
WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

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To: All Media

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Waukegan Park District Wins IPRA Awards

Waukegan, IL (February 1, 2010)...The Waukegan Park District was recognized at the Illinois Parks and Recreation Association Annual Conference last week with the Outstanding Program Award Division II, Special Event for Polar Bear Plunge 2009, “Dunkin for a Decade.” Polar Bear Plunge is sponsored by the Waukegan Park District in partnership with the City of Waukegan and AAA Tent Masters. The event raises funds for Special Recreation scholarships and special needs athletic programs. Polar Bear Plunge is the largest Lake Michigan event of its kind, annually drawing more than 500 persons who jump into the icy water on New Year’s Day.

Greg Petry, Executive Director of the Waukegan Park District was recognized by Parks and Recreation Magazine for the Best Legal/Legislative Article. The article, titled “Legislative Breakfasts Offer Opportunity with Legislators,” was featured in the November/December Issue of Illinois Parks and Recreation.

The Waukegan Park District was also honored with third place for the 2009 IPRA Marketing and Communications Agency Showcase held at the conference. Eight samples of Waukegan Park District materials ranging in use from promotion, advertising and marketing to public relations were entered into the statewide competition and judged by marketing industry professionals. See attached photo left to right: Pat Foley, Waukegan Park District (WPD) Commissioner, Michael Selep, IPRA, Interim CEO, Teddy Anderson, Manager, Community Relations, WPD and Greg Petry, Executive Director, WPD.



About The Waukegan Park District

Established December 26, 1916, the district has 47 properties and 720 acres of land, which includes the 18-hole Bonnie Brook Golf Course, and the 9-hole Greenshire Golf Course. The District operates recreational centers, the Field House Sports and Fitness Center, the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, an outdoor swimming pool, outdoor sports courts and fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, the Waukegan Skate Park and the Waukegan BMX track. A full range of programs and services are offered year round for all ages including special populations. Cultural events are provided by the

Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, the Bowen Park Theatre Company, the Bowen Park Opera Company and the Waukegan History Museum. Sixty-seven authorized full-time staff and over 250 part-time, year round, seasonal and temporary employees. The district is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), and Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). The district maintains IAPD Distinguished Agency accreditation and is also accredited with the Park District Risk Management Agency and maintains a Level A Loss Control Program.