



Understanding Property Taxes in Area B Shawnigan Lake

Sierra Acton
CVRD Director for
Shawnigan Lake

At first glance, property taxes might seem straightforward—but in Area B of the Cowichan Valley, they are often misunderstood. The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) operates within a complex governance structure which, some may argue, doesn't always meet our local needs. That's a broader conversation for another day. For now, here's a breakdown of how your property taxes actually work.

More Than One Tax

What we call "property taxes" is actually a collection of separate taxes. Of these, Area Directors can influence only the CVRD portion—and even then, only with the support of a majority of the Board. Other taxes on your bill—such as Fire Protection (Shawnigan Improvement District), Hospital, Education, Parcel, and the Rural Tax—are determined and managed by other agencies or levels of government.

What the CVRD Does

The CVRD provides both provincially mandated services, and services requested by communities. Unless you've built a house or applied for permits, you may not realize how many departments are involved, including:

- Planning and Building Inspection
- Legislative Services (bylaw creation and governance)
- Engineering Services (water systems)
- Finance
- Emergency Services (911 infrastructure)
- Environmental Services (floodplain mapping, water quality testing, etc.)
- Regional and local Parks and Trails

Importantly, you are only taxed for services you actually receive. For example, if you're connected to the Beach Estates Sewer System or another community water system, you pay for that service. If you're on a private well, you don't pay into any water system at all.

Assessments and Inequities

Property values are assessed annually by BC Assessment, a provincial agency, and are based on recent local real estate sales. In Shawnigan Lake, assessed values are generally much higher than elsewhere in the CVRD—largely due to our proximity to Victoria. This means our region contributes a greater share toward regional services, provincial taxation, and other mill rates—because these taxes are based on assessed value, not population.

Despite this, we only have one vote at the CVRD table—mine.

What Is the Rural Tax?

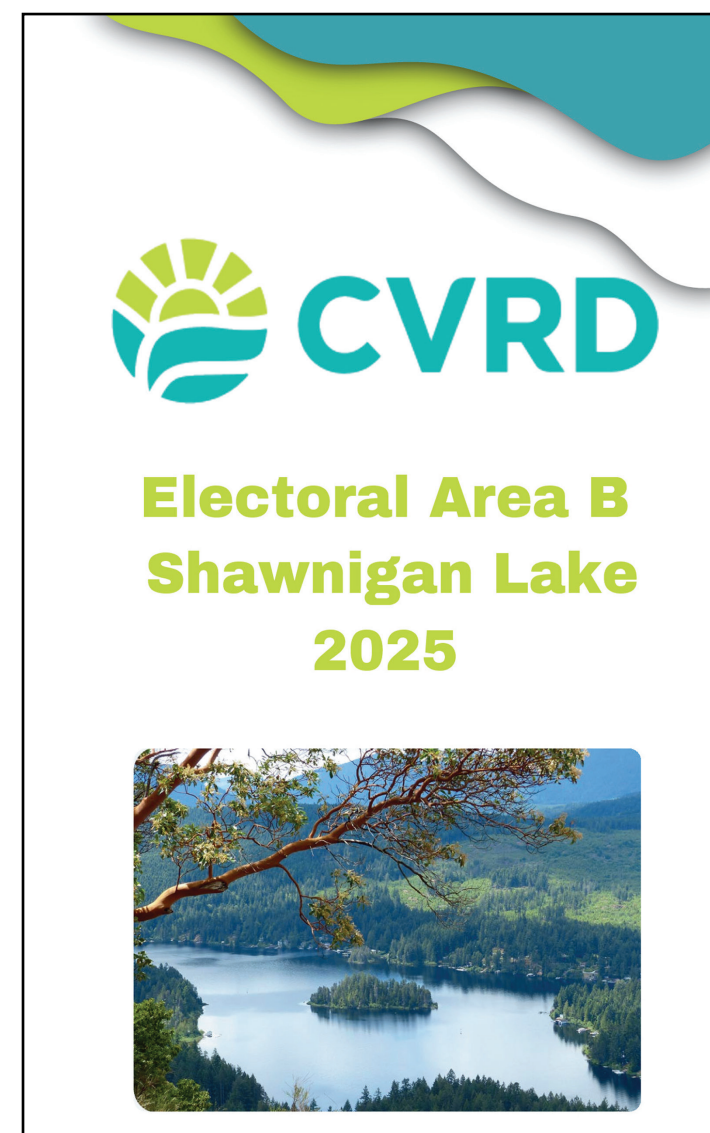
Another line item on your tax bill is the Rural Tax, which applies only to unincorporated areas in B.C. (excluding the Peace River District). The rate is uniform across the province for each property class. That means if a home in Shawnigan Lake is assessed at three times the value of a comparable home in northern B.C., the tax is also three times higher.

