

# KIRKLAND PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES – JUNE 2021



## 132<sup>ND</sup> SQUARE PARK GROUNDBREAKING

On Wednesday, June 23, 2021, the City of Kirkland hosted a small groundbreaking event at 132nd Square Park to celebrate the kickoff of construction for the park renovation and stormwater retrofit project. Enhancements to 132nd Square Park include a lighted, synthetic turf multi-use field with covered dugouts, expanded parking lot, larger restroom facilities, all-abilities playground, concrete walking trail, and a surface water facility that infiltrates 48.25 acres of impervious surface water runoff. The new playground features swings, a zip-line, a play/sledding hill with integrated slide, instruments, and two additional picnic shelters with a concrete plaza. This will be Kirkland's first park to have a synthetic turf multi-use field.



The surface water component of this project includes the installation of a concrete vault underneath part of the new multi-use field that will treat and absorb the surface water of 48.25 acres. This portion of the project is funded in part through a \$3.57 million Washington State Department of Ecology grant and a \$1.10 million King County Flood Control District grant.

For more information about the project and construction updates, visit [WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/132NDSQUAREPARK](http://WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/132NDSQUAREPARK).

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

Work is underway to update the Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan which is a six-year guide and strategic plan for managing and enhancing park and recreation services. During June our consultant GreenPlay conducted and facilitated stakeholder interviews, four virtual focus groups, and a virtual public forum with a lively chat discussion. In July and August, staff will conduct pop-up interviews in parks with the goal to interact with 400 people, primarily focusing on youth and underrepresented voices. Additional focus groups, interviews, community workshops, and survey opportunities will be scheduled throughout 2021.

For more information about the PROS Plan, opportunities to provide input, and to sign up for updates, visit [WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/PLAYITFORWARD](http://WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/PLAYITFORWARD).



## HUMAN SERVICES

### EVICTIION MORATORIUM ORDINANCE

Kirkland adopted a [temporary moratorium ordinance \(O-4759\)](#) the last week of June. This effort was in response to City Council supporting an Eviction Zero campaign, ensuring households financially impacted by COVID-19 maintain housing stability. The local moratorium extends protections for tenants who are behind in their rent due to COVID-19 through September 30, 2021.

### HOUSING HELP PROGRAM

The City is partnering with community-based organizations to provide financial assistance for residents in response to COVID-19. A flyer was mailed to over 35,000 households sharing information about tenant protections, financial assistance, legal resources, and support for businesses. The mailer included information in Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, and Russian.

Human Services has set up a Housing Help phone line and email encouraging tenants, landlords, businesses, and homeowners seeking assistance to reach out with any questions.

- Phone: (425) 587-3326
- Email: [housinghelp@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:housinghelp@kirklandwa.gov)

There is an updated Resource Library on the [RESOURCES FOR KIRKLAND RESIDENTS PAGE](#) that residents can visit to learn more about resources and assistance available. This information is updated regularly.

### YOUTH SERVICES

The Kirkland Youth Council recently completed its first-ever needs assessment survey to better understand the needs of Kirkland's youth. Over 300 responses were received! This feedback will be used to shape the Youth Council's work plan and inform youth-related services and programs the City offers.

### STAFF UPDATE

Chloe Nordyke joined the Human Services team as a Recovery intern for Summer 2021. Chloe will enter her senior year this fall at the University of Washington, majoring in Earth and Space Science with a minor in Law, Societies, and Justice. Chloe has hit the ground running playing an integral part to support the Housing Help program this summer. Growing up just north of Kirkland in Kenmore, she looks forward to working for the City where she spent most of her childhood.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Staff supported the activities listed below through permitting; coordination with other City departments for street closures, fire and police support, safety and sanitary regulations and banners; City facility use; evening and weekend on-call logistical support as needed; and communication with the public. Information about permitting can be found at [WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/SPECIALEVENTS](http://WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/SPECIALEVENTS).



