
WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Waukegan Park District Accepting Park Use Permit Applications

Waukegan, Illinois (March 1, 2021) – The Waukegan Park District is now accepting park use permit applications for rentable outdoor facilities, including seven pavilions, one formal garden gazebo, one bandshell, and green spaces in 33 parks. Park use permits help accommodate groups to avoid overcrowding, resulting in enjoyable experiences in the parks. New this year, reservations can be made online and the location to make mail and in person reservations has been moved to the Jack Benny Center for the Arts.

A park use permit is required for:

- any group of 26 or more individuals.
- events or gatherings with equipment brought into a park.
- publicly advertised events or gatherings.
- events or gatherings that will impact normal public use of a park.

Reservations are granted on an application-review basis and can be made:

- online at waukeganparks.org/permits.
- via mail to the Jack Benny Center for the Arts at 39 Jack Benny Drive, Waukegan, Illinois 60087.
- in person at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts on Mondays through Thursdays from 5pm to 8pm.

More details, including the Park Use Agreement Brochure and Application, are available at waukeganparks.org/permits.

About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 50 properties and more than 740 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's Greg Petry SportsPark, the Waukegan Skate Park, the Waukegan BMX Track, recreational centers, disc golf course, dog exercise area and agility course, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, splash pads, 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 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 employs 63 full-time and over 230 part-time, seasonal, and temporary employees and is recognized by the

IPRA as an Exceptional Workplace. Accreditation is maintained 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). The District has received Government Finance Officer Association awards for Distinguished Budget Presentation and Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting for eight consecutive years. The District was awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013 and named a NRPA Gold Medal Finalist in 2012, 2013, and 2019.

TJA/01/27/21

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