

MONROE THIS WEEK

October 31, 2025



At Tuesday's Council Meeting, I issued a proclamation recognizing the week of November 2-8, 2025 as Police and Fire Appreciation Week. The professionals of the Monroe Police Department and Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue are devoted public servants who risk their lives to ensure Monroe is a safe place for all to live, work, and play. I invite the community to join me in thanking and showing appreciation for all our public safety personnel who serve Monroe.



Thank you for reading Monroe This Week. This week's edition features:

- *Republic Services - Service Credits*
- *Utility Rates*
- *Cold Weather Shelter Program*
- *November Food Drive and Food Resources*

Please reach out to me with what may be on your mind about and for Monroe. I can be contacted at GThomas@MonroeWA.gov.

Yours In Service,



Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

NOTICE TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS: JULY 2025 SERVICE CREDITS ISSUED

Residential customers of Republic Services will see credits applied to their **October 31, 2025**, invoice. These credits are being issued as reimbursement for service disruptions caused by the labor strike in July. The credits include:

- A two-week customer service credit for missed garbage collections.
- A two-week customer service credit for missed recycling service (applies only to recycling subscribers)
- A two-week customer service credit for missed yard waste service (applies only to yard waste subscribers)



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For more details, please visit the [Republic Services – Monroe, WA](#) website.

UTILITY RATES AND THE COST OF MANAGING WATER

At this week's City Council meeting, I presented proposed adjustments to the City's adopted [2025-2026 Biennial Budget](#). This process, called the Mid-Biennial Budget Adjustment, is required by state law and is the opportunity for us to respond to changes in revenues, expenses, or community needs, ensuring that the budget remains accurate and effective for the second year of the biennium. Details on my recommended amendments are explained in the [staff memo from the Oct. 28 Council meeting](#).

Monroe's utility rates are intended to cover all costs associated with providing water, sewer, and stormwater services, including maintaining infrastructure. Monroe's water is purchased from the City of Everett and earlier this year, the [Everett City Council approved water rate increases](#) after Monroe had

already adopted its 2025–2026 budget with a modest 3.8% rate increase for water, sewer and stormwater utilities in 2026. The City of Monroe has not raised water and sewer utility rates beyond Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) in recent years and is now faced with passing along Everett’s water rate increases onto Monroe rate payers.



To cover the increased cost of purchasing water from the City of Everett, the City of Monroe is proposing an additional 7.2% water rate change beginning January 1, 2026. The **adopted budget** also includes a 10% stormwater utility tax on gross receipts, consistent with other utilities. If approved by the City Council, the base rate for all utilities (Water, Sewer and Stormwater) is going up by \$7 per month. Customers who

use more water may see a higher total increase based on their usage. Low-income senior citizens and low-income disabled residents may be able to receive discounts for qualifying utility accounts.

Even with the needed rate updates, the cost for city utilities is comparable to or lower than surrounding communities. These proposed rate changes will help to adequately fund utility services ensuring the quality of our drinking water, recreational lakes, and waterways, supporting the long-term maintenance of our stormwater system so that it keeps up with increased demand in the coming years, and supporting future investments in infrastructure. The City Council has approved a comprehensive utility rate study in 2026.

On Nov. 18, the City Council will consider the first reading to the ordinance adopting adjustments to the biennial budget. The agenda and staff memo will be posted to our [website](#) by the end of day on Friday, Nov. 14. If Council approves the proposed rate changes, they will take effect on Jan. 1, 2026.

Additional information about the proposed utility rates will be shared here, on our [Utility Billing webpage](#) and via other communications tools.

EAST COUNTY COLD WEATHER SHELTER PROGRAM BEGINS NOVEMBER 1

The East County Cold Weather Shelter Program begins November 1, 2025, and lasts through March 2026. Cold

Weather Shelters typically open when overnight temperatures are expected to be at or below 34 degrees F. Cold Weather Shelters are typically operated by community-based organizations, volunteer groups, and communities of faith across Snohomish County. To view a list of shelters and an interactive map, please visit: [https://snohomish-county-public-safety-hub-snoco-gis.hub....](https://snohomish-county-public-safety-hub-snoco-gis.hub...)

Youth between the ages of 12-17 years of age who need shelter may call (360) 805-9282.

Community Transit & Everett Transit will provide free rides to Cold Weather Shelters whenever they are open. No special pass or ticket is required - Just let the driver know.

Cold Weather Shelters



Overnight cold weather shelters open when the temperature is 34° or below. Guests MUST arrive during designated intake times.