This revenue goes directly into the Province's general fund. While it's difficult to track exactly how the funds are allocated, they help pay for services like provincial roads and the RCMP. Given our high property values and large population, Area B likely contributes disproportionately. It raises a fair question: How much of that funding comes back to maintain our roads—and at what point are we paying more than we receive?

Where Your Tax Dollars Go

Your annual property tax bill is roughly divided as follows:

- One-third goes to the CVRD, which includes nearly 50 separate line items specific to Area B
- One-third funds public education (schools)
- One-third is split approximately equally between:
- The Shawnigan Improvement District



- The Rural Tax
- The Cowichan Valley Hospital District

In a recent effort to promote participation in the Shawnigan Lake Improvement District AGM, I mistakenly grouped these three together and stated that the Improvement District alone accounted for a third of your taxes. That was incorrect, as outlined above.

Limited Local Control

Unfortunately, the taxation and governance structures of Area B leave us with limited

local control. While I am the only elected official representing this community directly, 15 other Directors on the CVRD Board vote on decisions that affect us all.

Staying informed and engaged is the best way we can advocate for a more equitable system and stronger local representation.

As always, I'm available for a conversation, Sierra Acton.

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[Click here to download the CVRD tax info brochure](#)

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Library Mouse is back and hiding in a new place each week!

Summer Reading Club registration opens on Monday, June 16, with the program launching on July 2.

The Ukulele Workshop series continues, for beginning and early intermediate players. Bring your ukulele if you have one and prepare for fun! 6-8pm on Monday, June 9 & 23.

The South Cowichan Seed Library is open and stocked. We are also accepting seed donations.

The last session of the Learning with Syeyutsus online lecture series is on Thursday, June 12, noon to 1pm. Author Salma Monani will talk about her book, Indigenous Ecocinema Decolonizing Media Environments.

LEGO® Club happens every Tuesday, 2-5pm. We provide the LEGO (and Duplo) and you supply the imagination. Come ready to build! This is a free, drop-in

event.

Intermediate Chess meets Wednesdays at 1pm. For experienced players looking for matches.

Tech Help: Drop by or call to make an appointment for one-on-one help with a mobile device or laptop.

Book a Librarian: do you need help researching? Would you like a 1-on-1 session on using the library catalogue or digital books and audiobooks? Want to work on your information literacy? Let’s meet!

The library has stocked period products in the washroom for a couple years now. We accept donations of items or money to support this. Thank you!

The South Cowichan Library in the Mill Bay Centre is open:

10am - 8pm, Monday and Tuesday

10am - 5pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

Find out more at virl.bc.ca and at www.facebook.com/VIRLSouthCowichan

Shawnigan Focus Weather — May 2025

*Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network and Weather Underground
Reported by Grant Treloar*

	May Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Butler Road		Discovery School		Museum		Shawnigan Average	
		2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
Average High	17.2	19	18.7	18.6	18.4	18.8	18.5	20.0	18.6	19.1	18.6
Average Low	7.0	7.2	6.9	5.0	4.4	7.2	6.6	8.3	6.8	6.9	6.2
Extreme High	33.9	28.6	28.2	28.5	27.9	28.3	28.7	29.0	28.5	28.6	28.3
Extreme Low	-3.9	3.0	2.0	0.5	-0.7	2.9	1.3	4.9	1.6	2.8	1.1
Precipitation	50.6	56.6	34.9	44.8	22.7	43.7	20.7	32.8	22.1	44.5	25.1
Days w precip	14	14	12	15	13	14	9	11	10	14	11
Year Precip	591.7	606.0	718.1	490.5	601.0	461.8	546.9	421.4	549.7	494.9	603.9

2025 Rank since 1914: 25th warmest, 44th wettest

Lake Readings	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25
Temperature	14°	16°	16°	16°
Temperature 2024	13°	19°	15°	15°
Surface Elevation	116.33m	116.28m	116.28m	116.23m
Elevation 2024	116.44m	116.38m	116.33m	116.31m

Comments

May 2025 had a pattern of a few days of sun, followed by one or two days of clouds and showers. The longest stretch without any rain was 4 days.

