
WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Waukegan Park District Celebrates Ray Bradbury

Waukegan, Illinois (August 19, 2022) – The Waukegan Park District is celebrating Ray Bradbury with the 2022 Ray Bradbury Dandelion Wine Arts & Music Festival and 2022 Ray Bradbury Literary Walk on Saturday, August 20, 2022.

Ray Bradbury, born in Waukegan on August 22, 1920, was an author and screenwriter in fantasy, science fiction, horror, and mystery. Some of his most famous works include elements of his hometown of Waukegan in them. Ray Bradbury passed away on June 5, 2012 and he is honored in numerous ways in Waukegan.

The 2022 Ray Bradbury Dandelion Wine Arts & Music Festival will be held on Saturday, August 20, 2022 from 12pm to 4pm at Bowen Park, located at 1800 N. Sheridan Road. The festival celebrates Ray Bradbury with arts and music. Art vendors, including painters, sculptors, and photographers, will have their art for sale.

The 2022 Ray Bradbury Literary Walk will be held on Saturday, August 20, 2022 from 6pm to 8pm in Downtown Waukegan. The event will highlight five sites that are featured in Ray Bradbury's most notable works. Attendees will have the opportunity to experience a scene from *Something Wicked This Way Comes* at the Waukegan Carnegie Library, the future home of the Waukegan History Museum at the Carnegie. This will be the last time the public will be able to go inside the historic building before its renovation.

The 2022 Ray Bradbury Literary Walk will include the following sites:

- Academy Square, 204 N. Genesee Street
- Jack Benny Plaza, Southwest Corner of Clayton Street and Genesee Street
- Ray Bradbury Park, 41 N. Park Avenue
- Waukegan History Museum at the Carnegie, 1 N. Sheridan Road
- Waukegan Public Library, 128 N. County Street

The 2022 Ray Bradbury Literary Walk is funded by a grant from Illinois Humanities and supported by the City of Waukegan, Three Brothers Theatre, Waukegan Historical Society, and the Waukegan Public Library.

Preregistration is not required to attend these free, family-friendly events. More information is available at waukeganparks.org/dandelion.

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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 66 full-time and 290 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 the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Triple Crown Award for receiving the GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award, and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. The WPD was awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013, and was named a Gold Medal Finalist in 2012, 2013, 2019, 2021 and 2022.

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