

PUBLIC NOTICE

August 8, 2025

Preparation for Possible Re-Entry for Some Wesley Ridge Wildfire Evacuees

We are working hard with BC Wildfire Service and other partners to enable residents on evacuation order in Little Qualicum River Village, below Warn Way, to return to their homes by Monday, August 11, 2025. Once a return has been confirmed, we will have a detailed plan and communications to ensure those evacuees who can return home have the information they need. However, we continue to actively assess the wildfire situation and want to remind residents that conditions can change quickly.

Please know our priority is getting residents home as soon as it is safe to do so. We are in constant communication with BC Wildfire Service and other partners to assess when properties can be taken off Evacuation Order. Updates to the Evacuation Order and Alert areas are made based on recommendations from the BC Wildfire Service about wildfire activity, hazards caused by the fire, lack of utility services and firefighting equipment that is still present in the area.

We appreciate the understanding and cooperation of residents in these areas who are currently affected by this Evacuation Order. We ask that the public avoid the areas under the Evacuation Alert as there will continue to be fire suppression efforts throughout the area.

In preparation for re-entry, we encourage residents in Little Qualicum River Village below Warn Way to start reviewing re-entry information available on our website at rdn.bc.ca/wesleyridgewildfire. Additional information can be viewed at rdn.bc.ca/current-alerts. Evacuees can also contact the RDN EOC at 250-390-6538 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. with any questions. More information and resources will be shared with residents affected by the Wesley Ridge wildfire in the coming days to assist with their re-entry.

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-alerts
- 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/
- To learn more about FireSmart BC and how to prepare your home and community for wildfire season: FireSmart BC

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Wildfire safety reminders:

- During 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

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