



City of Monroe, Washington
Parks & Recreation Department

April, 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

Groundbreaking - Skykomish River Park Playground Replacement

The project to replace the playground at Skykomish River Park is starting up, and a ground breaking ceremony was held on Thursday April 5th, 2018.

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.

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>



Monroe celebrates Earth Day and Arbor Day with Proclamation, tree planting event and announcements of heritage tree recognition and living Christmas tree programs!

To celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day, Students of Mrs. Wood's 3rd Grade Class from Fryelands Elementary School will assist Mayor Geoffrey Thomas and other Monroe Officials in the ceremonial planting of an Arbor Day tree at Lake Tye Park, located at 14964 Fryelands Blvd., Monroe, Washington on Friday, April 27, 2018, at 1:15 p.m. The general location of the tree planting will be near the park concessions building and playground area. This Arbor Day tree planting event will become an annual event.

In the lead-up to the Arbor Day event, a Proclamation will be read at the start of the Monroe City Council meeting on Tuesday, April 17 at 7:00pm at the Monroe City Hall, located at 806 W. Main Street.

In the spirit of this event, two new programs will also be announced. The Monroe Park Board is launching a Heritage Tree Program, encouraging residents of all ages to seek out significant trees within the City and nominate them for recognition. Nomination forms for the Heritage Tree contest will be available this fall with a deadline of Dec. 31 to allow the Park Board to review the nominations, select a winner or winners and make the award announcement the following April to commemorate Earth Day and Arbor Day.

To kick off the Heritage Tree contest, the Park Board and City of Monroe selected the first tree for recognition. The approximately 55-foot high Coast Redwood, estimated to be over 45 years old, is located at Highway 2 and East Main in Traveler's Park will receive Heritage status for its size and rarity in the area. Adorned with lights, it served as the community Christmas Tree last year for Monroe's annual tree lighting and will be used again for the 2018 event.

The City is also launching a Living Christmas Tree replanting program. Starting this year, Monroe residents who use living Christmas trees may donate suitable trees to the city for planting in our parks and open spaces after the holidays.



Coast Redwood Tree @ Travelers Park

Request for Proposals – Lake Tye seasonal kayak rentals

The City of Monroe is requesting proposals from licensed, qualified businesses to provide a seasonal boat (paddle boards, canoes or kayaks) rental program service at Lake Tye Park. Detailed proposal packets may be viewed and downloaded on the City website www.monroewa.gov or picked up at the Monroe City Hall, M-F 8am-5pm at 806 W. Main Street, Monroe WA 98272. Deadline to receive proposals is 3:00pm PST, Friday, April 27, 2018.



Music in the Park schedule is out!

Come enjoy live music at Lake Tye Park on Friday evenings in July! Thanks to the Monroe Chamber of Commerce, Monroe Lodging Tax grant award, City of Monroe Parks & Recreation and all our local sponsors in bringing these free music concerts to our community. Concerts start at 7pm weather permitting. Beer Garden open at 6pm.

- Friday, July 6: **Patrick McHenry & the Chinooks** – American 70's Old School Country
- Friday, July 13: **MCSM** – 60's – 90's Classic Rock
- Friday, July 20: **Stacey Jones Band** – Bluegrass, Rock
- Friday, July 27: **Harvey Creek Band** - Country



Operations

Parks and Recreation Department team members have been busy this spring 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
3/22	6	2	4 transient camps located at Sky River Park. Police contacted.
3/27	14	18	Two transient camps removed at Sky River Park
4/6	10	6	
4/12	7	6	
Avg.	9.25	8	
Running Avg.	8.1	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.

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