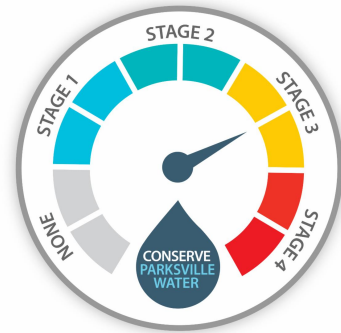


July 31, 2024



## Stage 3 Watering Restrictions

Earlier this month, the City implemented Stage 3 water conservation measures. Stage 3 maintains the same even and odd day watering framework as Stage 2 and encourages residents to further reduce consumption to defer a comprehensive watering ban, offering flexibility for residents to decide where and how to reduce outdoor water use. Watering of vegetable gardens and fruit trees and drip irrigation is exempt from restrictions.



The province now lists eastern Vancouver Island as Drought level 4, “adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are likely” and continues to call on communities to reduce water consumption, especially outdoor use. Reduction in water use is critical and by proactively conserving groundwater and surface water, we ensure water supply resiliency for essential household use, fire protection, stream flows for fish, and irrigation purposes. Details about BC drought levels at this [link](#).

The City has several water licences issued by the province for drinking water purposes and when the Arrowsmith Dam was constructed, the City committed to releasing water to the Englishman River in drier months to add to the base flow, which is beneficial for fish and the riparian ecosystem. To prolong the release of water from the dam, a reduction in the flow release has been approved which requires the City to implement Stage 3 conservation levels.

We encourage residents to reduce consumption. More information at [Let's Talk Parksville](#) and suggestions for ways to conserve indoor and outdoor at this [link](#).

## CITY SERVICES

### Transportation Master Plan Moving Right Along

The results from phase 2 engagement may be reviewed on Let's Talk Parksville in the [What We Heard Report #2](#). We are now ready to move into the third and final engagement phase which will present recommended projects and improvements across all modes of travel (auto, transit, walking, cycling) with the goal to confirm that the plan captures a balanced and practical approach to achieving the City's

mobility goals. There will be opportunities to provide feedback at an open house on October 1 and as part of a third online survey. Please refer to [Let's Talk Parksville](#) for more information.



## Emergency Preparedness Expo 2024 - September 7

Emergency Management Oceanside is hosting an Emergency Preparedness Expo on Saturday, September 7 from 10 am to 4 pm at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre. First responders, government agencies, emergency supply vendors, utilities and emergency partners will host activities to help emphasize the importance of taking steps to improve emergency preparedness and response. Learn about the challenges we face in an emergency and how to be better prepared. Displays, demos, workshops, kids' activities, and *Quake Cottage*, Canada's only mobile earthquake simulator. It's all free. More info on Emergency Management Oceanside [website](#).

A graphic for the Emergency Preparedness Expo 2024. On the left is a circular logo for Emergency Management Oceanside (EMO) with the text "EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OCEANSIDE" around the perimeter and "EMO" in the center. Below the logo is the slogan "We're Prepared. Are you?". To the right of the logo is a blue rectangular box containing the text "emergency PREPAREDNESS EXPO 2024" in white and orange. Below this box, on an orange background, is the text "SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 10 am to 4 pm QUALICUM BEACH CIVIC CENTRE 747 JONES STREET" in white.

## Mobi-mat Installed at Parksville Bay Beach

In partnership with Access Oceanside Association, the city is excited to pilot a mobi-mat installation for the 2024 summer season. An accessible beach mat, also known as a mobi-mat, is now in place on Parksville Bay beach, accessed from the concrete ramp in front of the waterfront gazebo. The new 100 foot-long mobi-mat will enable easier beach access for people using wheelchairs, families with strollers and others to access the water.

Parksville Council confirmed its intent to review beach accessibility in 2025; however, this opportunity arose thanks to the donation by Corona Canada who offered to gift an accessibility mat to an oceanfront community. The generous and unexpected donation of the mobi-mat to Access Oceanside Association prompted Council to amend its workplan and move this item forward to the 2024 budget cycle. Staff applied for the necessary permits from the federal and provincial agencies and were successful in receiving expedited approvals based on the significance of improving accessibility in the community.

