
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

During November, the Parks Department wrapped up a lot of great work.

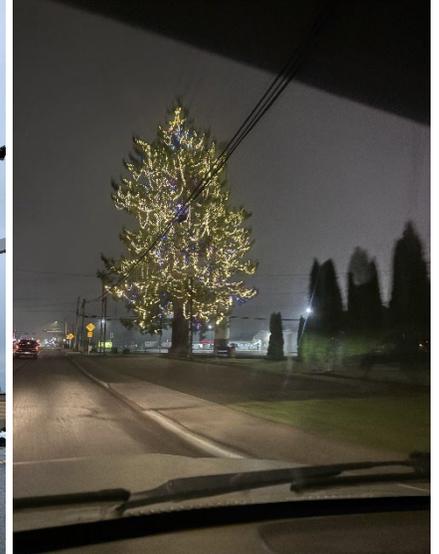
One of the biggest efforts was getting 20 new Koussa dogwood trees planted along the east side trail at Lake Tye. It took an all-out team effort, and the trees look really good out there.



Since we're getting close to Christmas, the crew also set up all the holiday decorations throughout the city. We wrapped up the month with the Light Up Monroe event on November 30th, which had a huge turnout and the community really seemed to enjoy it.



Alongside all that, the team stayed on top of our regular work such as leaf cleanup, weeding beds, mowing, and blowing trails and hard surfaces. We also handled some minor storm cleanup, took care of a few vandalism issues, and completed trail and playground inspections.



(Crew prepping the holiday decorations)

November Events

Light Up Monroe Event

Sunday, November 30 the community came together for a brisk, but clear, Light Up Monroe event. New this year-Jump Rattle and Roll provided a snow machine which was a hit amongst attendees. Returning activities that are always popular include photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, and free hot cocoa! Thank you the event's sponsors for making this yet

another amazing year:

EvergreenHealth
Monroe, Indulge Salon
and Spa, Ink It Your
Way, Church of Maltby
Monroe, Big Heart Big
Smile Foundation,
Monroe Fireplace,
Speedway Chevrolet,
and Sarah Speers
Farmers Agency.

Placer.ai attendance
estimate: 1,300



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 bit.ly/3uLsNjW. Visit the City’s website at MonroeWA.gov for more information.

Park Board

The Monroe Park Board met on Thursday, November 20, 2025 and was presented with the 2025 Human Services Community Needs Assessment as well as the Festival Lot recommendation to City Council and an overview of the Heritage Tree Program.

The December meeting has been cancelled. The next scheduled Park Board meeting is Thursday, January 15, 2026 at 7 p.m. The Park Board currently has two vacancies.

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 be occurring in City parks. Attached is the comprehensive data from 2023 to the present. The following is a summary of data for the past month.

Locations: Al Borlin Park, and Sky River Park Trails

Date	Total Labor Hours	Number of Bags of Litter Collected	Notes
11/7	3.5	11	Al Borlin Park – Inspections Sky River Park – Inspections
11/25	6	8	Al Borlin Park – Inspections Sky River Park – Inspections
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2023 - 2025



MONROE PARK BOARD

Park Board Meeting
Thursday, November 20, 2025, 7:00 PM
Hybrid: Zoom Online Meeting Platform & In-Person at the Monroe City Hall at 806 West Main Street

Park Board Members:
Lisa Brown, Chair
Ryan Olson, Vice Chair
Hayley Hanford, Member
Abdul Salama, Member
Katie Kohler, Member
Vacant, Member

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Olson called the Park Board meeting to order at 7:06pm, hybrid via Zoom and in-person in the Council Chambers at 806 W. Main St.

2. ROLL CALL

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Olson	Co-Chairperson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katie Kohler	Board Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abdul Salama	Board Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	Board Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	Board Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hayley Hanford	Board Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Lisa Brown	Chairperson

Board Member Brown was not in attendance.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

3.1. 2025 Human Services Community Needs Assessment - *Katelyn Harrigan*

Katelyn Harrison presented the results of the Human Services Community Needs Assessment.

3.2. Budget Adjustment - *Deborah Knight*

Deborah Knight presented the adjustments to the 2026 budget.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. Motion was made by Board Member Kohler, seconded by Board Member Salama, to approve the October 16, 2025 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried 4-0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

6. OLD BUSINESS

6.1. Festival Lot Recommendation to City Council - *Kevin Teague*

Kevin Teague presented recommendations for the Festival Lot Project.

6.2. Heritage Tree Program - *Kevin Teague*

Kevin Teague reviewed the Heritage Tree Program.

