
Mission

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 age's positive opportunities for recreation and social gathering in clean, safe, accessible, and inclusive facilities and green spaces. Enhancing health, quality of living, and the natural environment for present and future generations.

Department Update

Operations

In February, crews continued focusing on seasonal winter operations, including comprehensive playground inspections and necessary repairs, equipment maintenance, staff training, and trail inspections.

The crew worked on restoring the centennial garden sign (right). This involves disassembling the sign, sanding it down, painting the lettering, and re-staining the wood. The sign needs restoration generally every 3-4 years.

Crews addressed a buildup of litter along the Tjerne Pl. trails and sidewalks, taking advantage of the slower season to complete a thorough cleanup of adjacent sidewalks and pond areas. Staff also completed removal of the final pile of flood debris in the south parking lot of Sky River Park. Further restoration work at both Sky River and Al Borlin Park will resume once soil conditions improve with drier weather.



Multiple staff members attended the local Flower and Garden Show to gain exposure to emerging products, tools, and maintenance practices trending within the industry. Continued professional development ensures the department remains current on best practices and operational efficiencies.

One staff member dedicated substantial time this month toward Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training. Obtaining this certification will expand the department's capacity to transport heavy equipment and materials across the city, improving project efficiency and reducing logistical constraints.

The crew replaced a damaged catch basin at Lake Tye Park (right). This has been on the deferred maintenance list for sometime, and was recently repaired and raised to adequately collect water from the surrounding area and distribute it to the storm system. Raising it helps for mowing purposes and decreases the chance of trips in that area

In preparation for spring, crews have begun seasonal bed preparation. Flower orders have been placed for the Main Street and Lewis Street endcaps, as well as for downtown hanging baskets. The department has partnered again with Monroe High School to cultivate this year's Hula Begonias. This collaboration has been instrumental in reducing plant costs while fostering a positive community partnership.



Clean Up Event at Sky River Park

Saturday, Feb. 14, 10 team members from Legends Baseball volunteered their time at Sky River Park to clean up flood debris that had lodged in the fences. In just three hours, they collected an incredible 12-15 yards of debris by hand. This was a huge help to our staff and we're so grateful for your hard work and community spirit.



Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering for the City of Monroe, please contact our Parks and Recreation Admin Assistant at 360-863-4559 or sign up for notifications at bit.ly/3uLsNjW. Visit the City's website at MonroeWA.gov for more information.

Park Board

The Monroe Park Board met on Thursday, February 19, 2026 and had the opportunity to meet and hear from Mayor Cudaback. The board elected a Park Board Chair and Vice Chair representative. In addition, the board reviewed the 2026 Park Board Work Plan draft.

The next meeting is on Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 7 p.m.

City Parks Unmarked Trails Inspections

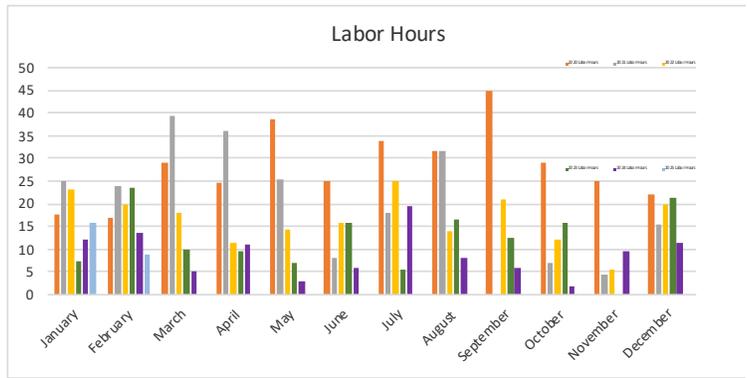
In 2017, a weekly maintenance monitoring emphasis by park staff was initiated on unmarked trails at Al Borlin and Sky River Parks to identify and resolve, in cooperation with our Police Department, any unlawful encampments that may be occurring in City parks. Attached is the comprehensive data from 2023 to the present. The following is a summary of data for the past month.

Locations: Al Borlin Park

| Date | Total Labor Hours | Number of Bags of Litter Collected | Notes |
|------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 2/17 | 9 | 9 | Al Borlin Park – Inspections and clean up |
| | | | See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2024 - 2026 |

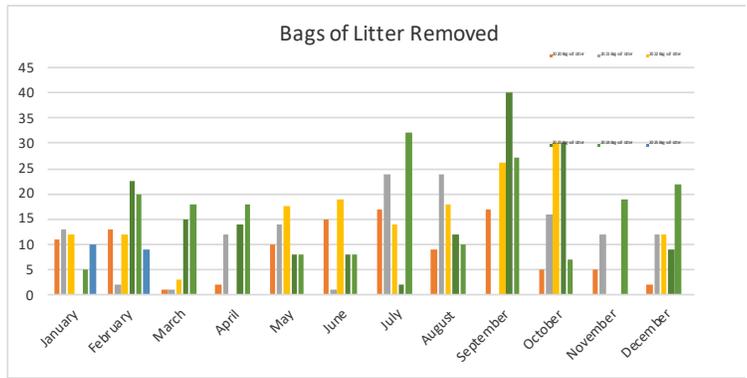
| | Labor Hours YTD | Bags of Litter Removed YTD | Camps Removed YTD |
|--------|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Jan-26 | 16 | 10 | 0 |
| Feb-26 | 9 | 9 | 0 |

