Sumas Newsletter

MAY/JUNE 2022

A Note from the Mayor

Spring is here and things are sprouting and showing signs of life all around the City.

I want to thank all the volunteers from our community and those that have come in from other places to help us get things cleaned up.

In March a group of college students came along side the Advent Church and The Lions Club. They all assisted homeowners with debris removal, they crawled under houses , tore out drywall and flooring, raked yards and hauled it to the dumpsters that were placed in the City for that purpose. Bless you for your help.

The Lions club donated the funds to have the 5 large dumpsters brought in and hauled away. Thank you Lions Club!

On April 2nd, we had our annual Sumas cleanup day sponsored by Nooksack Valley Disposal. Many volunteers showed up and contributed their time and energy to assist. You may have even seen the City staff picking up trash along the highway all the way out to Morgan Rd. The Girl Scouts picked up 3 loader bucket loads of trash around the school, and a team of volunteers from Natures Path showed their support by picking up trash around town. Even Senator Sefzik came to help. And, if you noticed the large pile of sand-bags behind City Hall those were all gathered by Tanner and Landon Sytsma, thanks guys! I also want to thank the 'Friends of the Library' and Teresa Josephson for taking the time to bring all the goodies and refreshments and helping to coordinate the volunteers. So many to thank.

On April 23rd, we had yet another cleanup day . The City staff and I were able to arrange additional funding to help Sumas citizens get more flood debris removed from their homes and properties. I want to thank the volunteers who came and Megan from the LTRG (long term recovery group) for coordinating the volunteers, Pacific Rim Reload for donating the site and staff for the dump location, and Jason Clawson for spending his Saturday monitoring and directing the incoming debris.

On the City side of things, we have secured contracts to restore City hall and the Senior Center, and work should begin very shortly on these projects.

The City staff and crew have been working hard to do what they can to bring Sumas back to preflood conditions and better. There are many projects in the works and they are doing a great job keeping things going for us.

Thank you to our men in blue for keeping our City safe and sound despite their own personal hardships. We appreciate you! Wow! So much to be thankful for.

Sincerely,

Bruce Bosch
Mayor

NOTABLE DATES

City Council Meetings
·May 9th & 23rd @ 7pm
·June 13th & 27th @ 7pm

Sumas Municipal Court
(At Everson City Courthouse)
·May 12th & 26th @ 1pm
·June 9th & 23rd @ 1pm

Sumas Fireworks Pancake Fundraiser @ Loca Mocha
·May 21st 8:00am-11:30am

Movie in the Park @ Dusk
·June 24th

Sumas Community Days
·June 25th

Hal Bronkema Tournament
·June 24th-26th

Annual Fishing Derby
·June 4th

CITY HALL CLOSURES

·May 30th

CITY OF SUMAS
433 Cherry St/PO Box 9
Sumas, WA 98295
(360) 988-5711
www.cityofsumas.com

ONLINE PAYMENT PORTAL

Pay your utility bill or court fine online by going to our website: **www.cityofsumas.com**
Select the payment tab towards the top of the page, and select either "pay utility bill" or "pay court fine." (Only debit/ credit card is accepted)

Community Calendars

2022 Community Calendars are available at City Hall for $5

Walking your Dogs

Please pick up after your dog and dispose of the bags properly, do not leave them on the ground/sidewalk. We want to keep all sidewalks/walkways clear so people can enjoy their walks.

DOG PARK

Our enclosed dog park is located next to the community garden, and is open from dawn-dusk. We ask that you please pick up after your dog, and dispose of any waste or garbage.

IT'S MOWING SEASON!

Please maintain your grass/weeds as per Sumas Municipal Code 8.32

SPRAY PARK

The spray park will be opening back up May 25th! Please follow the posted rules and have fun!

OUTDOOR BURNING

Outdoor burning is prohibited within City limits, except for recreational fires in designated fire pits.

WOOD CHIPPER

Friday May 20th: 10am-Noon
Saturday May 21st: 9am-11am
Friday June 17th: 10am-Noon
Saturday June 18th: 9am-11am

Community Garden

The Community garden is open, and will be available until November 1st.

Please Keep in Mind:

- Planting areas are first come, first serve; you must mark your own areas.
- Pick up any garbage/weeds and throw it away.
- By the end of October, please pick up all of your garden supplies. In the first week of November the City will dispose of any left over items in the gardens.

