

KIRKLAND PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES – SEPTEMBER 2021



JUANITA FRIDAY MARKET – 2021 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

Change and excitement were two of the key words to describe the start of the 2021 Juanita Friday Market season. The first big change was the relocation back to the west parking lot of the newly renovated Juanita Beach Park. The location and park amenities added to the Juanita Friday Market vendor offerings and created an exciting atmosphere for all to enjoy.

Throughout the season change was a constant as we navigated changing guidelines due to COVID-19. June required monitoring the health of all vendors, volunteers, and staff, as well as monitoring market capacity and spacing. Six feet of space was required between each vendor stall. We also began the year providing masks and hand sanitizer for all who needed or desired them and continued offering that throughout the year at the Information Booth. As the summer progressed, we were no longer required to monitor capacity and spacing which increased our ability to add vendors. In July and August, approximately 900 people attended the market each week.

The market had 38 different vendors during the 2021 season and we averaged about 30 vendors per market. The 2021 season vendors included 12 farmers, 17 processors, four hot food providers, one fresh frozen seafood, and three artisans. It was a good mix that will be a foundation for next year's market.

The Juanita Friday Market has grown to a point that more than one dedicated staff person is needed for a successful market. The 2021 season saw the addition of a part-time Facility Assistant who was involved in all aspects of setup and tear down on market days as well as banner placement and No Parking sign placement between markets. Our ongoing volunteers were a valuable and dedicated asset to the market. They were a great support throughout the market and staffed a very enjoyable Kid's Booth. The four volunteers that we had this year were outstanding and we are thankful for their time and talents.



Live music entertainment was provided every week in July, August, and September with a variety of artists including solos, duets, and groups. Thanks to The Gardens at Juanita Bay for sponsoring the music entertainment program and music coordinator John Frost.

The Kid's Booth was re-introduced starting in July. Kirkland Kid's Dentistry sponsored a booth on the first Friday of each month that included face painting, crafts, and sidewalk chalk artwork. With the assistance of our volunteers, we provided another six Kid's Booths with crafts, Farmers Market tattoos, and a Farmers Market coloring book.

The Juanita Friday Market participated in the City's Food Access initiative by becoming a part of the Washington State Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) for seniors and WIC. Eight of our farmers were registered growers and accepted the FMNP coupons. During the 2021 season coupons totaling \$2,600 were redeemed at the market. We applied for and received preliminary approval to participate in the federal Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program. The details to do this will be finalized and integrated into the 2022 Juanita Friday Market.

HUMAN SERVICES

RESIDENTIAL RENT, MORTGAGE, AND UTILITY RELIEF PROGRAM

The Human Services Division launched the residential relief program in September to assist residents financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds are available for residents behind in rent, mortgage, and utilities. The City is partnering with India Association of Western Washington and 4 Tomorrow to offer outreach and technical assistance for households interesting in applying.

Since the program launch, 70 households have applied. The arrearage total of all households who have completed the intake form is approximately \$500,000. Households interested in applying can complete the [INTAKE FORM](#) on the city's website. Language assistance is also available. For Spanish-speaking residents, call or text 4 Tomorrow at (425) 891-0346 for in-language assistance. Para residentes que hablan Español, contacta 4 Tomorrow por texto o llamada (425) 891-0346 para las preguntas y asistencia con la aplicación.

For more information about eligibility, please visit the program's [WEBPAGE](#). For questions about the program, email HOUSINGHELP@KIRKLANDWA.GOV or call (425) 587-3326.

HOUSING HELP UPDATE

Since June, over 100 households have connected with staff and have been referred to rent assistance, legal support, affordable housing, and language assistance. Most callers were tenants behind in rent, but staff were able to refer landlords, homeowners, and business owners to the appropriate resource.

Of the 77 tenant callers, 45% were eligible for King County's EPRAP program. Of the 42 households not eligible for assistance through King County, 18 households (43%) were passed through the City's assistance program to begin working on their assistance applications. There were 24 households disqualified for assistance for one of the following reasons: up to date on rent/mortgage payments, income exceeded 100% AMI, eligible for another program, or the applicant was outside Kirkland city limits. Total arrears for all contacts received through Housing Help is approximately \$250,000, with average arrears per household totaling \$5,000.

