



ANACORTES PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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NOTICE OF CANCELLATION

Anacortes Community Forest Lands Advisory Board

**July 2, 2026
6PM**

**The regular July meeting of the Forest Advisory Board has been cancelled.
The next regular meeting will be held August 6th, 2026.**

Staff contact: **Bob Vaux**
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JUNE 2026
Assistant Director's Highlights
Parks & Recreation

Submitted: June 25, 2026

Bob Vaux

ACFL

5/28 Helped Arborist Steve with a small hazard tree fall for a neighbor on Lake Erie Way.

6/1 Responded to a weekend report of an RV parked at the #312 trailhead. By the time I got there on Monday it had turned into two. I contacted one, gave the usual spiel, and had no response at the second one. Was told that the individual would be on their way soon. When I visited again that afternoon, there was a third RV added to the mix. I exited my vehicle and started making my way toward the three RV's when the barking from at least 8 dogs, mostly tied up, but not secure enough to my liking, begin to rise in volume. There was no way we were going to have much of a conversation over the canine din, and with the sketchy job of tying the dogs up, I left the scene and called APD. They are working on moving them along.

72 hours later, as per city code, the RV's were gone. The good news coming from this is that the Parks Director and the Police Chief, via city code, have now imposed No 24-Hour Parking on Heart Lake Road. Parking closes at 10P, just like the ACFL. This is great news and should help us keep campers focused on Washington Park.

Pretty nice day so I spent some time at Whistle as well. About 20 vehicles at 230P, with mostly floaties and no coolers. No corrective measures required.

6/4 While there was no regular Forest Advisory Board meeting in June, we did participate in the annual hike with the Friends of the ACFL board and staff. We did some informational work on the Heart Lake Shoreline Restoration Project and had a great evening stroll through the North Heart Lake Unit.

Anchor QEA has been on site at the "A" Ave landfill, working on water & soil sampling and drilling deeper sample wells.

6/13-14 Spent much of the weekend on Whistle Lake parking detail. Crowds easily in the hundreds both days, and most folks just looking to cool off in a reasonable manner. Seasonal Will did great work.

6/15 Thank you to the veteran ACFL supporters who handled the rescue of a raven tangled up in fishing line at Whistle Lake. Not only did the bird make it to Salish Wildlife Rescue, but all the appropriate protocol was followed by volunteers as well as staff. The first phone call was made to the Parks Dept.

Same day thanks to Nicole, Nichola and Michaela from our Parks staff. They assisted with ACFL visitor compliance on a rather toasty Monday afternoon.

Thank you to Brian, Corrin and the rest of the good folks at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. They will once again be handling our summer lakes fecal coliform testing. We do this pretty much weekly through to late Sept. cooling temperatures.

6/17 Welcomed our second ACFL seasonal, Gibson, back to the team. Officer Kellington also began his summer focus on parks and the ACFL today.

HEART LAKE SHORELINE RESTORATION PROJECT

Continuing to work with contractors and COA staff on design and permitting.

6/23 Held a 30% design meeting with the whole team. Treating storm water proving to be somewhat complicated. We will be presenting/discussing options with our in house storm water staff soon.

BEN ROOT SKATE PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PH II

Thank you Director Lunsford for stepping into the conversation with LB Foster to get our CXT RR delivery protocol confirmed. We have not been through a process with them like this before.

6/15 Council approved a minor language change in the purchasing contract.

W. 6th PARK PROJECT

Working with Planning staff on permitting and Legal Dept. on possible private/public partnership options.

TREES

Helped Planning staff out with some San Juan Passage view pruning. Precision Tree Service did a great job on this plat condition.

WASHINGTON PARK

6/12 Provided support to park staff in the absence of Parks Nicole and Steve. We were able to work through a complicated but typical camper unable to pay scenario. Thanks to APD for being ready to assist if needed.

APD IN THE PARKS AND WOODS

It's great to have SRO Kellington back in the parks and woods this summer. Parks Nicole and I met with him on the 18th and mapped out some overall strategies for working together.

James Burroughs

ACFL Maintenance technician

June 24th, 2026

ACFL Maintenance Report: June 2026

Trail Maintenance & Vegetation Management

- Trimmed Little Cranberry Road.
- Trimmed Little Cranberry Hill.
- Trimmed trails in the Whistle Lake area.
- Trimmed Heart Lake South trails.
- Completed Heart Lake trail trimming.
- Cleared downed trees from Trails 220, 229, 102, and 202.

Visitor Compliance

- Patrolled Lakes for visitor compliance
- Off-leash dog contacts

Signage & Public Information

- Installed Dog on Leash signs.
- Installed No Overnight Parking signs on Heart Lake Road.

Trail Projects & Work Parties

- Held our National trails day work party with Friends of the ACFL, we worked on closing down lower muddy section of Trail 109, where the trail forked into two paths, we gave back around 60 feet of trail to the woods, transplanted ferns and used woody debris and logs to emphasize trail closure.
- Installed trail camera on Trail 109 due to vandalism associated with the NTD trail closure/work area.



Resource Monitoring

- Trained Water Treatment seasonal staff on lake sampling procedures.
- Checked previously treated ivy removal site on City property.

Public Facilities & Operations

- Performed ACFL garbage collection.
- Serviced and monitored ACFL restrooms.

Cleanup & Hazard Mitigation

- Removed deceased deer with Parks staff member Steve P.
- Removed spray-paint graffiti from trees and logs along Whistle Lake trails.

In town help

- Assisted Park staff with grave digging