

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Public Act 96-542 (SB 189)

The Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) is designed to ensure that the public has access to information about their government and its decision-making process.

How to File a Freedom of Information Act Request

1. Please make your request for information in writing. The park district has a form available through the FOIA officer and on the web site at <http://www.freeportparkdistrict.org>. We will honor all written requests submitted through personal delivery, mail, fax or email. Please direct your request to:

FOIA Officer – Executive Director or Office Manager
Freeport Park District
1122 S. Burchard Avenue
P. O. Box 417
Freeport, IL 61032
contact@freeportparkdistrict.org

2. Be as specific as possible describing the information you seek.
3. Do you wish to inspect or receive copies of the information? You are entitled to either.
4. The first 50 pages of information (standard black and white copies) is free. For pages beyond 50, there is a .15¢ per page fee. All color or oversized copies are the actual cost of reproduction.
5. Include your name, mailing address, phone number where you can be reached and if you wish, email address.
6. Payment of all fees must be made in cash, cashiers, certified or personal check, or money order prior to copying.

Types of Records Available from the Park District

Ordinances	License information
Resolutions	Internal Communications
Meeting agendas and minutes	Letters received by the district
Annual Audits	Letter sent by the district
Tax Levy information	Personnel Policies
Accounts payables and receivables	Personnel Files
Salary Schedules	Insurance information
Board Policies	Workers Comp information
Inspection results	Weekly reports to the Board

Once a FOIA request is received, with some exceptions, the Park District will fulfill the request within five working days. The district will notify the requestor in writing within five working days if additional time is warranted or needed.

Freeport Park District Agency Profile

The Freeport Park District is a unit of local government authorized under Chapter 70 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes (ILCS) and founded on June 6, 1911.

“The mission of the Freeport Park District is to promote the use of recreation in generating an exciting, dynamic quality of life by providing the highest quality facilities and programs to meet the ever-changing needs and interests of individuals of all ages and abilities. The Park District will preserve and protect land and resources for the enrichment of the community and future generations.”

The Park District Administrative offices are located in Read Park at 1122 S. Burchard Avenue. The phone number is 815-235-6114. Our email address is contact@freeportparkdistrict.org.

The Freeport Park District is governed by a five-member Board of Park Commissioners who are elected to six-year terms by the residents of the district. The following five currently serve as commissioners:

<u>Elected Commissioner</u>	<u>Commission Expires</u>
George Yartzak	2025
Denise McIlwain	2027
Dana Stewart	2027
Debbie Schwartz	2029
Sally Petersen	2029

Park Board meetings are typically held the first and third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Park District Administrative Office. The public is invited to attend.

The Board hires the Executive Director to manage the day-to-day operations of the District. The District has four operating divisions...Parks, Recreation, Golf and Administration. The following individuals manage the respective divisions. Their contact information is listed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Ron Schneider	Executive Director	815-235-6114 ext. 105
Vickie Witt	Office Manager	815-235-6114 ext. 102
Bruce Cubberley	Superintendent of Parks	815-235-6114 ext. 103
Jeff Hartman	Golf Course Manager/Pro	815-235-3611
Berin Jackson	Superintendent of Recreation	815-235-6114 Ext 109

The District's operating budget is \$4,163,604 in 2023-24. The population of the Park District is 23,973 according to 2020 census data.

5 Member Elected Board of Park Commissioners

Executive Director
1122 S. Burchard Ave.

Office Manager
1122 S. Burchard Ave.

Park Superintendent
Park Maintenance Facility
1809 S. Park Blvd.

Golf Course Manager
Park Hills Golf Course
3240 W. Stephenson

Recreation Superintendent
1122 S. Burchard

Read Park Family Aquatic Center

Krape Park
1799 S. Park Blvd
120 Acres

Bidwell Park
1124 W. Pleasant
2 Acres

Read Park
1122 W. Empire
42 Acres

Wilbur Park
541 N. Brewster
1 Acre

Taylor Park
900 E. Stephenson
80 Acres

Knowlton Park
Locust & Broadway
1 Acre

Winter Park
2023 Bedford Rd.
1 Acre

Wetlands Preserve
830 IL26
56 Acres

Oakdale Nature Preserve
4433 S. Cranes Grove Road
130 Acres

(Stephenson County Historical Society)
Oscar Taylor Home
1440 S. Carroll Avenue
3 Acres

Deacon Davis Basketball Courts
(On Lease from NICOR Gas)
S. Liberty & Jackson
1 Acre