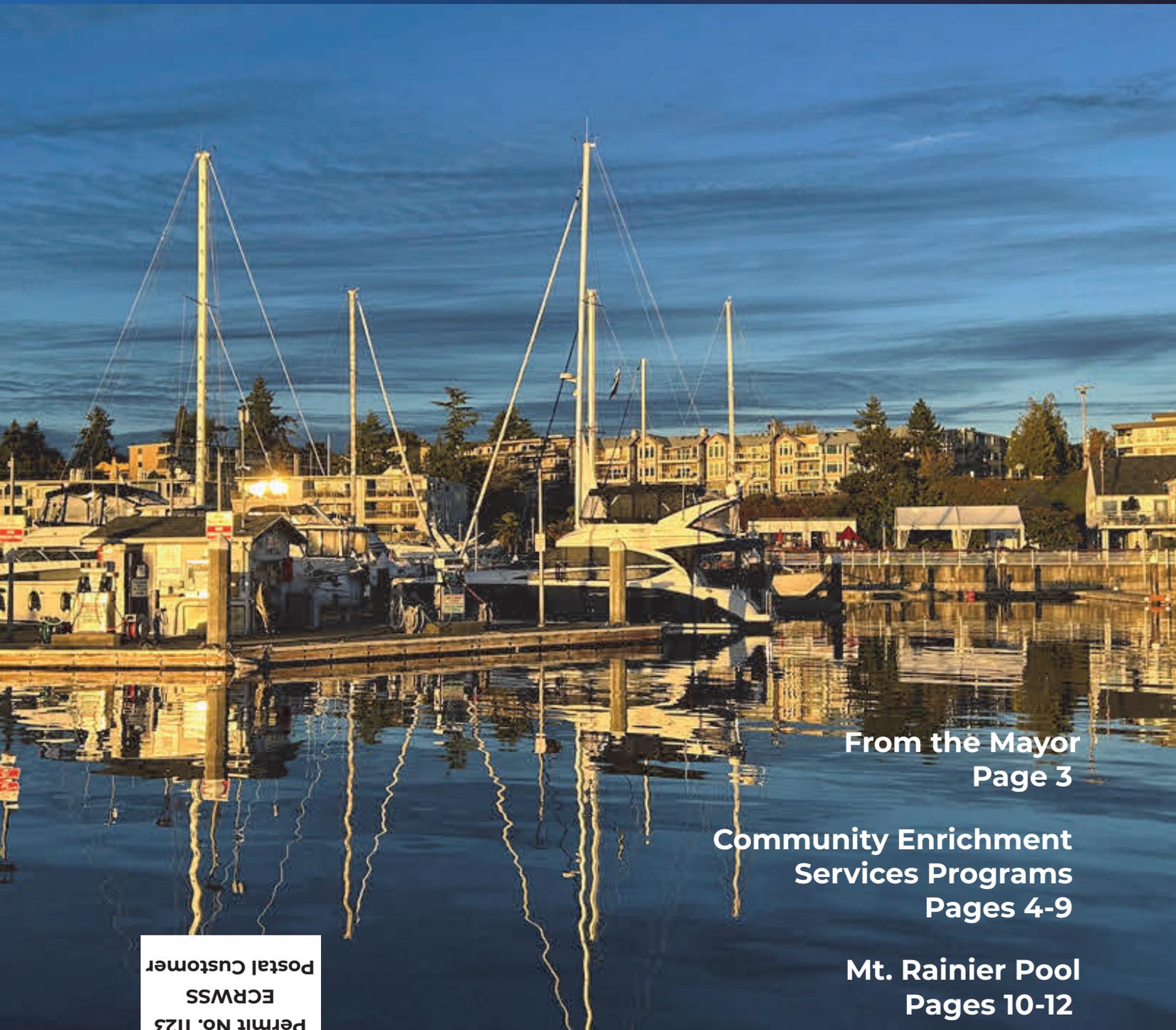


DES MOINES CITY CURRENTS



From the Mayor
Page 3

Community Enrichment
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PRSR STD
Us Postage Paid
Seattle, WA
Permit No. 1123
ECRWSS
Postal Customer

Spring 2026

Minor Home Repair Services

The City of Des Moines is once again providing minor home repair services to City resident homeowners who have “extremely low” to “low” incomes based on U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) income guidelines. This is done by providing free repair services to improve the health and safety of our residents as they live in their homes. Funding for this program is provided by a Community Development Block Grant through King County. Services provided include but are not limited to:

Electrical – faulty lights, switches, plugs, circuits or exhaust fans

Plumbing – faulty toilets, clogged drains, leaking faucets, faulty water heaters

Disability Aids – installation of grab bars, hand rails, hand held showerheads, bath seats, high toilets, access ramps and application of non-skid surfaces

Safety – installation of smoke alarms, security/safety lights, carbon monoxide alarms and locksets

Other – faulty furnaces, faulty gutters and roof leaks, broken window glass panes

How do I qualify for these free services?

