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## 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.**

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## Department Update

### **Governor's Office COVID-19 Update:**

On January 5, 2021, Governor Inslee announced the [Healthy Washington - Roadmap to Recovery plan](#), which lays out the process to safely reopen Washington state. The plan includes guidance for certain businesses and industries including outdoor recreation activities to help protect Washingtonians and minimize the spread of COVID-19. This plan replaces the Governor's previous Safe Start Reopening Plan

The full Healthy Washington phased chart is available [here](#).

Updated Guidance for Sports, Recreation and Fitness:

- [Fitness and Training](#)
- [Outdoor Recreation](#)
- [Water Recreation](#)
- [Sporting Activities: recreational, K-12, higher education and professional](#)
- [Racing: non-motorized and motorized](#)
- [Golf](#)

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

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### **Operations**

December consisted of wrapping up maintenance tasks for the year. The Parks and Recreation team members also worked to install the holiday decorations on Main Street. In addition, they worked to remove two hazard trees behind the City Library. One had to be removed due to damages caused by a fire that was intentionally set at the base. The other was leaning towards the Library and was removed for safety purposes.



As an additional December task, the Parks crew resurfaced the gravel roadway at Al Borlin Park to fill potholes left from yearly flood waters.



Citizen Compliment: The Parks Department Staff received the following comments from Bryan and Marylynn Sutton; “We wanted to let you know how much we appreciate Al Borlin Park rest area. Since the virus has closed many stores and bathrooms, we can always count on the bathroom to be open and clean. Thank you for your work in keeping it open and clean.”

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### **Department Receives Live Christmas Tree Donations**

We’d like to thank residents Patricia Gonzales and Kristy Murphy who donated their fir and pine living Christmas Trees to the Monroe Parks Department. Both will be planted at Lake Tye Park. We look forward to watching both trees grow for years to come.



### Rotary Field Netting Installation Project Completed

All City Fence Company installed 200 lineal feet of 20-foot-high netting to protect adjacent property parking lot from potential damage to cars from errant balls. The project was completed during December 2020, funded through Parks Capital Improvement fund.



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

On December 10, the City of Monroe celebrated the groundbreaking of the Lake Tye Park All-Weather Fields Project. State Representative Carolyn Eslick, County Councilmember Sam Low, City Councilmember Jason Gamble, and Sky Valley Little League Vice President Chad Pettis joined Mayor Geoffrey Thomas for the socially distanced event. We are thankful to the Monroe City Council for the investment of time, resources and funding to make this project happen, and to Representative Eslick, Councilmember Low, and the Sky Valley Little League for funding assistance provided by the state, County, and Little League. Each attendee spoke of the importance of this project to youth sports in Monroe and throughout the Sky Valley. The City hopes to hold a ribbon cutting ceremony next summer, upon completion of the project, that will hopefully be able to be open to the entire community.

The project is funded in part with \$1,300,000 in awarded state and county grants. For more information on this important project, please visit the Parks Department's capital projects [webpage](#).





Left to Right: County Councilmember Sam Low, City Councilmember Jason Gamble, Mayor Geoffrey Thomas, State Representative Carolyn Eslick, and Sky Valley Little League Vice President Chad Pettis.

### **Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan Survey Launch**

The City of Monroe is preparing an update to our long-range plan for our community’s park, recreation, and open space system. We have launched a survey asking the communities help in determining what types of park facilities and programs are needed to meet the recreation needs of our growing community. We believe resident involvement during this long-range plan update process will benefit from widescale participation, and the outcome has the potential to positively impact our schools, families and businesses. Participants contribution will help shape the future of your parks.

The survey launched on December 16, 2020 and closed January 15, 2021. Results will be released to the public mid-February.



### **Monroe Park Board**

The December 17, 2020 Park Board meeting was cancelled. We look forward to meeting in January.

### **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
12/1	4	0	
11/17	7.5	2	
11/23	5.5	0	
11/24	5	0	
<b>Avg.</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>.5</b>	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2017- 2020

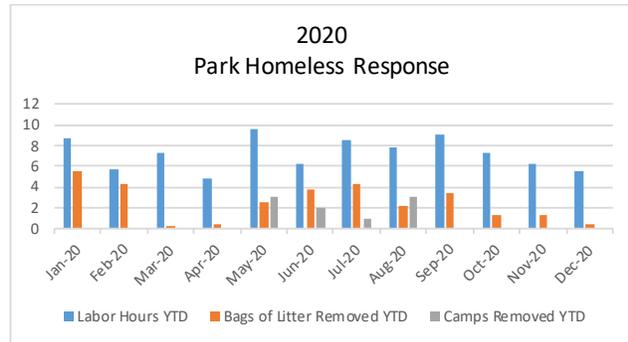
**Volunteer Opportunities**

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.

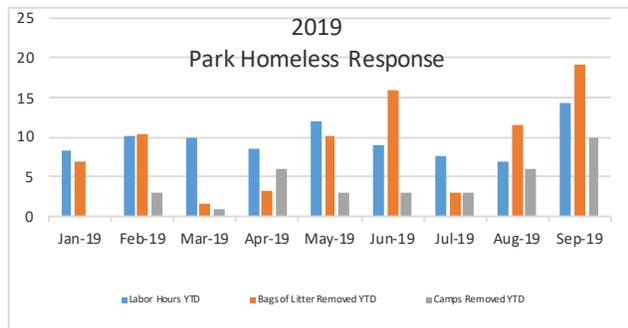
Visit the City website [www.monroewa.gov](http://www.monroewa.gov) for information on upcoming programs and events.

