



## FALL AND WINTER EVENTS IN LADYSMITH

As fall and winter approach, the Town will see the return of many of our favourite events such as the Monster Bash at the Frank Jameson Community Centre, Ladysmith Festival of Lights and Old Tyme Christmas. For details on these events and others, visit the Ladysmith Chamber of Commerce website: <https://www.ladysmithcofc.com/calendar>

## NEW EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEBSITE

The fall and early winter months bring the potential for inclement weather conditions and all Ladysmith residents are encouraged to be prepared.

Recently, the Cowichan Valley Regional District and Emergency Management Cowichan (EMC) launched a new website to provide information and tools to mitigate, prepare, respond, and recover from a range of hazards and emergencies.

EMC is a shared emergency management service that works together the Town and with other local governments in the region.

The new comprehensive and user-friendly website launched over the summer comes as communities in the region are seeking efficient and reliable information, resources, as well as solutions to mitigate and prepare for incidents of climate-influenced crises such as flooding, extreme weather, wildfire, and drought.

This innovative platform is the result of collaboration between emergency response experts, community safety advocates and EMC's partners who include the First Nations of the Cowichan area, on whose territory EMC is grateful to do its work, and first responders: fire departments, the RCMP, BC Ambulance, ground and marine search and rescue groups and community service organizations.

For more EMC programs and resources visit: [emcowichan.ca](http://emcowichan.ca).

**CONTACT US** 250.245.6400 / [info@ladysmith.ca](mailto:info@ladysmith.ca)

410 Esplanade MAIL PO Box 220 . Ladysmith . BC . V9G 1A2

[www.ladysmith.ca](http://www.ladysmith.ca)

GET CONNECTED





## FIREWORKS PERMIT PROCESS

Ladysmith residents interested in discharging fireworks on Halloween night must use the new application and permitting process that is being administered by the Town, effective last year.

The Family Fireworks Permit Application fee is \$10. Separate permit classes, fees and insurance requirements apply for display fireworks and pyrotechnics.

The Family Fireworks Permit replaces the permit process previously overseen by the Cowichan Valley Regional District. Permit approvals are subject to the current Coastal Fire Ban and any corresponding restrictions.

Application forms can be obtained at Ladysmith City Hall, 410 Esplanade during business hours, Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., by emailing [info@ladysmith.ca](mailto:info@ladysmith.ca) or visiting our website.

Please note that all fireworks permit applications are due at least 3 business days before the event to be approved by the Fire Chief.

## HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Autumn brings with it falling leaves, cooler temperatures and little ghosts and goblins in search of candy. With Halloween around the corner, here are a few tips for ensuring your children can have fun and remain safe while trick or treating:

- Wear a light-coloured or bright costume, reflective tape or arm bands to heighten visibility.
- Wear costumes that are properly fitted to reduce tripping hazards.
- Select costumes constructed from flame-retardant materials.
- Make sure your vision is not restricted. Consider wearing make-up instead of masks.
- Create a fun necklace with string and glow sticks or reflective tape to keep kids visible to drivers. Or accessorize with a flashlight!
- Stay on the sidewalk and never jaywalk.
- Trick or treat in pairs or groups.
- Make sure your kids ask you to check their candy before they eat it.

## UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS DUE NOVEMBER 29, 2023

Utility Bills for July to September are due November 29, 2023. We encourage you to pay online through your financial institution. However, payments can be made in person at City Hall using debit, cash or cheque, by mail or by using our after-hours drop box.

If you have questions about your bill, please call 250.245.6400 or email: [billing@ladysmith.ca](mailto:billing@ladysmith.ca).





## UPGRADES TO STOCKING LAKE DAM COMPLETE

The Town of Ladysmith and Cowichan Valley Regional District have completed several key infrastructure upgrades to the Stocking Lake Dam, continuing the ongoing investment in the preservation of our respective communities' drinking water.

The Stocking Lake Dam is an earth-fill dam constructed from natural materials and maintained to Provincial standards through an agreement between the municipality and regional district.

Water drawn from Stocking Lake is the drinking water source for the residents of Ladysmith in the winter months, as well as the CVRD Area G (Saltair).

The project scope for the work completed in recent weeks involved two parts – addressing a leak that was identified over the winter and further strengthening the dam itself.

The contractor retained by the Town for this project removed material from the dam on the downstream side and laid rock riprap to further reinforce the structure.

Secondly, to address the leak, loose material was removed from the spillway channel and a water barrier

was installed and topped with rock.

The Town and CVRD continue to explore funding opportunities from senior levels of government for the dam replacement. A preliminary design for a new dam was completed in 2021.

## BUDGET MEETINGS SCHEDULE

Council reviews the budget at meetings in the fall and winter before adopting the Financial Plan bylaws by May 15, 2024. Citizens are invited to provide input into the budget by attending Council meetings at which the budget is discussed, or by writing to Council at any time.

November 7, 2023 - Water & Sewer – Operating & Capital.

November 21, 2023 - Introduction of General Operations.

December 5, 2023 - Introduction of General Capital Projects. Water & Sewer Rate Bylaw introduced.

December 19, 2023 - Anticipated adoption of Water & Sewer Rate bylaws and Early budget approvals.

January 23, 2024 - Introduction of the 2024-2028 Financial Plan bylaw.




## BE BEAR AWARE

Did you know that garbage and rotting fruit can attract bears to your neighbourhood? Please keep your garbage and compost contained indoors until your scheduled pick-up day and harvest any ripe fruit from trees. Report a bear sighting by calling: 1-877-952-7277.

A reminder that there is a 44lb limit on compost bins and garbage cans. A green bin full of fruit can easily put you over that limit.



## WANT TO STAY CONNECTED?

-  Follow us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/LadysmithBC](https://www.facebook.com/LadysmithBC)
-  Follow us on Twitter [@TownOfLadysmith](https://twitter.com/TownOfLadysmith)
-  Follow us on Instagram [ladysmithbc](https://www.instagram.com/ladysmithbc)

## SIGN UP FOR OUR ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Call City Hall 250.245.6400, sign up on our website [www.ladysmith.ca](http://www.ladysmith.ca), or send us an email to [info@ladysmith.ca](mailto:info@ladysmith.ca) to be added to our electronic newsletter mailing list. You can choose to receive City Hall News, Parks, Recreation & Culture News and/or Emergency Information right in your email inbox in a safe, secure e-newsletter.

## TOWN NEWS YOU CAN USE

**Emergency and Routine Notifications through the CVRD** - Sign up for the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) Emergency Alert Registration service to receive information on Evacuation Routes, Alerts and Orders and available/open ESS Reception Centres.

To register, visit: [www.cowichanalert.ca](http://www.cowichanalert.ca).

**Pet Responsibility** - We encourage community members to be responsible pet owners and please pick up after your animal(s) when out walking on sidewalks, trails and visiting parks. Properly disposing of your waste bags by using the nearest available trash container is helping to keep our public spaces enjoyable for everyone. We appreciate your cooperation.

**Online Crime Reporting** - Report an incident online, when the police are not required: <https://ocre-sielc.rcmpgrc.gc.ca/ladysmith/en>

**Local Burning Bans and Wildfire News** - Fire Restrictions and Wildfire News for our area is sent out by the Coastal Fire Centre. Please check B.C. Wildfire for updates, and practice fire safety at all times.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/fire-bans-and-restrictions>