

Parks & Community Services Board

Regular Meeting

March 13, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall

Room 1E-113

450 110th Avenue NE

Bellevue, WA



AGENDA

Parks & Community Services Board Regular Meeting

<p>Boardmembers:</p> <p>Mark Van Hollebeke, Chair</p> <p>Eric Synn, Vice-Chair</p> <p>Yu Deng</p> <p>Dave Hamilton</p> <p>Stuart Heath</p> <p>Debra Kumar</p> <p>Heather Trescases</p> <p>City Council Liaison:</p> <p>Jennifer Robertson, Councilmember</p> <p>Staff Contacts:</p> <p>Terry Smith – 425-452-5379</p> <p>Nancy Harvey – 425-452-4162</p>	<p>Tuesday March 13, 2018 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Bellevue City Hall Conference Room 1E-113 450 110th Avenue NE Bellevue, WA 98004</p>
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1. Call to Order of Meeting – Chair Van Hollebeke	
2. Approval of Agenda (1 minute)	
3. Approval of Park Board Minutes (1 minute)	
a. Minutes from the February 13, 2018 Regular Meeting	1
4. Oral Communications/Public Comments	N/A
<i>Note: Three-minute limit per person; maximum of three persons permitted to speak to each side of any one topic. Five minutes if representing a group.</i>	
5. Communications from City Council, Community Council, Boards and Commissions (5 minutes)	N/A
6. Director’s Report (5 minutes)	N/A
• Follow-up on Oral Communications/public comments from prior meetings	
7. Board Communication (7 minutes)	N/A
8. Chair Communication & Discussion (5 minutes)	N/A
9. Boardmember Committee/Liaison Reports (5 minutes)	N/A
• Wilburton Citizen Advisory Committee – Boardmember Kumar	
• Bylaws Subcommittee – Vice-Chair Synn and Boardmember Heath	

Parks & Community Services Board meetings are wheelchair accessible. Captioning, American Sign Language (ASL), or language interpreters are available upon request. Please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-5379 (Voice). If you are deaf or hard of hearing, dial 711 (TR). Assisted listening devices are available upon request. Room 1E-113 is equipped with a hearing loop system.



10. Discussion/Action Items (time for presentation/discussion)	
a. 2019-2025 Parks CIP Budget (20/30) (information) – Doug Sanner and Glenn Kost	9
b. Board Retreat Planning (20) – Chair Van Hollebeke	N/A
11. New Business (1 minute)	N/A
12. Establish Agenda for Next Meeting	N/A
13. Other Communication	
a. CIP Project Status Report	15
14. Information	
• List of upcoming Parks special events	17
• Next scheduled regular Park Board meeting – April 10, 2018.	N/A
15. Oral Communications/Public Comments	
<i>Note: Three-minute limit per person; maximum of three persons permitted to speak to each side of any one topic. Five minutes if representing a group.</i>	N/A
16. Adjournment	

Email the Board: parkboard@bellevuewa.gov

Online information about the Board -
<https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/community-services/boards-and-commissions/parks-community-services-board/>

**WELCOME TO YOUR
BELLEVUE PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
MEETING**

Most Parks & Community Services Board business is conducted in public, and citizens are most welcome to watch and listen.

In order to hold a meeting, a quorum of at least four Boardmembers must be present. The Board follows the City Council's example, which operates under its own Rules and Procedures, and conducts its meetings according to *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Boardmembers may add items to the meeting's agenda for discussion or action, with a majority vote of those present, at the time when the agenda is approved.

Before any agenda item can be acted upon, the Chair will call for a motion to take action on that item. After the motion is seconded, the Board discusses the arguments for and against the motion.

Sometimes a Boardmember will propose a different course of action on a subject on the agenda. This is called a substitute motion and also requires a second. After discussion, the substitute motion is voted upon first. If a majority of the Boardmembers vote for the substitute motion, it passes and the matter is completed. If the substitute motion fails to obtain a majority, the Board returns to the original motion and continues to discuss and vote on it.

Other times, a Boardmember may wish to change a pending motion in some way. This is called an amendment. It also requires a second and is voted upon before a vote is taken on the main motion. If the amendment passes, the main motion is then voted upon "as amended." If the amendment does not receive a second or a majority vote, the main motion, as originally proposed, is voted upon.

When necessary, the Board may recess to an executive session. During these closed sessions, the Boardmembers are limited, by law, to discussing only such items as personnel issues, property acquisition and disposition; or to receiving advice from legal counsel on pending or potential litigation. The Chair or Vice-Chair will announce both the reason for any executive session and the anticipated time when the Board will return.

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday
February 13, 2018
6:00 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Room 1E-113
Bellevue, Washington

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Van Hollebeke¹, Vice-Chair Synn², Boardmembers Deng³, Hamilton, Heath⁴, Kumar, Trescases

COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT: Councilmembers Robertson

PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Rick Bailey, Geoff Bradley, Patrick Foran, Nancy Harvey, Jammie Kingham, Glenn Kost, Ken Kroeger, Tom Kuykendall, Shelley McVein, Terry Smith, Chris Vandall

OTHERS PRESENT: Pamela Johnston

MINUTES TAKER: Michelle Cash

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Synn at 6:04 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Boardmember Kumar and second by Boardmember Heath to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Boardmember Kumar and second by Boardmember Trescases to approve the January 9, 2018 Parks & Community Services Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

¹ Arrived at 6:06 p.m.

² Departed at 7:23 p.m.

³ Arrived at 6:35 p.m.

⁴ Departed at 8:31 p.m.

4. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Pamela Johnston

3741 122nd Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA

Ms. Johnson called attention to the many ongoing discussions regarding affordable housing, zoning, and the homeless shelter. She encouraged Boardmembers to pay close attention to these issues.

5. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL, COMMUNITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**

Councilmember Robertson welcomed newest Boardmember Dave Hamilton to the Parks Board. She also reported on the following items:

- Paul Clark has been appointed to the Parks Board, beginning June 1, 2018, to fill Chair Van Hollebeke's vacant position after his term ends.
- Council recently had a retreat. The priorities identified at the retreat will be released in the near future.
- Preliminary planning has begun for the 2018 budget process.
- SPLASH Forward has been working on bringing an aquatic center to the area. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.
- Council is reevaluating the Bel-Red Subarea.
- The Bellevue Wintergrass Festival will be held at the Hyatt Hotel next weekend.

6. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Foran encouraged Boardmembers to listen to the Council meeting recording from last night's meeting. Some of the issues that Ms. Johnston raised during her Oral Communication were discussed at last night's meeting.

7. **BOARD COMMUNICATION:**

Vice-Chair Synn noted that there is significant progress with the Spring District development project, and the Board still has an opportunity to make an impact in this area.

Boardmember Kumar recently visited Crossroads Park.

Boardmember Trescases expressed her appreciation for the play structure at Saddleback Mini Park.

Boardmember Hamilton expressed his appreciation for the programs offered at Highland Community Center.

8. **CHAIR COMMUNICATION & DISCUSSION:**

Chair Van Hollebeke provided the following report:

- Looking forward to the Board retreat.
- Microsoft is interested in exploring opportunities with Bellevue for the Global Innovation Exchange (GIX) partnership. GIX develops leaders, stimulates innovation in the workforce, and helps solve technological and design challenges.
- The NE Corner Entry of Downtown Park is on the development horizon.

