



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 age's positive recreational opportunities in clean, safe and accessible recreation facilities. Enhance health, quality living and the natural environment for future generations.

Department Update

Snohomish County Remains in Phase 2

On June 28, 2020 Governor Jay Inslee extended the pause indefinitely on counties moving ahead in the Safe Start Washington plan resulting in Snohomish County staying in Phase 2. Phase 2 allows for park facilities to be open. These include: Wiggly Field Dog Park, Board and Blade Skate Park, tennis courts, basketball courts, restrooms, playgrounds, covered shelters (up to gathering limit), and sports fields for limited practices in compliance with the Governor's guidelines for sporting activities.

Phase 2 Re-Openings (EFFECTIVE JUNE 5, 2020; UPDATED November 15, 2020): tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, skate park, dog park, restrooms, covered shelters (up to gathering limit), sports fields for organized use in compliance with [Governor's Office Guidance on Sporting Activities Requirements](#)

Phase 3 Re-Openings: sports fields for organized use: games & practices, covered shelters (up to gathering limit), special events (up to gathering limit)

Phase 4 Re-Openings: special events

November 15, 2020 GOVERNOR INSLEE ANNOUNCES UPDATES TO SAFE START REOPENING PLAN

Gov. Jay Inslee today announced several updates to Washington's [Safe Start](#) reopening plan. The changes seek to align guidance and adjustments to regulations of several industries.

Youth/Adult Sports

These [guidelines](#) will align school related and non-school related sports guidance. Tournaments and crowds are prohibited in counties that aren't in the low-risk category, but these guidelines will allow more school and non-school sports, both indoor and outdoor, according to a combination of

local metrics. These metrics are aligned with state metrics for school opening recommendations. It also provides specific protocols for transportation, group size and facial coverings.

Outdoor recreation (running/bicycling/etc.)

These [guidelines](#) will provide protocols for Phases 2 and 3 for races, bicycle tours and rides, runs, cross country skiing races, biathlons, canoe and kayak races, marathons, cross country running competitions, triathlons, and multi-sport competitions with more than 12 participants.

Water Recreation Facilities

This [guidance](#) updates the current guidance for water recreational activities and facilities in Modified Phase 1, Phase 2 and Phase 3 counties.

To find more information about City Operations during the COVID 19 pandemic visit go [here](#).

Operations

Parks and Recreation Department team members have been busy in November. Tasks included completing the Rotary Restroom Electronic ADA Door-Assist (more details below), playground repairs, cleaning up leaves and completing the final mowing for the year, adding and replacing dog waste dispensers in various parks, winterized the Parks irrigation systems, replenishing soil on Main Street medians, repaired a damaged mainline valve at Sky River Park and dug test pits at the North Hill Park site for geotech and environmental testing. Also, in November, crew members decorated downtown and highway 2 for the holidays.



Left: Tyler Reeves hangs a candy cane on Highway 2. Middle: Parks crew members digging test pits at the North Hill Park Site. Right: Parks crew members replenishing soil on Main Street Medians.

Rotary Field Netting Installation Project

A contract has been executed with All City Fence Company install 200 lineal feet of 20-foot high netting to protect adjacent property parking lot from potential damage to cars from errant balls. The contractor has installed the new fence poles and are awaiting a back order on the new netting. The project is expected to be completed during December.

Electronic ADA Door-Assist Upgrade to Rotary Field Restrooms

Contractors of D.H. Pace, Inc. installed electronic ADA door-assists for the restroom doors. This project is now complete. We are grateful for the **Monroe Rotary Club's** generous cash **donation** to the city of **\$5,000** toward the cost of the ADA door assist project.



Julia V Morris Centennial Garden Annual Report

The Julia V. Morris Centennial Garden harvested 2,288 pounds of produce in 2020 for the Sky Valley Food Bank; that is a monetary value of \$11,408. In addition, volunteers were able to get the fence painted and built new compost bins. The garden has now been put to rest for the year.

Thank you to all the donors and volunteers who made this possible and for helping our community! View the full Annual Report attached.



