



what's on **WOODSTOCK**

March 2026

Your Go-To Community Magazine



2026 ELECTION

Information night planned for prospective candidates.

WASTE COLLECTION

Early data shows organics collection is diverting waste.

CELEBRATING WOMEN

We are featuring some of the notable women of Woodstock.



Live Fully at Cedarview

At Cedarview Retirement Living, we believe the best chapters are still being written — a place where purpose, joy, and freedom come together so you can live each day fully, on your own terms.

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- Bi-weekly housekeeping
- Community Bus
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CEDARVIEW



what's on **WOODSTOCK**

MARCH 2026

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Photo by Andrew Norris



Bernadette Smith, 1952, Woodstock Museum NHS

NEXT EDITION

The April 2026 edition of WoW will be delivered with Canada Post beginning on March 26.

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What's on Woodstock Magazine is published by the City's Marketing and Communications Department. A total of 24,000 copies are delivered to the residents and businesses of Woodstock.

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Editorial written by City of Woodstock staff. Ad deadline for April 2026 edition: March 4, 2026. Email wow@flyingsquirreldesign.com or visit www.cityofwoodstock.ca/wow to book your advertising today.

City of Woodstock Phone Directory Contacts

Art Gallery.....	519-539-6761
City Hall.....	519-539-1291
Civic Centre Arena.....	519-421-3484 x 4301
Goff Hall Rental.....	519-421-3484 x 4301
Library.....	519-539-4801
Market Centre Rental.....	519-537-8411
Museum.....	519-537-8411
Para-Transit Services.....	519-539-1291 x 2510
Parks & Recreation.....	519-539-1291 x 4101
Public Works.....	519-539-1291 x 3140 or x 3104
Small Business Centre.....	519-421-2129
Southside Aquatics.....	519-421-POOL (7665)
Southwood Arena.....	519-421-3484 x 4301
Transit Services.....	519-539-1291 x 3102

Event Listings

To have your events listed in the FREE Community Events Calendar in *What's on Woodstock*, please visit cityofwoodstock.ca/wowevents



Thinking of running for office? Here's what you need to know...

The 2026 municipal election will officially get underway this spring when candidates can begin to file their nominations to run for a seat on Woodstock City Council.

"Serving on council is a significant commitment. Elected officials are responsible for making decisions that directly affect the lives of residents in our community," said Jeff Bunn, Manager of Legislative Services, Deputy City Clerk and Returning Officer.

"It's important for candidates to understand the roles and responsibilities of Council and election rules so that they can make an informed decision about running for office."

If you're considering putting your name on the ballot, here's a quick election candidate primer.

Available Positions

Woodstock is part of a two-tier system of government, which means local services are provided by both Oxford County and the City of Woodstock. Local candidates can run for the following positions:

- Mayor
- Deputy Mayor/City-County Councillor
- City-County Councillor
- Four City Councillors

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor/City-County Councillor and City-Councillor serve on both Woodstock City Council and Oxford County Council.

The Deputy Mayor/City-County Councillor is a new position that will take effect for the 2026–2030 term. Previously, Council would appoint an acting mayor at the beginning of each year to serve in place of the mayor when the mayor is absent, unable or unwilling to perform the duties of the role. This new role will eliminate the need to appoint an acting mayor going forward.

Eligibility and Nominations

To be eligible to run in the election, you must be:

- a resident of Woodstock or a non-resident owner or tenant of land in the municipality or the spouse of such non-resident owner or tenant
- a Canadian citizen and at least 18 years old
- not legally prohibited from voting and not disqualified by any legislation from holding municipal office.

Nominations open Friday, May 1 and close Friday, Aug. 21 at 2 p.m. Candidates must submit a completed nomination form with 25 signatures from eligible voters in the municipality to the City Clerk. You will also need to pay a nomination fee of \$100 or \$200 if you are running for mayor.

Nomination packages will be available on the City's website by early April. Candidates will be able to book in-person appointments to file their nominations with the Clerk's Department. Once your nomination has been received, you can begin to campaign.

Resources for Candidates

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing provides a guide for candidates, outlining the nomination and election process as well as campaign finance and advertising rules. An updated guide for 2026 is expected in April.

The City of Woodstock is partnering with the seven other Oxford County municipalities to host a local candidate information session on Thursday, March 26 at 6 p.m. The session will take place virtually and in person in the Council Chambers at the Oxford County Administration Building in Woodstock. New, returning or interested candidates and members of the public are invited to learn more about the roles and responsibilities of council, who is eligible to run, the nomination process, and campaign finance and advertising rules. The session will include presentations from the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and municipal consultant Nigel Bellchamber.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is also hosting a free online workshop series for leaders seeking re-election or first-time aspiring candidates. You can find more information about these and other resources at www.cityofwoodstock.ca/election.

