

NEWS RELEASE

To: All Media

From: Elmer Martinez, Communications Supervisor, Waukegan Park District

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Waukegan Park District Announces that Belvidere Park Softball Fields will be Closed for Renovation

WAUKEGAN - Beginning the first week of April, both softball fields at Belvidere Park will be closed to the public for renovation and a rest period. The north and south diamonds will be undergoing improvements to the turf and infield to restore the fields after having undergone the stresses of heavy use for the pats several years. Last year during the months of April to November, over 800 softball and baseball games were played on both of the Belvidere Park ball fields.

The initial work that will take place includes turf aerification, fertilization, overseeding or resodding of worn areas. However, the most critical step is allocating sufficient time for the grass to reestablish and mature. In addition, the field infield or skinned areas will be topdressed and regraded for proper surface drainage to move water effectively across the surface of the infield. Altogether, the end result of the renovation will be improved playing conditions of the fields.

Fencing and signs indicating field closure are posted restricting public access. These fields are expected to re-open to public use by May 1, 2007.

For more information on the field renovation, please call Mike Trigg, Superintendent of Parks at 847-360-4724. Visit the district website at www.waukeganparks.org for information about the District and its services, events, and programs.

About The Waukegan Park District

The Waukegan Park District, encompassing 46 neighborhood and community parks with 719 acres of land, serves the culturally-diverse community of Waukegan through its traditional and non-traditional parks-sports programming for the entire family as well as leisure programming for senior adults. Park District programming also encompasses professional music, dance, theatre and visual arts instruction through the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, cultural enrichment through the Waukegan Symphony and Concert Chorus, the Bowen Park Opera and Theatre Companies, and other quality educational, historical and craft programs through the Bowen Heritage Circle.