



Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA)
www.wdsra.com

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We are the Western DuPage Special Recreation Association providing social and recreational programs for children, teens and adults right here in DuPage County.

Summer Program Brochure is Online!

Summer Program Registration opens - Monday, 4/27 @ 9am!

New programs. Fresh experiences. Endless fun! Our summer lineup is packed with your favorite programs and brand-new adventures you won't want to miss.

We invite you to take a look at the youth sports line up, our variety of special events, and all our new programs! So whether you're looking to try something new or return to a summer favorite, there's something for everyone.

The summer program brochure can be found at <https://www.wdsra.com/>.

WDSRA Summer Jobs

Want to get paid to have fun, make a difference, and create unforgettable memories? Join our summer team and be a part of something amazing!

We are hiring

- **WDSRA CAMP STAFF** - runs after summer school
- **FULL DAY PARK DISTRICT CAMP** - assist campers with special needs in park district camps
- **PARTIAL DAY CAMP** - morning/afternoon specialty camps (e.g. sports camps)
- **CAMP HEAD INSTRUCTORS**
- **FIELD SUPERVISORS FOR INCLUSION**

Visit <https://www.wdsra.com/employment-volunteers/>

Autism Acceptance Month – Recreation as a Pathway to Belonging

April invites us to move beyond awareness and really lean into acceptance—welcoming individuals living with autism into the everyday spaces where community comes to life. One of the most powerful places that sense of belonging begins is through recreation. When someone finds an activity that truly matches their interests, it's about so much more than filling an afternoon. It builds confidence. It sparks friendships. It brings joy. And it creates connection.

At WDSRA, we see this play out every single day. For nearly 50 years, our focus has been on creating inclusive, community-based recreation so individuals of all abilities—including those living with autism—can connect, participate, and thrive. As we celebrate our 50th year, it feels especially meaningful. This milestone isn't just about looking back at how far we've come; it's about reaffirming our commitment to a future where belonging is the norm, not the exception.

So what does acceptance look like in action? It looks like programs built around individual interests and strengths. It looks like opportunities where participants can engage at their own pace, supported by trained staff who understand that people experience and process the world in different ways. And it looks like shared experiences—on the court, in the studio, at camp, or out in the community—where friendships form naturally.

Learn more at <https://www.positivelynaperville.com/2026/04/14/wdsra-autism-acceptance-month-recreation-as-a-pathway-to-belonging/157839> . Look for the WDSRA column.

Wrap With that, all I can do is wrap it up. If you have any questions about anything we talked about here today, please give us a call. We are happy to answer them all! Contact us at 630-681-0962 or check out our website at www.wdsra.com. And please, stay connected with us by following us on Facebook or signing up for our enews.

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WDSRA

Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA) provides engaging, community-based recreational programs and inclusion services for children, teens, and adults with special needs. WDSRA offers Special Olympics, adapted sports, dance and art programs, camps, trips, special events, and more. WDSRA's mission, the development of individuals through recreation, makes it possible for individuals to grow personally, connect with their community and discover their potential.

WDSRA is an award-winning organization and a cooperative extension of nine park districts serving the communities of Bloomingdale, Carol Stream, Glen Ellyn, Naperville, Roselle, Warrenville, West Chicago, Wheaton, and Winfield.

MISSION *We enrich lives, connect communities and create fun through inclusive recreational opportunities.*

VISION *A world of opportunities, belonging and individuals reaching their full potential.*

Learn more at www.wdsra.com.