



KITSAP COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, April 15, 2026

TIME: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

LOCATION: This is a hybrid meeting. It will be held in-person at the Eagle's Nest Community Center (1195 Fairgrounds Road, Bremerton) and on Zoom.

Zoom link will be posted on the [home page](#) of Kitsap County Parks website on the day of the meeting. The link is the bottom right-hand side under the heading: **Upcoming Parks Advisory Board Meeting**.

Pre-Meeting: Virtual meeting format, information, and instructions

- I. Welcome & Introductions**
- II. Adoption of the March 18, 2026 meeting minutes**
- III. Public Comment (3-minute limit/person)**

Public comments are welcome at this time. If you have questions or are seeking information from the Parks Department, please contact us at parks@kitsap.gov so that your inquiry may be directed to the appropriate Parks Department staff for a response.
- IV. Special Presentations/Reports**
 - a. New Board Member Introduction: Tom Coleman *Board*
 - b. Meeting Minutes *Board*
- V. Parks Report**
 - a. Director's Report *Alex Wisniewski, Alex Hardy, Irene Weber, Carmen Smith, Bre Ganne*
- VI. Sub-Committee Meetings (since last PAB meeting)**
 - a. None
- VII. District Representative Reports**
- VIII. Public Comment (3-minute limit/person)**
- IX. Adjournment**



KITSAP COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

2026 Sub Committee Assignments

Sub Committee	Type	Focus Area	PAB Members	Parks Staff <i>(may vary by topic)</i>
Finance & Budget	Standing (per by-laws)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operating Budget Funding Opportunities 	Larry Walker Jessica Rice Linda Berry-Maraist	Parks Director
Capital Projects & Parks	Standing (per by-laws)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital Projects Program M&O Program 	Linda Berry-Maraist Lisa Hurt Dawn Dockter Tom Coleman	Parks Planner M&O Supervisor
Community Outreach & Visitor Services	Ad Hoc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events and Rentals Program Marketing Volunteer Program Youth Engagement 	Jessica Rice Jen Skalbeck Tom Coleman	Admin & Events Supervisor Natural Resources Supervisor
Planning & Property	Ad Hoc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning Program Natural Resources Program Land Acquisition & Divestiture Park Code 	Larry Walker Linda Berry-Maraist Lisa Hurt Jen Skalbeck	Parks Planner Natural Resources Supervisor

2026 Agenda Items and Sub-Committee Meetings (updated monthly as needed)

Month	Task or Agenda Item	Board or Sub-Committee Assignment
January	Board Chair and Vice Chair Elections	Board (completed in November 2025)
	Sub-Committee Assignments	Board
	2026 Department Goals	Board
February	Events: Year in Review	Board
March	Rolling Hills Golf Course RFP	Board
	PAB Annual Workplan	Board
April	CIP Evaluation Tool Review	Capital Projects & Parks
May	CIP Plan Development	Capital Projects & Parks
	Draft CIP Development	Capital Projects & Parks
June	2027 Budget	Finance & Budget
July	Draft CIP Development	Board
	2027 Budget	Board
August		
September		
October	Nominating Sub-Committee (appointed by Chair)	Chair
November		
December	<i>No Meeting, written report only</i>	
	2026 Accomplishments	

KITSAP COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

March 18, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Parks Advisory Board Chair, Dawn Dockter. Meeting guidelines of the hybrid Parks Advisory Board were read.

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 18, 2026

Discussion of minutes for February 18 Meeting.

Larry moved to Hold Off approving minutes until it can be discussed at next meeting in April.

Seconded by Linda Berry-Maraist.

Vote to Hold on Minutes.

4 votes received, Motion is Passed.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Casey Patton, comment on Kitsap Aircraft Radio Control Society
- Bradley Berry, comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Paul C., comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Skaer, comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Dewey, comment on Horseshoe Lake
- John Rose, comment on letter from Kitsap Environmental Council (KEC)
- David, comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Mark Schorn, comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Marion Allen, comment on Buck Lake native plant garden & Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Steve Ruggiero, comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Matt Orlando, comment on EMBA & Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Melinda W., comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park & letter from KEC
- Matt Blossom, comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Aspen P., comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Alan Marshall, comment on Banner Forest Heritage Park & future park planning
- Marla Powers, comment on tribal involvement in parks
- Joe Lubischer, comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- David Williams, comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Peter Lindsey, comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Bryan Wells, comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Taj Patel, comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park

IV. SPECIAL REPORTS –

- Tom Colman appointed by Commissioner Walters to represent Central District for Parks Advisory Board

V. PARKS REPORT-

- Review & recap of 2/25/26 Public Outreach meeting at Long Lake Community Building
- Introducing Jaycee Brown, new member of Parks Department
- New partnership with Olympic College Baseball program at Lobe Fields
- Natural Resources: in progress of hiring Wildlife Ecologist
- Natural Resources: updates on Education & Outreach activities that are ongoing
- Planning: Gordon Park Masterplan & Park Impact Fee Study
- Planning, Capitol Projects: Replacing synthetic turf at Gordon soccer field & Eagles Nest deck construction
- Planning: Update on project to replace the lighthouse roof at Point No Point Park

VI. Sub-Committee Reports

None

VII. District Representative Reports

South-

- Jessica Rice: Comment on the meeting- Thank you to participants & commenters
- Larry Walker: Shout out to Mountaineers group and stewards

North-

- Linda Berry-Maraist: Comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
- Jen Skalbeck: Comment on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park & The Quiet Place Park; thank you to participants and commenters at the meeting
- Dawn Dockter: Shout Out to User Groups with Parks who put together work parties

VIII. Public Comment

- David, comment on North Kitsap Heritage Park stewardship plan
- Bradley Berry, question on trail building
- Linda Berry-Maraist, question on Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park, and Comment on North Kitsap Heritage Park
- Alex Wisniewski, update on project at Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park

IX. Adjournment

Larry Walker motioned to adjourn the meeting. Linda Berry-Maraist Seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

Motioned carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Parks Advisory Board Meeting Attendance

PAB MEMBERS	STAFF
Lisa Hurt - North	Alex Wisniewski – Director
Linda Berry- Maraist - North	Carmen Smith- Parks Planer
Larry Walker - South	Jaycee Brown- Office Support Specialist
Dawn Dockter - South	Irene Weber- Natural Resources Supervisor
Jessic Rice - South	
Jen Skalbeck - North	
Lisa Hurt- North	

DRAFT



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Alex Wisniewski, Director

Director’s Report

Date: 4/15/2026
To: Parks Advisory Board
From: Alex Wisniewski, Parks Director

Administration Program

Communications

In 2025, Parks' communications staff created a “fun” calendar to promote events in Kitsap County Parks on social media in honor of National Park and Recreation Month. Due to the overwhelmingly positive response, the team has decided to continue creating and sharing the calendars each month. The October calendar is attached. *Please see Attachment A.*

- Supports PROS: Goal PR-4, Objective 4.1 (Action 4.1.3)

Volunteer Award Winners

Park stewards dedicated to Newberry Hill Heritage Park were recognized by the County Commissioners as one of this year’s Earth Day Award recipients for their efforts to maintain and improve the park. The Friends of Newberry Hill Heritage Park, a non-profit that supports the efforts of the park stewards, was also recognized as winners of the Washington State Volunteer Service Award.

In 2025, the park stewards, known as the ‘Over-the-Hill Gang’ and ‘Applesauce Gang,’ organized and completed an impressive 115 work parties, contributing a total of 5,764 hours toward improving both safety and ecological conditions throughout the park. Their work included removing invasive vegetation, clearing hazardous downed trees, replacing culverts and trail structures, maintaining and improving trail systems, conducting forest inventories, and even hauling abandoned vehicles from remote areas.

Volunteer Activity Log: March 2026

- Photos from March are attached, *please see Attachment B.*

Date	Access	Location	Group/Partner	Activity Description
3/2/2026	Private	Buck Lake Native Plant Garden	Buck Lake Native Plant Garden	Maintenance and upkeep of the Native Plant Garden, including plant care and site cleanup.
3/3/2026	Public	Coulter Creek Heritage Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal.

