

# Noteworthy

Spring 2024  
TOWN OF QUALICUM BEACH



## Family Day - May 26

Qualicum Beach Family Day is a beloved tradition that has been sponsored by the Town and organized by a dedicated group of volunteers since 1976.

This year the event will take place on Sunday, May 26, and promises to be a day filled with fun and community spirit.

The festivities kick off with a pancake breakfast at 8:30 am at the Civic Centre, followed by a lively street parade down Second Avenue at noon.

From 1-4 pm, the action moves to the Community Park, where all ages can enjoy a wide range of activities, food, and entertainment. Highlights of this year's event include a skydive exhibition, skateboard competition, dog agility, and Seaside Cruisers collection. Kids will love the 13 bounce houses, scavenger hunt, face painting, and abundant activities found at each exhibit. The main stage will be buzzing with all-day performances by talented local artists and community groups. The festivities will come to a close with a free swim from 4-7 pm at Ravensong Aquatic Centre.

This is a day that brings together the community, creating memories that will last a lifetime. So mark your calendars and join us for a day filled with fun for all ages and abilities.

[qualicumbeach.com/qualicum-beach-family-day](http://qualicumbeach.com/qualicum-beach-family-day)

## Paying Utilities

Due Date: July 2, 2024

Available options to pay your utilities are:

- 1. Visit Town Hall:** Debit, cash or cheque only. Hours: Monday to Friday 9 am - 4 pm (excluding statutory holidays). Credit cards are not accepted.
- 2. Financial Institution:** In-person, online or telephone banking (no e-transfers). For online payments, select "Qualicum Beach, Town of - Utilities" (or similar) as the Payee, and use the account number. Please contact your bank directly for assistance setting up a Payee.
- 3. Mail a cheque:** Payable to "Town of Qualicum Beach", PO Box 130, Qualicum Beach, BC, V9K 1S7. Payment must be received by July 4, 2024. Postmarks are not accepted as date of payment.
- 4. Drop Off a Cheque:** A mail slot is located at the entrance of Town Hall, nearest to the fountain (660 Primrose St).



## What's in My Bill?

Utility bills may include charges for water, sewer, and solid waste services. Billings are issued twice per year for the following periods:

- Winter - Oct 1 to April 30
- Summer - May 1 to Sept 30

sign up stay engaged.

[www.qualicumbeach.com/signup](http://www.qualicumbeach.com/signup)

# Qualicum Beach



Join us for the 11th annual Beach Day celebration! Dive into family fun and environmental awareness at our waterfront event, from 12 pm to 4 pm.

Enjoy live music, games, entertainment, and hands-on activities to explore marine and pond life. Other fun activities include kite building, giant bubbles, sandcastle building, and mini golf.

Stage entertainment includes Anela Kahiamoe (musician), Ian Johnstone (family entertainer), Qualicum Beach Pipe Band, belly dancing, and more.

With plenty of food options available, and free shuttles running from the Berwick Retirement Community (11:30am to 4pm), this is set to be a full day of celebration with something for everyone!

Learn more at [qualicumbeach.com/beach-day](https://qualicumbeach.com/beach-day)

## Crescent Road Culvert Project

The Town is undertaking the crucial replacement of two deteriorating corrugated steel culverts that will require an extended period of road closure on Crescent Road East.

These culverts located on Crescent Road East are essential for maintaining the integrity of our ecosystem and safeguarding our community's infrastructure. A failure could cause significant flooding and damage to a major sanitary sewer trunk main, as well as jeopardize essential fish habitat.

The project budget of \$2,067,400 is supported by funding in the amount of \$1,374,000 from the Federal/Provincial Government's Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

The project timeframe is set for June to October 2024, during which time road diversions from Crescent Road East will be necessary. Detours, signage and traffic control will be in place, starting in the second half of May.

