



City of Spokane Park Board Recreation Committee Meeting

2:15 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 01, 2025
Hybrid in-person and WebEx teleconference meeting
Jennifer Papich – Recreation Director

Committee members

X Sally Lodato – Chair
X Greta Gilman
X Bob Anderson
Doug Kelley – absent (excused)
Lee Williams – absent (excused)

Parks staff

Jennifer Papich
Ryan Griffith
Kris Behr

SUMMARY

- The committee passed the following action items which will be presented to the Park Board for consideration and approval:
 - None
- Melinda DuPree, President of Evergreen East Mountain Bike Alliance gave a presentation
- Jennifer Papich and Ryan Griffith presented the September Recreation report.

The next regularly scheduled Recreation Committee meeting is set for 5:15 p.m. Wed. Nov. 05, 2025.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m. by committee chair Sally Lodato.

Public Comments: None

Action items: None

Discussion Items:

[Evergreen East Mountain Bike Alliance Presentation](#) - Melinda DuPree

1. With 9 regional chapters, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is the largest statewide mountain bike organization in the United States. They were founded in 1989. In 2008, Spokane Backcountry Bicycles Trail Club joined the alliance. Melissa has spent her entire life as an outdoor recreation devotee and now serves as the president of the northeastern Washington chapter and secretary of the state board. According to their mission and vision statements, Evergreen's goal is to build healthy and vibrant communities through mountain biking. They are currently working on their next 5 year strategic plan. There are currently 470 members in the northeastern chapter.
2. The main purpose of the group is to maintain, preserve and develop multi-use trails that are relevant to the community. In addition to many other activities, they teach educational classes and camps, which is how Spokane Parks and Recreation has partnered with the alliance. There are numerous trails in Spokane County. Beacon Hill has more than twice as many trails as Riverside State Park with 104 trails, many of which are quite challenging.
3. Among their recent project, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance has completed new trails at Minnehaha, refreshed and maintained the trails at Stahlingrab (Millwood) and assisted financially to the Make Beacon Hill Public Phase 2 project. A fun event which will be a great opportunity for new mountain bikers to experience will be October 30th at Beacon Hill. They are looking to partner with Spokane Tribe, Friends of the Palisades, and Spokane Parks and Recreation to build new trails and clean up and remove dangerous trails at Indian Canyon/Palisades area. Ryan shared what a delight it has been over the years to work with Evergreen.

Standing Reports

Quarter 3 (summer & fall) Recreation Report – Jennifer Papich

[Aquatics](#) finished their season with nearly 4,000 people attending lap swims generating \$22,339 in revenue. Since Josh Oakes Park Board presentation, there were also 3 Doggie Dips which raised money for a great cause.

[Outdoor Recreation](#) had a wonderful summer, serving 1,080 participants. The in-house programs had 78% occupancy, and the contracted programs had 89%. A WA State grant also provided several youth-sized kayaks. New this fall, in partnership with WA Department of Fish and Wildlife is a 3-part Women's Wildlife Workshop series.

[Corbin Arts Center](#) summer camps was extremely popular, serving 778 kids. The Fall Age of Elegance raised \$1,800 for continued preservation and maintenance on the historic building. It also helped to raise awareness with nearly 140,000 social media views.

In addition to other summer camps, [Wellness](#) had a terrific summer with their Art/Sci camp at Finch Arboretum, serving 224 kids.

[Athletics](#) remain extremely popular with numerous waitlists for softball, flag football and volleyball. The Podium opened 4 additional courts which helped eliminate most of the Volleyball waitlists.

[Therapeutic Recreation](#) bid adieu to the beloved Alice Busch after 40 years of service. She ended her career with outstanding programs, serving 464 participants for events including 133 Funshine Day Campers. To date, 386 people have already signed up for fall programs, with 16 already at max. The entire Recreation team will be taking the lead on various classes until a replacement is found.

[Coming up](#), the Recreation Supervisor position has been posted locally and nationally for 2 weeks and will close Oct. 3rd. Supervisors are already working on the winter Activity Guide. The Community Center Funding Committee continues to work on the funding application.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled Recreation Committee meeting is set for 2:15 p.m. Wed. Nov. 05, 2025.