1. Be an owner/occupant within the Des Moines city limits for at least one year with no intention of selling in the next 12 months, have proof of home owner’s insurance, and meet the HUD income guidelines for the program.
2. Complete the application process

How do I apply?

To apply for this program please follow these directions:

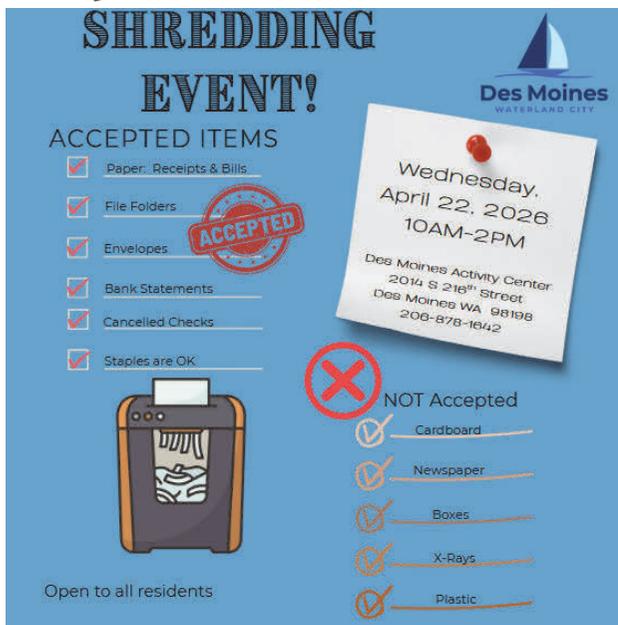
1. Request an application by email at THickey@desmoineswa.gov or by calling (206) 870-6535

Once your application is processed and evaluated you will receive a phone call informing you of your acceptance or non-eligibility for our program. Upon acceptance your job will be referred to one of our contractors who will call you to make an appointment to perform those services. Services that are required for your health and/or safety are the highest priority.

Things have changed!

City Currents - What's Changed?

City Currents is now a shorter, 12-page publication following budget adjustments approved by City Council in fall of 2025. Our focus is shifting to what’s ahead—highlighting upcoming programs, events, and opportunities—so residents can stay informed about what’s coming next in Des Moines.



SHREDDING EVENT!

ACCEPTED ITEMS

- Paper, Receipts & Bills
- File Folders
- Envelopes
- Bank Statements
- Cancelled Checks
- Staples are OK

NOT Accepted

- Cardboard
- Newspaper
- Boxes
- X-Rays
- Plastic

Open to all residents

Des Moines WATERLAND CITY

ACCEPTED

Wednesday, April 22, 2026
10AM-2PM

Des Moines Activity Center
2014 S 216th Street
Des Moines WA 98198
206-878-1642



SAVE THE DATE

INTERNATIONAL SCULPTURE DAY

SATURDAY
APRIL 25, 2026

A SELF GUIDED TOUR MAP OF DES MOINES/REDONDO SCULPTURES AND MURALS WILL BE AVAILABLE PRIOR TO THE EVENT, ONLINE AND AT VARIOUS LOCAL BUSINESSES

BE PART OF THE 18 MILLION PARTICIPANTS AROUND THE WORLD ON THIS DAY!

#ISDAY 2026
More Information Coming Soon!

From the Mayor



Yoshiko Grace Matsui

By way of introduction, my name is Yoshiko Grace Matsui, and I have the honor of serving as your Mayor for 2026-2027. One of my favorite times of year is when we truly edge closer to Spring – the daylight hours get longer, and you start to see the first crocuses herald in the new season. These pages are full of up-coming activities and resources for residents to kick off the new year. I hope you take the opportunity to join in building our community into a vibrant place to live, work, and play.

I'm excited to co-host the second annual Des Moines Non-Profit Summit coming up March 7th at the Des Moines Activity Center. We'll continue to collaborate on how we can work together in our efforts and build capacity across organizations.