Locations:

Everett Cold Weather Shelter: 2624 Rockefeller. (425) 977-9686. Intake 8PM-10PM. Operated by Everett Gospel Mission.

Everett Family Cold Weather Shelter: **Serves families with minor children only.** 5126 S. 2nd Ave. (425) 998-3954. Intake 4PM-8PM. Operated by Everett Gospel Mission.

Marysville Cold Weather Shelter: 7215 51st Ave NE. (425) 686-9272. Intake 7PM-9:30PM. Operated by LINC NW. Pets allowed. 🐾

Monroe Cold Weather Shelter: TBD

Snohomish Cold Weather Shelter: 210 Ave B. (425) 864-3765. Intake 8PM-10PM. Operated by Volunteers of America Western Washington. Pets allowed. 🐾

South County Cold Weather Shelter: Shuttle pick-up locations below. No walk-ups. (425) 561-4680. Intake 7PM-10PM everyday but Wednesday. Intakes 9PM-11PM Wednesday. Operated by Volunteers of America Western Washington. Pets allowed. 🐾

- **Lynnwood City Hall:** 19100 44th Ave W. 7PM everyday but Wednesday. 9PM Wednesday.
- **James Village:** 196th St SW & Hwy 99. 7:10PM everyday but Wednesday. 9:10PM Wednesday.
- **Value Village:** 17216 Hwy 99. 7:25PM everyday but Wednesday. 9:25 Wednesday.

Visit www.snoco.org/heating or scan the QR code to find a shelter near you.

Webpage updated daily between November-March to show which shelters are open on any given night.



MONROE PARTNERS WITH SKY VALLEY FOOD BANK FOR NOVEMBER FOOD DRIVE

The City of Monroe will partner with the Sky Valley Food Bank this November to host a food drive. Please consider donating canned and dried foods to help people in our community who may be experiencing food insecurity. Donation barrels will be located in the City Hall lobby.

In addition to the Sky Valley Food Bank, free food resources like community meals, food pantries, and food rescue events are also happening regularly in Monroe. These resources are open to everyone regardless of income. If you would like more information about connecting to local resources or volunteering to serve in the community, please contact the City of Monroe Human Services Coordinator, Rachel Adams at RAdams@monroewa.gov.

Food Bank:	Location	Time
Sky Valley Food Bank	233 Sky River Parkway, Monroe, WA 98272	All Access Food Shopping: Tuesday 2:45–5:30 PM & Thursday 9:00–11:30 AM Senior Food Shopping: Monday 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
<i>Shop once per week at the indoor market. If you need food a second time in the same week, call (360) 794-7959 between 9:00–11:00 AM, Monday–Thursday for a pre-packed box.</i>		
Food Rescue Events:	Location	Time
Provide Hope (The Church at Monroe)	16910 161st Ave Southeast, Snohomish, WA 98290	Ticket line opens Fridays at 4:00 PM
Food Rescue of Sky Valley	1070 Village Way, Monroe, WA 98272	Tuesdays, 9:00–9:30 AM
Foothills Foursquare Church	17310 West Main Street, Monroe, WA 98272	Tuesdays, 9:30–11:30 AM
Free Community Meals:	Location	Time
Take the Next Step Community Dinner	202 South Sams Street, Monroe, WA 98272	Wednesdays, 6:00 PM
Feed My Sheep Community Breakfast	1012 West Main Street, Monroe, WA 98272	Saturdays, 9:00 AM
Free Food Pantries:	Location	
Covenant Church	202 South Sams Street, Monroe, WA 98272	
United in Grace Church	342 South Lewis Street, Monroe, WA 98272	
Behind Medusa's Mark	126 East Main Street, Monroe, WA 98272	
Family Resource Center:	Location	
Take the Next Step	202 South Sams Street, Monroe, WA 98272	
Immediate Assistance:	For More Resources:	



Call 2-1-1 – Free, confidential help connecting to food, housing, and assistance.

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The next City Council Meeting is currently scheduled for **Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** The meeting will be located in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 806 W Main Street. To view the meeting agenda, click the button below. City Council meetings are re-broadcasted on the [City's YouTube Channel \(@MonroeWA\)](#). To learn how to provide public comment to the Mayor and City Council, click [here](#).

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)



Councilmember
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember
Jacob Walker



Councilmember
Jason Gamble



Councilmember
Kirk Scarboro



Councilmember
Heather Fulcher



Councilmember
Tami Beaumont



Councilmember
Kyle Fisher

Have a question for your Councilmembers?
Contact them at Councilmembers@MonroeWA.gov

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