

# KIRKLAND PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES – MARCH 2024



## SPRING AND SUMMER REGISTRATION

Parks and Community Services is delighted to offer a full schedule of spring and summer recreation programs for all ages this year. Summer is our busiest season with over 200 camps and over 500 swim lesson sessions. This year, registration was staggered over three days:

- Kirkland resident registration for camps and non-swim programs opened March 19, 2024, at 7:00 AM
- Kirkland resident registration for swimming, pool rentals, and all aquatic programs opened March 20, 2024, at 7:00 AM
- Registration for all non-residents opened March 21, 2024, at 8:00 AM

Over the March 19-21 registration period, there were 11,562 recreation transactions, with 90% coming from Kirkland residents. Here is a look at the Spring/Summer 2024 recreation program numbers so far:

- 8,401 participants registered, up 5% from 2023.
- 570 programs are full, the vast majority of which are youth summer camps, swim lessons, and preschool programs, up 8% from 2023.
- 9,478 people on waitlists, up 4% from 2023.

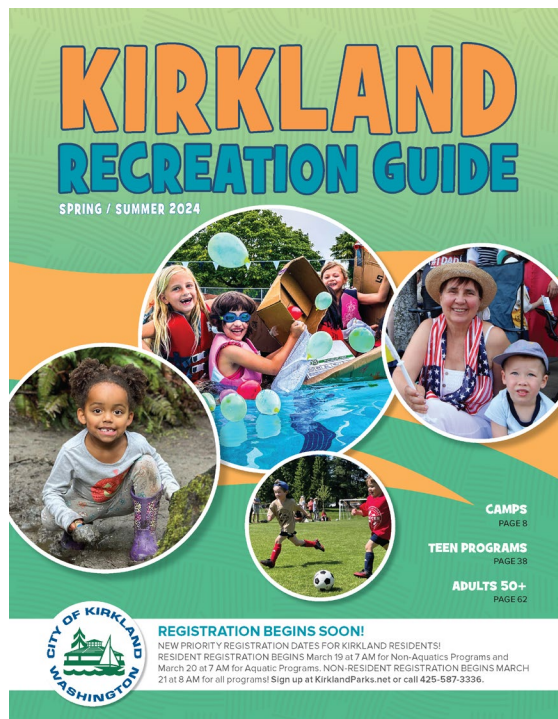
There are still some swim lesson openings and camps with room for more, including sports camps, STEM camps, and outdoor camps. To register for recreation programs, visit [KIRKLANDPARKS.NET](http://KIRKLANDPARKS.NET).

## WE ARE HIRING!

To staff all the summer programs, teach swim lessons, and keep our parks sparkling, Kirkland Parks and Community Services hires over 100 seasonal employees as lifeguards, swim instructors, summer camp leaders, tennis instructors, harbormasters, seasonal park maintenance staff, and more. To help fill seasonal positions this year, the department hosted a job fair on March 30, 2024, at the North Kirkland Community Center (NKCC).

Community members and prospective job applicants were met with smiling faces and fun swag at the job fair. NKCC's multipurpose room was set up with booths where folks could learn about the different jobs and positions in the department. Computers were available to allow applicants the ability to apply on-site. Interested applicants also participated in on-site job interviews. The job fair was a great success with 50 people in attendance.

For more information about seasonal summer positions, please visit [WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/PARKSJOBS](http://WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/PARKSJOBS).



## ADMINISTRATION

### PARKS PROPOSITION 1

At their March 19, 2024 meeting, Kirkland City Council passed Resolution R-5624 suspending the exploration of a community pool ballot measure for 2024. This decision was the result of listening to the Kirkland community through surveys and focus groups. Although the Kirkland community has expressed a need for an indoor pool for over two decades, the majority does not support a property tax proposal for such a pool in 2024. Moving forward, the City Council directed staff to develop options for utilizing the Peter Kirk pool as a year-round facility with a priority focus on swimming lessons for young children. These options will be included as part of the 2025-2026 budget and 2025-2030 Capital Improvement Plan discussions. Learn more about the process at [WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/PARKSBALLOT](http://WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/PARKSBALLOT).

### HOUGHTON PARK AND RIDE ACTIVATION

Resolution R-5624 authorized the City Manager to explore alternative uses for the City-owned Houghton Park and Ride property beyond a community pool or an aquatic and recreation center. City Council reviewed proposed temporary uses of the property at their March 19, 2024 meeting including pickleball courts, community gardens, a modular skate park, a modular pump track, and a bicycle play area. Staff expect work to begin for these interim uses this spring. City staff are also evaluating a proposal from the Seattle Kraken to build two ice rinks on the property.

## PARK PLANNING & 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.

### EVEREST PARK PLAY AREA AND ADA ENHANCEMENTS

Everest Park playground has been identified as the next playground to be replaced for the benefit of the community. Staff plans to release a Request for Proposal for professional services in Spring 2024 to design the playground and connect accessible pathways.

