



City of Mercer Island Parks and Recreation Commission

Department Report
June 4, 2026



Project Updates



Every Drop Counts Irrigation Systems Upgrade

- Irrigation systems throughout Aubrey Davis Park are being upgraded with HydroPoint WeatherTRAK LC+ smart controllers, replacing outdated equipment to improve water efficiency and system management.
- The new technology enables weather-based irrigation scheduling, supporting sustainable water use and streamlined maintenance.
- Staff hope to expand smart controller upgrades to additional Mercer Island parks in the next biennium, funded through grants with the Saving Water Partnership.



Milfoil/Aquatic Weed Removal

- Milfoil/Aquatic weed removal has begun at Groveland Beach, Clarke Beach, and Luther Burbank Beach to help keep our waterfront recreation access safe for users and assist with infrastructure maintenance and environmental protection.
- Milfoil removal in Lake Washington is critical because Eurasian water milfoil is an aggressive invasive weed that forms dense, floating surface mats that degrades the ecosystem, chokes out native vegetation, tangles propellers, and creates stagnant areas ripe for mosquito breeding.
- To control the spread, local agencies use integrated weed management that relies on manual diving removal, and mechanical harvesting.



Luther Burbank Park Waterfront Improvements

- **Major project milestone reached!** This week, the City advertised the Luther Burbank Park Waterfront Improvements project for construction.
- Project design began in 2020 and will provide universal access to the waterfront through dock repairs and reconfigurations; pathway, beach, and plaza upgrades; and utilizes and other infrastructure improvements.
- The project has received more than **\$5M** in state and county grant funding and requires more than **20 permits** from **8 federal, state, and local agencies!**
- Bidding closes on June 30, 2026, and staff anticipate bringing the bid award to City Council in July.
- Once a contract is awarded, construction will take 15 to 18 months to complete.

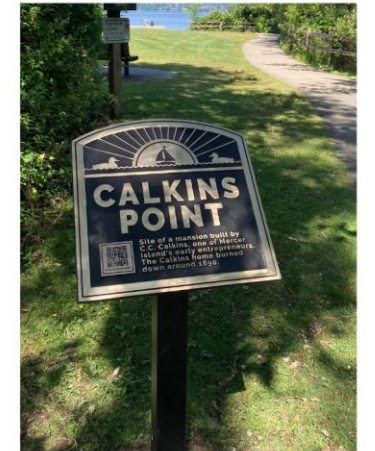
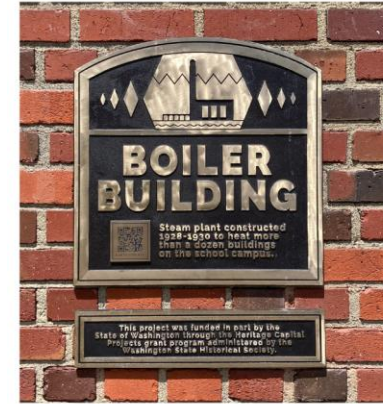


More project info at letstalk.mercergov.org/lbdock



New History Tour in Luther Burbank Park

- Community members can now take a self-guided tour through some of LBP's incredible history via the STQRY app!
- Pronounced "story," this is the City's digital platform for engaging Islanders with arts, culture, and history/heritage.
- As part of the Washington State Historical Society grant received for Boiler Building Phase 1 (completed 2024), the City developed a history tour that includes stops at the Boiler Building, Former School Parade Grounds, Calkins Point, and more!
- Access the tour in a few ways:
 1. Scan the QR code on the bronze plaques/interpretive sign installed at each stop.
 2. Search "Explore Mercer Island" to download our free STQRY app in the App Store or Google Play. The tour can be accessed by clicking on the "Luther Burbank Park History Tour" button in the navigation bar on the bottom of the app.
 3. Visit mercerisland.stqry.app via your desktop or mobile device and click on the "Luther Burbank Park History Tour" button.



Many thanks to the Mercer Island Historical Society, Friends of Luther Burbank Park, artist Marsha Rollinger, bronze foundry Two Ravens Studio, and Art Work Fine Art Services for their collaboration on this project!



New Dog Stick Library at LBP

- A new amenity has been added to the Luther Burbank Park Off Leash Area!
- Thanks to the generosity of Henry Keena, who donated, built, and installed a “Doggie Stick Library” for visiting dogs to enjoy.
- The unique addition was created in remembrance of the Keena family dog, Ellie, who loved fetching sticks in the parks off leash area.
- The installation adds a playful and personal touch to the space while celebrating the special connection many community members share with the park and their pets.



