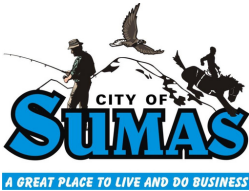


# City of Sumas Newsletter



## Here’s what’s happening in Sumas over the next couple of months!

### Hovel Road Construction Project Update

Construction on Hovel Road is ongoing as crews continue work to replace the culvert and repair the road and bridge.

We appreciate everyone's patience while detouring to alternate routes and for bearing with the increased construction noise. Your cooperation helps keep the project moving safely and efficiently.

The project is expected to be completed before the end of March.

### Voyent Alert! Please Set Your Home Location

We've noticed that many Voyent Alert! users have not set a home location in their account. Without a home location, you will still receive City-wide alerts, but you will not receive notifications targeted to your specific neighborhood.

This means you may miss important updates—such as utility disruptions or road closures—that affect only your area of the City. Setting your home location ensures you receive all alerts relevant to your property.

You can download the Voyent Alert! app or register online to receive email, voice, or text alerts and to update your home location at: [register.voyent-alert.us](http://register.voyent-alert.us)

If you prefer, you may also call City Hall and we can register you for text alerts and set your home location for you.

Voyent Alert! is used for road closures, utility notices, and other important community updates. Staying connected helps keep you informed.

### Dates to Remember

#### City Council Meetings

February 23 @ 7pm

March 9 @ 7pm

March 23 @ 7pm

#### City Hall Closures

Presidents Day,  
February 16th

#### Spring Adult Social

Presented by Friends of the Sumas Library

March 14 @ 7pm  
(Purchase tickets at [friendsofthesumaslibrary.org](http://friendsofthesumaslibrary.org))

Sumas City Hall  
433 Cherry St/  
PO Box 9  
Sumas, WA 98295  
360-988-5711



## Utility Shut-Offs

As we get back into a routine after the December flood, we will be resuming utility shut-off's March 10th.

Please plan ahead and make sure all utility payments are received in a timely manner at City Hall to avoid any interruption in utility service.

For those who qualified and turned in an application for the Donation Utility Relief Fund. The funds will be evenly applied to utility accounts at the end of February.



## Sewer Rates

Sewer rates are calculated based on actual water usage. Keep an eye on your monthly water usage to find any potential water leaks. Please call City Hall if you have any questions.



## Online Payments

Pay your utility bill, utility deposit, other invoice, or court fine online by going to our website:

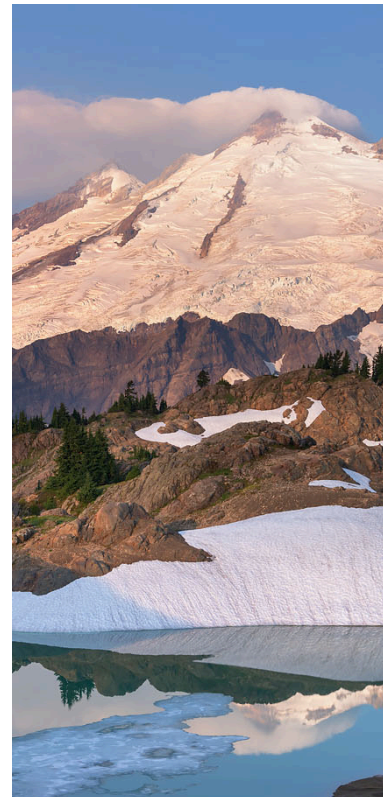
[www.cityofsumas.com](http://www.cityofsumas.com), select "Pay My Bills" towards the top of the page, and select the type of bill you want to pay!



## Dog Licenses

Issued Dog licenses are due for renewal as of the first of the year. (First time tags can also be purchased at City Hall if they have not already been purchased).

- Spayed/Neutered- \$15 per dog
- Non Spayed/Neutered- \$25 per dog



## Information Regarding Whatcom County Flood Relief

Whatcom Long Term Recovery Group provides coordination and recovery services to individuals, families, and entities adversely impacted by disaster in Whatcom County.

The website is [www.whatcomstrong.com](http://www.whatcomstrong.com).

To request help, contact case management, Lacey De Lange at [whatcomDCM@gmail.com](mailto:whatcomDCM@gmail.com) or 360-920-7675.

Or for general questions on how they can help or how you can help, contact Ashley Butenschoen at [WhatcomLTRG@gmail.com](mailto:WhatcomLTRG@gmail.com)

# Flood temporarily closes Sumas Library, but services continue

Whatcom County Library System and City of Sumas staff are working together to determine next steps and a re-opening date for the Sumas Library and Library Express. For now, holds are being delivered to a lock box at the library parking lot. Online services continue at [wcls.org](http://wcls.org), and Sumas patrons are visiting nearby WCLS locations for other library services. Here are answers to frequently asked questions:

## **I was waiting for an item to show up at the Sumas holds pickup lock box, but now it shows as checked out and I don't have it? Did somebody steal it? What is happening?**

It's fine! We don't currently have a way for people in Sumas to check out their own items. We process items at the nearby Everson Library and deliver them to Sumas two to three times each week. All items processed in this way will show up on the website as "held" for a day or two (so that all related patron notifications have a chance to trigger), and then we check them out to you for three weeks. We didn't have any problems with theft in over a year of lock box service after the 2021 flood. If you do have any problems or concerns, call the Everson Library at (360) 966-5100. Staff there are happy to help.

## **Why are my holds going to the Sumas Holds Pickup Lock Box?**

If you selected Sumas as your holds pickup location, your holds will be delivered to the lock box. If you'd like to change your pickup location, just select another branch when placing your hold through our Bibliocommons website. If you don't see an option to select another hold location, check your settings in Bibliocommons. There you can turn off one-click holds or select a different default holds pickup location.



*Library staff member Cayla Samms removes books from the library express following the December flood.*

We can also change your holds pickup location for you over the phone. Call Everson Library staff at (360) 966-5100 or any WCLS location for assistance.

## **What do I do if I had library items checked out that were damaged by the flood?**

Just tell us! We're happy to waive replacement fees for flood-damaged items. If your personal items were boxed up in a hurry and you're not sure if library items ended up in storage, have no fear. We don't charge overdue fees. Stop in at any WCLS location or call us. We can review your account together and take care of any issues.

## **Are library programs continuing?**

The Sumas Library Lunch Break Book Club is meeting. The group meets noon-1 p.m. Mondays at Bob's Burgers and Brew and noon-1 p.m. Wednesdays at a spot to be determined.

Check the online calendar at [wcls.org/events](http://wcls.org/events) for event updates. The Tween Graphic Novel Book Club now meets at the Everson Library, 4-4:30 p.m. Mondays. For upcoming Friends of the Sumas Library meetings and events, visit [friendsofthesumaslibrary.org](http://friendsofthesumaslibrary.org).