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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 September, the parks crew wrapped up the summer event season and continued with prep for the rainy months. The crew aerated the baseball and soccer fields at Sky River and Lake Tye park. With the assistance of the Public Works Department, the crew broke ground on the new pickleball courts at Sky River Park. The new pad will host 2 full-sized pickleball courts. We hope to get the pad prepped and concrete poured this fall, and will have the concrete surfaced with lines and coating in early spring. The crew also prepared for two new memorial bench sites, one located near the skatepark at Lake Tye, and the other located near the playground at Wales Street Park.



Parks and Public Works crews preparing the pickleball site at Sky River Park.

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## 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.

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## September Events

As September comes to an end, so does the City's busy season of events. Our Parks Department has permitted 35 events to date, most of which take place in our City Parks.

Monroe Equity Community's **Belonging** event took place at Sky River Park on the 9<sup>th</sup>. This event celebrates cultural diversity and included art, music, dance, vendors, food, education, and demonstrations.

The 9<sup>th</sup> annual **RBO Color Run** returned on the 10<sup>th</sup>, which starts its course at Sky River Park and takes participants through surrounding City streets.

The **Spartan Race** was held at Sky Meadows Park, just outside of Monroe off of Tester Road on September 16<sup>th</sup>. This event brings thousands of participants through Monroe, using amenities that we offer.

Lastly, the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **Wiggly Walk** wrapped up the month's schedule on a chilly and rainy Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Those who attended said it was a "positively fantastic day!"



Belonging at Sky River Park



RBO Color Run at Sky River Park

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## Trails Master Plan Open House

Parks staff and our consultants, MacLeod Reckord and Consor Engineering, hosted our Trails Master Plan Open House on Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at Park Place Middle School. We had 60+ attendees for the duration of the meeting, with people coming and going, as the intent of an open house-style meeting. A lot of good conversations were had and we believe we got a lot of great input from our community. We will be compiling this data and hosting another open house in the Spring. Stay tuned!



Mayor Thomas and attendees at the Trails Master Plan Open House

### 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: Al Borlin & Sky River Trails

DATE	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	# BAGS OF LITTER COLLECTED	NOTES
9/26	4	2	Al Borlin – Inspection only
9/26	4	2	Sky River – 2 camps found, pending PD assistance
<b>Avg.</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2019- 2023

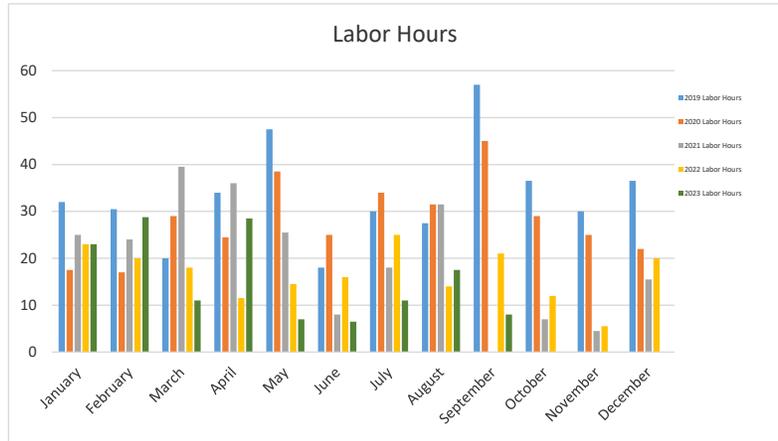
### Monroe Park Board

The Monroe Park Board regular meeting was cancelled on Thursday, September 21. The Trails Master Plan Open House replaced the regular meeting agenda.

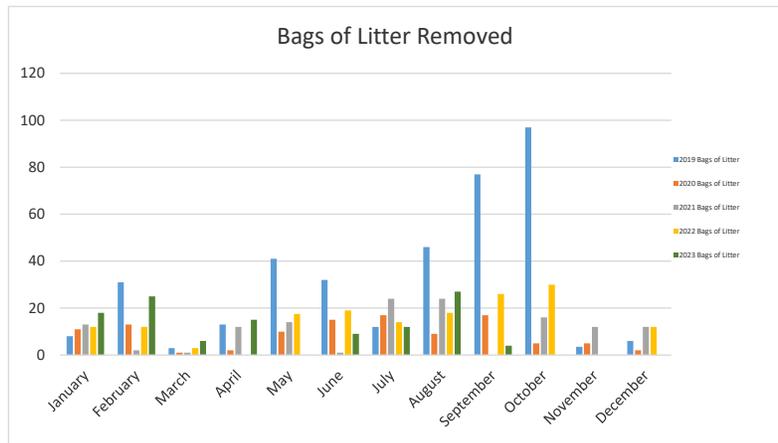
The next scheduled Park Board meeting is Thursday, October 19 at 7:00pm in the Court Room at 769 Village Way.

Parks Homeless Response Data 2023

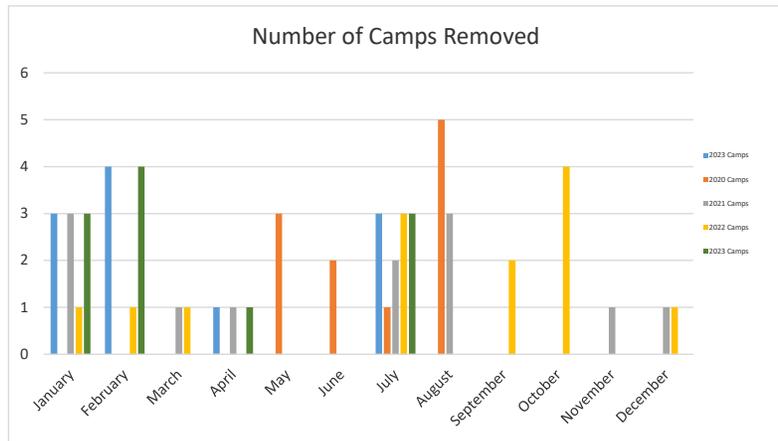
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-23	23	18	3
Feb-23	28.75	25	4
Mar-23	11	6	0
Apr-23	28.5	15	1
May-23	7	0	0
Jun-23	6.5	9	0
Jul-23	11	12	3
Aug-23	17.5	27	0
Sep-23	8	4	0
Oct-23			
Nov-23			
Dec-23			
<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>141.25</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>11</b>



	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	20	12	1
<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>200.5</b>	<b>163.5</b>	<b>13</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>



2019 & 2020 data is shown only on the graphs. If you would like the full data breakdown, please reach out to Makenna Ohlsen, mohlsen@monroewa.gov