You'll notice all sorts of cranes, trucks, and workers as we rebuild the Redondo Fishing Pier, replace several of the docks in the Marina, and break ground on the new Marina Steps. These projects will be transformational, and we hope to see you out enjoying the waterfront once construction is completed.

I want to personally thank the City Staff and members of the Citizen's Advisory Board who did hours of outreach for the new Strategic Plan. We received a record number of surveys returned and the City Council will be meeting at a retreat in late February to hear the major themes that you provided to us. You'll hear more about what we heard in the coming months. Thank you for taking the time to provide us with feedback about the direction of Des Moines.

The state of the world may seem chaotic at times. I believe we can all make a difference in tangible, rewarding ways if we act locally. Think of volunteering this year with one of our Des Moines organizations. Get to know your neighbors. Plant some flowers for next spring.

Des Moines Directory



City Hall

21630 11th Avenue S
(206) 878-4595

City Hall Open

Monday-Friday
8:00am-4:00pm

www.desmoineswa.gov

City Council

Yoshiko Grace Matsui, Mayor	ygracematsui@desmoineswa.gov
Gene Achziger, Deputy Mayor	gachziger@desmoineswa.gov
Pierre Blossse	pblosse@desmoineswa.gov
Robyn Desimone	robynd@desmoineswa.gov
JC Harris	jcharris@desmoineswa.gov
Jeremy Nutting	jnutting@desmoineswa.gov
Harry Steinmetz	hsteinmetz@desmoineswa.gov

City Offices

City Attorney	206-870-7618
City Clerk	206-870-6552
City Manager	206-870-6519
Community Development	206-870-7576
Community Enrichment	206-870-6527
Engineering	206-870-6525
Facility Rentals	206-870-9370
Finance Director	206-870-6510
Marina	206-824-5700
Municipal Court	206-878-4597
Police Department	206-878-3301
Public Works/Parks	206-870-6559

Other Numbers

Activity Center	206-878-1642
Beach Park Event Center	206-870-9370
Emergency	911
Field House	206-870-6527
Fire (non-emergency)	253-839-6234
Library - Des Moines	206-824-6066
Library - Woodmont	253-839-0121
Police (non-emergency)	206-878-2121

Utilities and Services

Century Link	800-573-1311
Comcast	877-778-7008
Highline Water District	206-824-0375
Lakehaven Water / Sewer	253-941-1516
Midway Sewer District	206-824-4960
Puget Sound Energy	800-321-4123
Recology	206-762-4900
SW Suburban Sewer	206-244-9575
Water District #54	206-878-7210

Call Before You Dig

Utility Locates 800-424-5555

Sign Up Today for the City Manager Report!!

Be in the know! Get the latest updates straight from the City Manager, and more - stay informed about what's happening in your community! Go to www.desmoineswa.gov to sign up today!

COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT SERVICES

Community Enrichment Services at a Glance



Contact Us

• Activity Center

- o Open hours M-F 8:30am-4:00pm
- o Phone: 206-878-1642
- o Address: 2045 S. 216th St. Des Moines, WA 98198

• Field House

- o Open during programming hours only
- o Phone: 206-870-6527
- o Email: recreation@desmoineswa.gov
- o Address: 1000 S. 220th St. Des Moines, WA 98198

• Beach Park Events & Facility Rental

- o Tours by appointment only
- o Phone: (206) 870-9370
- o Email: beachparkeventcenter@desmoineswa.gov
- o Address: 22030 Cliff Ave. S. Des Moines, WA 98198

- Facebook: [@desmoinesCES](https://www.facebook.com/desmoinesCES)
- Website: www.desmoineswa.gov/registration

How To Register

- Online, in person, or by phone.
- Debit/Credit Card, Cash, or Check

Photo Policy

- Photos of participants in any program or event may be used in future posts or publications or for promotion of City of Des Moines Community Enrichment Services

Register Early!

- Programs that do not meet registration minimums are subject to cancellation. Participants in programs cancelled for low enrollment will be fully refunded.

