

About Us

The Downers Grove Park District has established itself as a leader in providing high quality park areas, facilities and recreation experiences to residents of all ages, interests and abilities. The District serves almost 50,000 residents, oversees over 600 acres of parks and facilities and provides recreational programs to over 57,000 participants annually. The District embraces the philosophy that parks and recreation services are not discretionary items, but an investment that adds value to the lives of people and the community.

Businesses can partner with the Park District to reach target markets through one of several different opportunities including special events, programs, facilities, signage, publications and electronic advertising. Based on your level of partnership, your business will be supported through District marketing efforts providing exposure in the community and generating interest in your products and services. We understand that each company has unique objectives, therefore, partnerships are customizable and may include a combination of in-kind or cash sponsorship.

For information on partnership opportunities with the Downers Grove Park District, call (630) 963-1300 and ask to speak with one of our Public Information team members or e-mail partners@dgparks.org.

Parks & Environmental Opportunities

The Downers Grove Park District offers an opportunity to add beauty, color and texture to our suburban landscape while benefiting the entire community. The Park Donation program provides the perfect avenue for corporate sponsorship of a tree, bench, ornamental park amenity or other park feature. By sponsoring a tree, your business can reduce pollution, improve air quality, prevent soil erosion and protect wildlife. Memorialize a loved one by dedicating a park bench in their honor or get involved with our Adopt-A-Park program by assisting with beautification projects, spring and fall plantings, park workdays and neighborhood park watches.

Parks Partnership Opportunities:

- Tree Sponsor Program
- Park Bench Dedication Program
- Adopt-A-Park Program
- Customized Park Package

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Golf Course

The Downers Grove Park District Golf Course is noted as the site of the first 18-hole golf course (now 9-holes) in the United States designed by C. B. MacDonald in 1892. With its picturesque views and beautifully maintained greens and fairways, the Downers Grove Golf Course offers players of all ages and abilities a challenging golf experience. The historic 9-hole, par 36 course stretches over 3,200 yards and offers a 24-station driving range, chipping and putting practice greens and a 4,000 square foot clubhouse.

The Course boasts over 42,000 rounds and 26,000 range visits annually, plus a variety of tournaments, leagues and outings. Your business can take advantage of the Downers Grove Golf Course as a highly visible marketing resource. These opportunities can be less expensive than newspaper advertising or direct mail pieces and customizable to specific niche markets (youth, ladies, seniors, leagues).

Golf Course Marketing Opportunities

- Tee Sign Advertising (1, 2 or 3 year commitment available)
- Scorecard Advertising (1, 2 or 3 year commitment available)
- Range Ball Advertising (3 year commitment)
- Sales Receipt Advertising (1 year commitment)
- Tournaments & Leagues (1 year commitment)
- Bi-monthly Golf Newsletter Advertisement (electronic and print)

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Natural Areas & Museum

The William F. Sherman, Jr. Interpretive Center is host to a multitude of nature programs and camps and sits on 150 acres of natural area at Lyman Woods with over 5,900 visitors and participants annually. Belmont Prairie is a 25 acre Illinois Nature Preserve including high-quality remnant prairie on 10 acres. This area is one of the last original prairies in Illinois, where over 300 species of plants and wildlife can be observed. Enhance program offerings and educational opportunities for the community by supporting our natural areas with needed supplies, sponsorships and in-kind donations. Your business can promote itself as an environmental steward and proponent of green initiatives of the Park District and community.

The Downers Grove Park District Museum provides educational and recreation opportunities for the community by collecting, preserving, exhibiting and interpreting materials that explain and document the history of Downers Grove. With over 3,000 visitors and participants each year, the Museum is the perfect opportunity to associate your company with an historic and culturally enriching asset.

Partnership Opportunities:

William F. Sherman, Jr. Interpretive Center

- Nature Programs
- T.I.M.B.E.R. Packs
- Compost Exhibit
- Green House Project
- Newsletter Ad
- Donor Tree

Museum

- Programs
- Events
- Exhibits
- Plowboys Vintage Base Ball Team

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Advertising Opportunities

The Downers Grove Park District has several opportunities for print and electronic advertising. Your ad can reach every household in Downers Grove through the seasonal Recreation and Parks Guide. Perhaps E-marketing will benefit your company more with an ad on the Park District web site or monthly E-newsletter. Advertising through Downers Grove Park District Publications can save your business money!

