



The Hazelnut

A City of Tukwila publication for our residential and business communities

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THE FOSTER GOLF LINKS OPENED IN TUKWILA 100 YEARS AGO, and continues to be a special space for families and friends to enjoy the outdoors, try a challenging sport, or even celebrate a wedding.

The course has been a community hub through the ages, welcoming new players and fostering intergenerational connections. As a public course with learning opportunities for all ages and levels, it represents Tukwila's warm and inclusive spirit. With freeways and major roads nearby, it's also effectively become a sanctuary for birds, salmon and other wildlife.



TukwilaWA.gov

Tukwila: The City of Opportunity, the Community of Choice

Mayor's Message

We are excited to invite you into this special edition of the Hazelnut!

In 1925 and under the “Maple Grove,” the course we now know as Foster Golf Links opened with a grand community celebration. This year, we’re celebrating its centennial.

Through two world wars and countless economic ups and downs, the Foster Golf Links has been a place for people to come together, have fun and enjoy nature.

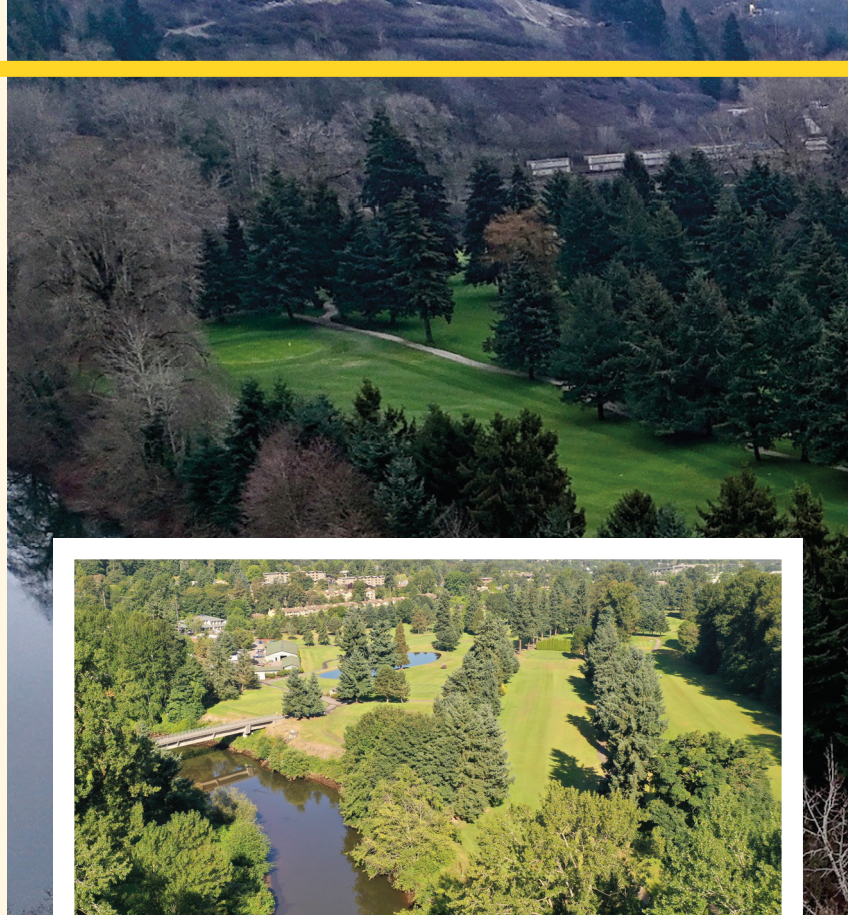
Golf is a unique sport: a grandparent and a grandchild can play it together. It’s a game where you compete against other people, but the core challenge is in beating yourself. Your competition also provides the camaraderie that makes for a truly memorable day. While the course might be 100 years old, the game continues to evolve. Many people tried golf during COVID, and the friendly, inviting atmosphere is what keeps people coming back.

Foster Golf Links is one of the region’s favorite public golf courses, and the staff make an extraordinary effort to invite people in. With many beginners’ courses and events available, it’s easy to get started. Do you want to just take a look around? That’s easy too: the clubhouse and restaurant are open to everyone, and are a popular spot for all kinds of family and community events.

We invite you to check it out for yourselves!