### KIRKLAND WEDNESDAY MARKET



Kirkland Downtown Association staff welcomed customers and vendors back to the farmers market at Marina Park on June 2. The weekly market setup continued to adhere to state and county COVID operational guidelines which required face coverings, one-way foot traffic, 6-foot distancing, and more. A shift of the entrance to the north end of the market now provides extra space and plenty of shade under the pavilion for customers waiting to shop from a variety of vendors. To learn more about what's available, go to [WWW.KIRKLANDMARKET.ORG](http://WWW.KIRKLANDMARKET.ORG).



## SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

Studio East's outdoor production of *Twelfth Night* was a great way to kick off summer! The opening night on June 18 welcomed nearly 100 theater lovers to the waterfront amphitheater at Juanita Beach. Over the weekend four performances of one of Shakespeare's most famous comedies were provided free to the community. More outdoor theater is planned for later this summer. Information can be found at: [WWW.STUDIO-EAST.ORG](http://WWW.STUDIO-EAST.ORG)



## JUANITA FRIDAY MARKET



The month of June saw the beginning of the Juanita Friday Market on June 4. We had at least 29 vendors each week and added several new vendors since opening. We have only had one market in the rain. The customer traffic has been good, but it has not created a line to enter the market, since we continued to have restrictions for capacity and social distancing. The mask mandate has now been lifted for customers but is still in effect for vendors and staff.



Our application continues to be processed for participation in the SNAP food access program. We are working on live music and kid's programming in anticipation of the capacity restrictions being lifted in July. To learn more about the market, go to [WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/JUANITAFRIDAYMARKET](http://WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/JUANITAFRIDAYMARKET).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	OTHER INFO
Wednesdays 3pm - 7pm	Kirkland Wednesday Market	Marina Park	<a href="http://KIRKLANDMARKET.ORG">KIRKLANDMARKET.ORG</a>
Fridays 3pm - 7pm	Juanita Friday Market	Juanita Beach Park	<a href="http://KIRKLANDWA.GOV/JUANITAFRIDAYMARKET">KIRKLANDWA.GOV/JUANITAFRIDAYMARKET</a>
July 10 & 24 Showtimes: 11am & 1pm	Cultural Folktales from Around the World	Peter Kirk Park	<a href="http://STUDIO-EAST.ORG">STUDIO-EAST.ORG</a>
July 18, 5pm - 10pm	Eastside Salsa Marina	Marina Park	<a href="http://LAVIDASTUDIO.COM/ADULTS/SALSA">LAVIDASTUDIO.COM/ADULTS/SALSA</a>
July 30 - August 1, Hours vary	Kirkland Summerfest	Marina Park	<a href="http://KIRKLANDSUMMERFEST.COM">KIRKLANDSUMMERFEST.COM</a>

## PARKS MANAGEMENT

### IT'S ALL ABOUT THE WEATHER

From pouring rain to searing heat, Parks Management adapts to the daily conditions to keep our parks welcoming and safe. All teams are collecting and disposing of A LOT of garbage and recycling, picking up a lot of litter, and spending significant time cleaning and restocking bathrooms to keep up with all the visitors. Here's what our four field crews have been up to in June:

#### BALLFIELDS/CEMETERY TEAM

- Field prep across all fields multiple times per day
- Tilled and raked sand volleyball courts
- Pressure washed picnic shelters to be ready for reservations
- Mowed, edged, trimmed, and weeded all their sites
- Inspected and repaired irrigation systems
- Supported multiple burial services
- Leaf removal from pathways and parking lots

#### SUPPORT TEAM

- Frequent pool maintenance and repair such as tightening the rungs on the lifeguard chairs
- Inspected and made repairs at the Marina Park docks including the boat launch arm and decking
- Turned drinking fountains back on and repaired as needed
- Inspected, repaired, and replaced playground equipment such as the bucket swing at North Rose Hill Woodlands
- Replaced the sewage pump and main electrical breaker to the pump at Houghton Beach
- Replaced the piping to the men's urinal the flush valve for a toilet at Everest
- Built and installed shelves at Juanita Beach bathhouse for Friday Market storage