The Human Services team encourages tenants, landlords, and homeowners to contact the Housing Help phone line at (425) 587-3326 or email HOUSINGHELP@KIRKLANDWA.GOV with questions or in need of assistance. 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.

KIRKLAND HEALTH FAIR AND COMMUNITY VACCINATION EVENT

Please join the City for the Health Fair and Community Vaccination Event hosted later this fall. The City is partnering with Public Health of Seattle/King County to provide COVID-19 vaccinations (all 3 options), vaccine information/education, and much more. All are welcome and in-language assistance will be available. For information contact: Antoinette Smith, AMSMITH@KIRKLANDWA.GOV, 425-587-3307

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	OTHER INFO
November 6, 2021 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM	Kirkland Health Fair and Community Vaccination Event	Juanita High School	WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/WHATS-HAPPENING/COMMUNITY-EVENTS/PARKS-AND-COMMUNITY-SERVICES-EVENTS/KIRKLAND-HEALTH-FAIR-AND-COMMUNITY-VACCINATION-EVENT

PARKS MANAGEMENT

The weather quickly changed and the main bodies of work at Parks Management quickly changed with it. We've shifted from watering to leaf removal and from brushing trails to prepping the native plant nursery to receive thousands of trees. Here are a few examples of what the four field crews have been up to in September as we jump into fall:

BALLFIELDS/CEMETERY TEAM

- Implemented turf renovation of all athletic fields including aeration and top dressing.
- Inspected all irrigation systems, repaired and winterized as needed.
- Implemented rodent abatement at Juanita Bay, Everest, and McAuliffe parks.
- Raised and lower flags per the Governor's orders.
- Completed multiple burial services.

HORTICULTURE TEAM

- Pruned trees, shrubs, and flowers and weeded flower beds.
- Initiated turf renovation of high-impact locations including aeration and top dressing.
- Planted a Japanese maple salvaged from Brink Park at Heritage Park.

NATURAL AREAS TEAM

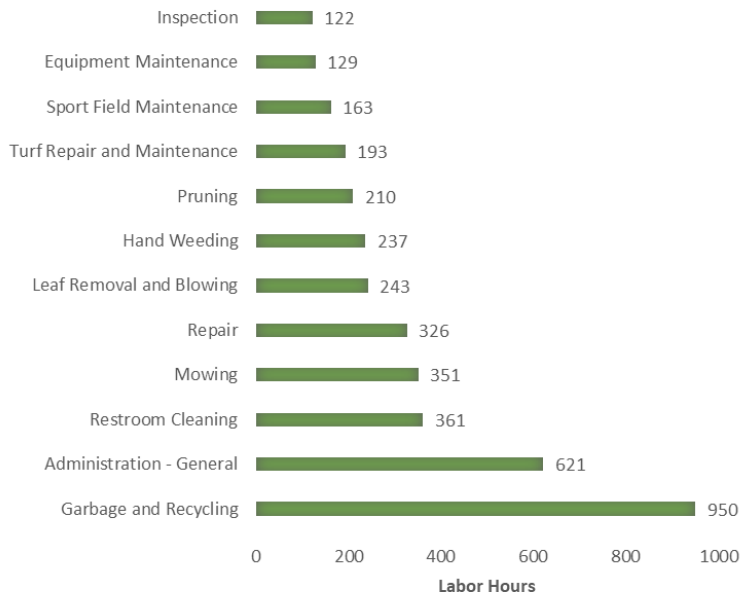
- Supported several Green Kirkland volunteer events in September and prepared for dozens of events in October and November. The community is ready to get planting!
- Cut and treated bamboo from the natural areas at Juanita Bay.
- Partnered up with the Support team to install rocks and logs at stormwater outfall at Juanita Beach.
- Removed down trees from Juanita Bay and Kingsgate parks.
- Pruned fruit trees at McAuliffe Park in partnership with City Fruit who also harvested and donated apples from the trees.

