

March 31, 2021

NEW TRAFFIC AND PARKING RULES AT BELCARRA REGIONAL PARK AND BUNTZEN LAKE STARTING APRIL 1

As summer approaches and the region's residents venture out to Belcarra Regional Park and Buntzen Lake Recreation Area, seasonal traffic control measures are being implemented to reduce traffic jams and lessen negative impacts on nearby residents.

Traffic regulations as summarized below will be enforced by Metro Vancouver, BC Hydro, City of Port Moody, Village of Anmore, or Village of Belcarra. Many of these restrictions will come into effect on April 1 and remain in place until the fall.

Local parks experienced unprecedented demand in 2020 and, as a result, traffic control measures were implemented to ensure visitor safety and enjoyment. Last year, Belcarra Regional Park recorded nearly 1.2 million visitations — a 52-per-cent increase from the year previous.

This year, traffic and parking restrictions will be accompanied by enhanced transit service to improve accessibility to Belcarra Regional Park, which includes Sasamat Lake, White Pine Beach, and the Belcarra Picnic Area, as well as Buntzen Lake.

Traffic and Parking Rules

Parking Considerations:

- No public parking; permit parking only in the Village of Belcarra (year round).
- Reduced public parking in the Village of Anmore (year round).
- No parking on Bedwell Bay Road within the City of Port Moody, and the Village of Belcarra, near Sasamat Lake.
- Parking lots at the [Buntzen Lake Recreation Area](#) operate on a first-come basis, and entrance gates will be closed once the lots are full (gates open at 8 a.m. but closing times vary throughout the year).

Pay Parking:

- Pay parking will be in effect at [Belcarra Regional Park](#), which includes Sasamat Lake, White Pine Beach, and the Belcarra Picnic Area, from April 1 to September 30, 2021, enforced by Metro Vancouver. When the lots are full the gates will be closed.
- The cost is \$2 per hour from 10 a.m. to closing, with no time limit. Parking is free from when the park opens at 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. daily.

Traffic Restrictions:

- Jug Island Beach Trail access only from Tum-tumay-whueton Drive and parking at the Picnic Area in Belcarra Regional Park.
- Enhanced presence of bylaw enforcement officers to manage vehicle lineups along Sunnyside Road and to reduce traffic heading north when the parking gates are closed.

Alternative Transportation:

Visitors are encouraged to walk, cycle, rideshare with family or friends in compliance with public health orders, or use public transportation as alternative methods to access local parks and greenways.

TransLink is increasing service to several parks in the region, including the following routes:

- Belcarra Regional Park (White Pine Beach, #150)
- Belcarra Regional Park (Picnic Area, #182)
- Buntzen Lake (main parking lot area, #179)

Enforcement:

Bylaw staff will patrol the parking lots and roadways around and leading to Belcarra Regional Park and Buntzen Lake Recreation Area. Vehicles that are parked illegally, blocking gates or emergency routes, or in a way that creates a hazard, including on Sunnyside Road leading to Buntzen Lake, may be ticketed and towed at the owners' expense.

COVID-19 Safety Considerations:

Visitors are asked to follow all current COVID-19 public health orders, including proper hand hygiene and physical distancing guidelines. Residents are encouraged to stay close to home this summer and only visit recreation sites in their communities, and to stay home if they are feeling sick.

Media contact:

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