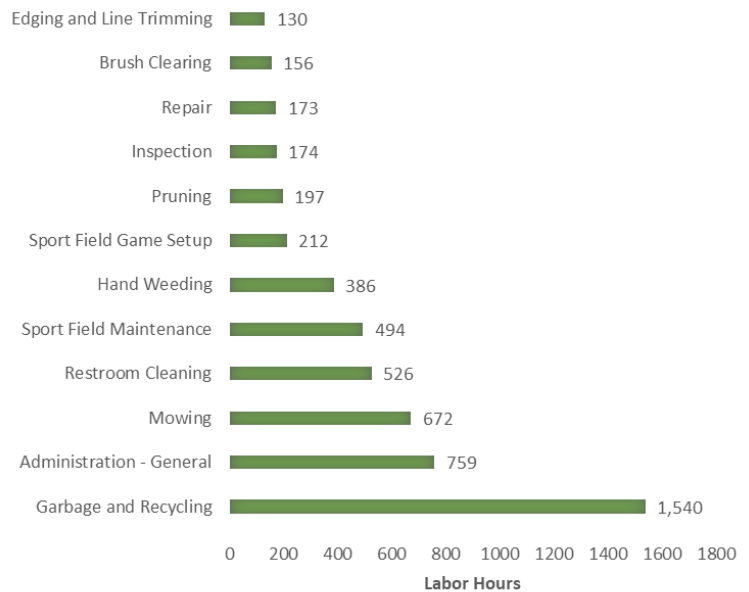
#### HORTICULTURE TEAM

- Mowed, edged, and trimmed daily
- Installed, repaired, and replaced irrigation at many locations
- Addressed tree concerns and removed hanging limbs and deadwood as needed per risk assessment
- Completed qualifications including Tree Risk Assessment for the Team Lead, Rob Martinson
- Installed recycling stations at Houghton Beach and Marina parks
- Installed additional 'no alcohol in parks' signs in waterfront parks

#### NATURAL AREAS TEAM

- Supported Steward-led volunteer events with mulch and tool deliveries
- Watered recent plantings and filled water cisterns weekly for Stewards to water their sites
- Mowed, edged, and trimmed several locations each week
- Conducted significant brushing along trails as part of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Installed site toolbox and tools at South Norway Hill for bike area volunteers
- Raked and removed goose poop and dead stickleback fish from Juanita Beach
- Removed organic debris dumped at Josten and Juanita Bay parks

