

# ISSUES BRIEF

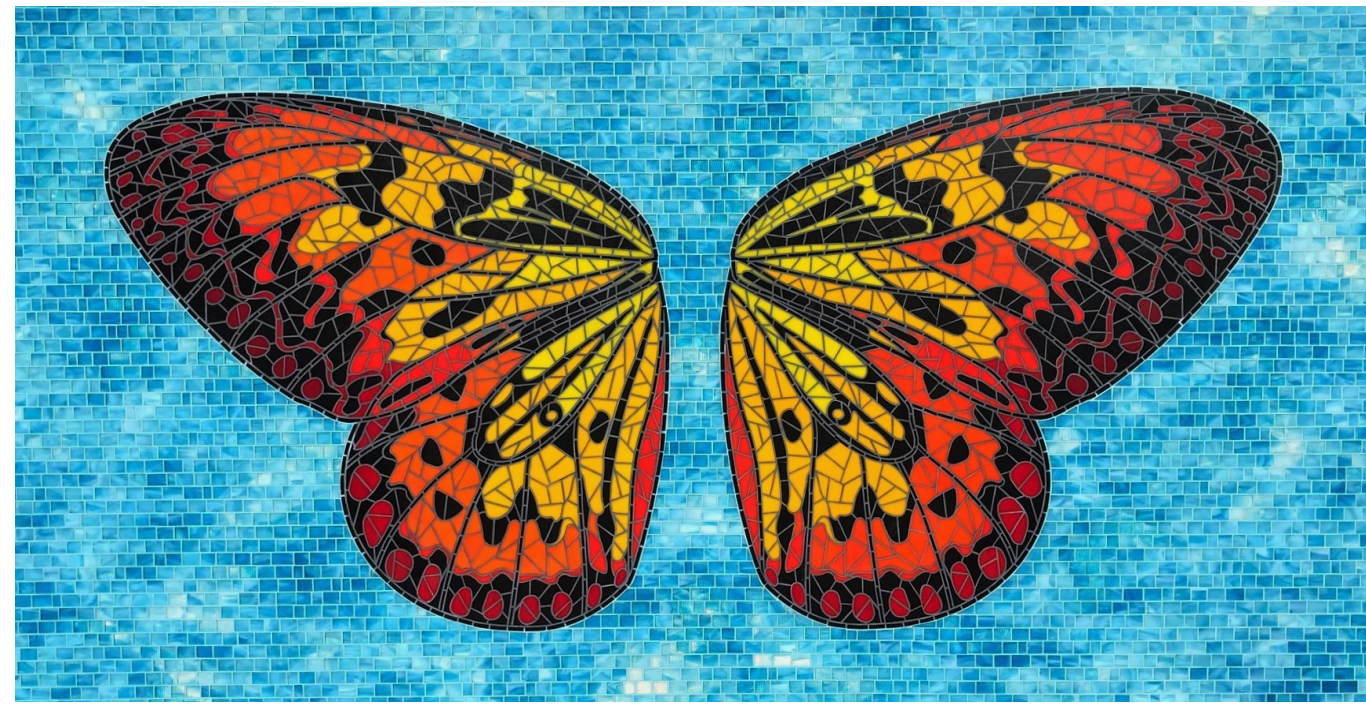
March 2023 - Vol. XIII, Issue 3 Number 127

## Think Spring with Yakima Parks!

*Enjoy candy dash, movie nights, golf and much more*

Spring will soon be here. Yakima Parks and Recreation has a host of opportunities to enjoy this season:

- An egg hunt/candy dash on Sunday, March 19th. There will be music, eggs, candy and pictures with the Easter Bunny. Pre-registration is required. Call 509-575-6020 for information and scheduling details.
- Fisher Park Golf Course, 823 S. 40th Ave, opens March 24th. Call 509-575-6075 for more about the 2023 golf season.



*Pictured: The colorful mosaic butterfly selfie mural at Washington Fruit Community Center.*

- Washington Fruit Community Center (WFCC), 602 N. 4th St, hosts a family movie night on March 24th.

WFCC also offers a Spring Break Day Camp April 3-7. Call 509-576-6488 for more about WFCC programs.

- The Harman Center's 19th anniversary will be celebrated with an open house on May 26th from 1:30 pm to 3:45 pm.

- "April Pools Day" is set for Saturday, April 1st, at Lions Pool. The free activity will be from 1 pm to 3 pm.

