

# ARLINGTON UPDATE



OCTOBER 2025

## Message from the Mayor



As we lean into the end of the year, I'm proud of the accomplishments and investments we have made in 2025, and look forward to a stable 2026 as we complete more projects that have been in the works and continue to provide city services for our residents.

We have made a substantial investment in Smokey Point with the new park, and have received great reviews, especially on the fully accessible playground. As you probably have noticed, we have been quite busy on road construction projects. Your Transportation Benefit Program dollars are making a difference! Thank you for being patient during the construction season.

With 147 new business licenses issued since April, we continue to see economic growth. Just a reminder to continue to shop local. Our small businesses depend on local customers to keep them thriving.

It is a pleasure working alongside our team of employees and City Councilmembers. I want to thank Councilmember Jan Schuette and Councilmember Debora Nelson, as their terms come to an end in 2025. Their contributions to the city have been invaluable. We wish them well and look forward to seeing them continue to be active in the community.

As Hometown Holiday season grows near, we are planning for another wonderful festival in our town. Many thanks to those that sponsor, volunteer and plan for this magical season in Arlington. I hope you will meet me in Arlington to celebrate the holidays!

As always, I look forward to hearing from and interacting with the community. Thank you for keeping up to date by reading this newsletter and please let us know if you would like to see any additional information.

*Mayor Don Vanney*

## Introducing New City Directors

The City of Arlington is pleased to announce the promotion of Amy Rusko to the position of Community and Economic Development Director, following the retirement of longtime director Marc Hayes in June.

Amy possesses extensive expertise in planning, permitting, and community engagement. Her visionary methodology has garnered significant respect within city circles. She will continue to steer Arlington's strategic development initiatives, emphasizing sustainable growth and adherence to community values.



This month, Shelby Burke will join the City of Arlington as the new Finance Director. Shelby has more than a decade of leadership in public sector financial management, including Chief Financial Officer at Everett Community College.



Shelby is recognized for her expertise in budgeting, forecasting, audit compliance, and organizational leadership, as well as her ability to build high-performing, service-oriented teams. Committed to community service and leadership development, Shelby has served on the Board of Directors for Homage Senior Services since 2021 and is a graduate of Leadership Snohomish County's Signature Class of 2020. She is honored to bring her experience and dedication to public service home to Arlington.

## Sign up for Weekly E-newsletters

Communications staff creates a weekly newsletter that is distributed by email to subscribers. The Arlington Update E-newsletter has information about City projects, programs, events and activities. This is a great way to stay informed on what's happening in the community! To sign up, email [info@arlingtonwa.gov](mailto:info@arlingtonwa.gov).

Follow us on Facebook, X (Twitter) and Instagram!  
[www.facebook.com/arlingtonwa](https://www.facebook.com/arlingtonwa)  
<https://x.com/ArlingtonWA>  
[www.instagram.com/arlingtonwacity](https://www.instagram.com/arlingtonwacity)



## Arlington Airport Master Plan

The City of Arlington, in cooperation with the Federal Aviation Administration, is in the process of updating the 2024 Airport Master Plan to address the airport's needs for the next 20 years. The updated Airport Master Plan will provide specific guidance in making the necessary improvements to maintain a safe and efficient airport that is economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable.

For information visit:

[www.arlingtonwa.gov/airportplan](http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/airportplan)

Contact: Marty Wray, Airport Director  
mwrap@arlingtonwa.gov 360-403-3470

## 2025 Transportation Improvement Projects

Webpage: [www.arlingtonwa.gov/PWprojects](http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/PWprojects)

**211th Place Corridor Improvements:** Improvements to the 211th Place corridor from SR 530 to 67th Avenue NE were completed in June.

**204th Street NE / 74th Avenue Intersection Project:** The traffic signal has been installed at this intersection.

**74th Avenue Trail Project:** This 12-foot wide trail along 74th Ave. NE is an extension of Arlington Valley Rd. Trail.

**Division / Broadway Rehabilitation:** Work includes improvements to roads and pedestrian access and the roundabouts on Division Street. Most of the work is scheduled to be completed at the end of November 2025.

**188th Street / Smokey Point Blvd. Roundabout:** This project has been awarded and the schedule is to be determined.

**180th Street/Smokey Point Blvd. Roundabout:** The design is being completed and the City is working on right-of-way procurement.