EVENTS

Family Bingo Night- Luck 'o the Irish

Ages: All ages, parental supervision required
 Date: Friday, March 13
 Price: \$5 per person; ages 3 & under free
 **\$10 DAY-OF
 Time: 6:30-8:00pm
 Location: Activity Center

Family Bingo Night- Mother's Day

Ages: All ages, parental supervision required
 Date: Friday, May 8
 Price: \$5 per person; ages 3 & under free
 **\$10 DAY-OF
 Time: 6:30-8:00pm
 Location: Activity Center

EGGstravaganza

Ages: 1-12y (and their families!)
 Date: Saturday, April 4, 2026
 Time: 9:00-10:30am
 Price: \$5 in advance
 **\$10 DAY-OF
 Location: Beach Park Meadow



CHILDCARE

Club KHAOS: Afterschool Care at the Field House!

Ages: K-5th Grade
 Dates: All Highline Elementary School Days, Minimum 3 Days per week
 Time: M-Th 3:45-6:00pm, F 2:15-6:00pm
 Price: Daily Rate: \$24R/\$29NR
 Location: Field House Studio, transportation provided by Highline School Bus from Des Moines Area Elementary Schools

KHAOS: Break Camps

Ages: K-5th Grade
 Dates: February 13, March 13, April 6-10, May 26
 Time: 8:00am-6:00pm
 Price: Daily Rate: \$50R/\$55NR
 Location: Field House Studio

Camp KHAOS: Summer Day Camp

Ages: K-5th Grade
 Dates: M-F June 22 - August 28
 No Program Days: Friday, July 3
 Time: 8:00am-6:00pm
 Price: One Time
 Registration Fee: \$50R/\$55NR
 Daily Rate: \$50R/\$55NR
 Location: Field House Studio



COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT SERVICES

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

DROP IN! Indoor Tot Time

Ages: Crawlers to 5y
Date: Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the school year
Time: 10:00am-12:00pm
Price: \$3 drop in, \$25 for 10-visit punch pass
Location: Field House Gym

DROP IN! Basketball Open Gym - Youth

Ages: 5-17y
Date: Mondays throughout the school year
Time: 4:30-6:00pm
Price: \$3 drop in, \$25 for 10-visit punch pass
Location: Field House Gym



Preschool Art Classes – 4 Week Sessions

Ages: 1-5y
Dates: Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18, 25
Wednesdays, April 1, 8, 15, 22
Wednesdays, April 29, May 6, 13, 20
Time: 10:00-11:00am
Price: \$48R/\$52NR
Location: Field House Classroom

Daytime Elementary Art Classes – 4 Week Sessions

Ages: Kinder-5th Grade
Dates: Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18, 25
Wednesdays, April 1, 8, 15, 22
Wednesdays, April 29, May 6, 13, 20
Time: 12:00-1:00pm
Price: \$54R/\$58NR
Location: Field House Classroom

Evening Elementary Art Classes – 4 Week Sessions

Ages: Kinder-5th Grade
Dates: Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24
Tuesdays, March 31, Apr. 7, 14, 21
Tuesdays, April 28, May 5, 12, 19
Time: 5:30-6:30pm
Price: \$54R/\$58NR
Location: Field House Classroom

Melanie's Dance Unlimited – Toddler & Youth Classes

For pricing, program information and online registration, visit www.melaniesdancers.com
Location: Field House Gym and Field House Studio

Spring Planter Painting & Potting Workshop

Ages: All ages, children under 5 must be assisted by an adult
Date: Tuesday, May 5
Time: 4:30-6:00pm
Price: \$25 per person
Location: Activity Center



Skyhawks Multi-Sport Tots (Soccer & Basketball)

Ages: 1.5-5y
Dates: Mondays, February 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23
Times: 10:00-10:35am (ages 1.5-2.5y)
10:45-11:30am (ages 2.5-3.5y)
11:25am-12:00pm (ages 3.5-5y)
Price: \$74 per 4 Week Session
Location: Field House Gym

Skyhawks Tennis Lessons

Ages: 4-14y
Dates: Wednesdays, April 29, May 6, 13, 20
Tuesdays, May 26, June 2, 9, 16
Times: 4:45-5:30pm (ages 4-6y)
5:40-6:25pm (ages 7-10y)
6:35-7:20pm (ages 11-14y)
Price: \$74 per 4 Week Session
Location: Field House Outdoor Tennis Courts

UK Soccer – Weeklong Camps

Ages: 4-17y
Dates: April 6 – 10
July 20 – 24
Times: Half Day: 9:00am-12:00pm or 12:30-3:00pm
Full Day: 9:00am-3:00pm
Price: \$155-\$250, depending on times
Location: Field House Fields
Register today at www.uksoccer.com



COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT SERVICES

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Youth Soccer League – Spring

Ages: 4y-4th Grade
Dates: Registration Open: Jan. 2 – Mar. 1
Practices: Weekdays beginning Mar 30
Games: Saturdays Apr. 18 – June 13
No Games: Memorial Day Weekend, May 23
Price: \$95R/\$105NR
Location: Field House or Local School Fields

Youth T-Ball & Coach Pitch Leagues

Ages: 4-8y
Dates: Registration Open April 1 – June 1
Practices: Weekdays beginning June 29
Games: Saturdays beginning July 11
Price: \$95R/\$105NR **\$10 Early Bird Discount ends April 30!
Location: Field House or Local School Fields

NEW! Country Line Dancing Classes for All Levels!

Join Scuffed Boots Dance for line dancing instruction to your favorite country hits! New dances will be taught each week.

Ages: 16+
Dates: Wednesday Evenings, 4-week Sessions
March 4-25
April 1-22
April 29-May 20
Times: 7:30-8:30pm
Price: \$64.00 per session, or \$18 single class drop-in
Location: Activity Center



DROP IN! Basketball Open Gym

Ages: Adults 18+
Date: Mondays
Time: 6:30-8:00pm
Price: \$3.00 drop in, \$25.00 for 10-visit punch pass
Location: Field House Gym

NEW! Craft Café

Join us on Friday afternoons at the Activity Center for drop-in crafts, coffee and conversation! Bring your own project or browse our selection of take-home needlepoint, embroidery, cross stitch, crochet, and knitting kits to find something new! We provide lots of table space to spread out your materials, hot drinks including coffee and tea, and a welcoming space to socialize while you work. Optional: bring a treat to share potluck-style or enjoy a small treat provided by the Activity Center.

Ages: Teens+, adults and seniors encouraged
Days: Fridays beginning March 6
Time: 1:00-4:00pm
Cost: Free
Location: Activity Center

Dog Obedience with Jan Magnuson – “Good Manners” Classes

Ages: Puppies & Dogs 4+mo, with Adult Handlers
Dates: Wednesday Evenings, 6-week Sessions
Spring A – April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6
Spring B – May 13, 20, 27, June 3, 10, 17
Time: 6:00-7:00pm
Price: \$120R/\$129NR
Location: Field House Gym

Individual Dog Obedience Trainings Please email the instructor, Jan Magnuson, at sunstaramericanbulldogs@msn.com for more information. Single 90-minute sessions Price \$250.

ADOPT A STORM DRAIN

Volunteer fifteen minutes, twice a month, for cleaner waterways and healthier communities. Storm drains flow directly to our creeks and the Puget Sound, acting as a conduit for trash and organic pollutants. Adopt-a-Drain asks residents to adopt a storm drain in their neighborhoods and keep it clear of leaves, trash, and other debris to reduce water pollution and help prevent localized flooding. Here's how to participate:

1. Visit wa.adopt-a-drain.org
 2. Use your address to find unadopted drains in your neighborhood
 3. Create an account and claim your drain
 4. Receive tools and supplies from the City of Des Moines
- Need more info? MPosey@desmoineswa.gov



COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT SERVICES

SENIOR SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

MEALS

Senior Hot Lunch Program

Ages: Adults & Seniors
When: Monday—Wednesday
Time: 12:00-12:30pm
Suggested Donation: \$5 per meal; punch cards available
Location: Activity Center

Thursday Lunch by Don

Ages: Adults & Seniors
When: Thursdays
Time: 12:00-12:30pm
Price: \$5 per person
Location: Activity Center

Meals on Wheels

Contact: soundgenerations.org or call 206-448-5767

EVENTS & CLASSES

Monthly Dessert Social

Ages: Adults & Seniors
Dates: Tuesday, March 17 (Wear green!)
Thursday, April 23
Thursday, May 28
Time: 12:15pm after lunch
Price: FREE
Location: Activity Center

Senior Bingo

Ages: Adults & Seniors
Dates: Tuesday, March 17
Thursday, May 28
Time: 12:45pm-1:45pm
Price: FREE
Location: Activity Center

Medical Lending Closet

Please call ahead to inquire about the availability of wheelchairs and walkers, or if you are planning to donate an item to the lending closet as we can only accept specific items if there is space.