Who We Are

Founded in 1989 as the Backcountry Bicycles Trails Club (BBTC), became Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance in 2008

The largest statewide mountain bike organization in US with over 8,000 members

Full-time Admin Staff :12

Professional trail builders: ~30 (full-time & seasonal)

4000+ volunteers, 23,000+ documented volunteer hours 2024

9 Regional Chapters, incl. newly-formed Columbia Basin Chapter





Our Mission

TO CREATE, MAINTAIN AND
PROTECT SUSTAINABLE
MOUNTAIN BIKING
OPPORTUNITIES IN
WASHINGTON.

Our Vision

TO MAKE WASHINGTON THE
BEST PLACE TO RIDE!

Why We Do This

TO BUILD HEALTHY AND VIBRANT
COMMUNITIES THROUGH
MOUNTAIN BIKING.



evergreen
MOUNTAIN BIKE ALLIANCE



evergreen
MOUNTAIN BIKE ALLIANCE

Strategic Plan: 2020 -2025



evergreen
MOUNTAIN BIKE ALLIANCE

2025 Strategic Plan

Building Trails,
Partnerships and
Community

Prepared by the Evergreen Mountain
Bike Alliance Board of Directors
Adopted July, 2021

Education

Objective: Empower and inspire riders, increase rider safety, build advocacy, and create an understanding of trail stewardship through innovative and inclusive education programs.

Advocacy

Evergreen has been the voice of mountain bikers in Washington state for 30 years. We will continue to play this role.

Sustainability

Objective: Refine our organizational capabilities, ensure financial health, develop a diverse community and staff, and improve our environmental practices at the statewide, chapter and program levels.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity

Create opportunities and a more welcoming mountain bike community.

Trails

The sport of mountain biking saw unprecedented growth in 2020. Trails and trailheads have been inundated by existing, and new riders and riders returning to the sport. Significantly increased ridership additional pressure on busy routes and create a greater need for more diverse, complete and progressive trail systems. As bike technology evolves so should we.

Community

The growing popularity of mountain biking has increased the need to improve our communication and outreach to inform new riders about the legacy of our work. We must foster an open, welcoming and inclusive mountain biking community for ALL riders regardless of culture, race, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, physical or mental limitation or bicycle type.

Objective: Build and maintain a strong, inclusive and accessible mountain bike community for all types of riders.

Advocacy



Federal

- USFS Hiring Freeze
- DOGE- Funding freeze (Methow impacts), RIFs
 - \$500k potential
- USFS Reorganization and additional RIFs
 - closing all nine regional Forest Service offices across the country
- Public Land Sell-offs- avoided (for now)
- Roadless Areas Rule may be rescinded
 - Kachess Ridge (pictured), Devil's Gulch, Angel's Staircase, **Kettle Crest**, Cutthroat Pass, Esmeralda Basin, Palisades, Strawberry Ridge



8/22/25 Site visit with Representative Rick Larsen / OA Washington, Wade Vagias (NPS), Jeff Kish (PNTA), OkaWen Staff