Mayor Thomas McLeod
City of Tukwila



About the Course

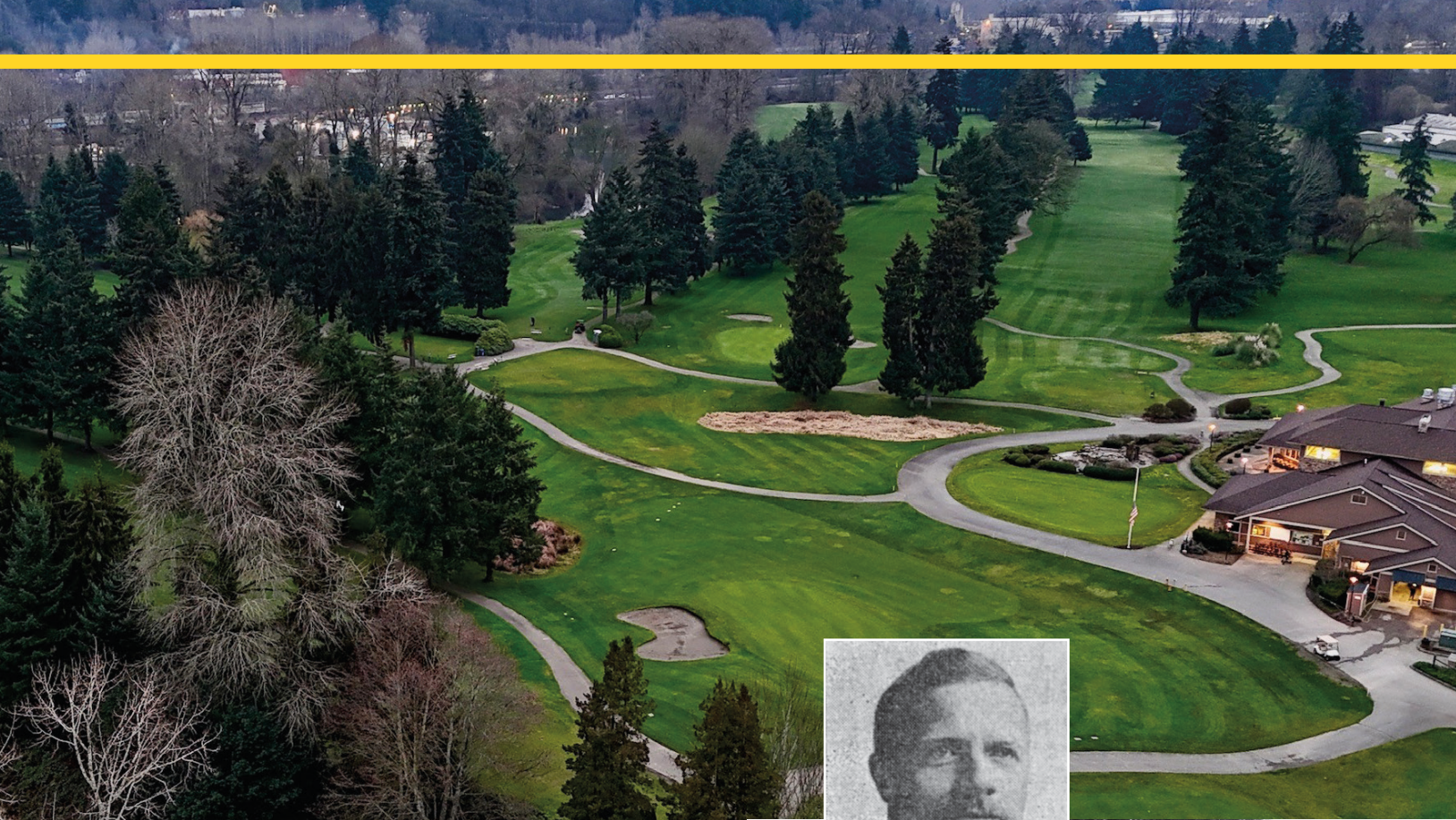
KNOWN FOR ITS VIEWS, MATURE TREES AND ACCESSIBLE LAYOUT, THIS 18-HOLE, PAR 68 COURSE IS NEAR INTERSTATE 5 AND INTERURBAN AVENUE SOUTH, AND IS ACCESSIBLE TO GOLFERS ACROSS THE REGION.

In true Northwest style, this popular and fun course also has the salmon-bearing Duwamish River running through it. It is a great place to see wildlife, so golfers are advised to keep their eyes open. Depending on the time of year, they might see eagles, eaglets, crows, beavers or the Blue Angels.

A COMMUNITY LEGACY: THE HISTORY OF FOSTER GOLF LINKS IN TUKWILA

Foster Golf Links has been a part of Tukwila’s story since 1925, making it one of the oldest public golf courses in the region. Its history is closely tied to the evolution of the community itself.