"April Pools Day" offers water safety training, free swim and a free prize raffle. Call 509-575-6046 for more information.

Click <https://yakimaparks.com/> for more about Yakima Parks and Recreation programs and facilities.

## City of Yakima resumes yard waste collection service

*Yard Waste pick-up available through Nov. 30*

Yard waste collection in the City of Yakima resumed March 1st.

The City's Refuse Division provides weekly yard waste pick-up through November 30th.

There is a charge of \$19.50 per month for the service, which is limited to collecting grass clippings, leaves, and small branches.

Branches should be cut into lengths of 3 feet or less and not exceed 3 inches in diameter. All yard waste must fit inside the cart with the lid closed.

City refuse trucks can pick up yard waste carts weighing up to 150 pounds. Carts exceeding that weight will not be collected by the Refuse Division.



Unacceptable items for yard waste pick-up include garbage, plastic bags, food scraps, animal waste, ashes, sod, building materials and tree trunks or large branches. The Yakima County landfill considers the items to be contaminants.

Visit the Refuse Division's yard waste collection website at <https://www.yakimawa.gov/services/refuse/yard-waste-collection/> or call 509-575-6005 for details or to make yard waste collection changes.

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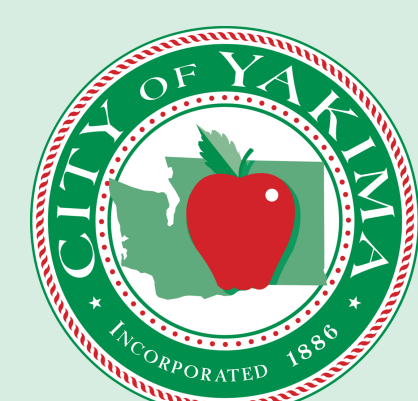
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# Briefly

## Lions Pool planned reopening is March 6

Lions Pool is scheduled to reopen Monday, March 6.

It has been closed since February 15 due a mechanical issue with the pool's main pump, which has since been resolved.

For more about City of Yakima aquatic programs visit [yakimaparks.com/aquatics](http://yakimaparks.com/aquatics)

## Amnesty extended for delinquent court account payments

The amnesty program for delinquent court accounts is extended through March 31st. It offers an opportunity to help pay off fines in collection, avoiding future collection fees and legal actions such as garnishment or property liens.

Call Yakima Municipal Court at 509-575-3050 for more about our participation in this program.

## Community cleanup set for March 25th

The City of Yakima Refuse Division is planning a Community Cleanup in the neighborhood near Barge-Lincoln Elementary on Saturday, March 25th.

Contact the Refuse Division at 509-576-6713 for details.

## 'Spring forward' on March 12th

Daylight Saving Time will officially begin at 2:00 am on Sunday, March 12th.

Clocks are set ahead one hour and many set their clocks to "spring forward" before going to sleep the night before, in this case Saturday, March 11.

When changing your clocks, the Yakima Fire Department suggests testing smoke alarms.

## Working families tax credit available

Applications are open for Washington state's WORKING FAMILIES TAX CREDIT.

Individuals and families may receive up to \$1,200 back if they meet certain eligibility requirements.

For eligibility information and application visit the website at [workingfamiliescredit.wa.gov/](http://workingfamiliescredit.wa.gov/)

# Irrigation starts April 3rd

Monday, April 3rd, will mark the start of the 2023 irrigation season for the vast majority of the residential and business customers served by the City of Yakima's irrigation system. That's the day the majority of the collection of systems operated by the City's Water/Irrigation Division are scheduled to begin delivering water.

All City of Yakima irrigation systems should be fully operational by April 10th. The few other irrigation systems that operate independently from the City system will also be gearing up during April and should be fully operational by the beginning of May.

The season typically runs from early April to mid-October. Visit <https://www.yakimawa.gov/services/water-irrigation/> for more information. For billing questions about City of Yakima drinking water/irrigation services call 509-575-6080. Other inquiries for the City's Water/Irrigation Division can be directed to 509-575-6154.

The City of Yakima has operated irrigation systems since the early 1900s. The system that now exists to deliver water to customers in Yakima actually consists of 66 individual, smaller systems that were consolidated almost 20 years ago into a single utility. Through that utility, the City currently provides water to about 11,000 customers.