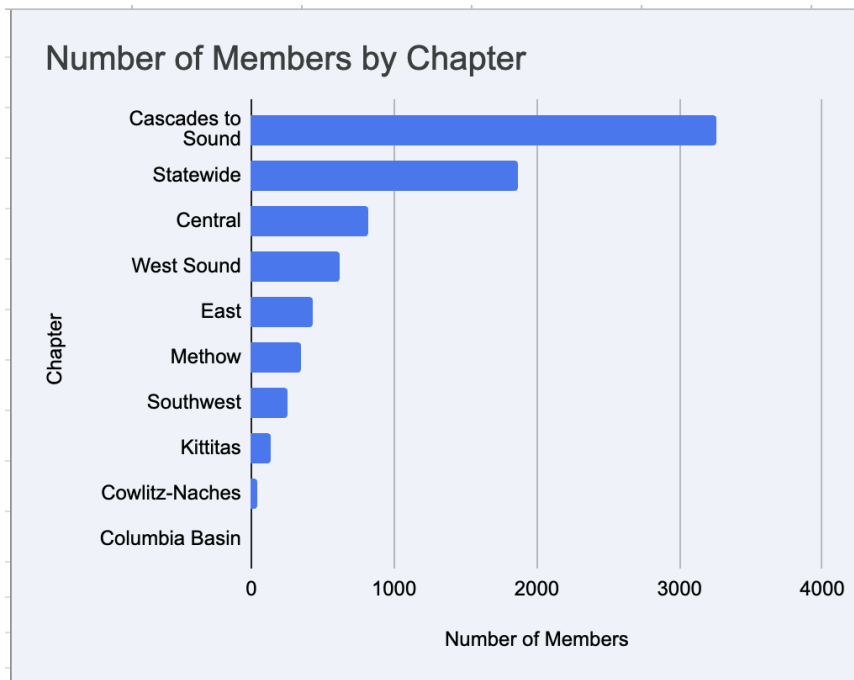
evergreen

MOUNTAIN BIKE ALLIANCE

EASTERN WASHINGTON CHAPTER



Membership



EAST CHAPTER: 470 Current Members



Who We Are

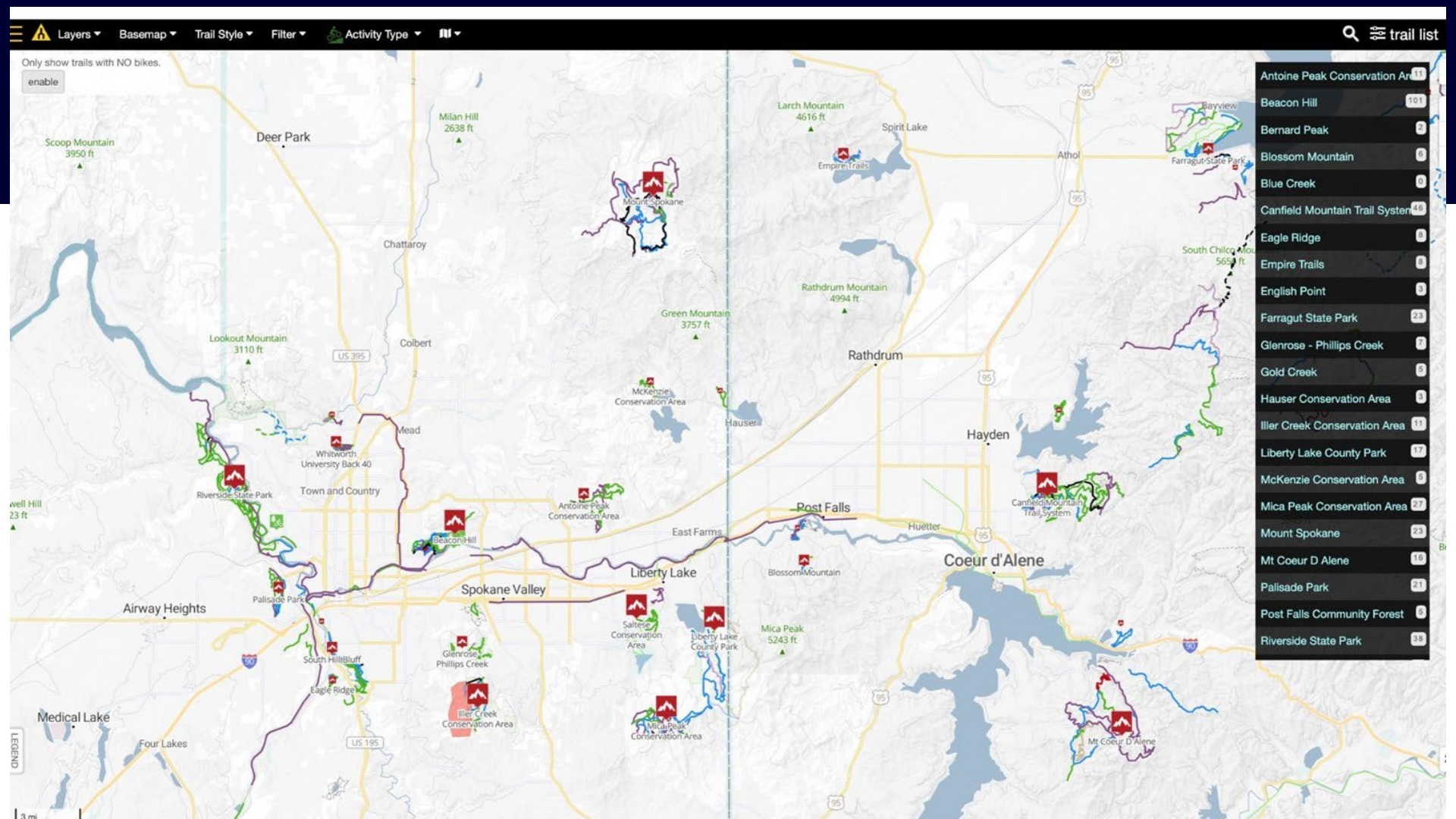
- East Chapter formed in 2013.
- Team of 11 local volunteer council members and 1 part time trail building staff.
- Local chapters work directly with landmangers in their region to develop projects relevant to the local community.
- Local chapters receive assistance and support from the Statewide Organization to complete projects and maintenance work.



