



City of Monroe, Washington  
Parks & Recreation Department

May, 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

### **Skykomish River Park Playground Replacement Update**

The project to replace the playground at Skykomish River Park is underway, and the project is on schedule. Parks staff have removed and recycled the old equipment and replaced the old drainage system. The general contractor under Sitelines Play Equipment, Inc. have been working on installing the new equipment and are getting close to installing the new surfacing, weather –permitting.

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.

This exciting new project is anticipated to be completed by June!

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/f7Mt0HqJZrc>



*Play structures & swings @ Sky River Park*



*Climbing tower & Biggo swing @ Sky River Park*

**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 assisted Mayor Geoffrey Thomas in the ceremonial planting of an Arbor Day tree at Lake Tye Park, on Arbor Day, April 27, 2018. This Arbor Day tree planting event will become an annual event.

In the lead-up to the Arbor Day event, a Proclamation was read at the start of the Monroe City Council meeting on April 17. In the spirit of this event, two new programs were also 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. To kick off the Heritage Tree contest, the Park Board selected the first tree for recognition - the large Coast Redwood, at Traveler's Park, which also served as the community Christmas Tree last year for Monroe's annual tree lighting.

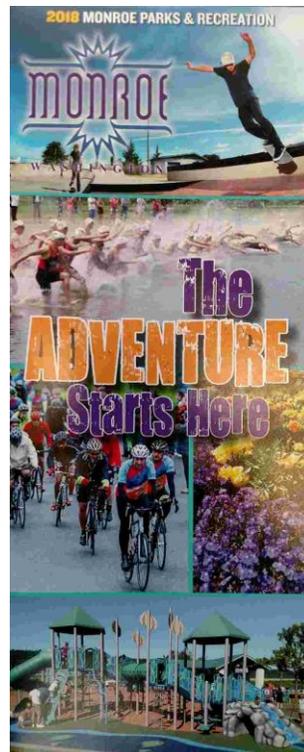
The City is also launching a Living Christmas Tree replanting program. Starting this year, Monroe residents who use living Christmas trees may donate suitable trees to the city for planting in our parks and open spaces after the holidays.



*Arbor Day Tree Planting @ Lake Tye Park*

### Request for Proposals – Lake Tye seasonal kayak rentals

The City of Monroe requested proposals from licensed, qualified businesses to provide a seasonal boat (paddle boards, canoes or kayaks) rental program service at Lake Tye Park. The deadline for proposals was April 27. We hope to have this new service available to the community in June!



### 2018 Park & Recreation Events brochure is out!

The 2018 Parks & Recreation events brochure has been mailed out to over 10,000 area addresses. These brochures are packed with information about area events such as music concerts, outdoor movies, Shakespeare performances, athletic events, community celebrations and so much more! This year, additional copies of the brochure have been distributed to regional tourism information racks through an awarded lodging tax grant, which will help bring visitors to enjoy what Monroe has to offer as an exciting outdoor destination. Tourism promotion such as this directly supports our local businesses as well as Monroe residents through visitor-generated sales and taxes.

### Operations

Parks and Recreation Department team members have been busy this spring with daily recreation use of our parks facilities and athletic fields, as well as scheduled maintenance, park improvements such as the new playground at Sky River Park 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
4/12	7	6	
4/18	6	4	
4/30	7.5	2	
5/3	7	2	
Avg.	6.87	3.5	
Running Avg.	8.0	7.8	

**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](http://www.monroewa.gov) for information on upcoming programs and events.