Warmest day was on the the 28th, which was the hottest since lasr September 5th. There were 10 days of temperatures of 20° or more. Coldest night was on the 4th with readings hovering around 3°. At the end of the month there were 6 straight days when the nighttime readings did not fall below 10°. Good for tomatoes....

Monthly averages were slighty warmer for temperature and close to normal for rainfall.

So far the yearly total for rainfall is running about 70% of normal. Summer forecasts indicate below average precipitation and above average temperatures.

The lake levels are now being controlled by the weir at the north end of the lake. Weekly readings will average a drop of an inch or so into October.

Longest day of the year is set for Jue 20th (16:08:52). The sunset acutally remains its latest at 9:21 PM for a full week from the 22nd until the 28th. For the rest of the month of June the days shorten by less than a minute each day.

Sunshine, Sunscreen, and Salmon: Keeping Shawnigan Lake Smiling

Bryn Wyka
Shawnigan Basin Society

Ah, summer in Shawnigan Lake—a time for sun-soaked afternoons, refreshing dips, and the eternal quest to avoid looking like a lobster. But before you slather on that sunscreen, let’s dive into a pressing issue: protecting our beloved lake and its aquatic inhabitants from harmful chemicals.

The Slippery Truth About Sunscreens

Recent discussions in nearby Lake Cowichan have spotlighted the environmental impact of certain sunscreen ingredients. The BC Conservation Foundation has urged the town to consider banning the sale of sunscreens containing chemicals like oxybenzone, octinoxate, avobenzone, octocrylene, octisalate, and enzacamene. These substances—along with formulations using

nanoparticles of zinc or titanium—can disrupt the delicate balance of freshwater ecosystems, affecting fish and other organisms.

Mineral Sunscreens: A Ray of Hope

So, what’s a sun-loving, lake-swimming individual to do? Enter mineral (or physical) sunscreens. Unlike their chemical counterparts, these use ingredients like non-nano zinc oxide or non-nano titanium dioxide to reflect UV rays. They’re less likely to wash off into the water and are generally considered safer for aquatic life. Just make sure to double-check labels for the “non-nano” distinction—those little particles make a big difference.

Local Love for the Lake

Here in Shawnigan Lake, we might not have a sunscreen bylaw (yet), but

we do have a deep love for our natural surroundings. The lake is a gathering place for families, swimmers, paddlers, and the occasional curious dog who thinks he’s part fish. Our community already champions environmental stewardship through initiatives like the Shawnigan Basin Society, which focuses on watershed health, and local groups who organize shoreline clean-ups and educational events. It’s a great reminder that while policy is powerful, people power is pretty awesome too.

Got a local business? Consider stocking river-safe sunscreen or putting up friendly signage about eco-sun habits. Just a few small steps can ripple out (pun fully intended) into a big difference.

Your Role in Protecting Shawnigan Lake

While Shawnigan Lake

hasn’t implemented a sunscreen ban, that doesn’t mean we can’t take proactive steps. Here’s how you can help:

- Choose Wisely: Opt for mineral or physical sunscreens that contain only non-nano zinc oxide or non-nano titanium dioxide. Avoid chemical ingredients like oxybenzone, octinoxate, avobenzone, octocrylene, octisalate, enzacamene, and anything labeled as containing nanoparticles.
- Cover Up: Go full fashion-forward with wide-brimmed hats, polarized sunglasses, UPF-rated clothing, and shade umbrellas. You’ll look great and use less sunscreen.
- Spread the Word: Let friends and family in on the scoop about sunscreen and lake

health. Bonus points if you rhyme it.

- Support Local: Purchase eco-friendly sunscreens (Masons) and sun shirts (Masons, Mill Bay Island Water store) from companies who are committed to protecting our lake. Sunscreen and community spirit in one! (the SBS website will be updated with additional vendors as they onboard)

In Conclusion

Protecting Shawnigan Lake is a community effort. By making informed choices about the products we use, we can ensure that our lake remains a vibrant, healthy ecosystem for generations to come. So, next time you reach for that sunscreen, remember: a little mindfulness goes a long way in keeping our waters - and our fish - happy.

Shawnigan Lake Museum

Lori Treloar
Executive Director

Great progress is being made to ready the museum for re-opening. We couldn't have done it without the help of many amazing volunteers – Pieter, Raymond, Jackie, Grant, Jill, Helmut, Erin and Gary. There is a lot of action happening every day. With their help, the museum area has been cleaned, most parts have been repainted, exhibits have been refreshed and new exhibits installed.