PLAYGROUND UPDATES

- Earlier in May, Staff joined City Council members at the newly renovated First Hill Park Playground for a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The updated playground features all-new equipment, improved accessibility, and marks an exciting milestone for the community to celebrate together.
- Parks Operations completed the installation of a new backflow and irrigation system to support the landscaping surrounding the new playground at Roanoke Park.
- Park playgrounds began receiving fresh applications of engineered wood fiber to maintain clean, safe, and compliant play surfaces for the community



Programs/Events



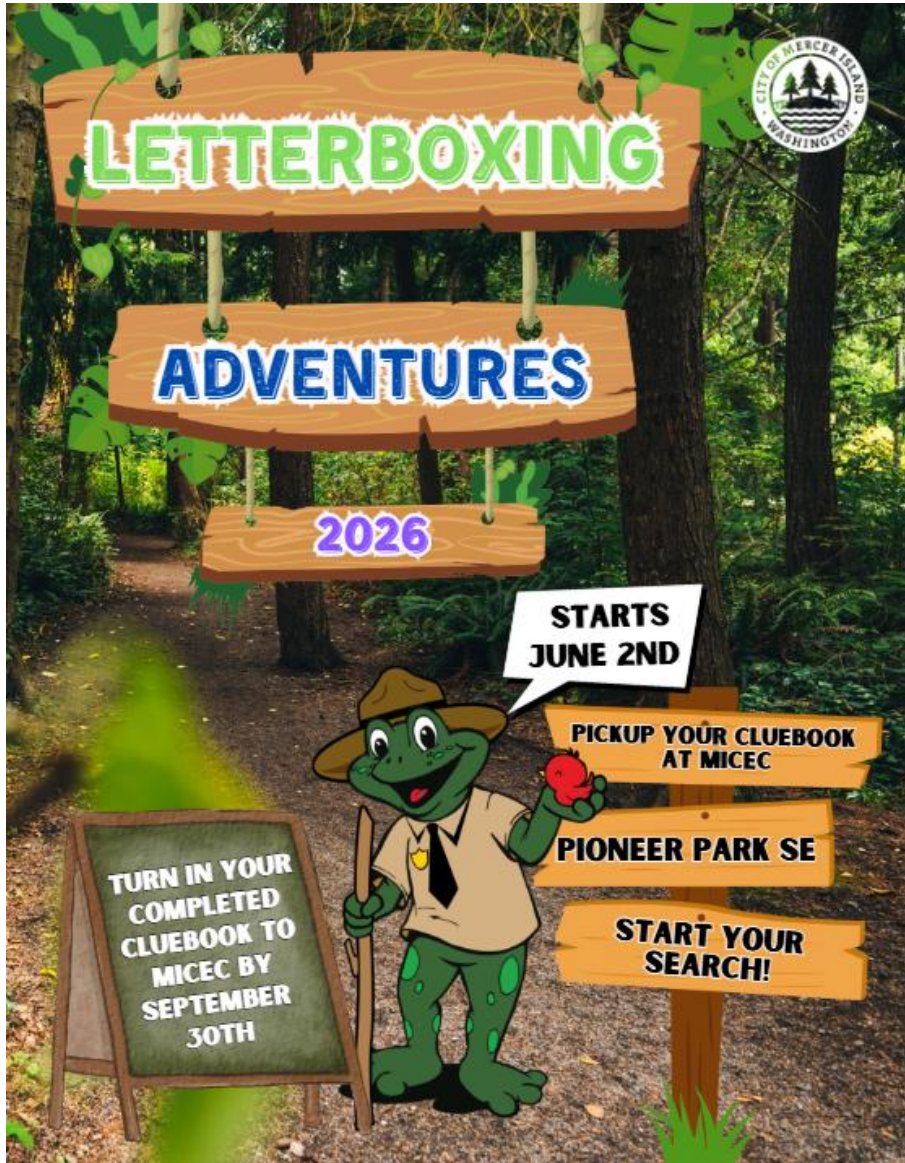
YOU DO-NUT WANT TO MISS IT!!



