
WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Waukegan Park District and Waukegan Historical Society Partner to Host 27th Annual Oakwood Cemetery Walk

Waukegan, Illinois (September 2, 2022) – The Waukegan Park District and the Waukegan Historical Society are partnering to host the 27th Annual Oakwood Cemetery Walk on Saturday, September 17, 2022 from 12pm to 4pm at Oakwood Cemetery. The Walk is an annual "living history" event showcasing the rich history of Waukegan using costumed actors to portray local historic figures with connections to the cemetery and city.

The theme of the 27th Annual Oakwood Cemetery Walk is “What Made the City Work,” and features stories about people who helped shape Waukegan with common and uncommon jobs. Participants will experience stories about a one-room schoolhouse teacher, boat builders, hod carriers (laborers), and more.

There is no public parking at Oakwood Cemetery, so attendees will meet at Lilac Cottage in Bowen Park, located at 1911 N. Sheridan Road. Buses will depart from Lilac Cottage to Oakwood Cemetery at 12pm, 12:30pm, 1pm, 1:30pm, 2pm, and 2:30pm. The last tour will begin at approximately 2:45pm.

Advance tickets are available for \$10 and limited tickets will be available at the door for \$20. The 27th Annual Oakwood Cemetery Walk will be held rain or shine. More information and advance tickets are available at waukeganparks.org/oakwood.

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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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