Virtual Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Lake Tye All-Weather Lighted Field Project

A virtual groundbreaking ceremony for this project is tentatively planned for Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 2:00pm. Invitations and announcements will go out at the first week of December.

The project is funded in part with \$1,300,000 in awarded state and county grants. Please visit the City webpage [here](#) for more information and updates about this project.



Virtual Light Up Monroe

Sunday, November 29th the Monroe Chamber of Commerce hosted a virtual tree lighting ceremony and car parade in lieu of our annual Light Up Monroe event. Parks crew member Matt Donovan lit the tree which was followed by a lighted car parade which was well attended. It was a great success.



Monroe Park Board

During its November 19 regular meeting, the Board reviewed and approved their 2021 Work Plan (**attached**). The work plan sets out a flexible guideline for the park board to fulfill its purpose and function under MCC 2.16.020 B which indicates the park board has the authority to continually assess the city park and recreation facilities, programs, needs and costs and make recommendations to the city council for the care, management, supervision, improvement and budgeting for parks, recreational facilities and programs.

City Parks Unmarked Trails Inspections

In 2017, 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. Attached is the comprehensive data from 2017 to the present. 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
11/3	10.5	0	
11/17	5	4	
11/23	9.5	1	
11/24	0	0	
Avg.	6.25	1.25	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2017- 2020

Volunteer Opportunities

Due to COVID-19 the City of Monroe’s volunteering has been temporarily suspended. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Katie Darrow at (360) 863-4519.

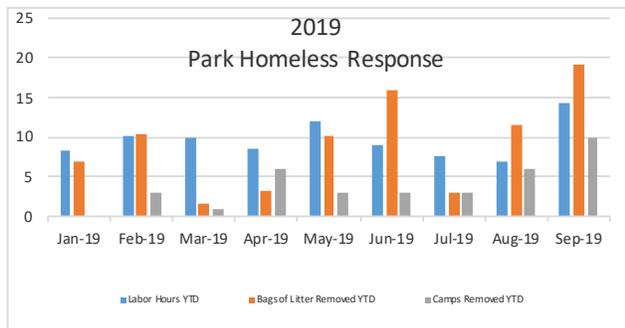
Visit the City website www.monroewa.gov for information on upcoming programs and events.

2017-2020

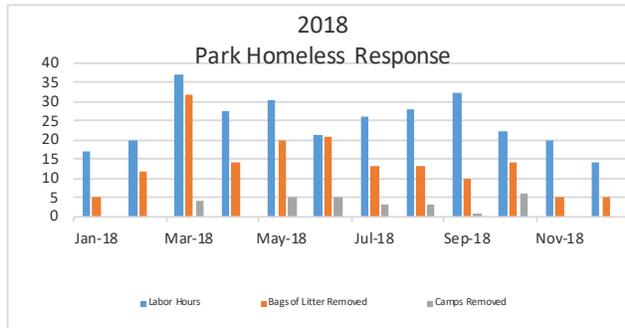
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD	Park Homeless
Jan-20	8.75	5.5	0	0
Feb-20	5.67	4.33	0	0
Mar-20	7.25	0.25	0	0
Apr-20	4.9	0.4	0	0
May-20	9.625	2.5	3	3
Jun-20	6.25	3.75	2	2
Jul-20	8.5	4.25	1	1
Aug-20	7.875	2.25	3	3
Sep-20	9	3.4	0	0
Oct-20	7.25	1.25	0	0
Nov-20	6.25	1.25	0	0
Dec-20				
Total 2020	81.32	29.13		9



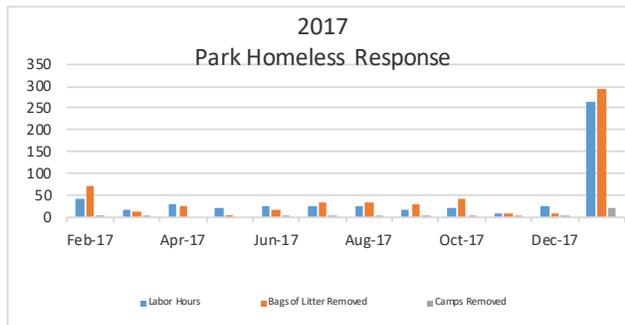
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD	Park Homeless
Jan-19	8.3	7		
Feb-19	10.2	10.3		3
Mar-19	10	1.5		1
Apr-19	8.5	3.25		6
May-19	11.9	10.25		3
Jun-19	9	16		3
Jul-19	7.5	3		3
Aug-19	6.9	11.5		6
Sep-19	14.25	19.25		10
Oct-19	7.3	19.4		6
Nov-19	7.5	0.875		4
Dec-19	7.3	1.2		3
Total 2019	108.65	103.525		48