*Background of the Project:* This ongoing capital project strives to replace aging playgrounds, improve sports courts, and make ADA improvements in the parks throughout the system.

### HOUGHTON AND EVEREST RESTROOM REPLACEMENT

The restroom building at Houghton Park is planned for replacement. During the scoping process, staff identified opportunities to analyze the building's current location and potential for programmatic improvements. Staff has contracted with a consultant to develop preliminary 10% design options and costing for further consideration. Design is underway.

The restroom building at Everest Park is planned for design in 2024 and construction in 2025 due to its age and condition. Staff has contracted with a consultant to develop design and construction drawings. Design is underway.

*Background of the Project:* This capital project repairs or replaces park restrooms in the system. Restrooms at Houghton and Everest Restrooms have been identified for replacement due to their age and condition.

### MARINA PARK SHORELINE RENOVATIONS

The project has been refined to focus on repairs to the south fingers and pier along with a few upland repairs and improvements. The consultant is finalizing 60% drawings for review.

*Background of the Project:* Shoreline structures at Marina Park were evaluated and identified for repairs in the 2019 Kirkland Shoreline Structures Assessment Report. In late 2022, a portion of the sidewalk and stairs at Marina Park experienced significant subsidence.

### O.O. DENNY PARK PICNIC SHELTER

A new additional picnic shelter has been designed and will be constructed in proximity to the existing shelter to add capacity for the community. The project is currently in permitting with bidding expected in June.

*Background of the Project:* Addition of a picnic shelter using funds transferred from the Finn Hill Park District.

## HUMAN SERVICES

### HUMAN SERVICES FUNDING GRANT APPLICATIONS

On March 4, 2024, Kirkland began accepting grant applications from non-profit human service providers for the [2025-26 HUMAN SERVICES GRANTS](#). Human Services staff participated in two information sessions on March 5 and 6 to provide an overview of the application process. Information session invitations were extended to new organizations, those agencies who have never applied for city funding before, and providers wanting a refresher course. Following the sessions, Human Services staff have been providing support and additional information on the application process to interested organizations and also supporting the [SHAREONE APP](#) help desk. The City of Kirkland has ongoing funding of approximately \$1,700,000 per year to award in 2025 and 2026. Interested human services non-profit providers can learn more on the [HUMAN SERVICES GRANT WEBPAGE](#) and [SHARE1APP](#), the online portal for the Human Services Funding Collaborative. The online application window closes on April 8, 2024, at 4:00 PM. Questions should be directed to Antoinette Smith, [AMSMITH@KIRKLANDWA.GOV](mailto:AMSMITH@KIRKLANDWA.GOV).

### JOINT CITIES EQUITY WORKSHOP

In preparation for the upcoming 2025-26 Human Services grant application review process, the Human Services Commissions from Issaquah, Kirkland, Redmond, and Sammamish participated in a Joint Cities Equity Workshop. The organization Communities Rise (CR) led a two-hour workshop on how to best use an equity lens when reviewing grant applications. The training also helped to build familiarity and awareness of challenges of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) issues in grantmaking and potential mitigating strategies. CR is a Seattle-based organization that focuses on providing support and capacity building in communities that are most impacted by systemic oppression. Learn more about CR on their website: [COMMUNITIES-RISE.ORG](http://COMMUNITIES-RISE.ORG).

### 2024 INNOVATIONS AND SOLUTIONS FOR ENDING UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS CONFERENCE

City of Kirkland staff attended the 2024 Innovations and Solutions for Ending Unsheltered Homelessness Conference in San Francisco in mid-March. Staff attended workshops, spotlight sessions, and transformation talks to learn more about a cross-sector approach to addressing unsheltered homelessness. Staff takeaways from the conference will support the HART team and help further develop the City's coordinated response to homelessness in the Kirkland community.



### HEALTH THROUGH HOUSING PROJECT UPDATE

King County recently closed the Request for Bid (RFB) to procure a service provider to operate the former La Quinta site as a permanent supportive housing project slated to open in early 2025. City staff were invited to participate on the RFB review panel to identify the future operator. King County leadership is reviewing the panel's recommendations and anticipates an announcement regarding operator selection in the coming months. Visit the City's [WEBSITE](#) to learn more about the project here, including FAQ. Learn more about King County's Health through Housing Initiative on their [WEBSITE](#).



