan, IL (June 26, 2014) ... The Waukegan Park District received a State of Illinois Department of Natural Resources Youth Recreation Corps Grant which funds eight seasonal jobs for Waukegan youth and one supervisor. The Illinois Youth Recreation Corps provides funding to hire youth ages 14-18.

The work of youth hired will be split between park maintenance operation tasks and recreation's summer camp and nature programs. They will also spend time working at the City of Waukegan's public lakefront doing maintenance and cleanup tasks. Other maintenance tasks will include park improvements, cleanup and natural area management. The Youth Recreation Corps will also support summer camp activities for the Recreation Department including the primary maintenance of our Children's Garden. Youth staff will participate in educational field trips (EduCycle Center, Forest Preserve sites) and will work with some of our partners (i.e. Citizens Advisory Group) on other grant/natural resource initiatives.

All applications are online at the district's website, www.waukeganparks.org. The Employment/Internships section is under the "About" tab. For more information, please call the Parks Department at 847-360-4725.

About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 47 properties and 720 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 57 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 Districts' (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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