

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Waukegan Park District Offers New Youth Leadership Camp for Teens Ages 12-14

Waukegan, IL (May 10, 2017) The Waukegan Park District's teen camp has expanded to include the development of leadership skills. Those skills are reinforced with practical experiences that build confidence and life skills when dealing with children, peers and adults. Youth will be exposed to volunteer opportunities, a leadership mentoring program structured around the highly regarded "Today's Teens, Tomorrow's Leaders" curriculum guide, and up to two field trips per week. Field Trips will include such destinations as:

- The Chicago History Museum
- The Chicago Sport Museum
- Lincoln Park Zoo
- Hidden Creek Water Park
- Trickster Art Museum
- Bulls/Sox Training Academy
- Racine Zoo
- Loyola Beach
- Illinois State Beach
- Cantigny Park

The goal of this specialized camp is to provide not only traditional camp activities, but also instill in the teen participants a sense of responsibility, leadership and confidence! Activities will include guided lesson planning for their small group's daily activities, working with younger camp groups within the District, and traveling to other park

districts to meet participants in their teen camps. Volunteer opportunities include:

- Waukegan Park District
- Lake County Forest Preserve
- Kohl's Children Museum
- Catholic Charities
- Center for Enriched Living

The Youth Leadership Camp is held Monday through Friday from 9am-4pm beginning Monday, June 12 through Friday, August 11 at Belvidere Recreation Center. Teens can sign up for a minimum of one week up to the full 9 weeks of camp. For more information about the Youth Leadership Camp, please contact Jamie Teichmann at jteichmann@waukeganparks.org or 847-360-4706.

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.

3/3/17/Comm. Relations

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