- Tomorrow, Friday June 5th from 9am - 11am at the MICEC we're sprinkling a little extra joy into Community Coffee and celebrating DONUTS!
- Stop by for coffee, community, and a sweet treat while supplies last.



LETTERBOXING PROGRAM RETURNS!



- Recreation and the Natural Resources Staff have teamed up again to bring the community this fun learning adventure program.
- Now through the end of September, Letterboxing booklets are available for pickup at the MICEC.

[Letterboxing at Pioneer Park | Mercer Island, Washington](#)





WELCOME TO SUMMER!



MERCER ISLAND SUMMER CAMPS

CODING WITH KIDS

5-12 yrs. 6/22-97 (Weekly)

CURIOSITY CAMP

5-12 yrs. 8/10-13, 7/17-920

EXCEL WITH CHESS

6-12 yrs. 7/16-113, 5/37-377

GAMEBREAKER LACROSSE

5-16 yrs. 6/22-625-120-723

LEGO CAMP

5-11 yrs. 6/22-626, 7/23-7713, 7/20-724, 7/27-7131

MERCER ISLAND ROWING CLUB

16-18 yrs. 6/23-713, 7/17-713, 8/77-874

PETALS ART CLUB

5-18 yrs. 7/16-77, 7/16-715, 8/27-812, 8/70-812, 8/77-820

REVOLUTION INDOOR VOLLEYBALL

5-18 yrs. 7/17-7113, 8/27-876

REVOLUTION SOFTBALL

5-18 yrs. 7/17-7113, 8/27-876

SKYHAWKS SPORTS

4-22 yrs. 6/22-8/21 (Weekly)

SOCCER FUN CAMP

3-12 yrs. 6/26-626, 6/27-713, 6/17-7713, 8/14-713, 8/17-814, 8/24-825

TGA: TENNIS GOLF & PICKLEBALL

5-13 yrs. 6/22-8/21 (Weekly)



REGISTER TODAY

WWW.MERCERISLAND.GOV/SUMMERCAMPS



SUMMER CAMPS

Indoor Camps based at Mercer Island Community & Event Center

- **Coding with Kids** - Meeting Room - 9am-4pm, 7 weeks from 6/22-8/7
- **Curiosity Camp** - Meeting Room - 9am-4pm, 2 weeks, 8/10-8/13 & 8/17-8/20
- **Excel with Chess** - Meeting Room - 8:30am-4pm, 2 weeks, 7/6-7/10 & 8/3-8/7
- **Play-Well LEGO Camp** - Meeting Room - 9am-4pm, 5 weeks from 6/22 - 7/31
- **Petals Art Club** - Meeting Room - 9am-4pm, 5 weeks from 7/6-8/20
- **Revolution Indoor Volleyball** - Gymnasium, 9am-4pm, 2 weeks, 7/13-7/16 & 8/3-8/6
- **Skyhawks Sports Camp** - Gymnasium, 9am-4pm, 2 weeks, 6/22-6/26 & 8/17-8/21

Outdoor Camps based out of on-island parks

- **Mercer Island Rowing Club** - Luther Burbank Park Beach, 5am-10am, 10 weeks from 6/22-8/28
- **Soccer Fun Camp** - Aubrey Davis Park A, 9am-3pm, 5 weeks between 6/22 & 8/25
- **Revolution Softball & Gamebreaker Lacrosse** - South Mercer Playfields, 9am-4pm, 2 weeks between 6/22 & 7/23
- **Skyhawks Sports Camp** - South Mercer Playfields, 9am-4pm, 7 weeks from 6/29-8/14
- **TGA: Tennis, Golf & Pickleball** - Homestead Park Tennis Courts & South Field, 8am-3:30pm, 9 weeks from 6/22-8/25



SUMMER SPECIAL EVENTS

- JULY 10TH - AUGUST 17TH

- SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

- SPECIFIC DATES DURING THIS TIMEFRAME - (SEE WEBSITE OR FLYER)

- JULY 11TH

- *SUMMER CELEBRATION (SC!)*

- JULY 17TH - AUGUST 21ST

- *MOSTLY MUSIC IN THE PARK (MMIP)*

- EVERY THURSDAY DURING THIS TIMEFRAME

- JULY 30TH

- *PRIDE NIGHT IN THE PARK*

SUMMER CELEBRATION!

MERCERDALE PARK

- Community Parade
- Touch-A-Truck
- MI Community Booths
- Art Vendors
- Food Trucks

10am
10:30am - 3pm
10:30am - 3pm
10:30am - 3pm
11am - 3pm

78th Ave SE
77th Ave SE
77th Ave SE
77th Ave SE
SE 32nd St.

- The Pioneer Squares Band
- Circus & Kids Zone
- Foam Party & Bubble Stations
- Mini Golf
- Youth Theater Northwest
- Brian Ledbetter, Magician

10am - 3pm
11am - 3pm
11am - 2pm
11am - 2pm
11:45am
12 - 1pm

Main Stage
Mercerdale Park/Tent
Mercerdale Park
Mercerdale Park
Main Stage
Main Stage

LUTHER BURBANK PARK

- Food Trucks
- Copastetic Band
- Stilt Walkers
- FIREWORKS SHOW!

6 - 10pm
6 - 10pm
6:30 - 8:30pm
10pm



Shuttles to/from Luther Burbank Park

Shuttles will be available between 5:30 - 9pm from the following locations:

Northwood Elementary and Island Park Elementary.

Buses provided by the Mercer Island School District.



Event Paid Parking

Limited paid parking is available at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center for easy access to/from the activities at Luther Burbank Park. Parking is \$30, proceeds go directly to Summer Celebration - park with ease, while supporting this community event!
Pay on-site with Park Mobile app.

ADA Parking is available in the CVS Parking Lot across from Mercerdale Park, and in the Luther Burbank North Parking Lot.

SATURDAY JULY 11, 2026



Click for more info: [Summer Celebration 2026](#)





JULY 16 | **HARMONY OF ROCK** | EARLY 70'S ROCK

JULY 23 | **90'S REWIND** | 90'S TRIBUTE

JULY 30 | **ABBAGRAPHS** | ABBA TRIBUTE

»» PRIDE IN THE PARK NIGHT

AUG 6 | **PROM DATE MIXTAPE** | 80'S NEW WAVE

AUG 13 | **MR. PINK** | 90'S & 2000'S

AUG 20 | **DIAMOND STAR HALO** | 70'S GLAM ROCK



MOSTLY MUSIC IN THE PARK



Click for more info: [Mostly Music in the Park 2026](#)



PRIDE NIGHT IN THE PARK



Thursday, July 30th

Will be during the Mostly Music Concert @ 6:30pm

Click for more info: [Mostly Music in the Park - Pride Night 2026](#)



SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

Wooden O

macbeth

by william shakespeare

- July 9, 10, 12, 17, 18, 19, 22, 29, 30 & August 7 & 8 - Shows at 7pm
- August 12, 13, 14 & 16 - Shows at 6pm
- Parking at MICEC & restroom use

Click for more info: [Shakespeare in the Park](#)





Mercer Island Community & Event Center

SPECIAL 20% DISCOUNT OFFER

USE THE CODE
SUMMERDEAL26 IN YOUR
RENTAL REQUEST FORM
TO REDEEM YOUR ROOM
RATE DISCOUNT.

**Book any available date through
December 20, 2026 at the MICEC and
lock in this limited-time discount on new
bookings.**

Must book by August 31

*No matter the occasion, we make gathering
together affordable and unforgettable. Discount
not applied to any optional add-on fees.*

Fill out your rental request form at

www.eventsonmercercer.com

Play More, Pay Less

20% off Athletic Field Reservations

Now-August
Use Promo Code:
SUMMERDEAL26

25 different facilities to choose from



www.fieldonmercercer.com



FIFA and the MICEC

- With the World Cup quickly approaching, some changes are coming to the Mercer Island Community & Event Center.
- On match days, the MICEC will remain open with limited services, however regular drop-in programs will not be offered on the following game days: June 15, June 19, June 24, June 26, July 1, and July 6.
- Staff will focus efforts on the MICEC parking lot, opening event parking on a first-come, first-served basis with free parking for MI residents (upon verification) and \$25 for all others via the ParkMobile app.
- For more information, visit the [City of Mercer Island's World Cup webpage](#).



Parks and Recreation Commission Planning Schedule

- **July 2 (possible reschedule)**
- **Aug 6 (No meeting)**
- **Sep 3**
 - Parks Capital Project Update
 - KCLS Annual Update
- **Oct 1**
 - Bylaws Review (If necessary)
 - MICEC Fee Waiver Policy



Thank you!
GO MARINERS!!