9. **BOARDMEMBER/COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS:**

A. Wilburton Citizen Advisory Committee

Boardmember Kumar called attention to the *Grand Connection & Wilburton Planning Next Steps* memo that was included in the Board Packet (page 19). The CAC will meet through the end of May and hopes to finalize their recommendations by April. Boardmember Trescases suggested that the EIS be reviewed, prior to proposing a recommendation.

Boardmember Heath noted that the Design Principles have not been adopted for Parks. He suggested that a subcommittee be formed to ensure that Parks & Community Services are treated as a priority. Boardmember Kumar expressed hesitation with this suggestion noting that it might be a little late in the planning process to form another subcommittee. She reminded the Board that they have seen the design principles, which include Parks principles. Chair Van Hollebeke sees Boardmember Kumar as filling the role of a “subcommittee,” transmitting the Board’s comments to the CAC. This discussion item will be added to the Board Retreat Agenda so next steps can be identified.

B. Bylaws Subcommittee

No report.

10. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

A. Natural Resource Division Overview

Mr. Bradley provided an overview of the Open Space System Plan. The mission is to promote stewardship of Bellevue’s natural and cultural resources and provide maintenance and management for Natural Resource Division managed lands. Some of the Natural Resource program areas include:

- Forest Management
- Street Tree and Arterial Landscapes
- Greenways and Trails
- Nature Parks and Visitor Centers
- Volunteer Program
- Water Conservation and Irrigation

Mr. Bailey provided an overview of the Forest Management Program. This encompasses 1,951 acres of forested open space, riparian corridors, wetlands and NGPAs. Some of the service delivery and stewardship for the Forest Management Program include:

- Customer Service
- Boundary Inspections
- Tree Risk Management and Inventory
- Forest Enhancement
- Maintenance
- Outreach

Mr. Kuykendall discussed the Street Tree and Arterial Landscape Program. Mr. Kuykendall noted that the Streetscape and Arterial Landscapes takes design from the Comprehensive Plan, Bellevue Parks & Open System Plan, and the Enhanced ROW and Urban Boulevards Plan. Program activities for the Street Tree and Arterial Landscape Program include the Transportation CIP Project Coordination and the Utility Coordination.

Mr. Vandall discussed the Greenways and Trails Program. The goals of the program are to:

- Provide recreational opportunities for walkers, bicyclists, joggers, and birdwatchers.
- Provide system connectivity and accessibility to parks, open spaces and surrounding neighborhoods through a network of 90 miles of trails.

Some of the Greenways and Trails Programs include:

- Customer Service
- Trail Maintenance
- Trail Design and Construction
- Trail Inventory, Wayfinding and Mapping
- Working with Volunteers through Outreach (Arbor Day, Stewardship Saturdays and Eco-Fridays)

Ms. Kingham discussed the Nature Parks and Visitor Centers. Some of the Nature Parks and Visitor Centers programs include:

- Environmental Education and Interpretation Program
- Volunteer Program
- Community Farms and Garden Program
- Summer Ranger Program
- Well-KEPT Program

Ms. Kingham distributed a Natural Trail Guide, and two Natural Resource Program brochures (Summer and Winter/Spring).

Mr. Bradley discussed some of the water conservation and irrigation efforts that are underway in Bellevue.

Boardmember Kumar inquired if impervious surface technology is changing to allow for better drainage. Mr. Bradley highlighted some of the mitigation that is used in conjunction with other departments to use low impact options.

Boardmember Deng discussed mitigation efforts where dogs were utilized to chase away geese in the park during the Newcastle Beach Park Backyard Campout.

Boardmember Hamilton asked how the Board can help and support the Natural Resource Division's efforts. Mr. Bradley encouraged Boardmembers to participate in Arbor Day and continue to advocate for parks and open space.

B. Downtown Park's NE Corner Entry

Mr. Kost provided an overview of the NE Corner Entry project. This project encompasses approximately two acres. The scope of work includes:

- New entry plaza at Bellevue Way and NE 4th Street
- Possible new water feature
- Integration of public art
- Pedestrian connection to the Downtown Park Circle
- Connection to the Formal Garden
- Integration of the Union High Arch
- Connection to the Downtown Park Belvedere

Mr. Kost noted that the Grand Connection is an identified hub and major art opportunity. Mark Fornes is the selected artist to create a large-scale, site-specific structure and public art piece.

Mr. Kroeger highlighted some of the design concepts that have been prepared for the NE Corner Entry project.

Motion by Boardmember Trescases and second by Boardmember Deng to extend the meeting until 8:45 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

Mr. Kost reviewed some of the project challenges, which include:

- Existing right of way/alley
- Topographical/ADA concerns
- Treatment of boundary with coin store
- Public art coordination
- Long-term vs. short-term view of neighboring properties
- Integration of Formal Garden and Union High Arch
- Water
- SEPA (Land Use Process) for 'new' uses
- Schedule

Motion by Boardmember Trescases and second by Boardmember Kumar to extend the meeting until 8:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Boardmembers Trescases and Kumar encouraged inclusion of concessions around Downtown Park, since the park is a hub to many retail establishments.

There was a general discussion about the goal of the NE Corner Entry, which is to alert people to Downtown Park with a welcome view that draws the user into the park. Once in the park, the purpose is to have many gathering areas for park users to enjoy.

Motion by Boardmember Trescases and second by Boardmember Deng to extend the meeting until 8:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Boardmembers expressed their support of a water feature at the entrance of the park.

C. Board Retreat Planning

Boardmembers requested that the March Board meeting be extended so that the retreat can be held during the regular Board meeting.

Motion by Boardmember Trescases and second by Boardmember Kumar to extend the meeting until 9:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

11. **NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

12. **ESTABLISHING AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:**

The Board Retreat will be held during the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. The agenda will include discussions about the next steps/recommendations for the Wilburton Citizen Advisory Committee.

13. **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. CIP Project Status Report
- B. Memo re Grand Connection and Wilburton Planning Next Steps

14. **INFORMATION:**

- A. List of upcoming Parks special events
- B. Next regular Parks Board meeting—March 13, 2018

These minutes are in DRAFT form until approved by the Parks & Community Services Board.

15. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

16. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Boardmember Trescases and second by Boardmember Kumar to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).



Date: March 5, 2018

To: Parks & Community Services Board

From: Doug Sanner, Fiscal Manager, Parks & Community Services
Glenn Kost, Capital Project Manager, Parks & Community Services

Subject: 2019-2025 Parks Capital Investment Program (CIP) Budget
(Information Only, with Board Direction at April Meeting)

At your March 13 meeting we will provide an overview of the Board’s role in the upcoming 2019-2025 Capital Investment Program budget process. We will describe the City’s budget process, review the status of Parks levy and other capital projects, and discuss projects for possible inclusion in the 2019-2025 CIP. Following this informational presentation and discussion, staff will return to the April board meeting seeking the Board’s recommendation on Parks capital budget proposals which are due April 27, 2018.

Budget Process

The budget is one of the City’s key policy documents. The operating and capital budgets are organized around six community outcomes, and Parks capital investments are primarily directed to the “Quality Neighborhoods/Innovative, Vibrant & Caring Community” outcome. This budget process (known as Budget One) is very similar to the one used for the past four budget cycles, and requires that the Department submit proposals for all operating and capital items by the end of April. Ultimately, the City Manager will develop a balanced Preliminary Budget in the fall, with City Council adopting the final budget by December 2018.