Election Workers Wanted!

Help support municipal election on Oct. 26, 2026, by becoming an election worker! To be eligible for this paid position, you must be of legal working age and have basic computer proficiency. For more details and to apply, please visit www.cityofwoodstock.ca/electionworkers.

2026 Municipal and School Board Election Candidate Information Session

Date: Thursday, March 26, 2026

Time: 6 p.m.

Location:

County Council Chambers
Oxford County Administration Building
21 Reeve St., Woodstock

Open to new, returning or interested candidates and members of the public

Learn more about:

- Roles and responsibilities of council
- Who is eligible to run
- Nomination process
- Campaign finance and advertising rules



Waste Collection Update

It's been two months since the new curbside garbage, organics and recycling programs took effect in Woodstock.

The City's Public Works department is continuing to work with Oxford County, Circular Materials and Emterra Environmental to help residents adjust to the changes.

"We know this has been a challenging transition, especially with the changes to the collection schedule over the holidays and the winter storms at the beginning of January. We'd like to thank everyone for their patience and cooperation," said Jeff Molenhuis, Director of Public Works.

Green Bin Wins

Staff have already seen a positive impact from the new green bin program. Approximately 92 tonnes of organic waste were collected within the first month of 2026.

That's the equivalent of 11,500 bags of garbage that would've otherwise gone to the landfill, which is not only good for the environment, but also means residents can use fewer bag tags.

Collection Stats: Jan. 2–Feb. 4, 2026



564 tonnes of garbage collected



92 tonnes of organic waste collected

EnviroDepot Hours

As of Jan. 10, updated winter hours for the EnviroDepot are now in effect. The EnviroDepot is currently open on Saturdays only from 7:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. for large items, household hazardous waste, construction materials. Recycling and Styrofoam can no longer be accepted under the new province-wide recycling program. Summer hours will begin April 1. Visit www.cityofwoodstock.ca/envirodepot for details and a full list of acceptable materials.

Resources and Support

The new 2026 City Services Calendar was mailed out to residents in early February. Copies are also available online, along with schedules, zone maps and helpful guides at www.cityofwoodstock.ca/waste.

If you have any other questions or concerns about curbside collection, here's an overview of who to contact when:

City of Woodstock

Contact for:

- Residential garbage and organics collection and missed pickups
- EnviroDepot

519-539-2382 ext. 3104 or 3102
publicworks@cityofwoodstock.ca
www.cityofwoodstock.ca/waste

Oxford County

Contact for:

- Business, Commercial, Institutional (BCI) recycling
- Bag tags
- Schedule changes

519-539-9800 ext. 3159
info@wasteline.ca
www.wasteline.ca

Circular Materials

Contact Emterra Environmental for:

- Recycling bin inquiries
- Missed collections
- What you can recycle

1-888-597-1541
customercareont@emterra.ca

For other questions or concerns about the recycling program, contact Circular Materials:

1-877-667-2626
customerservice@circularmaterials.ca
www.circularmaterials.ca/city-of-woodstock/

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

WNPB SOUTHWOOD WAY, WOODSTOCK

65+ SENIOR COMMUNITY LIVING

1,2,3 Bedroom Market Rent with balconies.

Beautiful new building and amenities, laundry onsite.

1 Bedroom \$1,795 (535-539 SQ FT)

2 Bedrooms \$2,385-\$2,750 (678-850 SQ FT)

3 Bedrooms \$2,900 (860 SQ FT)

Barrier Free Units Available

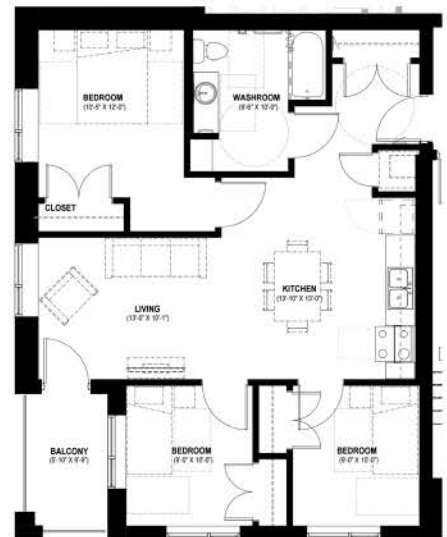
Call or email to schedule a viewing

CALL: 1 (800) 917-0919

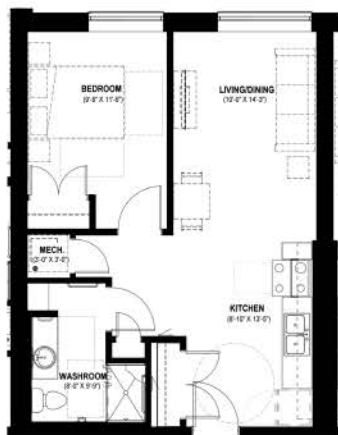
EMAIL: rent@greenbrickpm.ca



3 Bedrooms/Balcony Layout



1 Bedroom Layout



2 Bedrooms/Balcony Layout



BOARD POSITION AVAILABLE

Woodstock Non-Profit Housing Corporation is seeking a volunteer to serve on the board of directors, overseeing operations of four (4) rental buildings in Woodstock.

