

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Tis the Season to Give – Food for Paws Holiday Pet Food Drive

Waukegan, IL (November 14, 2013) The Waukegan Park District is hosting the third annual Food for Paws Holiday Pet Food Drive, which begins November 11 and goes through December 13. All donations will be given to WAGS (Waukegan Animals Getting Saved), a local organization that works to offset some of the costs involved in caring for homeless animals at Waukegan Animal Control.

Families facing hardships sometimes have difficulty caring for their beloved pets. They may reach the point where they feel they need to surrender their pet to a shelter or Animal Control. Sometimes even a small donation of food or medicine will enable a family to keep their pet instead of surrendering it. Those interested in supporting the Food for Paws Pet Food Drive can drop off donations of unopened cans or bags of pet food, rawhide chews, as well as new pet toys and supplies. The greatest need is for dry food, but all kinds and types of pet food are appreciated. Look for collection boxes at the following locations: Belvidere Recreation Center, 412 S. Lewis Avenue, Field House Sports and Fitness Center, 800 N. Baldwin Avenue, Jack Benny Center for the Arts at 39 Jack Benny Drive, and Pet Supplies Plus 3050 N. Lewis Ave, all in Waukegan.

For more information on the Food for Paws Holiday Pet Food Drive, call 847-360-4700 or check our website at www.waukeganparks.org.

Food and supplies needed the most:

- Dog food (any kind)
- Cat food (any kind)
- Puppy and kitten food (any kind)
- Newborn puppy and kitten milk/formula
- New blankets
- New towels
- Food bowls
- Dog collars and leashes
- Pet carriers/crates- all sizes
- Dog rawhide chews
- Any and all types of medicines or first aid supplies

- Gift Certificates for medicines - Revival Animal Health (www.revivalanimal.com, search “gift certificate” and request waiver of shipping charge)

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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