

PARKS & RECREATION

Quarterly Newsletter



January 1, 2026

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

Community Egg Hunt Participation

If you have a business and/or organization and you would like to host a free booth at Monroe's annual Community Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4, please [fill out an application](#). If you would like to make a donation to sponsor the event, please [email kdarrow@monroewa.gov](mailto:kdarrow@monroewa.gov). Sponsors received by February 20 have



the opportunity to be included on the event poster which will be distributed around the City.

Urban Forestry Management Plan

The City of Monroe Parks Department is partnering with the Stormwater Department and a contracted consulting firm to develop a comprehensive Urban Forestry Management Plan for the City. This joint effort marks an exciting first step toward improving the health, safety, and sustainability of Monroe's urban tree canopy.

By working together, our departments are updating the City's GIS database to better track trees across public spaces—parks, streets, and storm facilities. This enhanced data will allow the City to improve maintenance efficiency, streamline inspections, and plan for proactive care rather than reactive response.

A stronger data foundation also positions the City to qualify for future stormwater and urban forestry grants, helping fund tree planting, maintenance, and green infrastructure projects that benefit our community and environment.

As Monroe grows, so does the importance of managing our trees as vital public infrastructure. Through this partnership, we're ensuring that the City's urban forest continues to provide shade, beauty, and ecological value for generations to come.

PARK PROJECTS

Crawl Tube Repair at Sky River Park

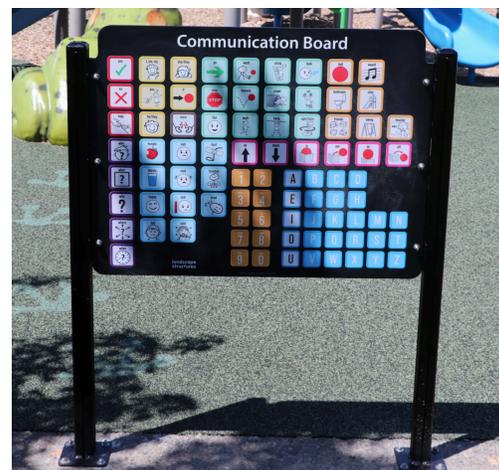
During routine playground inspections this week, staff identified a broken crawl tube at Sky River Park. The Parks crew will work to repair and reinstall the feature as quickly as possible, with the goal of having it back in place by by next quarter.

Foul Ball Net Replacement at Lake Tye Dirt Field

A long-needed improvement at the Lake Tye dirt field is moving forward. The foul ball net along the first-base dugout is scheduled to be replaced. The new net has already been purchased and delivered; installation will occur as soon as the Parks crew has available time in their winter work schedule.

New Communication Boards at City Ballfields

The Rotary Club of Monroe has generously donated \$8,576.96 to provide new communication boards at Rotary Field and Currie playground. These boards match the communication boards recently installed at Blueberry, Lake Tye, and Sky River parks, with the long-term goal of adding them to all playgrounds across the City. The Parks maintenance crew plans to install the new boards this quarter.



Rotary Field Turf Replacement Project

The City of Monroe is excited to announce that the Miracle League Rotary Field will soon receive a full synthetic turf replacement to enhance safety, playability, and long-term durability for our athletes and families. This project is made possible in part by a \$350,000 legislative appropriation grant.



Construction is anticipated to begin February, with an estimated duration of approximately five weeks, depending on weather and site conditions. Work will include removing the existing turf system, installing new synthetic turf, completing minor base repairs, and replacing worn fencing and padding components. When complete, the field will be refreshed, safer, and ready to serve Miracle League participants and the broader community for years to come.

During construction, Rotary Field will be closed to public access. Staff will provide updates on progress and reopening timelines through the City's website and social media channels.

We look forward to unveiling a revitalized Rotary Field this spring and continuing to support inclusive, accessible recreation opportunities for all Monroe residents.

EVENTS

January 25: Jayme Biendl Memorial 5k

Come together with the community Sunday, January 25 at Skykomish River Park for the 14th annual [Jayme Biendl Memorial 5k Run/Walk](#). 15 years gone - but never forgotten. All event proceeds directly support the mission of Behind the Badge Foundation. Be part of this powerful tradition and [sign up today](#).

March 28: Monroe High School Sports Medicine 5k

This annual 5k event at Lake Tye Park helps to raise funds for the Monroe High School Sports Medicine Club. The proceeds go directly to helping the students travel to the state competition.



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know our Parks Director Kevin Teague (started in September 2025) was part of the design team for our very own Rotary Field project back around 2007?

Kevin, a licensed landscape architect, was working for Harmsen and Associates, the design firm that provided pro-bono site surveying, civil engineering, and landscape architecture for the project. How is that for a full circle?

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Monroe Community Egg Hunt

We are "hunting" for volunteers for our annual Community Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4. Tasks include distributing eggs amongst the fields, helping vendors load in/out, helping at the prize table, and monitoring the fields before and during the hunt to ensure participants don't start before it's their

field's time. Volunteering goes from 7:30 a.m. until roughly 10:45 a.m. If you would like to volunteer, please [email kdarrow@monroewa.gov](mailto:kdarrow@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



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