

### **Wesley Ridge Wildfire Reception Centre**

A reception centre remains open 24 hours a day for all Wesley Ridge Wildfire evacuees located at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre at 747 Jones Street. To respect the privacy of evacuees, we request no one aside from evacuees and emergency support services (ESS) support workers go to the reception centre. All media that have inquiries are asked to contact the Regional District of Nanaimo by emailing [engagement@rdn.bc.ca](mailto:engagement@rdn.bc.ca).

All Wesley Ridge Wildfire evacuees are asked to register online at [ess.gov.bc.ca](https://ess.gov.bc.ca) or at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre reception centre once they have safely left the evacuation areas. This is where evacuees can receive and access information, resources and eligible support. Evacuees are asked to contact their insurance providers. Most home and tenant's insurance providers cover living expenses during evacuations.

All evacuation Alerts and Orders made or rescinded in our region will be shared through Voyent Alert and on our website at [rdn.bc.ca/current-alerts](https://rdn.bc.ca/current-alerts). Residents are encouraged to sign up for emergency alerts to receive emergency alerts directly from the RDN through Voyent Alert, visit [rdn.bc.ca/emergency-program](https://rdn.bc.ca/emergency-program).

For your safety, and the safety of Wesley Ridge wildfire response crews, stay out of the area of the fire response. Please do not go on Cameron Lake, operate drones, enter the area on foot or stop on the highway. As Horne Lake and Spider Lake are being used as a water sources for ongoing air support, please remain near the shore or off these lakes and aware of helicopters that are active in the area.

#### **Additional information and resources:**

- To learn more about the RDN emergency program and how to be prepared and to sign up to receive emergency alerts directly from the RDN through Voyent Alert, visit [rdn.bc.ca/emergency-program](https://rdn.bc.ca/emergency-program)
- To view a map of current wildfires and wildfire status: [BC Wildfires Map](#)
- For information on current fire bans and other prohibitions in the Coastal Fire Centre: [Coastal Fire Centre bans and restrictions](#)
- To report smoke or fires, call 1-800-663-5555 or \*5555 or use the BCWS mobile app on your smart device
- For accurate information on emergencies, response and recovery resources: [EmergencyInfoBC](#)
- For information on the status of highways: [DriveBC](#)
- For information on the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI): [Air Quality Health Index forecast for B.C.](#)
- For updates on fire weather and smoke across Canada: [firesmoke.ca/](https://firesmoke.ca/)

**Get Involved RDN!**

- To learn more about FireSmart BC and how to prepare your home and community for wildfire season: [FireSmart BC](#)

**Wildfire safety reminders:**

- During a wildfire, it is likely smoke will be visible in surrounding areas. If it is smokey in your area, it is best to stay indoors and close your windows when possible.
- Avoid all areas near the wildfire, obey signage and give fire crews the space to work.
- The operation of any aircraft not associated with fire suppression activities, including drones and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), near a wildfire is illegal. It also poses a serious threat to the safety of the fire crews.

**For media inquiries, please contact:**

Information Officer  
Regional District of Nanaimo

✉ [engagement@rdn.bc.ca](mailto:engagement@rdn.bc.ca)

**Get Involved RDN!**