

# City of Sumas Newsletter



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

## CITY MAINTENANCE IN THE FALL

Tree trimming will take place once the leaves change in the Fall. 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.

Herbicides will continue to be applied to City property and rights-of-way as needed to maintain the areas.

## YARD MAINTENANCE

Please maintain lawns and weeds per Sumas Municipal Code 8.32. Clean up and dispose of yard waste properly. Dumping lawn clippings in drainage areas, alleys, etc. is prohibited.

## ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The City of Sumas is pleased to announce the launch of three new Energy Assistance Programs.

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  
September 23, 2024  
October 14, 2024  
October 28, 2024

FREE CHIPPER SERVICE  
September 20, 10am-12pm  
September 21, 9am-11am  
October 18, 10am-12pm  
October 19, 9am-11am

CITY HALL CLOSURES  
Veteran’s Day, Nov.. 11, 2024

SPLASHPAD CLOSING FOR THE SEASON  
October 1st

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

## SUMAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

The Sumas Museum is full of interesting items and information - stop by 114 Second St., Sumas, Wednesdays from 10am to 2pm and take a look!

Interested in helping to put together and/or contribute towards a Community Cookbook? E-mail [sumasmuseum@yahoo.com](mailto:sumasmuseum@yahoo.com) with how you'd like to help!

Follow the Sumas Historical Society and Museum on Facebook for all the latest news!

116 Cherry St. • 988-5811

## FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK

Flood Awareness Week is October 14-18 this year.

Keep an eye on the City website ([cityofsumas.com](http://cityofsumas.com)) and the City of Sumas Facebook page for helpful tips and information all week long!

## A FEW FALL EVENTS

### Friends of the Sumas Library

**2024 FALL CARNIVAL**

Step right up to an unforgettable afternoon of fun, laughter, and excitement at our Fall Carnival!

**05 OCTOBER SATURDAY** **12 PM 'TIL 5PM**

- POTATO SACK RACE-CUPCAKE WALK-
- STORYTIME WITH A MERMAID-
- A CHANCE TO PIE THE MAYOR'S FACE-
- CORNHOLE-EGG RELAY-DINO DIG-

and **MORE!**

Cotton Candy For Sale

**FUN**

For more information scan QR code

**SUMAS LIBRARY, 461 Second St. Sumas**

**SUMAS** SPONSORED BY LOCA MOCHA

**Trunk-or-Treat**

**OCTOBER 31ST**

**5:30PM ON THIRD STREET**

HAPPY Friends GIVING

Friendsgiving at the Sumas Museum! November 16th from 10am to 2pm, come for pie and conversation!

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Greetings,

Just wanted to give you all an update and let you know that the Chamber of Commerce is in the process of being rebuilt and reformed. I and others are working closely with the Chamber officer to bring it back to life.

Stay tuned and monitor the local media sources for an upcoming meeting that will be posted by the Chamber.

We have also been working on a community roundtable, I call it the SOS, meaning 'Services of Sumas', the idea behind this roundtable is to bring our town together to work towards the common good of our community. Below is a summary of what's in the works.

**'Community: A unified body of individuals  
With common interests, common goals etc.**

There are multiple communities within a community, each group of people and their interests is a community with diverse backgrounds and abilities. For example, the Chamber of Commerce, the Friends of the Library, the Historical Society, churches, etc. are all micro communities within our larger community.

The goal of the SOS Community Roundtable is to bring all these micro communities together for the common purpose of connecting and bringing the town together, whether it be for a community event or a specific need in the community. We can come together to tackle challenges and build our community together, so that the burden isn't on any one group or person(s). We can pool our resources to help each other and accomplish the common good and goals of the community; 'many hands make light work'.

The concept of SOS is for all these micro communities to come together in some sort of organized fashion for help or support when needed. To share ideas and concerns, and share resources for the common good to accomplish the 'goal 'and have a good time doing it.'