The land was originally part of a homestead claimed by Joseph Foster, a pioneer who arrived in the Duwamish



Valley in the 1850s. A plaque commemorating Foster’s homestead is located on Tukwila’s oldest maple tree at the north end of the golf course. In 1924, “against the advice of others and mortgaged to the hilt,” George Henry Eddy purchased the property. Eddy envisioned a golf course that would serve the growing population south of Seattle. He developed the 9-hole Foster Golf Links in 1925 and expanded it to 18 holes soon after.

“Green fees were 50 cents for all day. The old Foster farm house was used as the club house,” according to Northwest Hickory Players historian Martin Pool. “Mrs. Eddy did the cooking, and sold sandwiches. Thus began Eddys’ one-family business venture.”

In 1951, after George Eddy had passed, the family sold the golf course to Joe Aliment, who had worked for George Eddy as caddie master and greens keeper since the beginning. Together and over decades, the Eddy and Aliment families built more than just a business: They created a community institution.

In 1978, the City of Tukwila purchased the course, ensuring it would remain publicly accessible and reflect the community’s long-standing commitment to open space, recreation, and community connection.

Many thanks to Martin Pool and his history of the course, available at www.NWHickoryPlayers.org.



KEY FACTS

Established: 1925 by George Henry Eddy

Original Landowner: Joseph Foster, namesake of the course and the Foster neighborhood

City Acquisition: 1978

George H. Eddy: Born in Cornwall, England and emigrated in 1910

Course Evolution: Began as 9 holes; later expanded to 18

Significance: One of the oldest public courses in King County

A Place to Connect *with fun & family*

PUBLIC GOLF COURSES ARE MORE THAN JUST PLACES TO PLAY A ROUND—THEY'RE PLACES FOR PEOPLE TO SPEND MEANINGFUL TIME TOGETHER. Joining a foursome, whether with a planned group of friends or just joining an available group, offers a chance to spend time together in a relaxed setting. A few hours on the course can lead to new friendships or strengthen existing ones.

“Golf is a great way to meet people and connect,” said Deron Pointer, Foster Golf Links Head Golf Professional. **“There are set groups that play here consistently, even twice a week, and then there’s people who just join the next available foursome. Maybe you have lunch and play together again and maybe you don’t, but it’s still good to get out and meet new people.”**

Foster Golf Links also hosts community events, charity tournaments, and skills clinics for all ages. These gatherings bring people together across neighborhoods and backgrounds, and create easy ways to meet other people in the community.

Pointer noted that COVID opened people’s eyes to the many benefits of golf: you could be with people for hours, in nature, at any fitness level, and with much less risk to others. That trend bears out nationally. In 2024, 28.1 million people golfed (the highest since 2008), and there were record-high levels of representation – 28% of all golfers were women and 25% were people of color.

The easy pace of the game also lends itself to conversations that become memories. Longtime player Joe Langer, Seattle, recalls **“I have lots of memories, but probably being able to play golf with my Dad and my best friend Joe Korn and his dad,”** he said. **“Playing with Joe when he shot the course record was special.”**



TGL has 4,804 yards of play. Counting steps? It’s about 10,000 steps, or three miles.



Council Corner

As a council our role in celebrating Independence Day is multifaceted, encompassing civic leadership, involving community engagement, and the promotion of shared values.

Independence Day serves as a powerful reminder of the principles that unite us—freedom, democracy, and equality. By organizing or participating in local events such as parades, fireworks displays, and community picnics, we can help strengthen the social fabric of our community.

Independence Day is an opportune moment to encourage our friends and neighbors to reflect on their civic duties. An occasion to remind our community the importance of voting, community service, and adherence to laws. We play a crucial role in ensuring that Independence Day celebrations are safe and inclusive for all residents. This includes promoting safety measures using safe fireworks, providing information on pet safety during celebrations, and being mindful of the veterans and those with disabilities who are sensitive to explosions and booms. Our leadership as a community can help create an environment where everyone feels welcome and secure.

Independence Day is also a time to give back to the community. Organizing and participating in community service projects, such as park clean-ups or food drives, can have a lasting positive impact. These activities not only improve the community but also embody the spirit of service and collective responsibility that Independence Day represents.

We honor the nation's history and strengthen the community's commitment to the values that make it vibrant and the only United States of America.



**By 2025 Council President
Tosh Sharp**

DID YOU KNOW?

