

KIRKLAND PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES – MAY 2023



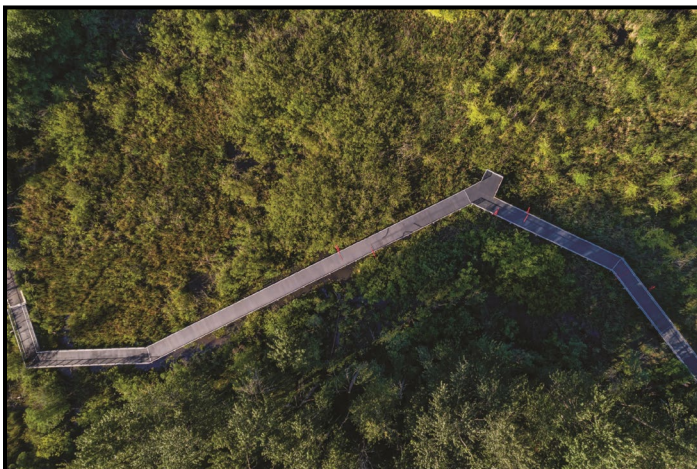
Totem Lake Park in Kirkland received a 2023 Award of Honor from the Washington State Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (WASLA) at its annual awards ceremony last month. The WASLA awards recognize excellence in landscape architecture and design in our state.

"The concept of the Totem Lake Urban Center as a vibrant, walkable village was envisioned by Kirkland leaders in 2001," said Councilmember Neal Black. "Totem Lake Park is a key element of that vision, and it has already become a beloved jewel in the Totem Lake neighborhood. We're grateful to the team that worked so hard to make it a reality."

The City opened Totem Lake Park as the ecological centerpiece of the Totem Lake Urban Center in July 2021. The 17-acre park features family restrooms, an accessible-to-all-abilities playground, a 48-foot-long community picnic table, and a 10-foot-wide, ADA-accessible boardwalk that connects to the Cross Kirkland Corridor, a multi-modal trail that unites Kirkland neighborhoods.

The City worked with Berger Partnership to plan and design Totem Lake Park. The design was inspired by the intersection of nature and city, emphasizing connectivity and pedestrian circulation – to the Totem Lake Urban Center, the park's existing trail system, and to the community via the Cross Kirkland Corridor.

See more about the [2023 WASLA AWARDS](#), the City's award-winning [TOTEM LAKE PARK](#) or the [TOTEM LAKE URBAN CENTER](#).



ADMINISTRATION

PARKS 2023 BALLOT EXPLORATION

The potential parks ballot measure was the subject of City Council's May 16, 2023 study session. Staff presented the results of the statistically valid community survey and the open-link survey, the recreation and aquatics center feasibility study addendum, and the PFEC addendum.

City Council will make a final decision on potential parks and recreation ballot measure(s) this year. Learn more about the process at KIRKLANDWA.GOV/PARKS2023BALLOT.



FACILITY FEASIBILITY STUDY

The three additional facility options as requested by the City were presented to City Council at their May 16, 2023 study session:

- An option for an 80,000 square foot facility at North Kirkland Community Center with two pools and a two-court gym.
- An option with two complementary facilities including a Houghton Park and Ride 67,000 square foot facility focused on aquatics and a North Kirkland Community Center 45,000 square foot facility focused on recreation.
- An option for a replacement for North Kirkland Community Center (approximately 18,000 square feet).

For more information see the [RECREATION AND AQUATICS FACILITY FEASIBILITY STUDY WEBSITE](#).

HUMAN SERVICES

2023 SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL INTERNS

After a successful pilot year in 2022, the high school intern program is returning for this summer with five teen interns assisting with a variety of recreation, community, and human services-related programs. During May, staff reviewed 30 applications and interviewed 25 teens. Candidates represented a wonderful cross-section of youth with many different talents, coming from 11 different schools. Five interns were selected and will begin work in June.

