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## Mission

**Protecting and enhancing the natural beauty of Monroe through the development of a vibrant system of parks, open space, and trails. Providing residents of all ages positive opportunities for recreation and social gathering in clean, safe, accessible, and inclusive facilities and green spaces. Enhancing health, quality of living, and the natural environment for present and future generations.**

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## Department Update

### Operations

In the month of November, the crew have been collecting and mulching leaves to keep the parks and trails clean and safe. They have been winterizing irrigation lines to prepare for the freezing weather, inspecting playgrounds for worn parts and replacing them, grooming athletic fields, regrading parking areas from flood damage, and planted new daffodil bulbs for the coming spring. With the holidays approaching, the crew was able to dust off the decorations, paint needed areas, and prepare for the Light Up Monroe Event.



Grading damaged trails



Matt Donovan & crew hanging holiday decorations



## Monroe Park Board

The Monroe Park Board meetings scheduled for Thursday, November 17 and Thursday, December 15 have been cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 19, 2023.

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## Blueberry Park Playground

The City received a \$100,000 grant from Snohomish County toward the construction of the new Blueberry Park Playground. Construction of the playground is currently scheduled in 2023. This money will go toward improving the initial design by adding amenities and creating additional visual interest for the kids. We want to extend a particular thank you to Councilmember Sam Low, Executive Dave Somers and his entire team at the County for their excellent partnership and quick work to make this grant a reality.

## Lewis Street Boat Launch – Signage

The City installed new informational and safety signage at the Lewis Street Boat Launch. The purpose of the project is to replace existing outdated and aging signage. The new signs will also provide improved safety and site use information to the public. The manufacturing and installation of the signs was provided by a \$20,000 grant from Forterra.



New signs at Lewis Street Boat Launch

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## October Events

The Monroe Chamber of Commerce's **Light Up Monroe** closed out the 2022 event season on November 27<sup>th</sup>. The community gathered and enjoyed a lighted car parade, visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, hot cider, cocoa, cookies, reindeer food, caroling, kid's activities, a holiday market, and more! We would like to thank our Parks Supervisor, Mike Thomas, and crew members, Matt Donovan and Chase Payseno, for setting up the main stage and lighting the tree at the end of the countdown.



Festivities from Light Up Monroe

**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 2019 to the present. The following is a summary of data for the past month:

**Locations: City-wide**

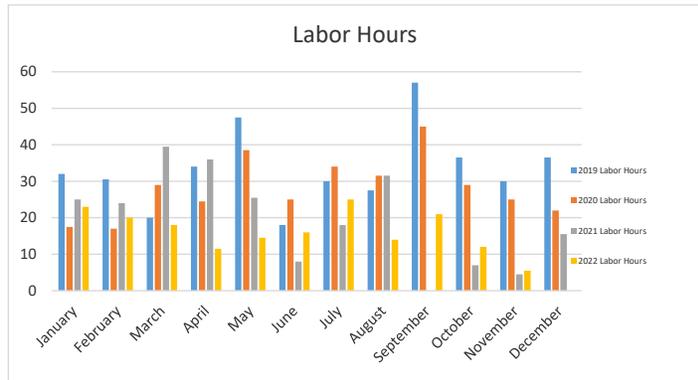
DATE	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	# BAGS OF LITTER COLLECTED	NOTES
12/8	5.5	0	Nothing found, inspections only
<b>Avg.</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>0</b>	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2019- 2022

**Volunteer Opportunities**

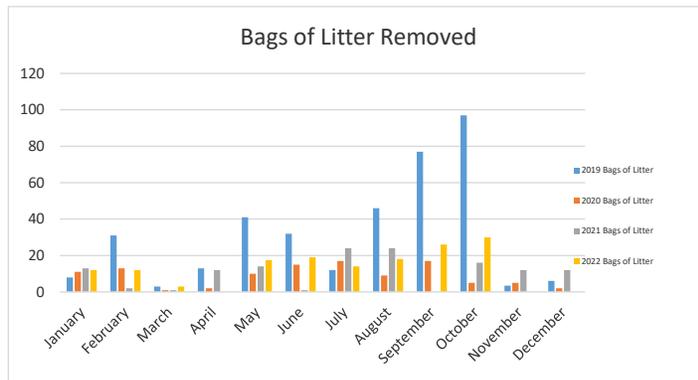
If you are interested in volunteering for the City of Monroe, please contact Makenna Ohlsen at (360) 863-4559. Visit the City website [www.monroewa.gov](http://www.monroewa.gov) for information on upcoming programs and events.

## 2019-2022 Park Homelessness Response

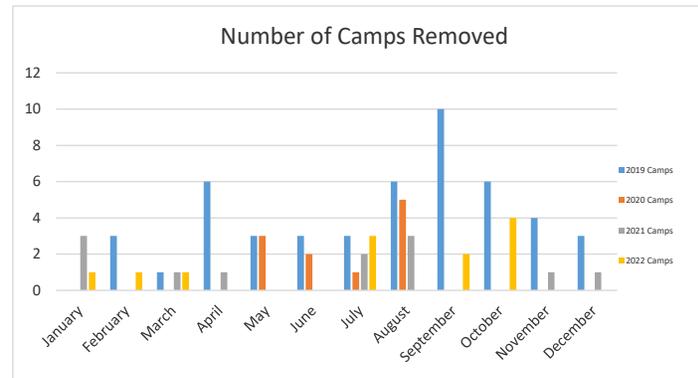
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-22	23	12	1
Feb-22	20	12	1
Mar-22	18	3	1
Apr-22	11.5	0	0
May-22	14.5	17.5	0
Jun-22	16	19	0
Jul-22	25	14	3
Aug-22	14	18	0
Sep-22	21	26	2
Oct-22	12	30	4
Nov-22	5.5	0	0
Dec-22			
<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>180.5</b>	<b>151.5</b>	<b>12</b>



	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-21	25	13	3
Feb-21	24	2	0
Mar-21	39.5	1	1
Apr-21	36	12	1
May-21	25.5	14	0
Jun-21	8	1	0
Jul-21	18	24	2
Aug-21	31.5	24	3
Sep-21	0	0	0
Oct-21	7	16	0
Nov-21	4.5	12	1
Dec-21	15.5	12	1
<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>234.5</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>12</b>



	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-20	17.5	11	0
Feb-20	17	13	0
Mar-20	29	1	0
Apr-20	24.5	2	0
May-20	38.5	10	3
Jun-20	25	15	2
Jul-20	34	17	1
Aug-20	31.5	9	5
Sep-20	45	17	0
Oct-20	29	5	0
Nov-20	25	5	0
Dec-20	22	2	0
<b>Total 2020</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>11</b>



	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-19	32	8	0
Feb-19	30.5	31	3
Mar-19	20	3	1
Apr-19	34	13	6
May-19	47.5	41	3
Jun-19	18	32	3
Jul-19	30	12	3
Aug-19	27.5	46	6
Sep-19	57	77	10
Oct-19	36.5	97	6
Nov-19	30	3.5	4
Dec-19	36.5	6	3
<b>Total 2019</b>	<b>399.5</b>	<b>369.5</b>	<b>48</b>