SUPPORT TEAM

- Blew debris off of roofs and cleaned gutters.
- Lubricated tractors and other large equipment.
- Supported the efforts to host See Spot Splash in the pool.
- Sanded and stained park benches and tables.
- Re-installed security cameras at Peter Kirk Park.



SEPTEMBER TOP 12 TASKS



The mission of the Green Kirkland Partnership (GKP) is to **restore and maintain 509 acres** of natural parklands **by building a supportive community** that works together to protect Kirkland's natural resources for current and future generations.



16 new acres enrolled based on data received from Stewards & crews by 9.26.21



33.7 acres maintained based on data received from Stewards & crews by 9.26.21



7 new Stewards recruited as of 9.26.21



427 volunteers participated as of 9.26.21

PARK PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Below is a high-level summary and status update of the active Park Planning and Development projects. Please visit the Park Planning and Development [WEBSITE](#) to learn more about these projects, to access project files, master plans, outreach efforts, and other details.

132ND SQUARE PARK

Construction began June 28, 2021. Progress was made on the excavation for the surface water vault construction. The western side of the park with the playground and the walking area is expected to remain open into September. The area in the outfield of the softball field is expected to remain open throughout construction. The remainder of the park will be closed to the community during the estimated one year of construction.

Background of Project: The City is replacing a non-regulation grass sports field with a synthetic turf field after the installation of a surface water detention structure underneath the field.



DAVID BRINK PARK SHORELINE RENOVATION

Construction continues and remains on schedule. Construction began the last week of August 2021 and is expected to be finished by late spring 2022.

Background of Project: This is part of a larger shoreline infrastructure project conducting major maintenance of docks, piers, and shorelines.

JUANITA HEIGHTS TRAIL PROJECT

The City of Kirkland will work together with King County Parks to apply for a CFT (Conservation Future Tax) grant to acquire the Kosalos property. These parcels are adjacent to the WinSki parcel which was purchased earlier this year.

Background of Project: The expanding Juanita Heights Park is envisioned to allow trail connections to the surrounding neighborhoods down to Juanita Bay Park.

OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS

A focus group was held on September 29, 2021, to gather feedback from the pop-up program; 118 people registered for the event with 74 attending. The temporary pop-up dog parks at Juanita Beach Park, Heritage Park, and Snyder's Corner were approved as part of the 2021 Summer Action Plan. They were intended to test and evaluate how to incorporate additional dog amenities into our system. The City has continued to receive significant positive feedback regarding the pop-up dog parks. As a result, the pop-up dog park at Juanita Beach is being extended through the end of April 2022. A video and summary of the focus group meeting can be found on our [WEBSITE](#).

Background of Project: This is part of the 2021 Summer Action plan. The need for off-leash dog amenities was identified in the 2015 PROS Plan. Staff conducted public outreach in 2018 and a draft proposal was presented for feedback and comments in late 2019.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN UPDATE

The PROS Plan team and consultants continue to conduct technical analysis on the findings from all data collected to date. August was spent conducting internal stakeholder meetings, a DEI focus group and an athletic field demand study. A statistically valid survey was mailed to 5,000 randomly selected households in early September. Details about the plan and ways to get involved can be found at KIRKLANDWA.GOV/PLAYITFORWARD. Sign up for our [EMAIL LIST](#) to learn about upcoming events and progress.