LAKE WASHINGTON TECHNICAL INSTITUTE 2023 HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR

Human Services staff attended the Lake Washington Technical Institute (LWTech) Spring Health and Wellness Fair on May 18, 2023. Staff shared information highlighting the work being done in our community focused on Youth Services, Community Well-being, Homeless Outreach, and Equity. The team interacted with more than 100 students and LWTech staff during the event, handing out City of Kirkland swag and sharing contact information.

AGENCY HIGHLIGHT: IMMIGRANT WOMEN COMMUNITY CENTER (IWCC)

The Immigrant Women's Community Center (IWCC) mission is to provide community building, training, and direct services, primarily for immigrant women and their families, to promote financial independence, emotional health, and physical well-being. The agency's values include independence, humanity, inclusion, self-determination, and ensuring the dignity of others is protected. The population the agency serves are newcomers to the community who face significant issues related to navigating complicated systems from emergency rental assistance to employment services, to complicated health care systems, and legal systems. Accessing those systems became much more difficult during the pandemic; services may not be readily available, may be virtual only, or are not always easily acquired due to language barriers.



The City partnered with IWCC in 2022, awarding a \$30,000 language and digital equity grant in response to a Request for Proposal (RFP) to support organizations serving communities who have historically experienced English and/or technology literacy barriers and were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds were used to address participant barriers in linguistically and culturally appropriate ways via interpretation/translation services and virtual meeting enhancement, which increased the accessibility of services and programs to participants, including housing, employment, healthcare, and behavioral health services. For additional information, please visit the agency's [WEBSITE](#).

PARK MANAGEMENT

MAY MADNESS

The warm, dry weather means it's prime time in Kirkland's parks. We've been busy keeping things safe, clean, and ready for daily visitors, events, and celebrations. Here are some of the highlights. See the [PARKS MANAGEMENT DETAIL REPORTS](#) for breakdown of tasks and locations. Here are monthly highlights from our four crews:

BALLFIELDS/CEMETERY

- Placed flags and crosses at all Veteran gravesites at the cemetery for Memorial Day.
- Repaired holes on mounds at fields one and two at Everest.
- Filled in collapsed areas and added mulch on top of new grave at the cemetery.
- Hand weeded the fence lines at Everest.
- Fertilized the turf at Crestwoods, Everest, Peter Kirk and Kirkland Middle School.
- Repaired irrigation at Peter Kirk Elementary School.
- Regularly mowed and line trimmed cemetery and all park and school sites.

HORTICULTURE

- Received and initiated training on the new Arbor Pro lift.
- Filled two open Groundsperson positions.
- Removed goose waste from Marina, Houghton and Brink parks.
- Pruned roses, spent bulbs, and tree sprouts at Marsh park.
- Weeded and mulched tree rings at NKCC.
- Installed drip line irrigation at Windsor Vista park.
- Regularly mowed and line trimmed all park sites.

