

# WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Waukegan's Greg Petry SportsPark Achieves Environmental Facility Certification**

**Waukegan, IL (October 18, 2017)** –The Waukegan Park District is pleased to announce that Waukegan's Greg Petry SportsPark achieved the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) Environmental Facility Certification. This prestigious certification validates the District's commitment to the environment with its design and maintenance practices. Noel Brusius, Maintenance Supervisor of the SportsPark and Athletic Fields is responsible for achieving the coveted certification, working diligently to submit the two part report card consisting of 10 sections and 135 detailed questions pertaining to the District's operations and environmental practices. For each section, the District needed a score of 80% as well as host an on-site evaluation by an independent attester to validate the results. Fewer than 25 facilities across the country have achieved this distinction to date and the Waukegan Park District is only the second in Illinois. The certification is valid for three years.

### **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, Fitness and Aquatics 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 and agility course, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball, tennis and pickleball. 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, and the Waukegan History Museum. There is something for everyone! The award-winning District employs 61 full-time and over 230 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), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) Distinguished Agency accreditation and Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA) accreditation and maintains 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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