Total 2026 **25** **19** **0**



| | Labor Hours YTD | Bags of Litter Removed YTD | Camps Removed YTD |
|--------|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Jan-25 | 12 | 5 | 1 |
| Feb-25 | 13.5 | 20 | 1 |
| Mar-25 | 5 | 18 | 3 |
| Apr-25 | 11 | 18 | 0 |
| May-25 | 3 | 8 | 1 |
| Jun-25 | 6 | 8 | 2 |
| Jul-25 | 19.5 | 32 | 2 |
| Aug-25 | 8 | 10 | 0 |
| Sep-25 | 6 | 27 | 4 |
| Oct-25 | 2 | 7 | 0 |
| Nov-25 | 9.5 | 19 | 0 |
| Dec-25 | 11.5 | 22 | 2 |

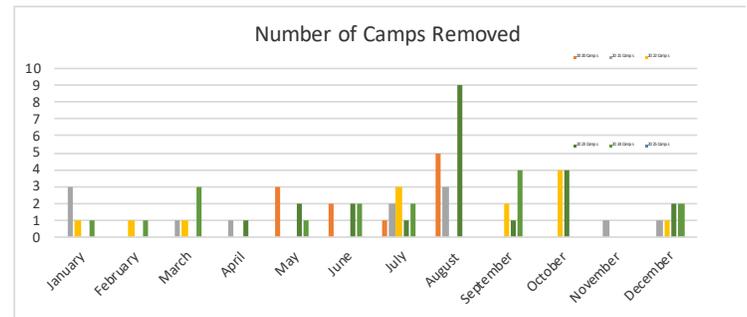
Total 2025 **107** **194** **16**



| | Labor Hours YTD | Bags of Litter Removed YTD | Camps Removed YTD |
|-----------|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Jan-24 | 7.5 | 0 | 0 |
| Feb-24 | 23.5 | 22.5 | 0 |
| Mar-24 | 10 | 15 | 0 |
| Apr-24 | 9.5 | 14 | 1 |
| May-24 | 7 | 8 | 2 |
| Jun-24 | 16 | 8 | 2 |
| Jul-24 | 5.5 | 2 | 1 |
| Aug-24 | 16.5 | 12 | 9 |
| Sep-24 | 12.5 | 40 | 1 |
| Oct-24 | 16 | 30 | 4 |
| Nov-24 0* | 0* | 0* | 0* |
| Dec-24 | 21.5 | 9 | 2 |

Total 2024 **145.5** **160.5** **22**

Note: * No trail inspections due to storm event and training



2019-2022 data is shown only on the graphs. If you would like the full data breakdown, please reach out to Shelley Rowe srowe@monroewa.gov



MONROE PARK BOARD

Park Board Meeting
Thursday, February 19, 2026, 7:00 PM
Hybrid: Zoom Online Meeting Platform & In-Person at the Monroe City Hall at 806 West Main Street

Park Board Members:
Lisa Brown, Member
Ryan Olson, Member
Abdul Salama, Member
Katie Kohler, Member
Hayley Hanford, Member

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.

2. ROLL CALL

| | |
|--|--------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Olson | Board Member |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katie Kohler | Board Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abdul Salama | Board Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant | Board Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant | Board Member |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hayley Hanford | Board Member |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Brown | Board Member |

Staff Present: Mayor Patsy Cudaback, Kevin Teague, Liam McKorkle

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Cudaback provided a brief introduction of herself to the board.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. Date Meeting Minutes

Katie Koehler moved to approve the minutes from January 15, 2026. Lisa Brown seconded. A vote was held. Motion carried 4-0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment was given.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Katie Kohler nominated Lisa Brown as chair of the Park Board in 2026. Hanford seconded. A vote was held. Motion carried 4-0.

Hailey Hanford nominated Ryan Ohlson as vice chair of the Park Board in 2026. Brown seconded. A vote was held. Motion carried 4-0.

6.2. Review draft Park Board Work Plan

Kevin Teague provided an overview of the proposed 2026 Park Board workplan. Boardmembers asked questions.

7. STAFF/BOARD DISCUSSION

7.1. Parks Department Report - *Kevin Teague*

Kevin Teague provided updates from the Monroe Parks Department and solicited feedback on new designs for park rules signs. Boardmembers asked questions and provided recommendations.

Ryan Ohlson requested an update on efforts to restore Al Borlin trails after flooding.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

8.1. The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, March 19, 2026.**

Chairperson