



May Center Report – March 2020

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting



May Arboretum Report

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ UNR intern, Chad Morris from the School of Anthropology completed his term this past month by applying his computer skills to arboretum update bases.
- ◆ The Horticulturist continues to work closely with the May Foundation and Fallon media on the interpretive panel project was approved by the May Foundation (\$149,600.00) in December. Thirty five panels will be placed throughout the gardens. Each panel provides the history of each garden and highlight the dominate plant species.
- ◆ The horticulturist presented at the regional Park Ranger Association of California Conference that was held at the Whitney Peak Hotel in Reno. The horticulturist presentation title was “Interfacing Botanical Gardens with Urban Forests.”

May Arboretum Environmental Educational Programs

- ◆ Nichole Tracey, AmeriCorps member and the Arboretum Educational Program Coordinator launched “Little Sprouts” series this past month. The series is canceled as well as other educational programs and tours due to COVID-19 until further notice.

Greenhouse Program

- ◆ Before COVID-19 the arboretum began its vegetable seedling program. Over 500 seedlings were planted for Washoe County School district elementary schools. Participating elementary schools are Hidden Valley ES, Mt Rose EC, Glen Duncan EC and Peavine ES.
- ◆ Arboretum staff and horticulturist also planted started vegetables for Washoe County employee garden. Nearly 100 plants have been started.
- ◆ Due to COVID-19 the May Arboretum Society annual plant sale is canceled.
- ◆ The horticulturist and staff started annuals for the arboretum. Over 750 have been started for display and planting seeds planting will continue throughout the year. Currently 700 annuals were started and have been transplanted into 4” containers for the Arboretum.
- ◆ The arboretum also received label/tag printer (\$1000.00) as a gift from the May Arboretum Society for the greenhouse. The printer is capable of making different size labels for the greenhouse plants. The information on the labels/tags will include planting date, genus, species and common name.

Arboretum Upgrades and Projects

- ◆ Bids are being requested to replace the vandalized water feature in Burke Garden.
- ◆ Staff is preparing a list of projects to request from the May Foundation and May Arboretum Society endowment funding cycle which is in April.
- ◆ Staff identified trees for pruning and removal and will be going out to bid this month. Funding for the pruning and removal is provided by the May Arboretum Society (\$15,000).

Arboretum Operations



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- ◆ The horticulturist maintains the plant records/plant curating and plant accessions using Iris GB, ESRI, (ARC Map) software weekly and throughout the year.
- ◆ Phil Brazier, Horticulture Assistant and Bradon Franklin, Maintenance worker II and seasonal staff continue to work on winter projects and pruning. Recently the arboretum crew applied several hundred gallons of pre-emergent herbicide throughout the Arboretum and the Nevada Farms and Families area.
- ◆ Bradon Franklin and seasonal staff attended the University of Nevada Cooperative Green Industry and Nursery Training and passed the exam. The entire crew attended the Nevada Landscape Association conference in February.
- ◆ The May Arboretum webpage is being updated by the horticulturist.
- ◆ The horticulturist and Washoe County’s Volunteer Coordinator, Denise Evans have made a decision to implement Volgistics, a software programs for tracking Arboretum volunteers. This will stream line volunteer digital records and volunteer hours. It will also be used communicate directly to volunteers using the cell phones.
- ◆ The horticulturist continues to meet with active and potential donors, assist with fund raising events and maintains the Arboretum donor data base and donor records, maintains two county budgets and manages May Arboretum Society (MAS) projects and seasonal employee budgets.
- ◆ The horticulturist continues to serve as chairman of the May Arboretum Society Endowment Fund.