This organization has been operating community-oriented housing, including rent-geared-to-income, affordable apartments, and market units for over 40 years. WNPB provides housing for seniors (65+) and with a recent partnership at its newest building on Southwood Way, has incorporated housing for mothers with children.

Eligible candidates will work or reside in Woodstock and be available for monthly, in person, board meetings. WNPB is seeking motivated, organized, compassionate, community-minded individuals. This non-profit organization would benefit from an individual interested in ensuring these senior communities continue to operate successfully in the service of residents. Prior director experience, or legal, financial or building systems experience is beneficial but not mandatory.

Please submit your resume and a short bio or cover letter to apply@greenbrickpm.ca with the subject line: WNPB Board



Celebrating Woodstock Women

March 8 is International Women's Day. This year the Woodstock Art Gallery and Woodstock Museum are celebrating some of the notable women who have called Woodstock home.

Florence Carlyle (1865–1923)

Canadian artist Florence Carlyle moved to Woodstock at the age of seven with her family. Carlyle lived in the city until 1890, when she travelled to Paris, France, to study art. She returned periodically to Woodstock throughout her adult life, while also living in France, England and the United States.

Throughout her career, Carlyle worked to establish a presence at home and abroad. Her paintings

were exhibited with the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, the Art Association of Montreal, the Paris Salon and more. Carlyle was elected an associate member of the Royal Canadian Academy in 1897 and a member of the Ontario Society of Artists in 1901. She also supplemented her income as a commercial artist and teacher.

In 1913, Carlyle moved permanently to Crowborough, England, where she lived until her death in 1923. Today her paintings are held in several private and public art collections including the Art Gallery of Ontario, the National Gallery of Canada and the Woodstock Art Gallery.

A selection of Carlyle's work is currently on display for an exhibition at the WAG titled *Florence's Woodstock*. The exhibition explores what her everyday life would have been like in the late 19th and early 20th century.

Carlyle will also be the subject of a lunch and learn talk at the Woodstock Museum on Friday, March 6 from 12–1:30 p.m. Danielle Hoevenaars, Head of Collections at the WAG, will dive into everyday life and culture in the late 19th and early 20th century to illuminate the life and work of this prominent Canadian painter.



'Florence's Woodstock' exhibition at the Woodstock Art Gallery.

Bernadette Smith (1895–1972)

Bernadette Smith was born Bernadette Parkinson on Dec. 25, 1895, in Woodstock. In the 1930s she moved to Ottawa, where she would work in public stenography and did secretarial work. Her experience in the nation's capital would help her pursue a political career when she returned to her hometown.



Bernadette Smith, 1955C, Woodstock Museum NHS

Smith was first elected to city council in 1948. In 1951 she became the first elected female mayor of a city in Canada. She was elected mayor for the next four terms until she was defeated in 1956, but her career in politics wasn't over — Smith served on council 10 more times between 1958 and 1970 and was elected again as mayor in 1960.

Smith was a true trailblazer in local politics. To celebrate the 75th anniversary of her first election as mayor, the Woodstock Museum is presenting a special exhibit on Smith's early life, political career and lasting impact in the community. *Eve of Change: Breaking the Old Boys Club* will be on display until June 20, 2026.

The Museum is also hosting a book club inspired by the exhibit on Tuesday, March 24 from 6:30–8 p.m. The book selection, *Enough* by Kimia Eslah, is a fictional workplace drama set at an Ontario city hall that explores three women's experiences of structural discrimination.

You can learn more about these influential women and register for upcoming events at www.woodstockartgallery.ca and www.woodstockmuseum.ca.



Check out the COW Tales 'Way Back When' contest on page 19 and enter today!

A: Chief Arthur R. Moore.

**Point The Way
BEST U
HEALTH EXPO
2026**

**FREE
ADMISSION**

**Saturday, March 14
11 am - 3 pm**

**Exhibitors & Informative Presentations
Free Refreshments & Snacks**

The Seniors Active Living Fair is being hosted by South Gate Centre in partnership with the Older Adult Centres' Association of Ontario with funding provided by the Government of Ontario.

