

## 2018 Best of the Best Awards Gala Winners

Except for the Helen Doria Arts in the Park Award, which has 1st, 2nd and 3rd place recipients, all other categories contain the top award recipients of all the nominations received. There are no rankings. Winning agencies are listed in alphabetical order in each category.

### Intergovernmental Cooperation

**Blue Island Park District** and the City of Blue Island

**McHenry County Conservation District** with Nunda Township, City of Woodstock, McHenry County College, City of Crystal Lake, Crystal Lake Park District, McHenry County Department of Transportation, Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources (IDNR), Illinois Dept. of Transportation (IDOT), Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning – CMA, ComEd, the Illinois Nature Preserve Commission, and the Union Pacific Railroad Company

**Wheeling Park District** and the Village of Wheeling

### Partnership

**Champaign Park District** with Rainer and Julie S. Martens Foundation

**Deerfield Park District** with Chicago Sky Professional Women's Basketball Team

**Forest Preserves of Cook County** with The Field Museum

**Palatine Park District** with Partners for Our Communities - ICompete Program

### Best Friend of Illinois Parks – Small Business

**Butterfield Park District** for The Conservation Foundation

**Decatur Park District** for DCC Marketing

**Waukegan Park District** for Kiefer Swim Products

**Wheeling Park District** for Liquor Barn

### Best Friend of Illinois Parks, Mid-Sized Business

**Mundelein Park & Recreation District** / Knauz Automotive Group

**Winnetka Park District** / First Bank & Trust

### Best Friend of Illinois Parks, Large Business

**Hoffman Estates Park District** / AMITA Health

**Wheaton Park District** / First Trust Portfolios

### Illinois Parks' Top Journalist

**Champaign County Forest Preserve District** / Tom Kacich - *Champaign-Urbana News-Gazette*

**Champaign Park District** / Illini Radio Group

### Outstanding Citizen Volunteer of the Year

**Champaign County Forest Preserve District** for Robert Espeseth

**Forest Preserve District of Kane County** for Mary Ochsenschlager

**Oak Brook Park District** for Lara Suleiman

**Rockford Park District** for Rick and Lana Engen

### Best Green Practices

**Naperville Park District**

**Palatine Park District**

**Park District of Oak Park**

**Urbana Park District**

### Good Sportsmanship

**Mundelein Park & Recreation District** / Paul Lohr

### Helen Doria Arts in the Park

**Waukegan Park District** – FIRST PLACE

**Decatur Park District** – SECOND PLACE

**Glenview Park District** – THIRD PLACE