What We Do

- Maintain, preserve, and develop multi-use trails that are relevant to the community.
- Teach education classes and camps for youth and adults
- Organize dig days, for volunteers to engage in trail building and maintenance.
- Host local events to grow our mountain bike community.
- Promote positive experiences to a variety of recreational users in and around Spokane County





name	status	trails					total descent	highest trail
Beacon Hill	✓	104	30	32	18	8	-11,326 ft	2,603 ft
Riverside State Park	✓	45	28	6	1		-6,712 ft	2,460 ft
Whitworth University Back 40	✓	37	21	10			-1,236 ft	1,929 ft
Mica Peak Conservation Area	✓	27	4	8	4		-4,497 ft	5,161 ft
Mount Spokane	✓	27	3	12	3		-12,667 ft	1 mile
Palisade Park	✓	21	11	7	1		-959 ft	2,222 ft
South Hill Bluff	●	18	12	4	1		-3,272 ft	2,331 ft
Liberty Lake County Park	✓	17	4	10			-4,172 ft	5,006 ft
Saltese Conservation Area	✓	12	6				-1,273 ft	2,649 ft
Antoine Peak Conservation Area	●	11	6				-2,763 ft	3,376 ft
Iller Creek Conservation Area	✓	11	5	4	1	1	-3,496 ft	3,671 ft
Eagle Ridge	●	8	4	3	1		-284 ft	2,295 ft
Glenrose - Phillips Creek	●	7	4	1			-1,904 ft	2,933 ft
McKenzie Conservation Area	✓	5	5				-713 ft	2,592 ft
Waikiki Springs	✓	5	3				-658 ft	1,780 ft
Fish Trap Recreation Area	✓	4		4			-681 ft	2,192 ft
South Hill Area	●	4	3		1		-254 ft	2,323 ft
Hauser Conservation Area	●	3	3				-135 ft	2,609 ft

