



City of Monroe, Washington
Parks & Recreation Department

March, 2018

MISSION

Protect and enhance the natural beauty of Monroe through the development of a vibrant system of parks, open space and trails. Provide citizens of all ages positive recreational opportunities in clean, safe and accessible recreation facilities. Enhance health, quality living and the natural environment for future generations.

Department Update

Open House – Skykomish River Park Playground Replacement

The Monroe City Council authorized 2018 Parks Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding for replacement of the 25-year old playground at Skykomish River Park, which is a listed project in the Park Plan. The playground has outlived its service life, replacement parts were becoming non-existent, and features were dated and lacking the inclusive, challenge and motion elements that the playground industry of today offers.

The Monroe Park Board reviewed the existing playground and recommended that the project include new active play features and improved ADA accessibility. A public open house was held in January. Participants viewed options and concepts, voted on their preferences and voiced comments and suggestions. The ideas and conversations from the open house have added detail and nuance to the final play equipment design.

Design criteria established for the new playground include features that encourage multi-generational play, ADA inclusive play spaces that intentionally break down physical and social barriers to play, playful public art that enhances the visual appeal of the park, and advanced climbing challenges and motion activities that appeal to older children who seek a more adventurous play experience. Surfacing improvements such as the use of rubberized surfacing is also part of the playground design.

This exciting new project is anticipated to be completed this summer!

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/f7Mt0HqjZrc>



Movie schedule for Movies Under the Moon is out!

Come out to Lake Tye Park on select Friday evenings in August and enjoy Movies Under the Moon! These free events are sponsored by Republic Services, City of Monroe, Monroe Arts Council, Monroe Concert Band, Monroe Public Schools Foundation, Monroe Family YMCA & Monroe Boys & Girls Club.

- Friday, August 3: **Jumanji**
- Friday, August 10: **Coco**
- Friday, August 17: **Wonder**
- Friday, August 24: **Guardians of the Galaxy: vol.2**



Thank you

To Republic Services, who have confirmed their support of key Monroe community events. They have committed to donating \$2,000 to be a key sponsor for Movies Under the Moon and supporting the downtown flower beautification program. In addition they provide complimentary garbage and recycle toter service for the Egg Hunt and National Night Out Against Crime community events.

Call-For-Sculptors: Downtown Outdoor Sculpture

The City of Monroe is seeking submissions for an outdoor sculpture, which may be interactive, to be installed on the public sidewalk along Main Street between Blakely Street and Ferry Avenue within the newly-renovated Downtown Plaza Area. The proposal should express a connection to the City of Monroe, the character of the specific display location, and reflect the City's diversity. Artists are strongly encouraged to visit the actual installation site.

The deadline for entries is March 30, 2018, by 4:00pm. Artist selection will be notified by Friday, May 4, 2018 and artist installation will need to occur no later than December 21, 2018.

For information regarding eligibility, specifications, selection process, submittal of materials and selection criteria, please visit www.monroewa.gov.



Operations

Parks and Recreation Department team members have been busy this winter with daily recreation use of our parks facilities, as well as scheduled maintenance, park improvements and repair work on equipment and landscaped areas.

City Parks Unmarked Trails Inspections

Last year, a weekly maintenance monitoring emphasis by park staff was initiated on unmarked trails at Al Borlin and Sky River Parks to identify and resolve, in cooperation with our Police Department, any unlawful encampments that may occur in City parks.

The following is a summary of data for the past month:

Locations: Al Borlin Park; Sky River Park

DATE	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	# BAGS OF LITTER COLLECTED	NOTES
N/A	N/A	N/A	Due to periods of river flooding, inspections did not occur during three weeks in February.
2/20	10	6	
3/5	10	6	
Avg.	10	6	
Running Avg.	8.0	7.9	

Volunteer Opportunities Join the City of Monroe team by volunteering your talent and time to support City programs, projects and events. Volunteering is an opportunity to learn about Monroe’s diverse community, understand how local government works and connect with other community members. The City offers on-going and one-time event volunteer opportunities. If you are interested in volunteering, or seeking additional information, please contact Pamela Baker at (360) 863-4524.

Adopt A Park

The **Monroe Boys & Girls Club** has been piloting an Adopt a Park program with the City of Monroe for **Sky River Park** and have been doing various tasks at the park including litter pick up, basic landscaping, and spreading play chips.

We are also finalizing partnerships with the **Monroe Rotary Club - Lake Tye Park**, and the **Monroe Kiwanis Club - Blueberry Children’s Park**. We are excited to welcome them on board in this program!



Visit the City website www.monroewa.gov for information on upcoming programs and events.