### Pavement Preservation Projects:

Roads resurfaced in 2025 include: Gleneagle Boulevard, 68th Drive NE, 64th Drive NE, First Street, and West Avenue. Utility improvements were included in 64th Drive project. The pavement preservation was funded by the Transportation Benefit Program.

## Pedestrian Safety Improvements

As city streets are improved, accessible up-to-standard, curb ramps are installed. This year, the City also installed flashing crosswalk signs at several locations and re-installed sidewalks damaged by tree roots.



## Water Quality Report Released

The City of Arlington is pleased to report that your drinking water is of high quality and compliant with all state and federal drinking water laws. We are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. The Water Department performs more than 16,000 water quality observations and tests every year. The 2024 edition of our annual water quality report summarizes only the key findings of testing completed from January through December 2024. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call the Water Department at 360-403-3526.

To view the document, visit:

[www.arlingtonwa.gov/waterreport](http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/waterreport).

## Stay Informed on What's Developing

Are you curious about development activity in the City? Check out our development activity map. The development activity map provides real-time updates on various projects happening in Arlington. Stay updated and informed by exploring the map.

[www.arlingtonwa.gov/activitymap](http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/activitymap)

You can also contact the Community and Economic Development Department.

Phone 360-403-3551,

Email: [ced@arlingtonwa.gov](mailto:ced@arlingtonwa.gov)

Office: 18204 59th Avenue

## Police Department Launches BlueBridge Alliance Community Support Program

The Arlington Police Department is thrilled to announce the launch of the BlueBridge Alliance community support program, a fund designed to offer immediate assistance to those in need within our community.

Demonstrating incredible support, S&S Roofing generously donated \$5,000 to initiate a match of \$2,500 by BlueBridge. We extend our heartfelt thanks to S&S Roofing for their generous support of our Police Department and community.

The program is now open for community donations.

The program enables our Police Department team, particularly those working directly within the community, to provide urgent assistance by using funds from the program. The BlueBridge Alliance distinguishes itself as a "hand-up, not hand-out" initiative, empowering line-level staff, and first-level supervisors to assess and fulfill needs proactively.

Donations will fund critical resources, such as:

- Baby formula for struggling parents
- Temporary accommodations for families fleeing domestic violence
- Emergency support for stranded motorists
- Meals for homeless individuals or youth in crisis

This initiative aims not only to alleviate immediate needs but also to cultivate a culture of trust and cooperation between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

By intervening at critical moments, we aim to deter individuals from resorting to other measures, while creating safe environments that de-escalate potentially violent situations. The Arlington Police Department invites community members to join this noble endeavor, fostering a supportive and resilient community together.

To contribute to this impactful program, please visit: [www.arlingtonwa.gov/bluebridge](http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/bluebridge)



## Sign up for SnoCoAlerts to Stay Informed and Provide First Responders with Your Information

SnoCoAlerts is the county's early warning and notification system for delivering urgent emergency information, right to your cellphone. This robust system is relied upon by emergency managers and other first responders as one of the key tools to keep you informed during a disaster.

Signing up for SnoCoAlerts is quick and easy. Just go to this link to begin: <http://snocoalerts.snoco.org>.

The system is powered by Smart911. Your zip code and street address are used to tailor alerts for where you live. You can choose which hazards result in alerts. You also can add more alerts or update your contact methods at any time.

Even if you don't use a cellphone, you still should consider signing up. Through the Smart911 portal, you are given the option of securely providing critical information that can be shared with emergency responders. Among the data to consider providing:

- People living in your household and phone numbers
- Pets, service animals, and livestock.
- Medical conditions, allergies, medications.
- Property details, layout, and utility information.
- Your ability, or inability, to evacuate if necessary.
- Emergency contacts.

All of that information can assist emergency dispatchers in determining how best to get help to you and your family during an emergency.

## Severe Weather, Manage with Preparation

Everyone who lives in Snohomish County is familiar with severe weather. Over the course of a winter, high winds, torrential rains, ice and snow can start to feel like unwelcome guests. Storms often cause millions of dollars in property damage. Experts say the community averages at least one high-wind event annually, and they calculate a 58% probability of a severe winter storm in any given year.

