

# City of Sumas Newsletter



Here's what's happening in Sumas over the next couple of months.

## UTILITY BILLING

Sewer averages have ended with the October billing cycle.

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

This is a good time to keep a close eye on your water consumption. Often this is the time of year when water leaks are discovered, as high water usage will drastically affect your sewer charges, and the high water use due to a leak may have been missed during the summer months.

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.

## ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The City of Sumas now has three Energy Assistance Programs!

- Electric Base Fee Waiver
- Senior Electric Discount Program
- Electric Bill Donation Recipient Program

Please visit: [www.cityofsumas.com/utility-rates-and-fees/](http://www.cityofsumas.com/utility-rates-and-fees/), and click into the Energy Assistance Programs to review the descriptions and criteria for each program to determine if your household may qualify and benefit from any of the available programs.

If your household is eligible, complete the application form found on the website, attach the verification documents, and submit the application and documents to the Utility Billing Clerk.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

November 12, 2024  
November 25, 2024  
December 9, 2024  
December 23, 2024

### CITY HALL CLOSURES

Veterans Day: Nov. 11 2024  
Thanksgiving Day:  
Nov. 28, 2024  
Day After Thanksgiving:  
Nov. 29, 2024  
Christmas Day: Dec. 25, 2024  
New Year's Day: Jan. 1, 2025

### FRIENDSGIVING

November 16th,  
Open House from 10am-2pm

### SANTA IN THE PARK

December 2nd, 6pm-7:30pm

SUMAS CITY HALL  
433 Cherry St.  
P.O. Box 9  
Sumas, WA 98295  
360.988.5711



## WINTER CITY MAINTENANCE

Sumas Public Works will continue to work to maintain 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.



## VOYENT ALERT! AND WINTER WEATHER

Sumas uses the Voyent Alert! service to keep you informed during times of crisis and for day-to-day notices.

You can download the VoyentAlert! app, or register online to receive email, voice, or text based alerts at [register.voyent-alert.us](http://register.voyent-alert.us).

The City closely monitors the weather and Nooksack river gauges. We will only send Voyent Alert! notices related to weather or flooding when there is action that needs to be taken within our community.

Voyent Aert! is also used for road closures and utility related notices.

You can also monitor the river gauges yourself here: [water.noaa.gov/gauges](http://water.noaa.gov/gauges); Nooksack River at North Cedarville

Join the **Sumas Historical Society & Museum**

## Friendsgiving

### WHEN?

Saturday, November 16, Open House 10:00-2:00

### WHERE?

Sumas Museum 114 Second Street, Sumas

### WHAT?

Share memories of Sumas over free pie and coffee

### ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN

A Gift Basket sponsor from local Business: WOW Hair Salon



**Carl Crouse, local author, will also be sharing about his new book, "Gateway to the Caribou" stories of Sumas in the 1960's and 1970's!**



**December 2, 2024**

**SANTA IN THE PARK**

**6PM - 7:30PM**

Come visit Santa in the Park on December 2nd, from 6pm to 7:30pm!

Free photos with Santa, hot chocolate, hot cider, and lots of holiday cheer!



**February 15, 2025**

**Friends of the Sumas Library presents:  
Valentine & Wine**

Join us for an evening of fun and laughter at the Friends of the Sumas Library adult social! On Saturday, February 15th, enjoy a night out at the Sumas Community Center (461 2nd Street, Sumas) with delicious charcuterie, a selection of alcoholic beverages, and an exciting silent auction featuring fabulous items up for grabs. The highlight of the night? We'll be playing a live version of The Newlywed Game!

Check [friendsofthesumaslibrary.org](http://friendsofthesumaslibrary.org) for more details and ticket prices in December.



# PREPARE FOR ***FALL FREEZING***



THE SEASON IS CHANGING. LATE FALL BRINGS FREEZING TEMPERATURES AND THE POTENTIAL FOR FROZEN PIPES.



## **INSULATE OUTDOOR SPIGOTS**

You can be proactive and prepare for fall freezing by insulating your outdoor spigots. Spigot protectors can be found at most hardware or home and garden stores. These are easy to install and can protect your home from frozen and bursting pipes and the expensive water bills and fixes that come afterward.

