



# CITY OF SUMAS

NEWSLETTER

March/April 2023



## Spring in the Neighborhood!

The City of Sumas is committed to maintaining quality neighborhoods as well as a clean environment for our residents and community. We believe this can be achieved through cooperation from both the residents and the city.

This Newsletter includes information on activities surrounding this theme scheduled in Sumas over the next few months!

## 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Clean Up Day

Mark your calendars for April 1<sup>st</sup>! Nooksack Valley Disposal is sponsoring a Spring clean-up day, Saturday, April 1 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., located behind City Hall.

Nooksack Valley Disposal staff will be available to help residents unload their bulky items, appliances, furniture, scrap metal, and branches behind City Hall.

There will be a charge to cover the cost of disposal.

For bulky item pick-up, for those physically unable to travel to the location during the scheduled time, call Nooksack Valley Disposal at 360-354-3400.

---

*“Where there’s hope, there’s life. It fills us with fresh courage and makes us strong again.” – Anne Frank*

---

## City-wide Upkeep

The Public Works Department will be repairing sewer lines and potholes throughout town.

Public Works will also continue trimming trees along power lines and roads to help prevent power outages during storms.

## Free Chipper Service

Bring your branches to be chipped to the dead-end of Harrison Ave. the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday and Saturday of each month, starting in April through the Fall. The chipper will be running the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

March 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm

April 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm

#### FREE CHIPPER SERVICE

April 21<sup>st</sup> 10 am to 12 pm

April 22<sup>nd</sup> 9 am to 11 am

#### UTILITY PAYMENT DUE DATES

Utility payments are due on the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

#### CITY OF SUMAS

433 Cherry St/PO Box 9

Sumas, WA 98295

(360) 988-5711

[www.cityofsumas.com](http://www.cityofsumas.com)

From:

The Sumas Museum:

Thank you to the City of Sumas for fixing the Museum building and saving the historical parsonage for our community!

Over the next few months, we will be cleaning inside and out and setting up the exhibits, so stop in and say “Hi”!

Questions?

Call or text 360-319-4283  
or e-mail  
[info@sumashistory.org](mailto:info@sumashistory.org)

## Lawn and Yard Care

With the warmer weather comes new growth! Grass, trees, bushes, and shrubs should be maintained and follow the Sumas Municipal code.

The Sumas Municipal Code is available at [cityofsumas.com](http://cityofsumas.com) for reference regarding yard maintenance. A few references include Chapter 20.57 LANDSCAPING, Chapter 5.16 VEGETATION CONTROL, and Chapter 8.32 PUBLIC NUISANCES.

Nooksack Valley Disposal & Recycling offers curbside collection of yard debris, including grass clippings, compostable papers and food scraps. Visit [www.nvd-inc.com/yard-food-waste](http://www.nvd-inc.com/yard-food-waste) for more information.

## Work Crews in the Area

Two different Internet Providers have crews working throughout Sumas. The installation crews are first, and later crews follow to restore the areas back to their original condition.

City Hall will be coordinating communication of any concerns regarding these projects within City limits. If you have a concern regarding the work or restoration, please send the location address, a picture, and the details describing the concern to [abons@cityofsumas.com](mailto:abons@cityofsumas.com). These will be collected and communicated to the appropriate company.

## Sumas Community Center

The Sumas Community Center renovations are continuing to move forward, and still on track for an opening date in early Spring! Look for updates regarding the Community Center on the [cityofsumas.com](http://cityofsumas.com) website.





# FLOOD RECOVERY UPDATES



## NOTE FROM SUMAS'S RECOVERY MANAGER:

Thank you for responding to the City's Community Resilience Survey! I'm always happy to hear from you and will be passing along your survey responses to the Mayor and City Council so they can continue to support recovery efforts and hear what's important to you. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or need any recovery assistance.