# PARK OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT

## SIGNS OF SPRING

A few days of sun and warmth foreshadowed the summer to come. We are already busy and it's just going up from here! Here are monthly highlights from our four crews:

### BALLFIELDS/CEMETERY

- Mowed and trimmed at Crestwoods Park, 132<sup>nd</sup> Square Park, Everest Park, Peter Kirk Park, Mark Twain Elementary, Juanita Elementary, Emerson High School, Ben Franklin Elementary, Kirkland Middle School, and the cemetery.
- Prepped fields for games at Peter Kirk, Everest, Crestwoods, Juanita Beach, and 132<sup>nd</sup> Square parks.
- Prepared the sports fields for spring activities at Finn Hill Middle School and Juanita Beach Park.
- Pressure washed the dugouts at Juanita Beach Park.
- Repaired the turf at 132<sup>nd</sup> Square Park and the cemetery.
- Inspected sport courts at all sites for winter repair needs before spring.
- Implemented burial and interment services at the cemetery.
- Started up the irrigation systems at Juanita Beach Park.

### HORTICULTURE

- Hosted a spring-cleaning beautification volunteer event at Heritage Park.
- Renovated the flower beds at Heritage Park.
- Pruned trees at Peter Kirk and Houghton Beach parks and removed a declining tree at Carillon Woods.
- Mowed and trimmed at Everest, Peter Kirk, and Heritage parks.
- Repainted the entry gates at Juanita Beach Park.
- Planted bulbs at Heritage, Peter Kirk, and Marina parks.
- Repaired the turf at Houghton Beach and Tot Lot parks.
- Prepped flower beds for mulching at Houghton, Marsh, Brink, and Heritage parks.

### NATURAL AREAS/GREEN KIRKLAND PARTNERSHIP

- Repaired the turf at Edith Moulton Park.
- Brush cut blackberry at South Rose Hill, Juanita Bay, and Edith Moulton parks and at JU1 open space.
- Supported sixteen volunteer restoration events with tools and materials.
- Mowed and trimmed Windsor Vista, McAuliffe, Van Aalst, Hazen Hills, Edith Moulton, Brookhaven, and Bud Homan parks and at JU2 open space.
- Removed a large tractor tire from the natural area along the creek at Windsor Vista.
- Pruned fruit trees at McAuliffe Park.
- Led New Steward training for 12 participants at Bud Homan Park.
- Cut up large, downed trees at JU1 open space to facilitate volunteer restoration work.

## MARCH TOP 10 TASKS



## SUPPORT

- Installed new restroom dividers, monitor mounts, and emergency shower at the Peter Kirk pool.
- Assessed the topographic fall at McAuliffe Park to ensure the new sewer line will properly drain.
- Fixed the bull rail on the pier and replaced failing hand dryers at Juanita Beach Park.
- Reset the AED at 132<sup>nd</sup> Square Park.
- Install musical instruments at NKCC and 132<sup>nd</sup> Square parks.
- Inspected all playgrounds for safety and compliance.
- Replaced the lock assembly on the men's restroom at Houghton Beach Park.



New restroom dividers at Peter Kirk Pool

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- There are eleven Green Kirkland Partnership volunteer events and three Park Beautification Program volunteer events planned for April.
- More information can be found at [WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/WHATS-HAPPENING/COMMUNITY-EVENTS](http://WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/WHATS-HAPPENING/COMMUNITY-EVENTS). We hope to see you there!

## RECREATION SERVICES

### TEEN TEAM, DOING TEEN THINGS

March has been overflowing with optimistic outreach. The Teen team shared information and snacks at Kamiakin's Cultural Feast, along with hosting mini job fairs at five local school lunches. During this outreach, staff distributed over 1,000 fliers, increased our applicant pool, and helped break down barriers caused by the registration process.



### SPRING PEE WEE SOCCER

Our popular spring Pee Wee Soccer League filled up quickly with 324 kiddos registered and ready to score some goals and have fun. The Pee Wee Soccer League is focused on fun, participation, and socialization. This league takes place on Saturdays at 132nd Square Park from April 13 – May 18.

### PERIWINKLE PRESCHOOL

The Periwinkle Outdoor Explorer preschool program is gaining in popularity. This nature-based and child-led program is held twice a week at Edith Moulton Park. During March, there were 11 preschoolers enrolled in the program. The Periwinkle program will move to three days a week in the fall because of overwhelming interest and support.

### 2023-2024 YOUTH BASKETBALL WRAPS UP

Players and coaches participated in the final game of the 2023-2024 season on Saturday, March 16 at Kamiakin and Kirkland Middle Schools. It was a great season, and we want to thank all the players, coaches, staff, and the Pacific Northwest Basketball Officials Association (PNBOA) for their hard work in creating a positive environment for everyone to learn and have fun! Planning is now underway for the 2024-2025 season.



### INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE FOR THE COMMUNITY

Volunteer tax advisors have been onsite at the Peter Kirk Community Center every Friday since February 2, 2024, and have helped over 230 community members complete their 2023 Federal income tax forms to date. Appointments are required and this service will be available until Friday, April 12, 2024.



## SPECIAL EVENT SERVICES

Staff support 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 such as parks, parking lots, and streets, evening and weekend on-call logistical support; and communication with the public. Information about permitting can be found at [KIRKLANDWA.GOV/SPECIALEVENTS](https://www.kirklandwa.gov/special-events).



