

CITY OF SUMAS NEWSLETTER

November/December 2023



UTILITY BILLING

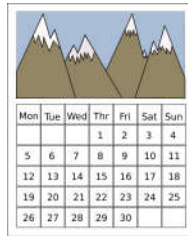
Sewer averages end with the October billing cycle

The November bills (the bills issued in December) will invoice your sewer charges based on your actual water usage. This will continue each month through the April bill cycle.

This is a good time to keep a close eye on your water consumption, as it will drastically affect your sewer charges.

If you notice your water consumption has a sudden increase, you may have a water leak. Anything from leaking faucets, running toilets and larger leaks can greatly affect your sewer bill.

SUMAS COMMUNITY CALENDARS (BIRTHDAY CALENDARS)



The 2024 Community Calendars have arrived and are available at City Hall!

Please stop by or call City Hall and purchase yours for \$5. They make great stocking stuffers!

SUMAS FRIENDSGIVING!

Sumas Friendsgiving is scheduled for November 15TH 10am – 2pm at the Sumas Museum.

Join us at the Sumas Museum for pie, sharing memories, and friendship! At 114 Second St., Sumas.



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Garden season is at an end!

Garden season has come to an end. Please pick-up all garden tools and personal belongings, the land will be plowed up at the end of the month. Anything left behind will be properly disposed of.



DATES TO REMEMBER

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

November 13th and 20th @ 7 pm

December 11th @ 7 pm

SUMAS CITY HALL

433 Chery Street
P.O. Box 9
Sumas, WA 98295

Phone: 360.988.5711
Non-Emergency Police Dispatch:
360.676.6911

CITY MAINTENANCE IN THE WINTER



Sumas Public Works is scheduled to be extra busy in the coming weeks, maintaining City property and rights-of-way to ensure our City is prepared for the coming Winter weather.

TREE TRIMMING will be taking place in the coming weeks. The City will be trimming trees back from power lines and public sidewalks if they have not already been trimmed by property owners. Per Sumas Municipal Code, all property owners are responsible for trimming their own trees/shrubs. Please reference code 8.32.030 for more information.

VISIT THE SUMAS MUSEUM



New exhibits and copies of the Sumas Astonisher are now at the Sumas Museum!

Stop by the museum on Wednesdays 10-2, or by appointment! Call 360-319-4283 or e-mail info@sumashistory.org to make an appointment. Located at 114 Second St., Sumas.

Watch for news about an exciting new project beginning in January!

Volunteers are always appreciated. Any questions, or to volunteer, please call 360-319-4283.

STREET SWEEPER

The Street Sweeper is scheduled on the last Friday of each month.

Please have vehicles moved out of the City's rights-of-way on the last Friday of the month, so that the street sweeper can access all areas.

PASSPORT SERVICES

Apply for a passport at City Hall, by appointment only. Call City Hall at 360-988-5711 to schedule an appointment.

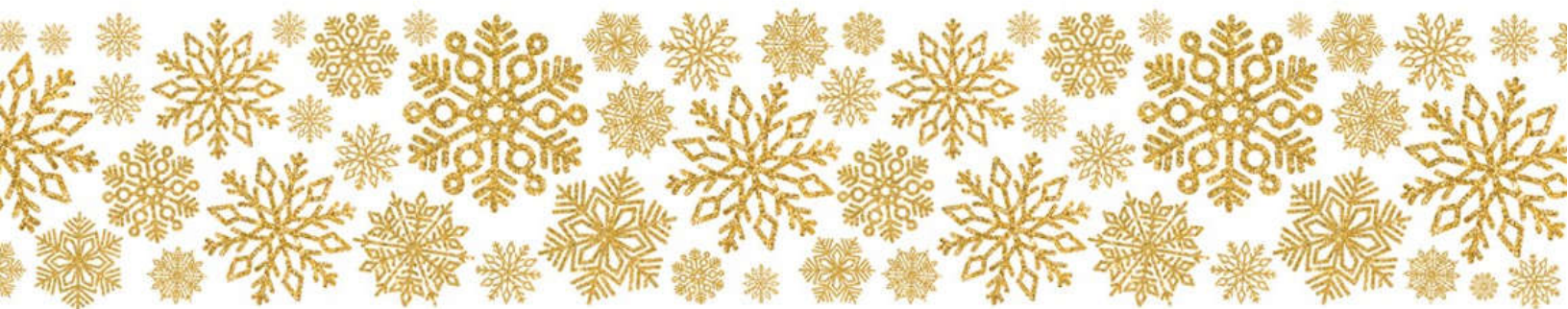
It's a great idea to plan ahead for future travel. Applying for and receiving a passport takes time!

