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# WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Ray Bradbury's Green Town Free Historic Guided Walking Tour**

**WAUKEGAN, IL** (September 26, 2016) The Waukegan History Museum of the Waukegan Park District and the Waukegan Historical Society will give the free guided walking tour *Ray Bradbury's "Green Town"* on Saturday, October 1, 2016 at 10am. Pre-registration is required for this guided walking tour. Registration is available online at [www.waukeganparks.org](http://www.waukeganparks.org), or in person at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts-39 Jack Benny Drive in Bowen Park, the Belvidere Recreation Center-412 S. Lewis Avenue in Belvidere Park, the Field House Sports, Fitness and Aquatics Center at Hinkston Park-800 Baldwin Avenue.

Led by Museum Supervisor Ty Rohrer, participants will walk the streets of author Ray Bradbury's "Green Town" on a guided tour of downtown Waukegan. Ray Bradbury (1920-2012), one of Waukegan's favorite sons, remembered his childhood home in numerous novels and short stories. The places, people, and events from Bradbury's fictional Green Town (Waukegan) books, *Dandelion Wine*, *Farewell Summer*, and *Something Wicked This Way Comes*, as well as some of his short stories will be highlighted.

This free guided walking tour starts at the Waukegan Park District's Ray Bradbury Park at 41 North Park Avenue, Waukegan, IL 60085. A shuttle bus will return participants back to Bradbury Park at the conclusion of the tour. It is recommended that participants park on Washington Street.

The tour lasts about 90 minutes and includes extensive walking and stairs. Please dress according to weather with comfortable walking shoes and bring something to drink; tours may be cancelled if there is rain or other inclement weather. For more information, please call the Jack Benny Center for the Arts at 847-360-4740.

The Waukegan History Museum is located at 1917 N. Sheridan Road in Bowen Park. The museum is free and open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am-4pm and Saturday afternoons from 1-4pm.

### **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 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), the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) Distinguished Agency accreditation and the 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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