3/4/2026	Private	Banner Forest Heritage Park	Stewards	Trail brushing and vegetation clearing.
3/4/2026	Public	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal
3/4/2026	Private	Anna Smith Park	Master Gardeners	Maintenance and upkeep of the garden, including plant care and site cleanup.
3/4/2026	Private	Howe Farm Park	Youth Detention	General Park maintenance and grounds upkeep.
3/5/2026	Private	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal.
3/6/2026	Private	Square Lake	Stewards	Invasive species removal
3/6/2026	Private	Anna Smith Park	Master Gardeners	Maintenance and upkeep of the garden, including plant care and site cleanup.
3/7/2026	Public	Chico Salmon Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal and trail brushing.
3/7/2026	Private	Kitsap County Fairgrounds & Event Center	Washington Youth Academy	Invasive species removal.
3/11/2026	Public	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal.
3/11/2026	Private	Anna Smith Park	Master Gardeners	Maintenance and upkeep of the garden, including plant care and site cleanup.
3/12/2026	Private	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal
3/12/2026	Private	Illahee Forest Preserve	Navy	General Park maintenance and grounds upkeep.
3/12/2026	Private	Howe Farm Park	South Kitsap High School - Wildcrest	General Park maintenance and grounds upkeep.
3/13/2026	Private	Anna Smith Park	Master Gardeners	Maintenance and upkeep of the garden, including plant care and site cleanup.
3/14/2026	Private	Illahee Forest Preserve	Stewards	Hazard tree removal.
3/14/2026	Private	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	Stewards	Hazard tree removal.
3/14/2026	Public	Banner Forest Heritage Park	Stewards	Trail brushing and vegetation clearing
3/14/2026	Private	Kitsap County Fairgrounds & Event Center	Washington Youth Academy	Invasive species removal
3/14/2026	Private	A Quiet Place Park	Stewards	Trail brushing and vegetation clearing



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Alex Wisniewski, Director

3/16/2026	Private	Buck Lake Native Plant Garden	Buck Lake Native Plant Garden	Maintenance and upkeep of the Native Plant Garden, including plant care and site cleanup.
3/17/2026	Public	Coulter Creek Heritage Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal.
3/18/2026	Public	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal.
3/18/2026	Private	Anna Smith Park	Master Gardeners	Maintenance and upkeep of the garden, including plant care and site cleanup.
3/20/2026	Private	Anna Smith Park	Master Gardeners	Maintenance and upkeep of the garden, including plant care and site cleanup.
3/21/2026	Public	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal
3/21/2026	Public	Coulter Creek Heritage Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal
3/21/2026	Public	Banner Forest Heritage Park	Volunteers	Trail brushing and vegetation clearing
3/21/2026	Private	Norwegian Point Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal
3/25/2026	Public	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal
3/25/2026	Private	Anna Smith Park	Master Gardeners	Maintenance and upkeep of the garden, including plant care and site cleanup.
3/26/2026	Private	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal
3/27/2026	Private	Illahee Forest Preserve	Washington Youth Academy	General Park maintenance and grounds upkeep
3/27/2026	Private	Anna Smith Park	Master Gardeners	Maintenance and upkeep of the garden, including plant care and site cleanup.
3/28/2026	Private	Lobe Fields at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds and Event Center	Washington Youth Academy	Field cleaning and preparation.
3/28/2026	Public	North Kitsap Heritage Park	Kitsap Native Plant Group	Discover Kitsap Parks

3/31/2026	Public	Coulter Creek Heritage Park	Stewards	Invasive species removal
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March Public Events

Date	Access	Location	Event	Activity Description
4/18/2026	Public	Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park	Celebration of Earth Day	Trail brushing.
4/25/2026	Public	Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park	BioBlitz	Nature Walk
4/25/2026	Public	Illahee Forest Preserve	Discover Kitsap Park	History Walk – Becoming a Park

- Supports PROS: Goal PR-2, Objectives, 2.2 (Action 2.2.2), Goal PR-4, Objective 4.2 (Actions 4.2.1, 4.2.2), Objective 4.4 (Actions 4.4.1, 4.4.2, 4.4.3, 4.4.5, 4.4.6, 4.4.7), Goal 6.3, Objective 6.3 (Action 6.3.2)

Events Program

Events By the Numbers and Events Calendar

- Data on the number of events at each of the Parks Facilities is attached; *please see Attachment C.*
- Photos from March events are attached; *please see Attachment D.*
- Outward-facing events calendar: [Kitsap County Parks Event Calendar \(kitsapgov.com\)](http://kitsapgov.com)
- Online reservations and payment portal: [Kitsap County Parks > Home \(recdesk.com\)](http://recdesk.com)

May Public Events		
Event	Date	Location
Kitsap Fair & Stampede Association Livestock Show	May 1-2	Kitsap County Fairgrounds and Event Center
Peninsula Home and Remodel Expo	May 1-3	Pavilion @ the Kitsap County Fairgrounds and Event Center
Master Gardener Annual Plant Sale	May 9	Presidents Hall @ the Kitsap County Fairgrounds and Event Center
Flotsam & Jetsam Garden Club Sale	May 9	Buck Lake County Park
Kitsap Live Steamers – Public Run Day	May 9	South Kitsap Regional Park
West Sound Roller Derby	May 9	Pavilion @ the Kitsap County Fairgrounds and Event Center
Kitsap Water Festival	May 12	Kitsap County Fairgrounds and Event Center
Cascadia Reptile Expo	May 16-17	Pavilion @ the Kitsap County Fairgrounds and Event Center
Kitsap Destruction Derby	May 16	Thunderbird Arena @the Kitsap County Fairgrounds and Event Center
Farm Days	May 18-19	Kitsap County Fairgrounds and Event Center



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<u>Kitsap Live Steamers – Public Run Day</u>	May 23	South Kitsap Regional Park
<u>Monster Trucks</u>	May 23-24	Thunderbird Arena @ the Kitsap County Fairgrounds and Event Center
<u>Hot Laps Mountain Bike Event</u>	May 29- June 1	Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
<u>Girls on the Run 5K Celebration</u>	May 30	Kitsap County Fairgrounds and Event Center
<u>Kitsap Destruction Derby</u>	May 30	Thunderbird Arena @ the Kitsap County Fairgrounds and Event Center

Maintenance & Operations Program

Park and Facility Maintenance

As spring approaches and visitation begins to increase, staff have shifted their efforts toward preparing parks and facilities for the busy season. Work this month focused on restoring site amenities, completing indoor maintenance projects, and addressing essential winter cleanup needs across the system. Highlights include:

- **Cartegraph System Onboarding.** Staff completed a full-day training with OpenGov to learn how to add assets and locations into the Cartegraph system. Park structures, gates, utilities, signs, and all Parks facilities and buildings - both systemwide and at the Fairgrounds - are now being entered. Staff can also add asset data in the field through GIS. Parks Cartegraph Administrators are now participating in countywide IS/GIS/PW monthly coordination meetings and Teams channels. Full implementation is underway from April through June, with field staff trainings scheduled for late April and early May.
- **Seasonal Amenities Preparation.** Picnic tables were cleaned and repainted using a marine-grade oil-based paint to extend their lifespan and improve ease of cleaning and BBQ's were treated with Rustoleum BBQ paint.
- **Restroom Painting and Repairs.** Restrooms at the Fairgrounds, Salsbury Point Park, Island Lake Park, Horseshoe Lake Park, and Buck Lake Park were pressure washed, primed, and repainted with a durable epoxy coating to improve longevity and simplify graffiti removal. Sinks, toilets, and other fixtures were repaired ahead of the April 1 seasonal gate openings. Exterior sidewalks and hard surfaces were also pressure washed.
- **Island Lake Community Center Improvements.** A new countertop was installed after a renter damaged the previous one with a burn mark.
- **Wildcat Lake Cleanup.** Washington Youth Academy (WYA) partnered with staff to clear winter storm debris in preparation for the park's April 1 spring reopening.
- **Fairgrounds Invasive Removal.** Staff led two WYA work parties at the Kitsap Fairgrounds, removing invasive Scotch broom and Himalayan blackberry from hillside areas.
- **Silverdale Waterfront Park Repair.** The corroded bracket on the playground boat mast was replaced to restore safe use of the feature.