As advisors to City Council, we anticipate that the Board will provide comments on the City Manager’s Preliminary Budget and the Parks CIP similar to those submitted during the last budget process (see attached). We will schedule additional budget discussions as the Preliminary Budget is released in September/October, but our commitment is to keep the Board informed throughout the year as the budget process unfolds.

Attachment

- Parks & Community Services Board memorandum to City Council on Preliminary 2017-2023 Parks CIP (November 2016)



Date: November 8, 2016

To: Mayor Stokes and City Councilmembers

From: Bellevue Parks & Community Services Board

Subject: Preliminary 2017-2023 Parks Capital Investment Program

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the preliminary Parks 2017-2023 Capital Investment Program (CIP) Plan. We hope that these comments will be helpful to you as Council prioritizes the City's capital investment needs for the next seven years.

The Parks & Community Services Board reviewed the budget process and provided direction on Parks CIP proposals at our meetings in March and April. Board direction and priorities included:

- Continue the commitment to the voters from the 2008 levy, utilizing levy funds and the remaining City matching dollars to focus on Downtown Park, Surrey Downs, Property Acquisition, and Airfield Park design;
- Initiate the first phase of park development at Meydenbauer Bay;
- Maintain existing capital infrastructure, including both the Parks Renovation and Enterprise Facility improvement programs;
- Continue to invest in the ongoing planning of Bellevue's park and open space system, including funding for the Ashwood Master Plan.

While the above list can be accomplished with the additional Parks Levy and Real Estate Excise Tax revenue available in the updated plan, we do not believe that current Parks CIP funding sources are adequate to meet the needs of a growing and changing community. The Parks Levy program was not intended to represent all the capital needs of the community for a 20-year period (through 2028). The board identified four additional budget proposals in response to community requests and to fill gaps that exist in the current system that should not wait until the next levy program. The four new projects are described below:

- Tyler Park Development (\$1.5M). Design and construct a neighborhood park in Newport Hills on the Tyler/Patterson properties first acquired by the City in 2010.
- Bridle Trails/140th Street Park Development (\$1.75M). Design and construct a neighborhood park on the Ginzburg property acquired by the City in 2014.
- Lake Sammamish Park Master Plan & Design (\$0.75M). Develop a Master Plan and design for the future development of a neighborhood park on Lake Sammamish, an identified 2008 Parks Levy project.
- Ashwood Park Design & Permitting (\$0.5M). Design and permit the first phase of Ashwood Park construction upon completion of the site master plan.

At the November Park Board meeting, we reviewed the status of Parks capital budget proposals as included in the 2017-2023 Preliminary CIP (attached).

Overall, we are encouraged that the proposed 2017-2023 plan continues to make progress on the 2008 Parks Levy package that was overwhelmingly approved by Bellevue voters. In addition, the plan funds two major Council priorities to construct Meydenbauer Bay Phase I and the Downtown Park Circle/Gateway by the end of 2018 (Council Priority #9). Lastly, we believe it is vitally important to maintain existing infrastructure as proposed in the Renovation Plan, which helps provide major maintenance for Bellevue parks consistent with the expectations of our citizens.

Of the four Park Board projects that remain unfunded in the current plan, we want to specifically request funding for the proposed neighborhood parks in Newport Hills and Bridle Trails. We believe that additional neighborhood investment is an ongoing need, and is aligned with the budget outcome of Quality Neighborhoods and Council's priority for a high-quality built and natural environment. Both of these areas were specifically identified for additional neighborhood park development in the adopted 2010 and 2016 Bellevue Parks & Open Space System Plans, and both neighborhoods have existing undeveloped park property suitable for development. In the community survey that accompanied the plan, Bellevue residents included neighborhood parks in the top tier of park facilities that should be prioritized for additional development, and this statistical data has been corroborated by supportive citizen comments from both neighborhoods.

We understand that the Bellevue community has multiple needs and that there is never sufficient funding to accomplish everything you would like to during the budget process. We also understand that City Council has a priority to develop a long range financial strategy to explore options to address the future operating and capital needs of the City (Council Priority #24). While the list of capital needs facing the City is undoubtedly large, we encourage Council to dream big and develop a balanced and sustainable approach for advancing the City's long-term vision. In addition to completing the levy commitments and funding the larger Meydenbauer Bay Master Plan, additional funds will be needed to create parks in the Bel-Red area, provide additional green space in downtown Bellevue, the Grand Connection, and to create additional opportunities for the aquatics community.

As a city that prides itself as a "City in a Park," we acknowledge that parks contribute to the quality of life in Bellevue, creating a special place that families and business seek to locate and flourish. Research consistently shows that urban parks and recreation systems have positive economic impacts beyond a place to recreate and socialize with friends and family. Research shows that high quality, well-maintained parks contribute positively to the overall economic development of the City, including raising property tax values, attracting tourists, and protecting water and air quality.

Once again, we appreciate the ability to provide comments on the 2017-2023 Parks CIP Plan, and look forward to continued discussions as the budget process moves forward. Feel free to contact any of the Parks & Community Services Board members if you have questions or comments about the content of this message.

Attachment
Parks CIP Proposals in 2017-2023 Preliminary CIP Budget

2017-2023 Preliminary CIP Budget

Parks Proposals (Quality Neighborhoods/Innovative, Vibrant & Caring Community)

Parks CIP Proposal	Funded as Requested:	2017-2023 Preliminary CIP
Parks Levy Projects:		
Downtown Park "Complete the Circle"	Yes	0 *
Downtown Park "Inspiration Playground"	Yes	0 *
Downtown Park "Gateway/NE Entry"	Yes	3,000
Surrey Downs Park Development	Yes	7,188
Bellevue Airfield Park Design	Yes	95
Parks & Open Space Acquisition	Yes	7,175
Meydenbauer Bay Phase I Development	Yes	9,522
Parks Renovation & Refurbishment Plan	Yes	38,069
Park Planning and Design	Yes	2,200
Dedicated Funding:		
King County Parks Levy	Yes	1,242
Enterprise Facility Improvements	Yes	2,250
Mercer Slough Eastlink Mitigation	Yes	2,140
Park Board Recommended Projects:		
Tyler Park Development (\$1.5M)	TBD	Council Contingency
Bridle Trails/140th Street Park (\$1.75M)	TBD	Council Contingency
Lake Sammamish Master Plan/Design (\$0.75M)	TBD	Council Contingency
Ashwood Park Design/Permitting (\$0.5M)	TBD	Council Contingency
Subtotal, Preliminary 2017-23 CIP		72,881

*Can be completed with funding authorized thru 2016



PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT February 2018

Bannerwood Park

The staff is working with representatives of Seattle University to provide additional upgrades to the Bannerwood baseball facility. SU would like to install a roof over the existing batting cages and to construct a small multi-use/clubhouse building behind one of the dugouts, all at the cost of SU. We are currently working to amend our current agreements with SU to facilitate these improvements.

Downtown Park – NE Entry

Design is underway to create a park entry at the NE corner of the park. The project will also seek to incorporate the City's Grand Connection and public art concepts into the project. A consultant team is preparing design alternatives, and an artist is now part of the design team and beginning the initial work to prepare artwork concepts. We are also meeting with neighboring businesses and internal staff to discuss the feasibility of eliminating the existing alleyway through the NE corner parcel. The Park Board was updated on the general progress at their February 13th meeting. Staff anticipates returning to the Park Board later this spring to solicit input on the design alternatives.