Also, the Kinsman Club from Duncan has been working on gorgeous library shelving for our Community Living Room, and installation will happen soon. We are grateful to the Kinsman for their generous donation of time and materials. Tony, another volunteer, has catalogued most of our extensive collection of history books that will

live on the new shelves. We continue to test the new space with small events, including the opening of an exhibit about Asian stories in Shawnigan, put together with a grant from the BC Arts Council. On May 10th, we held a very successful Crab and Prawn dinner with the help of Chef Doc Walton, who donated his time to make it happen. One of our donors covered the cost of the food. 50 people attended and it was a great 'night out' in Shawnigan.

In the last few years, we have contributed to a project, written and directed by Jenn Strom, for Knowledge Network, about the life of EJ Hughes. The museum will be included in the film, and we are excited that there will be some screenings in the museum theatre when it is done. More details to come...

We did a call out on Facebook for help to build a small split rail fence (barrier) around our tree exhibit, and people came out of the blue to offer their time and materials. It is very heartwarming to get this community support for the museum. Thank you to everyone who has stepped up to help with the museum expansion and reorganization!

Over the next few months, we will continue to have a few test events in the space, and some opening hours before we officially re-open. If you are interested in Celtic monsters, Myths and Legends, Lois Thompson will be giving a talk on June 20th at 1:00, followed by coffee.

This event is by donation. Please register by

Oooh sooo....close!



We have been very busy working to get the museum ready for re-opening.

We hope that it will be sometime in June.

There are new exhibits, including
Asian Stories in Shawnigan
and more surprises.

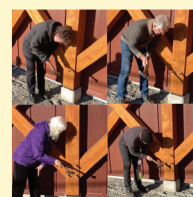
Museum Opening Celebration

Saturday, July 26

(mark your calendar - watch for details)



Meet me at the museum!



emailing: museum@shawniganlakemuseum.com

Camp Pringle Celebrates 75 Years — Join Us for a Community Celebration!

Shawn Watts
Manager, Camp Pringle

Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 3, 2025, as Camp Pringle celebrates 75 incredible years of adventure, connection, and community spirit — and you're invited!

After a few quiet seasons, Camp Pringle is thrilled to return with a summer of programming in 2025! To celebrate our comeback and the vibrant community that has made Camp Pringle special for 75 years, we're hosting a special Anniversary Celebration and Community BBQ.

Join us as we welcome back alumni, families, neighbors, and friends—old and new—



for a day of food, fun, and shared memories by the lake.

"This is a celebration for everyone who has ever been part of Camp Pringle, and for those who want to be part of its future," says Sue Ko, Board Chair of Camp Pringle. "We're thrilled to welcome the community back for a day of food, music, and shared stories."

Here's what to expect:

- A delicious BBQ lunch
- Live music and performances
- Family-friendly games and activities
- Camp tours, storytelling, and a look at our exciting plans for the future

Community groups are warmly invited to participate. If you're part of a choir, dance group, musical act, or local organization, we'd love to include you. This is a great opportunity to showcase local talent and celebrate what makes our community so special.

For 75 years, Camp Pringle has been a place where friendships are made,

memories are shared, and lives are changed. Join us in honoring that legacy—and looking ahead to the next 75 years.

To learn more or get involved, please visit

camppringle.ca or contact us at admin@camppringle.ca | 250-743-2189.

We hope you'll join us lakeside for a meaningful day of connection, reflection, and celebration.



Opinion

Katherine Strongwind
Sixties Scoop Adoptee and Activist

re: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/sixties-scoop-immigration-1.7541323>

I am deeply concerned about the ongoing detention of James Mast, a Cree Sixties Scoop

survivor, who was arrested while attempting to return to his adoptive family in the United States. His case highlights the complex and painful legacy of the Sixties Scoop, which displaced thousands of Indigenous children from their families and communities. Many of us struggle to obtain our original birth documents,

making it difficult to obtain the legal documentation necessary to cross the border.

James Mast's journey is one of resilience, but his current situation underscores the challenges Sixties Scoop Survivors continue to face when navigating cross-border rights. I urge the relevant authorities to expedite

the review of his case and ensure that his rights as an Indigenous person are upheld. His story is a stark reminder of the need for greater awareness and action to support Sixties Scoop survivors and Indigenous communities affected by historical injustices.

James Mast deserves to be reunited with his family

without unnecessary legal barriers. I stand in solidarity with him and all those advocating for justice in his case, and I call on all of our leadership to implement measures to recognize Sixties Scoop Survivors and adoptees who may not have access to the necessary birth documents for identification cards.