New ID laws for air travel go into effect May 7, 2025. Check REALIDwa.com for the most up to date information and to determine the ID option that's right for you.

FINGERPRINT SERVICES

Call City Hall at 360-988-5711 to schedule a fingerprint appointment.

Fingerprint appointments can be made for Concealed pistol license's (Sumas resident's only), employment background checks, or other background checks.



A LETTER FROM THE MAYOR



Good day!

Fall is here, the holidays are quickly approaching, and I hope all is well with you. Many things have been going on in the City and I hope you like what you see.

The first stage of the Sumas Ave project has been completed and we anticipate the

second stage, which would be from the Johnson creek bridge to Front Street, will be complete sometime next year. Our storm drains have all been cleaned out. Phase 2 of the rodeo grounds is just about complete with the addition of some bleachers, the rebuilding of the announcer's box, lights, and soon the sound system. I want to thank everyone involved that helped make this happen. Many more things have been going on to improve the city, but these are the highlights.

There have been a few community events going on, and more coming up. We had Flood Awareness Day, where we got to try out our new sandbag machine. The NV High School football team came out to practice sandbagging, and even Representative Larson filled a few bags. Thank you to all that came out to participate and thank you to those that provided the refreshments.

The Friends of the Sumas Library put on a bingo night, and wow the room was packed! There were some great prizes for the winners, but most of all, great company. My wife and I personally got to watch some young men learn to play bingo – it was quite a hoot. Thank you, FOSL.

The Historical Society is hosting Friendsgiving on November 15th from 10 A.M. until 2 P.M., and they tell me there will be pie! Maybe I'll see you there.

Currently there is work being done on a plan for Christmas in the Park, so stay tuned! Part of the plan is to involve the whole community. I'll give you a hint 'Light it up'.

We are at the two-year anniversary of the catastrophic flood that hit our town, and I know that there is anxiety that comes with it, especially considering the impact we all realized. When the rain comes, we watch the river like a hawk, wondering what it's going to do, hoping that it stays within its banks. Let me assure you that while there is very little the city can do to control the river, we too are watching and preparing with all of you in mind. I encourage you to sign up for the Voyent Alert system, download the app on your phone, etc., so if there is an event or the threat of one, you will be notified in a timely manner. In addition to that, the city uses Voyent Alert to alert its citizens of other emergencies, road closures, and other important incidents that affect the public. I know a lot of you have signed up already, but there are a lot more that need to. The current siren system doesn't seem to reach everyone, so the Voyent Alert system is a great option for important notifications.

Over the past year many homes have been restored or are in the process of being restored. It is good to see things moving along. If you're not quite there, hang in there! It is a long process to reach the end goal of recovery, the average being about 4 years. There are still a few homes that are in need of restoration, and it is not clear what the plans are, but we are monitoring progress.

November is a month of thankfulness, and I am thankful for this wholehearted community that cares and looks out for each other, and hope that we continue to grow as a community. I am thankful for the many blessings I have received by serving this community, and I am thankful for the many blessings this community has received. Not always seen, but there, nevertheless. So, I ask that you take a moment to look around you and find the things you are thankful for and give thanks. Let's not cling to the things that have happened because it only steals our joy. Let Hope not Hurt shape your future.

Have a great holiday season.