Visitor Data

Master Summary

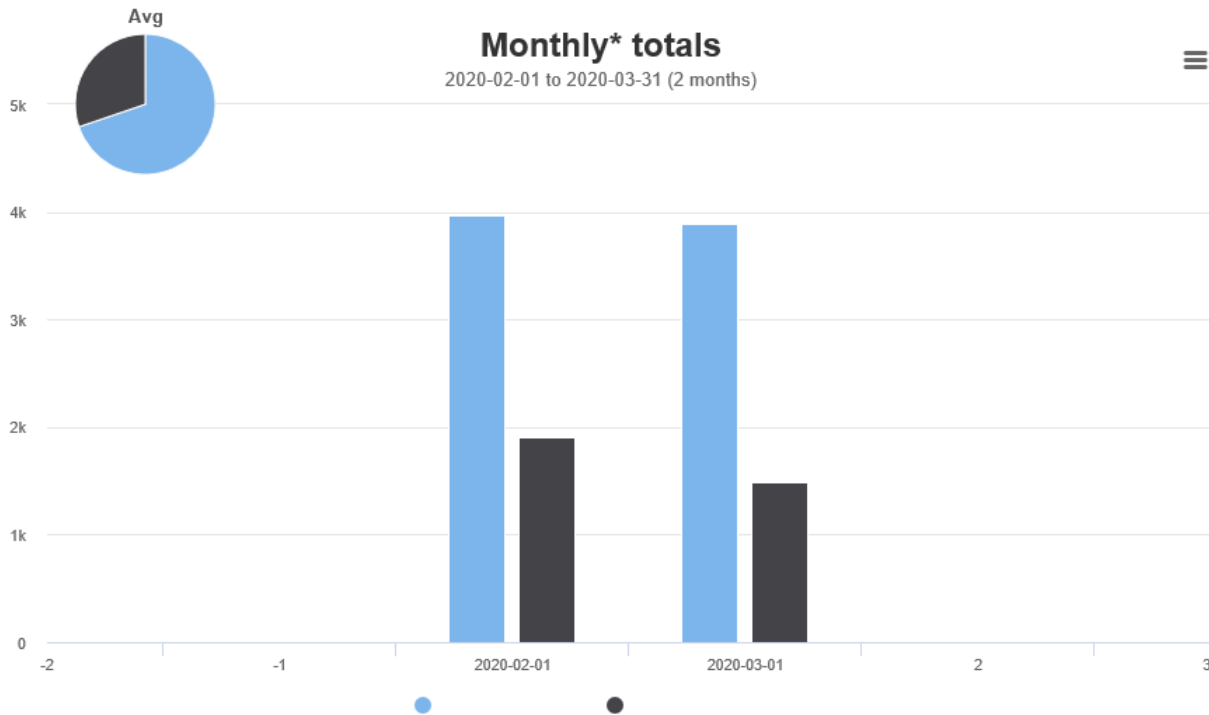
Year	Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	ADT [†]	ADT [†] x365	Days with data
2020	So.Arbo Entrance	2,941	3,966	3,891*										116.338	42,580	68
	West Arbo Entrance	1,445	1,909	1,492*										54.985	20,125	68

ADT[†] = Average Daily Traffic
 * = based upon that month's ADT i
 † = divide by 2 applied



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The May Arboretum subscribes to the Pedestrian TRAFX Counter software. The software is used to collect, view, analyze and manage pedestrian flow from the two formal Arboretum two entrances, south and west entrances. The data is collected by the horticulturist monthly using a portable data logger (G3 Dock) and analyzed using TRAFX counter software. Adjustments to the counters were made to accommodate visitors entering and exiting the Arboretum. The system averages the number of visitors based on historical data and the actual recorded data. The average number of visitors recorded for March of 2020 was 5,353. Data suggest during this time 3,891 entering from the south main entrance (Ranch House parking lot) and 1,492 entering from the west entrance (May Museum parking lot). Nearly 70 percent of the visitors are entering from the south entrance compared to 30% from the west. Total number of visitors starting January 2020 is 15,644 for calendar year.

May Arboretum Volunteer Program

- ◆ All volunteer activities were suspended in March until further notice.

Memorials

- ◆ The horticulturist manages and oversees the memorial tree, bench and brick program. Two memorial benches, three memorial trees and two memorial bricks were purchased this past month.



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May Arboretum Report

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ The May Arboretum office is closed to the general public until further notice.
- ◆ May Arboretum and staff assisted with Washoe County employee vegetable garden. Horticulturist and seasonal started the vegetables in the greenhouse and Phil Brazier, Horticulture assistant help with the planning of the irrigation while working with Park Operations Superintendent, Colleen Wallace.

May Arboretum Environmental Educational Programs

- ◆ Nichole Tracey, AmeriCorps member and the Arboretum Educational Program Coordinator produced and posted six videos on Face Book, complete with “sound-over” interpretation and background music. This was in lieu of the cancelation of the all educational workshops and events due to COVID-19. The videos includes: “Welcome to the May Arboretum”, “How to Rock Paint” (activity for children) “Living Fossils” (the Ginkgo biloba and the Dawn Redwood) and more recently “Earth Day” and “Arbor Day” videos. Some of the videos have received well over 1,200 to 1,800 likes.