Summer Sewer Rates

Sewer rates are based on water usage. During the months of April-October your sewer is billed based on your average water usage during the winter months (Nov-Mar). Your sewer bill will never be higher than your average usage in winter. That means your sewer rate won't increase if using water for filling up pools, watering lawns/flowers, & washing your vehicles.

Utility Budget Program

The City offers the budget plan for any resident who is interested. The budget plan **only** applies to the electric portion of your bill. The budget payment is calculated based on your previous 12 months electric usage plus 10%. This payment will begin with May 2022 bills and will be billed monthly through March 2023. April is the month that the entire account will be reconciled, and its' bill will be either a credit or debit. If at any time you decide to cancel the budget plan, any outstanding balances will be due immediately. If interested please reach out to Mollie Bost at 360-988-5711 before May 27th to sign up.

Vacation Watch

Going on vacation? Call City Hall at (360) 988-5711 to get on the vacation watch schedule. Provide your name, address, and the dates you'll be gone, and an officer on duty will patrol your home while you're away.

The picture above is the local Girls Scout Troop on April 2nd volunteering at the annual clean-up day. They picked up three loader buckets full of debris around the new school. Awesome job girls!

thank you!

Firework Fundraiser

Support the Sumas Fireworks Night by grabbing some pancakes at Loca Mocha on May 21st from 8am-11:30am

Sumas Community Days!

Saturday June 25th

Parade, Vendors, Food, Games, DJ, Live Music, Ball Tournament & Fireworks! You don't want to miss out!

A special thank you for all of the volunteers who helped at the Annual Spring Cleaning Day, and the other clean up days! The community has had a huge impact on Sumas! We appreciate all of you!

whatcom county library system

SUMAS LIBRARY
FRIENDS OF SUMAS LIBRARY
WHATCOM COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Sumas Library

451 2nd Street 360-988-2501
Currently closed due to November Flood
Bookmobile in Sumas:
Fridays 10am – 2pm

The Sumas Library and Whatcom County Library System (WCLS) staff appreciate all the support our community has shown the library since the flood. Below are updates and information about the status of the library, as well as current services and volunteer opportunities!

- **Repairs have begun**, and we are pleased to announce that 24/7 access to free WiFi at the library building is now available. The public access point can be reached from the library parking lot and in the grassy area next to the library.

- We are excited to share that remodeling provides WCLS an opportunity to install a **Library Express** in the building foyer. A Library Express allows patrons to pick up items they have on hold at their convenience, including during hours the library is not open and staffed. Patrons will use their library card to enter the foyer, find their requested items, and check out the items. This concept has been successful at the WCLS administrative building on Northwest Drive and at the Point Roberts Library. We look forward to bringing this increased accessibility to library services to Sumas.

- **Pick-up your requested items in Sumas!** You can pick up library items on hold in Sumas. Requested items are delivered to a lockbox in the library parking lot on a weekly basis. To get started, simply choose Sumas as your desired branch pickup location when putting an item on hold. A staff person will contact you to verify your choice. Questions? Please contact staff at the Everson Library at (360) 966-5100.

• **Stop by the Bookmobile** The bright blue bookmobile is in the library parking lot every Friday from 10am – 2pm! We would love to connect with you!

• **The Friends of Sumas Library (FOSL)** are looking for short-term volunteers. Members will plan fundraising events, find out more about rebuilding plans and progress, aid in restoration efforts as needed, and be an encouragement to the Sumas Library staff and community. Participate as much as your schedule allows. Meetings will take place once a month for three months, the first of which was held in April. The next meeting is May 12th at 6:30pm. For more information and meeting location, please contact Meg Krieg by phone at (360) 988-2969 or email at gemnoj@hotmail.com.

F.O.S.L. Friends Of Sumas Library

- Sumas Library staff hope to resume the **Sumas Book Club** this summer. We miss seeing you, reading with you, and hearing your take on various books. Library staff will select the first book to read, and book club members will provide input on future choices. If you are interested in being part of this refreshed book club, please contact us right away. Email or phone Sumas Library Manager Alexa Andrews, (360) 305-3600 x407 or alexa.andrews@wcls.org.

- **Summer library and FOSL events** a currently being planned, including a movie night at Sumas Days organized by Friends of Sumas Library! More info available in the future!