- **Coulter Creek Heritage Park Gate Repair.** The RC field gate, which has been repeatedly vandalized in recent years, was replaced. Vandals quickly cut off the new locking tab, so staff are now evaluating forest-style lock boxes to better protect the locking mechanism.
 - **Coulter Creek Heritage Park Access Control.** Staff worked with KARCS members to address unauthorized ORV access, including areas where vehicles were jumping ditches, moving eco blocks, and cutting trees. Long trenches were dug and boulders placed strategically to restrict vehicular entry.
 - **Fairgrounds Facility Leak Repairs.** Rain gutters at the Eagles Nest were repaired, and roof leaks at the Pavilion were identified and fixed. Stained ceiling tiles were replaced with new ones.
- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-6, Objective 6.1 (Action 6.1.2, 6.1.3), Objective 6.5 (Action 6.5.2)*

Ballfield Maintenance

- **Lobe Fields – Net Pole Installation.** A new net pole was installed in March to support the foul-ball netting between the four fields. The pole was set deep in concrete for long-term stability, with Stormwater assisting using their Vactor truck. The contracted project cost was approximately \$9,500.
 - **Veterans Memorial Park – Turf Care.** Mole treatment, early-spring aeration, and overseeding are underway to prepare the fields for Spring operations beginning in April.
 - **Bloomquist Infield Renovation.** Renovation of Field 1 is complete and the field is now playable. Field 2 remains unfinished due to a supply delay for the infield mix; staff are currently on a waitlist, with material expected by the end of April. To support scheduled play, an alternative field at SKRP was temporarily modified with softball base distances to accommodate the user group.
- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-6, Objective 6.1 (Action 6.1.2, 6.1.3), Objective 6.5 (Action 6.5.2)*

Trail Maintenance

- **Tree Clearing.** Fallen trees were addressed at Newberry Hill Heritage Park, South Kitsap Regional Park, North Kitsap Heritage Park, Port Gamble Heritage Park, and Guillemot Cove Park.
- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-6, Objectives 6.3 (Action 6.3.1, 6.3.2), Objective 6.4 (Action 6.4.1)*

Unplanned Maintenance: Vandalism and HEART Response

Throughout March staff responded to multiple incidents of vandalism, illegal dumping, and encampment cleanup across the park system:

- **Homeless Encampment Cleanups.** Staff completed cleanups at Illahee Forest Preserve Park, and Veterans Memorial Park.
- **Illegal dumps.** Staff cleaned up illegal dumps at the Fairgrounds, Illahee Forest Preserve Park, and Point No Point.

Natural Resources Program

Wildlife Coordinator Hiring

Additional interviews are being conducted to fill the role of Wildlife Program Coordinator on the Natural Resources team. We have several strong candidates with interest in working in Kitsap County.



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Forest Diversity Planting at Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park

An opportunity has arisen to collaborate with Rayonier to perform diversity plantings at Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park. Park staff identified several areas within the acreage recently harvested by Rayonier that would benefit from planting a more diverse seedling mix. Rayonier has approximately 10,000 western redcedar seedlings available at no cost and will have them planted as part of this year's planting season, provided that the County pays labor and seedling protection costs. These plantings would be used in wet areas of recent clearcuts where Douglas-fir trees will not grow or not grow well. Increasing the diversity in post-harvest reforestation has been desired by the Natural Resources program and this action is aligned with the purchase and sale agreement and will help accelerate the restoration processes on these sites.

➤ *Supports PROS plan goals PR-2, Objectives, 2.1, 2.2, 3.2 Actions 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.1.4, 2.2.1.*

Grant Applications and Cost Sharing

Park Staff are exploring several grant and cost share funding opportunities to provide support for restoration actions within County Parks.

- The Listen Up Collaborative, a regional land management working group of which Kitsap County Parks is a member, is re-applying for the National Coastal Resilience Fund to support forest restoration work across many of the lands managed by members of the collaborative. Specifically, the grant is being sought to:
 - Increase forest understory presence and richness through forest thinning and planting activities to better slow water flow entering the freshwater and marine environments and trap sediment.
 - Increase the presence of coarse woody debris to improve water-holding capacity of the forest and regulate water flow as winter rains and summer droughts simultaneously increase.
 - Increase overall species and age diversity of the forest to promote long-term resilience with minimized human interventions.
 - Share project knowledge with the public, among partners, and other professional organizations managing coastal forests.

After an unsuccessful grant application last year, the Listen Up Collaborative was invited to apply again after receiving helpful feedback on the original application. This application process is again being led by Jefferson Land Trust. Parks is seeking funding through this grant to perform needed young stand thinning in overstocked forests to achieve the restoration objectives of promoting the growth of larger trees and mature forest structural characteristics outlined in the Kitsap County Parks Forest Stewardship and Restoration Policy. In late May, the collaborative will be notified if the application has been selected to move forward.

- Park Natural Resources Staff are collaborating with Washington Department of Natural Resources to evaluate projects that might be eligible for DNR's cost share program. This program helps non-commercial forest landowners fund projects that improve forest

health. Potential projects include young stand thinning and invasive species treatment in areas that have been recently clearcut by previous landowners.

- Supports PROS plan goals PR-2, Objectives, 2.1, 2.2, 3.2 Actions 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.1.4, 2.2.1.

Environmental Assessments

Environmental assessments including vegetation mapping and wildlife habitat utilization analysis are ongoing at Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park, Coulter Creek Heritage Park, and Eglon Forest. Biologists and ecologists are continuing to collect data in the field this spring and summer. Reports are anticipated near the end of 2026. Additionally, Parks is contracting with Wild Fish Conservancy to perform hydrologic mapping and analysis at Coulter Creek Heritage Park. These data will help inform restoration needs, natural resource management, and park planning.

- Supports PROS plan goals PR-1, PR-2, Objectives, 1.1, 2.1, 3.2 Actions 1.1.3, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.1.4, 3.1.4 .

Planning Program

Planning

Gordon Park Master Plan

The focus of April for the Gordon Park Master Plan project is community engagement. Parks staff and the consultant team have the following activities planned for the month of April:

- Community survey is open through April 30th
- Stakeholder interviews
- Tabling events to capture community input various locations on the Fairgrounds/Gordon Park campus (such as Castle Park playground, disc golf course, Gordon fields)
- Discussions at the Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board meeting (Accessible Communities Advisory Committee in May)
- Tabling at external events (such as the Developmental Disabilities Resource Fair and YMCA Healthy Kids Day)

Parks staff will share more information on engagement activities at the scheduled Parks briefing in May.

- Supports PROS: Goal PR-1, Objective 1.3 (Action 1.3.2), Objective 3.2 (Action 3.2.1)

Park Impact Fee Study

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was released on February 10th and closed on March 10th with five responses received. Staff from the Parks Department and Auditor's Office evaluated and scored all proposals and issued a Notice of Intent to Award to FCS, a Bowman Company. Parks is working through contracting and expects work to begin late April. Parks staff will bring this topic back to BoCC once more information is known.

- Supports PROS: Goal PR-1, Objective 1.3 (Action 1.3.2), Objective 1.6 (Action 1.6.1)

Kola Kola Park Community Engagement

Parks is engaging with the Kingston community around future use(s) for Kola Kola Park to help inform capital planning. A community survey was released on March 2nd and closed on March 31st. The survey received 330 responses. Parks staff are analyzing these responses and will share more information at the scheduled Parks briefing in May.

- Supports PROS Plan Goal PR-1, PR-4, Objective 4.1



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Rolling Hills Golf Course

Kitsap County Parks intends to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for operations of Rolling Hills Golf Course. Parks staff contracted with National Golf Foundation (NGF) for assistance with the development of the RFP. Parks staff and NGF are reviewing example RFPs and holding information gathering meetings to inform the RFP development. Staff will bring this topic back to the BoCC once more information is known.