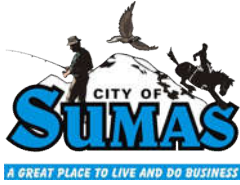
What we are looking for from you is to see what the interest is in this, and if there is a group or groups of people or individuals that would want to be a part this round table.

For those interested, we plan on having a meet and greet meeting soon, so please email 'welovesumas@gmail.com' and let us know your thoughts.

Thank you,



**Bruce Bosch  
Mayor**



# CITY OF SUMAS

433 Cherry Street/PO Box 9, Sumas, WA 98295

P: (360) 988-5711 F: (360) 988-8855

Date: September 19, 2024

Dear Residents,

We wanted to provide you with a quick update regarding the FEMA projects in our area as we head into another year without much visible progress that most can see.

Behind the scenes, we continue to work closely with FEMA's Consolidated Resource Center (CRC). The CRC is a vital resource that helps disaster recovery efforts by providing trained experts to assist with Public Assistance (PA) projects.

One of our top priorities remains the Hovel Rd project. We're actively working towards finalizing the necessary steps to begin actual construction. As many of you are aware, projects like these involve a significant amount of "red tape," including navigating through the requirements of various agencies to reach agreement on the proposed designs.

In addition to Hovel Rd, we are making progress on several other important projects, including:

- The Sumas outfall
- Arthurs Way
- Culverts on West Third St and West Second
- Well sites

Over the past year, there has been a change in some of the CRC personnel working in our area, which has unfortunately slowed down the process.

However, we're making headway, and are about 80% complete with the sewer repairs we began last year. These were temporarily halted due to the high-water table, but we anticipate full completion of these repairs by the end of this year.

Additionally, the Sumas Water Improvement District has completed survey work on the lower Sumas River and most of its tributaries. The surveyors are preparing CAD files to send to the engineering firm, allowing them to start designing up to 40% of the project. This design phase is expected to take approximately six months, with the goal of beginning work during the 2026/2027 fish window for some of the areas.

Thank you for your continued patience as we navigate the complexities of these projects. We will keep you updated as progress continues

Sincerely,  
City of Sumas



Sumas Library  
461 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

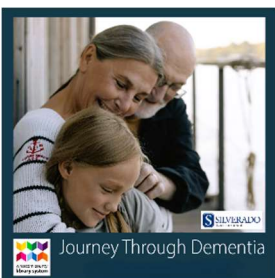
**Do you know...**with your FREE library card you can access Consumer Reports online for independent reviews of thousands of products. Talk to a branch staff member or visit <https://www.wcls.org/consumer-reports/> to learn more!

**UPCOMING LIBRARY CLOSURES:** Monday, November 11 (Veterans Day)



Sumas patrons did an amazing job for summer reading! Our community did over 2000 activities in June, July and August, resulting in the **Sumas community contributing 20 trees** being planted throughout Whatcom County. Last year, the Sumas Community earned 4 trees. Way to smash last year's result!

Stop by and see how our painted tree grew over the summer in the next week or so as it will be gone soon.



The library is excited about our **dementia care program Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>**. This two-part series of informative presentations designed to further your knowledge and help you provide the best possible care and support for individuals with memory impairments. This program is open to anybody interested in learning more about dementia. More information in Upcoming Programs below.

Do you want to know what other **events will take place at the Sumas Library** and throughout the WCLS system? Pick up a copy of **Explorations**, your guide to events happening in the library through the end of the year. You can find hardcopies in the lobby of the Sumas Library or a [digital version online](#).