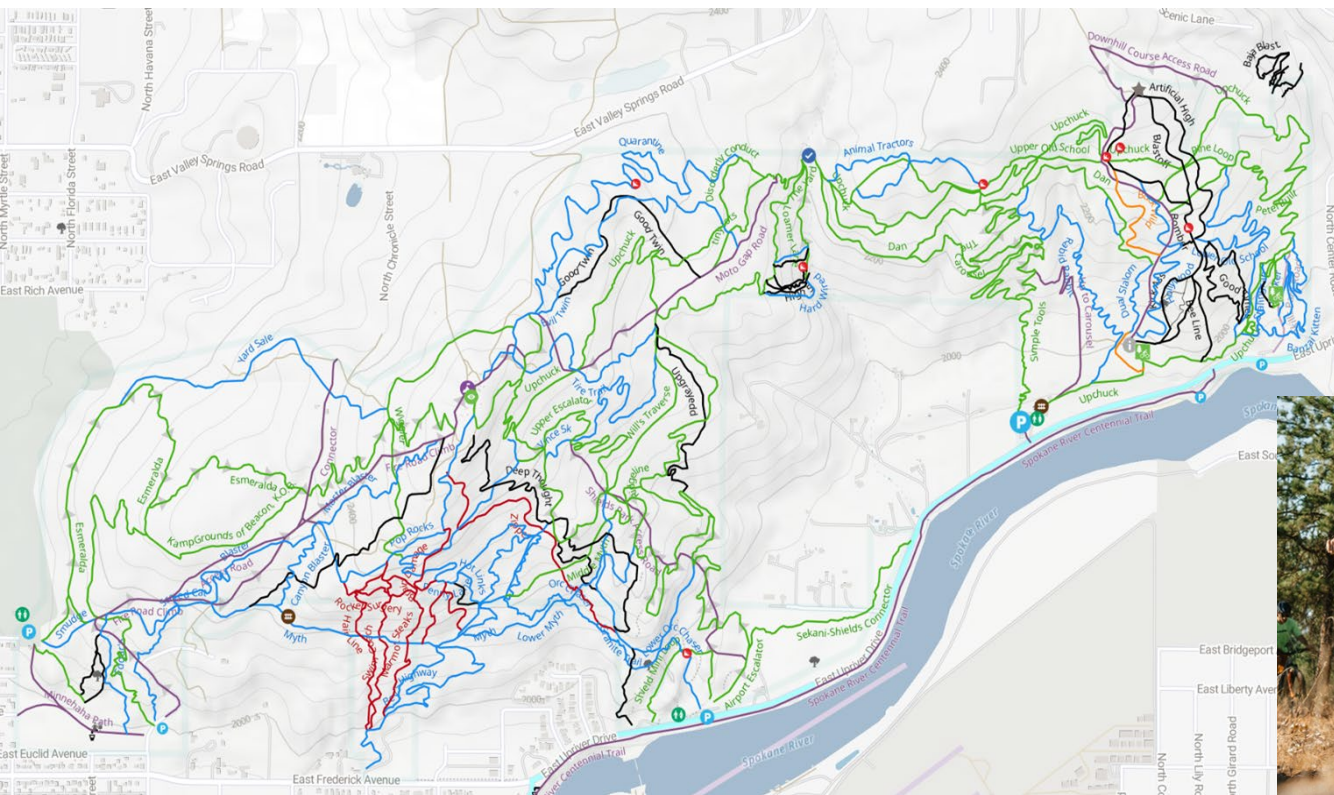


Beacon Hill



Stats

Avg Trail Rating:	★★★★☆
Trails (view details):	108
Total Distance:	42 miles
Total Descent:	11,326 ft
Total Vertical:	675 ft
Highest Trailhead:	2,603 ft
Reports:	5,723
Photos:	1,834
Ridden Counter:	60,815



