# 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: <u>https://www.mercerislandschools.org/Page/17468</u>

#### 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.



TREE AND TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY WORK UNDERWAY PLEASE BE AWARE THAT MARKS ON TREES DO NOT INDICATE TREE WORK OR REMOVALS



### 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).

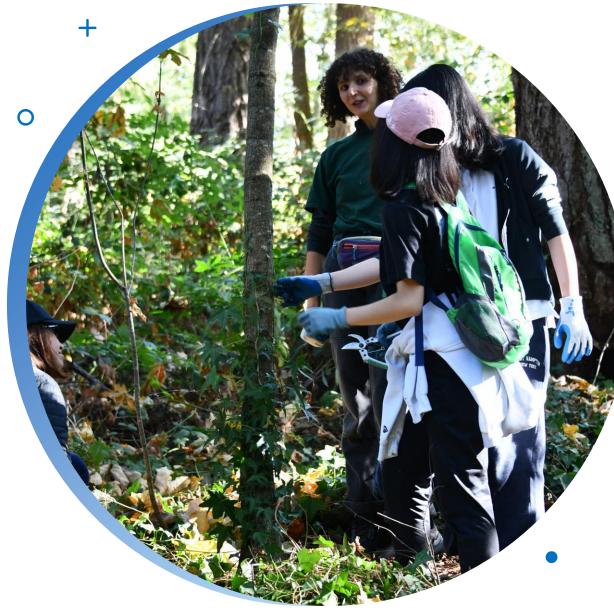
From June- Sept 2022 hosted 23 events with 223 volunteers for a total of 586 hours.

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 Aljoya, Scouts of America, Girl Scouts, Mercer Island Rotary Club, French American School of Puget Sounds, and Seattle University Environmental Studies Department.





#### Upcoming Restoration Events

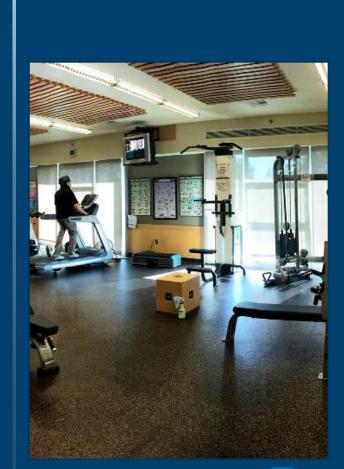
- <u>Saturday, October 8, 10am 1pm</u>
  | Mental Health Awareness Week
  Planting in Clarke Beach Park
- <u>Wednesday, October 12, 4-6pm</u> | Pioneer Park Planting Party
- <u>Saturday, October 22</u> | More details to come!
- <u>Thursday, October 27, 3-5pm</u> | Homestead Park Planting and Mulching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

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

\*PHOTO CREDIT- MERCER ISLAND REPORTER

## 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 <u>http://instagram.com/cityofmercerisland</u>





# 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 <u>www.mercerisland.gov/arborday</u> for details and to register.





## **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 <u>www.mercerisland.gov/calendar</u> for event details.
- Our sincere thanks to Aljoya for sponsoring this event!





# 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 Mercerdale 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 Mercerdale 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!







October 6, 2022