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FOR ACTIVE ADULTS

OACAO
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La voix des centres pour aînés

Ontario

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FOR ACTIVE ADULTS

191 Old Wellington St. S., Woodstock, ON
519-539-9817
www.southgatectr.com/events

Preventing Soil Pollution

Thanks to Keane, a 12-year-old Woodstock student, for writing this guest column for WEAC.

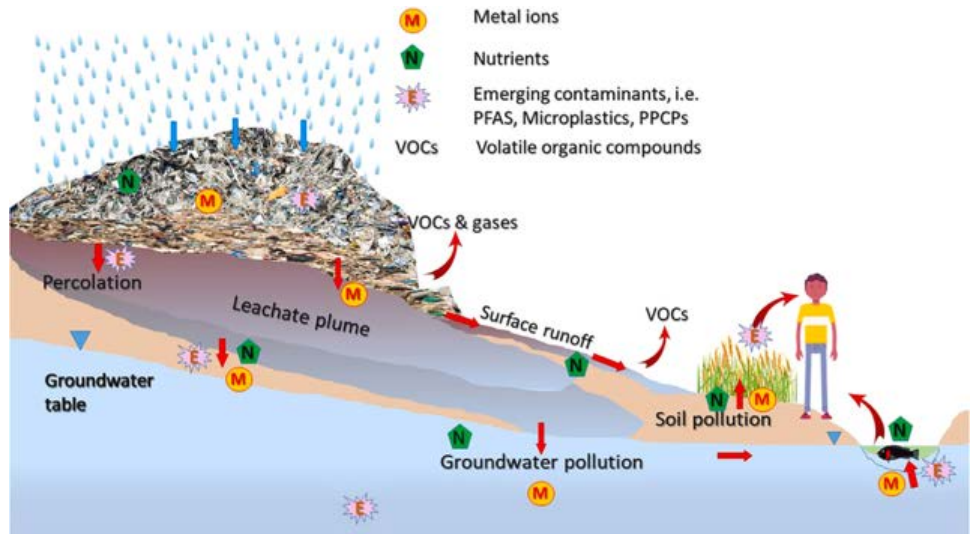
Soil pollution is the contamination of soil with harmful stuff like hazardous waste or just household garbage. Soil pollution causes danger to the soil, water, animals, and the people that rely on the water and plants in the ecosystems around us.

Landfills are a key cause of soil pollution. When rain falls through the trash in the landfills it causes a toxic liquid called leachate. Leachate pollutes the soil, the groundwater (which can be used for wells), lakes and rivers, causing harm to the habitats and animals.

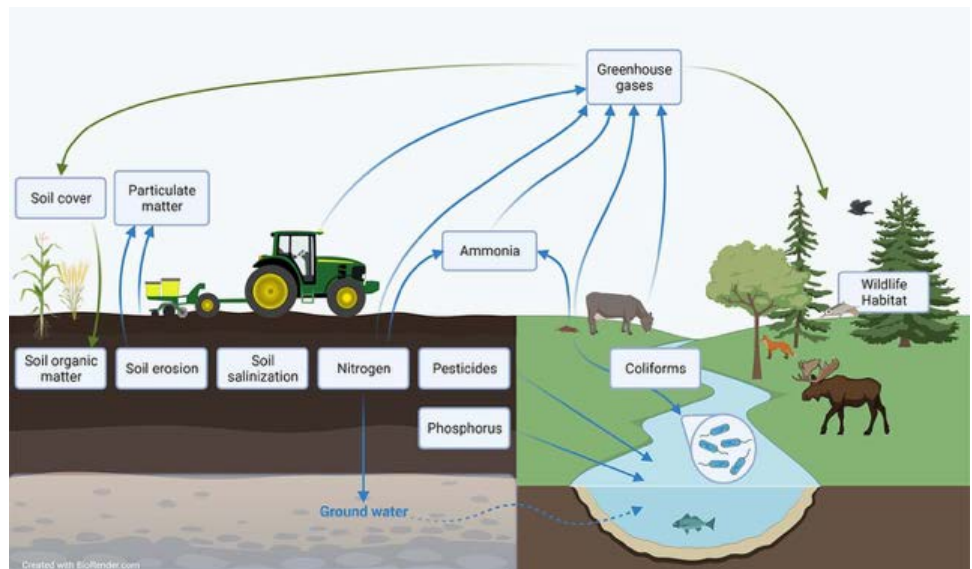
Some farming practices can lead to overuse of harmful chemicals to stop bugs and animals, called pesticides. Fertilizer can hurt the habitats in the soil, like animal tunnels, and can run off fields during rain into waterways, causing an overload of nutrients.

Some ways that we can slow down or prevent the spread of soil pollution are:

- **Composting:** Putting our organic extras like leftover vegetables, meat and even bones into the composter allows us to give back to the earth by letting the organic materials decompose to become a renewable fertilizer, allowing us to grow more plants.



