



Proclamation

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Monroe, Washington; and

WHEREAS, our parks and recreation are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all residents, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and region; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and also improve the mental and emotional health of all residents; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs increase a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, and the attraction and retention of businesses; and

WHEREAS, parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Parks and Recreation Month theme is "We are Parks and Recreation," and the National Recreation and Park Association challenges us to explore the "undiscovered" roles of local parks and recreation, like science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programming; senior programs; innovative health and wellness opportunities; community celebrations; outdoor education; flood mitigation; maintenance; and more.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Geoffrey Thomas, recognize the month of July 2020, as

PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

and encourage residents, businesses, and visitors to seek out City of Monroe parks facilities and participate in recreational events.

**WE ARE
PARKS AND
RECREATION**





Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor