

Mercer Island Parks & Recreation Commission



Department Report
October 6, 2022



South Mercer Playfield Project

- The City and School District are working on joint project. With MISD as the project Manager.
- The project began in early July with completion scheduled for November.
- The project focuses on converting field #3 and field #4 to synthetic turf and installing lights, as well as replacing turf on fields #1 and #2.
- Light poles have been installed and the turf will arrive next week!
- Thank you to all of the user groups for their flexibility as we adjust schedules to meet needs.
- For more info visit:
<https://www.mercerlandschools.org/Page/17468>

Luther Burbank South Shoreline Project



- 2 year project which started in 2022, and will complete in 2023.
- The previous trail connecting the swim beach area and dock area was eroding.
- We had anticipated significant progress this summer, however key staff moved into new positions, leaving this project without field leadership.
- And then the rains came...or will come. During the rainy season we will postpone work until April 2023.
- Significant elements of this project include in-water work to enhance fish habitat, this work will need to take place in the summer during the “fish window”.
- This project is entirely funded by grants and the King County Parks Levy.
- The current trail is still open.



Bike Skills Area Update

- Chair McCarthy, Vice Chair Struck and Commissioner Burstein participated in RFQ interview with staff
- American Ramp Company (ARC) chosen as consultant, great depth of experience in designing bike parks
- ARC is partnering with Board & Vellum, who will lead landscape architecture and public outreach components
- Staff held kickoff meeting with consultant team this week to begin work on project parameters for design and public engagement strategy
- Surveyor has completed topographic and tree survey of Deane's Children's Park; will deliver to City 10/7/22
- **White dots DO NOT indicate a planned removal!** The white dots identify which trees have been surveyed.
- Staff will perform tree inspections once tree survey has been received, to assess health and identify trees that require pruning or removal to mitigate risk.

Volunteer Coordinator- Jordan Fischer

Seasonal position focused on volunteer management in our natural areas (ends this winter).

From June- Sept 2022 hosted **23 events** with **223 volunteers** for a total of **586 hours**.

Has led **2 Forest Steward Orientation** and established **10 new Forest Stewards** at 4 new locations.

Started a **Volunteer Photography** position with **5 active photographers**.

Established Partnerships with over **10 local clubs and organizations** including the Aljoia, Scouts of America, Girl Scouts, Mercer Island Rotary Club, French American School of Puget Sounds, and Seattle University Environmental Studies Department.



OCTOBER 6, 2022



Upcoming Restoration Events

- Saturday, October 8, 10am - 1pm
| Mental Health Awareness Week
Planting in Clarke Beach Park
- Wednesday, October 12, 4-6pm | Pioneer
Park Planting Party
- Saturday, October 22 | More details to
come!
- Thursday, October 27, 3-5pm |
Homestead Park Planting and Mulching
- Saturday, November 5, 10am-1pm
| Clarke Beach Park Planting Party
- Saturday, November 12 | More details to
come!

Details and info at:
<https://www.mercerisland.gov/parksrec/page/restoration-event>

MICEC Fitness Room Getting a Fresh Look

- Condensation from the A/C unit above the room flooded into the fitness room, significantly damaging the drywall and flooring.
- The damaged drywall has been removed and replaced.
- The flooring removal and re-installation is scheduled for October 24-28, with reinstallation of the fitness equipment scheduled on October 31.
- **Several equipment upgrades are coming!** This includes a new set of dumbbells, a set of barbells, a new chin-up assist machine, a cable crossover strength machine, and many new smaller fitness pieces.
- The anticipated date for re-opening of the Fitness Room is November 1.



MICEC Operating Hours

- In conjunction with the reopening of the Fitness Room, MICEC will expand operating hours at the beginning of November.
- Opening at 9:00am daily (currently 10:00am daily).
- New MICEC Operating hours:
 - Monday thru Thursday - 9:00am-7:00pm
 - Friday/Saturday - 9:00am-5:00pm
 - Sunday closed



Celebrating Art this October

- October is National Arts & Humanities Month!
- We're celebrating Mercer Island's art, culture, heritage, and more all month.
- Follow us on Instagram for a new post every week, and share your own MI art/culture experiences with us!
- To get started, visit <http://instagram.com/cityofmercerisland>



Homecoming Parade

- The Mercer Island High School Homecoming Parade will take place on **Friday, October 7**. The route will start at Northwood Elementary and end at the High School.
- City staff have worked with the High School planning group on permitting, road closures, and police presence.
- Spectators can view the parade on both sides of the sidewalks along the route.
- Viewer parking is available at the Lower Northwood Lot or at Mercer Island High School.



Celebrate Arbor Day

- We're celebrating our 6th year as a Tree City with our annual Arbor Day planting event!
- Join us **Saturday, October 15 from 10am-1pm** and plant trees and shrubs in **Mercerdale Park** to enhance the forest buffer and start the next generation of trees.
- Get your hands in the dirt, work alongside neighbors and friends, and celebrate trees!
- No experience necessary. Gloves and tools provided.
- Visit www.mercerisland.gov/arborday for details and to register.



OCTOBER 6, 2022



Rocktober Event for MI Seniors

- The Recreation team is hosting Rocktober, a free event for seniors at MICEC on **October 21, from 11:30am – 2pm.**
- Rocktober will be an afternoon of learning the Roots of Rock 'n Roll, boxed lunch, root beer garden, a live band... and Elvis!
- Registration is required. Visit www.mercerisland.gov/calendar for event details.
- Our sincere thanks to Aljoya for sponsoring this event!



ROCKTOBER!

A FREE EVENT FOR OUR SENIOR COMMUNITY!

Presented by The City of Mercer Island & Aljoya

 **ALJOYA**
Where senior living is full of JOY.

Questions?
Contact Larry Almo at 206.230.0150 (Aljoya)
Contact Katie Herzog 206.795.8518 (City of MI)

OCTOBER 21 | 11:30AM - 2PM
MERCER ISLAND COMMUNITY & EVENT CENTER

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS:

JESSI BON
WELCOME FROM THE CITY MANAGER

JOHN JENSEN 12 PM
THE ROOTS OF ROCK 'N ROLL

LARRY ALMO
THE ALJOYA COMMUNITY

SOUL SEARCHING BAND 1 PM
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS!

LIVE MUSIC, BOXED LUNCH*, ROOT BEER GARDEN, ELVIS AND MORE!

*Registration is required! Must be 3 days in advance for lunch

206-275-7609 | COURSE #16566



Hallo-Weekend Events

- **Town Center Trick or Treating**, in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, will be on Friday, October 28 from 4 – 6pm.
- The **Pumpkin Walk** is on Sunday, October 30 at Mercedale Park from 5 – 8pm.
 - **We need carved pumpkins for the event!**
 - Carved pumpkins can be dropped off from 12-4pm on the day of the event at Mercedale Park.
 - Fun additions this year including food trucks, a professional pumpkin carver, 88.9 The Bridge on-site for tunes, and more!
 - **Special thanks to our sponsors: MI Martial Arts, John L. Scott & Greg Rosenwald Real Estate.**
- Visit www.mercerisland.gov/mihalloweekend for all the details!



Thank You!

October 6, 2022

