

## **Nicole Perry**

**Bio:** I was born and raised in Aurora and grew up participating in recreational activities through the Fox Valley Park District. I attended Eastern Illinois University and earned a bachelor's degree in communications. I started taking dance classes when I was 4 years old at the Eola Community Center and continued until I finished middle school. I've had the opportunity to get my son involved in recreational activities, such as sports and swim lessons offered at FVPD. It's great to see he shares the same excitement and joy as I did when I was participating in these programs.

**How did your career in the parks & recreation industry begin?** I started working for the park district in 2021 as a part-time guest services representative at the Vaughan Athletic Center. I was still in college at the time and was seeking a job close to home along with a place of employment that offered opportunities to grow in my career after I finished school. I worked part-time for 2 years and became a full-time guest services representative at the Cole Center. While working Cole, I was promoted to my current role as the Human Resources Administrative Assistant.

### **Describe the main responsibilities of your role:**

My main responsibilities are to assist with the new employee onboarding process by scheduling and processing new hire and volunteer paperwork and fingerprints; assisting supervisors with tasks and projects; and data entry and filing.

### **What do you enjoy most about working for the Fox Valley Park District?**

This is where the fun begins! The community, staff, and work environment are what I enjoy the most. I'm grateful to work for an organization that is family oriented, offers flexible work hours, and has a positive, healthy work environment with friendly staff. It truly makes an overall difference in your life when you enjoy coming to work every day.

### **What traits do you feel lend well to a career in parks & recreation?**

Those that desire a sense of community, family, and aspire to create positive and impactful opportunities for the growth of the community.