### JUNE TOP 12 TASKS







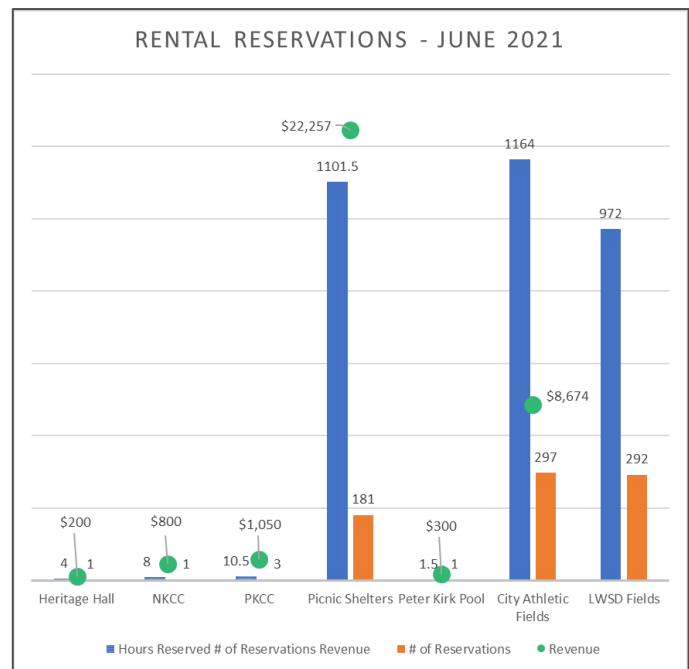
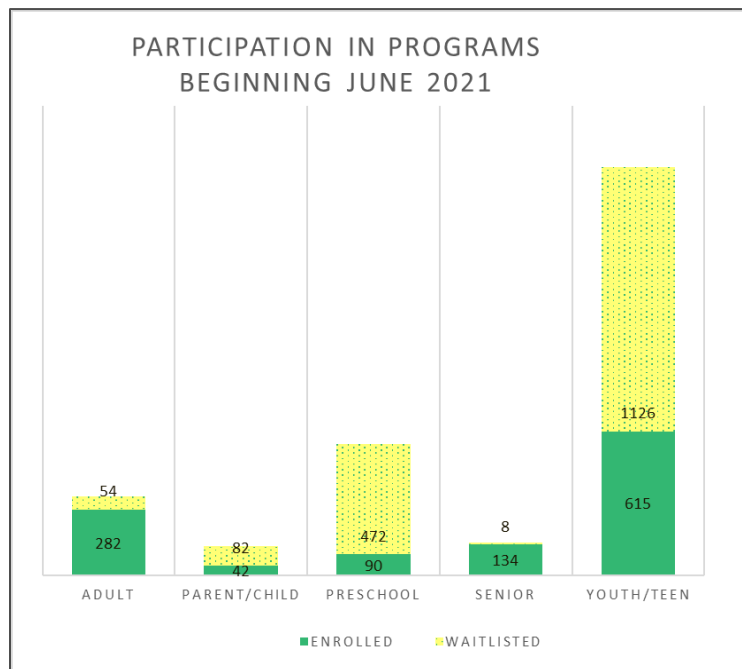
## TOTEM LAKE PARK

Construction continues with anticipated completion in July 2021. The central park parcel including the playground, picnic area, and restroom will open by July 2, but construction continues on the trail portion of the park. There will be a ceremony to recognize the park along with other Totem Lake improvements in late July 2021.

*Background of Project:* With the acquisition of a parcel adjoining Totem Lake Park, the City will create a new neighborhood park. The park will include pathways, an inclusive playground, restrooms, scenic view locations, environmental restoration, and a boardwalk connecting the park through the eastern side of the lake property to the Cross Kirkland Corridor.



## RECREATION SERVICES



## FACILITY RENTALS AND MARINA

Athletic fields saw over 2,100 hours reserved this month. With the easing of Washington state public health restrictions, indoor facility rentals returned in June with reservations at Heritage Hall and both community centres. Picnic shelter rental hours nearly doubled to over 1,100 hours reserved. Sixteen boat launch cards were renewed, and 36 new boat launch cards were sold during June 2021. Learn more about boat launch cards and moorage on our [WEBSITE](#).

## AQUATICS UPDATE

Aquatics staff successfully opened the pool for swim lessons, classes, lap swim and open swim on June 21 with lengthy waitlists for most lessons. Due to the heat emergency the last weekend of June, staff worked to staff the swimming beaches with lifeguards one week earlier than planned.



## PETER KIRK COMMUNITY CENTER SENIOR SERVICES

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, King County senior centers and partner agencies regularly to coordinate services, share resources, and ensure that King County's older adults were being supported. The Peter Kirk Community Center received a Certificate of Appreciation from the King County Department of Community and Human Services for its positive impact on the community by offering essential resources, services, and meals.

## FREE YOGA IN THE PARK

One new program we know the community is sure to enjoy is our Free Yoga in the Park program. Once a month, North Kirkland Community Center's yoga instructor, Joleen, will teach a free Saturday morning yoga class down on the water at O.O. Denny Park. We had our first session on Saturday, June 26 with 21 community members, who joined for some early sunshine and yoga.



## IN-PERSON SUMMER CAMPS AT THE NORTH KIRKLAND COMMUNITY CENTER

Play-well Lego Engineering Camp and the Parks and Community Services Summer Junior Camp Day Camp kicked off the summer programming at the North Kirkland Community Center on June 28. While 16 engineers were busy in the lower portion of the building creating Animal Architects and Wizarding Worlds the Junior Camp was enjoying the theme of Summer Snowstorm. And what better week to create a snowstorm in a jar, enjoy a visit by the NW Sled Dog Association, and participate in an ice cream party? Just the thought was enough to bring the temperatures down and the spirits up!