Henry Martin Monk July 26, 1915 to May 20, 1945

Ross Carter
(The Carter family has owned the former Robertson house since 1962)

This is a brief story of a Shawnigan WW2 soldier who met his tragic end in the Netherlands on May 20, 1945, eighty years ago.

It was possibly the best day of his life. Henry, with his new wife and baby, was spending a nine-day leave in her hometown of Hove, England when the end of the war was declared on May 8th, 1945 (VE Day). There was a parade and street parties popped up everywhere but I imagine there was no greater rejoicing than was in Henry and Marjorie's hearts. Henry had survived both the Italian and Netherland campaigns where over 13,000 Canadian soldiers had died. However, their happiness was short-lived as the last day of Henry's life happened 12 days later.

Soon after, Henry rejoined his Regiment back in the Netherlands and, along with

some Allied soldiers, was in the town of Nieuwesluis doing some postwar cleanup duty. One afternoon, they were at an ammunition dump unloading ammunition from a truck containing artillery shells and incendiary rockets when one of the rockets exploded setting off a chain reaction. Multiple explosions occurred obliterating the truck, a house and the nearby dyke was severely cratered and almost breached. Four UK soldiers and the lone Canadian soldier, Henry, were killed as well as two Dutch men. The explosion was so devastating there were no possessions of Henry's to send back to his wife. Henry was 29 years old and any dreams of happiness together died along with him.

Henry wasn't born at Shawnigan Lake but had come there from New Westminster, BC when he was less than 2 years old. His mother, Bertha Monk nee Robertson, had died in April 1917 due to complications from childbirth with her next son, Ivan. As a result of his

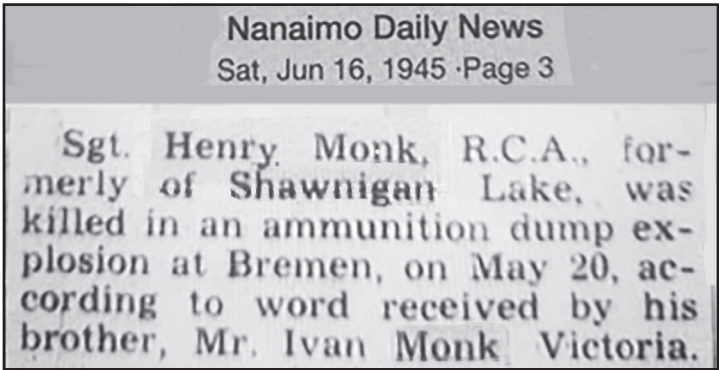
mother dying, Henry, along with his older sister Helen and younger brother Ivan, came to live at Shawnigan Lake with their maternal grandmother Rebekah Robertson. Henry's father, Henry J. Monk, was fighting in Europe at the time of his wife's death. He died seven months after her, in November 1917, at the Battle of Passchendaele and was buried in Belgium.

Henry's grandmother, Rebekah and her husband Henry (Hank) Robertson lived in their two-storey lakeside home on the west side of Shawnigan Lake, across from the Strathcona Hotel. Hank worked at the Shawnigan Lake Lumber Co. and Rebekah, while raising their family, oversaw the farming activities on their property. The Robertsons already had a full household when the three grandkids arrived in 1917, as their remaining five children (Bertha the eldest having died) still all lived at home.

When Henry and his brother Ivan were older, they went to school at St. Ann's, where they boarded, and then to Cobble Hill High School where Henry graduated in 1935 and Ivan in 1936. The brothers moved to Victoria where Henry became a lumber grader at a sawmill before he enlisted on September 12, 1939, two days after Canada declared war. Henry initially served

in Canada but was then stationed near Brighton, England from February 1942 until June 1943. It was during his time there that he met and married Marjorie Lillian Copley and they had a child together named Patrick Henry Monk. Henry was

with the Royal Canadian Artillery in Italy from July 1943 to March 1945 when he was moved to Northwest Europe until his death in May 1945. He's buried in the Netherlands and is about 200 kilometres from his father's resting place.



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- Canadian Forces
- CVRD
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Shawnigan Focus

Shawnigan Lake Fire Department

Phone: (250)743-2096 Non-emergency: (250) 812-8030
shawniganfire@shaw.ca

Mission Statement: To provide fire suppression, medical aid and rescue services to the community. To protect life, property and environment through prevention, public education and emergency response.

