

# KIRKLAND PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES – NOVEMBER 2022



Mayor and Kirkland Staff

The Human Services Division had an exciting and very busy 2022. One of the major efforts in 2022 was the Kirkland Health and Wellness Fair. This began as a pilot project in 2021 organized to provide access to vaccinations, healthcare and human services, and connection to community after almost two years of the COVID-19 pandemic. Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) residents as well as those who are new arrivals to the U.S. or whose primary language is not English have faced barriers to accessing services and have been disproportionately and negatively impacted.

Building on the success of the 2021 pilot fair, the City of Kirkland partnered with The King County Promotores Network (KCPN) to organize the 2022 Kirkland Health and Wellness Fair on October Saturday, October 8 at Juanita High School. The 2022 event saw almost 1,000 attendees with some from as far away as Eastern Washington. Over 20 exhibitors hosted information and resource tables at the event and over 60 volunteers provided event support.

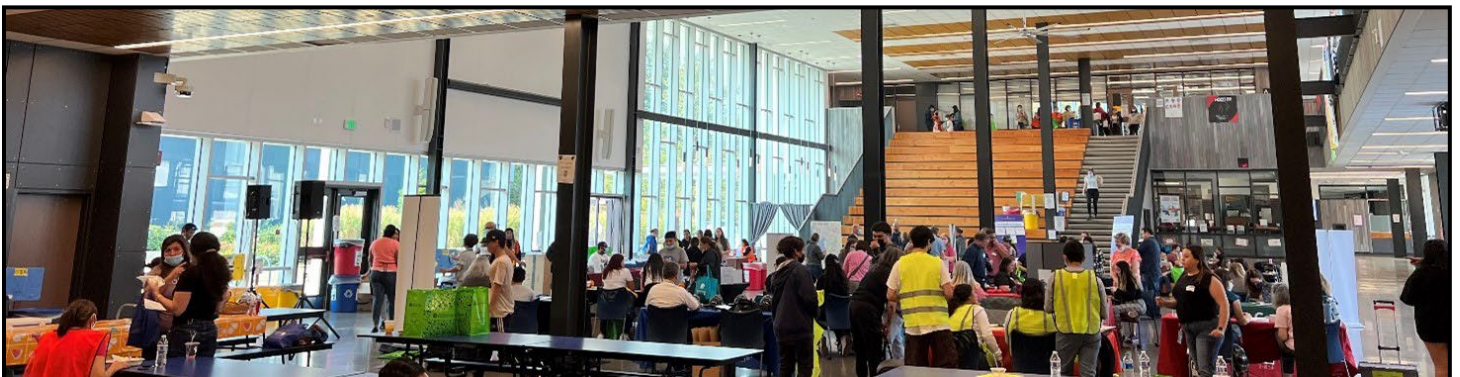
Highlights of the 2022 Kirkland Health and Wellness Fair include:

- 76 Health Screenings
  - 63 Basic Health Screenings
  - 13 A1C Screenings
- Dental Services & referrals
  - 21 dental services
  - 11 appointments scheduled/referrals
- 111 COVID-19 vaccinations
  - Baby: 4 (1st Dose)
  - Child: 26 (7-1st, 19-2nd)
  - Youth: 38 (0-1st, 3-2nd, 35-Boosters)
  - Adult: 43 (2-1st, 1-2nd, 40-Boosters)
- 150 Flu Shots
  - Child: 63
  - Adult: 87
- 269 Event Surveys completed



Volunteers at 2022 Kirkland Health and Wellness Fair

This event was very well-received, so much so that KCPN sent a letter to the City Manager, the Parks and Community Services Director, and Human Services staff requesting funding over the next biennium to continue to provide this vital resource in our community. The City Council recently approved \$80,000 in total funding, \$40,000 for 2023 and 2024 each, to support future Health and Wellness Fairs.



2022 Kirkland Health and Wellness Fair at Juanita High School

## ADMINISTRATION

### PARKS BALLOT MEASURE(S) INITIATIVE

The Parks Funding Exploratory Committee (PFEC) was established by City Council to lead the community input process and provide recommendations for a potential ballot measure(s) to Kirkland City Council by spring 2023. During November, PFEC learned about what goes into the City's recreation programs, classes, and community events. PFEC will meet once or twice a month through February 2023 and make recommendations to City Council in spring 2023. Learn more about PFEC and follow along on the [PARKS BALLOT INITIATIVE WEBSITE](#).

### FACILITY FEASIBILITY STUDY

Alongside the PFEC process, the City has contracted with Opsis Architecture to develop a robust recreation facility feasibility study grounded on the community needs identified in the 2022 PROS Plan. Opsis Architecture shared an update with and received feedback from PFEC in October and is developing facility feasibility concepts and costing for two locations. Final concepts will be shared with PFEC, City Council, and the Kirkland community in early 2023.