### Be prepared for power outages:

- Access PUD's outage map to report an outage or learn about restoration time frames: [outagemap.snopud.com](http://outagemap.snopud.com)
- PUD offers outage text alerts so customers can receive updated information when they lose power. To receive text alerts, report an outage through the PUD's outage map and opt-in to receive outages texts.
- Check generator for safety. Is exhaust directed away from the home?
- Flashlights are safer than candles.
- Avoid fallen power lines.
- No grills or camp stoves indoors. Carbon monoxide is deadly.
- Have a plan, or a backup power source, if you rely on a medical device that uses electricity.
- If the power goes out, food should be safe in your refrigerator up to four hours. After that, discard meat, poultry, fish, eggs and leftovers. If in doubt, throw it out.

## Addition to the City's Trail System

This year the City invested in our trail system by completing the 12-foot wide, paved, multi-use trail along Arlington Valley Road. A previously built section begins on Arlington Valley Road (197th Street) at 67th Avenue. The connecting section starts at 74th Avenue and ends at 204th Street, with an easy connection to the Centennial Trail. The total length is slightly over a mile.

The City of Arlington is dedicated to developing and enhancing the safe and efficient movement of pedestrians and bicyclists throughout Arlington. The project was partially funded with a grant from Puget Sound Regional Council.

Check it out on the interactive Parks & Trails map application: [www.arlingtonwa.gov/GISdata](http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/GISdata)



## Events Continue to See Large Attendance

Each Saturday brought live music to Legion Park following a day of activity at the Farmers Market. The crowds were remarkably large with community and visitors. Just as the summer season was wrapping up, our partners at the Chamber of Commerce were planning the fall events, including Oktoberfest, the second annual event. The City is currently working with volunteers, the Chamber, and Downtown Arlington Business Association on the Hometown Holidays events. Mark your calendars for the Eagle Festival, the first Saturday in February, another great event during the winter season. Event webpage: [www.arlingtonwa.gov/events](http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/events) and [www.meetmein Arlington](http://www.meetmein Arlington)



## Stilly Valley Center Offers Programs for Seniors

The Center offers:

- Free food pantry Thursdays, 10:00-10:30 a.m.
- Hot lunches, Monday - Friday, 12:00 -12:30 p.m. 60 years & older \$4, under 60 years old \$8
- Food Bank's Mobile Market every second & fourth Tuesday 11:00 a.m. to noon

Activities: Participate in a book club, card games, ice cream socials, line dancing, gentle yoga, quilting, writers workshop, Zumba, strength training, and much more!

Website: [www.stillycenter.org](http://www.stillycenter.org)

## Arlington Community Resource Center

Arlington Community Resource Center is a one-stop hub for services for people in need. From help with basic needs like food, clothing and shelter, to assistance with other kinds of resources and programs, they support people in their journey toward stability.

Location: 103 E. 3rd Street, open Monday - Thursday

Phone: 360-322-6988

Website: [www.voaww.org/acrc](http://www.voaww.org/acrc)

## Health & Wellness Classes Stilly Valley Health Connections

The programs of our Public Hospital District provide and promote health and wellness. The classes are free or low cost and advertised in the City's weekly e-newsletter.

Classes offered:

- Art Journaling
- Highlighting Seasonal Produce
- Ask a Dietitian
- Mindful Activities for Emotions & Stress
- Overdose Prevention
- Simple and Healthy Comfort Meals

Website: [www.stillyvalleyhealth.org](http://www.stillyvalleyhealth.org)

## Arlington Community Food Bank Seeking Donations for Holiday Meal Boxes

The Food Bank is partnering with businesses and churches for the Holiday Meals Food Drive, an effort to ensure every family in our community has a special holiday meal this season. Working together, our community has the power to make sure no table is empty during the holidays.

Interested partners can sign up by contacting the Arlington Food Bank at 425-508-7027 or email [Barb@arlingtonfoodbank.org](mailto:Barb@arlingtonfoodbank.org).