### KIRKLAND SHAMROCK RUN

On March 17, following a 4-year break, more than 800 St. Patrick's Day lovers descended on Juanita Beach Park to celebrate the return of a much-loved community event. It was a family affair, and a sea of green, with people of all ages participating in the 5k and Kids Dash. The very popular end-of-race beer garden sat under sunny blue skies and was fully enjoyed by those who were lucky enough to squeeze in.



### NOWRUZ CELEBRATION

The Iranian Society of Washington State welcomed more than 500 people to the annual springtime celebration at Marina Park on March 24. Nowruz, which means 'new day', rings in the Persian new year. Festivities included music, dancing, traditional foods, face painting, and Haft-seen – a traditional display of seven symbolic items whose name starts with S. Learn more about the non-profit organization at [ISOWS.ORG](https://www.isows.org).

### ECUMENICAL GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE & WALK

St. John's Episcopal Church hosted the Greater Kirkland Ecumenical Parish's annual Good Friday Service & Walk on March 29. A small group of fifty people participated in the prayer walk which started in the church's courtyard on State Street and ended at Marina Park. A cross-bearer led the group to nine stations along the way where a pastor from each church shared scripture from the Bible in remembrance of Jesus Christ. For more information about services, go to: [STJOHNSKIRKLAND.ORG](https://www.stjohnskirkland.org).



### EASTER EGG HUNT

Did someone say chocolate!?! The Kiwanis Club of Kirkland hosted an extremely successful Easter Egg Hunt on March 31 in downtown Kirkland's Peter Kirk Park. A handful of volunteers, including a few bunnies, scattered thousands of foil-wrapped chocolate eggs in three separate areas sectioned off by age group. Hundreds of kiddos showed up with their baskets and buckets at the ready! The free community event has been running for more than 45 years. The Kiwanis mission is to help kids around the world. Learn more about the non-profit organization at [K03048.SITE.KIWANIS.ORG](https://www.k03048.site.kiwanis.org).



## JUANITA FRIDAY MARKET

Preparations for the 18<sup>th</sup> annual season of the Juanita Friday Market are now in full swing. We're excited to welcome back returning sponsors and get to know a new one! Parkshore Juanita Bay returns as our Legen-Dairy Main Stage Sponsor and will continue their much-appreciated efforts to coordinate weekly entertainment. Kirkland Kids Dentistry returns as our Busy Bees Kids Booth Sponsor and will attend four markets to give away toothbrushes and provide free face painting. And finally, we welcome a new sponsor, Sweetgreen, as our Kind of a Big Dill Sponsor. Their friendly staff will join us on eight days during the season to share free tasty samples for all to enjoy. Learn more about the market at: [WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/JUANITAFRIDAYMARKET](http://WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/JUANITAFRIDAYMARKET).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

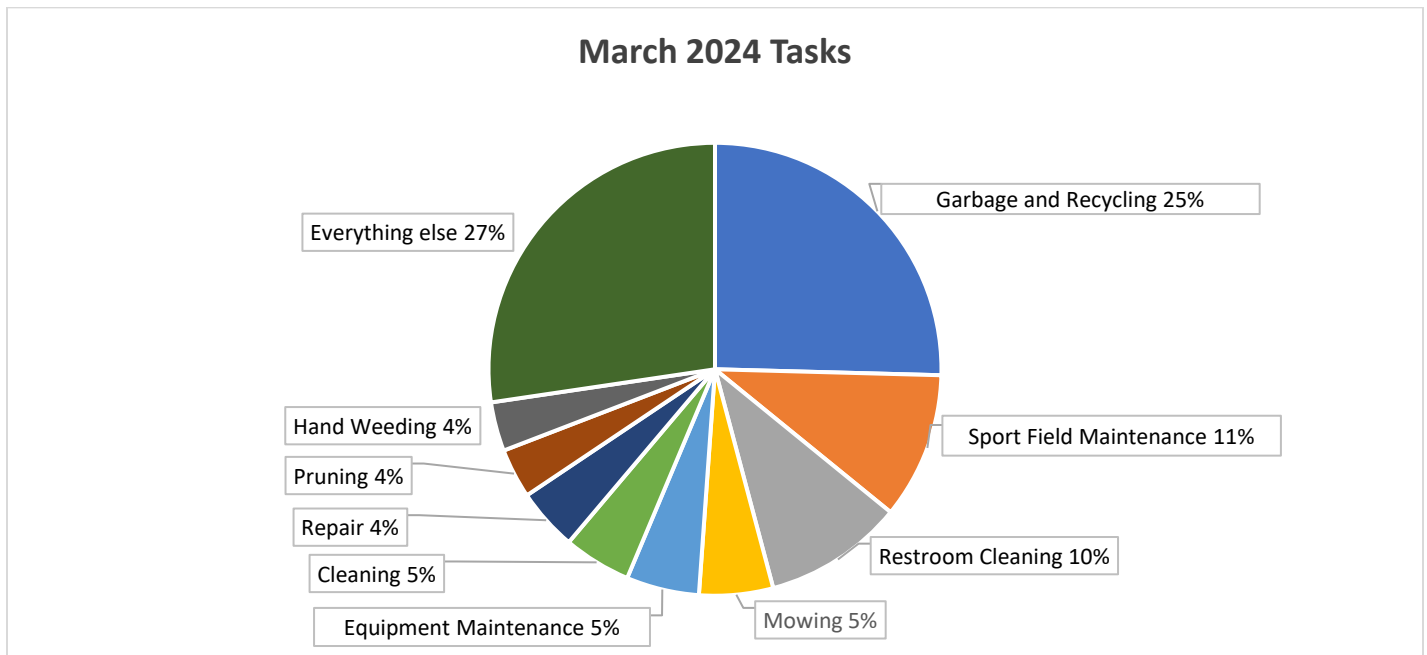
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	OTHER INFO
Saturday, April 27	Oral Cancer Awareness Walk	Juanita Beach Park	<a href="http://ORALCANCERFOUNDATION.ORG">ORALCANCERFOUNDATION.ORG</a>
Sunday, April 28	Beltane Festival	Juanita Beach Park	<a href="http://WWW.PNWWITCHESMARKET.COM">WWW.PNWWITCHESMARKET.COM</a>
Sunday, May 5	Kirkland Half Marathon & 5K	Juanita Beach Park	<a href="http://ORCARUNNING.COM/KIRKLANDHALF">ORCARUNNING.COM/KIRKLANDHALF</a>
Saturday, May 18	Curtains Up	Houghton Village	<a href="http://STUDIO-EAST.ORG/CURTAINS-UP">STUDIO-EAST.ORG/CURTAINS-UP</a>
Monday, May 27	7 Hills of Kirkland	Marina Park	<a href="http://K03048.SITE.KIWANIS.ORG/7-HILLS-OF-KIRKLAND-2024">K03048.SITE.KIWANIS.ORG/7-HILLS-OF-KIRKLAND-2024</a>