May 2025 Report

Department Members Attended 30 Incidents in May

- Department Members Attended 30 Incidents in May
- Thursday, May 1 - 1st Responder off Terrace Rd
- Friday, May 2 - 1st Responder off Worthington Rd
- Friday, May 2 - 1st Responder off Wallbank Rd
- Saturday, May 3 – Bush Fire on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Saturday, May 3 – Burning Complaint on Skylar Cir
- Sunday, May 4 – Assistance on Renfrew Rd
- Monday, May 5 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- Monday, May 5 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, May 6 - 1st Responder off Colman Rd
- Tuesday, May 6 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- Wednesday, May 7 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- Saturday, May 10 - 1st Responder off Silvermine Rd
- Saturday, May 10 – Burning Complaint on Berger Rd
- Sunday, May 11 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, May 12 – MVI on Cameron-Taggart Rd
- Wednesday, May 14 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Friday, May 16 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- Sunday, May 18 – Alarms Activated on Fernridge Dr
- Sunday, May 18 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- Sunday, May 18 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, May 19 - 1st Responder off Treit Rd
- Wednesday, May 21 – Alarms Activated on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Wednesday, May 21 – Assistance on Radway Rd
- Friday, May 23 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- Friday, May 23 – MVI on Renfrew Rd
- Monday, May 26 - 1st Responder off Sooke Lake Rd
- Monday, May 26 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, May 27 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, May 27 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, May 27 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE



**SATURDAY
JUNE 14TH
10AM - 2PM**

**FIRE STATION #1
1645 SHAWNIGAN - MILL BAY RD**

DEMONSTRATIONS:

10:00 - OPEN HOUSE STARTS
10:15 - WILDFIRE & FIRE SMART
10:45 - FIRE ATTACK
11:00 - AUTO EXTRICATION
11:30 - FIRE EXTINGUISHER
12:00 - TECHNICAL RESCUE
12:15 - WILDFIRE & FIRE SMART
12:45 - FIRE ATTACK
1:00 - AUTO EXTRICATION
1:15 - FIRE EXTINGUISHER
1:30 - TECHNICAL RESCUE

DISPLAYS:

- NEW FIRE ENGINE 2
- FIRE BOAT
- ATV & TRAILER
- CONFINED SPACE RESCUE
- SWIFT WATER RESCUE

FOR THE KIDS:

- BOUNCY CASTLE
- FACE PAINTING
- SHOOT THE HOSE
- COLOURING CONTEST

HAMBURGERS, HOTDOGS &
DRINKS

Colouring Contest: bring your entry to the Fire Hall at the Open House on June 14th or email to: shawniganfire@shaw.ca



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life on fire.
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who fan
your flames.

Rumi

The Walter Hall Father's Day Derby Story - 41 Years of Family Fishing Fun

Jeff Lydiatt
Royal Canadian Legion

The Walter Hall Community Fishing Derby is celebrating its 41st year, a tradition that started in 1984, as the "Family Legion Fishing Derby." Founded by Walter Hall, the event has evolved over the years, including a name change to "The Walter Hall Memorial Fishing Derby" in 2008 and later dropping "Memorial" from its title.



Hosted by the Mill Bay Lions and the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 134, in Shawnigan Lake, BC, the derby has a long history of community involvement. In the past, members from both organizations would ask for prizes from local merchants in exchange for promotion on the website. The event featured a backyard BBQ with cheeseburgers for adults and hot dogs for youths, along with chips and pop. The entry fee back then was \$25 for

adults and \$7.50 for youths, with cash prizes for the largest salmon and trout/bass categories. Thanks to Go Fish BC, a BC freshwater fishing society registered in 2003, participants didn't need a license for freshwater fishing during the Father's Day weekend.

The COVID-19 pandemic and a salmon fishing closure led to changes in the derby. With local merchants facing financial struggles, the Legion opted not to ask for prize support and instead

used the salmon cash prizes to buy other awards. The derby also introduced a catch-and-release option using a recognized formula.

This year, the Walter Hall Community Fishing Derby is set for Saturday June 14th, 2025, and we are changing our prizes up! We are putting our traditional cash prizes to new use, investing them in a wider array of amazing physical prizes that you will really want to reel in. Registration is a bargain at \$20 for adults and \$10 for youths, and you can sign up online or at the Legion bar on Fridays and Saturdays. We are focusing on freshwater trout and bass from Shawnigan Lake only - with prizes awarded with priority to those who weigh in a fish. And to fuel your fishing adventures, all ticket holders can enjoy a delicious lunch at the backyard BBQ. Join us for a fin-tastic day with your little ones on Father's Day weekend!