## TENNIS/SWIM CAMP IS IN FULL SWING

One of our most popular camps was back on the courts! Tennis and Swim Camp was back in full swing, starting June 21. Normally the camp is at Peter Kirk Park so the campers can utilize the pool as well. Due to COVID restrictions affecting pool capacity, we moved the camp to Juanita Beach Park. The move did not affect the turnout; every week of camp is full with participants on waiting lists! We expect almost 200 tennis campers to come through this program throughout the 9-week program.



## PARK ART & PLAY

New this summer, we are offering a parent and child nature art and movement class at North Rose Hill Woodlands Park. The first class, scheduled for the morning of June 28 hosted six children along with a parent for a fun morning of nature exploration, along with a nature-themed craft, story, and active play. We are offering this program four times during the summer months, and each session includes two days of fun nature play. Classes filled quickly and now have waitlists to match.

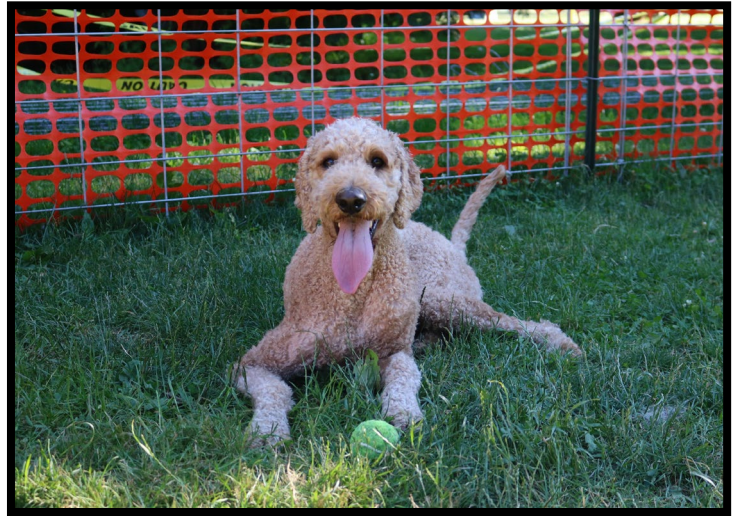


## ADMINISTRATION

### SUMMER ACTION PLAN: OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS

The department is hosting Pop-up Off-leash Dog Parks this summer through Labor Day. The Pop-up Dog Park will rotate to three different park areas, are fully fenced, and will feature both a large play area and a small play area.

- June - August - Juanita Beach Park located on the north side of the park, adjacent to the ballfields. Parking is available in the gravel lot nearby. Based on the overwhelmingly positive feedback received, this park has been extended through August.
- July - Heritage Park located on the north side of the park, near the tennis courts. Parking is available in the gravel lot nearby.
- August - Snyder's Corner Park located at the corner of Old Redmond Rd and 132nd Ave NE near the Bridle Trails Shopping Center. Snyder's Corner Park is undeveloped, and a temporary small parking area will be accessible off Old Redmond Rd.



### KEEP COOL IN KIRKLAND

The last weekend of June saw a record-breaking heat dome event across Puget Sound. Staff quickly responded by setting up Peter Kirk Community Center and North Kirkland Community Center as air-conditioned cooling centers on Saturday, June 26 through Tuesday, June 29. The cooling centers served over 180 residents and their pets. Park Management staff kept busy watering young tree and shrub investments and servicing waterfront parks. Aquatics staff set up loaner life jacket stations on Saturday, June 26, at our three swimming beaches to prioritize beachgoer safety. A fourth life jacket station was added at O.O. Denny Park and lifeguards began guarding the three swimming beaches on Monday, June 28. Thank you to Hopelink for donating water bottles for the cooling centers and to the Muslim Community Resource Center and Kits for Peace who donated supplies and gas/food gift cards for people in need at the cooling centers.