**2017-2020**  
**Park Homelessness Response**

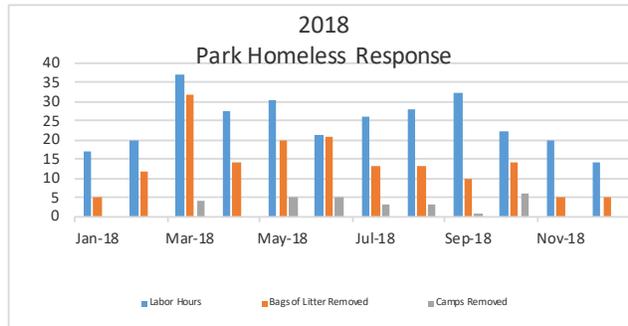
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-20	8.75	5.5	0
Feb-20	5.67	4.33	0
Mar-20	7.25	0.25	0
Apr-20	4.9	0.4	0
May-20	9.625	2.5	3
Jun-20	6.25	3.75	2
Jul-20	8.5	4.25	1
Aug-20	7.875	2.25	3
Sep-20	9	3.4	0
Oct-20	7.25	1.25	0
Nov-20	6.25	1.25	0
Dec-20	5.5	0.5	0
<b>Total 2020</b>	<b>86.82</b>	<b>29.63</b>	<b>9</b>



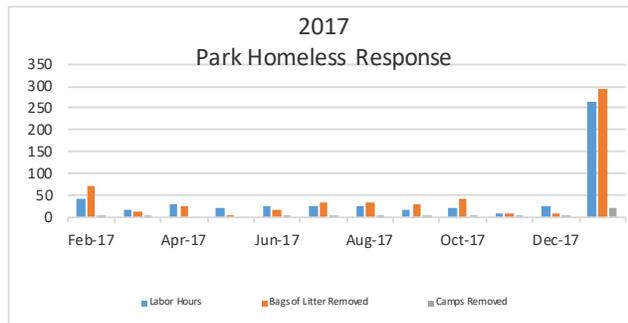
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-19	8.3	7	
Feb-19	10.2	10.3	3
Mar-19	10	1.5	1
Apr-19	8.5	3.25	6
May-19	11.9	10.25	3
Jun-19	9	16	3
Jul-19	7.5	3	3
Aug-19	6.9	11.5	6
Sep-19	14.25	19.25	10
Oct-19	7.3	19.4	6
Nov-19	7.5	0.875	4
Dec-19	7.3	1.2	3
<b>Total 2019</b>	<b>108.65</b>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



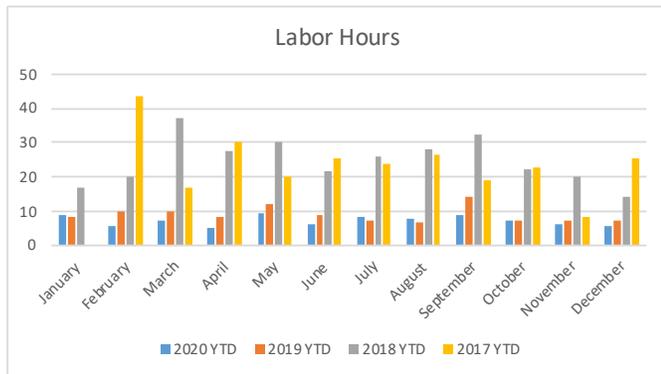
	Labor Hours	Bags of Litter Removed	Camps Removed
Jan-18	17	5	0
Feb-18	20	12	0
Mar-18	37	32	4
Apr-18	27.5	14	0
May-18	30.5	20	5
Jun-18	21.5	21	5
Jul-18	26	13	3
Aug-18	28	13	3
Sep-18	32.5	10	1
Oct-18	22.5	14	6
Nov-18	20	5	0
Dec-18	14	5	0
<b>Total 2018</b>	<b>296.5</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>27</b>



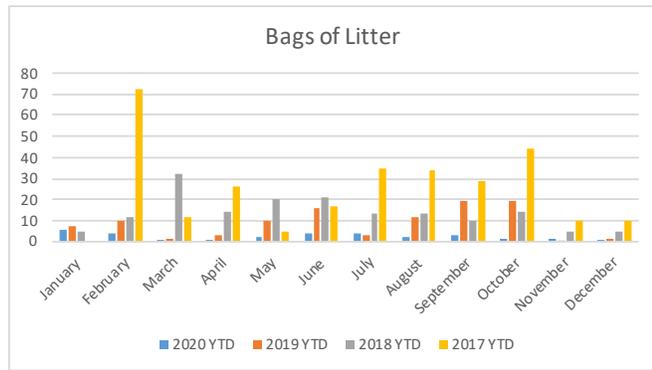
	Labor Hours	Bags of Litter Removed	Camps Removed
Feb-17	43.5	72.5	4
Mar-17	17	12	3
Apr-17	30	26	0
May-17	20	5	0
Jun-17	25.5	17	2
Jul-17	24	35	3
Aug-17	26.5	34	3
Sep-17	19	29	2
Oct-17	23	44	1
Nov-17	8.5	10	3
Dec-17	25.5	10	1
<b>Total 2017</b>	<b>262.5</b>	<b>294.5</b>	<b>22</b>



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	5.5	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	0.5	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	0	3	0	1