Meydenbauer Bay Phase 1 Park Development

Construction is approximately 60% complete, with expected completion at the end of 2018. Beach house outer structure concrete is complete. Interior work and finishes are underway. Stream bed construction is complete with the exception of landscape planting which will occur in spring. Most in-water work is complete, including shoreline restoration and installation of all pier pilings. The pier structure is in place, and the floating sections will be installed this spring. Work along the Lake Washington Boulevard right-of way is underway with the installation of a new water line completed. The work to bury the overhead wires along LWB is expected to be complete by mid-March. Work along 99th Street is underway with the installation of underground utilities followed by the construction of a series of retaining walls to provide ADA access to the water and hand-carry boat launch. We continue to work with Whalers Cove to develop plans to restore their privacy once we remove a city-owned landscape hedge in the 99th Avenue right-of-way. The Whaling Building remodeling, which will include public restrooms, a meeting room and boat rental facility, is expected to begin this spring.

Park & Natural Areas Levy Projects Summary

- **Synthetic Sportsfield at Wilburton Hill Park:** Project complete.
- **Synthetic Sportsfield at Newport Hills Park:** Project complete.
- **Lewis Creek Park Picnic Area:** Project complete.
- **BYT Construction:** Project complete, including the conversion of the storage room into a second rehearsal space.

- **Bellevue Airfield Park:** Site analysis and initial schematic design is complete. The cost estimates for Phase 1 are significantly over the anticipated budget, so we continue to explore schematic design options and costs to determine the Phase 1 scope of work.
- **Botanical Garden Projects:**
 - **Ravine Garden:** Project complete.
 - **Visitor Center:** Project complete.
- **Neighborhood Parks:**
 - **Bridle Trails/140th Ave property acquisition:** Project complete.
 - **Bridle Trails Corner Park acquisition & development:** Project complete.
 - **Newport Hills Tyler/Patterson acquisition:** Project complete.
- **Downtown Park “Complete the Circle” Development:** Project complete.
- **Hidden Valley/Boys & Girls Club Partnership:** Project complete.
- **Lake Sammamish Neighborhood Park:** No activity.
- **Surrey Downs Park Development:** The City Council awarded the park construction contract to KLB Construction, Inc. February 26th. We continue to coordinate park work, construction access and utility infrastructure with Sound Transit. Park construction will begin April 2 with completion anticipated December 31. Some planting/restoration work may continue after the year’s end depending on weather and light rail construction. Staff continues to work with the adjacent neighbors to address property encroachment issues and to identify an appropriate boundary fence to install. The second set of letters to the neighbors was sent in February.

Renovation Program

56 projects were completed in 2017. The following projects were deferred into the 2018 program:

- Drinking fountain replacement at 3 sites
- Sealcoat & restripe the golf course parking lot
- Resurface Cherry Crest tennis courts
- Forest Park trail repair
- Zipline storage/ticket booth
- Design for Kelsey Creek Ed Barn improvements, NWAC restroom and Wilburton synthetic turf replacement
- Interpretive signage at MSEEC
- Meydenbauer Whaling Building remodel
- Robinswood Tennis bubble replacement
- McDowell House repairs
- Paving and drainage improvements at Kelsey Creek
- Summit trail repairs

57 additional projects have been approved as part of the 2018 Renovation Program.

- Project updates will be provided in future reports.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

