

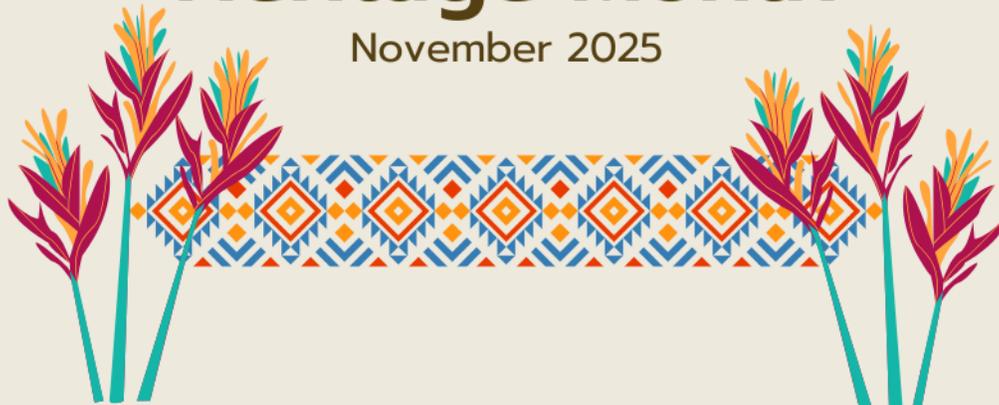
MONROE THIS WEEK

November 14, 2025



Native American Heritage Month

November 2025



*This month, I issued a proclamation recognizing November 2025 as **Native American Heritage Month**. This month invites us to reflect on the rich histories and enduring contributions of the Indigenous peoples whose stewardship influenced the Skykomish region long before Monroe was established. As we work to Imagine Monroe - a place where everyone feels at home and everyone feels they belong - we acknowledge both the history of this land and the importance of fostering understanding and respect with our indigenous neighbors. I encourage everyone to take time this month to learn, reflect, and celebrate the vibrant traditions and ongoing leadership of indigenous people across our community and region.*



In another proclamation, I highlighted the week of November 9-15, 2025 as [Kindness Week](#) in Monroe. Kindness, whether expressed through small gestures or significant acts, strengthens our connection and reminds us of the compassion that pulls our community together. Let us continue to show the strength of Monroe by choosing kindness, creating a place where everyone belongs.

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

- Utility Rates
- Annual Business Survey
- Snohomish County Solid Waste Disposal Fee
- Winter preparedness

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

COUNCIL CONSIDERS PROPOSED UTILITY RATE INCREASES AT NOV. 18 MEETING



UTILITY RATE UPDATE



At its Nov. 18, 2025 meeting, the City Council will continue to consider proposed adjustments to its adopted [2025-2026 Biennial Budget](#), including a proposed increase to the water utility rates and the implementation of a new stormwater utility tax. Monroe's utility rates are intended

to cover all costs associated with providing water, sewer, and stormwater services, including maintaining infrastructure. To view the agenda and associated staff reports, please visit the [Agenda & Meetings portal](#).

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 for 2026. Monroe 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) will increase by approximately \$7 per month for a single-family residential customer. 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 eligible for discounts for qualifying utility accounts.

ANNUAL BUSINESS SURVEY FOR MONROE BUSINESSES OPEN ONLINE THRU NOV. 21

Do you own a business in Monroe? Our [Economic Development Office](#) has launched its annual survey seeking input from Monroe business owners and managers about their outlook on future growth, workforce stability, adequacy of space, and other economic development focus areas. Monroe businesses are encouraged to complete the [online survey](#) by Fri. Nov. 21. Responses give us valuable insight into the overall business climate in Monroe.

