



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
www.LCFPD.org

Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

Dear Group Leader,

Thank you for your interest in a visit to the Beach at Independence Grove! Independence Grove Forest Preserve's spring-fed lake features a 400' guarded beach, with a sand bottom swim area and a maximum depth of approximately five feet. Our beach house offers washrooms, showers and coin-operated lockers for your use, plus concession sales either at the beach house or at the Café located at the North wall of the Visitor's Center. A group rate of \$4 per participant is available to groups of 15 or more, Monday through Friday. This group rate includes free bus/van parking (up to \$150 savings), reserved use of a shaded picnic area with picnic tables, as well as free admission for one chaperone per every five participants. Beach group rates will **not** be offered on Saturday or Sunday, or without a reservation at least 10 days in advance.

In order to secure your reservation(s), please return the enclosed Reservation Form and a non-refundable deposit equal to 25 percent of your estimated fee. A separate Reservation Form must be completed for each date you plan to visit, but estimated deposits maybe combined into one payment. Please note that by signing and returning the form(s), you are acknowledging and agreeing to the terms and regulations listed on both pages of the form(s). I strongly encourage you to photocopy the contract and regulations for your file prior to returning the form(s). This will allow you to pass these important issues on to your staff/chaperones prior to your visit. Please note that **payment in full is required at the time of each visit. No on-site refunds will be given for overpayment by check, and there will be a \$15 processing fee charged for overpayment by check.**

Upon your arrival, we do require groups and their leaders to attend a brief safety orientation with an Independence Grove staff member to reinforce the policies and procedures that we will use to keep your group members safe and provide a positive experience. Please plan 10 - 15 minutes for this important step.

It is a pleasure to serve you and your group! Please feel free to contact me, or a member of the Forest Preserve staff at Independence Grove, so that we may best meet the needs of your group outing.

Sincerely,

Sara Page

Sara Page
Visitor Services Manager
Independence Grove
Lake County Forest Preserves
16400 West Buckley Road
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Independence Grove Forest Preserve
16400 West Buckley Road, Libertyville, IL 60048
Phone (847) 968-3499
IndependenceGrove@lcfpd.org

BEACH GROUP USE RESERVATION FORM

Please Print All Information

Organization Name _____

Organization Address _____

Group Contact _____ Email _____

Phone _____ Requested Date _____ Time _____ to _____

Estimated Fee (\$4 x _____ participants) \$_____ # of Chaperones _____

Non-Refundable Deposit Amount (25% of Est. Fee) \$_____ Date _____

Mail Deposit Fee to 16400 West Buckley Rd Libertyville, IL 60048 OR call 847-968-3499 with credit card information.

To the best of your ability, please inform us if there are any members of your group that meet any of the following characterizations: Mentally/Physically Disabled, Seizure Prone, Hearing Impaired, any behavioral issues, or any other conditions we should be made aware of: Yes _____ No _____

(If yes, please explain) _____

For Office Use/IGFP Staff Only:

Total # Charged Participants @ \$4/each _____ Total # Chaperones @ **No Charge** (1 Free per 5 Participants) _____ Total Cost \$ _____

Dep. Pmt. Amt. (Specify MC/Visa/Disc. , Check # or Cash) _____ Rec'd. by _____ Date _____

Balance/Pmt. In Full Amt. (Specify MC/Visa/Disc. , Check # or Cash) _____ Rec'd. by _____ Date _____

Policies/Procedures:

Group Use Hours: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday - Friday ONLY, 2nd week in June – end of 2nd week in August. Lake County Forest Preserve staff reserves the right to close the Beach due to inclement weather, non-conducive weather conditions, poor water quality, overcrowding, darkness, behavior violations, etc. If the beach is open, but the group decides to cancel due to weather or other reason, the group will forfeit deposit.

Responsibility: The individual signing this Reservation Form/authorizing payment will be held responsible for providing any and all supervision by chaperones during this event, are solely responsible for determining the swimming ability of all group participants, shall be responsible for the actions of the group and the cleanliness of the area used, and ensuring that all guests and invitees comply with all applicable rules and regulations pertaining to use of the Preserve. An assessment will be made at the site after the event; if area is not cleaned up or has incurred damage(s), said individual/organization will be billed accordingly.

Liability: The Lake County Forest Preserve District (District) does not assume any liability for property lost or stolen on the premises, or for personal injuries sustained on the premises. The individual signing this Reservation Form/ authorizing payment shall be responsible for inspecting the area prior to use and shall be responsible for bringing to the District's attention any potential dangers, safety hazards or problems. Said individual hereby agrees to assume the full risk of any injuries, damages, or loss that members of the group may sustain during this event. It is fully understood and agreed that to the fullest extent permitted by law, said individual shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the District, its officials, employees, volunteers and agents against any and all liabilities, claims, damages, losses, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising indirectly or directly in connection with or under, or as a result of this Agreement.



BEACH GROUP USE REGULATIONS

Beach is subject to unscheduled closing due to weather and conditions. Swimming may be restricted or prohibited under the following conditions: *poor water quality *overcrowding *darkness *lightning/thunder
*behavior violations *weather non-conducive for swimming

All swimmers under age of 12 years must be accompanied by an adult, guardian or other responsible person age 16 years or over, and be supervised at all times.

All chaperones must attend to the group for the duration of the visit, and must be in proper swim attire, prepared to assist children in the water. No unattended group members in the locker rooms please.

Group leaders are responsible for behavior of all group members. As per the Independence Grove participant behavior policy, The Lake County Forest Preserves reserves the right to remove any participant(s) from water activities based on behavior.

- * No breath-holding or "Dare" games are allowed
- * No diving or throwing of sand, weeds or rocks
- * No climbing on guard chairs
- * Swimmers must remain within the designated swim area
- * Swimming in street clothing is not allowed; please wear proper swim attire
- * Patrons who repeatedly violate written or verbal safety procedures will be removed from the Beach

Group leaders are requested to bring to the attention of Preserve staff any special needs swimmers, such as seizure prone swimmers, hearing impaired swimmers, etc. For those with limited mobility, a beach wheelchair that rolls over the sand and into the water with the assistance of a caregiver is available upon request and is free of charge. A waiver is required to be completed for the water wheelchair.

Group leaders must bring emergency situations to the attention of the facility lifeguards, who will be the first responders for all rescue and/or first aid issues.

There are no inflatable balls or rafts, beach or soccer balls, noodles, kickboards, water wings or otherwise unauthorized flotation devices allowed. These items could give a false sense of security to a swimmer and create an unsafe situation. However, we are happy to provide you with a United States Coast Guard approved lifejacket; please ask a staff member to lend you one for your visit.

Glass containers are not allowed on the Beach.

All sand mounds, trenches and castles are to be leveled before leaving to ensure safety of others.

Deposit litter in proper receptacles.

All Lake County Forest Preserve District ordinances apply to group outings.

All groups must complete the Lake County Forest Preserves safety orientation presentation.

The Lake County Forest Preserve District requires your cooperation when using our facilities to help maintain our Preserves for the benefit and enjoyment of everyone. Signing below signifies acceptance of the policies and terms listed above and on the reverse, and verifies acknowledgement of required safety orientation.

Group Leader _____ Guard _____ Date _____