**PARKS MAINTENANCE DATA**

**LABOR HOURS BY TASK**

Task	Hours
Beach Maintenance	18
Brush Clearing	80
Cemetery and Burial Services	44.25
Cleaning	180.25
Contracted Crew Restoration of Natural Areas	2.25
Edging and Line Trimming	43
Equipment Maintenance	194
Event Support	96.25
Garbage and Recycling	948
Hand Weeding	130.75
Inspection	82.75
Installation	112.75
Inventory Management	3.5
Leading	18.75
Leaf Removal and Blowing	98.25

Task	Hours
Mowing	196.75
Mulching and Soil Amendments	84
Nursery Management	20.00
Outreach and Education	0.75
Pesticide Application	25.25
Planting	57.75
Pool Maintenance	2.5
Pruning	132.5
Repair	165.25
Restroom Cleaning	372.5
Sport Field Game Setup	56
Sport Field Maintenance	389.75
Tree Inspection and Inventory	25.5
Tree Removal and Chipping	55.25
Turf Repair and Maintenance	84.25
Winterization and Spring Start Up	8.5
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>3,729.25</b>





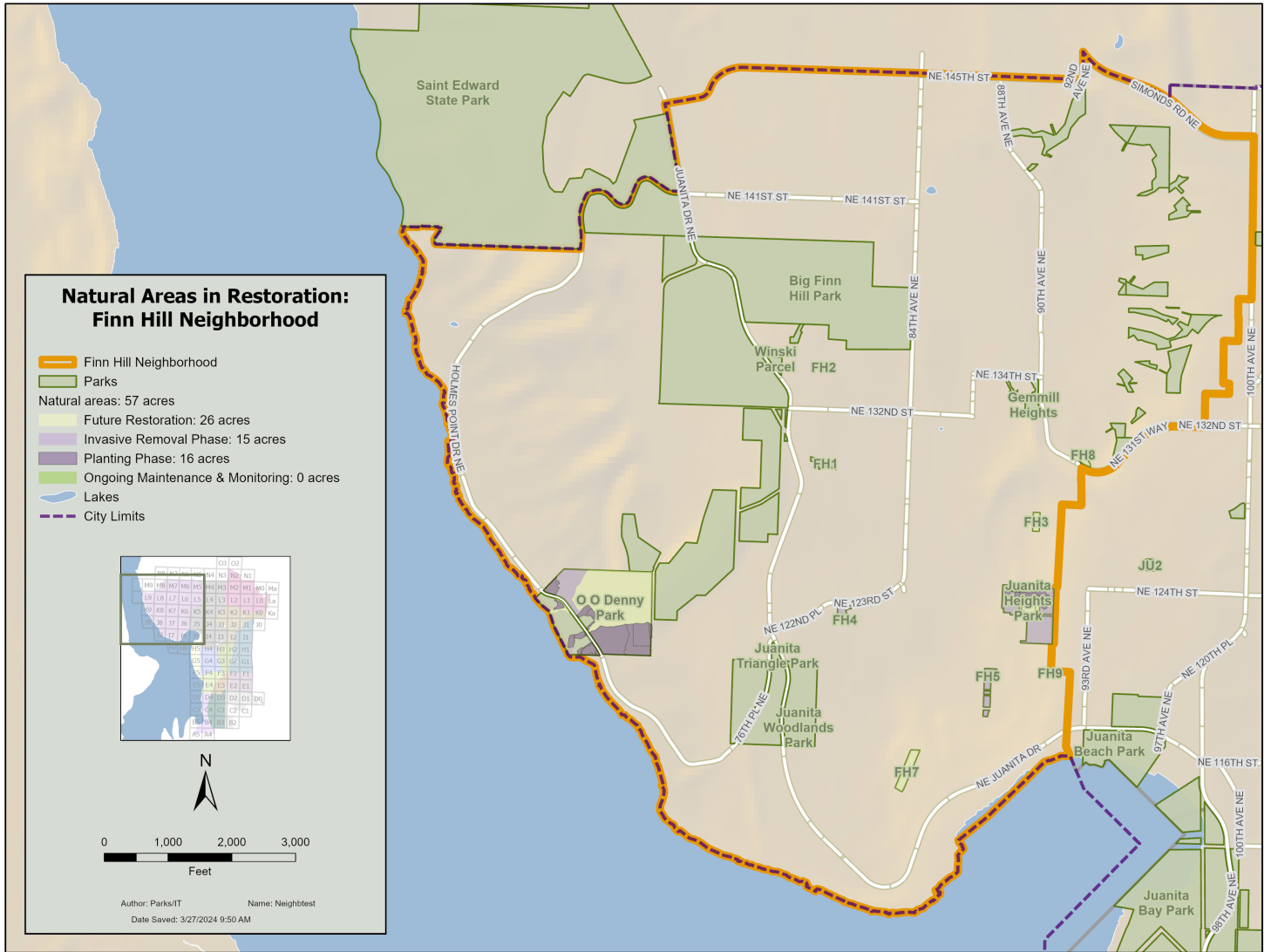
**PARKS MAINTENANCE LABOR HOURS BY PARK**

Park/Location	Hours
132nd Square Park	131.5
2nd Avenue South Dock	17.5
Ben Franklin Elementary School Field	21.75
Brookhaven Park	11.5
Bud Homan Park	27.5
Carillon Woods	27.25
Cedar View Park	8.25
Cotton Hill Park	3.75
Crestwoods Park	223.5
David E. Brink Park	30
Doris Cooper Houghton Beach Park	120
Edith Moulton Park	113.5
Emerson High School Field	12.25
Everest Park	283
FH4	5.5
Finn Hill Middle School Field	38.5
Fisk Family Park	41.5
Forbes Creek Park	32.75
Forbes Lake Park	1