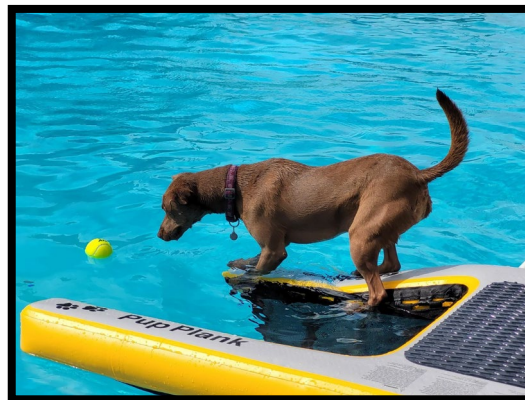
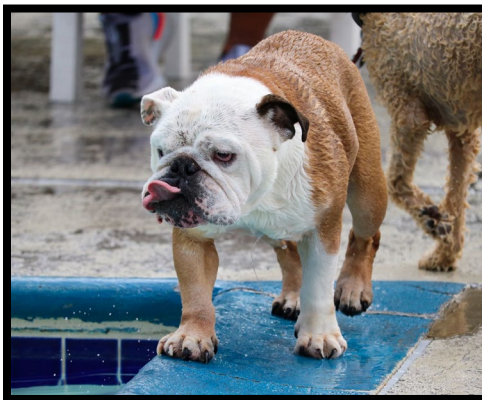
Background of the Project: The department is updating its Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan in 2021 to reflect substantial growth and changes in the community and to the park system. GreenPlay LLC was selected as the consultant for this project. It is expected that this project will be complete by April 2022.



RECREATION SERVICES

SEE SPOT SPLASH

One hundred fifty-nine dogs and their humans had a splashing good time at See Spot Splash at the Peter Kirk Pool on September 11, 2021. With five 40-minute sessions, dogs had a wagging good time swimming and running around. Included in the pool fun were vendors from local businesses and animal rescue services, including HP Smokehouse BBQ, Old Dog Haven, Pickles Playland, and more. After swimming, dogs and their humans enjoyed a cake-walk competition for a dog cake from City Bones Barkery. Even though the event was for dogs, See Spot Splash proved to be a treasured community event, with families and people of all ages in attendance. Watch highlights from the [EVENT VIDEO](#).

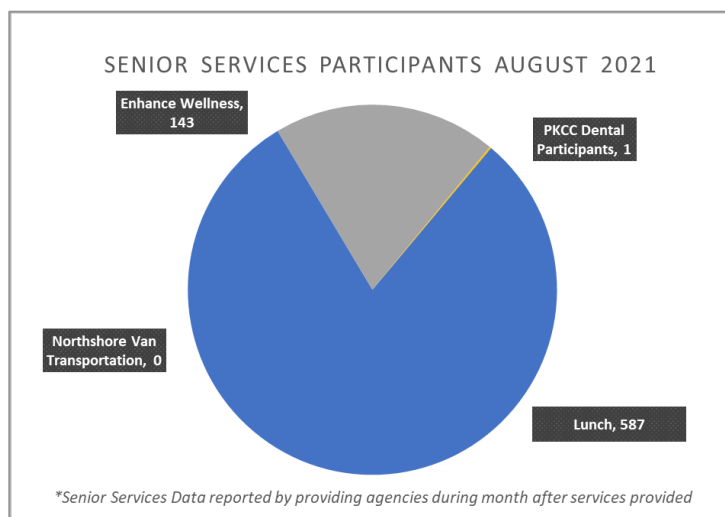
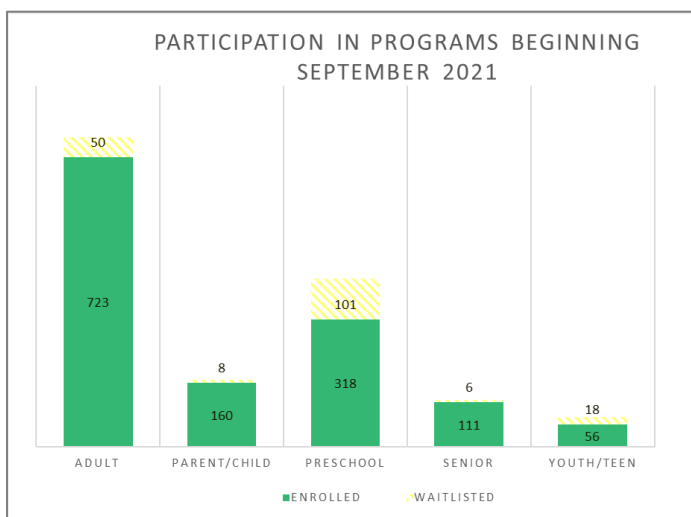