- **Recycling:** Recycling and reusing plastic and paper is a very important step in reducing our ecological footprint. Recycling allows us to keep our good materials and put them back into the system so that we can conserve our natural resources for years to come. It also prevents filling our dumps.
- **Lower Impact Farming:** Using less tilling and planting cover crops can help fix soil and reduce fertilizers needed. This helps improve the habitat of rivers and lakes and protects soil and groundwater.



Wishing you and your family a fun

MARCH BREAK!



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The
Woodstock
Choralaires

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Celebrating 60 Years of Singing

★ Guest Artist, Luciano Decicco ★

Saturday, April 25 at 3 p.m.

Knox Presbyterian Church, Woodstock

www.woodstockchoralaires.com



YOUR
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Event!

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Presents

Wish You The World Travel Show

Saturday, May 9th, 2026

10am - 2pm

Sally Creek Community Centre
330 Lakeview Drive
Woodstock, Ontario



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FOOD, MUSIC, AND FASHION SHOW
FUNDRAISER SUPPORTING WDDS

MAY 7
2026



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875 NELLIS ST | WOODSTOCK



www.runwayofstars.ca



@wddscommunity



WDDS - Woodstock and District
Developmental Services

This is an all-ages licensed event. Tickets are \$65 each or \$650 per table of 10.
Tickets can be purchased online or at 212 Bysham Park during business hours.



City of Woodstock
Curbside Brush Collection
 Apr. 6 - 10, 2026

LARGE CART COLLECTION
Begins March 9

Residents who still have a Herbie Curbie cart can start putting it out for collection starting March 9. Remember, large carts require 3 bag tags, which should be placed loose on top of the garbage so our drivers can see them.

Visit www.cityofwoodstock.ca/waste for details.

Brush Must be:

- At the curb by 7 a.m. on Apr. 6
- Tied in bundles no longer than 2 m
- Less than 50 lbs



Visit www.cityofwoodstock.ca/waste for details.

BIRTHDAY PARTY PACKAGES

Available at Cowan Park Sportsplex

Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m.–12 p.m. or 1–3 p.m. or 4–6 p.m.

Packages include:

- 2 hours on the indoor turf
- 1 program instructor to lead party activities tailored to your interests
- Assistance with set-up and we'll clean-up for you!

Available party activities include soccer, camp games, parachute, laser tag, Nerf guns, imagination playground, and much more! The choice is yours and you are welcome to use as much or as little of the equipment we offer.

\$236.25 for up to 15 participating children | \$315 for 16–30 participating children
 (does not include food or decorations)

Please visit www.recreationwoodstock.ca for more information and to complete a facility request form



Recreation Woodstock



ANNUAL REC & LEISURE Fair

Saturday, March 28, 2026
Oxford Auditorium | 875 Nellis St.
11 a.m.–3 p.m.

Call for Vendors

Local sports teams and leagues, interest groups, community organizations and leisure interests of all kinds.

Space is limited! Sign up now at www.cityofwoodstock.ca/recfair



London Spring Travel Show

Sunday, March 29th | 10:00am - 3:00pm
Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn, London

Looking for that perfect vacation? Want to expand your travel horizons? Then join us at the London Spring Travel Show. Connect with dozens of popular travel companies and our talented team of local travel consultants. See you there!

Scan for more details
and to register



(519) 537 8333
523 Norwich Ave
Woodstock, ON

<http://www.expediacruzises.ca/Woodstock>



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Designed with care:

- Small groups.**
- Thoughtful programming.**
- Supportive educators.**



Full Week Camps \$275
Single Days \$60
9am-4pm each day

Extended Care Options

8-9am \$10 per day or \$45 per week
4-5pm \$10 per day or \$45 per week
Both: \$15 per day or \$80 per week



**FOR MORE
INFORMATION**

learninghive.ca
or scan here



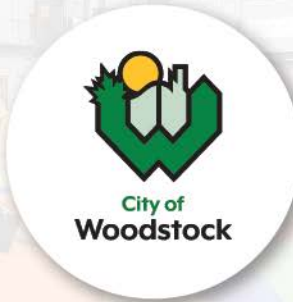


PA DAY & MARCH BREAK CAMPS

COWAN PARK SPORTSPLEX
WOODSTOCK MUSEUM
WOODSTOCK ART GALLERY

Register now for our PA Day
camps for kids aged 4-12

www.recreationwoodstock.ca



Summer Camp

We have a jam-packed, adventure-seeking, fun-filled summer planned for your campers! City of Woodstock summer camps offer fun, friendship and excitement for a wide variety of interests in an environment that supports kids' healthy development. View our camps at a glance on the next page. Visit www.recreationwoodstock.ca for program descriptions, information about our summer camp payment plan and to register.



