



MONROE THIS WEEK

July 3, 2020 • Vol 6/Edition 25



Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.

This week's edition provides details on our local celebration of the 4th of July, a new grant program offered by the City, a newly announced program distributing thermometers to small businesses, recognitions of our amazing Parks and Recreation professionals, an update on an annual community event, a recap of last week's distribution of face coverings, and an update on the City's year-to-date fiscal status.



Please contact me with any and all feedback regarding the articles below. I can be reached at gthomas@monroewa.gov.

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE INDEPENDENCE DAY

I would like to wish all Monroe residents a Happy and Safe Independence Day. On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress declared the original thirteen American colonies as free, united and independent states. This Declaration of Independence followed a vote of the Congress two days prior to approve a resolution of independence. America has been called the Great Experiment, as the democratic form of government established by the newly free nation was and is the first of its kind. As we commemorate tomorrow the national holiday of our country's independence, I encourage all residents to follow our [local Fireworks Laws and Tips](#), consider the safety tips below from Fire District 7, and most of all, to enjoy a happy and safe 4th of July.



JULY 4TH SAFETY TIPS FROM FIRE DISTRICT 7

Fire District 7 wants everyone to have a fun and safe 4th of July! There are plenty of ways to enjoy the Fourth without fireworks and still have fun. Have a glow stick dance party, or add confetti to balloons before inflating them! Also, remember sparklers can burn at temperatures up to 2,000 degrees – hot enough to melt some metals. That's a big reason why sparklers cause more than half of fireworks-related injuries in children under 5 years old.

We recommend never letting young children play with or ignite fireworks, including sparklers. Below are some safe fireworks alternatives for your 4th of July celebrations. #CelebrateSafely

FIREWORKS ALTERNATIVES
SAFE ALTERNATIVES ON 4TH OF JULY

- DECORATE YOUR PORCH OR YARD**
HAVE FUN BY GETTING YOUR NEIGHBORS TO JOIN IN.
- CRAFT ACTIVITIES**
FIND FUN CRAFT AND COLORING ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS.
- GLOW-IN-THE-DARK BUBBLES**
EVERYONE LOVES BUBBLES.
- DRESS UP YOUR PET**
DRESS UP YOUR FURRY FAMILY MEMBERS.

Logos for Fire District 7 and Fire Prevention.

FIREWORKS ALTERNATIVES
SAFE ALTERNATIVES ON 4TH OF JULY

- GLOW STICKS**
HAVE A GLOW STICK DANCE PARTY!
- PINATAS**
A FESTIVE WAY TO HAVE FUN.
- CONFETTI BALLOONS**
ADD CONFETTI TO BALLOONS BEFORE INFLATING THEM. DOUBLES AS A NOISE MAKER.
- PATRIOTIC THEMED DESSERT**
RED & BLUE CUPCAKES, APPLE PIE, OR STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE.

Logos for Fire District 7 and Fire Prevention.

PLAN TO CELEBRATE JULY 4TH SAFELY AND LEGALLY

As I shared in last week's edition of [Monroe This Week](#), as we all make plans to celebrate the July 4th holiday tomorrow, the City of Monroe encourages all residents to celebrate

safely and legally. Legal fireworks may be discharged in the City on July 4th ONLY between 9:00 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. Fireworks sales started in the City on July 1st and will go through July 4th, during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily. Please keep your pets indoors to keep them safe and from running-off. For further details on the City's Fireworks Laws and Tips, and for links to additional resources, please visit the City's [website](#).



CITY ANNOUNCES COMMUNITY RELIEF GRANT

The City of Monroe has announced a new grant as part of the Monroe CARES grant program. The Community Relief Grant will make available \$50,000 for Monroe non-profit organizations that serve our community's most vulnerable residents. Grants are anticipated to be awarded between \$5,000 and \$10,000.



Our highest priority right now is getting our entire community up and running as quickly as possible, and as safely as possible. Providing assistance for local non-profit agencies to provide basic services and meet the increased needs of Monroe's most vulnerable residents will help get us there.

Guidelines, eligibility information, and the application for the Community Relief Grant can be found on the [grant website](#). Applications are due to City Hall no later than 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 15.