Greenhouse Program

- ◆ Over 500 vegetable were planted for Washoe County School elementary schools, as well as 350 vegetable for the Washoe County Employee garden. Participating elementary schools include, Hidden Valley ES, Mt Rose EC, Glen Ducan EC and Pavine ES. Mt.Rose and Glenn Ducan canceled their program for the year.
- ◆ Due to the COVID-19 the May Arboretum Society annual plant sale was canceled.
- ◆ The greenhouse received the May Arboretum Society assortment of plants, 789 plugs/small plants. These will be pushed up into 4” containers to sell later in the year.
- ◆ The greenhouse annuals that were started from seed are ready to plant. Seasonal annuals will be grown from seed and rotated out into the gardens throughout the year. Currently 700 annuals were started and have been transplanted into 4” containers for the Arboretum. Many of the annuals will be planted this month.

Arboretum Upgrades and Projects

- ◆ John Crandell tree service started this month. John will be pruning some of the larger trees in the collection and removing old and dying trees. John will also be sump grinding an old willow trunk in David’s Garden (conifer collection). Many thanks to the May Arboretum Society for their generous donation of the \$15,000 for the project.
- ◆ The horticulturist prepared and sent several proposals to the May Arboretum Society this past month for funding this year the include the following:
 - Two full-time Man Power Position from June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021.
 - **\$96,876.00**



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- May Arboretum AmeriCorps Program Educator Coordinator position which begins a new cycle in September 2020 through August 2021.
- **\$9,500**

- Irrigation system upgrade - David's, Native and Rock Garden.
- **\$4,500**

- The May Arboretum is requesting support to fund Didier design studio LLC. to design a 1.5 acre cactus and succulent garden at the north end of the arboretum.
- **Design fee \$38,760.00.**

- North Arboretum fence line irrigation upgrade
- **\$57,000**

Arboretum Operations

- ◆ All of the turf areas are being aerated, seeded, fertilized and top dressed in the arboretum and two large turf areas in GBA.
- ◆ The May Arboretum webpage is being updated by the horticulturist and on a weekly basis.

Visitor Data

The May Arboretum subscribes to the Pedestrian TRAFX Counter software. The software is used to collect, view, analyze and manage pedestrian flow from two formal Arboretum entrances, south and west entrances. The data is collected by the horticulturist monthly using a portable data logger (G3 Dock) and analyzed using TRAFX counter software. Adjustments to the counters were made to accommodate visitors entering and exiting the Arboretum. The system averages the number of visitors based on historical data and the actual recorded information. The average number of visitors recorded for April was 10,008. The number of visitor doubled from March. Compared to 2019, the May Arboretum visitor increased by 20% (April 2019 8,896, April 2020 10,808). The increase can be attributed to COVID-19 messages, "exercise and go to a nearby park".

Visitor data implies, during April of 2020 7,818 people entered the Arboretum through the south entrance (Ranch House parking lot) while 2,190 entered from the west entrance (May museum entrance parking lot). Nearly 72 percent of the visitors entered from the south entrance compared to 28% entering from the west. The Arboretum staff is investigating the impact of closing several entrances to the arboretum during regular park hours. The Arboretum has 4 informal entrances and 2 formal. The thought is to eventually have only one entrance and one exist. We believe this may reduce unwelcomed & suspicious individuals and reduce periodic vandalism. The total number of visitors beginning January 1, 2020 through April 21, 2020 is 16,631.



