

Parksville-Qualicum Beach Community Update



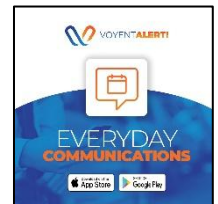
As summer approaches, take the time to assess your emergency preparedness for a new season. While our storm hazard may be decreasing, our wildfire, heat and drought hazards are increasing.

Make sure to check your home emergency plan and reassess your household communications plan. Do you have alternate ways of contacting everyone in your home?

If you need a new home emergency plan, use the PreparedBC template to get started at this [link](#).

Open up your Voyent Alert! app

Sometimes apps get hibernated to the background of our phones and this can interrupt alerting effectiveness. By opening the app and checking your saved locations you'll refresh the app and push it to the front of your phone. We recommend doing this a couple of times through the summer.



Make safe travel plans

We know wildfire hazard exists in varying degrees across the province, and just like in wintertime, it is important to be ready for a changing hazard scenery wherever you vacation. Take some time to learn about how the community you're visiting notifies of evacuation alerts and orders.

Stay safe in the heat!

Heat Risk: Who Needs Extra Care?

Identify the people around you who are most vulnerable to extreme heat and check in on them when temperatures get hot.

- Seniors aged 65 years or older
- People who live alone and people with limited mobility
- People with pre-existing health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease or respiratory disease
- People with mental illness such as schizophrenia, depression, or anxiety
- People with substance use disorders
- People who are marginally housed
- People who work in hot environments
- People who are pregnant
- Infants and young children



Prepare your home

If you don't have air conditioning or a heat pump to keep your home a constant cool temperature through summer, there are some small modifications you can make which can make a big difference.

- Install thermal curtains or window coverings
- Keep easy-to-read thermometers available to accurately measure indoor temperatures
- Have fans available to help move cooler air indoors during the late evening and early morning hours
- Install exterior covers or reflective films that block the sun from hitting the windows. This can be as simple as applying cardboard to the outside of the window



Have a plan to stay cool

During extreme heat, it's time to put your plan into action:

- Relocate to a cooler location
- Reconfigure the coolest location in your home so you can sleep there at night
- Check in with your pre-identified extreme heat buddy. If you don't have one, reach out to someone you trust
- Put up external window covers to block the sun if you can safely do so
- Close your curtains and blinds
- Ensure digital thermometers have batteries
- Make ice and prepare jugs of cool water
- Keep windows closed between 10 am and 8 pm. Open them at 8 pm to allow cooler air in, and use fans (including kitchen and bathroom exhaust fans) to move cooler air through the house
- Visit an emergency cooling centre or general cooling space. Locations may be listed on [EmergencyMapBC](#) at the discretion of local governments. If cooling locations are not listed on the map in your area, visit your [band office or local government](#).



Download the BC Wildfire App

The BC Wildfire App is updated real-time and displays the most up-to-date information available for wildfires across the province. You can also use the app to report wildfires. [iPhone](#) | [Android](#)



Get ready for wildfire and flood season

We are passing along this information from ICBC which we hope will be of interest to you. More information is available at this [link](#).

As we head into the spring to fall months, when wildfire and flood risk tends to increase, it's a good time for a quick check-in and make sure you're prepared. A little planning now can make things a lot easier if things change quickly and a few small steps now can give you peace of mind heading into wildfire and flood season.



Review your insurance coverage

Check in with your Autoplan broker now to review your policy and make sure you have the coverage you need before the season starts. If there is an evacuation alert or order in your area, you won't be able to make changes to your policy until the alert is lifted or your vehicle is out of the area.

Get your important documents together

In case you have to leave in a hurry, take a few minutes to gather key documents and keep them in a waterproof bag or container:

- Government-issued ID (driver's licence, passport, BC Services Card)
- Vehicle registration and Autoplan insurance documents
- Home insurance and important financial information

Think ahead about your vehicle and travel

- Don't keep valuables in your vehicle, they aren't covered if damaged or stolen
- If you're in a flood-prone area, have a plan for where you could move your vehicle (like higher ground)
- Consider routes out of your location in case of closures
- If your vehicle is uninsured during an evacuation alert or order, you can still purchase basic or collision coverage, or a temporary permit, to move it to safety

GENERAL INFORMATION

Town of Qualicum Beach

Town Hall is open 8.30 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays.

Email qbtown@qualicumbeach.com
Phone 250 752-6921
Mail PO Box 130, Qualicum Beach V9K 1S7

qualicumbeach.com | qbfirerescue.com

City of Parksville

City offices are open from 8 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays.

General inquiries, planning and finance	250 248-6144; info@parksville.ca
Administration and Office of the Mayor	250 954-3060; administration@parksville.ca
Engineering	250 951-2484; engineering@parksville.ca
Operations	250 248-5412; ops@parksville.ca
Parksville Fire Rescue	250 248-3242; fire@parksville.ca

parksville.ca | letstalkparksville.ca | parksvillefirerescue.ca

For more information:

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