Hazen Hills Park	8
Heritage Park	127
Heronfield Wetlands	9.75
Highlands Park	13
HL1	3.5
Josten Park	13.25
JU1	5.25
JU2	1.25
Juanita Bay Park	129.25
Juanita Beach Park	316.5
Juanita Elementary School Field	10.5
Juanita Heights Park	3
KG2	0.75
Kingsgate Park	6.25
Kirkland Cemetery	99

Park/Location	Hours
Kirkland Middle School Field	1.25
Kiwanis Park	8.75
Lake Ave W Street End Park	7
Lakeview Elementary School Field	8.75
Marina Park	127.5
Mark Twain Elementary School Field	12
Mark Twain Park	23.75
Marsh Park	52.25
McAuliffe Park	166.25
North Kirkland Com Ctr & Park	82.75
North Rose Hill Woodlands Park	57.5
NRH2	3.25
O.O. Denny Park	96
Parks Maintenance Center	191.75
Peter Kirk Elementary School Field	5.75
Peter Kirk Park	356.5
Peter Kirk Pool	113.75
Phyllis A. Needy - Houghton Neighborhood	39.75
Reservoir Park	13.25
Rose Hill Elementary School Field	6.5
Rose Hill Meadows	27.75
Rotary Central Station	5.75
Settler's Landing	17
Snyder's Corner Park	64
South Norway Hill Park	5.5
South Rose Hill Park	48.75
Spinney Homestead Park	12.75
Terrace Park	7.75
Tot Lot Park	43
Totem Lake Park	84.5
Van Aalst Park	21.25
Watershed Park	5.25
Waverly Beach Park	74.75
Windsor Vista Park	21.25
Yarrow Bay Wetlands	19
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	

### GREEN KIRKLAND PARTNERSHIP DATA

Green Kirkland currently has 35 active natural parkland sites in the City of Kirkland and has enrolled over 315 acres in restoration. Here are the 2024 statistics for the Finn Hill neighborhood.

