

VILLAGE OF GLENDALE HEIGHTS

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Village of Glendale Heights to Host a National Training Program to Make America's Aquatic Facilities Safer

Glendale Heights, Illinois (February 27, 2014) – The Village of Glendale Heights will host a two-day Aquatic Facility Operator (AFO) Certification Course on April 16 and 17 to train and certify aquatic and recreation professionals in safe and efficient aquatic facility operation and management.

NRPA's AFO program is specifically designed to meet the needs of individuals working in public, semi-public, and municipal pool or waterpark facilities, and to provide training and information for both supervisory and operations staff. The AFO instructor team is comprised of top aquatic professionals who have diverse backgrounds in aquatic facility operations and management.

The course provides in-depth instruction in all facets of aquatic facility operation and management, including: filtration, disinfection, water testing and treatment, design considerations, facility management, risk management, facility trouble shooting, and hot tub and spa operation. The intent of the program is to create better operators, who in turn make safer, more appealing environments, and increasingly efficient programs for aquatic venues.

"According to federal research on aquatics, swimming is the third-most popular sports activity in the U.S., and the country has 8.8 million residential and public-use swimming pools," said Barbara Tulipane, CEO of NRPA. "It's the responsibility of our industry to provide and engage in the most high-level, quality training possible so we can ensure the nation's aquatic landscape is safe, efficient and fun."

About NRPA

The National Recreation and Park Association is a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing park, recreation and conservation efforts that enhance quality of life for all people. Through its network of some 21,000 recreation and park professionals and citizens, NRPA encourages the promotion of healthy lifestyles, recreation initiatives, and conservation of natural and cultural resources.

For more information, visit <u>www.nrpa.org</u>. For digital access to NRPA's flagship publication, *Parks & Recreation*, visit <u>www.parksandrec-magazine.org</u>.