



Parks and Recreation Report | April 2025

Director's Report

April brought some terrific weather which allowed community members to get out and enjoy our parks and outdoor spaces in a variety of ways. The nice weather allowed us to open up our athletic fields to our local sports teams. April also marks the opening of our reservation season, allowing us to open up our shelters and the Stein-Boozier Barn for seasonal use.

One of our largest community events, the community egg hunt was held on April 19 on the Memorial Park athletic fields, where a large crowd gathered to hunt for over 18,000 eggs filled with prizes, candy, and even prize tickets that led to larger prizes such as Easter baskets, stuffed animals, and gift certificates for savings on park and recreation programs.

Also, in April was a multicultural dance festival and the heARTS of Wilsonville, Many Cultures, One Heart public art reception. Both of these events were put on by the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission. The hearts are now on display all over town and will be out for the next six months to a year.

Our parks team is very busy this time of year wrapping up small projects and prepping spaces such as athletic fields and water features for the upcoming busy season.

I am grateful to lead such a passionate, talented, and committed team to bring these spaces and events to a community that truly values them.

For more details on these events, as well as other departmental updates, please read the full parks and recreation department report in the pages that follow.

-Kris Ammerman

Recreation Updates

Summer Registration Opened April 7

Summer Registration is in full swing, with several camps already filled to capacity. Visit WilsonvilleParksandRecreation.com/Register for a full look at all this summer has to offer!

Egg Hunt Recap—April 19

The annual Community Egg Hunt went off without a hitch on Saturday, April 19 in Memorial Park. An estimated 2,000 people were in attendance, and the sun was out! A big thank you to this year's sponsors, J. Hill Property Group, Nichols Family Agency, Wilsonville Orthodontics, and Edward Jones. New this year was the addition of a mobile flower bouquet truck, bake shop, and donut truck. The Egg Hunt continues to grow, and the Recreation team will look for ways to add to the event each year to keep it popular and fresh.



Community Garden Update

The Wilsonville Community Garden has just four (4) plots left available for registration. The garden has received a tools refresh including wheel barrows, tool shed, shovels, rakes, various hand tools and more. New this season, is a program implemented by a community garden called 'Grow and Extra Row'. Gardeners who wish to participate will grow extra produce to donate to Wilsonville Community Sharing. A new raised garden bed has been installed to support this program.

Arts Updates

Multicultural Dance Night—April 3

The Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC) presented Wilsonville's first Multicultural Dance Celebration Event on April 3 at the McMenamin's Old Church. Staff booked three performance groups including: Eien Hunter Ishikawa performing traditional Japanese Dances, Jayanthi Raman Dance Company performing Classical Indian Dances, and Huitzilopochtli Danza Azteca performing indigenous dances from Mexico. Each performance also included the groups speaking about the culture and meaning behind the dances. Attendees enjoyed an evening celebrating the rich cultures of Wilsonville through vibrant multicultural dance performances.



Arts Updates

heARTs of Wilsonville: Many Cultures, One Heart Opening Reception April 30

The City's newest Public Art Project was on display for the opening reception of heARTs of Wilsonville: Many Cultures, One Heart on April 30 at the Stein-Boozier Barn. This special evening provided a sneak-peak opportunity to view all 10 hearts on display.



The project started back in September 2024 when the Call for Art Application solicited unique designs from artists for this project which consists of large fiberglass hearts measuring about 4.5 ft tall by 4.5 ft tall!

The project theme "Many Cultures, One Heart" aims to represent the distinctive artistic, cultural, and historical framework that makes Wilsonville a wonderful place. Artwork designs were encouraged to incorporate the diversity of the city to celebrate the many communities located here. 29 designs were received which the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission scored and reviewed, and ultimately made the selections on which 10 artists should be awarded a heart. The artists took 2— 3 months completing their work before turning the hearts back into the City. The Parks Maintenance team were integral in building the base boxes for the hearts and loading and unloading them to assist the artists. They also managed the installation which took place the very morning after the reception. The response from both City Staff and the Community has been extremely positive, and people are grateful for more colorful artwork in Wilsonville and to hunt for all 10 hearts!

Online you can find more information about the artists, their designs, as well as find a map that shows where all 10 hearts are installed around town. This project was funded by Wilsonville—Metro Community Enhancement funds.



Community Center Updates

Easter Bunny Makes an Appearance

Baily the Bunny stopped by the Community Center to say “hi” to the seniors at the Center’s lunch program.

Estate Planning and Long Term Care

Local attorney Micheal Rose presented two free workshops. One was centered around estate planning basics such as wills, trusts and power of attorney. The second focused on long term care and preserving and protecting assets.

AARP Drivers Safety

An AARP volunteer was back at the Center for another session of AARP Smart Driver. This course helps older adults to become safer drivers and even can save some individuals money on their monthly insurance bill.



Board Highlights

Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC)

April was a busy month for the ACHC with the Multicultural Dance Event and the heARTs of Wilsonville: Many Cultures, One Heart Project! In Addition to these huge milestones, at their April meeting they also awarded the June Temporary Pride Month Mural to artist Daren Todd after reviewing two design options. They also reviewed request for qualifications (RFQ) submissions by the top 10 finalists for the Boones Ferry Park Public Art Project which will be a large sculptural art work. At this meeting the ACHC determined the three artists to advance in this project who will receive a stipend to create a unique design proposal. The ACHC will then award the project to one artist/team at a future meeting.

Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board (KSCAB)

The Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board met in April to recap their March meeting with Kitakata. The board brainstormed ideas for the December student delegation, as well as planned out meetings for the next few months, as the staff liaison will be out on maternity leave.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met in April to award funds for the Community Opportunity Grant. Grant awardees were Charbonneau Country Club for a Fuel Storage Transfer Switch, Sole Sisters for their Half Marathon, 10K, and 5k, Resilience Events for "Turning Darkness into Light - the 30 year Celebration of the Dammasch Shut Down", Wilsonville Garden Club for their Rose Buddies program and Wilsonville Skatepark Association for Skate Jam 2025.

Upcoming Events

- **WERK Day:** Saturday, May 10—Wilsonville Community Center
- **Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony:** Monday, May 26, 10am —Town Center Park
- **Water Features Open for the Season:** Wednesday, May 28—Town Center Park & Murase Plaza (open 10am-8pm daily)

Parks Team Updates

Another busy month for the Parks team as they geared up for summer rentals, activities, events and more usage within the parks! Parks team member, Evan, with the help of the team took on the installation of another edible landscape within Memorial Park.



The team started preparing for warmer weather by cleaning out the system at the Murase Plaza water feature. Both the Murase Plaza and Town Center water features are anticipated to open May 28.



The team also helped with the Many Cultures, One Heart public art project by building boxes, loading, unloading and installing the hearts.

WERK Day event prep began as the team coordinated goats and "day-of" projects!

