

Parksville-Qualicum Beach Community Update

Summer isn't far away...

Perhaps with our warmer weather and the true promise of summer just around the corner, it's time to remind about fire safety and prevention.

Fire Prevention

Wildfire prevention can happen at home, in the backcountry, and through larger-scale fire and fuel management planning. Resources are provided at this [link](#). Please learn what you can do to help.



FireSmart

EMO's website has information about how you and your family can be FireSmart. Resident involvement is key in helping prevent wildfires and decrease the risk of loss or damage to homes and communities. By making your home and neighbourhoods FireSmart, firefighters can concentrate on fighting wildfires which in turn helps to save land.

Here's some information to get you started because FireSmart begins at home:

- **Homeowner manual** outlines the program and how homeowners can make their property and neighbourhood FireSmart. Copies of the firesafe preparedness guide published by the province are available to the public from the Emergency Management Oceanside, 100 Jensen Avenue East from finance or the engineering office.
- **Smart app** to guide homeowners through a series of questions about their property to help identify specific actions you can take on your property to reduce wildfire risks.
- **FireSmart 101** is a short course for those just getting started with FireSmart and wishing to learn more.



FROM OUR MAILBOX

Here's a question we received through Facebook messenger (adjusted to protect privacy of course) we thought you might be interested in reading.

My wife, son and I are from Alberta. We like to go out as often as we can to visit my dad in Parksville which unfortunately hasn't been since 2019 due to the pandemic. When we are out there, we like to pitch our tent at the Englishman River Falls campground and camp for a week. Since we are mainlanders and flatlanders, what would you recommend we pack for an Earthquake Survival Kit for the 3 of us?

Thank you for making the effort to be prepared when you come to Vancouver Island. As it sounds like you are avid campers, you are likely already prepared more than most visitors.

The biggest item for you to have is food for as many days as possible (3 to 7 days). In this area, we will not be the first to receive supplies to restock store shelves so the longer you can be self-sufficient, the better you will be. In addition, duplication of any regular item you use such as medication, eyewear, etc. will be useful and helpful. Making sure family or friends off Vancouver Island know where you will be and how to contact you. Ask them to try and contact you if you do not return home on a predetermined date. Have the ability to send and receive text messaging as this will likely be the first available means of communication after a large-scale earthquake (or any other emergency).

If an emergency occurs when you are here, ensure you and your family are safe. Find your father and ensure his safety then have everyone register at the first available reception centre (look for directional signs on the main roads when this happens). As visitors to the area, you will be asked to return to your home as soon as transportation is available so planning for this is important. Asking visitors to leave ensures food and accommodation is available for local residents displaced by the emergency.



Please also have a look at our website www.emergencyoceanside.ca where you can find more detailed information on being prepared and the ability to sign up for our mass notifications system Voyent Alert! This system allows you to receive important information while you are here as well as when you are at home to ensure you know when an emergency occurs so you can check on your father. These are basic yet important steps for anyone to follow to reduce stress on yourselves and our program during an emergency event.

***Thank you for reaching out for information,
Your friends at EMO***

GENERAL INFORMATION

Town of Qualicum Beach

Town Hall is open to the public with full services. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 9 am to 4 pm (except statutory holidays). Although the office is open, residents are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the other payment options including payment through your financial institution; mail a cheque; or drop off a cheque at Town Hall drop box (location below). If you do wish to visit Town Hall to conduct business, masks are recommended while in the building.

- Email qbtown@qualicumbeach.com
- Phone 250 752-6921
- Post PO Box 130, Qualicum Beach V9K 1S7
- Mail Slot Out front of Town Hall, nearest the fountain
- [Website](#)

In accordance with public health orders from the Province of BC, the Town is pleased to welcome the public to attend to in-person Council meetings. Council and select staff will attend in person, and capacity limits will be monitored, and if required, alternative viewing location(s) will be provided.

City of Parksville

City Hall is open to the public from 8 am to 4 pm and our operations department from 8 am to 4 pm and closed noon to 1 pm.

Information when visiting:

- Access to the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre is from Jensen Avenue East and from the library parking lot.
- Masks are recommended while in the building.
- The public is welcome to attend Council meetings in-person; however, attendance is limited. Meetings may be viewed from the City's [website](#).
- If sick, please stay home.
- Refer to the City [website](#) and [Let's Talk Parksville](#) for more information.

[COVID-19 Resources](#)

[BC Centre for Disease Control](#)

[Island Health](#)

[Vaccine info](#) - 1 833 838-2323

Medical COVID-19 information - 811

For more information:

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