- Supports PROS Plan Goal PR-4, PR-6, Objective 4-1, Objective 6.5 (Action 6.5.1)

Dan Thompson Grant

Parks is working with the Kitsap Public Health District on a parks and trails accessibility project funded by the Dan Thompson Grant. The overarching project includes improving the accessibility information for parks and trails, conducting an information campaign to publicize accessible parks and trails, developing a process to integrate accessibility into planning process, and carrying out an accessible trail project. Initial activities for Parks staff include collaborating on a trail assessment rating guide, sharing information about the Illahee Preserve Heritage Park accessible trail project, and identifying other park locations for accessible trail projects.

- Supports PROS Plan Goal PR-1, Objectives 1.3, Objective 1.4 (Actions 1.4.1 & 1.4.2)

Capital

Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park – North Gateway Trailhead

The project is complete and the parking lot opened on April 10, 2026. Parks is planning a celebration event at the North Gateway Trailhead on May 2, 2026.

- Supports PROS: Goal PR-4, Objective 4.1 (Action 4.1.2)

Eagle's Nest Deck Replacement

Construction is nearing completion, with a few minor punch list items left to complete.

- Supports PROS: Goal PR-5, Objective 5.3 (Action 5.3.2), Goal PR-6, Objective 6.5 (Action 6.5.1)

Gordon 1 Field Synthetic Turf Replacement

The bid for replacement of the synthetic turf for Gordon 1 Field closed on April 8th with three bids received. Public Works – Capital Facilities Division is evaluating responses.

- Supports PROS: Goal PR-5, Objective 5.3, Goal PR-6, Objective 6.5 (Action 6.5.1)

Village Greens Golf Course Roof Replacement

Public Works – Capital Facilities Division is working through contracting, which is expected to be complete by the end of April. Construction is expected to be completed by mid-June.

- Supports PROS: Goal PR-6, Objective 6.5 (Action 6.5.1)

Sport Courts

Public Works – Capital Facilities Division is developing design concepts for the Suquamish Sport Court and the Indianola Tennis Court projects. Following this, the projects will be put out to bid as staggered projects.

- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-1, Objectives 1.3 & 1.4*

South Kitsap Regional Park Athletic Fields

Parks staff is applying for the Recreation and Conservation Office's Youth Athletic Facilities grant for construction dollars for athletic field and lighting improvements at South Kitsap Regional Park. The grant is due on April 30th and awards are announced in October.

- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-1, PR-5, Objective 1.3 (Actions 1.3.1 & 1.3.2)*

Attachments:

- A. Events Calendar
- B. Volunteer Photos
- C. Events Data
- D. Events Photos

2026

MAY

FIND YOUR PARK: WWW.KITSAP.GOV/PARKS



KitsapCounty
Parks

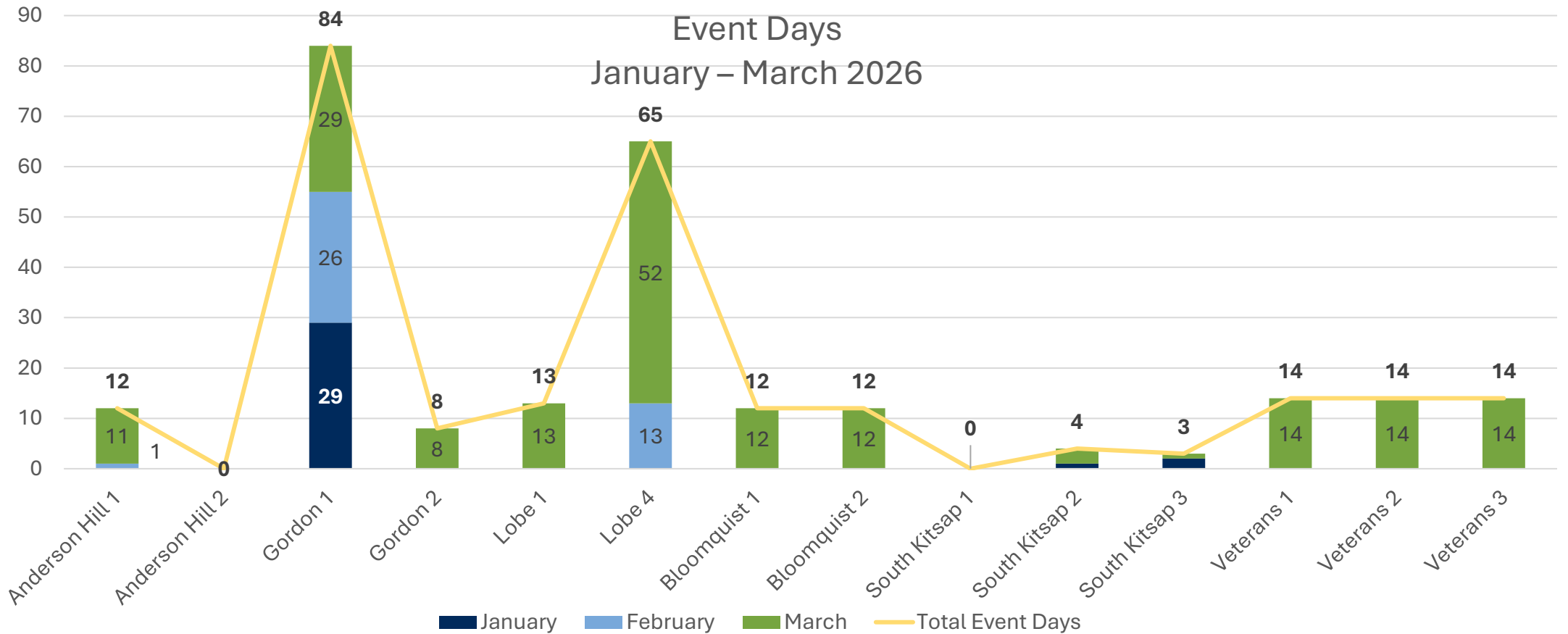
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PUBLIC EVENTS HOLIDAYS & ACTIVITY IDEAS 					<p>1</p> <p><u>PENINSULA HOME & REMODEL EXPO</u></p> <p>12pm - 5pm Kitsap County Fairgrounds</p>	<p>2</p> <p><u>KENTUCKY DERBY</u> <u>PENINSULA HOME & REMODEL EXPO</u></p> <p>9am - 5pm Kitsap County Fairgrounds</p>
<p>3</p> <p><u>PENINSULA HOME & REMODEL EXPO</u></p> <p>10am - 4pm Kitsap County Fairgrounds</p>	<p>4</p> <p><u>NATIONAL WILDFLOWER WEEK</u></p>	<p>5</p> <p><u>CINCO DE MAYO</u></p>	<p>6</p> <p><u>WETLANDS WEDNESDAY</u></p> <p>Check out the Wetland Overlook Loop trail at Illahee Preserve Heritage Park</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p><u>MASTER GARDENER ANNUAL PLANT SALE</u></p> <p>9am - 2pm Kitsap County Fairgrounds</p>
<p>10</p> <p><u>MOTHER'S DAY</u></p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p><u>KITSAP WATER FESTIVAL</u></p> <p>8am Kitsap County Fairgrounds</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p><u>FRIDAY FISHING</u></p> <p>Cast a line in the sunshine, at Island Lake, Wildcat Lake, or Buck Lake</p>	<p>16</p> <p><u>CASCADIA REPTILE EXPO</u></p> <p>9am - 5pm Kitsap County Fairgrounds</p>
<p>17</p> <p><u>CASCADIA REPTILE EXPO</u></p> <p>9am - 5pm Kitsap County Fairgrounds</p>	<p>18</p> <p><u>F.A.R.M DAYS</u></p> <p>8am Kitsap County Fairgrounds</p>	<p>19</p> <p><u>F.A.R.M DAYS</u></p> <p>8am Kitsap County Fairgrounds</p>	<p>20</p> <p><u>WICKS LAKE WEDNESDAY</u></p> <p>This hidden gem of a park has walking trails and beautiful lake views</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p><u>KITSAP LIVE STEAMERS PUBLIC RUN DAY</u></p> <p>10am - 4pm South Kitsap Regional Park</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p><u>NATIONAL BBQ WEEK</u></p>	<p>26</p> <p><u>TRAIL TUESDAY</u></p> <p>Head out into the woods to enjoy a scenic trail walk at Banner Forest Heritage Park</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p><u>HIKE, BIKE, AND RIDE</u></p> <p>Check out Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park, with multi-use trails for walking, biking, and horseback riding</p>	<p>30</p> <p><u>JOIN US FOR A DISCOVER KITSAP WALK!</u></p> <p>10am-12pm Point No Point Park</p>
<p>31</p>						