Price: Free, donations welcome
Location: Activity Center



AARP Smart Driver™ Course

Date: April 30-May 1, both days
Time: 9:00am-1:30pm
Price: \$20-\$25, bring cash or check to the class and give to the instructor
Location: Activity Center
Registration required

Presentation: “Smarter Living For Your Next Chapter”

Discover fresh ideas and smart solutions for enjoying your next chapter with comfort and confidence at this free educational event for adults! Topics covered will be downsizing made simple, planning your next move, making the most of your space (including rentals and multigenerational options), aging in place using home equity, and navigating senior living choices—from independent living to assisted living, memory care, and adult family homes.

Ages: Recommended for ages 55+
Date: Thursday, May 21
Time: 2:00pm-3:00pm
Price: Free
Location: Activity Center

SENIOR DROP-IN GAMES & ART

Hand and Foot Card Games

Mondays from 11:00am-2:00pm
Levels: All levels
Location: Activity Center

Coloring Art Club

Tuesdays from 10:00-11:45am
Supplies: Bring your own projects or use our supplies
Ages: Adults & Seniors
Location: Activity Center

American Mahjong- Experienced

Wednesdays from 12:00-2:00pm
Level: Experienced only, must bring your own 2026 card
Location: Activity Center

Rummikub & Mexican Train Dominoes

Wednesdays from 2:00-4:00pm
Level: All levels
Location: Activity Center

Scrabble, Chess and Cribbage

Thursdays from 10:00-12:45pm
Level: All levels
Location: Activity Center

COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT SERVICES

FITNESS & MOVEMENT CLASSES

EnhanceFitness

Ages: Adults & Seniors
Day: Mondays, 4 wk Sessions
Dates: March 9-30
April 6-27
May 4-June 1 (no class 5/25)
Time: 9:00-10:00am
Price: \$25 per 4-class session, or \$8 per class drop-in fee
Location: Activity Center

Tai Chi

Ages: Adults & Seniors
Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays
Dates: March 3-26
March 31-April 23
May 5-28
Time: 1:00-2:00pm
Price: \$65 per 8-class session, or \$10 per class drop-in fee, free trial class available
Location: Activity Center

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Foot Care

Ages: Adults & Seniors
Dates: Every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month
Time: 9:00-1:00pm by appointment only
Price: \$40 cash to technician directly
Location: Activity Center

Caregiver & Grief Support Group

Ages: Adults & Seniors
Dates: Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month
Time: 10:30-12:00pm
Price: Free, No registration or RSVP needed
Location: Activity Center

Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) Services – Medicare Advising

Ages: Adults & Seniors 65+
Dates: Every 3rd Monday of the month
Time: 9:00-12:00pm by appointment only
Price: Free, Appointments Required
Location: Activity Center

Des Moines Elder Law – Legal Advice

Ages: Must be 65+
Dates: Every 3rd Thursday of the month
Time: 10:00-12:00pm by appointment only
Price: Free, Appointments Required
Location: Activity Center

DAY TRIPS

Ages: Adults & Seniors
Location: Pick-up and drop-off at the Activity Center

Ben Franklin Crafts & Ooba Tooba Mexican - Redmond

Date: Tuesday, March 10
Time: 10:45am
Price: \$15

Pike Place Market and Kells Irish Restaurant & Pub - Seattle

Date: Thursday, March 12
Time: 9:30am
Price: \$25

Thrifting Around Bremerton

Date: Tuesday, March 17
Time: 9:30am
Price: \$25

Snoqualmie Casino

Date: Wednesday, March 25
Time: 10:00am
Price: \$20

Flower World/Maltby Cafe

Date: Tuesday, March 31
Time: 9:30am
Price: \$20

Point Ruston Public Market - Tacoma

Date: Thursday, April 9
Time: 10:00am
Price: \$20

Skagit Valley Tulip Festival - La Conner

Date: Wednesday, April 15
Time: 9:30am
Price: \$45

Olympia Farmers Market

Date: Friday, April 24
Time: 9:30am
Price: \$25

Enumclaw Downtown Shopping

Date: Tuesday, April 28
Time: 10:00am
Price: \$20

UW Botanical Gardens - Arboretum Tram Tour - Seattle

Date: Thursday, April 30
Time: 10:00am
Price: \$30

COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT SERVICES

Downtown Poulsbo

Date: Thursday, May 7
Time: 9:30am
Price: \$30

Amazon Spheres - Seattle

Date: Saturday, May 16
Time: TBD based on ticket sales
closer to the date
Price: \$20