**Open Book: A Festival for Readers** will be Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the Ferndale Events Center. This free festival is a book lover's dream day with **books, authors, book talks, readings, hands-on literary experiences and book swag**. Mingle with fellow readers, writers and library fans. Presented in partnership with Village Books and Whatcom County Library Foundation. Visit [wcls.org/openbook](https://wcls.org/openbook) for schedule and updates

# 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)

**JOURNEY THROUGH DEMENTIA** Join us for a two-part series of informative presentations designed to further your knowledge and help you provide the best possible care and support for individuals with memory impairments. Family members of a loved one with dementia can benefit from additional information and guidance. Speaker Rosalee Ronquillo is a community ambassador with Silverado Memory Care Community. Space is limited; registration is recommended but not required. Registrants will receive a reminder email 3 days before the event.

**Part One: Dementia 101** Learn about the common types of dementia, specifically Alzheimer's disease and how it affects a person's functional and mental abilities. Wednesday, September 18, 7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

**Part Two: A Virtual Tour** Alzheimer's is an emotional journey. It is difficult to fully comprehend the challenges that your loved one faces every day. Discover the realities of living with dementia while experiencing the overwhelming effects a person living with memory impairment feels when trying to perform everyday tasks. Wednesday, September 25, 7:00 P.M. – 8:00 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, September 16 – December 9. 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.

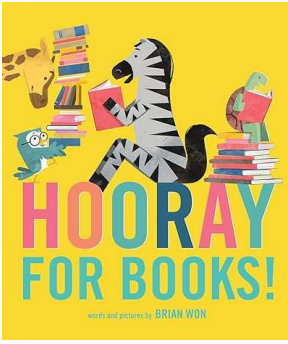
**LUNCH BREAK BOOK CLUB** Take a break in your day and join us for our weekly, low-commitment, theme-based book club. Each month, we provide a prompt (like "growing old"), then you choose something that relates. Text or audio, genre (mystery, sci-fi/fantasy, literary fiction, biography, non-fiction, 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 - September: growing old, October: nature, November: loneliness/isolation, December: unlikely friendships, January: Main Street, USA. 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 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, September – May, except on holidays when the library is closed. 6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

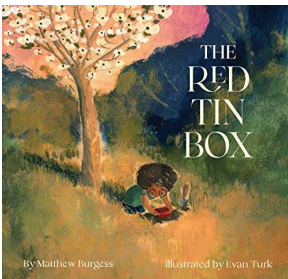


**BOOKTOBER PARTY** Join us for a celebration of all things reading. Tell us about your favorite books and discover some new ones. Make crafts to decorate your home library. Eat, drink, and be merry – reading is the best! Comfy clothes are encouraged. For grade K-5. Saturday, October 5, 10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

**¡FIESTA LIBROCTUBRE!** Únete a nosotros para una celebración sobre la Lectura. Háblanos de tus libros favoritos y descubre algunos nuevos. Haz manualidades para decorar la biblioteca de tu casa. Come, bebe y diviértete: ¡Leer es lo mejor! Se recomienda vestir con ropa cómoda. Para los grados K-5. Este programa es en Inglés. sábado, 5 de octubre, 10:30A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

**FALL CARNIVAL** The Friend of the Sumas Library (FOSL) present an old-school style fall carnival. Join us for a host of fun activities including a cupcake walk, bean bag races, egg relay, photos and storytime with a mermaid, and a visit by a Disney princess. Also, win a chance to pie the Sumas Mayor or other well-known locals. For more information and schedule of events, visit the [FOSL Fall Carnival event page](#)! Saturday, October 5, 12:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. This program follows the library Booktober Party held from 10:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

**MOUNTED PLANT WORKSHOP** Learn about tropical epiphytic plants and explore new ways to cultivate an indoor jungle! Participants will create their own hanging mounted plant display, discuss which plants are best suited for growing vertically, and chat about mounted plant care. All materials provided. Wednesday, October 16, 10:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.



**COMMUNITY HELPERS STORYTIME** For ages 2-6. A storytime featuring community helpers – like firefighters, humane society workers, and more – sharing what they do to make our community better! If you're curious about what helpers are coming, check in with Sumas library staff. Monday, October 21 10:30 A.M. - 11:00 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 grade K-5. Saturday, November 2, 10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.*