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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Centerville-Washington Park District Celebrates National Park and Recreation Month

Centerville, OH, July 1, 2010 – Centerville-Washington Park District will celebrate Park and Recreation Month by offering exciting events and programs for people of all ages and capabilities.

Each July since 1985, America has celebrated Park and Recreation Month. This year’s theme is Celebrate, Advocate, Recreate! Park and recreation agencies and citizens are encouraged to plan special events and initiatives that remind local decision makers and the community of the exciting and *vital* role that parks and recreation play in the lives of Americans.

Area legislators are invited to spend some time at local parks and programs on Wednesday, July 14, 2010. The day will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a visit to the Activity Center Park to see the shelter, sprayground, and all-access playground made possible through an Ohio NatureWorks grant. Then hike in the 102-acre Oak Grove Park with participants of the Hike for Your Health program. Oak Grove Park was partially funded from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The tour will continue at the renovated Oak Creek South Park with a visit the new skate park, baseball fields, playground, and shelter. Partial funding for the playground and shelter was provided by the Ohio NatureWorks grant. Later in the day, a winner will be drawn for the raffle prize at Grant Park’s Hidden Meadows Day Camp and snow cones will be served at the summer special event, Winter In July, held at Iron Horse Park. While at Iron Horse, legislators are invited to walk down the Iron Horse Trail which was made possible with funding from the Clean Ohio Trails Program. The day will end with a toss of the first pitch at an adult softball game played at Yankee Park.

“Park and Recreation Month is the time to show all of America, citizens and public decision makers alike, of the extremely exciting and important role that parks and recreation play for communities,” said Barbara Tulipane, CEO of NRPA. “I can’t think of a better excuse for citizens to get out every day and experience for themselves the positive health effects, economic benefits, social interaction, and connection to nature and open space that comes with vibrant and supported parks and recreation.”

Park and Recreation Month is a program of the National Recreation and Park Association. For more information, go to www.nrpa.org/july.

About the National Recreation and Park Association

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) 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 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 www.nrpa.org. For digital access to NRPA’s flagship publication, *Parks & Recreation*, visit www.parksandrec-magazine.org.

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