East Chapter

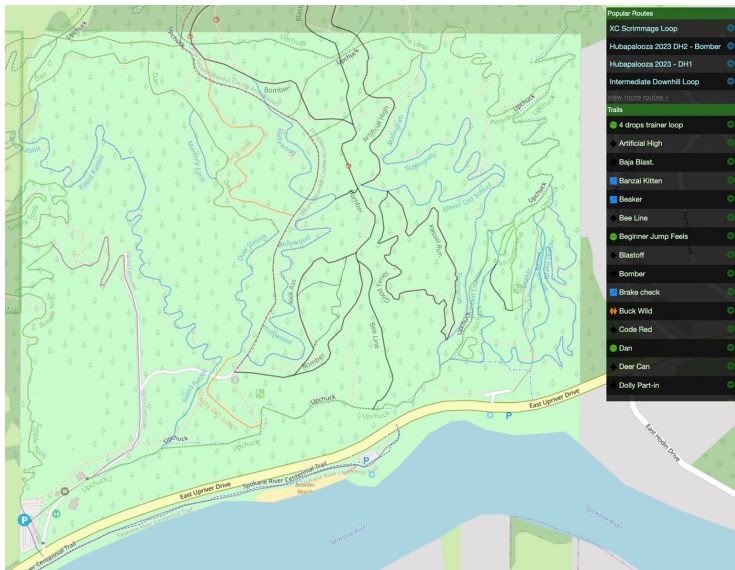


What We've Done

- **Completed** new trails - Minnehaha
- **Completed** trail refresh and maintenance - Stahlingrab
- **Contributed** financially to Make Beacon Public Phase 2
- **Continued** working with land managers to advocate for new multi-use and mountain bike specific trail opportunities
- **Collaborated** with Friend of Palisades on a vision for new trail design and historical connections
- **Hosted** group rides
- **Produced** an enduro race
- **Add** more kids camps!



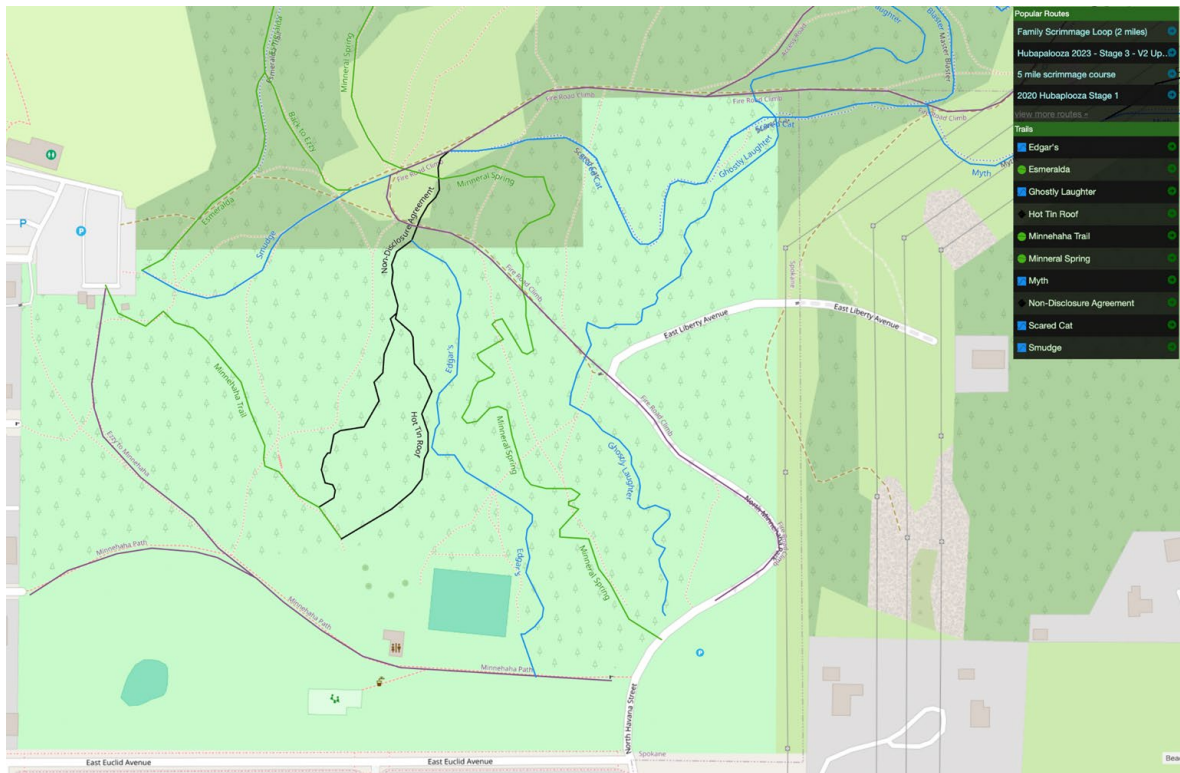
East Chapter



Highlights

- Over 2,400 volunteer hours in 2024; 1,058 in City Parks
- Over 1,450 volunteer hours YTD in 2025; 757 in City Parks
- Education: Host youth dirt camps and adult skills classes
- Camp Sekani
- Minnehaha
- Indian Canyon/Palisades