## PARK MANAGEMENT

### SNOW, SLUSH AND THE HOLIDAY RUSH

Leaf removal and planting projects dominate much of our time in November. We also winterize our operations, clear snow and ice at the Justice Center, City Hall, and Fire Stations, and keep the parks clean and safe for all the holiday celebrations. Here are some highlights from the teams for November.

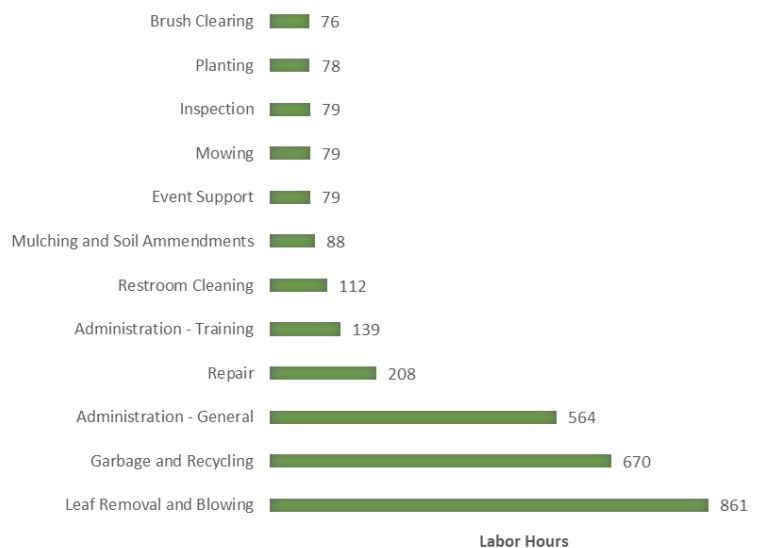
### BALLFIELDS/CEMETERY

- Emptied overflowing trash and picked up litter at Taylor Fields (a King County site) after receiving customer complaints.
- Winterized bathrooms and irrigation systems at parks and school partner sites.
- Implemented burial services and internments.
- Removed the pop-up dog parks at Heritage and Snyder's corner.
- Removed leaves from all ballfields and sports facilities daily.
- Facilitated Eagle Scout project planting trees at Everest Park to expand buffer at pickleball court.

### HORTICULTURE

- Planted and mulched trees at Terrace, Houghton Neighborhood, Mark Twain parks.
- Hosted Eagle Scout project at Crestwoods park decommissioning an old trail.
- Removed goose waste from Waverly and Houghton Beach parks.
- Removed hazard limb from street tree adjacent to Peter Kirk after windstorm.
- Treated knotweed patches throughout the park system.
- Removed and chipped failed tree at Yarrow Bay.

### NOVEMBER TOP 12 TASKS



Tree planting project at Everest Park



## SUPPORT

- Reset the ceiling mounted furnace in the men's restroom at Peter Kirk Pool.
- Installed two pumps at the pool to keep water moving in the winter and reduce buildup of algae.
- Installed digital lock system at O.O. Denny boat launch to allow limited winter use.
- Winterized drinking fountains throughout the park system.
- Inspected all playgrounds and initiated repairs as needed.
- Began winter cycle of refurbishing benches and tables throughout the park system.