Issaquah Troll & Gilman Village

Date: Tuesday, May 19
Time: 10:00am
Price: \$20

Village Theatre - GREASE - Everett

Date: Thursday, May 21
Time: 12:15pm
Price: \$105.00

Cougar Mountain Zoo - Issaquah

Date: Wednesday, May 27
Time: 9:30am
Price: \$30

OUT TO LUNCH TRIPS

Ages: Adults & Seniors
Price per trip: \$20 transportation/staffing
fee unless otherwise noted
Location: Pick-up and drop-off at the
Activity Center

Black Diamond Bakery & Museum

Date: Thursday, March 5
Time: 10:00am

Island Lodge - Lake Tapps Golf Course

Date: Friday, March 20
Time: 10:30am

Farm 12 - Puyallup

Date: Thursday, March 26
Time: 10:45am

The Pumphouse Bar & Grill - Bellevue

Date: Friday, April 3
Time: 11:00am

Chambers Bay Grill - Chambers Bay Golf Course

Date: Tuesday, April 7
Time: 11:00am

Bourbon Street Creole Café - Puyallup

Date: Friday, April 17
Time: 11:00am

Lobster Shop - Tacoma

Date: Wednesday, April 22
Time: 11:00am

Pink Chandelier: High Tea - Puyallup

Date: Tuesday, May 5
Time: 10:15am
Price: \$75 includes high tea, gratuity,
and transportation

Jak's Grill - West Seattle

Date: Friday, May 15
Time: 11:00am

Bogey's Public House - Auburn Golf Course

Date: Friday, May 29
Time: 10:45am



THE 2026 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Every year we update our plan to manage the City's stormwater: water that flows over our streets and through our drainage infrastructure, collecting pollutants as it does. To review the Stormwater Management Plan and provide feedback, please visit our website or contact your Surface Water Manager:

Tyler Beekley, P.E.
SurfaceWater&Environmental Manager
206-870-6869
tbeekley@desmoineswa.gov
21650 11th Ave S Des Moines, WA 98198

www.desmoineswa.gov



DES MOINES POOL METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT



2025 IN REVIEW

A community resource today, and for the future

Fifty years ago, the first Des Moines resident to jump into Mount Rainier Pool ignited this community's love affair with swimming and aquatic safety. The ripple effect continues as our pool retains solid community support. And with ongoing investment and grant funding, the pool remains an important part of the Des Moines community.

Strengthening an asset

In 2025, Mount Rainier Pool received more than \$1.76 million in grant funding for important building improvements. This money will be used to improve the air system, hot water tanks, pool pipes, and electrical wiring.

Although the work is now scheduled for 2026, getting this funding is a big step forward. For a pool that opened in 1975, these upgrades will help keep it safe and ready to serve the community as planning continues.

Trusted space for kids and families

Mount Rainier Pool is a welcoming spot where youth and families gather, stay active, and learn essential water safety skills.

More than 2,500 kids had their lives enriched last year thanks to \$13,000 in grants from King County and the Des Moines Legacy Foundation for free daily youth swims. And thanks to our popular \$2 "Swim With



Hundreds of kids learn to swim at Mount Rainier Pool every year.

Your Kid" rate, more and more parents are enjoying the water with their kids. The pool is also keeping admission rates among the lowest in the region, and we're promoting affordability with programs such as \$1 First Saturday Swims, free water safety events, free PTSA-sponsored swims for local elementary schools, and an insurance-based membership option.

Expanded access and service

Even with an older facility, Mount Rainier Pool stayed open almost every day in 2025, offering early morning lap swims, evening hours until 9 pm, and Sunday sessions.

Year-round programs included swim lessons for all ages, water exercise classes, open swim, and party rentals.

The pool was also a regional center for lifeguard and swim teacher training, and hosted

training for emergency workers, airlines, swim teams, school groups, and community events.

Supporting and growing our lifeguard and swim instructor team is still a top priority. This helps keep the pool safe and allows us to expand programs as we add more staff.

A pool open to everyone

Making the pool accessible to everyone is still at the heart of our mission. We've improved language access with a fully translatable website and online registration and scholarship applications, making it easier for all our families to participate.

To lower barriers even further, the required staff certifications are primarily covered by grants from our benefactors. This makes jobs and training available to everyone in the community, no matter their financial situation.



