

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Waukegan Firefighters Lead Earth Day Project to Cleanup Washington Park Ravine

Waukegan, IL (April 19, 2017) . . . The Waukegan Fire Department will lead an Earth Day cleanup of the Washington Park Ravine on April 22 beginning at 9am. The public is invited to assist them in removing trash and debris from the grassy and slope areas of the park. This is the second year the firefighters have chosen to celebrate Earth Day by cleaning up a Waukegan park thanks to the efforts of firefighters Mark Kolar and Scott Vandembroucke. Scott MacLean, Superintendent of Parks stated, "It is wonderful to have so many hands helping with the cleanup; last year the firefighters did an incredible job in Roosevelt Park." The public is welcome to join the firefighters on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at 9am in Washington Park, located at 15 South Park Avenue.

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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