For further information and updates on the culvert replacement project, please visit [qualicumbeach.com/bc\\_culvert\\_repair](https://qualicumbeach.com/bc_culvert_repair)

## Outdoor Fires

The warmer weather is a great time to gather, so here are a few fire-safety tips:

- Beach fires and campfires – are not permitted at any time in Qualicum Beach.
- Outdoor fires – are only permitted in a non-combustible appliance, enclosed on a minimum of three sides, and which provides a reasonable measure of safety from sparks.
- Outdoor fires – may only burn clean, dry wood that does not emit heavy smoke or odours and must be located at least 3 metres from neighbouring properties.
- Sky lanterns – are considered a fire hazard and the Fire Department asks members of the public to refrain from using them.
- Fireworks – are only permitted on October 31st and must only be discharged on private property.

For more details visit [qbfirerescue.com](https://qbfirerescue.com)



## Waterfront Expansion



The Town's waterfront enhancements continue with \$500,000 in funding received from the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure program. This funding will help enhance the central waterfront area, with a primary focus on expanding parking facilities and shared bicycle/pedestrian lanes.

Last year, a similar project improved 0.4 km of the central waterfront along Highway 19A, however limitations in funding left the far east and west areas incomplete. With this financial boost, the Town aims to extend parking and safe active transportation links along the waterfront. Recognizing the area's tourism appeal, accessibility remains a top priority to unlock its full potential.

The total project cost is \$878,000, with \$500,000 coming from grant funding. Construction is scheduled to commence in late summer 2024, with completion anticipated end of October 2024.

Learn more at [qualicumbeach.com/water\\_expansion](https://qualicumbeach.com/water_expansion)



# Qualicum Beach

## Special Event Calendar



May 12	Oceanside Mother's Day Race
May 23	Public Works Open House
May 26	Family Day
May 26	Festival of Lights Fireworks
Jun 29	SALHACS* Twilight Concert Series
Jun 15	Seaside Cruizers Street Dance
Jun 16	Seaside Cruizers Show n' Shine
Jun 22	Grad Parade
Jun 23	QB Triathlon
Jul 1	QB Legion Canada Day Parade
Jul 6	SALHACS* Twilight Concert Series
Jul 21	Beach Day
Jul 27	St. Mark's Fair
July 27	SALHACS* Arts & Musical Festival
Aug 24	SALHACS* Twilight Concert Series Twilight Concert Series
Aug 18	Ocean Mile Swim
Aug 31	SALHACS* Twilight Concert Series
Nov 11	Remembrance Day Procession
Nov 23	Moonlight Madness

\*SALHACS = St Andrews Lodge Historical and Cultural Society  
[qualicumbeach.com/events](https://qualicumbeach.com/events)

## Provincial Housing Changes



In late 2023 the Province introduced legislation mandates to zoning and bylaws that impact housing density and short-term vacation rentals.

### Bill 35 - Short-Term Vacation Rentals (STVR)

This bill came into effect May 1, 2024 to help return short-term rental units to the long-term housing market.

The Town's existing zoning regulations are more restrictive than the Province's regulations and do not support STVR operations, except for those designated as Bed and Breakfast. At a recent meeting, Council decided to continue to restrict STVRs in Qualicum Beach except for Bed and Breakfasts. Rather than expand STVRs as a reaction to the provincial legislation, the Town opted to do a thorough review in 2027, as originally planned.

Residents operating a Bed and Breakfast in Qualicum Beach will be required to continue meeting certain guidelines and criteria, including the purchase of a business license. The Bed and Breakfast must also be within the main residence (not secondary suite or detached building) and requires the owner to be present during the full rental period.

All residents operating an STVR that is not a licensed in Bed and Breakfast will be required to come into compliance with the Town's licensing or cease operation. The Province will be monitoring all STVR platforms to bring non-licensed operations into compliance with their regulations as of May 1, 2024.

For more details on STVRs and an FAQ visit [qualicumbeach.com/stvr](https://qualicumbeach.com/stvr).