Check out the COW Tales 'Way Back When' contest on page 19 and enter today!

A: £5,000.



Photo supplied

Recreation Camps



	Age	Featured Activity*	June 29–July 3	July 6–10	July 13–17	July 20–24	July 27–31	Aug 3–7	Aug 10–14	Aug 17–21	Aug 24–28	Aug 31–Sept 4	Fee
Cowan Park Sportsplex 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.													
Cowan Kinder Camp	4 to 5		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$220
Cowan Tykes	6 to 7		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Cowan Juniors	8 to 9		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Cowan Seniors	10 to 12		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
SPECIALTY/ THEMED CAMPS													
Ultimate Sports Camp – Juniors	6 to 8		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Ultimate Sports Camp – Seniors	9 to 12		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Pack & Go	8 to 12			✓		✓		✓		✓			\$405
Little Picasso Art & Swim Camp	6 to 9				✓		✓				✓		\$212
Stemotics/Robotics – Minecraft Coding	6 to 9				✓					✓			\$405
Stemotics/Robotics – Lego WeDo	6 to 9			✓					✓				\$405
DIY Camp	6 to 9			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		\$212
Summer Sport & Cycling Camp – Pro	8 to 12					✓			✓			✓	\$212
Southside Park – Outdoors 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.													
SPECIALTY/ THEMED CAMPS													
Trail Tots – Nature & Hiking Camp – NEW!	4 to 7				✓		✓						\$220
Explore the Outdoors – Nature & Hiking Camp	8 to 12			✓						✓			\$212
Summer Sport & Bronze Star Camp	9 to 12			✓						✓			\$405
Summer Sport & Learn to Swim Camp	6 to 9				✓		✓						\$353
Reeves Complex 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.													
Reeves Kinder Camp	4 to 5		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$220
Reeves Tykes	6 to 7		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Reeves Juniors	8 to 9		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Reeves Seniors	10 to 12		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
SPECIALTY/ THEMED CAMPS													
Leader in Training Camp	13 to 15					✓			✓				\$254. ²⁵
DIY Camp – NEW!	6 to 9			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		\$212
Summer Sport & Cycling Camp – Beginner – NEW!	7 to 9				✓			✓			✓		\$212
Pack & Go	8 to 12			✓		✓		✓		✓			\$405
Pre-Season Conditioning Hockey Camp JR	7 to 9										✓	✓	\$405
Pre-Season Conditioning Hockey Camp SR	10 to 12										✓	✓	\$405
Summer Sport & Skating Camp JR	4 to 7									✓	✓	✓	\$405
Summer Sport & Skating Camp SR	8 to 12									✓	✓	✓	\$405
Cowan Fields 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.													
Fields Kinder Camp	4 to 5		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$220
Fields Tykes	6 to 7		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
SPECIALTY/ THEMED CAMPS													
Ultimate Sports Camp – Juniors	8 to 9		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Ultimate Sports Camp – Seniors	10 to 12		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Racquets & Paddles – NEW!	8 to 12					✓			✓				\$353
Summer Sport & Learn to Swim Camp	6 to 9				✓		✓						\$353
Activate – Bounce & Climb Camp	8 to 12			✓						✓			\$353
Pack & Go	8 to 12			✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	\$405

* Swimming Off-site Trips Specialized Instructor

Register for a Program

The City offers a number of recreation, culture and leisure programs to help Woodstock residents get out, get active and be healthy! There are three ways to register for programs and activities:



Online

Login (or create your account) on our online program registration system: www.cityofwoodstock.ca/registernow.

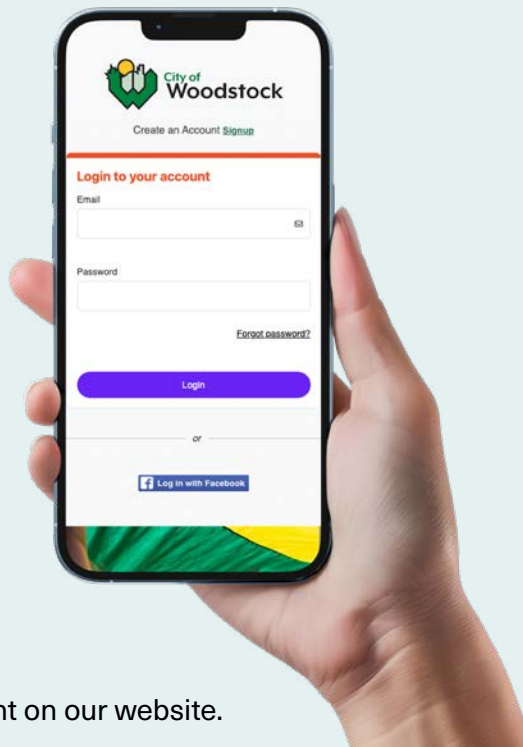
Once you're logged into your account you can:

- View and register for programs and activities
- Reserve a spot in one of our drop-in programs
- Find information about City facilities available for rent
- Manage your account details

To register programs and activities you'll need:

- Your email address and password
- Visa or Mastercard
- Program name and Course ID (which can be found in the registration system)

You'll find step-by-step instructions on how to create an account on our website.