ECONOMIC ALLIANCE TO DISTRIBUTE THERMOMETERS TO SMALL BUSINESSES

Economic Alliance Snohomish County (EASC) has partnered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in an effort to distribute infrared thermometers to small businesses. These thermometers are an essential tool to enable businesses to reopen and for employees to return to work. Thermometers will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. To review the program eligibility requirements and to sign up for the Master Thermometer Distribution List for Snohomish County, visit the EASC [program website](#).



FEMA

THANK YOU TO OUR MONROE PARKS PROFESSIONALS

As I shared in last week's edition of [Monroe This Week](#), the month of July is Parks and Recreation Month. Every day, in communities across the country, parks and recreation professionals are providing essential services and making their communities better places to live, work and play. July was selected as Parks and Recreation Month by the National Recreation and Park Association, and the City of Monroe wants to show our appreciation for our parks and recreation professionals and showcase their selfless work. Let's celebrate these professionals who make this happen all year long because #WeAreParksAndRec.



You can read my Proclamation recognizing July as Parks and Recreation month [here](#).

PARKS CREW PLANTING DOWNTOWN MEDIANS

As we thank our Parks and Recreation professionals for their dedicated hard work throughout the year, the City would like to recognize and thank the Parks crew for an extra level of dedication this year. Our Parks Department staff have been busy cleaning and planting the medians for summer. In past years, this work was done through a contract with the Monroe Correctional Facility, but current circumstances prevented this partnership this year. Even though our parks crew is short-staffed and busy now that parks are reopened, the crew stepped up to complete this work, all the while wearing face coverings and following current workplace guidelines. The medians look beautiful! Thank you to the crew for your hard work!



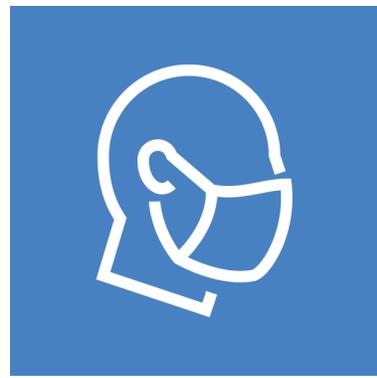
EVENT UPDATE: NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The [National Night Out Against Crime](#) is an annual event, held nationwide, to promote neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods a safer place to live. National Night Out is usually held annually on the first Tuesday in August, and Monroe is proud to have one of the largest attended events in Washington. Due to current circumstances, the event has tentatively been rescheduled for Tuesday, October 6. More information will follow as we continue through the summer months.



CITY DISTRIBUTES OVER 7,000 FACE COVERINGS

As I shared in last week's edition of [Monroe This Week](#), the wearing of face coverings became mandatory in public places last Friday, June 26. That same day, the City initiated efforts to distribute 8,000 face coverings received through an allotment from the state. These face coverings were designated for distribution to residents at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, available both to individuals and nonprofit service providers. Last Friday, June 26, and Saturday, June 27, the City hosted face covering distribution events in the City Hall parking lot. Approximately 800 face coverings were distributed directly to residents, and another 6,600 were distributed to local nonprofit service providers. From the original allotment, the City has a remaining inventory of approximately 600 face coverings available to eligible residents.



Residents or nonprofit service providers in need of face coverings are encouraged to contact Rachel Adams at RAdams@MonroeWA.gov to make distribution arrangements. For anyone unsure if they meet the eligibility requirement, a chart of the Federal Poverty Level can be found [here](#).

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The July 7 Regular Study Session Meeting of the City Council is CANCELLED.

The next meeting of the City Council will be a Regular Business Meeting on July 14. The meeting will be held via the Zoom remote meeting platform and participation information will be posted with the July 14 agenda.

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)

YEAR TO DATE REVENUE COMPARISONS

Curious about some of the City's major revenue streams? Don't have time to read through the entire budget? [Here](#) are a few of the City's revenue year-to-date numbers along with their prior year comparisons. If you would like further information, please contact the Finance Department at 360-794-7400 and reference *Monroe This Week*.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Councilmember
Patsy Cudaback



Councilmember
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember
Ed Davis



Councilmember
Jason Gamble

Councilmember
Jeff Rasmussen

Councilmember
Kirk Scarboro

Councilmember
Heather Rousey

Have a question for your Councilmembers?
Contact them at councilmembers@monroewa.gov