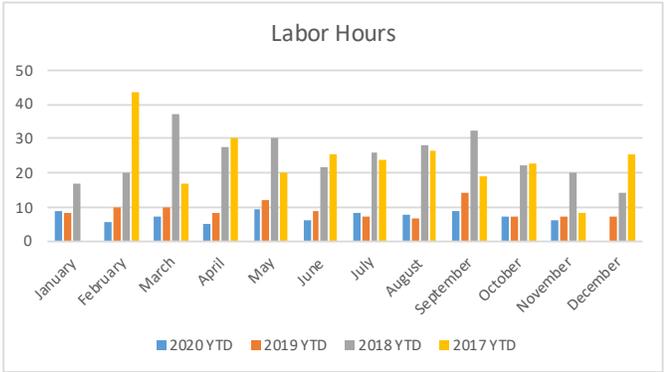
	Labor Hours	Bags of Litter Removed	Camps Removed	Park Homeless
Jan-18	17	5		0
Feb-18	20	12		0
Mar-18	37	32		4
Apr-18	27.5	14		0
May-18	30.5	20		5
Jun-18	21.5	21		5
Jul-18	26	13		3
Aug-18	28	13		3
Sep-18	32.5	10		1
Oct-18	22.5	14		6
Nov-18	20	5		0
Dec-18	14	5		0
Total 2018	296.5	164		27



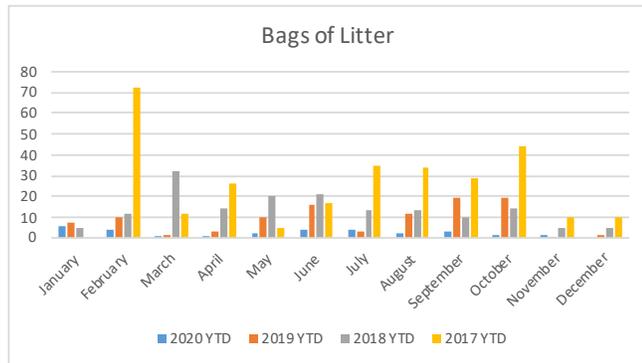
	Labor Hours	Bags of Litter Removed	Camps Removed	Park Homeless
Feb-17	43.5	72.5		4
Mar-17	17	12		3
Apr-17	30	26		0
May-17	20	5		0
Jun-17	25.5	17		2
Jul-17	24	35		3
Aug-17	26.5	34		3
Sep-17	19	29		2
Oct-17	23	44		1
Nov-17	8.5	10		3
Dec-17	25.5	10		1
Total 2017	262.5	294.5		22



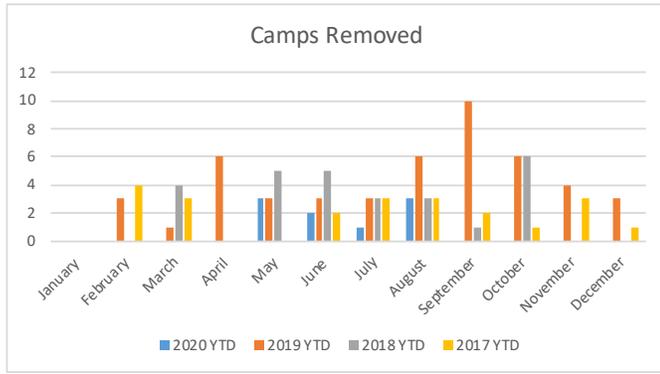
Labor Hours	2020 YTD	2019 YTD	2018 YTD	2017 YTD
January	8.75	8.3	17	0
February	5.67	10.2	20	43.5
March	7.25	10	37	17
April	4.9	8.5	27.5	30
May	9.625	11.9	30.5	20
June	6.25	9	21.5	25.5
July	8.5	7.5	26	24
August	7.875	6.9	28	26.5
September	9	14.25	32.5	19
October	7.25	7.3	22.5	23
November	6.25	7.5	20	8.5
December		7.3	14	25.5