The earliest known experiment with irrigation in the Yakima Valley is believed to have taken place in 1864 when water was diverted from Ahtanum Creek to help grow a few acres of crops for the Catholic mission nearby.



After achieving some success, private canal companies began forming to bring water to more and more land. By the late 1800s, irrigation had proven its worth in unlocking the agricultural bounty of the Yakima Valley.

After a few years of lobbying the federal government, leaders from the Yakima Valley convinced Congress to study, and ultimately begin to build in 1905, a network of canals and other delivery system to turn the region into what its earliest settlers had envisioned – an agricultural powerhouse.

Over the decades that followed, irrigation systems in the Yakima area were expanded and refined. Today, irrigated lands within what came to be known as the Yakima Project total more than 460,000 acres, including lawns and gardens in the city of Yakima.

## See a pothole? Report it with Yak Back



See a pothole?

Report a pothole:

- [yakimawa.gov/yak-back](http://yakimawa.gov/yak-back)
- Street Repair Hotline, (509) 576-6713



City crews continually monitor for potholes, repairing them as quickly as possible to reduce further damage to the roadway and to ensure safety for drivers.

With over 400-miles of streets in the City of Yakima, the City is asking for help in reporting potholes.

"Having residents and community members reporting the locations of potholes, greatly assists Public Works in their effort in repairing them in a timely manner," said Public Works Director Scott Schafer. "More eyes on an issue provide for better results."

Potholes can be reported using the City's "Yak Back" feature at <https://www.yakimawa.gov/yak-back/>

Another option for reporting potholes in the City of Yakima is to call the City's Street Repair Hotline. The hotline can be reached at (509) 576-6713.

## City Council action summary - Feb. 2023

Yakima City Council action during its regular meetings in February included:

- Accepting project completion for basketball court lighting at Miller Park
- Receiving an update on capital improvement projects
- Amending Chapter 9.56, Wheeled All-Terrain vehicles
- Introduction of Solid Waste and Recycling Manager Trace Bradburn
- Resolution authorizing acceptance of a Washington State Department of Transportation Award for \$750,000 for the Cowiche Canyon Trail Project 2430
- Public hearing to receive comments regarding the City of Yakima HOME-ARP Allocation Plan
- Black History Month and National Parent Leadership Month proclamations
- Retirement recognition of Dave Brown for 39 years of service

Complete minutes and agendas from council meetings are available at [Agendas and Minutes | City Council \(yakimawa.gov\)](https://www.yakimawa.gov/Agendas-and-Minutes-City-Council)

All council meetings air live on Y-PAC and online at [Live Stream | City Council \(yakimawa.gov\)](https://www.yakimawa.gov/Live-Stream-City-Council)



**Summer Sunset**  
Concert Series

For more information or an application:  
Email: [tami.andringa@yakimawa.gov](mailto:tami.andringa@yakimawa.gov)  
[www.yakimaparks.com](http://www.yakimaparks.com)  
or scan the QR code

Application deadline: March 15th

**Call for Bands!**  
Yakima Parks & Recreation is seeking local bands for the 2023 season.



# Harman Center

closed March 6-11  
for spring cleaning

Thank you for your patience!

101 N. 65th Ave  
509-575-6166  
[yakimaparks.com/senior-center](http://yakimaparks.com/senior-center)

follow the City of Yakima on social media:



watch City meetings any time, on demand:



City of Yakima  
129 N. 2nd Street  
Yakima, WA 98901  
509-576-6614  
<https://www.yakimawa.gov/>

The City of Yakima *Issues Brief e-Newsletter* is published monthly by the City's Community Relations Office.

Questions? Suggestions?

Contact Community Outreach Specialist John Fannin at 509-249-6858 or [John.Fannin@yakimawa.gov](mailto:John.Fannin@yakimawa.gov).

## City Directory

Airport:	575-6149
Animal Control:	575-6038
City Clerk:	575-6000
City Manager:	575-6000
Codes/Licenses:	575-6126
* Fire:	575-6060
Human Resources:	575-6090
Municipal Court:	575-3050
Parks:	575-6020
Planning:	575-6183
* Police:	575-6200
Purchasing	575.6093
Refuse:	575-6005
Streets:	575-6005
Transit:	575-6175
Utilities:	575-6080
Wastewater:	575-6077
Water/Irrig:	575-6154
YCTV/YPAC:	575-6092

\* NON-EMERGENCY. Call 911 in an emergency.