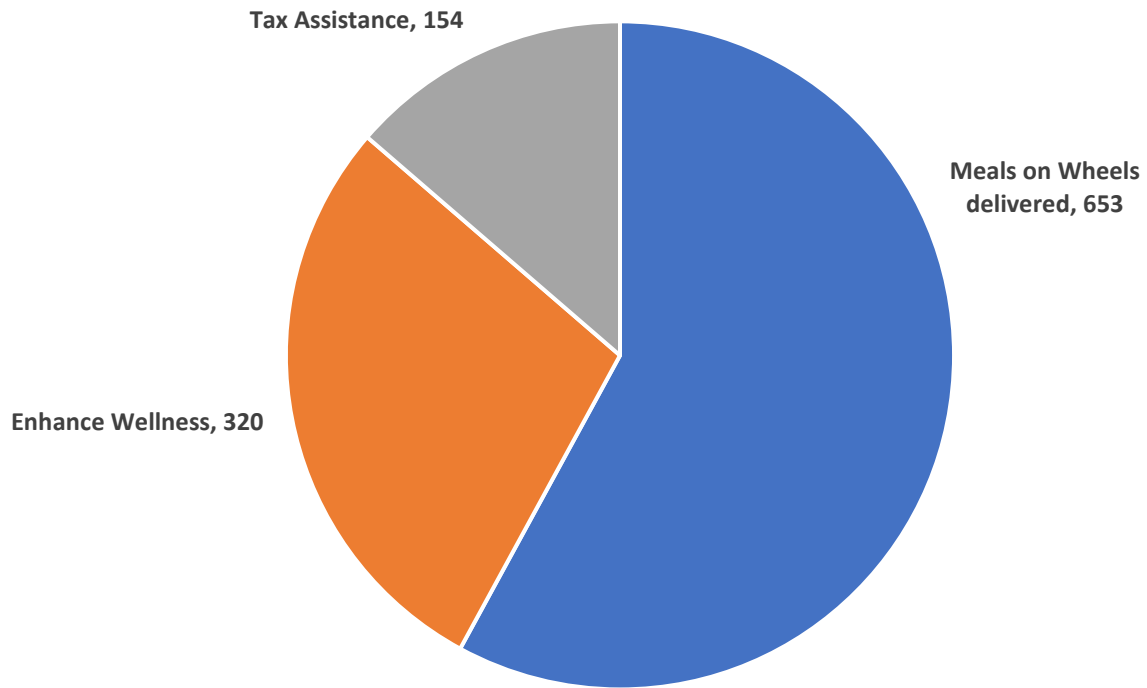


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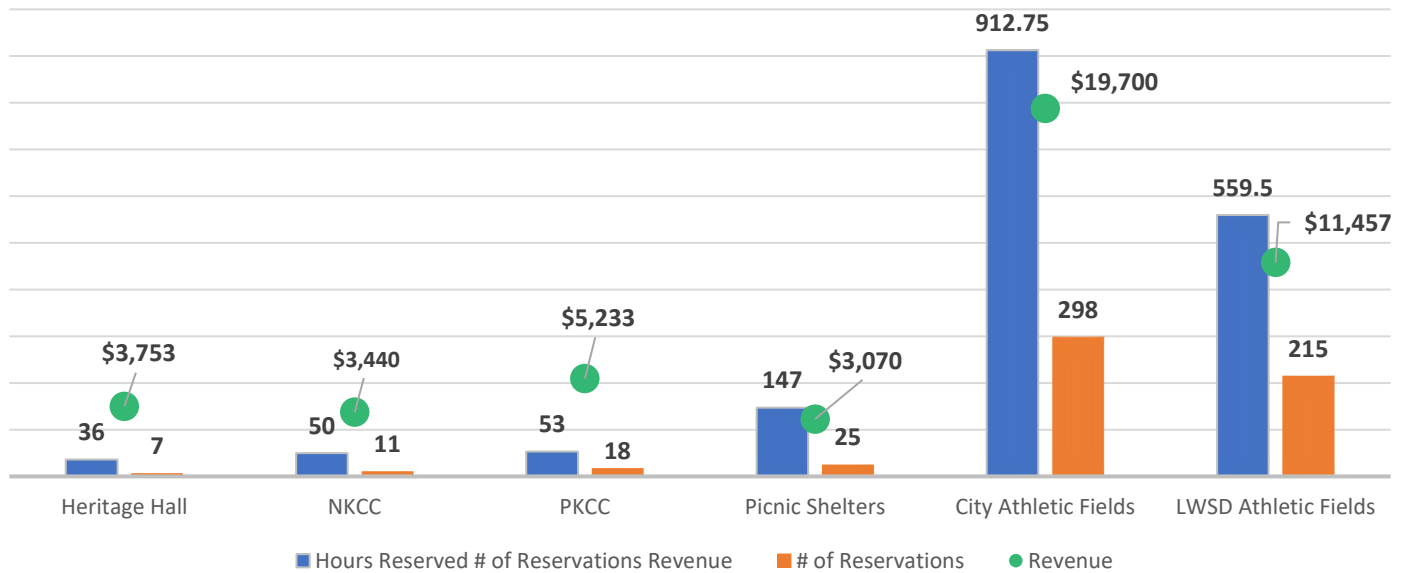
RECREATION DATA

