



# Waukesha County Department of Parks and Land Use

## 2017 End-of-Season Swim at Your Own Risk - Frequently Asked Questions

### Program Overview

Annually the Waukesha County Department of Parks and Land Use hires approximately thirty lifeguards to cover all shifts at four beaches. Due to a shortage of qualified lifeguards, in 2015 the Department decided to allow swim at your own risk at two beaches for the summer season. The policy will be expanded for the end of the 2017 beach season. All County beaches will allow swim at your own risk when lifeguard season ends.

### What is Swim at Your Own Risk?

No lifeguards are on duty and swim areas are marked with rope and floats. Fox Brook and Menomonee beaches will have hazard buoys marking the steep drop off. Floating docks are closed and not to be used. Parents/Guardians should maintain watch over their children. A safety ring is available for emergencies. Signage will be posted to provide current water quality conditions. Swimming is allowed from sunrise to sunset during the designated dates.

### What is the end-of-beach season schedule?

The swim at your own risk will start once the lifeguarded season ends, per below. Minooka and Mukwonago Parks are currently swim at your own risk.

#### **Naga-Waukee Park** (651 S.T.H. 83, Hartland)

Staffed with lifeguards - 11am to 7pm daily through Wednesday, August 9 at 7pm.

Swim at your own risk - Thursday, August 10 to September 30.

#### **Menomonee** (W220N7884 Townline Road, Menomonee Falls) **and Muskego** (S83W20370 Janesville Road, Muskego) **Parks**

Staffed with lifeguards - 11am to 7pm daily through Wednesday, August 16 at 7pm

Swim at your own risk - Thursday, August 17 to September 30.

#### **Fox Brook Park** (2925 N. Barker Road, Brookfield)

Staffed with lifeguards - 11am to 7pm daily through Wednesday, August 23 at 7pm.

Swim at your own risk - Thursday, August 24 to Labor Day - September 4, 2017.

Watercraft Rentals through High Rollers, LLC, will be available through September 30.

#### **Minooka** (1927 E. Sunset Drive, Waukesha) **and Mukwonago** (S100 W31900 Cty Hwy LO, Mukwonago) **Parks**

Continue Swim at your own Risk through September 30.

### What are the Swim at Your Own Risk rules?

- No LIFEGUARDS ON DUTY – SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK signs will be posted
- All swimmers must stay within area designated by rope and buoys
- Fox Brook and Menomonee Park Beaches have steep drop-offs marked with buoys
- Parents and/or guardians are responsible for watching their children
- Water Quality testing (E.coli) will continue and signs will be posted per Waukesha County Policy and Procedures
- Park staff will conduct regular daily maintenance of the beach, restrooms, and surrounding area

### Will Waukesha County still staff beaches with lifeguards?

Waukesha County seeks to provide clean, safe, and family friendly beaches in our parks. Our beaches attract a high numbers of visitors on a daily basis. During the summer, when trained lifeguard staff is available, we will continue to provide lifeguards ready to assist in emergency situations as well as ensure park beach rules are followed.

(more)

### **What is involved in becoming a lifeguard for the Waukesha County Park System?**

To be qualified to apply for a lifeguard position, applicants must have current Lifeguard Certification through the American Red Cross. Certification courses are offered at local YMCA's, recreation departments, and health/fitness facilities. The Waukesha County Park System interview process involves successful completion of a written assessment, water skills assessment, and interview. In order to work at a beach facility, completion of an extra "Waterfront" certification module is required, which can be provided by Waukesha County upon hiring. If you are interested in becoming a lifeguard, please contact Holly Glainyk at (262) 896-8074 or [hglainyk@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:hglainyk@waukeshacounty.gov). We anticipate offering a lifeguard certification course in August to assist in recruiting staff for the 2018 season.

### **Where can I find out more information about this project?**

Updates will be posted on the Waukesha County Parks and Land Use website at [waukeshacountyparks.com](http://waukeshacountyparks.com). For questions or comments, you can call Waukesha County Park System at **(262) 548-7801**.