Bags of Litter Removed	2020 YTD	2019 YTD	2018 YTD	2017 YTD
January	5.5	7	5	0
February	4.33	10.3	12	72.5
March	0.25	1.5	32	12
April	0.4	3.25	14	26
May	2.5	10.25	20	5
June	3.75	16	21	17
July	4.25	3	13	35
August	2.25	11.5	13	34
September	3.4	19.25	10	29
October	1.25	19.4	14	44
November	1.25	0.875	5	10
December		1.2	5	10



Camps Removed	2020 YTD	2019 YTD	2018 YTD	2017 YTD
January	0	0	0	0
February	0	3	0	4
March	0	1	4	3
April	0	6	0	0
May	3	3	5	0
June	2	3	5	2
July	1	3	3	3
August	3	6	3	3
September	0	10	1	2
October	0	6	6	1
November	0	4	0	3
December		3	0	1

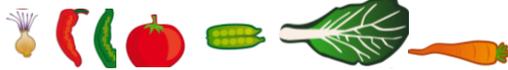


ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Julia V. Morris Centennial Garden (JVM Garden), a food bank garden since 1999

Garden Results 2020

➤ **2,288** pounds of produce harvested



➤ **\$11,408** monetary value of produce 

➤ **\$1,000** Monetary donations

➤ **\$565** Value of IN KIND donations

➤ Happy Volunteers



Our **MISSION** is to maintain the Julia V. Morris Centennial Garden as an evolving, sustainable community resource, growing food and educating to help eliminate food insecurity in our community.

We grow food for the Sky Valley Food Bank.

2020 JVM Garden Steering Committee

Chris Albus, Pat Castiglione, Diane Carlson, Sheryl Hunter, Amy Martin, Joanne Pinnell, Ginny Read, Lori Heffner, Jeannette Susor

THANK YOU 2020 DONORS

IN KIND Donations:

Sky Valley Food Bank \$500
Monroe Garden Club \$500

Bailey Compost: compost \$360
Amy Martin: irrigation supplies \$150
Monroe Community Senior Center: photocopying \$ 45

Other Fabulous Help:

- ✓ **KIWANIS CLUB of Monroe.** . . Using wheelbarrels and shovels they helped close the garden for the winter!
- ✓ **GARDEN PARTNERS:** the City of Monroe Parks & Recreation Department, Sky Valley Food Bank, Monroe Community Senior Center, and Monroe Boys & Girls Club
- ✓ **AS WELL AS:** the Sun, the Rain, the Bees, Birds and other pollinating critters, the Worms, and even the soil Microbes. We need them all!
- ✓ **Kudos** to our *Plant Selection and Horticulture Sub-Committee* this year for their excellent decisions on cover crops, plant selections, crop rotation, and new composting methods! . . .Chris Albus, Diane Carlson, Amy Martin, and Ginny Read.



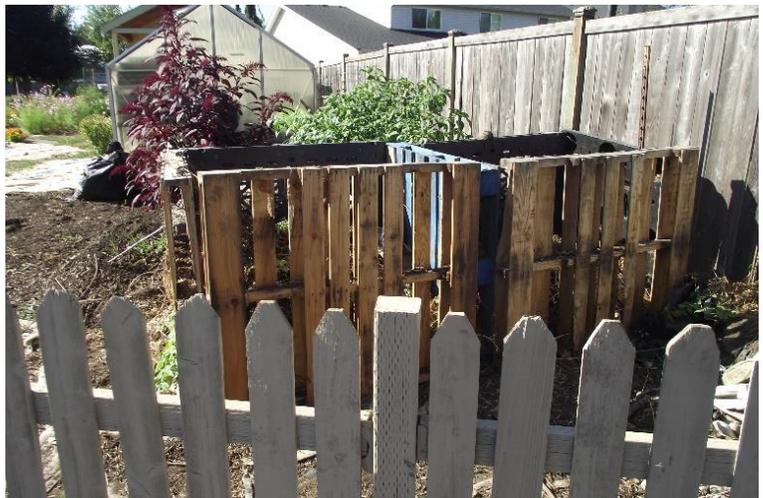
NEW THIS YEAR

➔Fence painting. . .