ANNUAL WALTER HALL COMMUNITY FISHING DERBY



sponsored by :
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
MALAHAT BRANCH #134
& **MILL BAY LIONS CLUB**



Saturday, June 14, 2025

- Register @ Legion Bar or Website @ www.malahatlegion.ca
- Website Registrations close Thursday night, June 12
- Bar Registrations close Friday night, June 13

EVERYONE WELCOME

DERBY REGISTRATION includes BBQ TICKET

Adults	13YRS & OLDER	\$20.00
Youths	12YRS & YOUNGER	\$10.00

BBQ by MILL BAY LIONS CLUB

Adult : Cheeseburger on a Bun, Cole Slaw, Bag of Chips
Youth : Hot Dog, Bag of Chips, Pop or Juice

BC FAMILY FISHING DAY - NO LICENCE REQUIRED*

*Unless you plan to retain any species that must be recorded on your license
www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/fish/regulations

HOW TO WIN!

- Weigh-In at the Government Wharf - Shawnigan Lake
- Between 10 AM - 2 PM
- Largest Trout or Bass WINS Adult or Youth
- Only ONE PRIZE per person

WEIGH-IN CLOSING @ 2PM SHARP

PRIZES

This year, we're changing things up - NO CASH PRIZES!
Instead we're investing \$750 in even BETTER PRIZES!
Catch a Fish! Show it Off! Claim your spot at the PRIZE TABLE!
First Come! First Served!



IT IS THE FISHERMEN'S RESPONSIBILITY TO READ THE DERBY RULES
A copy is posted on the Front Bulletin Board & Legion Sports Bulletin Board
RCL#134 - Malahat | 1625 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Road | 250-743-4621

The Great Shawnigan Community Clean Up

"A Shawnigan Clean Up Day Success!" Thank you to the community members, students and families who came out to restore the beauty of Shawnigan - and to our local businesses for their support.

"You Are Our Heroes!"

Shawnigan Lake Post Office



P.A.N. Disposal



Aitken & Fraser
GENERAL STORE



Shawnigan Jen's Sushi & Teriyaki

Thank You
to our Event Partners and Sponsors!



Shawnigan Lake
Rotary
EcoClub



Kim's Gingerbread
- homemade with love -
A Taste of Shawnigan Since 2006



Meet
me at the
museum!



For Event Photos and MORE go to www.ShawniganRotaryEcoClub.ca

Kim Barnard
Shawnigan Rotary Eco Club

We have huge gratitude to our Business Sponsors, and to those that Show Up and Do it! Here are only a few of the highlights:

- We were alerted to a large dumping ground at a trail head beside the road. Mattresses, garbage and drywall was dumped to the extent it was way beyond our community clean-up. We contacted Mosaic Forest Management, and although it was not on their land, they pulled out the big guns with a dump truck and excavator to remove and dispose all of it. We hope and pray that this site is now left pristine and the dirt bikers that use this staging area will help us monitor it in the future.
- St. Johns Academy was out picking litter along our roadsides for several days during Earth week and we know many of you would have tooted your horns in support and felt inspired to join the clean-up efforts in your own way.
- Many locals chose an area to clean-up

at a time that suited them and brought their garbage to the dumpster including one resident who spent 4 hours cleaning the west side road as a birthday present to herself.

- A retired raft named Rusty was used by a large team of homeowners to collect 3 truckloads of floating debris in our lake - including many styrofoam dock floats that had languished for years.
- A retired couple who lived and ran a business in Shawnigan Lake for 40 years came from their current home in Cowichan Bay to launch their canoe and clean up the shoreline by Old Mill Park. Obviously Shawnigan continues to be in their hearts.

We are a small-but-mighty environmentally-based Rotary club looking for new members.

On Saturday, July 5 we will host a bottle drive at the Black Swan overflow parking - bring your empties to support our work!

To find out more about our club or events: www.ShawniganRotaryEcoClub.ca

Hang a Sock Off Your Dock

Sheila Bell-Irving

Hi Shawnigan, we need your help again... no blocking trucks

required, nothing illegal, no RCMP involvement - that was **Save Our Shwanigan Water Part 1**. Nothing

but good clean fun participating in a science experiment to clean our water using charcoal. Think Brita filter.

Save Our Shawnigan Water Part 2 - the solutions. Got algae? Got milfoil? Does your water look cloudy or smell fishy?

the soil's ability to retain moisture. You water your garden less and feed your soil, plus the forest floor is damp so to prevent fires.

Hang a Sock Off Your Dock.