Bruce Bosch
Mayor





Sumas Library
461 2nd Street / 360-988-2501
wcls.org

Branch Hours

Monday 10 A.M – 6 P.M.
Wednesday 10 A.M – 6 P.M.
Saturday 10 A.M – 5 P.M.

Library Express Hours

Daily 6 A.M – 11 P.M

Do you know...

with your library card you have access to hundreds of free, streaming movies and documentaries through Kanopy. Talk to a staff person to learn more!

LIBRARY CLOSURE: Monday, November 11TH in honor of Veterans' Day.



12–5 PM, NOVEMBER 5 @ FERNDALE EVENTS CENTER

A book lover's dream day with books and book swag, authors, book talks, readings, and weird and wonderful hands-on bookish experiences.

Our fall line-up of programs have been a fun assortment of events! In September, we kicked off storytime on Mondays again for kids ages 2 – 6, while traditional stories told by Nooksack Tribal members was greeted enthusiastically by patrons of all ages. A recently pumpkin painting program was enjoyed by elementary age children, and a teen after hours art night was enjoyed by attendees.

We have many winter events coming up, but want to highlight the BINGO night put on by the Friends of the Sumas Library. This will be held Thursday, November 9th from 7:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M. at the Sumas Library building. Bingo cards will be available for free, but bring your money, because there will also be a bake sale fundraiser! If you are interested in volunteering to help at the event, make some items for the bake sale, or just want additional information, please contact the Friend of Sumas Library at friendsofsumaslibrary@gmail.com or talk to a Sumas library staff person.

Holiday books for November and December have begun arriving at branch libraries! Whether you're looking to craft or bake for a holiday, learn more about a holiday itself, or find festive music to listen to or something to watch, the library is a great place to begin!

Upcoming Programs at Sumas Library

For a complete listing of events at all branches visit wcls.org/events

BINGO NIGHT AND BAKE SALE Join other community members at this fun event for the whole family! Bingo is free to play, and prizes donated by local businesses awarded to winner of each game. Tasty, homemade treats available for purchase to eat while you play or to take home and enjoy later. This event is hosted by the Friends of Sumas Library. All ages. Thursday, November 9. 7 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.



SUMAS STORYTIME: For ages 2-6. 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.

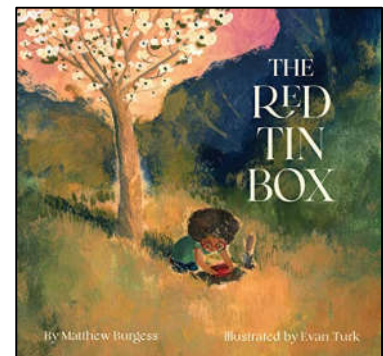
CHESS!: An open program for chess players of all abilities to play one another! Wednesdays, 3:00 P.M. - 4:30 A.M.

FRIENDS OF THE SUMAS LIBRARY (FOSL) MEETING: Want to help support the library beyond checking items and attending events? Join the Friends of the Sumas Library, a 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to supporting the Sumas Library. Teen volunteers encouraged to attend! When we work together, we can do great things for our community. Monthly on 2nd Monday, November 13 & December 11. 6:30 P.M. – 7:30 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 November, it's Member's Choice open discussion. For December, group members will read Atlas of the Heart by Brené Brown. Meets the 3rd Saturday of every month, November 18th & December 16th. 10 A.M. – 11 A.M.

LET'S BUILD A TREASURE BOX: Do you have a special place to keep your treasures? Come to the library to decorate a box perfect for storing those valuable trinkets you don't want to lose. For grades K – 5. Saturday, November 18, 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

STORY SNOWFLAKES WITH BROOK PEDERSON: Join artist Brooke Pederson for an engaging look at her paper-cut story snowflakes. Learn about her process and learn how to fold and cut snowflakes yourself. All ages are welcome. Monday, December 4, 4:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.



LET'S MAKE PRESENTS - CALENDARS: Come to the library to make a wall calendar suitable for gifting this holiday season. We will provide the supplies. You bring any meaningful dates you want to record. For grades K – 5. Saturday, December 16, 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.