MARCH 2018

- March 1** **Garden Class: Grow Your Own Plant Starts**, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by Tilth Alliance. Get a head start on spring and summer by starting your organic veggie garden indoors now! Learn about supplies needed for setting up your indoor growing space, planting and caring for vegetable seeds and seedlings, organic practices not requiring synthetic chemicals, and how to harden off and transplant your little plants. **Cost:** \$25 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$35/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- March 2** **Lewis Creek Story Time: “Slippery, Slithery Ssssnakes” (presented by Bellevue Master Naturalists)**
Two sessions, choose one – 11 a.m. –noon OR 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Look, listen and create during an hour of stories and crafts presented by the Bellevue Master Naturalist Corps. Did you know that snakes can “smell” the air with their tongues when hunting for prey, or that they can unhinge their jaws? Join us for stories about these incredible creatures! We always make a fun craft to take home. This is an indoor program. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **Info and to register:** 425-452-4195.
- March 2** **Bellevue College Science Workshop for Children: Kitchen Chemistry**, 4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Come learn about science with your child, and do experiments that can be done easily with supplies from your kitchen. Parent can attend with child, but no under-age siblings are permitted. **Ages:** 5-10 years old. **Cost:** \$20/resident and \$24/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- March 3** **Garden Class: Hydrangea How-To**, 10 a.m. - noon
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by Kit Haesloop, President of the Northwest Perennial Alliance. Learn how to get peak performance from hydrangeas in your garden. Kit will provide guidance on growing conditions, bloom color, and pruning options for different species, as well as a demonstration of proper pruning techniques on several species that grow in the NPA Perennial Border at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. Class is indoor/outdoor. **Cost:** \$25 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members and Northwest Perennial Alliance members; \$35/non members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- March 3** **Garden Class: Native Bees & Bee Hotels**, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by Crown Bees. In this family class, appropriate for adults and children, you will learn how hole-nesting bees live, what they need in your garden to thrive, and how to provide them with a five-star bee hotel. Your class fee includes nesting hole materials and the Native Bee Guide (26-page reference booklet) for you to take home. **Cost:** \$15 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$25/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- March 3** **Lewis Creek Ranger-Led Hike**, 10:30 a.m. - noon
Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Park Ranger to explore the natural and cultural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Distance:** Approximately 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy-Moderate (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- March 4** **Mercer Slough Family-Friendly Ranger Walk**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bring the whole family to join a Ranger on a guided hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park. This family-friendly program allows parents and their kids to explore the mosaic of habitats while learning more about the birds and animals that call the Mercer Slough home. This hour-long nature walk ends at the channel bridge on the shores of the Slough. From there you can continue to explore the rich diversity the park has to offer. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- March 4** **Making Tracks in Lewis Creek Park**, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Park Ranger to learn Bellevue's animal signs, then head outside on a scavenger hunt to see what animals have been through Lewis Creek Park! We'll look for prints, feathers and even scat to see what's been happening in the park. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required by 4 p.m. on the Friday before the event. **Info and to register:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- March 7** **Frisky Goats (Early Release Wednesday)**, 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Help create enrichment opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think, how each animal needs different activities based on their instincts, and why it's important for animals to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. We'll work in the farm yard and do art/craft activities, too. **Ages:** 5 to 9 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- March 9** **The March of Dogs**, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Where did dogs come from? What makes them different from coyotes and wolves who live in the wild? Join us for a short educational walk learning about the origin of dogs. Well-behaved dogs may absolutely join us for this walk. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** 425-452-6993.
- March 10** **Northwest Perennial Alliance March Mania Plant Sale**, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Shop for spring ephemerals and choice garden plants not readily available at other times of the year. Learn from nursery experts, and let them help you choose some of the earliest bloomers of the season. Most of the sale is held indoors, where the kids can enjoy fun activities just for them while you shop. Shop these specialty nurseries: Botanica, Bouquet Banque, Dan Hinkley's Windcliff, Fancy Fronds, Growing Girls, Lee Farm, and Taking Root Nursery. Proceeds from this fundraiser benefit the educational programs of NPA and the NPA Border. **Cost:** No admission fee; open to the public. Cost of plants will vary. **Info:** http://www.northwestperennialalliance.org/march_mania.php
- March 10** **Lakemont Highlands Open Space Ranger Hike**, 10 a.m. - noon
Meets at: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Explore the lesser-known trails of South Bellevue. Parks and open spaces guide you (and wildlife!) through friendly neighborhoods. **Distance:** 3.5 miles. **Level of difficulty:** Difficult (350 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- March 10** **St. Patrick's Day at the Farm**, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m..
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Adult and child will team together to make a green treat, get up close with a farm animal and hunt for a pot of gold in the barnyard. This program is for adult/child teams only. **Ages:** Children 3 to 6 years old and their adult. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. Additional family member - \$5/resident and \$6/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- March 10** **Lucky Leprechauns**, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Robinswood Barn, 2432 148th Avenue SE
Top o’ the mornin’ to ya! Join us for art, games, music, and all things green! Don’t forget to have your leprechaun wear something green so you won’t get pinched. There’s a pot of “gold” waiting for you at the end of the rainbow! This is a child and caregiver class, taught by Miss Karen. **Ages:** 2-5 years old. **Cost:** \$30/resident and \$35/non-resident. Additional child - \$6/resident and \$7/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- March 15** **Garden d’Lights Orientation**, 10 a.m. - noon
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Join the Garden d’Lights team at a FREE orientation. We’ll tell you how the light displays are built and what it takes to install and repair them, and we’ll demonstrate our techniques. You’ll view partially-constructed lights, then join a small group that will work with a member of the Garden d’Lights build team, who will show you how the features are built. Everyone will be able to bunch lights onto a rod and use a cable tie to anchor them in place. We will also show you how we repair lights. You will not be able to leave with the results, but if you’ve been thinking of volunteering, this is a great way to join the team as it starts to prepare for the 2018 Garden d’Lights season! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required; space is limited. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- March 16-17** **Puget Sound Dahlia Association Tuber Sale**, 9:30 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Thousands of tubers with hundreds of different varieties will be available for sale, priced around \$5 each. Several of our most knowledgeable dahlia growers will be available to help you with your selections. Come early for the best selection! Open to the public. **Cost:** Free admission; cost of tubers varies. **Info:** <http://www.pugetsounddahlias.org/>
- March 16-25** **“The Last Unicorn” (Bellevue Youth Theatre Play)**,
March 16, 17, 23 and 24 at 7 p.m.; March 18, 24, and 25 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street
Come see Peter S. Beagle’s classic story of a young unicorn as she and a bumbling sorcerer embark on a long and dangerous journey to find out what happened to the other unicorns. This story is adapted from the animated cartoon and book. Approximate run time is 90 minutes. **Ages:** All ages, but the Red Bull sequence may be too intense for some younger children. **Cost:** Advance tickets are \$12. Price increases to \$15 on March 12. All seats are reserved. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- March 17 Family Discovery Series: Have You Seen all the Critter Litter?**
2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Have you ever been curious about what animals leave behind or what signs to look for, telling you they have been nearby? We may not always see these animals, but they often leave clues. Become a Nature Detective, and discover who may be visiting our park. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- March 17 Making Tracks in Lewis Creek Park, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Park Ranger to learn Bellevue's animal signs, then head outside on a scavenger hunt to see what animals have been through Lewis Creek Park! We'll look for prints, feathers and even scat to see what's been happening in the park. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required by 4 p.m. the Friday before the event. **Info and to register:** 425-452-4195.
- March 18 Living with Wildlife: There's a Bear in the Yard! 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.**
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Springtime in south Bellevue often means hungry, roaming bears. Learn all about black bears in our area, including how to prevent conflicts at your home, and what to do if you see one. **Ages:** 13 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- March 21 Lovable Bunnies (Early Release Wednesday), 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.**
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Help create enrichment opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think, how each animal needs different activities based on their instincts, and why it's important for animals to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. We'll work in the farm yard and do art/craft activities, too. **Ages:** 5 to 9 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- March 21 BBGS Lecture: Tapestry Garden - The Art of Weaving Plants and Place, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.**
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by Marietta O'Byrne, co-owner of Northwest Nurseries. Timber Press will soon publish Marietta's book, *Tapestry Garden, The Art of Weaving Plants and Place*, that will illustrate the wide variety of mouth-watering planting combinations Marietta has created. During her presentation, she will give us a pictorial tour of her exuberant garden. **Cost:** \$5 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$15/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Recommended. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- March 23** **2018 Youth Involvement Conference**, 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Meydenbauer Convention Center, 11100 NE 6th Street
This is a biennial city-wide youth conference for Bellevue middle and high school students. Hear exciting motivational speakers, and participate in interactive workshops planned by and for youth. Topics range from social justice to emergency and disaster preparation. Learn valuable skills, network with other student leaders, and share your ideas of community change! Bellevue school students can earn six hours of community service for attending. Also, attendance is a pre-arranged excused absence. **Ages:** 11-17 years old. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. Space is limited. **To register:** Visit <http://www.youthlink.com/> and follow online registration link. Registration will be open from March 1 through March 9. **Info:** Patrick Alina at palina@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-5254.
- March 23** **Bunny Ball: Father-Daughter Dance Event**, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Create lasting memories at this night-out opportunity with Dad (or other father figure such as grandpa or uncle). Dress up in your finest clothes, and enjoy celebrating an evening of dancing, tea time with scones, commemorative photo with Dad, decorating your picture frame, and even a special visit from Bop'in Bunny. Register early to secure your space, as space is limited for this event. Each child is registered separately. Father attends free with child. Free parking on site. **Ages:** 3-10 years old. **Cost:** \$30. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- March 23** **Frog Hop!** 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
One of the earliest sounds of spring is the constant rib-bit song of frogs. Learn about the amazing life cycle of these amphibians, as well as the kinds of frogs that live in Western Washington. Then join us to explore Lewis Creek using your ears to guide the way! Bring a flashlight or headlamps, as well as good shoes and warm clothes, for the journey! **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **Info and to register:** 425-452-4195.
- March 24** **Garden Class: Top Ten Spring Bulbs of Merit**, 10 a.m. - noon
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by George Lasch. Join us for a quick slide show and then a stroll through the Garden to talk about the best bulbs and how to get the most from them. George will share his top ten and will likely throw in a few “why bother?” ones too. Known for his humorous opinions on plants and gardening, George was the Border Supervisor of the Perennial Border at the BBG for eight years. **Cost:** \$25 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$35/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- March 24** **Coal Mining at Cougar Mountain (presented by Eastside Heritage Center),**
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
This program focuses on 100 years of local coal mining. In 1888, there were 20 mules and 200 men employed here! Exporting coal to San Francisco turned Seattle into a dominant seaport. Learn what is underneath a mountain that is older than Rainier. Presented in partnership by the Eastside Heritage Center and Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** 13 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- March 25** **Northwest Perennial Alliance Lecture: Vietnam’s Northern Mountains,**
1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Lecture by Sue Milliken and Kelly Dodson, who run Far Reaches Botanical Conservancy. Last fall they explored high peaks and ridges in northern Vietnam in search of new plants. This area is a geographical plant convergence zone and one of the world’s hotspots of biodiversity. Surprisingly, many plants from this region are proving much more hardy than common sense would suggest. Explore with Sue and Kelly as they recount their journey and some of these incredible plants. Doors open at noon for plant sales. **Cost:** \$5/Northwest Perennial Alliance members; \$20 for non-members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info:** <http://www.northwestperennialalliance.org/Lectures.php>
- March 25** **Making Tracks in Lewis Creek Park, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Park Ranger to learn Bellevue’s animal signs, then head outside on a scavenger hunt to see what animals have been through Lewis Creek Park! We’ll look for prints, feathers and even scat to see what’s been happening in the park. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required by 4 p.m. the Friday before the event. **Info and to register:** 425-452-4195.
- March 29** **Garden Class: Propagation - Cuttings, Layers and Grafting,**
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by Gordon Polson. Would you like to learn more about plant propagation? Gordon will offer in-depth instruction on the following propagation techniques: taking cuttings, layering, and grafting. In the spring, plants will be eager to take root, and there will be plenty of plant material available to demonstrate these techniques. **Cost:** \$25 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$35/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