*-Patricia*

Contact Patricia: [LDRM@cityofsumas.com](mailto:LDRM@cityofsumas.com) or 360-988-5711



## HOME REPAIR ASSISTANCE VIA WHATCOM LONG-TERM RECOVERY GROUP

Whatcom County received a grant of \$2 million to aid in housing assistance, household appliances, and home repair for those affected by the 2021 flood; these funds are being distributed through the Whatcom Long Term Recovery Group (Whatcom Strong). If you are interested in applying or learning if you qualify for assistance, please **contact WLTRC's Disaster Case Management at [whatcomDCM@gmail.com](mailto:whatcomDCM@gmail.com) or call 360-788-5392**. Para español: 360-525-3748 / [mayra.wcdcm@gmail.com](mailto:mayra.wcdcm@gmail.com). Persons must meet HUD low-income requirements or be Disable or Seniors.



## SUMAS SENIOR CENTER JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Whatcom County Parks Department is hiring a programs coordinator for the Sumas Senior Center. The position works about 4-6 hours per week on Mondays, serving/distributing meals brought in by the Council on Aging. Coordinator would open and close the building, do minimal paperwork to count attendance and meals served, and coordinate some activities if the group wants - such as exercise videos or games. Compensation is \$18/hour

**Learn more about the job and apply here: [bit.ly/WCParksJob](https://bit.ly/WCParksJob)**



## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR LIBRARY!

If you're as excited to have the Sumas library open as we are, let them know! Be sure to stop by, check out a book, movie, or game and use the new afterhours hold pick-up option.

## UPDATE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT - DISASTER RECOVERY

I've been busy in meetings with Whatcom County stakeholders and the Department of Commerce working towards the action plan for the \$30 million grant Washington received from HUD in response to the 2021 flooding disaster. Once this plan is complete (deadlines are coming up in the next few months), you'll have the opportunity to submit public comment. Stay tuned for updates and information on how to comment!



The Sumas Library is now open! We are grateful for the support of the community at our re-opening ceremony on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. It was a wonderful turnout and we are thrilled for people to come into the revamped space. We have a great new feature at the library called Library Express. What is the Library Express? When the Sumas Library isn't open, Library Express allows access to pick up holds and a small collection of other library items to check out. Use your library card at the outdoor scanner to open the door, then use the self-checkout kiosk to checkout items. Hours for the Library Express are 6:00 AM – 11:00 PM daily.



### Upcoming Programs at Sumas Library

For a complete listing of events at all branches visit [wcls.org/events](http://wcls.org/events)

**SUMAS STORYTIME:** For ages 2-6, 30 minutes. An open program that includes stories, rhymes, and songs with opportunities for movement and interactive participation. Mondays, 10:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

**"YOUR VOICE, YOUR CHOICE" ADVANCE CARE PLANNING:** This step-by-step workshop will walk participants through creating their own enhanced durable power of attorney for healthcare (DPOA-HC) so they can designate their Healthcare Agent (trusted medical decision-maker), express their wishes for medical treatment, and get this vital document scanned into their health record and on file at the hospital. This document is so essential for guiding care if a person is unable to speak for themselves. Our goal is to get this information to all community members over the age of 18 so they can make their plan. Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. 3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

**TEDDY BEAR BIOGRAPHY:** Bring your favorite plush or stuffed animal and write their origin story. We provide the blank books, you provide the imagination. Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup> 3:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

**SUMAS BOOK GROUP:** Meetings alternate monthly between open discussion of members' recent favorites one month and discussing the book club pick the next month. For January, discussion is open. For April, members will read Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell. Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10 A.M. March 18<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>

**SUMAS TEEN CLUB:** Hang out with other teens and have fun IRL. Each month we will have a new project that is either art, craft, literary or STEM-related. All materials and snacks are provided. For grades 6-12. Monthly on the 4th Monday at 3:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. March

**“REFORMED” WITH AUTHOR KARL PETERSEN:** Karl Petersen reads from his book *Reformed: Confessions of a Preacher’s Kid*, a memoir of his growing up in a conservative Dutch Reformed community in Sumas, Washington. Poignant, often humorous, his stories take you into the mind and heart of a boy finding his way through complex questions of life. Copies of the book will be available for sale. Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11:00 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

**WHOLE ROUND EARTH:** To celebrate Earth Day we’ll work on a collaborative art project, decorating and assembling individual pages to create a whole round earth. For grades K-5. Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.