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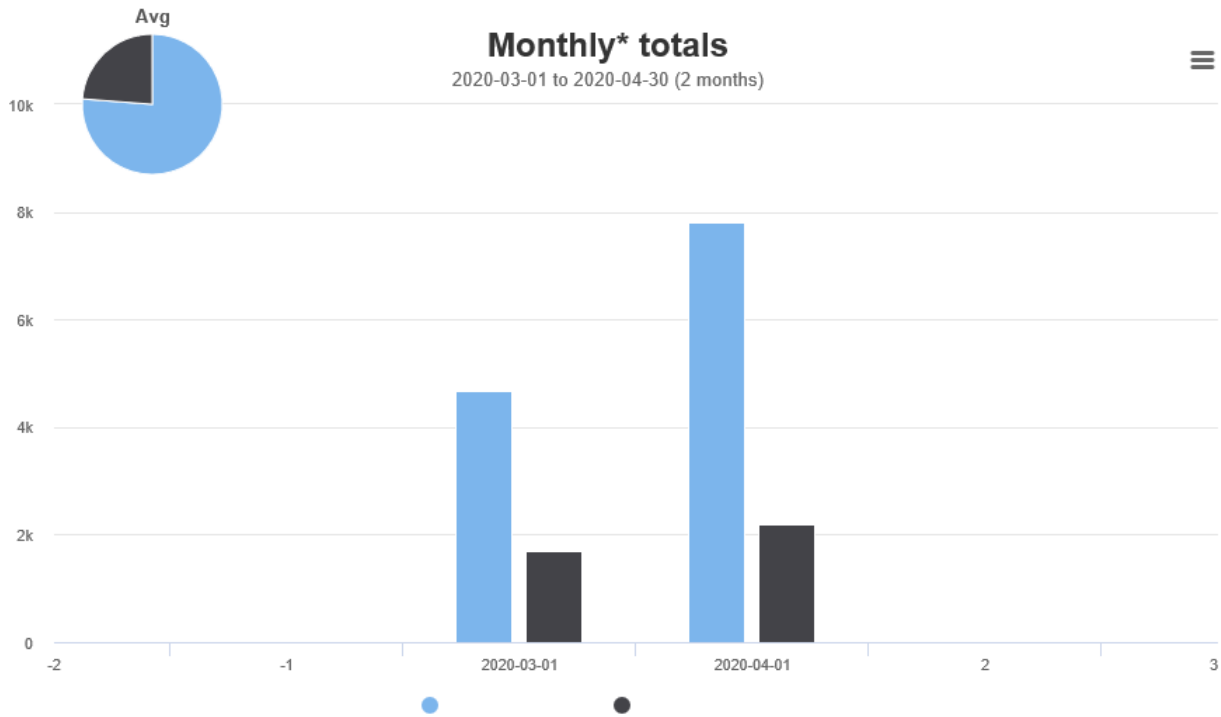
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Master Summary

Year	Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	ADT [†]	ADT [†] x365	Days with data
2020	South Entrance	2,941	3,966	4,668	7,818*									151.234	55,352	111
	West Entrance	1,445	1,909	1,702	2,190*									58.703	21,485	111

ADT[†] = Average Daily Traffic
 * = based upon that month's ADT
 † = divide by 2 applied



Blue is the south entrance and black is the west entrance.

Memorials

- ◆ The horticulturist manages and oversees the memorial tree, bench and brick program. Two additional memorial trees were sold and two additional memorial bricks were purchased this past month.



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May Arboretum Report

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ May Arboretum visitors attendance saw a 27% increase in May when compared to last year during the same time in 2019. .
- ◆ Due to a hiring freeze, the Arboretum provided Washoe County savings for one seasonal staff member through June 30, 2020 and two seasonal have reduced hours.
- ◆ The Horticulturist continues to work closely with the May Foundation and Fallon media on the interpretive panel project that was approved by the May Foundation (\$149,600.00). The first 10 panels drafts were sent to review committee for suggestion and edits. May Foundation will provide additional input for the final draft.
- ◆ The May Arboretum office is closed to the general public until further notice.

May Arboretum Environmental Educational Programs

- ◆ Nichole Tracey, AmeriCorps member and the Arboretum Educational Program Coordinator continues to post video's on Facebook and Instagram.

Greenhouse Program

- ◆ Over 500 vegetable were planted for Washoe County School elementary schools, as well as 350 vegetable for the Washoe County Employee garden. Several schools canceled their orders due to Covid 19.

Reservations

- ◆ Wedding gardens rentals are closed through due to COVID19 and Phase I restrictions.

Arboretum Upgrades and Projects

- ◆ John Crandell tree service completed the first phase of our tree pruning program. Many thanks to the May Arboretum Society for their generous donation of the \$15,000 for the project.
- ◆ The horticulturist will be meeting with the May Arboretum Society to approve up to \$170,000 in projects and staff.

Arboretum Operations

- ◆ The horticulturist is preparing and scheduling the greenhouse for propagating the seasonal displays for summer and fall.
- ◆ Phil Brazier, Horticulture Assistant and Bradon Franklin, Maintenance worker II and seasonal staff are busy repairing irrigation breaks, aerating, seeding and top dressing turf areas in the arboretum.
- ◆ Several new memorial trees were planted this month by staff.