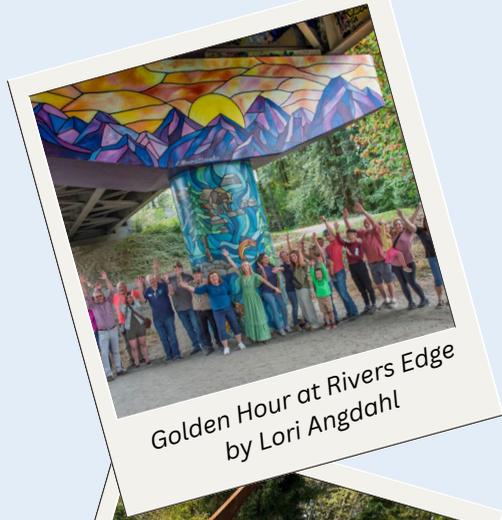
The public can donate at bins located in Arlington businesses or Monday - Friday, 9a.m. to 3p.m at the food bank.

Website: [www.arlingtonfoodbank.org](http://www.arlingtonfoodbank.org)

## City's Public Art Projects

Here are a few of the public art projects we have installed this year.

For information, visit [www.arlingtonwa.gov/art](http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/art)



Golden Hour at Rivers Edge  
by Lori Angdahl



Sundial  
at Stormwater Wetland Park  
by Milo White and Lin McJunkin



Restoration of Going to Ride  
Mural, by Erica Knapp,  
original art by Janet Myer



Love Won Another  
Designed by Jim Jacobson

## Park Commissioners Open New Dog Park

Arlington's second off-leash dog area, located at York Park, 3209 180th Street in the Smokey Point neighborhood opened this summer. Our staff helped create two fenced areas for dogs on the park property. Rules are posted at the park. Thanks to the Arlington Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission (PARC) and City Council for moving this project forward. The other off-leash dog area is at the Stormwater Wetland Park (west of Haller Park).

City Council, PARC, staff and neighbors showed up for the ribbon cutting and brought along many dogs to initiate our park! The community members said they were thankful for the park and the benefits of socializing their dogs and promoting social connections.



## Scouts' Eagle Projects Enhance Arlington's Parks

The City was extremely pleased to be the beneficiary of three Eagle Scout projects this summer.

Boy Scout Landen Williams worked with the City over the summer to design a signage plan for the Portage-Kruger Creek Loop trail, including Zimmerman Hill Climb, as an Eagle Scout project. Landen completed the installation of the wayfinding signs with fellow Boy Scouts. Now the trail is identified with 15 signs and arrows so that people can walk the route that showcases Portage Creek and Kruger Creek, in the Kent Prairie neighborhood. Congratulations, Landen, on your accomplishment! A map of the trail system can be found on our website.

Boy Scout Jason Hopkins completed an Eagle Project at the Stormwater Wetland Park. He created a shelter for visitors who use the off-leash dog area to enhance the experience for users during the rainy season.

Jason said, "I love being able to have this opportunity to make a change in my community. It really shows how beneficial Boy Scouts of America can be for the kids who are in their programs."

The Arlington Wind Phone was created by Michael Powers as an Eagle Scout Project. The Wind Phone is meant to be a quiet, reflective space where anyone can share their thoughts, memories or feelings with loved ones who are no longer with us. "This project was built to bring comfort and connection to our community," said Michael. "Whether it's a goodbye that was never spoken, or a hello you still want to say, this is a place of peace, healing and remembrance." Located near the entrance to Country Charm Park, 604 E Gilman Avenue.





Heather Logan



Leisha Nobach



Debora Nelson



Michele Blythe



Rob Toyer



Yvonne  
Gallardo-Van Ornam



Jan Schuette

## City Council Highlights

### September

Low bid award for 188th Street and Smokey Point Blvd. Roundabout Project  
 Airport SkyTrak lift equipment purchase  
 Island Crossing Subarea Plan Contract Amendment  
 Ordinance Amending AMC Chapter 20.110, mixed-use development regulations  
 Ordinance Amending AMC Chapter 5.28, business licenses  
 Audit Exit Conference  
 Community Transit ZIP service update  
 2026 Lodging Tax Distribution

### August

Mayor's Volunteer Award to Kiwanis Club of Arlington  
 Farmers Market Week Proclamation  
 Public Hearing for an Amendment to the Baker Mor, LLC Development Agreement  
 Low Bid Award for Jensen Park Improvement Project  
 Low Bid Award for Pickleball Court  
 Biosolids Hauling Contract  
 Contract Amendment No. 1 with Rock Construction Management  
 Department of Ecology Grant Award for Solid Waste and Recycling

