



City of Monroe, Washington  
Parks & Recreation Department

September 9, 2014

## 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

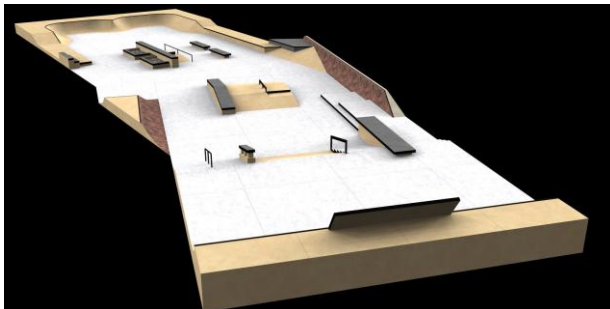
Have you gotten outside to enjoy summer in Monroe? Our community calendar has been packed with fun and exciting outdoor programs and events. The Adventure Starts Here in our parks, trails, community facilities and downtown, providing unique recreation and event experiences for residents and visitors of all ages to enjoy!

Parks and Recreation Department team members have been busy this summer with daily recreation use of our parks facilities, as well as scheduled maintenance and repair work on equipment and landscaped areas. Staff is also busy working with community partners in planning and executing a full slate of events and programs, as well as assisting with the Park Plan update as part of the City's 2015 Comprehensive Plan Update process.

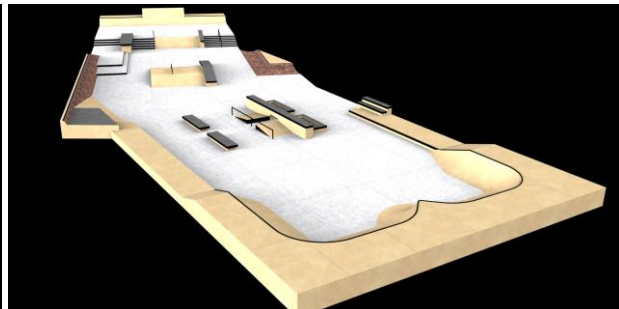
Many fun events were here in Monroe and in our parks for you to enjoy including dog shows in the park, model boat races, Tri-Monroe USA Triathlon, MasterCraft Pro Wakeboard Tour televised by NBC Sports, National Night Out Against Crime, weekend races at Evergreen Speedway, Lake Tye Triathlon, several youth athletic tournaments and the Monroe Fair Days Parade among others. This September brings the Monroe Swift Watch starting at 5pm on Saturday, September 13 at the Wagner Auditorium on Main Street where the largest concentration of Vaux Swifts return from migration to roost here in Monroe!

### Lake Tye Skate Park Improvements

Staff has submitted a matching fund grant request to the State of Washington Recreation Conservation Office to help fund a significant upgrade to the Monroe Board and Blade skate park at Lake Tye. An architectural design firm, Grindline Skateparks, Inc., is under contract with the City to assist with preparing engineered construction design documents for the project, with construction of the improvements scheduled to begin in 2015. A final concept for the improvements has been drafted and is pictured below.



*Skate Park concept looking north*



*Skate Park concept looking south*

### **Movies Under the Moon**

Special thanks goes out to Republic Services, who not only sponsor the movie licensing for all of the free movie showings each year, but for donating funds this year to purchase a new and much larger movie screen! This event series has become an annual tradition in our park each Friday night in August. The crowds, now averaging 400-500 people, have outgrown the smaller screen, so the new screen enhances the experience for all the moviegoers. Movies Under the Moon is put on through a partnership between the Monroe Parks & Recreation Department, Monroe Arts Council, Monroe Family YMCA, Monroe Schools Foundation, Concessionaire Neucon Ent. and the Monroe Community Band.



*Old movie screen*



*New larger screen!*

### **Free Music Concerts in the Park**

The second season of free Thursday evening music concerts in the park brought new acts as well as a familiar and popular act from last year, Crème Tangerine! The free music concerts were presented by the Snohomish Artist Guild, who secured community sponsors from Walmart, Valley General Hospital, Emeritus Senior Living, The Monroe Monitor & Valley News, Teamster Local 117 and Evergreen Printing & Graphics. We hope to host these fun community concerts again in 2015.



*Bubbles and Crème Tangerine entertain*



*Crowds are growing for free music concerts*



*Crème Tangerine*



*Dancing to the music*



*MasterCraft Pro Tour stopped in Monroe for a 4<sup>th</sup> year*



*Lake Tye Park full of U.S. Olympic triathletes!*

**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 Denise Jacobsen at (360) 863-4559.

Visit the City website [www.monroewa.gov](http://www.monroewa.gov) for information on upcoming programs and events.