In Person or By Phone

You can register in person for programs at:

- Cowan Park Sportsplex, 895 Ridgewood Dr. 519-539-1291 x 2740
- Reeves Community Complex, 381 Finkle St. 519-539-1291 x 4301
- Southside Aquatic Centre, 315 Finkle St. 519-539-2382 x 2701
- Woodstock Art Gallery, 449 Dundas St. 519-539-6761
- Woodstock Museum, 466 Dundas St. 519-537-8411

New Registration Policy for Non-Residents

As of December 2025, the City has introduced a new policy that gives Woodstock residents seven days to sign up for camps, recreation and aquatics programs before registration opens for non-residents. The policy ensures residents who pay taxes towards recreation amenities have the opportunity to access these programs first.

Fee Assistance

The Fee Assistance in Recreation (FAIR) program helps individuals and families living in low-income access City recreation and leisure programs and buy Woodstock Transit passes at reduced rates.

Learn more at: www.cityofwoodstock.ca/fair



Check out the COW Tales 'Way Back When' contest on page 19 and enter today!

A: Thomas S. Short.

VISTO PERFORMING ARTS CAMP



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For Grades SK-8

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 800-427-0536

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Big Savings**

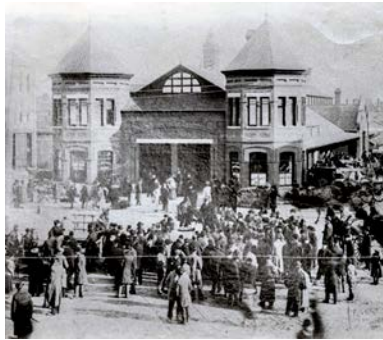
C.O.W. TALES

CoW Tales is a regular feature in *What's on Woodstock* designed to celebrate the City of Woodstock's rich history. Thanks to the contributions of the Woodstock Museum NHS and the Heritage Advisory Committee, CoW Tales shares stories that help us understand and connect with our past as our community continues to grow and evolve. In celebration of the City's upcoming 125th anniversary, this issue explores some of Woodstock's early public buildings and services.



Gaol

Completed in 1854, the Oxford County Gaol was the fifth jail built in Ontario. The permanent resident officers included the gaoler or governor, a turnkey, a matron and a gaol surgeon. The gaoler was in charge at the jail, responsible to the sheriff of Oxford County. The turnkey kept guard in front of the cells of the most dangerous criminals. The matron made sure no male prisoner entered the female departments or anywhere that a woman might be working without her presence. Photo: Oxford County Jail, May 3, 1958.



Police

The first town lock-up was established by Council in 1865. William Currie was also appointed as the first chief constable. The police office and holding cells were originally located in the basement of the town hall, now the Woodstock Museum. By 1875, department had grown to include two police constables and in 1895, a new market was constructed next door to the town hall, with the police station located in the west end of the building. Photo: Market building (from west) and Peel Street, 1895–1915.



Fire Department

The town's fire department was created in 1881. The original fire hall was located at the rear of the town hall. The equipment consisted of a horse, a fire cart and a driver who was on duty to answer calls at anytime. In 1899 a new fire hall was constructed on Perry Street. The hall housed four horses in stables on the ground floor and five firefighters on the second floor each night, with a total brigade of 15 men. Photo: Perry Street Fire Hall, early 1900s.



Post Office

Constructed under Woodstock's sixth post master, Alex Riggs McCleneghan, the post office was completed in 1901. The Victorian style sandstone building housed the post office on the first floor and customs offices on the second floor, with the caretaker's apartments on the third floor. The post office was in service until 1963, when a new location was built on Peel Street. In 1968, it was converted into municipal offices and today the historic building continues to serve as city hall. Photo: Post office under construction, 1901.

C.O.W. TALES

Way Back When Contest

THE WINNER of the January/February 'Way Back When' Contest question is **Marissa McClung**. Marissa correctly answered that Hugh Richardson was the first Reeve of Woodstock. She wins a \$50 gift card from Boston Pizza Woodstock, and she will qualify for a \$100 Boston Pizza Woodstock gift card to be drawn from all the monthly winners in December.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR!