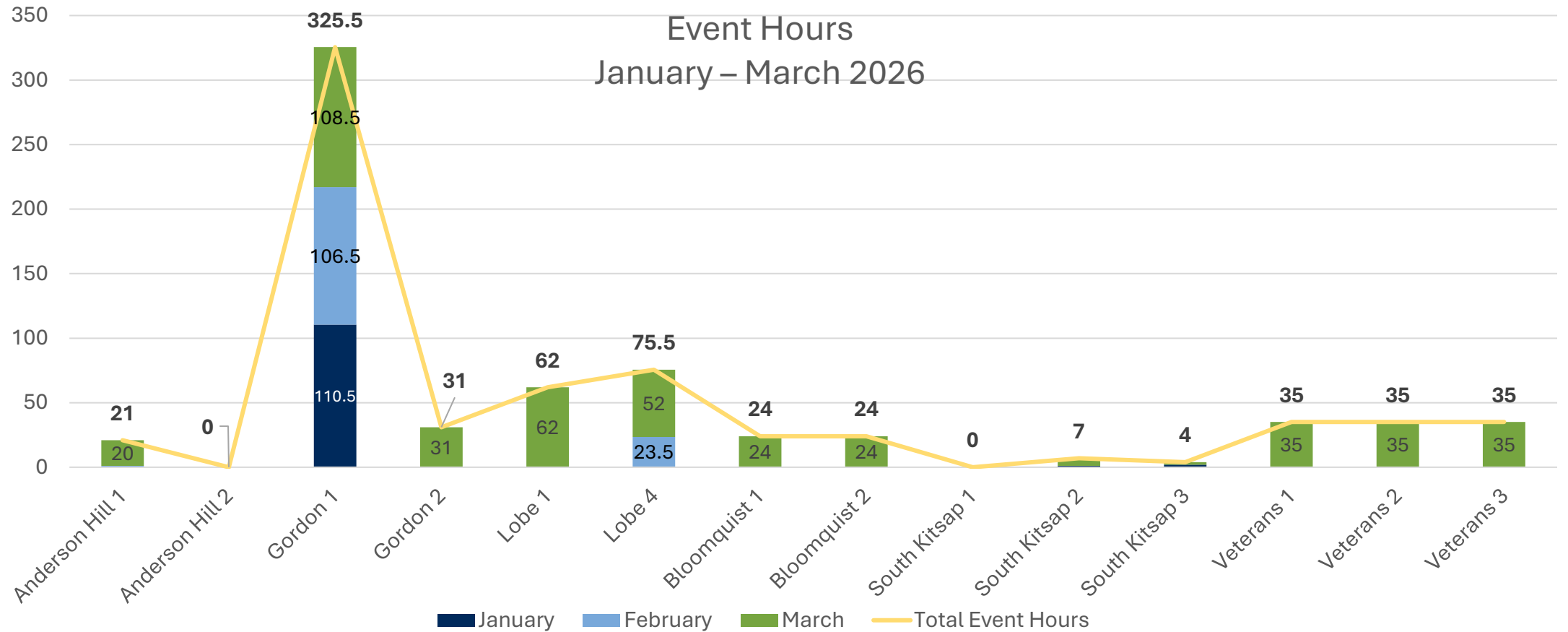




Athletic Fields



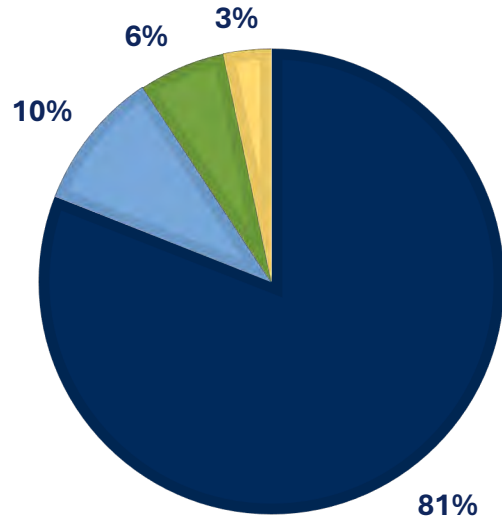
Athletic Fields





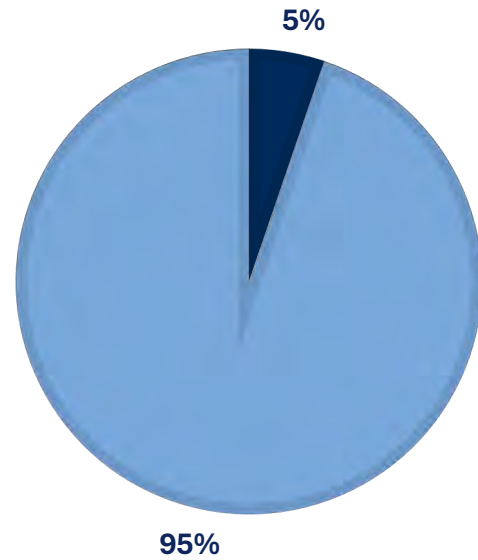
Athletic Fields

**HOURS BY SPORT
JANUARY – MARCH 2026**



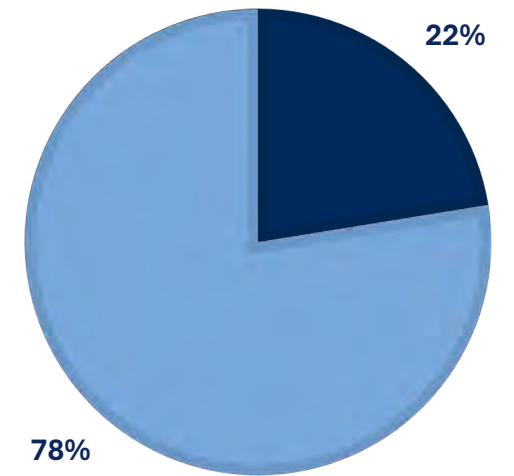
- Soccer
- Softball
- Baseball
- Lacrosse

