
WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

2025 Small Special Events (Projected Attendance: 100 to 999+)

The Waukegan Park District hosts six special events throughout the year: Kids to Parks Day, Community Yard Sale, Día de Muertos (Day of the Dead) Community Celebration, Fishing Derby, Oakwood Cemetery Walk, and Turkey Trot. Most small special events are free, but preregistration may be required to participate.

Kids to Parks Day on Saturday, May 17, 2025

The Waukegan Park District is hosting the 15th Annual Kids to Parks Day on Saturday, May 17, 2025 from 9am to 11am at Corrine J. Rose Park, located at 412 S. Lewis Avenue. Organized by the National Park Trust, the mission of Kids to Parks Day is to foster future outdoor enthusiasts and help with developing the next generation of park stewards by engaging kids in memorable outdoor experiences.

Fishing Derby on Saturday, June 7, 2025

The Waukegan Park District is hosting the 35th Annual Fishing Derby on Saturday, June 7, 2025 from 8am to 10am at Bevier Park, located at 2255 Yorkhouse Road. Participants will have the chance to win prizes in a friendly competition for the smallest and largest fish caught overall and in their age group.

Community Yard Sale on Saturday, July 19, 2025

The Waukegan Park District is hosting a Community Yard Sale on Saturday, July 19, 2025 from 9am to 2pm at Bowen Park, located 1800 N. Sheridan Road.

Día de Muertos (Day of the Dead) Community Celebration on Saturday, November 1, 2025

The Waukegan Park District and Sugar Skulls Xilotl are partnering to host the 14th Annual Día de Muertos (Day of the Dead) Community Celebration on Saturday, November 1, 2025 from 1pm to 4pm at the Waukegan History Museum at the Carnegie, located at 1 N. Sheridan Road. The event will feature pan de muerto (bread of the dead), altar exhibits, art vendors, music and dance performances, and sugar skull decorating workshops.

Oakwood Cemetery Walk on Saturday, September 20, 2025

The Waukegan Park District and the Waukegan Historical Society are partnering to host the 30th Annual Oakwood Cemetery Walk on Saturday, September 20, 2025 from 12pm to 3:30pm at Oakwood Cemetery. The Oakwood Cemetery 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.

Turkey Trot on Saturday, November 8, 2025

The Waukegan Park District is hosting the 26th Annual Turkey Trot on Saturday, November 8, 2025 at 10am at Waukegan’s Greg Petry SportsPark, located at 3391 W. Beach Road. Participants will have the opportunity to compete in races for a chance to win a turkey while helping the community with a canned food drive that will benefit the COOL Food Pantry.