Volunteer Extraordinaire Michael Read took on the project of repairing the gate in the fence, replacing many worn fence boards (after being 20 years in the weather!), and painting the entire outside of the fence. It looks great! Painting the inside of the fence to be done next year—we hope!!

➔Compost bins. . .

were set up using pallets (by Michael Read also) to hold garden ‘yard waste’ as it becomes soil.



→**Berms.** . . In order to build up the poor rocky soil in areas, spent plant material was piled up in a row last year and left over the winter. This year potatoes were successfully planted there, harvested, and the spent potato plants were piled up to make a second berm to ‘winter over’ and make better soil for next year’s planting.

→**Pollinators.** . . below see a late blooming variety of sunflower added to the Pollinator garden to bring in those winged creatures who help pollinate fall crops.



→**This Amaranth plant** grew and grew in the longtime compost area – right next to a very large and fruitful Tomatillo that planted itself!

Amaranth may not be a staple crop on American homesteads right now, but it should be. This nutrient-rich plant has been used as a dietary staple in many regions of the world for centuries. Amaranth is often classified as both a grain and an herb; and has long been considered a “superfood.”

Amaranth grows in every environment on the globe, except Antarctica. Its leaves are edible raw or cooked and seeds can be used as a grain. From: <http://www.thesurvivalgardener.com/amaranth-identification-uses-plant-profile/>



To donate or volunteer or join the Steering Committee :
Contact: friendsofjvmgarden@gmail.com
Facebook: Friends of JVM Food Bank Garden

“What fun I had helping at JVM this season! How nice to get to know all the dedicated volunteer gardeners. And wowed was I by all that the garden produced!!!! Perhaps I’ll be able to help again in the spring. Karen, one of the happy volunteers!”

TOTAL POUNDS with MONETARY VALUE 2020

Julia V. Morris Centennial Garden, A food bank garden since 1999

Prices are from Hagan Food Grocery Store

Vegetable	Total pounds	Price per pound	Monetary Value
Herb: Parsley (fresh bundle)	3 (51 packages)	9.96 (2.49 for ¼ lb)	39.84
Herb: Basil (fresh bundle)	1	19.96 (4.49 for ¼ lb)	19.96
Herb: Cilantro (fresh bundle)	2	9.96 (2.49 for ¼ lb)	19.92
Radish	69	5.38 (2.69 for ½ lb)	371.22
Snow Peas	20	3.89	77.80
Lettuce	237	15.96 (3.99 for ¼ lb)	3,782.52
Cabbage	620	1.89	1,171.80
Carrots Bunch with tops	86	5.98 (2.99 for ½ lb)	514.28
Green Beans (Pole & Bush)	273	3.99	1,089.27
Tomatoes* 5 different varieties	534	4.89 (average of 5 prices)	2,611.26
Tomatillos	227	3.29	746.83
Garlic	12	13.96 (3.49 for 3 oz)	167.52
Cucumber	64	7.56 (1.89 for ¼ lb)	483.84
Squash: Zuchinni, Delicata, Butternut	114	1.99	226.86
Peppers: 5 varieties: Serano, Habenero, Jalapeno, Chili, Anaheim	26	3.29 (average of 5 prices)	85.54
TOTAL POUNDS 2020	2,288		
TOTAL MONETARY VALUE 2020			\$11,408.46

THANK YOU to MONROE KIWANIS CLUB!!!

... who came and gave some much appreciated final help, Oct. 24, 2020

Lori Heffner's 'Satellite Garden' produced a total of 456 pounds.