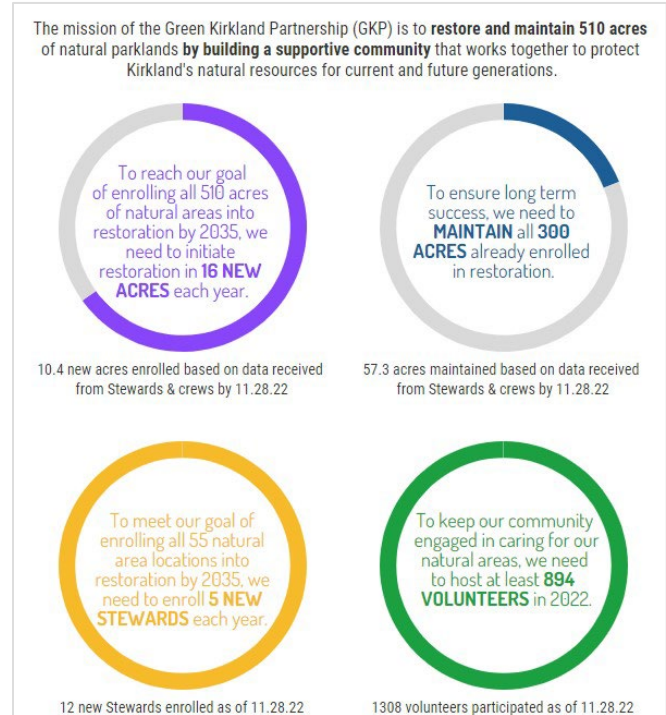
## NATURAL AREAS/GREEN KIRKLAND PARTNERSHIP

- Removed debris from beaver dam at Totem Lake to lower water levels that are flooding old boardwalk.
- Delivered thousands of plants to Stewards for installation at GKP sites throughout our parks.
- Treated deciduous invasive trees and isolated patches of knotweed throughout our park system.
- Cleared downed tree and limbs from boardwalk at Totem Lake.
- Installed native perennial grass and flower seeds in pollinator meadow at Juanita Bay.
- Removed dozens of bags of historically dumped trash at Watershed Park after they were discovered by a Steward working in a new area.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 4 - Crestwoods Park Forest Stewardship
- December 7 - Cotton Hill Park Forest Stewardship
- December 7 - Juanita Bay Park East Habitat Restoration
- December 17 - Watershed Park Forest Stewardship

Find details and registration information at [GREENKIRKLAND.ORG](https://GREENKIRKLAND.ORG)



## 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; 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](https://WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/SPECIALEVENTS).

### LAKE WASHINGTON HALF

The annual Lake Washington Half Marathon and 5K took place at Juanita Beach Park on Saturday, November 5. Nearly 900 athletes joined race organizer Orca Running on a beautiful sunny autumn morning. The challenging loop course took runners south along the Kirkland waterfront and then north on the Cross Kirkland Corridor. The half marathon is a USATF-certified course which means the distance has been certified for accuracy resulting in running performances that count towards official records and national rankings. Kirkland's Friends of Youth was one of the charity partners for the 2022 event.



### DECEMBER SPECIAL EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	OTHER INFO
December 2 4:30 p.m.	Google Lights	Feriton Spur/CKC	<a href="https://KIRKLANDDOWNTOWN.ORG/EVENTS/FALL-WINTER-PROGRAMS/">KIRKLANDDOWNTOWN.ORG/EVENTS/FALL-WINTER-PROGRAMS/</a>
December 3 4:00 p.m.	Winterfest	Marina Park	
December 11 8:00 a.m.	12Ks of Christmas	Marina Park/CKC	<a href="https://SRC12KSOFCHRISTMAS.COM/">SRC12KSOFCHRISTMAS.COM/</a>
December 18 4:00 p.m.	Grand Menorah Lighting	Marina Park	<a href="https://WWW.JEWISHKIRKLAND.COM/">WWW.JEWISHKIRKLAND.COM/</a>

## 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.

### 132ND SQUARE PARK

Construction started on June 28, 2021. The field turf has been installed and lines for soccer, baseball, softball, and lacrosse are being added. The contractor made significant progress on the concrete sidewalks in the western side of the park. We have been working with the contractor to remove the excess dirt from the property, and it will be gone when construction is complete. The contractor anticipates the work will be completed in early 2023.

*Background:* 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.



Photo of the labyrinth construction at 132<sup>nd</sup> Square Park.

### POP-UP DOG PARK PROGRAM

The pop-up dog park program at Snyder's Corner and Heritage Park ended with the return of November rains. These pop-up opportunities will return next spring. The location at Juanita Beach Park will remain in place.

*Background:* These temporary pop-up dog parks are intended to test and evaluate how to incorporate dog off-leash areas into our system.

## RECREATION SERVICES

### ELVIS WAS IN THE HOUSE

The Peter Kirk Community Center kicked off the holiday season for large group of seniors in our community with Turkey, Tunes & Holiday Wishes event on November 17. Danny Vernon, a.k.a. Elvis was a huge hit and was met by enthusiastic appreciation. Special thanks to Koelsch Communities for sponsoring this festive event and providing a delicious traditional Thanksgiving meal.

### KIRKLAND SENIOR COUNCIL

Recruitment for the Kirkland Senior Council was held during the month of October. The Council received several well qualified applicants and were happy to offer 3-year terms to the following individuals: Carole Bryan, Scott Emmons, Kathy Iverson, Carol Kelly, and Robert Warren. We welcome these new members and look forward to working together to make a difference for older adults in Kirkland.



### DECEMBER & JANUARY RECREATION EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	OTHER INFO
December 10 4-7 p.m.	Light Up Kirkland	Juanita Beach Park	<a href="https://www.kirklandwa.gov/community-events">KIRKLANDWA.GOV/COMMUNITY- EVENTS</a>
December 19 5:35 p.m.	Community Bonfire	O.O. Denny Park	
January 7 12-2 p.m.	January Jump – Polar Bear Plunge	Doris Cooper Houghton Beach Park	
January 28 2-4 p.m.	Lunar New Year	Peter Kirk Community Center	

## RECREATION DATA