**RAIN OUT DAYS
JANUARY – MARCH 2026**



- Rain Out Days
- Open Days

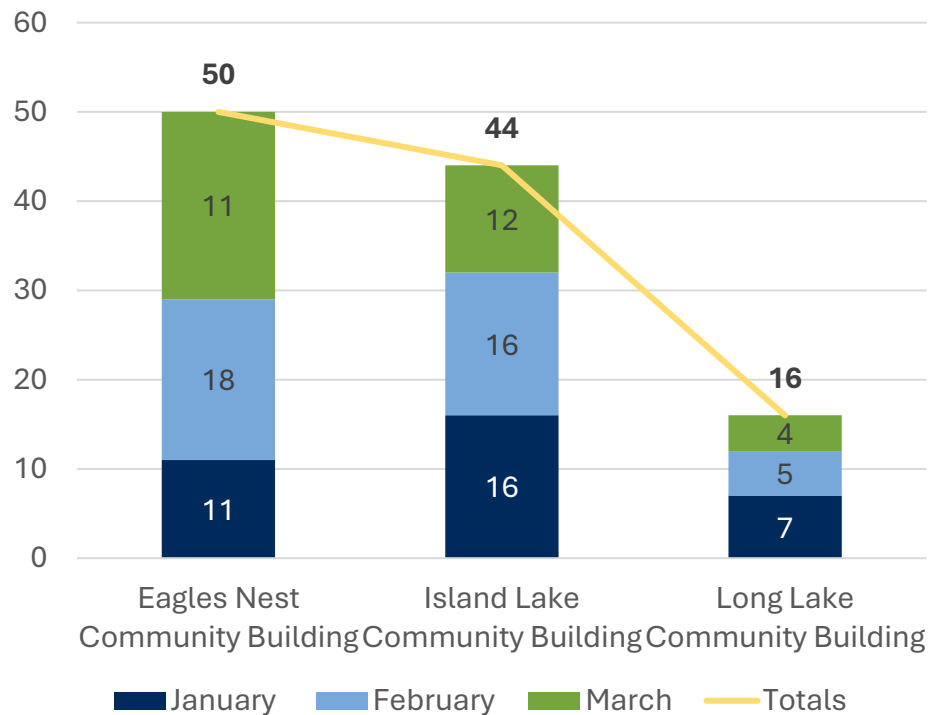
**RAIN OUT HOURS
JANUARY – MARCH 2026**



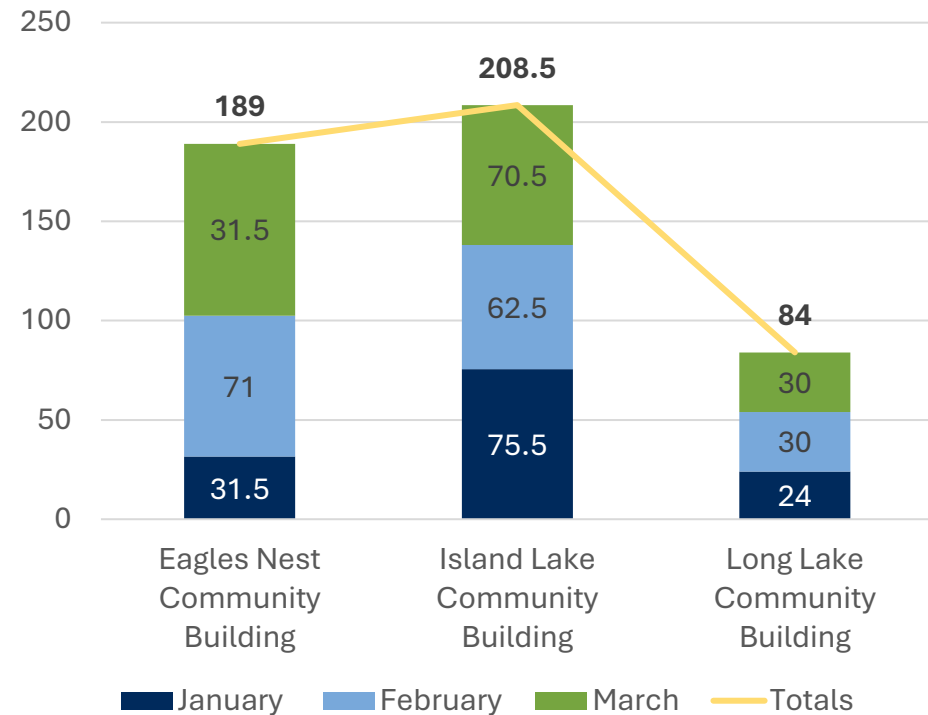
- Rain Out Hours
- Open Hours

Community Buildings

Event Days
January – March 2026

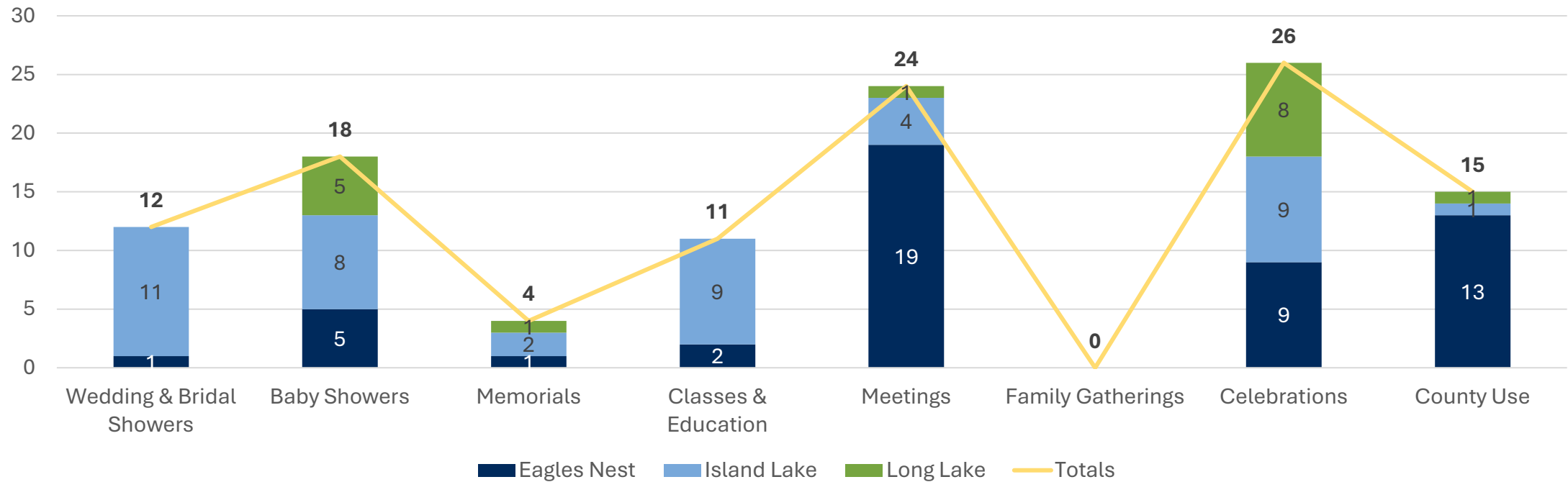


Event Hours
January – March 2026



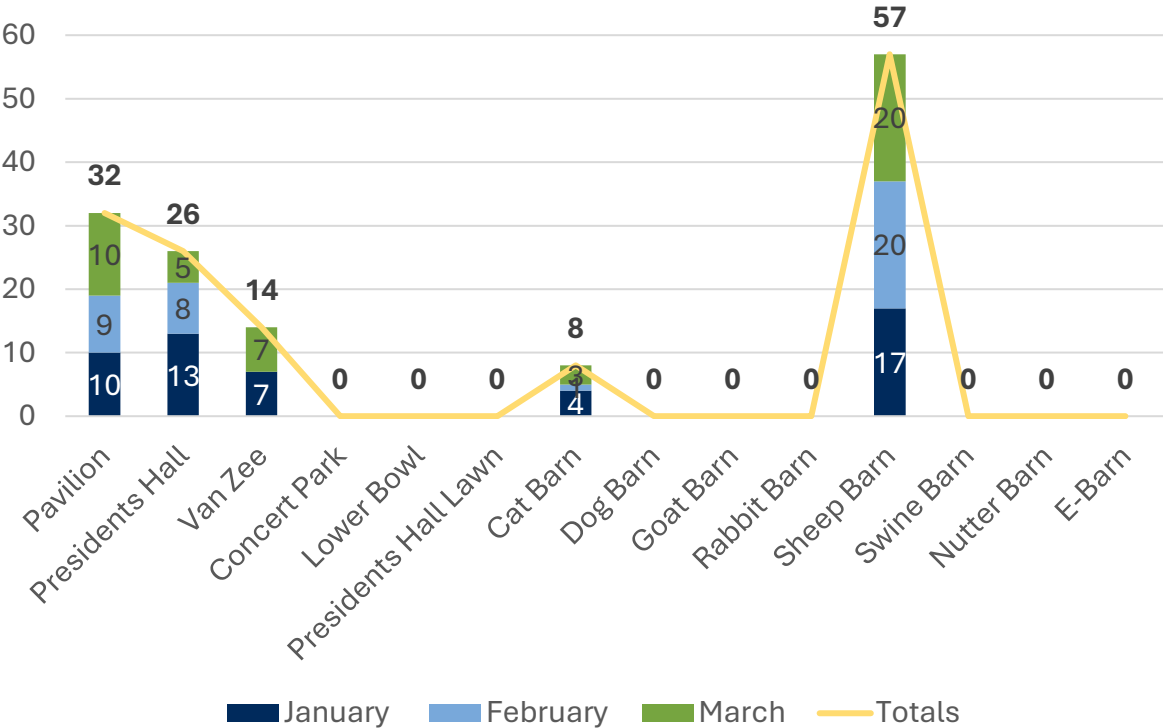
Community Buildings

Event Types
January – March 2026

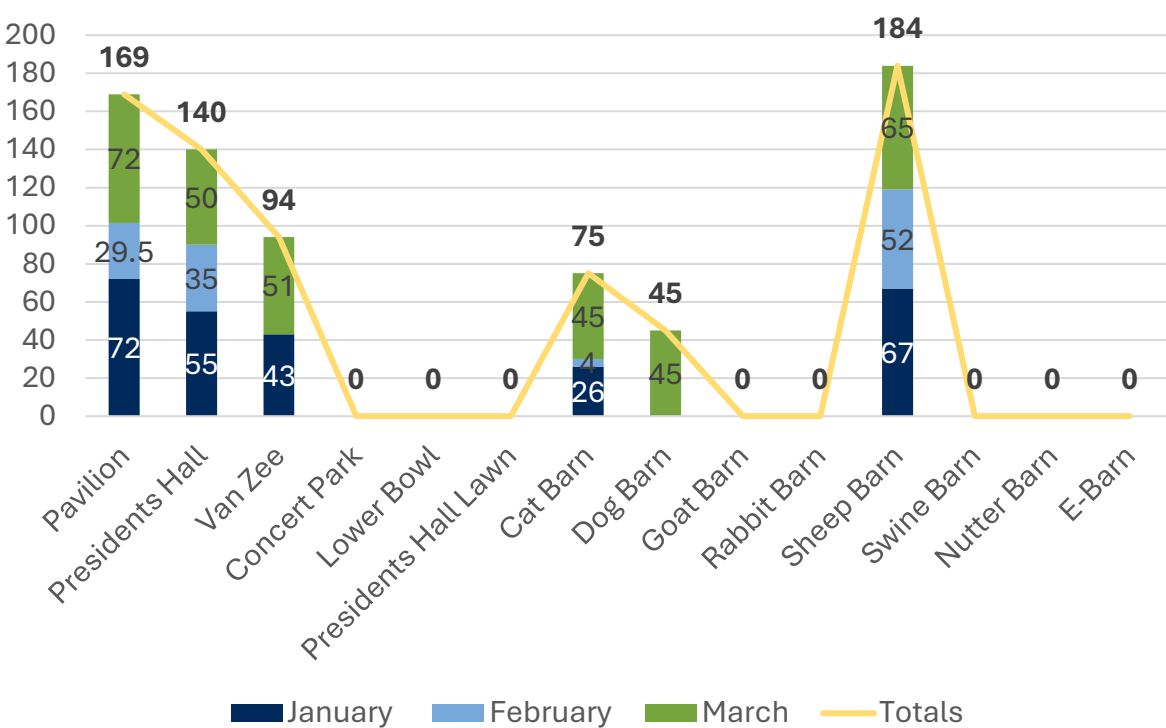


Fairgrounds and Event Center Usage

Event Days
January – March 2026

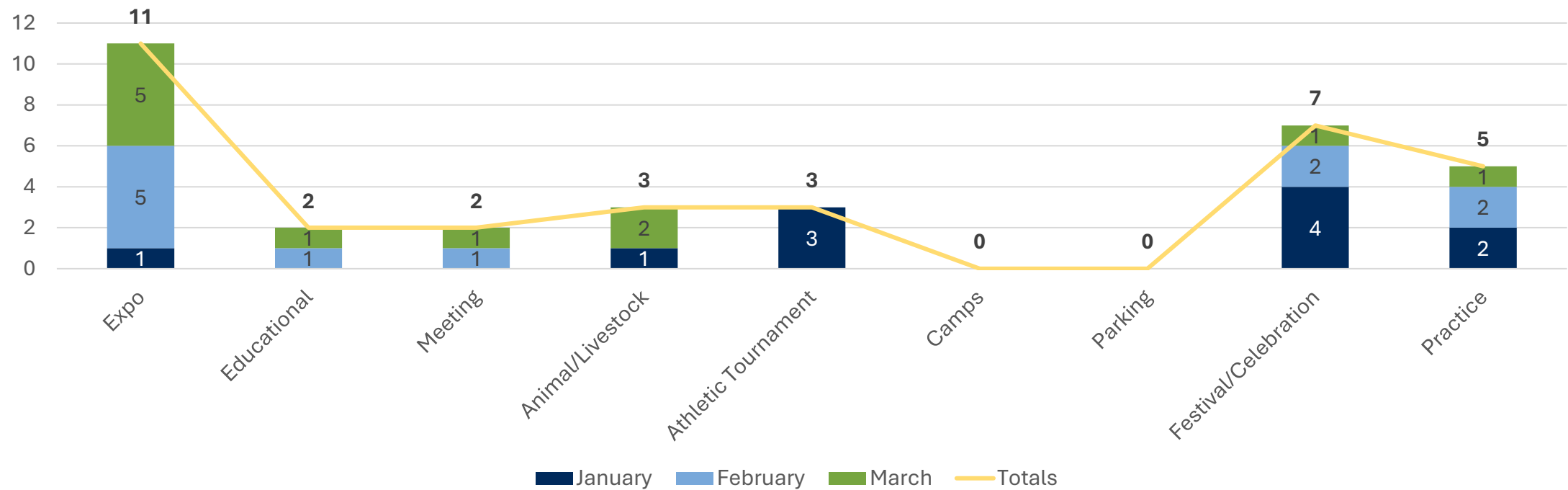


Event Hours
January – March 2026



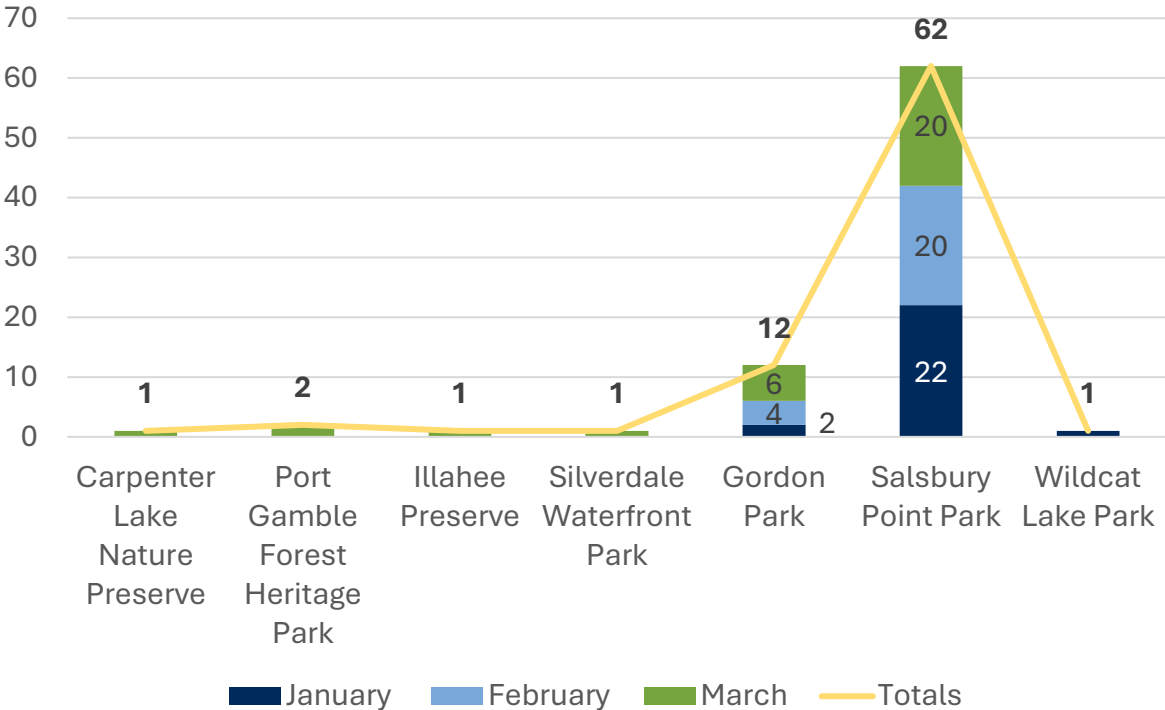
Fairgrounds and Event Center Usage

Event Types
January – March 2026

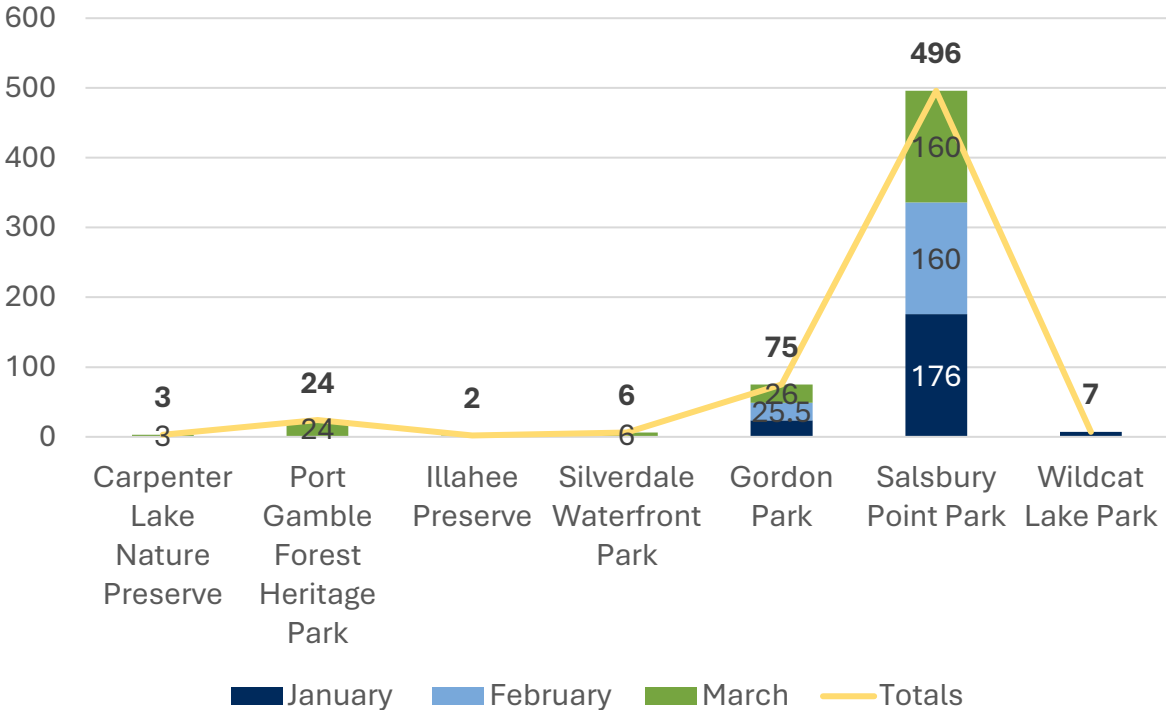


Special Park Events

Event Days
January – March 2026



Event Hours
January – March 2026





MARCH
2026



From: [Steve Ruggiero](#)
To: [Alexander Wisniewski](#); [Christine Rolfes](#); [Oran Root](#); [Katie Walters](#)
Cc: [ParksBoard](#); [Parks](#)
Subject: Parks Advisory Board Meeting Comments
Date: Monday, April 13, 2026 1:29:54 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[MOUNTAIN BIKERS AS A USER GROUP.docx](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from steve@faponline.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Good Afternoon,

Steve Ruggiero presenting comments to be submitted to:

Alex Wisniewski

All Parks Advisory Board members

Christine Rolfes

Orin Root

Katie Walters

In advance of Wednesday evening's Parks Advisory Board meeting specifically focused on factual counter points to the picture that Kitsap Environmental Coalition is trying to make people believe exists in the Port Gamble trail system.

I am a resident of the town of Port Gamble who is out on their trails a minimum of 5 days a week. I want to follow up on my comments from last month's meeting to reinforce some key points that remain very observable during my trail use since that date. My intent here is to deliver real time and factual observations on what is happening in this crown jewel of the North Kitsap parks system, not what one exclusionary group wants you to believe exists.

1. Mountain bikers are **not** the dominant user group outside of the ride park but may be gaining on the dog walkers. I could rattle off at least 8 additional park uses from trail runners to truffle hounds that are encountered daily. (Including equestrians, hikers, foragers, gravel grinders, pre season training for long distance hiking/backpacking, families on an outing,

