



City of Monroe, Washington
Parks & Recreation Department

February, 2019

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

Wiggly Field fencing upgrade project

We have recognized that the fencing at Wiggly Field is in need of an upgrade. Mayor Thomas and our City Council have supported this by allocating funding to replace and upgrade the fence, which is now complete. The new fencing features a taller height, double-gate entry points, and upgraded plastic mesh fencing that will be annually installed after each flood season (usually between the months of April – October). Please feel free to contact Parks & Recreation Director Mike Farrell if you have further questions at either (360) 863-4557 or mfarrell@monroewa.gov



New fencing & gates @ Wiggly Field



Wiggly Field patrons

Operations

Parks and Recreation Department team members have been busy this winter with daily recreation use of our parks facilities and athletic fields, as well as scheduled maintenance, park improvements such as landscape winterization, windstorm debris removal, snow and ice removal and repair work on facilities, equipment and landscaped areas.

Staff continue work on an aggressive tree-limbing and landscape pruning program of both Lewis Street Park and Al Borlin Park in order to open up river views and improve sight distances throughout both parks and the trails. Work shall include cleaning, pressure-washing and painting the on-site facilities as weather conditions allow through the winter months.

MLK Day of Service Volunteer Tree Planting

Thank you to all who sponsored and came out to Al Borlin Park on Monday, January 21 to volunteer their time at the MLK Day of Service Volunteer Tree Planting event organized by Sound Salmon Solutions! That day, 48 volunteers planted 120 native trees and received public education about the environmental river ecology benefits of planting the trees in the park. We deeply appreciate their support and are grateful to Ed and Bonnie Schein for inspiring this amazing restoration project.



48 Volunteers joined City & Sound Salmon Solutions staff to plant 120 native trees @ Al Borlin Park!

Jayne Biendl Memorial Run

The annual **Jayne Biendl Memorial Run** was a huge success and fun for all who attended. This year the event exceeded 400 registrations for the first time! This family-friendly 5K Fun Run/Walk honors the memory of Correctional Officer Jayme Biendl killed in the line of duty on 01/29/11. The event is pet-friendly and starts in Sky River Park, goes through the Washington State Reformatory grounds and ends back in the park. All proceeds will be donated to **Behind the Badge Foundation** at the request of Jayme's family. We deeply appreciate all who organize and support this tremendous event.



Jayme Biendl Memorial Run @ Skykomish River Park

Monroe Park Board

During their January meeting, the Monroe Park Board finalized their 2019 Work Plan and reviewed Heritage Tree nominations that will be shared with the City Council in February.

Please visit www.choosemonroe.com for more community event happenings this month!

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
1/2	7.5	6	Bags of garbage dumped from Lewis Street Boat Launch area into woods of Skykomish River Park. Picked up by staff.
1/16	15	23	3 camps discovered (2 at Al Borlin, 1 At Sky River). Police contacted.
1/30	8	2	
Avg.	10.2	10.3	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2017- 2019

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 for information on upcoming programs and events.