### July

Audit Entrance Conference  
 Airport Commission Reappointments  
 Interlocal Agreement with Arlington School District for School Resource Officer  
 Change Order No. for City Hall Windows  
 Opioid Settlements  
 Ordinance Amending AMC Chapter 20.16, permits and land division  
 Ordinance Amending AMC Chapter 20.44, supplemental use regulations  
 Ordinance Amending AMC Chapter 20.56, streets and sidewalks  
 Ordinance Amending AMC Chapter 20.68, signs  
 Ordinance Amending AMC Chapter 20.72, parking

### June

Mayor's Volunteer Award to Jason Rice  
 Juneteenth Day Proclamation  
 LGBTQ+ Pride Month Proclamation  
 National Public Works Week Proclamation  
 Ride Transit Month Proclamation  
 Appointment of Jennifer Benton to the Planning Commission  
 Ordinance Amending AMC 13.08, sewer regulations  
 Ordinance Amending AMC 13.12 regarding utility rates  
 Ordinance Amending Title 15, fire regulations, of the AMC  
 Low Bid Award for 2025 Utility and Pavement Preservation Project  
 Ordinance Approving Commute Trip Reduction Plan  
 2025 Decision of Citizens' Salary Review Commission  
 Amendment to Legacy Anthropology Contract for 211th Place Archaeological Oversight  
 Ordinance Approving York Park Rezone  
 Ordinance Amending AMC Chapter 20.32, zoning, nonconforming situations  
 Ordinance Amending AMC Chapter 20.60, zoning, utilities  
 Ordinance Amending AMC Chapter 20.96, zoning, amendments

Municipal Code Website: <https://library.municode.com/wa/arlington>

### With Appreciation:

#### Councilmember Debora Nelson and Councilmember Jan Schuette

As the council terms of Debora Nelson and Jan Schuette come to an end this December, we express our sincere gratitude for the valuable contributions they have made to Arlington and wish them well.

Councilmember Nelson served from 2011. She aimed to have a sustainable community with economic growth and historic charm. She worked to enhance the safety of the citizens by implementing the complete streets program.

Councilmember Schuette served from 2014. She represented Arlington on the Puget Sound Regional Council Growth Management and Transportation Boards, and the Community Transit Board. She worked hard for regional transportation improvements benefiting Arlington.

### City Council Meetings

Workshops: 2nd and 4th Mondays of the Month at 6:00 p.m.  
 Meetings: 1st and 3rd Mondays of the Month at 6:00 p.m.

City Council and Planning Commission meetings are recorded on the City's YouTube Channel at:  
[www.YouTube.com/cityofarlingtonwashington](http://www.YouTube.com/cityofarlingtonwashington)

For current meeting information, go to: [www.arlingtonwa.gov](http://www.arlingtonwa.gov) calendar or agenda center.

### Boards and Commissions

Airport Commission: 2nd Tuesday at 6 p.m.  
 Cemetery Board: 3rd Tuesday at 2:30 p.m.  
 Civil Service Commission: 1st Wednesday at 9 a.m.  
 Park, Arts, Recreation Commission: 4th Tuesday at 6 p.m.  
 Planning Commission: 1st & 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.  
 Youth Council: 2nd Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

### City Phone Numbers

Airport 360-403-3470  
 Cemetery 360-403-3428  
 Community & Economic Development 360-403-3551  
 Finance Department 360-403-3421  
 Human Resources 360-403-3443  
 Mayor's Office 360-403-3441  
 Recreation 360-403-3448  
 Public Works Utilities 360-403-3526  
 Street & Park Maintenance 360-403-3451  
 Utility Billing 360-403-3421

## Hometown Holidays

Please visit our website or Facebook page for additional events and information.