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- March 30** **Nature Movie: “Fresh Water,”** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Only three percent of the world’ water is fresh, yet all life forms depend on it. This *Planet Earth* episode follows the journey of our fresh water and demonstrates how various species take advantage of this precious natural resource. David Attenborough narrates this film. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- March 30 – April 8** **“Winnie the Pooh” (Bellevue Youth Theatre Play),**
March 30, 31, April 6 and 7 at 7 p.m.; March 31, April 7 and 8 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street
Join us in the Hundred Acre Wood to visit the beloved little bear who loves honey and all his friends, including Tigger and Christopher Robin. This story, created by A.A. Milne, is approximately 90 minutes long. **Ages:** All ages, suitable for the entire family. **Cost:** Advance tickets are \$12. Price increases to \$15 on March 26. All seats are reserved. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.
- March 31** **Peep Peep!** 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Robinswood Barn, 2432 148th Avenue SE
Make cheerful chicks that peek out of decorate eggs as well as other springtime creatures. Music and an egg hunt will round off our morning of fun! This is a child and caregiver class, taught by Miss Karen. **Ages:** 2-5 years old. **Cost:** \$30/resident and \$35/non-resident. Additional child - \$6/resident and \$7/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

**Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
(This list is a guide. Details may change.)**

APRIL 2018

March 30 – April 8 “Winnie the Pooh” (Bellevue Youth Theatre Play),

*March 30, 31, April 6 and 7 at 7 p.m.; March 31, April 7 and 8 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street*

Join us in the Hundred Acre Wood to visit the beloved little bear who loves honey and all his friends, including Tigger and Christopher Robin. This story, created by A.A. Milne, is approximately 90 minutes long. **Ages:** All ages, suitable for the entire family. **Cost:** Advance tickets are \$12. Price increases to \$15 on March 26. All seats are reserved. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.

April 4 Communicative with Children, 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street

Bellevue College’s Parent Education Faculty will present the challenges of achieving effective communication with children. Often problems in communication are not based on a lack of hearing or interest from the child, but on understanding the word choices used by parents. Discussion will include dealing with children’s feelings, gaining cooperation from children, and freeing children from playing roles. No child care is provided for this event. **Ages:** Adults only. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

April 5 Connections Café: The Art of Listening, 10 a.m. - noon

Bellevue Main Club Center, 209 100th Avenue NE

Becoming practiced at the way you listen to others will dramatically improve your focus and your relationship. Connections Café workshops will teach you techniques for creating connections and building community at home, work, and in your neighborhood. Workshops are interactive, fun, and thought-provoking. These workshops are scheduled to build skills incrementally; however, you can attend one without the others. Workshops are limited to 30 students. **Ages:** Adults 18 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Highly suggested. **To register:** 425-452-4106. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

April 6 Lewis Creek Story Time: “Night Creatures”

Two sessions, choose one – 11 a.m. –noon OR 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE

Look, listen and create during an hour of stories and crafts presented by the Bellevue Master Naturalist Corps. When you’re going to bed at night, some animals are just waking up! Discover what nocturnal animals stay up all night and why you shouldn’t be afraid of them. We always make a fun craft to take home. This is an indoor program. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **Info and to register:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- April 7** **Garden Lecture and Workshop: Picture Perfect Plant Portraits,**
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Join Seattle-area photographer David Perry as he offers a playful new framework from which to picture the plants we love, whether through close-ups, group photos, fine detail, candid, or environmental portraits. David will guide students as they search out and capture examples of each style within the beautiful setting of the Bellevue Botanical Garden, resplendent with springtime bloom. Please bring whatever camera or device you prefer to take photos with. You may attend the lecture only, but to attend the afternoon workshop, you **must** also attend the morning lecture. **Schedule:** Lecture from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; workshop from noon to 4 p.m. **Costs:** For lecture only - \$10 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$15/non-BBGS members. For lecture and workshop: \$65 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$80/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:**
<http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- April 7** **Lewis Creek Ranger-Led Hike, 10:30 a.m. - noon**
Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Park Ranger to explore the natural and cultural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Distance:** Approximately 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy-Moderate (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- April 8** **Mercer Slough Family-Friendly Ranger Walk, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.**
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bring the whole family to join a Ranger on a guided hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park. This family-friendly program allows parents and their kids to explore the mosaic of habitats while learning more about the birds and animals that call the Mercer Slough home. This hour-long nature walk ends at the channel bridge on the shores of the Slough. From there you can continue to explore the rich diversity the park has to offer. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- April 8** **April Showers Make... Watersheds? 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
We know April means rain showers, but what happens after the rain falls? Join a Park Ranger to learn the ins and outs of watersheds and the important part they play in the water cycle. We'll start our own mini rain showers, and afterwards we'll discuss different ways we can help our watersheds. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- April 10** **Garden Lecture: The Prairies of Western Washington**, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
The prairies of Western Washington are an unexpected surprise in an area renowned for its trees. Jon Bakker will review their history, importance and their current status. He will illustrate current restoration practices and highlight some fascinating elements of their ecology. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** https://www.wnps.org/cps_programs.html
- April 11** **Garden Class: Tulips and Cherry Blossoms - Spring Blooms and Landscapes in Watercolor**, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Learn how to sketch and paint some of the garden's spring blooms, like tulips and cherry blossoms. We'll create watercolor sketches of individual flowers, as well as paint a flowering landscape. All supplies are provided, including artist-quality watercolor paper. Instructor Molly Hashimoto is the author of *Color of the West: An Artist's Guide to Nature's Palette*, as well as an illustrator whose work has been published by Pomegranate Communications for over 25 years. **Cost:** \$35 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$45/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- April 11** **Garden Class: Dahlias 101**, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by Roger Walker. This is the time of year to think about planting these beautiful free-flowering natives of Mexico that thrive in the Northwest. We'll talk about the various dahlia types, their cultural needs, and for the adventuresome gardener, we'll discuss advanced dahlia culture including hybridization and growing dahlias from cuttings. The Puget Sound region is a hotbed of dahlia activity and is well-known for having ideal growing conditions as well as the top dahlia exhibitors and hybridizers in the U.S. **Cost:** \$35 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$45/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- April 13** **When Bees Spring into Action!** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
The pollination season is approaching, and our little buzzing companions are waking up and getting to work! Join us at the Lake Hills Ranger Station to learn about the many different local pollinators and all that they do for us. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** 425-452-6993.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

