



## **Parks, Recreation & Forestry Dept.**

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Waukesha, Wisconsin 53188

**Ron Grall, Director**

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### **Proclamation**

#### **Designation of July as Park and Recreation Month**

WHEREAS parks and recreation is an integral part of communities throughout this country, including the City of Waukesha; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation promotes health and wellness, improving the physical and mental health through the City's 50 parks; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation promotes time spent in nature in over 1,100 acres of dedicated Park and Open Space, which positively impacts mental health by increasing cognitive performance and well-being, and reduces stress and symptoms of depression, attention deficit disorders, and Alzheimers; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation encourages physical activities by providing and programming at 3 sports complexes, 43 fields and 75 courts for popular sports, 12 miles of hiking trails, 2 outdoor swimming pools and many other attractions designed to promote active lifestyles; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation strengthens community image and sense of place through 6,000 Park rentals, 42 special events, 1900+ Volunteers (33,000+ hours annually), 255 community partnerships; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation partners to provide 10,000 healthy meals in the summer, nutrition services and education year-round; and

WHEREAS park and recreation programming and education activities, such as before/after school programming at 11 of our elementary schools, youth sports and environmental education, are critical to childhood development; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation increases a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation is fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community managing 24,000 Street Trees and 3,200 Park Trees; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation is essential and adaptable infrastructure that makes our communities resilient in the face of natural disasters and climate change; and

WHEREAS our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS \_\_\_\_ the City of Waukesha \_\_\_\_ recognizes the benefits derived from parks and recreation resources.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Shawn Reilly, Mayor of the City of Waukesha, Wisconsin do hereby proclaim that July is recognized as Park and Recreation Month in the City of Waukesha.

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