7. STAFF/BOARD DISCUSSION

7.1. Parks Department Report - *Kevin Teague*

8. ADJOURNMENT

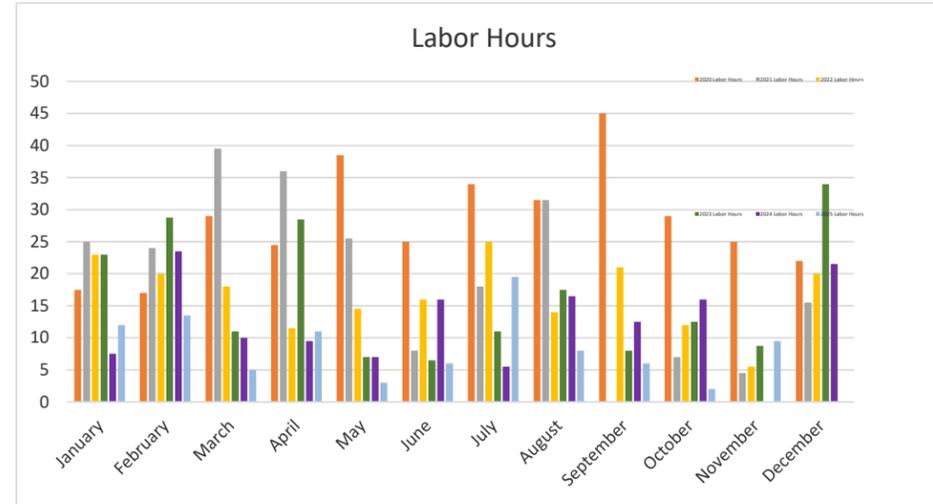
8.1. Board Members cancelled December 18, 2025. The next meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2026.

8.2. There being no further business, and no objections, Chairperson Olson adjourned the meeting at 8:41pm.

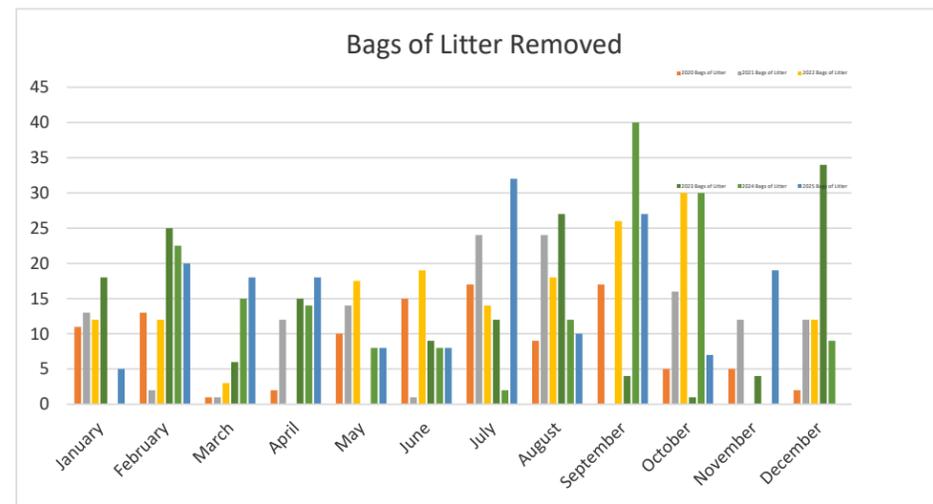
Chairperson

Parks Homeless Response Data 2025 - edited

	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-25	12	5	1
Feb-25	13.5	20	1
Mar-25	5	18	3
Apr-25	11	18	0
May-25	3	8	1
Jun-25	6	8	2
Jul-25	19.5	32	2
Aug-25	8	10	0
Sep-25	6	27	4
Oct-25	2	7	0
Nov-25	9.5	19	0
Dec-25			
Total 2025	95.5	172	14

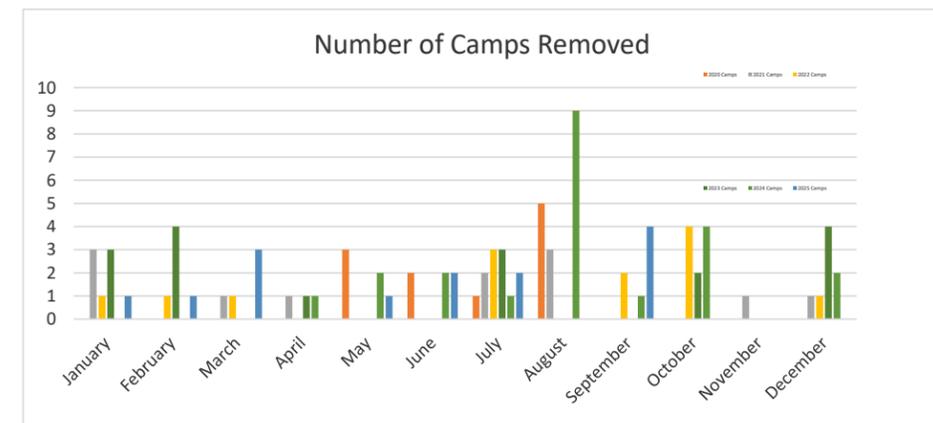


	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-24	7.5	0	0
Feb-24	23.5	22.5	0
Mar-24	10	15	0
Apr-24	9.5	14	1
May-24	7	8	2
Jun-24	16	8	2
Jul-24	5.5	2	1
Aug-24	16.5	12	9
Sep-24	12.5	40	1
Oct-24	16	30	4
Nov-24 0*	0*	0*	0*
Dec-24	21.5	9	2
Total 2024	145.5	160.5	22



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



2019-2022 data is shown only on the graphs. If you would like the full data breakdown, please reach out to Shelley Rowe srowe@monroewa.gov