mountain bikers, dog walkers, wildlife observation). My wife and I each took separate hikes over the weekend and saw no riders outside of the ride park.

2. Differing user interactions are almost universally polite and often end up with small talk or at least a wave and hello. I regularly stop my ride to get caught up with hikers, equestrians, dog walkers, and gravel grinders and more. These brief encounters lead to more connections across user groups. There are a LOT of different trail users out there and I've met people from all across the country, BC and Europe checking them out. I can also tell you there have been many times where I have been shot dirty looks, viced or yelled at and asked things like "why don't you ride somewhere else" when I'm on my bike outside of the ride park. So have a lot of my riding friends. I find it telling those interactions are *directed* at mountain bikers - not coming from them.

4. User groups vary in percentage based upon which trailhead they use. The new lot at Stottlemeyer is great for equestrians and I see more vehicles without bike racks there by far than with. The Ranger lot, due to it's proximity to the Ride Park, is about 60% rigs with bike racks with plenty of other user groups as well. The Butcher Baker lot is about 20% bike rack for park users. My wife, cat and I watch the parade daily from my living room.

5. Trail maintenance and volunteer hours continue to pile up from the mountain bike community. We would like to be able to provide more outside of the ride park and the Ranger corridor if we were allowed to. It's the #1 complaint our builders hear from park users and it gives the incorrect impression that riders don't care about the other trails. We do! I have attached an addendum to my written comments regarding volunteer feedback and appreciation across the country.

7. Lastly: Wildlife remains alive and well. The birds are enjoying an early burst of warm weather and animal prints and sightings are numerous! No bear sightings yet but we have seen many salamander crossings on the G1100 road coming in from Port Gamble.

I appreciate your consideration of my observations.

Thank you.

Steve Ruggiero

President

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MOUNTAIN BIKERS AS A USER GROUP