Tukwila Golf Links has been averaging **58,000 golfers a year since 2022.**
That includes:

30,000 senior golfers

28,000 golfers younger than 62

7,000 Tukwila residents

In summer, there are more than 110 tee times! Golfers start in 8-minute intervals from 5:30 a.m. – 8:10 p.m.

There are about 300 golfers in a day

Course record: 56, Joe Korn

Only closed 4 days a year

Celebrated 100 years Feb 13th, 2025



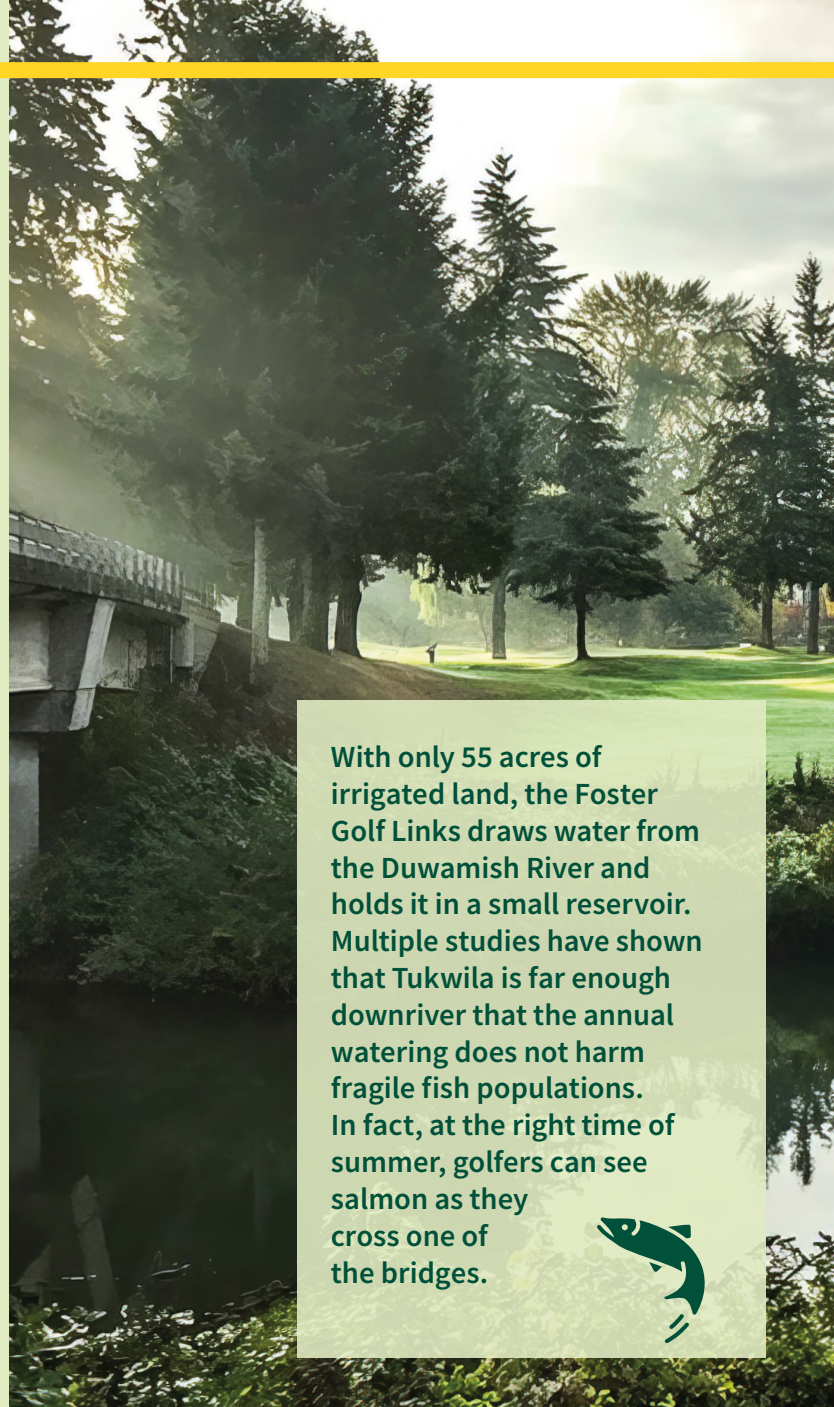
A Place to Connect *with nature*

PUBLIC GOLF COURSES OFFER A RARE CHANCE FOR PEOPLE TO SPEND TIME IN NATURE WITHOUT LEAVING THE CITY. These protected open spaces give golfers and nearby residents a break from traffic, buildings, and noise. Simply walking through a course can provide mental and physical benefits, including stress relief and fresh air.

