

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF **ADAM J. BELLO** MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE HOSTS HONORARY "FIRST SPLASH" AT NEW ONTARIO BEACH PARK SPRAY PARK AND PLAYGROUND

The playground and spray park continue Monroe County's focus on making parks more accessible

ROCHESTER, NY — Monroe County Executive Adam Bello today opened up the new Ontario Beach Park accessible spray park and inclusive playground with an honorary "first splash":

"The accessible spray park and inclusive playground will be a great addition to Ontario Beach Park during hot summer days for the entire family," **said County Executive Bello.** "These new amenities combined with our ADA beach mat at Ontario Beach Park exemplify our commitment to increased accessibility and inclusivity for all of our residents. Thank you to our Parks Director Pat Meredith, Wegmans and my colleagues at the Monroe County Legislature for securing the funding to make this a reality."

The inclusive playground has ADA-accessible features including ramps, an inclusive see-saw, and a rubberized flooring easily navigable by those who use wheelchairs or have mobility challenges. The accessible Spray Park is equipped with a Lighthouse entitled the "Leakin Beacon" which was part of a \$50,000 donation from Wegmans as well as a pirate ship, frogs, turtles, and other features.

"Monroe County's Parks are some of the best in the nation and ensuring all our citizens have the opportunity to experience them is incredibly important," **said Monroe County Legislature President Yversha Román**. "I'm very happy to be here today to announce the first inclusive playground in Monroe County and spray park within the Monroe County Parks system. Especially on this very hot day, I enthusiastically support this initiative with County Executive Bello and the staff in our parks department and welcome all residents in Monroe County to visit Ontario Beach Park."

"Wegmans has enhanced many features at the park since 1990 and today we are excited to join Monroe County to open an accessible spray pad for children to cool off and stay safe in the water everyday" **said Linda Lovejoy, Community Relations Manager at Wegmans**.

The spray park is free to use and will operate at regular hours of 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and, during this week's heat wave, the spray park will operate with extended hours from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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