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- April 14** **North American Rock Garden Society Plant Sale**, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Rock Garden Society members and regional specialty growers will offer a wide range of plants that grow in the mountains, forests and deserts of the West, along with plants from Europe, Asia and South America. Members will be available to demonstrate growing conditions and to give advice. Open to the public. **Cost:** Free admission; cost of plants will vary. **Info:** <https://www.nargsnw.org/2018-spring-plant-sale>
- April 14** **Family Discovery Series: Insect Investigation**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Without insects to help break down and dispose of nature’s waste, our environment would be a whole lot messier. In addition to insects being some of nature’s greatest recyclers, they also play a critical role in the food web. Come prepared to get a little muddy while we investigate further into the world of insects. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- April 19** **Connections Café: Resiliency Skills**, 10 a.m. - noon
Bellevue Main Club Center, 209 100th Avenue NE
Learn techniques to build inner strength and optimism that will help you weather life’s storms. Connections Café workshops will teach you techniques for creating connections and building community at home, work, and in your neighborhood. Workshops are interactive, fun, and thought-provoking. These workshops are scheduled to build skills incrementally; however, you can attend one without the others. Workshops are limited to 30 students. **Ages:** Adults 18 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Highly suggested. **To register:** 425-452-4106. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- April 20 – May 12** **“The Wizard of Oz” (Bellevue Youth Theatre Play)**,
April 20, 21, 27, 28, May 4, 5, 10, 11, and 12 at 7 p.m.;
April 21, 22, 28, 29, May 5, 6, and 12 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street
Follow the Yellow Brick Road in this amazing story by L. Frank Baum. No classic tale has captured the imagination of young people more than the tale of Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Tin Man, and the Cowardly Lion since the 1939 movie premiered. This show includes all the classic music such as “Follow the Yellow Brick Road” and “Somewhere Over the Rainbow.” Approximate run time is 1 hour 45 minutes. **Ages:** All ages, suitable for the entire family. **Cost:** Advance tickets are \$12. Price increases to \$15 on April 16 (for April 20-29 shows) and April 30 (for May 4-12 shows). All seats are reserved. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

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- April 21** **Arbor Day-Earth Day Family Festival**, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Bellevue's annual Arbor Day-Earth Day event will mark the city's 27th year of being recognized as a Tree City USA community by the Arbor Day Foundation. Local environmental stewardship organizations will host free activities and eco-demonstrations. Kids can grab an Arbor Day-Earth Day activity passport from a Park Ranger and journey through various eco-stations. Completed passports will be entered into a prize drawing. At 11:30 a.m., Bellevue Park Rangers and elected officials will plant a ceremonial tree and recognize environmental volunteers. **Ages:** All ages are welcome; family event. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- April 21** **April Pools Day** – 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Bellevue Aquatic Center, 601 143rd Avenue NE
Children will have the opportunity to learn basic self-help skills in a water emergency with water safety demonstration, lifejacket fitting, and a visit from Mercer Island Marine Patrol and their rescue boat. There will also be free raffles for prizes! **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** 12 and under swim for free; 13 and older swim for \$7. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4444 or sarmstrong@bellevuewa.gov
- April 27** **Nature Movie: "Seasonal Forests,"** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
This episode of *Planet Earth* explores our seasonal coniferous and deciduous woodland habitats and the animals that depend on them. David Attenborough narrates this film. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- April 28** **Kelsey Creek Farm Sheep Shearing**, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Watch the sheep being shorn of their winter coats. Enjoy wool spinning demonstrations, children's activities, tractor/wagon rides, pony rides, food, and animal viewing areas. Free shuttle service will be available at Wilburton Park & Ride and Bannerwood Sports Park. Please note: No pets are allowed in the barnyard area. **Ages:** All ages welcome; family event. **Cost:** Free admission. Costs vary for food and activities. No ATM is on site, and credit cards are accepted for pony rides only. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- April 28** **Fraser Cabin Heritage Program**, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
The Fraser Cabin, built in 1888, comes to life with activities and interpretation presented by volunteers and staff from the Eastside Heritage Center. Visitors are invited to participate in hands-on activities that relate to 1880s settler life: agriculture, dairy, household tasks, log cabins, games and Eastside history. This program is part of Kelsey Creek Farm's Sheep Shearing event and is presented by the Eastside Heritage Center in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** All ages are welcome; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** Eastside Heritage Center – www.eastsideheritagecenter.org or 425-450-1049.
- April 28** **Volunteer for Kelsey Creek Farm Event**, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
We are seeking energetic, fun teens to assist with children's activities at Kelsey Creek Farm's special event. Volunteers must be able to follow directions, be comfortable in crowds, and be on your feet in all types of weather. This is a great way to earn your community service hours. Dress to work outside with the public. Wear sturdy shoes that can get wet. Volunteers must pre-register. **Ages:** 14-18 years old and enrolled in high school. **Cost:** Free. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course 110912. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- April 28** **April Showers Make... Watersheds?** 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
We know April means rain showers, but what happens after the rain falls? Join a Park Ranger to learn the ins and outs of watersheds and the important part they play in the water cycle. We'll start our own mini rain showers, and afterwards we'll discuss different ways we can help our watersheds. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- April 29** **Living with Wildlife: Not So Coy Coyotes**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
So... there's a coyote in the yard... Should I be worried? Nope, but there are definitely some tips and tricks to keep this fascinating urban creature as wild as possible. Join us to learn how! This is an indoor program. **Ages:** 13 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- April 30** **Slime Fest**, 4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Come prepared to make a mess as you concoct your own slime, goo and gak. This program will be led by Bellevue College's Parent Education teachers. **Ages:** 5-10 years old. **Cost:** \$20/resident and \$24/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

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Events List
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MAY 2018

- May 3** **Connections Café: Challenging Conversations**, 10 a.m. - noon
Bellevue Main Club Center, 209 100th Avenue NE
Develop a toolkit of skills to employ when discussing difficult topics or differences of opinion. Connections Café workshops will teach you techniques for creating connections and building community at home, work, and in your neighborhood. Workshops are interactive, fun, and thought-provoking. These workshops are scheduled to build skills incrementally; however, you can attend one without the others. Workshops are limited to 30 students. **Ages:** Adults 18 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Highly suggested. **To register:** 425-452-4106. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- May 3** **Garden Class: Structural Pruning for Young Trees**, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by Christina Pfeiffer. Many of the challenges and structural failures that occur on older trees may be prevented with proper pruning while trees are young. In this class, Christina will cover essential pruning for young trees, which is an investment in their future health, structure, and beauty. **Cost:** \$25 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$35/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- May 4 & 11** **Painting the Bellevue Skyline**, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Bellevue Main Club, 209 100th Avenue NE
Enjoy the sweeping view as you paint the Bellevue city skyline with Downtown Park in the foreground. Work at your own pace or alongside seasoned artist and teacher, Shelly Vollstedt. All materials, including canvas, and basic instruction are included. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** \$35/residents and \$40/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- May 4** **Great Blue Herons**, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Did you know that Bellevue is home to a great blue heron rookery? We'll learn about what makes a wetland such a great home for these long-legged birds. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** 425-452-7225.