The Foster Golf Links was designed around curves of the Duwamish River, and has effectively protected that area ever since. With trees for air quality, lots of open ground to absorb rainwater and plenty of plants to purify the water, prevent erosion and provide cover, the course is a unique ecosystem.

Eagle nests are visible from the ground, and golfers enjoy the coming and going of eaglets. Mammals such as rabbits, squirrels, and raccoons live nearby, as well as frogs, ducks and other water birds.

Tukwila's golf course is also unique in that it does not draw water from the municipal water supply at all: it all comes from the river itself. While there is access to recycled "greywater" in case of emergencies, the course pulls water out of the river and holds it in a reservoir. Because of its location far away from the Duwamish's fragile estuary, fish populations are unaffected by the water draw.



With only 55 acres of irrigated land, the Foster Golf Links draws water from the Duwamish River and holds it in a small reservoir. Multiple studies have shown that Tukwila is far enough downriver that the annual watering does not harm fragile fish populations. In fact, at the right time of summer, golfers can see salmon as they cross one of the bridges.





COME JOIN US!

CENTENNIAL EVENTS

The centennial events aren't over!

August 2&3: Tukwila City Amateur

September 26: Glow Ball

LESSONS

Whether you do a single lesson or invest in a beginner series of 3 lessons, you can get the attention you need to start playing and gain confidence.

You can also spend time on the simulator for practice and feedback.

For booking private lessons or further questions send an email to Deron.Pointer@TukwilaWA.gov

SPECIAL PRICES

Family Weekends

The Parks and Recreation Department for the City of Tukwila and Foster Golf Links are excited to announce the creation of a family weekend...GOLF STYLE.

Juniors (ages 6-17) play for just \$13.00 with a paid adult

Saturdays and Sundays after 12 p.m.

This is a great way for all generations to spend a weekend afternoon together.



HAVE QUESTIONS?

Visit www.FosterGolfLinks.com

Or call the golf shop at 206-267-3114 for more information.

THE HAZELNUT

City of Tukwila
6200 Southcenter Blvd.
Tukwila, WA 98188

PRESORT STANDARD
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SEATTLE, WA
PERMIT NO. 12698



This isn't just a cozy clubhouse for golfers: this is a true community center, with great casual dining, views of the course and ample parking. We are thrilled to host people for weddings, services, graduation parties and other special events. Did you know that the Billy Baroos restaurant is open for everyone? Stop by any time, have a bite to eat and enjoy the views.

TUKWILA CITY HALL

6200 Southcenter Boulevard
City Hall campus in-person hours:
Monday—Thursday, 8:30AM–4:00PM
Phone: 206-433-1800 Fax: 206-433-1833
Email: Tukwila@TukwilaWA.gov
Website: TukwilaWA.gov

MAYOR Thomas McLeod.....206-433-1850

Mayor's Office

Administration Offices206-433-1850
Marty Wine, *City Administrator* 206-433-1851
Brandon Miles, *Director, Strategic Initiatives/
Government Relations*..... 206-431-3684
City Clerk's Office206-433-1800
Community Engagement206-454-7564
Economic Development.....206-433-1832
Human Resources – Personnel 206-433-1831
Human Services.....206-433-7181
Emergency Management 206-971-8750
Technology Services206-454-7575

Community Development Department

Nora Gierloff, *Director*..... 206-431-3670
Code Enforcement.....206-431-3682

Finance Department

Aaron BeMiller, *Director*..... 206-433-1835

Parks/Recreation Department

Pete Mayer, *Deputy City Administrator/
Parks Director*..... 206-433-0179

Police Department

Eric Drever, *Chief*.....206-433-7175

Public Works Department

Jen Tetatzin, *Director*206-767-2342

Emergency – Fire, Police 911

MUNICIPAL COURT

15005 Tukwila International Blvd .. 206-433-1840

TUKWILA COMMUNITY CENTER

12424 - 42nd Avenue South
Recreation Division206-768-2822
Senior Center/Services.....206-767-2321
Facility Rentals206-767-2323

FOSTER GOLF LINKS

13500 Interurban Avenue South
Pro Shop.....206-242-4221

PUGET SOUND REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY

All fire-related services253-856-4300
PugetSoundFire.org

2025 TUKWILA CITY COUNCIL

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CityCouncil@TukwilaWA.gov

Laurel Humphrey, *Analyst*...206-433-8993

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

7:00PM in Council Chambers

Regular Meetings 1st/3rd Mondays

Committee of the Whole 2nd/4th Mondays