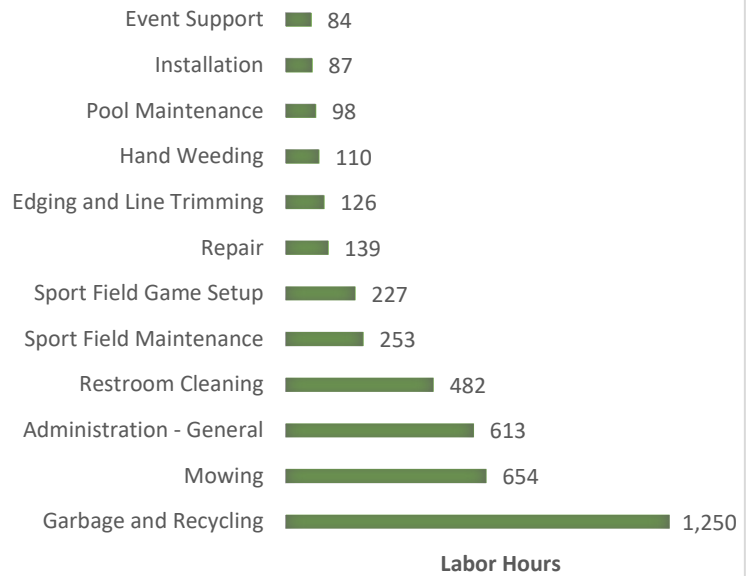
NATURAL AREAS/GREEN KIRKLAND PARTNERSHIP

- Supported twenty Green Kirkland volunteer events.
- Installed nine new cisterns for a total of 37 cisterns in natural areas for summer watering.
- Initiated truck watering at all restoration sites.
- Staked leaning tree at Juanita Beach.
- Hosted City Fruit at McAuliffe Park to mulch, water, net, and bag fruit trees.
- Pruned back vegetation along all trails and boardwalks.
- Find upcoming volunteer events at [GREENKIRKLAND.ORG](https://www.greenkirkland.org)

SUPPORT

- Secured loose decking on the Totem Lake boardwalk.
- Repaired broken table and fence at OO Denny.
- Painted the bull rail at Marina.
- Replaced both BBQs at Everest.
- Removed florescent lighting and installed LEDs inside the downstairs meeting rooms at McAuliffe.
- Installed new mooring signage at 2nd Ave and Marina.
- Repaired clogged sewer line at Houghton Beach.

MAY TOP 12 TASKS



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 is in the final stages with an anticipated substantial completion date in July. A grand-reopening community celebration is being planned for July 15, 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. Construction started on June 28, 2021.

MARINA PARK SHORELINE RENOVATIONS

Designers provided preliminary concepts and options for repairs or replacement of dock and shoreline structures. Concepts and cost estimates were reviewed, and staff is moving forward with repairs to the south fingers and pier along with a few upland repairs and improvements.

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

OO DENNY PARK PICNIC SHELTER

In 2024, staff will begin the bidding and construction process for the installation of a second picnic shelter at the park. The design replicates and complements the existing picnic shelter on the site.

Background: This project will use existing funds remaining from the Finn Hill Park District.

TOTEM LAKE PARK

Three cantilever shade structures will be installed later this summer near the playground to provide relief from those intense sunny days.

Background: In July 2021 the City opened Totem Lake Park as its newest neighborhood park with an inclusive playground, restrooms, and a boardwalk connecting the park to the Cross Kirkland Corridor.

RECREATION SERVICES

SPRING PEE WEE SOCCER

The Spring season of Pee Wee soccer wrapped up on May 20, 2023. Over 240 youth aged three through six learned sportsmanship, built friendships, and learned the sport of soccer. During the season players practiced skills and drills with volunteer coaches and then played short scrimmages against other teams.

SUMMER SEASON HIRING

The Recreation Team has been very busy this spring hiring many open positions including lifeguards, senior lifeguards, aquatics program supervisors (APs), pool cashiers, swim instructors, deep water exercise instructors, day camp staff, tennis & swim instructors, rental attendants, and more! On Saturday, May 20, 2023, Recreation and Human Resource (HR) staff hosted a special orientation and onboarding event at the Peter Kirk Community Center to welcome 80+ new contingent staff to the City. Aquatics staff also participated in the aquatics pool orientation. A HUGE thank you to the HR team for their support in streamlining hiring processes this summer.



