

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 12, 2012

# PRESS RELEASE

## **Geneseo Park District is an Illinois Distinguished Accredited Agency**

**WHAT:** The Geneseo Park District received the Illinois Distinguished Accredited Agency status with IAPD/IPRA. The Distinguished Agency award was presented to Sara Wirth (Board President) and Molly Hamer (Executive Director) on January 26, 2012 at the IAPD/IPRA All-Conference Award luncheon.

**WHY:** **The purpose of this award** is to improve the quality of life for Illinois residents and to recognize those agencies that provide exceptional Park and Recreation services to their community through a voluntary, comprehensive, professional accreditation process.

**Successful completion** of the Distinguished Park and Recreation Accreditation process has the following benefits:

- Recognition that the recreation agency provides exceptional Park and Recreation services to their community
- Increased operational efficiency & effectiveness
- Opportunity for updating and clarification of policies and procedures
- Meet professional standards for facilities and services
- Acknowledges elected officials as effective and efficient guardians of the public interest in parks and recreation, and of the public resources provided for recreation opportunities
- Acknowledged as employing qualified professionals
- Recognized as a leader in the State of Illinois in the field of parks and recreation

**HOW:** The Geneseo Park District is committed to meeting the highest standards in the Park and Recreation profession. By dedicating the past 18 months to go through the review and compilation of materials, as well as the evaluation process held in November 2012, the Geneseo Park District was able to earn 491.23 points out of a base of 500 points. This score exceeded the minimum 375 required to pass.

Please contact Molly Hamer at [mhamer@geneseoparkdistrict.org](mailto:mhamer@geneseoparkdistrict.org) or at (309) 944-5695 for more information.