### Bills 44 and 46 - Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing (SSMUH)

Changes from these bills will come into effect June 30, 2024 to help address the housing crisis by allowing more homes to be built.

The updated bylaws brought to Council will include changes to permitted density, maximum height, minimum setbacks, parking requirements, parcel coverage, and other land use controls. While the changes will allow for greater density on single-family and duplex parcels, the Town is working with policy tools to retain the character of Qualicum Beach neighbourhoods in addition to achieving the Province's housing objectives.

### For more information:

- Visit [qualicumbeach.com/housing\\_change](https://qualicumbeach.com/housing_change)
- Call the Planning Department at 250-752-6921
- Email the Planning Department at [planning@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:planning@qualicumbeach.com)

# Qualicum Beach

## Skate Park Redevelopment



With the Skatepark Redevelopment Feasibility Study and Final Concept Report complete, the Town is now ready for next steps.

After engaging with the public, the consultancy Newline Skateparks recommended reconstructing the current skatepark with a new facility that addresses the site integration issues and provides modern terrain. The site will be geared towards users of all abilities and allows for development of athletes and wheeled sports enthusiasts as well.

A construction cost of \$1,200,000 has been budgeted by the Town for 2025, with the Qualicum Beach Skaters group raising an additional \$300,000. After the user group has raised their portion of the funding, a staff report will be prepared for guiding Council governance decisions, and to help move construction forward.

To learn more about Qualicum Beach Skaters and their fundraising efforts visit [qbaskaters.com](http://qbaskaters.com). Also visit the Town's project webpage at [qualicumbeach.com/skatepark](http://qualicumbeach.com/skatepark)

## Water Restrictions



From May 15 to September 15, Qualicum Beach watering restrictions allow for watering between 7 pm and 7 am daily. Hand watering is permitted any time.

## Safe Sidewalks

The Town maintains over 15 km of sidewalks within the town. Our goal is to ensure a safe network of sidewalks for the use of all pedestrians. We welcome you to report the location of any tripping hazard at 250-752-6921 or email [qbtown@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:qbtown@qualicumbeach.com).

## Connect with Council

Mayor Teunis Westbroek - [mayor@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:mayor@qualicumbeach.com)  
Coun. Scott Harrison - [sharrison@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:sharrison@qualicumbeach.com)  
Coun. Anne Skipsey - [askipsey@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:askipsey@qualicumbeach.com)  
Coun. Petronella Vander Valk - [pvandervalk@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:pvandervalk@qualicumbeach.com)  
Coun. Jean Young - [jyoung@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:jyoung@qualicumbeach.com)

## A Safer Qualicum Beach

Through its partnership with Emergency Management Oceanside the Town is taking proactive steps to enhance its emergency response capabilities. Recent funding injections totaling \$119,956 are earmarked for vital projects aimed at modernizing our Emergency Support Services (ESS) and bolstering our preparedness.

A \$60,000 allocation, facilitated by the Union of BC Municipalities, will support Oceanside ESS modernization. This includes procuring group lodging supplies, conducting volunteer training, and acquiring digital equipment and safety gear.

Simultaneously, a grant of \$59,956, will finance crucial initiatives like emergency drills, specialized training courses, and the establishment of communication networks. This grant is administered by the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness via the Union of BC Municipalities, and managed by Emergency Management Oceanside for the Town of Qualicum Beach, and City of Parksville.

These investments signify our community's commitment to resilience and readiness. By leveraging these funds effectively, we're not just upgrading our response mechanisms, we're fostering a safer, more resilient environment for all residents.

## Off Leash Dog Parks

Qualicum Beach features scenic off-leash trails, providing dog owners with opportunities to explore the natural beauty of the area while allowing their pets to roam freely and enjoy the outdoors. These trails promote healthy activity for both dogs and their owners, enhancing the community's recreational offerings.