Land use agencies, such as the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM), frequently praise mountain biking trail volunteers for providing essential labor that agencies cannot afford or staff themselves. Volunteers are often described as "stalwart," "hardy," and the backbone of sustainable trail networks.

Here are specific compliments and themes of appreciation from land managers and officials:

Appreciation for Technical Skill and Stewardship

- **"Exemplary Stewards":** Land managers often acknowledge mountain bikers as dedicated, exemplary stewards of public lands who bring technical skills to ecological restoration.
- **Highly Skilled Work:** Volunteers are lauded for going beyond simple labor, providing expertise in building sustainable, bike-optimized trails and complex features that improve the experience for all users.
- **Safety and Stewardship:** Volunteers are valued for understanding that volunteering leads to better trail conditions, fostering a culture of care rather than just "using" the land.

Impact on Resources and Capacity

- **"Extending Limited Resources":** Agencies express gratitude to volunteers for stretching limited budgets and handling essential maintenance like debris removal (e.g., clearing fallen trees with chainsaws).
- **Critical Partnership:** Volunteers are hailed as essential, with officials noting that without them, many trail projects simply would not happen.
- **Efficient and Proactive:** Land managers appreciate the proactive nature of volunteers who identify problems and fix them before they require major, expensive repairs.

Community and Cultural Impact

- **"Contagious" Enthusiasm:** Volunteers are recognized for bringing passion to trail days, improving, and creating a fun, welcoming community atmosphere.
- **Trail Ambassadors:** Beyond construction, volunteers (such as trail patrols) are commended for reducing user conflict and educating the public about trail etiquette.
- **"Invaluable" Efforts:** Many agencies describe the work done by mountain biking volunteers as a "crucial" and "invaluable" contribution to public land management.

Key Phrases Used by Agencies:

- *"Almost all of us understand the value you bring to a great trail network."*
- *"Their ability to mobilize large groups of dedicated volunteers has allowed us to complete restoration projects that may be beyond the scope of our staff or budget."*