



City of Monroe, Washington
Parks & Recreation Department

Monthly Report March 2011

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.

Introduction/Message from the Director

The Department has received several monetary and in-kind donations in addition to volunteer service hours including: \$700 from the Shimeall family for a memorial bench, \$500 from the Monroe Garden Club, \$500 from Allied Waste and \$1000 from Walmart for the downtown flower program, \$200 from Sky Valley Little League for field drying agent, \$1,600 from Allied Waste for Movies Under The Moon sponsorship and \$1,400 in-kind services donation from Cadman for flood damage repairs at Sky River Park.



New bench donated by the Shimeall family

Planning continues for 2011 community events. Events this month include YMCA Healthy Kids Day (4/16), NSA Tournament (4/16-17), Egg Hunt (4/23), start of the Miracle League season (4/23) and the Sky Valley Little League Jamboree (4/30). Pick up a copy of the Department's Calendar of Events & Programs for a more detailed listing.

The annual Parks & Recreation brochure that is mailed out to the community is being updated for mailing. This year it will include expanded information on special events that bring in tourism. Additional funding through the Lodging Tax is supporting a higher circulation and more widespread distribution in order to help increase tourism in Monroe.

Staff is also working to implement Incident Action Plans (IAP) for planning the larger community events that require road closures, detours and traffic control. The purpose of this approach is to streamline the planning, logistics and operations for the events and improve communication between City staff, event organizers and other affected agencies.



Flood damage repairs to Wiggly Field

Park maintenance activities included repairs of flood damaged areas of Sky River Park, Wiggly Field and Al Borlin Park. Mowing operations, athletic field preparation have begun and work schedules have been shifted to a 7-day coverage that will run through September. Parks facilities are being cleaned, repaired and readied for the seasonal increased usage by the public.

Due to the murder at the Monroe Correctional Center, the inmate flower program has been suspended as the inmates have been under lockdown. The flower starts were in danger of dying so department staff transported the flowers to the nursery at Park Place Middle School. Staff has been making time to grow the flowers to be planted in the island end-caps along Main St. and Lewis St. These flowers are a signature feature for the community. We are grateful for the Monroe School District's assistance by providing a place for the flowers to thrive.



Flowers growing at Park Place Middle School nursery

The CIP Park Shelter projects for Sky River Park and Lake Tye Park are under way. Permits have been approved, the equipment has arrived and the sites are being prepared for installation by City staff. The shelters are expected to be completed by the end of spring.



New shelters in their packaging



Lake Tye Park site



Sky River Park site



Pressure washing courts at Lake Tye Park