DES MOINES POOL METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT

Operator of **MOUNT RAINIER POOL**

22722 19th Ave S • Des Moines, WA 98198
206.824.4722 • www.MtRainierPool.com
www.facebook.com/Mount Rainier Pool

WHAT'S AHEAD IN 2026 AT MRP

Preserving what we've got

This year, we're carefully scheduling important repairs and coordinating projects to reduce disruptions. Look for those timelines shortly on our website so you'll be able to plan ahead.

The pool is also preparing to launch a new regional program to help stem the nationwide shortage of lifeguards. We will offer FREE lifeguard certification and swim-skill development to improve water safety in the region.

Planning for the next 50 years

Mount Rainier Pool has been a key part of the Des Moines community for 50 years, but the city has changed a lot. Our population has grown, and demand for modern aquatic facilities has never been higher. Families need good swim lessons, seniors need easy fitness options, and athletes need places to train and compete. These programs help everyone and make Des Moines a better place, since aquatics benefit people throughout their lives.

The truth is, our current pool can't keep up. It's clean, safe, and well-maintained, but it's not big enough to accommodate the growing demand or modern aquatic programs. That's why we're planning for the future now. Over the next year, you'll see updates about chances to help shape the future of aquatics in Des Moines.

Stay tuned and prepare to join the conversation. The future of health, safety, and fun in our community depends on it.



FROM FIRST SPLASH TO NEXT WAVE

Celebrating 50 Years of the Mount Rainier Pool

On Sept. 21, 2025, our community came together to celebrate a special milestone: the 50th anniversary of Mount Rainier Pool. What started as a Forward Thrust project in the 1970s has become one of South King County's most valued community spaces, serving families, students, athletes, and neighbors for generations.

The event welcomed residents, alumni, school partners, elected officials, and longtime supporters to honor the pool's history and look forward to its future. During the ceremony, a special plaque was unveiled to recognize James R. Ellis, the civic leader behind Forward Thrust and a key advocate for public facilities in our region.

Guests heard from community leaders like City Manager Katherine Caffrey, regional historian David Kappler, and both current and former board members of the Des Moines Pool Metropolitan Park District. Many people shared personal stories—first swim lessons, championship meets, senior exercise classes, lifeguard experiences, and the many ways the pool has touched Highline families since 1975.

After the main program, everyone enjoyed a free community swim, music, history displays, and the debut of the "50th Anniversary Duck." This playful mascot was a hit with both kids and adults.

All day, one message stood out: the

Mount Rainier Pool is more than just a building. It's where the community comes together—a gathering place that helps build confidence, safety, health, and lasting memories.

As the Des Moines Pool Metropolitan Park District looks to the future, the focus stays on access, equity, stewardship, and building strong partnerships with local schools, cities, and nonprofits. Plans include more scholarships, better facilities, and ongoing support for youth lifeguard training and community wellness.

Thank you to every resident, swimmer, staff member, volunteer, and partner who made the past 50 years so special. Because of your support, future swimmers, families, and lifeguards will have a safe and welcoming place here in Des Moines.

See highlights from the celebration

Scan the QR code below to watch a highlight video from the 50th Anniversary event.





At Mount Rainier Pool we speak fluent swimming. Come join us. It all translates to: Everyone is welcome.

LET'S SWIM TOGETHER

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Our fully translatable website has everything you need to know about Mount Rainier Pool. It is simple, fast, and easy to use on your phone.

You can find daily swim times, job openings, and more, all easily accessible from your phone or computer.

On our website, you can:

- See daily schedules for lap swim, family swim, open swim, and water exercise.

- Check rates and passes, including daily admission, punch passes, and memberships.
- Sign up for swim lessons for youth, teens, and adults.
- Find job opportunities and apply online.
- Get details about free lifeguard certification and training for eligible teens and young adults.
- Explore scholarships, programs, and community resources.

NEW ONLINE SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS

- Available for Des Moines and Normandy Park residents.
- The scholarship covers 10-visit passes, 3-month passes, annual passes (including water exercise), and swim lessons.
- Covers 90 percent of costs.
- The new online application takes less than 5 minutes.

Please note:

- Please allow five business days for scholarship processing before signing up for swim lessons.
- Submitting a scholarship application does not guarantee a spot in swim lessons.
- Register from your phone.
- It's quick, easy, and secure.
- You can translate the site into any language.
- Upload photos right from your phone's camera.
- Finish your application anytime, anywhere.
- Scan the QR code below to get started, or visit our website at: www.MtRainierPool.com.