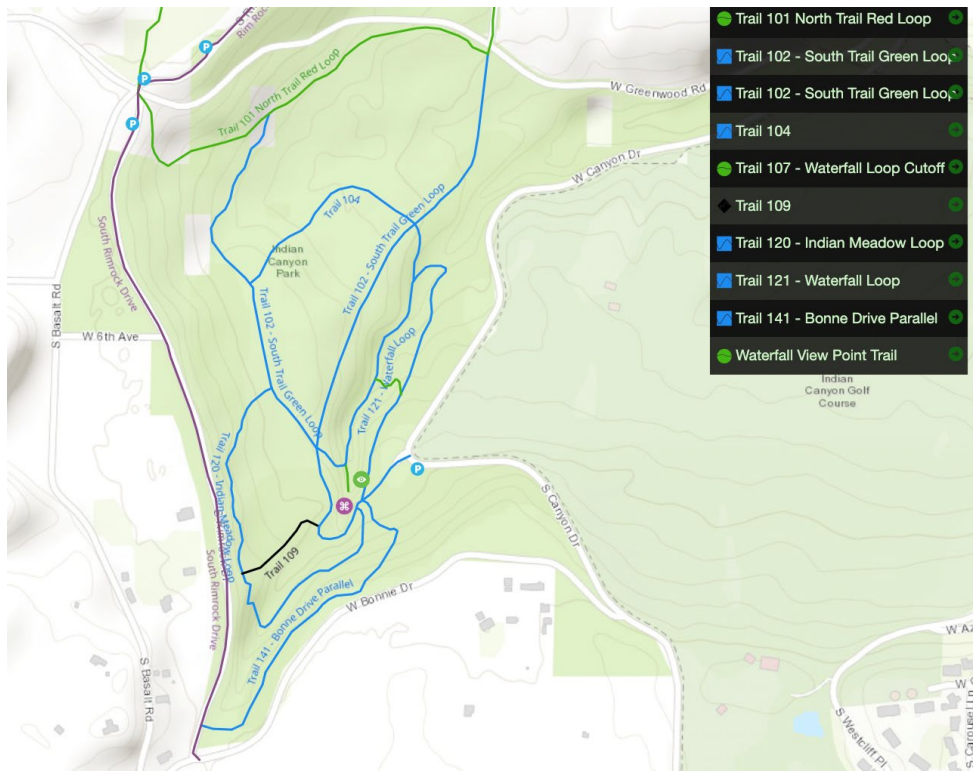
East Chapter



Minnehaha - 3 new trails

- Minneral Spring
- Ghostly Laughter
- Edgar's

East Chapter



Indian Canyon/Palisades





Thank You



evergreen
MOUNTAIN BIKE ALLIANCE



evergreen
MOUNTAIN BIKE ALLIANCE

RECREATION SUMMER & FALL HIGHLIGHTS

SPRING &
SUMMER
2025

ACTIVITY GUIDE

APRIL - AUGUST

INSIDE

AQUATICS, SPRING BREAK CAMPS, ORIENTEERING,
SUMMER CAMPS, RAFTING, KAYAKING,
GUITAR LESSONS, NINJA SKILLS TRAINING,
THERAPEUTIC PROGRAMS AND MORE!

EXPLORE PARKS SPORTS & REC CAMPS LEARN SWIM POOLS PLAY GOLF ENJOY RIVER FRONT

City of Spokane
PARKS

FALL 2025

ACTIVITY GUIDE

SEPT - DEC

INSIDE

DOGGIE DIP, CORBIN AGE OF ELEGANCE
EVENT, NO SCHOOL DAY CAMPS,
INTERIOR DESIGN CLASSES, WOMEN'S
WILDLIFE WORKSHOPS, KARATE,
LONGEVITY FIT FOR HEALTHY AGING,
NEW THERAPEUTIC RECREATION SECTION
AND SO MUCH MORE!

