

PARKS & RECREATION

Quarterly Newsletter



October 1, 2025

Thank you for subscribing to the City of Monroe's quarterly Parks & Recreation Newsletter. Learn about news, events, volunteer opportunities, upcoming projects and more, all happening within our parks. Plus, fun facts you may not have known.

NEWS

New Parks & Recreation Director

We'd like to introduce Kevin Teague, our new Parks Director! Kevin comes to us from the City of Sammamish where he served as their Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities and brings with him, many years of excellent experience in the parks and recreation field. Kevin has called Monroe

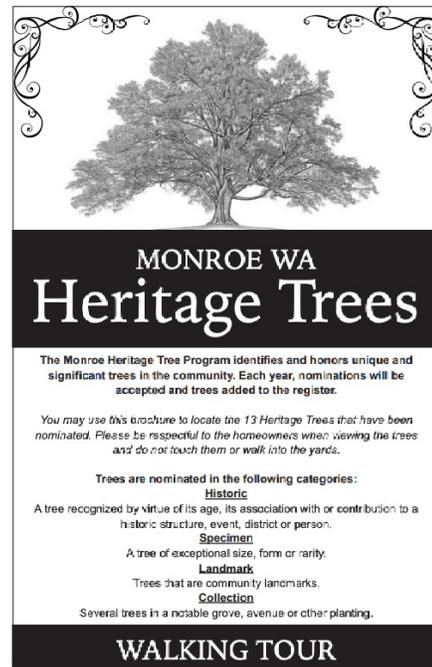
home for over 30 years and is no stranger to our community. A fun fact... in his free time you might find him tending his at-home Christmas tree operation.



Heritage Tree Program

Did you know Monroe has a Heritage Tree Program? Launched in 2018 and sponsored by the city, Monroe Park Board, and Monroe Historical Society, the program identifies and honors unique and significant trees in the community. Trees can be native, or non-native species and be located on either private property or public lands. Ninety percent of the tree must be visible from a public right of way (ROW). The categories for Heritage Trees are:

1. Specimen - a tree of exceptional size, form, or rarity.
2. Historic - a tree recognized by virtue of its age, its association with, or contribution to a historic structure or district, or, its association with a noted person or historic event.
3. Landmark - trees that are community landmarks.
4. Collection - several trees in a notable grove, avenue, or other planting.



Fall is a great time to take crisp, brisk walks around the city and look for these Heritage Trees. Or, does someone you know have an interesting tree adorning their property? Nomination forms can be [found online](#), or by stopping by Monroe City Hall and speaking to one of our parks staff. [View the current Heritage Tree Flyer here.](#)

Park Board Openings

If you love Monroe's parks and trails as much as we do, consider serving on our Park Board and imagine Monroe's future park system. The Park Board consists of seven members who are tasked with reviewing comprehensive park and recreation plans and making recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on improvements to parkland, facilities, and programs. The Board meets every third Thursday of the month. [To learn more visit the City's website](#), and to apply, [submit this application](#) to cityclerk@monroewa.gov.

Parks & Playgrounds Brochure

For years, customers have requested a brochure of all our parks and we are finally happy to announce we have one! [This brochure](#) gives a brief description of

each of our parks and includes a map of where each park is located within the city. Hard copies can be picked up at City Hall or the Monroe Chamber of Commerce/Visitor Center.

Parks & Rec. Staff Move to Remodeled City Hall

City Hall has reopened at the [Monroe Civic Campus](#), 806 W. Main St. City staff are available to assist you during the core business hours of Mon. through Fri., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., in-person, via phone, or email. Parks administrative and maintenance staff are available to assist walk-in customers with questions about special event permitting, park reservations, community gardens, and volunteer opportunities. Visit our department's webpage for information about these and other services at [MonroeWA.gov/parks](#). To submit an online service request, question, or complaint, click to our customer service portal, [Monroe Listens](#).



The remodel and expansion of City Hall, including the City Council Chambers, and [Monroe Municipal Court](#), address life-safety and accessibility deficiencies, repair and replace aging building systems, improve customer experience, and better align department coordination. City services have occupied the Municipal Campus since 1977.

The October 16 [Park Board](#) meeting will be held at the campus location. Park Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. You can attend meetings in-person or virtually. To view agendas, visit our [Meeting & Agenda webpage](#).

PARK PROJECTS

Finalizing Currie View Park

This quarter our staff will be working to finalize the last items at Currie View Park. These tasks include finishing the fence, installing the drinking fountain, and seeding disturbed areas.

Julia V. Morris Food Bank Garden

Staff has been working with Monroe Garden Club to finalize details on a new fence for the Food Bank Garden. At this time, a hog wire panel fence is in the plans to be installed by the end of the year.

EVENTS

October 4: Miracle League - Rotary Field - 8 a.m.

Miracle League's Fall Season will wrap up on Saturday, October 4. Don't miss your chance to witness this inclusive, stress free, non-competitive game, where everyone hits, everyone runs bases, and everyone gets home.

November 30: Light Up Monroe - Travelers Park - 5 p.m.

The Monroe Chamber of Commerce partners with the City for the annual

Light Up Monroe Event. Come for the cocoa and stay for the carols! Warm your hands amongst fire pits as you chat with neighbors and friends awaiting the count down. Around 5 p.m. the countdown to the tree lighting will begin!



DID YOU KNOW?

Question: Can you identify the tree in Travelers Park that gets adorned with lights for the city's Light Up Monroe event?

Answer: The tree is a Coastal Sequoia. It was planted and donated to the city by the Monroe Garden Club. According to club member Mildred Ness, the tree was decorated with lights by the garden club until it grew too tall to reach the branches. In 2017, the tree was once again used for a community tree lighting ceremony. With permanent lights installed in its branches, it will continue to be a gathering point for Monroe residents to celebrate the holidays.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Wood Chip Spreading

Over the next quarter our Parks staff will be looking for some help spreading wood chips at playgrounds. This commitment requires moving play chips from one location to another using wheel barrows and spreading the chips using shovels and rakes. If you would like to volunteer for this task, please [email srowe@monroewa.gov](mailto:srowe@monroewa.gov).

MISSION STATEMENT

The Monroe Parks and Recreation Department is committed to:

- Protecting and enhancing the natural beauty of Monroe through the development of a vibrant system of parks, open space, and trails
- Providing residents of all ages positive opportunities for recreation and social gathering in clean, safe, accessible, and inclusive facilities and green spaces
- Enhancing health, quality living, and the natural environment for present and future generations



“Any portion of an individual’s time not occupied by employment or life’s essential activities is leisure time, which is pursued for its own sake, to recreate, to experience the opposite of toil and enrich the body, mind and human spirit.” - Author Unknown



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