KIRKLAND SENIOR COUNCIL RECRUITMENT

The Kirkland Senior Council (KSC) was established in 2002 to act as an advisory group to the Kirkland City Council. The KSC is dedicated to keeping Kirkland a safe and vibrant community for residents age 50+. The KSC is currently recruiting new members that live, work, or serve seniors in the City of Kirkland, through the end of October. Member terms are for three years and the monthly commitment is approximately 6-12 hours. To learn more and to apply visit [KIRKLAND SENIOR COUNCIL](#).

KIRKLAND'S TREASURED HISTORY

On Friday, Sept 10, the North Kirkland Community Center team provided an evening of engaging stories and visuals featuring Kirkland's rich history. The event was held at Heritage Hall in downtown Kirkland with refreshments and treats available in the courtyard and gardens. Local historian Matthew McCauley provided a journey through Kirkland's history starting in the late 1800s through World War II. In addition, we coordinated with the Kirkland Heritage Society to have the museum downstairs open to the public. This free event attracted 33 participants with many asking, "When is the next one?!"



RECREATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

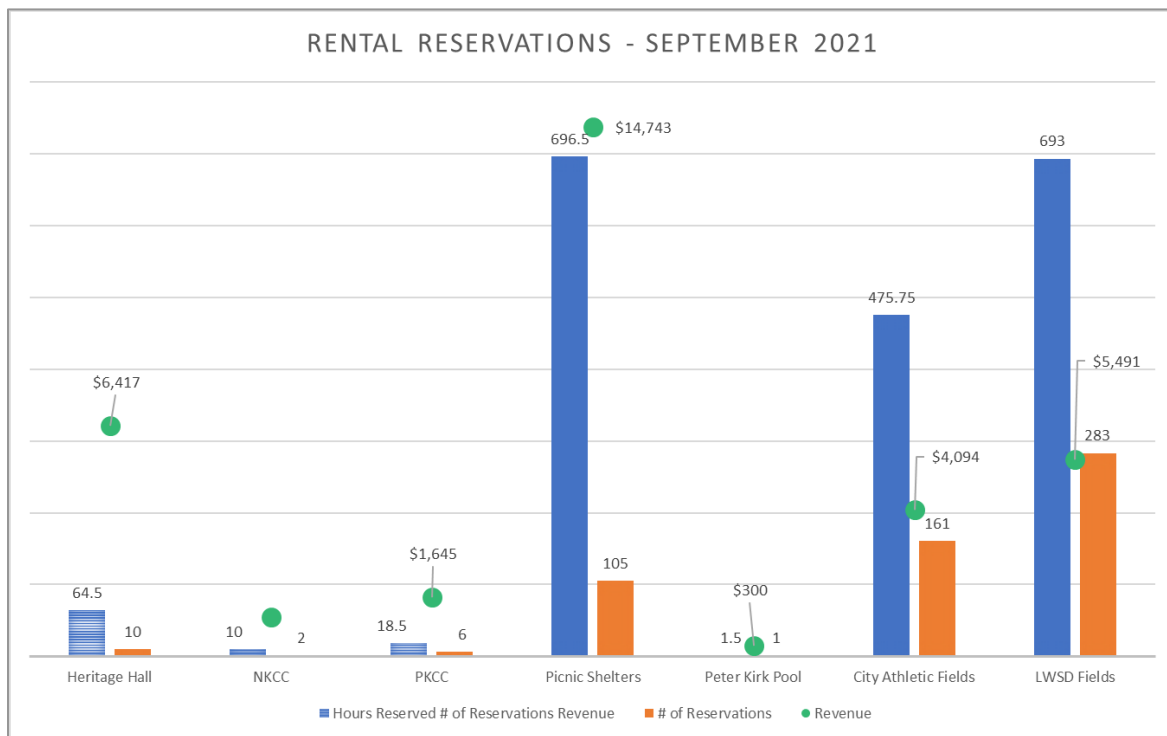
Kirkland Parks and Community Services strives to offer recreation programs that are welcoming and inclusive for all. This year scholarship amounts were increased to \$450 per Kirkland resident, per year, and may be used for multiple programs throughout the year instead of being limited to one program per quarter. Scholarship recipients work with staff to register for programs up to one week before general registration, ensuring that scholarship recipients can access programs before they fill up. Staff communicated about the scholarship program and summer program offerings to local organizations providing safety net programs and services.