## **DRAIN HOSES & IRRIGATION PIPES**

You can be proactive and prepare for fall freezing by draining all your hoses and irrigation pipes/lines. Draining your hoses and irrigation lines takes a little bit of work upfront but can help you save on costly damages caused by ice.



## **INSULATE EXPOSED PIPES**

You can be proactive and prepare for fall freezing by insulating your exposed pipes both outdoors and indoors. Heat tape or pipe wrapping can be found at most hardware or home and garden stores. Pipe insulation is usually easy to install and can protect your home from frozen and bursting pipes and the expensive water bills and fixes that come afterward.

## **SHOVEL**

If your pipes do burst or freeze, one of the first steps in protecting your home from this is to use a home shut-off valve, if you have one. Having a shovel handy is important for digging out frozen pipes or home shut-off valves. Plus, it may come in handy for accessing other important household areas.







**Do you know...**you can access the lobby of the Library building from 6 A.M. – 11 P.M. daily with your free library card? This provides an opportunity for community members to pick up any requested items on days when staff are not in the branch. In addition, a selection of items are also available to peruse and checkout.

## Sumas Library

461 2<sup>nd</sup> Street / 360-988-2501

[wcls.org](http://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

**UPCOMING SUMAS LIBRARY CLOSURES:** Monday, November 11 (Veterans Day), Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, and Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>.



A huge **thank you** to the **Friends of the Sumas Library** for their **amazing Fall Carnival** held on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. The weather was beautiful, the popcorn and cotton candy were flowing, and the games and events memorable! A paper airplane contest, relay



races, a mermaid reading stories to kids, people getting “pie-ed” in the face (including a former Sumas Mayor Bob Bromley, and the current Sumas Mayor Bruce Bosch and Sumas City employee Jason Clawson). All in all, a successful event and we look forward to another Fall Carnival in 2025. Next up, the Friends of the Library will be at Christmas in the Park in December and keep an eye out for a **Friends of the**

**Sumas Library event for adults in February 2025.**

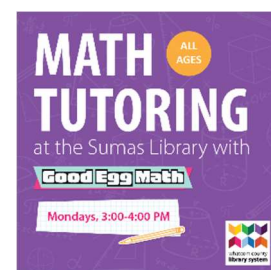
## Upcoming Programs at Sumas Library

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

**SUMAS STORYTIME** For ages 2-6. An open program that includes stories, rhymes, and songs with opportunities for movement and interactive participation. Mondays until December 9. Does not meet November 11<sup>th</sup>. 10:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

**FREE MATH TUTORING** Drop-in math help for all ages, with a focus on middle school and high school math. Come by when you need some help! Free tutoring in the library provided by Brett Egbert from Good Egg Math. Mondays, 10:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

**LUNCH BREAK BOOK CLUB** Take a break in your day and join us for our weekly, low-commitment, theme-based book club. Each month, we provide a prompt (like "growing old"), then you choose something that relates. Text or audio, genre (mystery, sci-fi/fantasy, literary fiction, biography, non-fiction, etc.) or style of book (novel, poetry, graphic novel, novella, etc.) can be whatever



you like. You can read something different each week or the same book for the whole month – or mix it up. As long as your item has something to do with the theme as you understand it, you're good! Bring a sack lunch if you'd like. Coffee and tea provided. Themes are November: loneliness/isolation, December: unlikely friendships, January: Main Street, USA. Meets twice a week – themes will be the same for both days, so choose whichever fits your schedule best. Mondays. 1 P.M. – 1:30 P.M. Wednesdays. 1 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.



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

**SUMAS BOOK GROUP** A discussion of a diverse series of fiction and non-fiction books to broaden your reading horizons. Meet friends new and old as we connect through the shared love of books and reading. Call or stop by the Sumas Library to find out what book the group is reading this month. Monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday. 10 A.M. – 11 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. Attend a meeting or talk to staff to sign-up for the monthly emails. Meets monthly on 1st Monday, September – May. 6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.



**LET'S MAKE PRESENTS** We'll have all the supplies and ideas you'll need to craft beautiful, meaningful gifts for the loved ones in your life. For grade K-5. Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

**SUMAS TEEN CORP - LET'S MAKE PRESENTS** We need teens with a community spirit to help out with our Let's Make Presents program for kids. You'll help pass out supplies and assist kids in all the making and the doing. Teens in grades 6-12 can [register online](#) or talk to a Sumas Library staff person. Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.