
WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Waukegan Park District to Celebrate Earth Day with Park Cleanup

Waukegan, Illinois (April 15, 2022) – The Waukegan Park District will be celebrating Earth Day with a cleanup on Friday, April 22, 2022 from 10am to 1pm at Washington Park, located at 15 S. Park Avenue. Volunteers must check-in at the parking lot on the northwest corner of West Street and Water Street in Downtown Waukegan.

The park cleanup will target the ravines that are part of the Waukegan River Watershed. Many parks in Waukegan are connected through ravines with streams that flow into Lake Michigan.

According to the Library of Congress, Earth Day was first observed on April 22, 1970, when an estimated twenty million people attended the inaugural events at thousands of sites across the country. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin, an ardent conservationist, promoted Earth Day, calling upon students to fight for environmental causes and oppose environmental degradation.

Gloves, supplies, lunch, and water will be provided by the Waukegan Park District. All volunteers are required to submit a completed volunteer agreement form. Additional information, including the volunteer agreement form, is available at waukeganparks.org/earthday.

###

About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the Waukegan Park District (WPD) 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 WPD include the Field House Sports, Fitness and Aquatics Center, 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 need populations. Healthy lifestyles, wellness initiatives, and a connection with the outdoors and nature are integrated throughout programs, services, and special events. Arts and cultural activities are provided by the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, and the Waukegan History Museum. We offer something for everyone!

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 WPD employs 64 full-time and about 235 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 WPD has received Government Finance Officer Association (GFOA) awards for Distinguished Budget Presentation and Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting for eleven consecutive years and received the coveted GFOA Triple Crown Award recognizing the WPD's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, Popular Annual Financial Reporting and Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 2019. The WPD 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.

JP/02/28/2022

Contact:

Josue Pasillas, MPA
Communications Supervisor
Waukegan Park District
(847) 360-4789
jpasillas@waukeganparks.org
waukeganparks.org