SENIOR SERVICES - FEBRUARY 2024



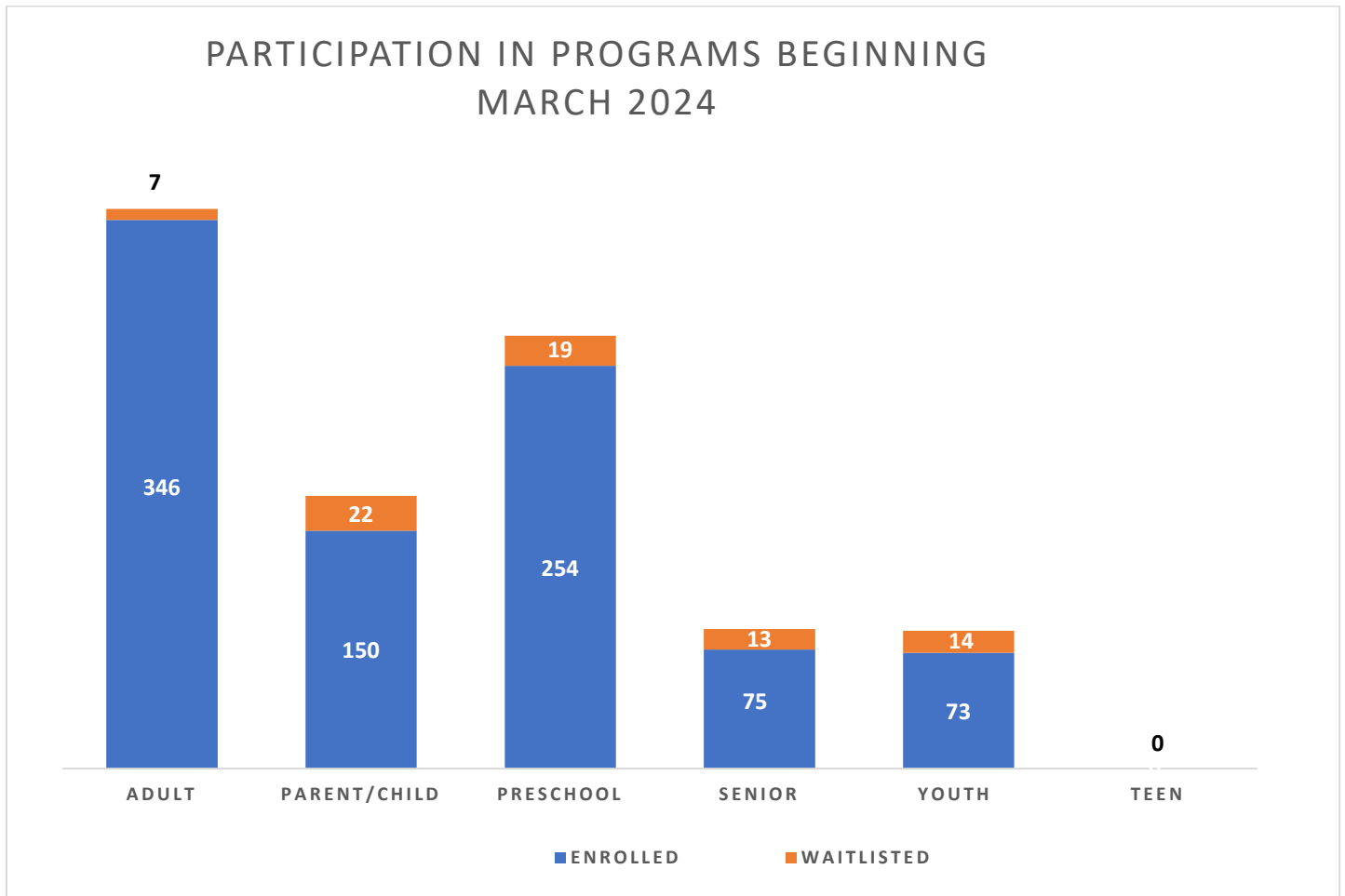
\*Senior Services Data reported by agencies the month after services provided

ALL RENTALS - MARCH 2024





**RECREATION PROGRAM DATA**



**RECREATION SCHOLARSHIP DATA**

Recreation Scholarships		
	March	YTD
Applications approved	16	49
Donation funds used	\$3,013.00	\$3,152.00
Donation funds received	\$11,828.29	\$12,658.03