

Legislative Update



THE LATEST LEGISLATIVE ISSUES AFFECTING PARKS, RECREATION and CONSERVATION

June 16, 2014

#22-2014

TO: IAPD Members

**FROM: Peter Murphy, JD, CAE, IAPD President and CEO
Jason Anselment, IAPD Legal/Legislative Counsel**

SUBJECT: IAPD Members Receive \$4.5 Million in Youth Corps Grants

The Governor's Office has just announced that **83 IAPD member agencies** will be receiving **more than \$4.5 Million** to hire 1,500 youth this summer under the Illinois Youth Recreation Corps program.

IAPD's advocacy efforts and strong partnership with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Governor's Office has resulted in an expansion of this funding for park districts and other IAPD member agencies for this summer's youth corps program.

More than two-thirds of the recipients of this year's grants are IAPD member agencies. When the grants were announced on April 1st, applicants were provided only two weeks to submit their application. We are very pleased that so many of our member agencies were able to meet the quick turnaround for these grant applications because they received IAPD's immediate announcement of the grants and our consistent reminders over the two-week application period.

The summer youth program continues to be successful because park districts and other local park and recreation agencies provide valuable training and work experience to so many youth while also expanding the programming that is available to other youth during the summer months.

Rest assured that IAPD will continue to advocate for an expansion of the summer youth corps program and that we will continue to urge our partners to accelerate the announcement of these grants in future years so that award announcements are more consistent with the summer hiring timelines of IAPD member agencies.

We want to thank Governor Quinn and IDNR Director Mark Miller for their commitment to this program.

Congratulations to the 83 IAPD member agencies that received more than \$4.5 Million!