2025 MONROE BUSINESS SURVEY



[Take the Survey](#)

UPCOMING SNOHOMISH COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL FEE CHANGES - EFFECTIVE JAN. 1, 2026



Snohomish County Council has approved an increase in solid waste disposal fees at all county-operated transfer stations beginning January 1, 2026. These changes will affect Monroe customers who receive solid waste collection services from Republic Services or Waste Management,

as collected waste is processed through Snohomish County’s system. Recycling services and Household Hazardous Waste disposal for residential customers will remain available at no charge. The average customer can expect to see a \$3–\$4 increase in their monthly garbage bill.

Other 2026 disposal fee changes are shown below:

Fee	2025	2026
Minimum fee for disposing at transfer station/drop box (up to 360 lbs)	\$20	\$30
Tipping fee for self-haul at transfer stations	\$105/ton	\$160/ton
Disposal fee at drop box sites	\$20/cubic yard	\$30/cubic yard
Vector waste disposal	\$567/load	\$598/load
Hard-to-handle waste	\$200/ton	\$250/ton
Unsecured load	\$5 or \$10 depending on type of vehicle	\$20 or \$25 depending on type of vehicle

Snohomish County’s Solid Waste Division manages seven public facilities and processes approximately 670,000 tons of waste each year. Disposal fees fund the operation of these facilities, which are not supported by tax dollars. This adjustment—the first since 2009—will help the County maintain service levels and ensure long-term system sustainability.

For more information about the approved fee changes and how they may impact your bill, visit bit.ly/SWFeeChanges.

The City of Monroe is sharing this information to help customers prepare for the upcoming change.

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR A COLD WINTER?

As winter approaches, it’s important to remind ourselves how to stay safe in cold weather. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the annual winter outlook is that a La Nina climate pattern is expected in the Pacific Northwest December 2025 through February 2026. In other words, we can expect colder than normal temperatures and above average precipitation this winter.

City of **MONROE** WASHINGTON

Emergency Preparedness Starts with You

be prepared.

MAKE A PLAN **BUILD A KIT** **BE INFORMED**

MonroeWa.gov

Over the next coming weeks I encourage you to take some time to winterize your home, make a [family plan](#), create an [emergency kit](#), and continue to

monitor for important [weather information](#).

You can learn more about how to stay safe this winter by watching [this video](#) or visiting the www.ready.gov/winter-weather website.

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

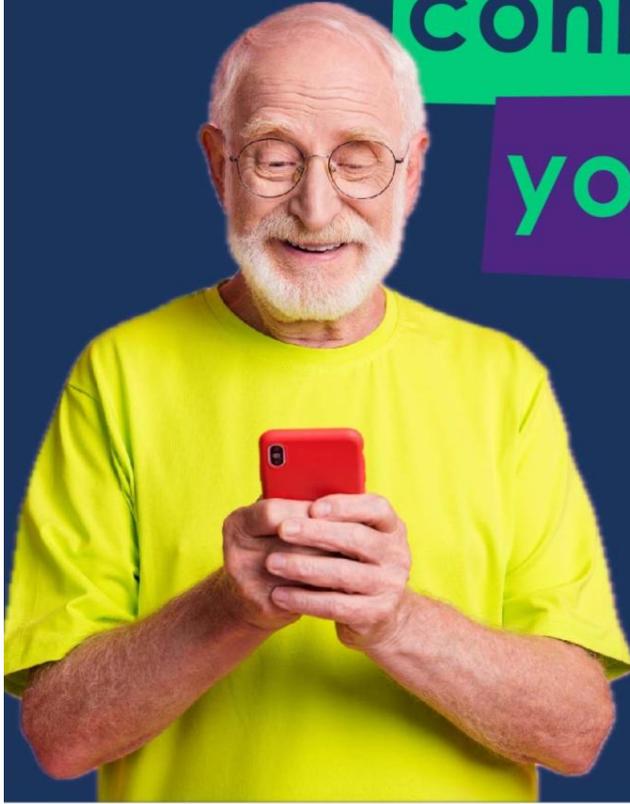


Councilmember
Tami Beaumont



Councilmember
Kyle Fisher

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



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