



Springfield Park District

www.springfieldparks.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SPRINGFIELD PARK DISTRICT TO BE ONE OF THE HOST SITES FOR THE CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT AS PART OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF LINCOLN'S FUNERAL FESTIVITIES

(Springfield, IL)- The Springfield Park District is excited to announce that we will be the host site at Lincoln Park May 1st, 2nd & 3rd to about 600 Civil War Re-enactors. They will be setting up camp and performing drills during this weekend's celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's Funeral.

The Lincoln Funeral Coalition approached the District over a year and half ago requesting to host the re-enactment festivities at Lincoln Park and we were thrilled to partner with them. They had already partnered with Benedictine University to place half of the group on Benedictine school grounds and then came to us about placing the other half of the camps within Lincoln Park. Overall there are to be around 1200 Civil War Re-enactors camping between the two sites and taking us back to 1865. Plan to view Lincoln Park as thousands of soldiers traveled to be present during Abraham Lincoln's Funeral proceedings.

The re-enactors will begin moving into Lincoln Park on Thursday, April 30th. Lincoln Park will become closed to thru traffic and visitor parking as of Friday, May 1st. **The site will be walking tours only from 8:00 am – 8:00 pm May 1-3rd.** We encourage tourists to park at the Department of Agriculture Employee Parking lot at Gate 11 on Saturday and Sunday only. The State Fairgrounds has graciously designated their lot for guest parking over the weekend. And we ask that visitors please take care when parking in surrounding neighborhoods. There will be a safe-crossing at 5th and Sangamon. The Lincoln Funeral Coalition is organizing the overall activities within our Park and we are thrilled to be a part of this historic event.

They will have 7 Suttlers on hand selling supplies and Civil War era souvenirs. There will be period musical performances on Friday afternoon, Friday evening and Saturday afternoon on the small stage in Lincoln Park. The soldiers will perform drills, as well as be shooting canons over Saturday and Sunday activities. Visitors can expect to see Infantry, the Cavalry, mixed Civilian and Military Camps and all participants in period 1865 costume.

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For more information on this topic and any other Park District news related items, please visit our Website at www.springfieldparks.org

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