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Governor Pritzker Proclaims July as Park and Recreation Month in Illinois

SPRINGFIELD, IL - - Illinois State Governor JB Pritzker has officially declared July as *Park and Recreation Month* in Illinois.

The State Proclamation, presented to the Illinois Association of Park Districts, encourages Illinois residents “to celebrate and support their local park districts, forest preserves, conservation districts, recreation, and special recreation agencies for the vital role they play in building stronger, healthier, and more connected communities.”

The official proclamation recognizes the important role that Illinois park, recreation, and conservation agencies have in providing abundant programs, services, facilities, and outdoor spaces that greatly enhance youth development and promote environmental stewardship while instilling a strong sense of community in residents regardless of age, race, or socioeconomic status.

“The more than 2,100 elected and appointed park commissioners and professional staff at our 400 member agencies work tirelessly behind the scenes to improve Illinois residents’ quality of life and ensure that this state remains the best in which to live, work, and recreate,” said Peter Murphy, IAPD President and CEO. “July is the pinnacle of the summer season, so it serves as the perfect time to celebrate all things parks and recreation!”

IAPD is celebrating Park and Recreation Month with the theme: *Build Together, Play Together*. Throughout the month of July, the association will be highlighting the unique ways their member park, recreation, and conservation agencies build stronger communities through play and other initiatives.

[Click here](#) to read the proclamation.

Established in 1928, IAPD is a nonprofit service, research and educational organization representing more than 360 park districts, forest preserves, conservation districts, recreation, and special recreation agencies throughout Illinois. IAPD’s mission is to advance these agencies in their ability to preserve natural resources and improve the quality of life for all people in Illinois.

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