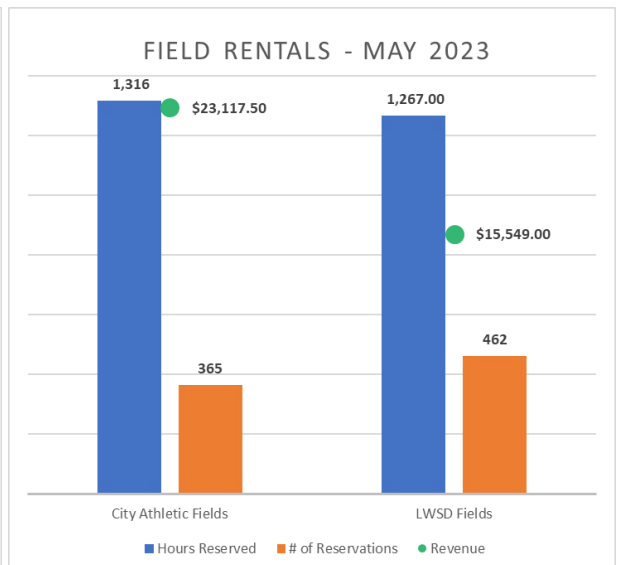
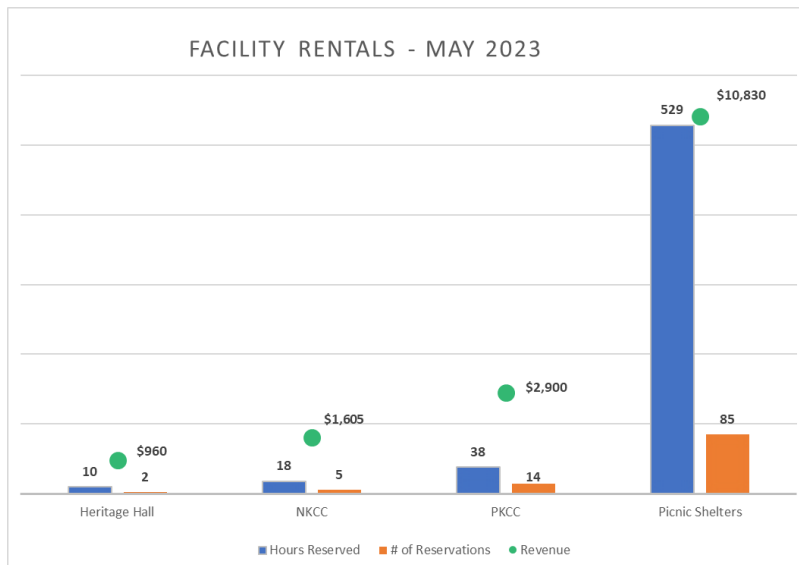
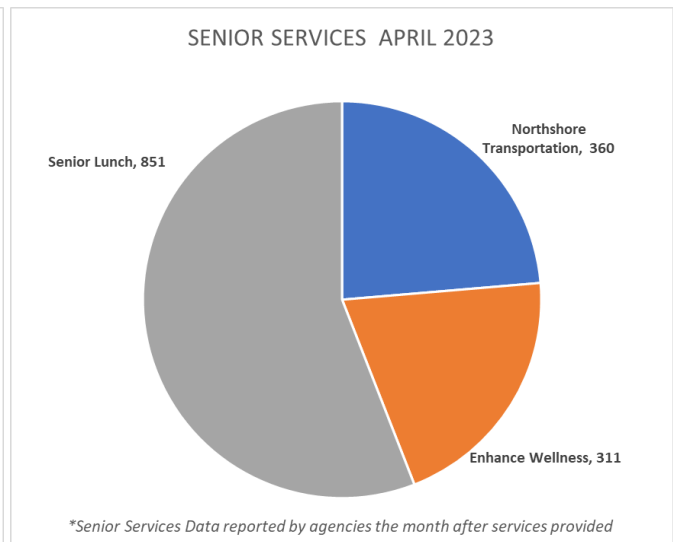
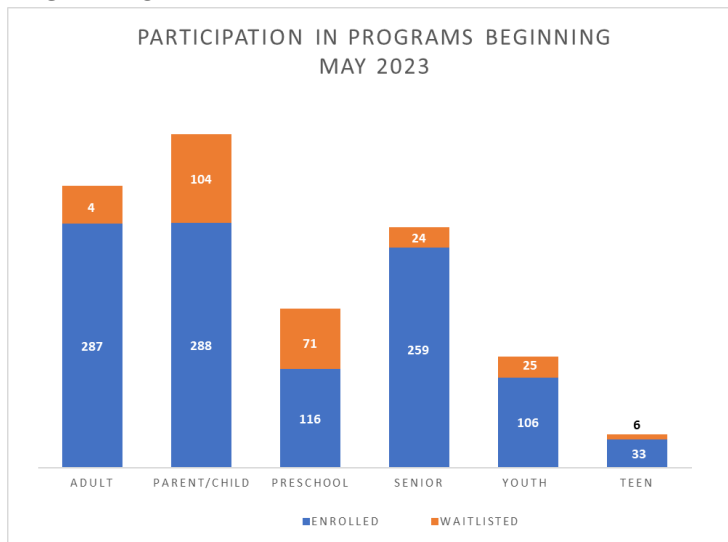
LIFEGUARD TRAINING

Training is at full swing at the Peter Kirk Pool. We completed our new lifeguard certification course for 15 new lifeguards. This course includes seven hours of online coursework and 22 hours of in-person training and testing. The first of four lifeguard recertification trainings which consists of 10 hours of in-person lecture, skills, and testing was also completed. This year staff will recertify about 40 returning staff before the end of June.