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(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- May 4** **Lewis Creek Story Time: “The Secret Place”**
Two sessions, choose one – 11 a.m. –noon OR 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Look, listen and create during an hour of stories and crafts. Hiding in our cities are places where wildlife thrives. Come join us as we read about finding the special places in the city around you. This is an indoor program. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults. **Info and to RSVP:** LCVC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.
- May 4** **Barn Dance, 7 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**
Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
This event is facilitated for individuals living with intellectual disabilities. Grab your hat ‘n boots and do-si-do on down to Highland’s Barn Dance. Spin yourself round and round with a YEE-HAW as you meet new friends and dance the night away! **Ages:** 16 years and older. **Cost:** \$10/resident and \$12/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** Contact Mary Boyle at MBoyle@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4118. **Info:** 425-452-7686.
- May 5** **Eastside Fuchsia Society Plant Sale, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Shop for fuchsia starts at this popular annual plant sale. Open to the public. **Cost:** Free admission; costs vary for plants. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** <http://www.nwfuchsiasociety.com/dates.htm>
- May 5** **Ranger-Led Hike at Lewis Creek Park, 10:30 a.m. - noon**
Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Park Ranger to explore the natural and cultural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Distance:** Approximately 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- May 5** **Family Fun-Teatime with Mommy and Me, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**
Robinswood Barn, 2432 148th Ave SE, Bellevue
Come to our tea party dressed-up in your party attire! Mommy and child will have fun together making art, nibbling snacks, listening to stories and singing! **Ages:** 3-6 years old. **Cost:** \$30/residents and \$35/non-residents. \$6/additional child resident and \$7/additional child non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course 119793. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

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- May 5** **The Great SBCC Challenge**, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
South Bellevue Community Center and Serial Events co-present this unique event where teams of three to five compete in a series of fun challenges requiring athleticism for physical feats, smarts for mental tasks, and artistic abilities for creative endeavors. The team that successfully completes the challenges in the allotted time while earning the most points will be crowned winner! However, twists and turns can throw off the most talented, so beware! **Ages:** Six years and older. **Cost:** \$10/team member. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to RSVP:** sbcc@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4240.
- May 6** **Mercer Slough Family-Friendly Ranger Hike**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bring the whole family to join a Ranger on a guided hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park. This kid-oriented program aims to educate kids and their parents about the Nature Park while discovering the birds and animals that call the Mercer Slough home. This hour-long nature walk ends at the channel bridge in the middle of the park. From there you can continue to explore the rich diversity the park has to offer. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 years old. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- May 6** **Living with Wildlife: Raccoons**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Are you neighbors with one (or several) of these mischievous mammals? If so, you're not alone. Learn all about raccoons, as well as how to prevent conflicts in your neighborhood. This is an indoor program. **Ages:** Best for adults, but ages 13 years and older are welcome with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- May 12** **Garden Class: Carnivorous Plants - What's the Big Deal?** 10 a.m. - noon
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by Scott Vergara. We'll examine the amazing adaptation of carnivory in plants, their appropriate care and feeding, how to create suitable "environments" for successful cultivation and enjoyment outdoors, and discuss which plants are suitable as year-round houseplants. We'll also touch on conservation issues. **Cost:** \$25 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$35/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>

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- May 12** **Creekside Caddisflies**, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Have you seen a dragonfly nymph’s jaws snatch a tasty snack as it crawls along the creek bed, or a caddisfly snuggled up in its woven case? Find out all about these critters and more as you explore Lewis Creek Park’s creek bed with a park ranger! This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5 to 10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- May 13** **Mother’s Day at the Garden**, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Celebrate this special day with your favorite mom by bringing her to the beautiful Bellevue Botanical Garden! Live music, posy-making for Mom, ballroom dancing demonstration, Plein Air artists, refreshments at the Copper Kettle Coffee Bar, and shopping at the Trillium Store will take place throughout the day. Open to the public. **Cost:** Free admission! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- May 13** **Ranger-Led Woof Walk at Lakemont Community Park**, 10 a.m. - noon
Meet at Lakemont Community Park, 5170 Village Park Drive SE
Come explore Lakemont Community Park with your furry friend, and learn all about the natural history and wildlife of the park. Limit – one dog per guest with leash and waste bag. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Difficulty:** Moderate (3.5 miles with 700 ft elevation change). **Ages:** All ages are welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- May 16** **Garden Lecture: The World of Rock Gardening**, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
The Bellevue Botanical Garden Society presents this lecture by Joseph Tychonievich. A much in-demand Michigan-based horticulturalist in his 30s, Joseph has already published two books: *Plant Breeding for the Home Gardener*, and *Rock Gardening: Reimagining a Classic Style*. He also writes for various gardening magazines and is a frequent guest on radio and in podcasts. **Cost:** \$5 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$15/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Recommended. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- May 18** **Great Migrations!** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Bellevue is home to several migratory species. From the hoary bat to the yellow warbler, peamouth minnow to the Chinook salmon, we’ll learn about some pretty amazing migratory animals. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** 425-452-7225.

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- May 18** **Batty Nights at Lewis Creek Park**, 8:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Come test your echolocation with a Park Ranger. We'll learn all about our Northwestern bat species before taking a dusk hike to watch for bats as they leave their roosting sites to forage for insects! Bring a flashlight or headlamp, as well as sturdy shoes for the journey. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5 and older with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required for youth and adult participants. **Info and to register:** 425-452-4195.
- May 19** **Family Discovery Series: Mammals of Mercer Slough**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
It's FUR-real. Mercer Slough Nature Park provides critical habitat for both aquatic and terrestrial mammals. Have you ever been curious who might be living here, who may be just passing through, or where they might be hiding? Join a Park Ranger to discover more about these mammals through hands-on displays, crafts, and activities. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 years old. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- May 19** **Cold-Blooded Charmers**, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Ever wondered how snakes can "smell" with their tongues? Or "hear" using their jaw bones? Come learn about Bellevue's cunning Northwestern Garter Snake, *Thamnophis ordinoides*, selected as Species of the Year for Bellevue Parks. Join the Master Naturalists for a presentation, sss-slithery game, and a sss-stealthy habitat walk around Lewis Creek Park. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5 and older with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required. **Info and to RSVP:** LCVC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.
- May 19-20** **Chinese Floral Art Exhibit**, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., both days
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Members of the Hua Yuan School of Chinese Floral Art create exquisite floral arrangement displays, on view all weekend in the Gathering Place at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. Open to the public! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- May 20** **Creekside Caddisflies**, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Have you seen a dragonfly nymph's jaws snatch a tasty snack as it crawls along the creek bed, or a caddisfly snuggled up in its woven case? Find out all about these critters and more as you explore Lewis Creek Park's creek bed with a park ranger! This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5 to 10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

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- May 25** **Nature Movie: “Mountains,”** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
This episode of *Planet Earth* focuses on mountains, exploring all the main ranges with extensive aerial photography. David Attenborough narrates this film. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 years old. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- May 31** **Garden Class: Mindfulness in the Garden - Creating Calm Within,**
10:30 a.m. - noon
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by Deborah Wilk, LMFT, and Jessica Volpentesta, LMHC. As you stroll slowly along the quiet trails of the Garden, Deborah and Jessica will help you experience the outdoors in a whole new way. Integrating elements of mindfulness meditation, brain science, and Shinrin Yoku (Japanese Forest Bathing), you will learn a variety of skills for calming your mind and restoring your body and spirit. **Cost:** \$25 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$35/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- May 31** **Garden Class: Sassy or Classy - Container Gardening to Suit Your Style,**
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by Karen Chapman. Container gardening is ideal for those with little or no garden space, or those with limited time or ability to tend to a large garden. Learn how to add the bold, sassy factor or create a chic, elegant look to your container gardens in this fun and informative presentation and planting demonstration. Karen is an award-winning designer and co-author of *Gardening with Foliage First* and *Fine Foliage*, and a speaker at this year’s Northwest Flower & Garden Festival. **Cost:** \$25 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$35/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>