EXPLORE PARKS SPORTS & REC CAMPS LEARN SWIM POOLS PLAY GOLF ENJOY RIVER

City of Spokane
PARKS

998 Swim Lessons	6 Swim Teams	189 Lap Swims	30 Trainings & Certs.	Rentals
2,858 Attendees \$178,080	165 Attendees \$37,979	3,838 Attendees \$22,339	320 Attendees \$34,151	46 Facility \$27,468
24 FREE SWIM CLINICS 320 Attendees	OTHER • 3 Doggie Dips • 1 Visually Impaired Swim Event • WA Parks Summer Splash Safety Events • TRS Sensory Swim 17 Participants			972 Lap Lane \$26,634

AQUATICS 2025 NUMBERS



Outdoor Recreation



SUMMER OVERVIEW	PEOPLE
Total Participants Served	1,080
In-house Programs- 78% FULL <i>BASE Camp, Kayak Tours, Hiking & Private Tours</i>	266
Contracted Programs 89% FULL <i>Archery, Disc Golf, Horseback Riding, Wilderness Survival, Rafting</i>	203
Little Spokane River Shuttle	523
Little Spokane Kayak Rentals	88

FALL OUTDOOR PROGRAMS AIM TO SERVE 124 PARTICIPANTS

- Partnered with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to provide a 3-part series of Women's Wildlife Workshops, which include: Bear Aware!, Wonderous Wildlife Photography, and the Beauty of Birding!



Corbin Art Center

CORBIN SUMMER CAMPS

- Happily, served 778 kiddos!!
 - Excellent Activities
 - Wonderful Instructors
 - Special guests including:
 - Park Rangers, Girls Scouts, Fire & Police Dept.



[Return to Minutes](#)

FALL AGE OF ELEGANCE EVENT

- 265 visits
- \$1800 raised
 - 138,678 Social Media views

Wellness and Art/Sci Camp @ Finch

ART/SCI AT FINCH

- 224 kiddos
- Wonderful adventures at Finch Arboretum included:
- Environmental science presentations,
- Bigfoot scavenger hunt,
- Moose sightings
- Art & nature projects, and much more!

WELLNESS SUMMER CAMPS

- Summer Day Camp at Merkel-204 campers
 - Badminton Camp-84 Campers
- **NEW** Dance Camps at Gonzaga High School -51 Participants



Athletics



SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

- **Adult Softball - 1,400 participants**
 - 97 adult teams & Five 65+ teams
- **NFL Flag Football - 318 participants** with a record number of 20 females! We were highlighted on local news for females in flag football on KHQ.
- **Outdoor Volleyball - 352 players = 50 teams**
Most teams ever for Summer Volleyball!

FALL HIGHLIGHTS

Adult Softball - 1,330 participants = 95 adult teams

Adult Flag Football - 360 participants

16 - 5v5 teams & 10 - 8v8 teams

Fall Adult Volleyball - 1,068 participants = 178 - teams

First time Fall Podium usage for Volleyball!

4 additional courts behind concert set up

Therapeutic Recreation Services

• 464 - Summer Participants

- 30 participants to the Cheney Rodeo
- 34 participants to Spokane Velocity Games
- 35 participants to Indians Baseball Games
- **133 Funshine Day Camp Participants**
- 28 participants for Bowling outing



LOOKING AT FALL

- Said a fond farewell to Alice Busch on Sept. 26
- **386 people signed up and are participating in Fall programs to date**
- **16** out of the 26 fall programs are Full!

FUN FALL ACTIVITIES

- Chiefs Hockey Games
- Eastern Football Game
- Eagle Watch Cruises
- Pre-Ski Walking
- Friday Night Jam Dances
- And More!



- Recruitment closes for the Recreation Supervisor position 10/3
- Already working on Winter Activity Guide -
- Community Center Funding Committee continues to work on Funding Application.