Our state-of-the-art 69,000 square foot Recreation and Fitness Center has a variety of avenues available to advertise your company's message and enhance visibility. Approximately 38,000 patrons will be exposed to your company's message each month via the full service fitness center, indoor track, rental space, fitness class rooms, three full-size gymnasiums and childcare facility.

Marketing/Advertising Opportunities*

- Seasonal Recreation and Parks Guide advertising space (4 guides delivered to 23,000 addresses annually)
- Golden Grapevine advertising space (Quarterly newsletter for Active Adults)
- Banner or Backlit Sign at Recreation Center
- Banner at Athletic Field
- Digital advertising at Recreation Center on two 42" Plasma TV's
- Company ad on the Park District homepage (banner or skyscraper)
- Company ad in monthly E-Newsletter (delivered to 4,000 addresses monthly)

*Less expensive than newspaper advertising or direct mail pieces!

*Measurable results through tracking features!

*Reach thousands of Park District users and specific interest markets such as athletics and fitness.

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Recreation & Athletic Programs

The Downers Grove Park District has established itself as a leader in providing high-quality recreation experiences to residents of all ages, interests and abilities through a variety of programs and services. Promote your business to approximately 55,000 players, parents and spectators through athletic leagues and tournaments. Supplies, cash sponsorships and in-kind donations can build upon the quality of programs and events and enhance recreation opportunities for the community.

Partnership Opportunities:

Recreation Programs

- Active Adult Center/Senior Programs
- Preschool/Early Childhood
- Summer Camps
- Teen Trips/Programs
- Cultural Arts

Athletic Programs

- Adult Athletics
- Leagues
- Tournaments
- Youth Athletics
- Leagues
- Equipment

Benefits of your partnership:

- Company logo/name on program advertising (Recreation and Parks Guide, flyers, posters, etc.)
- Company logo on Park District web site as a partner of the program(s).
- Company banner displayed in the Recreation Center or at a particular athletic field.
- Company may attend program sessions to promote through displays, samples, or give-aways. Sales permitted at the discretion of the Park District.
- Company name on press release as a corporate sponsor.
- Exclusivity rights in business category if available.
- Other opportunities as recommended upon agreement between the partner and Park District.

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Special Events

The Downers Grove Park District produces a variety of special events every year. Each event offers potential sponsors a multitude of opportunities including product exclusivity, logo placement, on-site promotions and signage! Levels of sponsorships vary depending on the size and scope of the event. Make a memorable impact while receiving a significant amount of marketing exposure, community relations and return on your investment. An event sponsorship with the Park District allows each sponsor the opportunity to promote, and in some cases, sell your product or services to event attendees. The Park District guides each sponsor through the entire special event process: proposal negotiation, event planning, event-day logistics and post-event evaluation.

Downers Grove Park District Special Events:

- Middle School Night - End of Year Bash (April)
- Woof-Hoefer Dog Park Event (April)
- Road Rally (Adults Only, April)
- Bunny Hop Egg Hunt (April)
- Earth Day Celebration (April)
- Summer Family Concert Series (11 concerts May – August)
- 5 & 10 Miler (June)
- Summer Splash (July)
- Fishing Derby (August)
- Teen Battle of the Bands (August)
- Passport to Safety (September)
- Middle School Night - Back to School Bash (September)
- Chili Cook-off – NEW! (fall)
- Socctoberfest (October)
- Wheely Big Trucks (October)
- Father/Daughter Dance (October)
- America Recycles Day (November)
- Polar Express (November/December)
- Basketball Tournament (varies)

For details on these events, please visit www.dgparks.org or call (630) 963-1300.

Benefits of your partnership with the Park District:

- Company logo on event advertising (newspaper, flyers, posters, website, etc.).
- Company logo on Park District web site as a partner of the event(s).
- Booth space at event (Partner to provide 10' x 10' tent. Park District to provide tables and chairs).
- Partner may utilize booth at event(s) for displaying, sampling, or give-aways. Sales permitted at the discretion of the Park District.
- Complimentary parking passes for staff working company booth.
- Company name on press releases as a corporate sponsor.
- Souvenir items (when available, i.e. t-shirt, promo item).
- Partner tie-in rights. Park District must pre-approve any tie-ins.
- Public recognition of partnership through on-site announcements.
- Exclusivity rights in business category if available.
- Other opportunities as recommended upon agreement between the partner and Park District.

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