



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 age's 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.

Department Update

Operations

The Parks Department started the month by pouring the pad for the new information station at Sky River Park, bringing us closer to completing that project within the first quarter. The crew also continued work on city landscape beds, preparing the endcaps on Main and Lewis Streets for the *Scarlet O'Hara* daffodils, which began to emerge at the end of December.



In early December, the crew removed multiple camps from the parks, during which they identified two unsecured old well lids. Collaborating with the Public Works department, the lids were permanently secured to ensure safety. These are former city well sites from the early days of Monroe.



Playground repairs also commenced and will continue through the slower winter months, with completion expected in the first quarter. The city is bringing in a representative from the playground manufacturer to assist with the repairs.

Additionally, the crew finalized logging all bollards into GIS, laying the groundwork for a comprehensive system to track maintenance and manage fixtures across the city.

The department also completed its contract with Consolidated Services to restore the Sky River Park restrooms following vandalism. The total cost to repair the vandalism was a little over \$24,000.

Equipment repairs and maintenance are underway as we begin the year, and the team wrapped up 2024 by dismantling holiday decorations in preparation for the busy months ahead.



(Above: Crews worked on city landscape beds and securing well lid for safety)

Light Up Monroe Event

It's a quiet time of year for events but December kicked off with the annual Light Up Monroe on December 1. New this year, to accommodate the growing attendance, the layout for the event changed slightly so that there was a larger gathering space for our community. The tree also showcased an updated set of lights which did not disappoint as the countdown came to a close. Through Placer.ai we were able to estimate that the event attendance this year was 1,000.



Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering for the City of Monroe, please contact our Parks and Recreation Admin Assistant at (360) 863-4559 or sign up for notifications at <https://bit.ly/3uLsNjW>. Visit the City website www.monroewa.gov for information.

Park Board

The Board's meeting in December was cancelled. The next meeting will be January 16, 2025.

City Parks Unmarked Trails Inspections

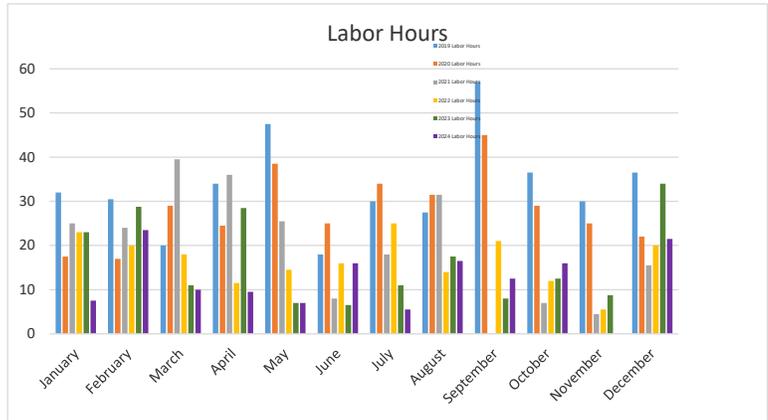
In 2017, a weekly maintenance monitoring emphasis by park staff was initiated on unmarked trails at Al Borlin and Sky River Parks to identify and resolve, in cooperation with our Police Department, any unlawful encampments that may occur in City parks. Attached is the comprehensive data from 2019 to the present. The following is a summary of data for the past month:

Locations: Al Borlin & Sky River Trails

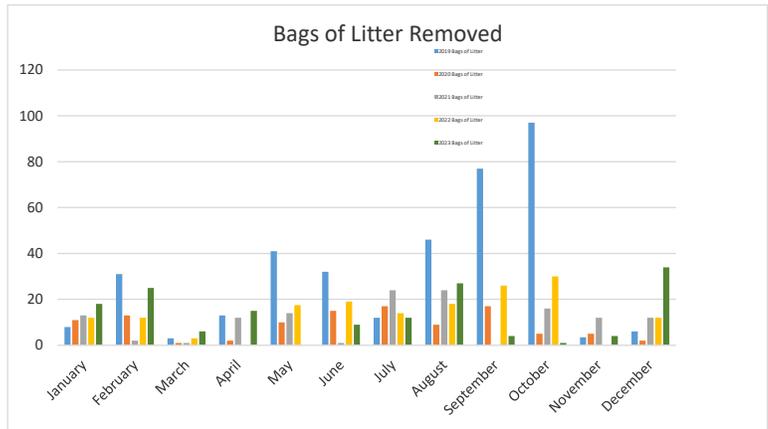
DATE	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	# BAGS OF LITTER COLLECTED	NOTES
12/11	10.5	9	Sky River Park – Inspections, Garbage Removal Al Borlin, Garbage Removal
12/16	11.5	0	Sky River Park – Inspections, Garbage Removal
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2019- 2024

	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-24	7.5	0	0
Feb-24	23.5	22.5	0
Mar-24	10	15	0
Apr-24	9.5	14	1
May-24	7	8	2
Jun-24	16	8	2
Jul-24	5.5	2	1
Aug-24	16.5	12	1
Sep-24	12.5	40	1
Oct-24	16	30	4
Nov-24	0*	0*	0*
Dec-24	21.5	9	2
Total 2024	145.5	160.5	22

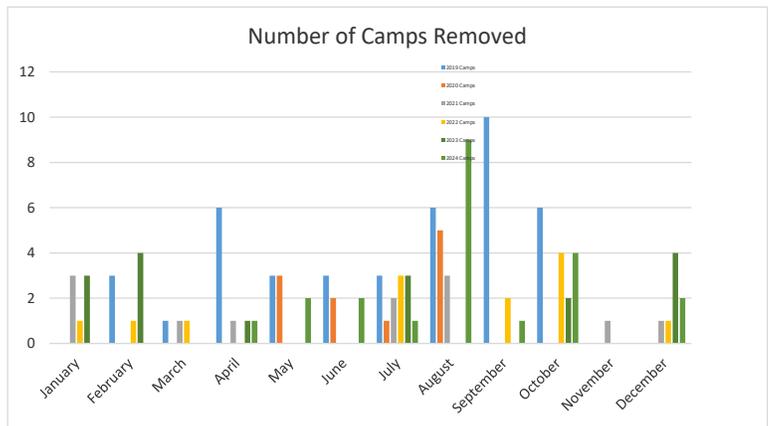
Note: * No trail inspections due to storm event and training



	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	12.5	1	2
Nov-23	8.75	4	0
Dec-23	34	34	4
Total 2023	196.5	155	17



	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	1
Dec-22	20	12	0
Total 2022	200.5	163.5	13



2019-2021 data is shown only on the graphs. If you would like the full data breakdown, please reach out to Shelley Rowe srowe@monroewa.gov