Charcoal takes care of that. It absorbs the heavy metals and nutrients from runoff off septic fields, fertilized lawns, general agriculture, soil importation into the watershed and road drippings. *See August Focus 2023. Volume 14, issue 8, front page.*

We are using socks, yes socks, filled with a bit of sand for weight and charcoal. A string is attached so you can hang a sock off your dock, about 48in deep. That's it.

Now we leave the sock to do its magic. Charcoal has a magnetic charge that attracts toxins and nutrients from its environment. It holds the toxins and will release the nutrients as biochar into your soil. Watch your sock get fuzzy and attract fish who like to nibble.

After a year, take your sock out of the lake to empty the contents into your garden or forest. This biochar is now a fertilizer that increases

Don't have a dock? Got a creek? Got a ditch? Put a sock in it.

Pesky oil stain? Sprinkle the charcoal on the pretty little oil rainbows to capture and hold it.

So simple. Be part of the solution to our pollution.

Socks will be available from me...Shemama laketrust@shaw.ca In front of my property 1784 East Shawnigan, and on my floating log booms across from Memory Island east side...you can't miss them. Look for the **Save Our Shawnigan Water Part 2** signs.

Please remember to take before and after pictures of your sock in its environment. Watch for future updates in the Shawnigan Focus or on our Facebook page: *Save Our Shawnigan Water part 2* the solutions.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead



Canada Day
July 1st 2025

1625 SHAWNIGAN-MILL BAY RD

 **Mill Bay Lions Pancake Breakfast \$6.00**
8:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Legion 

Malahat Legion Cake & Live Music
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Free Admission



Shawnigan Lake...CELEBRATES



Canada Day 2025

11:00AM - 2:00PM

Tuesday, July 1

Elsie Miles Community Park

COME & ENJOY!

Live Entertainment • Inflatable Games • Crafts • Food Trucks and more...

It's a PARADE!!

Joining the Parade

11:00AM : Assembly at Cairn Park - across from the Legion

Watching the Parade

11:30AM : Leaving Cairn Park for Elsie Miles Community Park

FAMILY FUN FOR ALL AGES!!



Flag Raising @ NOON
featuring
O Canada by the
Pacific Edge Chorus

For updates watch our website :

www.shawniganlakecommunityassociation.ca

Sponsored by the SLCA

Shawnigan Lake Community Association



Supported by the Province of British Columbia



Road work in the Village

COMMUNITY GROUPS

- **CVRD Director for Shawnigan Lake Area B**
Sierra.Acton@cprd.bc.ca
- **Area B Parks Advisory and Area B Advisory Planning Commission**
<https://www.cprd.ca/list.aspx#> (sign up for meeting notifications)
- **CVRD Public Input to the whole Board**
LegislativeServices@cprd.bc.ca
- **Shawnigan Improvement District**
2nd Monday of each month 7 pm at #1 Fire Hall
- **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Contact us for information: 250-743-8675
museum@shawniganlakemuseum.com (web): shawniganlakemuseum.com
- **Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA)**
For info: (web): www.thesra.ca
- **Shawnigan Lake Community Association (SLCA)**
Contact: bburr@shaw.ca
- **Shawnigan Basin Society**
#102-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. Contact: info@shawniganbasinsociety.org
- **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Contact: ysagssl@gmail.com (web): blog.ysag.ca
- **South Cowichan Community Policing (SCCP)**
Contact: 250-929-7222(web): southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca
- **Royal Canadian Legion Malahat District Branch 134**
Events: (web) malahatlegion.ca/upcoming-legion-events
Contact: (web) malahatlegion.ca/contact-us
250-643-4621
- **Cowichan South Arts Guild (CSAG)**
Contact: hello@cowichansouthartsguild.com (web): cowichansouthartsguild.com
- **Shawnigan Quilters** - Wed. 9-2 at Lion's Hall (former Sylvania School)
- **Rotary Club of Shawnigan Lake Eco Club**
Meeting Info & Contact: ShawniganRotaryEcoClub.ca
- **Malahat Lions Club**
Contact: 250-743-0569

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**Cheap Ad
Rates!!**

Contact Kim:
shawniganfocusads@gmail.com

What Is It? Where Is It? Why Is It?



*One lucky respondent with the correct
answer will be randomly selected
to win two Specialty Coffees.
Thanks to Shawnigan House Coffee
for their support!*

Congratulations!

To Jenny Rhodes,
who correctly identified
the Water Tower on
Jersey Road.

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Shawnigan Cemetery

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Sunday, June 15

PHONE: 250 743 2144 FAX: 250 743 7883

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Summer Fun!