Staff will conduct two First Aid courses for contingent staff in June. This course has three hours of online training and three hours of in-person skill testing. The annual preseason in-service training takes place on Saturday, June 3. The in-service training covers our emergency action plans (EAP) and works on team building so the whole aquatics team is ready to serve our community on Monday, June 5.

RECREATION DATA



SPECIAL EVENT SERVICES

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 such as parks, parking lots and streets, evening and weekend on-call logistical support as needed; and communication with the public. Information about permits can be found at KIRKLANDWA.GOV/SPECIALEVENTS.



MOTHER'S DAY HALF MARATHON & 5K

ORCA RUNNING hosted their annual Mother's Day run/walk at Juanita Beach Park on May 14. The beautiful warm sunny weather enticed more than 1,000 athletes to participate in the half marathon, 5K, and kids' races. To ensure participant safety along all three courses, fifty volunteers and twenty-seven off-duty police officers were posted in key locations. Proceeds from the post-race mimosa garden benefitted the non-profit **GIRLS ON THE RUN PUGET SOUND** organization which inspires girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident.



7 HILLS OF KIRKLAND

The Kirkland Kiwanis Foundation revived the 7 Hills of Kirkland event after a multi-year hiatus by the previous organizers. The cycling event, which included 20.2- and 38.4-mile routes, was held on Memorial Day. Participants started and ended their ride at Marina Park where they enjoyed live music, community vendors, and tasty strawberry shortcake. The event raised money for the non-profit Attain Housing to assist individuals and families on the Eastside caught in the homelessness crisis. Learn more on the [KIRKLAND KIWANIS' 7 HILLS OF KIRKLAND WEBSITE](http://KIRKLANDKIWANIS.ORG).

JUANITA FRIDAY MARKET



Staff finalized details for the upcoming season during May. To date 38 vendor applicants have been accepted and four have been added to the waitlist. Customers will be excited to see 28 small businesses they know and love along with ten new businesses at our market this year. New products will include sauces, succulents, lavender, and hand-crafted items. More than 20 organizations will join us in the community booth this year including City of Kirkland programs, preschools, and advocacy groups. The warm dry spring weather has ensured the season gets started off on the right foot with lots of farm fresh produce and delicious berries! Join us on opening day, June 2, and claim a free market tote while supplies last. Learn more about the market at: KIRKLANDWA.GOV/JUANITAFRIDAYMARKET.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	MORE INFO
Fridays, June – Sep. 3:00 - 7:00pm	Juanita Friday Market	Juanita Beach Park	WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/JUANITAFRIDAYMARKET
Saturday, June 3 8:00am	NAMIWalks Washington	Marina Park	WWW.NAMIWALKS.ORG
Wednesdays, June – Sep. 3:00 - 7:00pm	Kirkland Wednesday Market	Marina Park	KIRKLANDDOWNTOWN.ORG
June 9, 10, 11 Hours vary	Shakespeare in the Park	Juanita Beach Park	STUDIO-EAST.ORG
Saturday, June 10 5:00 – 10:00pm	Eastside Salsa Marina	Marina Park	WWW.LAVIDASTUDIO.COM
Saturday, June 17 11:30am – 4:00pm	Eastside Honoring Juneteenth	Juanita Beach Park	EASTSIDEFORALL.ORG/EVENTS/EASTSIDE-HONORING-JUNETEENTH
June 23, 24, 25 Hours vary	Kirklandia	Marina Park	KIRKLANDIAFEST.COM