In the first three quarters of 2021, scholarships were awarded to 131 community members, allowing those recipients to participate in 147 recreation programs including numerous swim lessons and summer camps. A total of \$11,384 scholarships have been dispersed, which is more than any other year since the scholarship program was created in 2011.

The scholarship program is funded by donations from individuals and community groups. In September, the Kirkland Parks and Community Foundation donated over \$2,300 to help support our scholarship program. We are grateful for the support of the Kirkland Parks and Community Foundation and all the people who contributed to this campaign.

To learn more about recreation scholarships including how to apply for a scholarship and how to donate to the scholarship fund, please visit WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/RECREATIONSCHOLARSHIPS.

FACILITY RENTALS AND FIELDS



UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	OTHER INFO
October 16, 2021 at 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Harvest Festival	Juanita Beach Park	WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/WHATS-HAPPENING/COMMUNITY-EVENTS/PARKS-AND-COMMUNITY-SERVICES-EVENTS/KIRKLANDS-HARVEST-FESTIVAL

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.

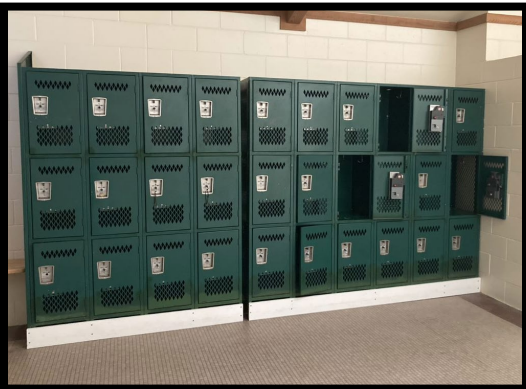


KIRKLAND WEDNESDAY MARKET

The weekly downtown farmers market held in Marina Park wrapped up for the summer on September 29. The final market day featured more than twenty-five vendors offering fall produce, early holiday gifts, fresh flowers, hot food, and more. The Kirkland Downtown Association hosts the market and is currently working on plans to offer a monthly winter market at an alternate location, October thru December. To learn more about the winter market go to WWW.KIRKLANDMARKET.ORG.

KIRKLAND OKTOBERFEST

Despite everchanging COVID restrictions the Chump Change Foundation, along with 100 daily volunteers, successfully hosted the 8th annual Kirkland Oktoberfest in Marina Park. Attendees of the annual three-day authentic München-style festival enjoyed live oompah music, imported German biers, Bier Pong, yodeling contests, tapping of the Firkin and more. Sunday afternoon featured Weiner dog races, pet parade, and the Kirkland Rotary's annual Duck Dash.



FILM PRODUCTION PERMIT

Shopify's NCAA commercial utilized the Peter Kirk Pool locker room as one location. Filming activities took about four hours with a cast and crew of ten people. The Recreation division supported this project by providing photos of the bathhouse and arranging for aquatics staff presence during filming activities. Staffing costs were paid by the production company. There were no direct impacts to public access as the pool had already closed for the summer.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	OTHER INFO
October 30	Pumpkins in the Park	Marina Park	KIRKLANDDOWNTOWN.ORG/EVENTS/
November 6	Lake Washington Half	Juanita Beach Park	ORCARUNNING.COM/LAKE-WASHINGTON-HALF/
November 28	Grand Menorah Lighting	Marina Park	WWW.JEWISHKIRKLAND.COM