
WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Waukegan Park District to Host 2021 Turkey Trot

Waukegan, Illinois (November 1, 2021) – The Waukegan Park District is hosting the 2021 Turkey Trot on Saturday, November 13, 2021 at 10am at a new location this year: Waukegan’s Greg Petry SportsPark, located at 3391 W. Beach Road. Participants of all ages will have the chance to compete in friendly races for a chance to win a turkey while helping others in our community through a canned food drive.

Races will be held for different age and gender groups: 13 to 23 months, 2 to 3 years, 4 to 5 years, 6 to 7 years, 8 to 10 years, 11 to 13 years, 14 to 59 years, and 60+ years. Races range from five yards to one mile, depending on the age group. The first-place finishers in each age group will be awarded a turkey. All participants will receive a ribbon.

The 2021 Turkey Trot is also hosted as part of the GO WAUKEGAN. In partnership with the Lake County Health Department, the Waukegan Park District launched GO WAUKEGAN, a community initiative designed to improve the health and wellness of local residents by enhancing and increasing the shared experience of walking through activities, education, and collaboration.

Pre-registration is now open online and at the Field House Sports, Fitness & Aquatics Center. On-site registration will be available from 9am to 9:45am on the day of the event. The cost to participate is two cans of non-perishable food, which will be donated to a local food pantry. More details, including registration, are available at waukeganparks.org/turkey.

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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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