[www.arlingtonwa.gov/HH](http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/HH)

[www.facebook.com/ArlingtonHH](https://www.facebook.com/ArlingtonHH)

## Holiday Kick-Off Shop Small Event Saturday Nov. 29, Downtown Arlington

Tree Lighting at 5pm

Choirs on Stage 5:15-6pm

Olympic Ave. Fire Pits & Falling Snow 4-7pm

Cocoa & Cider at Stilly Diner Booth 4-7pm

Night of Lights - Lighted Cars & Park Lights 4-7pm

Shop Small Specials at Participating Stores

Mrs Claus & Olaf & Minions 4-7pm

Holiday Farmers Market 10am-7pm

Craft Bazaar at Arlington Lifeway 4-7pm

Free Holiday Movie at Olympic Theater, 7pm

Kettle Korn, Mini Donuts, Brats

Charm Walk

## Hometown Holidays Santa Parade Saturday Dec. 6, Downtown Arlington

Parade at noon on Olympic Avenue

Visits with Santa at Gazebo, after parade until 3pm

Tractor Wagon Rides, pickup at City Hall

Holiday Carousel, noon to 7pm, Dec. 5 - Dec. 14

Holiday Farmers Market 10am-2pm

Charm Walk 10am-3pm

Holiday Movies at Olympic Theater 2pm

## Holiday Carousel and Ferris Wheel Presented by the City of Arlington

The City of Arlington was granted funding from the Arlington Hotel/Motel Tax Grant to provide amusement rides this holiday season.

Friday, Dec. 5 through Sunday, Dec. 14, 2025.

Monday to Saturday hours: noon to 7pm, Sundays

noon to 6pm. Sensory friendly (no music) on

Sundays, 11am to noon.

Wheelchair ramp is available for carousel.

## Holiday Lights at Legion Park Presented by the City of Arlington & Amazon

Amazon is sponsoring the holiday lights at Legion Park again this year. Located in downtown Arlington, the park is a delightful sight from Thanksgiving through the end of the year!



## Shop Meet Me in Arlington *For the Holidays*

Have you visited the Meet me in Arlington online marketplace? With over 240 businesses and 600 products, shoppers can browse an assortment of products and services from Arlington businesses. This is a great way to check out what's trending in your favorite Arlington shops!

We want people to shop, eat, play and stay in Arlington. Check out our recent spot on Seattle Refined television program! Visit [www.seattlerefined.com](http://www.seattlerefined.com) and search "Meet me in Arlington." The program was paid for by a Snohomish County Tourism grant.

On the Meet me in Arlington website, we have curated itineraries, such as adventurous dates, foodie fanatics, family fun, biking and hiking, fall fun and adventures, and blogs with more ideas on how to explore Arlington. We welcome your ideas for itineraries and blogs! Email your ideas to: [info@arlingtonwa.gov](mailto:info@arlingtonwa.gov).

Businesses that are interested in being on the marketplace should contact Stilly Valley Chamber of Commerce, email [svcc@stillyvalleychamber.com](mailto:svcc@stillyvalleychamber.com).

### Follow Meet me in Arlington:

Check out our new Arlington promotional video at <https://vimeo.com/998346827>

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/meetmeinarlington](https://www.instagram.com/meetmeinarlington)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/meetmeinarlington](https://www.facebook.com/meetmeinarlington)

Website: [www.MeetmeinArlington.com](http://www.MeetmeinArlington.com)



## Arlington's LTAC Support Tourism Projects & Events

The City's 2026 Lodging Tax grants totaling \$184,995 will support various projects and events that promote and increase tourism in the community. This funding is made possible through a lodging tax generated from overnight stays at local hotels within the city limits, including Best Western Plus, Quality Inn, Medallion Inn & Suites, Arlington Motor Inn, and Smokey Point Motor Inn.

The 2026 projects that will receive grants include: Art in Legion Park, Battle of the Flags(football), Arlington Skyfest, Eagle Festival, Hispanic Heritage Event, Hometown Holidays, Summer Entertainment Series, Arlington Street Fair, Gleneagle Summerdaze, Fourth of July, Arlington Farm Tours, Arlington Farmers Market, Show and Shine Car Show, and Oktoberfest.

The Lodging Tax Advisory Committee meets annually to review grant applications and make recommendations to City Council for funding.



City of Arlington  
238 N Olympic Ave  
Arlington, WA 98223

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# Hometown Holidays



# Meet Me in Arlington

**Tree Lighting Nov. 29**

**Santa Parade Dec. 6**

**Holiday Events Through December**

**[www.arlingtonwa.gov/HH](http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/HH)**



Event made possible in part by assistance from the City of Arlington Hotel-Motel Tax Fund.