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# WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Waukegan Park District to Host 2021 George Bridges 5K Run/Walk**

**Waukegan, Illinois (August 17, 2021)** – The Waukegan Park District invites the public to participate in the 2021 George Bridges 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, September 18 at 9am at the Field House Sports, Fitness & Aquatics Center, located at 800 Baldwin Avenue. In its sixth year, the run/walk will have a new superhero theme.

Children will be able to participate in a free kids race before the awards ceremony. All proceeds from the 2021 George Bridges 5K Run/Walk will benefit Special Recreation Services of Northern Lake County – Waukegan, helping individuals with special needs participate in athletics, camps, and other recreation programs.

Medals will be awarded to the top three finishers in each age category. For \$29, participants will receive a race packet and a commemorative race t-shirt. More details, including registration and the age categories, are available at [waukeganparks.org/5k](http://waukeganparks.org/5k). Individuals can also register at the front desk of the Field House Sports, Fitness & Aquatics Center.

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#### **About the Waukegan Park District**

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 53 properties and more than 742 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, Jack Benny Center for the Arts, Waukegan's Greg Petry SportsPark, Waukegan Skate Park, BMX Track, SplashZone, Percussion Playground, 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. We offer something for everyone!

The District is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA) and the Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA). The District employs 64 full-time and nearly 200 part-time, seasonal, and temporary employees and is recognized by the IPRA as an Exceptional Workplace.

Nationally accredited by the NRPA Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) and State accredited through the IAPD Distinguished Agency Accreditation. The District has received Government Finance Officer Association (GFOA) awards for Distinguished Budget Presentation and Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting for ten consecutive years and received the coveted GFOA Triple Crown Award recognizing the District's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, Popular Annual Financial Reporting and Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 2019. The Waukegan Park District was awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013 and named a Gold Medal Finalist in 2012, 2013, 2019, and 2021.

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