

NEDSRA Introduces New Executive Director

Rick Poole has taken over as the new executive director for the Northeast DuPage Special Recreation Association starting on May 11. Poole will replace Jeena Greenwalt, the director for the past four years, who has stepped down for health reasons. The NEDSRA board did not have to look far to find their replacement candidate as Poole has been the Deputy Director of the Lombard Park District for the past 12 years.

Poole is familiar with NEDSRA, as the Lombard Park District is one of 11 member partners supporting NEDSRA's programs for individuals with disabilities. He has a Master of Science degree in Managerial Leadership from National Lewis University and also attended Western Illinois University where he received his Bachelor of Science Degree.

At the Lombard Park District, some of Poole's accomplishments were being on the design team that constructed the Paradise Bay Water Park, building public support for the \$5.9 million dollar park referendum in 2008, and overseeing the process to enter and win the prestigious Gold Medal award for the Lombard Park District presented by the National Recreation and Park Association.

Poole is a 29 year veteran in the recreation field having worked for the park districts of Arlington Heights, Wheeling, and Carol Stream prior to coming to Lombard in 2002. He is also a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional.