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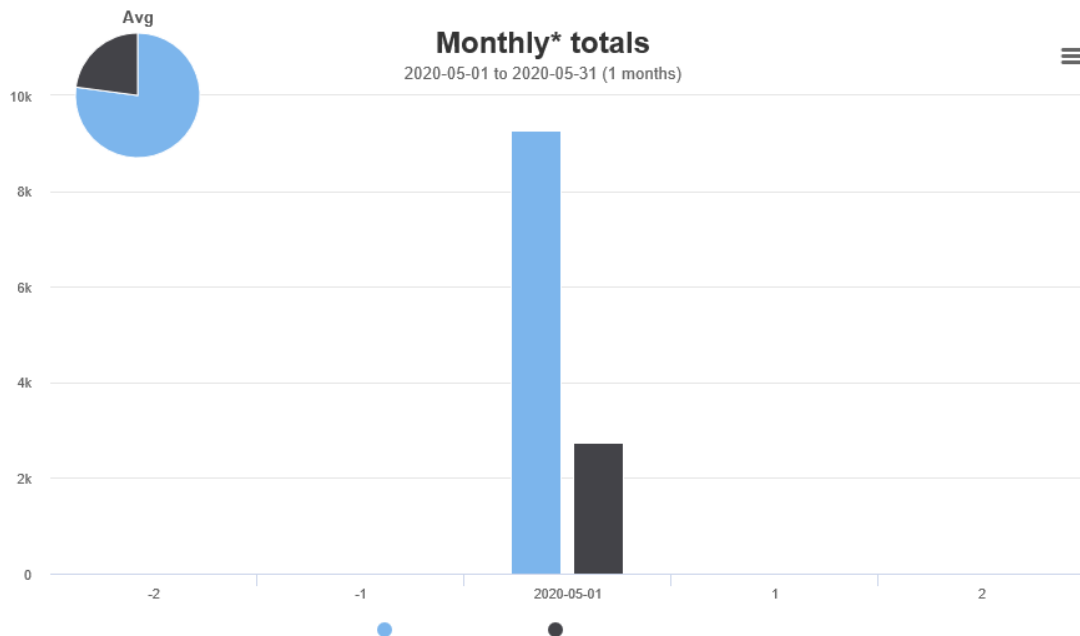
Visitor Data

The average number of visitors recorded for May 2020 was 12,005. The number of visitors were up by 27% compare to the same time last year in May (May, 2019 8,657, May, 2020 12005). The increase can be attributed to COVID-19 messages, “exercise and go to a nearby park”.

The Arboretum staff is investigating the impact of closing several entrances to the arboretum during regular park hours. The Arboretum has 4 informal entrances and 2 formal. The thought is to eventually have only one entrance and one exit. We believe this may reduce unwelcomed & suspicious individuals and reduce periodic vandalism. The total number of visitors beginning January 1, 2020 through May 20, 2020 is 27,491.

Master Summary

Year	Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	ADT [†]	ADT [†] x365	Days with data
2020	So. Arbo Entrance [Ⓓ]	2,941	3,966	4,668	8,648	9,259*								184.986	67,705	140
	West Arbo Entrance [Ⓓ]	1,445	1,909	1,702	2,212	2,746*								63.936	23,400	140



Blue is the south entrance and black is the west entrance.



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May Museum Report

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ The Animation Academy exhibition was unable to reopen to the public through its contract date (May 10).
- ◆ Several Artown events planned for July are canceled, including the Art Angels workshop and Latimer Art Club reception and demos. The Museum plans to move forward with the Latimer Art Club exhibition scheduled July 1 – 31.
- ◆ The planned fall exhibition (“Uncomfortable Artifacts”) is canceled, due to all Nevada museums being closed and unable to assist in artifact loans.
- ◆ The Museum’s rental season was scheduled to begin at the end of May, following the end of the exhibit. Due to the closure, reopening restrictions, and concerns for the future, 11 rentals have been canceled for 2020 (as of 5/19).
- ◆ Full-time museum staff are working from home, with periodic on-site visits.
- ◆ Seasonal staff rotate daily on-site to feed fish/turtles, water plants, check messages, clean, and conduct security checks of the collection and building.
- ◆ To maintain connection with visitors and supporters, the Museum continues to share the collection and communication through social media. The Museum shares artifact spotlights, tour videos, puzzles, and more.
- ◆ Samantha is working to clean up the 5,000+ Past Perfect records in anticipation of the upgrade to the web-based system.

UPCOMING

- ◆ The Animation Academy exhibit will be packed up the week of June 9th.
- ◆ The Museum plans to open, in accordance with the Governor’s guidance, in Phase 3, with restrictions on capacity and access, as well as increased health & safety protocols.