Parksville Council embraces universal accessibility as a goal for the community and acknowledges many of our residents and visitors experience mobility challenges, either permanent or temporary and accessing natural spaces can be difficult for those with physical limitations. Accessibility principles benefit all people, including young families with strollers, people with injuries and those with more long-term mobility issues.

At this time, there are some unknowns about how this new service will impact staffing and how it will operate in a dynamic marine environment. The seasonal installation of a mobi-mat is a higher level of service than the City is accustomed to and over the next few months, staff will monitor the use and track issues which may arise with maintenance and operations. Council will review the information from both City staff and the community during its 2025 budget deliberations and provide

direction for future accessibility projects at that time.

The donation by Corona Canada also included two beach wheelchairs which may be reserved free of charge through the Beach Club Resort, 250 248-8999 or [beachclub@bellstar.ca](mailto:beachclub@bellstar.ca). More info on the city's [website](#).



## REMINDERS AND THINGS TO KNOW

**Campfire ban** now in effect applies to open fires of any size including campfires. Implemented by the Parksville fire chief for the Parksville Fire Protection Area in conjunction with the **Coastal Fire Centre** ban.



**Fall grant-in-aid program** deadline 4 pm, August 30. Non-profit organizations in the arts, cultural, recreational, or social services fields are eligible to apply. Info on program, policy, instructions, and application may be obtained from City Hall or from the [website](#).

**Parksville's Canada Day** photos may be viewed on [Let's Talk Parksville](#). We celebrated Canada's 157th with an amazing community parade and th Parksville Community Park busy with families, friends and neighbours who gathered to celebrate the day.

The **Recycle BC pop-up depot** in Parksville is accepting free of charge, flexible plastic packaging, white and coloured foam packaging, glass packaging and paper packaging and cardboard. Materials may be dropped off from 10 am to 3 pm at 1080 Industrial Way, Parksville on August 10 and August 24. For more dates and info, visit Recycle BC [website](#).

*Dance With Me at Memorial*

Free! Fun! Everyone welcome!

**JUST DANCE**  
6 to 8 pm

**West Coast Swing**  
Thursday, August 1

**Line Dance**  
Thursday, August 15

A graphic featuring silhouettes of several people in various dance poses, including a cowboy, a ballroom dancer, and a line dancer. The silhouettes are in different colors: purple, green, blue, and pink. They are set against a background of musical notes and a stylized treble clef.

The City and Parksville Downtown Business Association are hosting *Dance with Me at Memorial* events, your chance to learn some new dance moves with free dance instruction by Sara Raymond Dance Academy and music by Dave Graham. There are two more events; west coast swing on August 1 and line dancing on August 15, Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 pm. *Dance with Me at Memorial* is a fun, active and social community event for all ages, intended to encourage community spirit through dance!

## SUMMER IN THE CITY

Summer is always a busy time for Parksville with events and festivals. For details, refer to events on [Parksville Qualicum Beach Tourism](#).

- **Summer by the Sea Street Market on Craig Street** is hosted by the Parksville Chamber with many great artisans and vendors, Tuesday evenings until August 27.



- [Parksville Beach Festival](#) and the Quality Foods Sand Sculpting Competition and Exhibition is underway in the Parksville Community Park through August 18. Sand sculpting exhibit is open 9.30 am to 8.30 pm daily.
- [Parksville Museum](#) features wonderful array of historical artifacts and heritage buildings which serve as a window into the life of early Parksville.

# WE'RE HIRING!

We are seeking qualified candidates for these positions:

## Engineering Technologists II and III

*More info here*

## CITY DATES

Please note, Council does not meet in August.

August 1	Dance with Me at Memorial
August 5	BC Day (offices closed)
August 15	Dance with Me at Memorial
September 2	Labour Day (offices closed)
September 4	Council Meeting
September 7	EMO Emergency Preparedness Expo 2024
September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (offices closed)
October 1	Master Transportation Plan Open House
October 7	Council Meeting
October 14	Thanksgiving (offices closed)
October 21	Council Meeting

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**For more information:**

Deb Tardiff, Manager of Communications  
250 954-3073; [communications@parksville.ca](mailto:communications@parksville.ca)

[parksville.ca](http://parksville.ca) | [letstalkparksville.ca](http://letstalkparksville.ca)



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