BOSTON PIZZA WOODSTOCK
431 Norwich Ave
519-536-7800
www.bostonpizza.com

THINK YOU KNOW YOUR WOODSTOCK HISTORY?

Enter the Way Back When contest for a chance to win! Answer the last question below in bold. If your answer is correct, your name will be entered into the draw. The winner's name will appear in the next edition of *What's on Woodstock*. Contest questions have been selected from the book, *Quizzical History*, published by the Oxford Historical Society and Woodstock Museum NHS.

Q. Who was Woodstock's first post master?
(See pg. 16)

Q. Who served as police chief for almost 30 years starting in 1920? (See pg. 9)

Q. How much did it cost to build the Oxford County Gaol? (See pg. 14)

Q. What was the name of the fire department's best-remembered horse?

Send your answer along with your name and phone number to wow@cityofwoodstock.ca by Friday, March 13, 2026. You can also drop your answer in the contest box at City Hall.

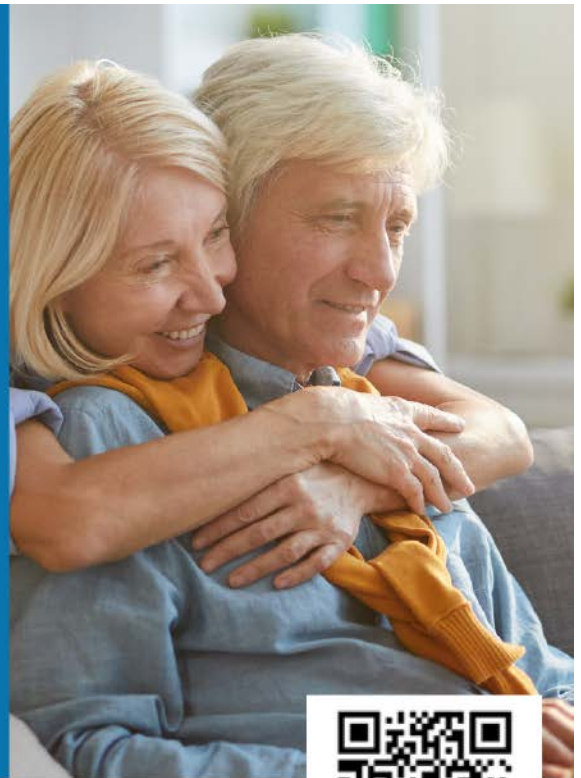
Empower your Health Journey with ConnectMyHealth

ConnectMyHealth (CMH) is a secure patient portal that allows you to view your health information from many healthcare facilities in southwestern Ontario in one, consolidated view. CMH can be used on desktop and mobile devices and is completely FREE to use.

To register successfully:

- You need a valid (not expired), green Ontario Health Card and a secondary piece of valid identification
- You must have an email address that is unique to you (not shared with anyone)

info.connectmyhealth.ca



ConnectMyHealth is made possible through a collaboration between Hamilton Health Sciences, Ontario Health, and your local Ontario Health Team.



Recreational Skating Schedule

Public Skating

Anyone can attend. Children 12 and under must have adult supervision in the facility. Skates must be worn on the ice. No shoes, strollers or skating aids allowed.

Civic Centre – 895 Nellis St (Fairgrounds)

Reeves Community Complex – 381 Finkle St
Green Rink and Red Rink

Day	Time	Arena
Tuesdays	4–4:50 p.m.	Civic Centre Arena
Wednesdays	4–4:50 p.m.	Reeves Complex – Green Rink
Thursdays	4–4:50 p.m.	Civic Centre Arena
Saturdays	7–7:50 p.m.	Civic Centre Arena
Sundays	1:15–2:05 p.m.	Reeves Complex – Red Rink

Upcoming Dates

Date	Sponsor	Location
Mar 1	Roes–Zehr Electrical Ltd.	Reeves Red
Mar 3	Riley Sports Manufacturing	Civic Centre
Mar 4	City of Woodstock – Parks & Rec	Reeves Green
Mar 5	Bucholtz Home Comfort	Civic Centre
Mar 7	Palleck Orthodontics	Civic Centre
Mar 8	Vance Construction	Reeves Red
Mar 10	Cimco Refrigeration	Civic Centre
Mar 11	City of Woodstock – Parks & Rec	Reeves Green
Mar 12	A.P. Hurley	Civic Centre
Mar 14	Boston Pizza Woodstock	Civic Centre
Mar 15	Verbruggan Trucking Ltd.	Reeves Red
Mar 17	City of Woodstock – Parks & Rec	Civic Centre
Mar 18	Roes–Zehr Electrical Ltd.	Reeves Green
Mar 19	City of Woodstock – Parks & Rec	Civic Centre
Mar 21	Steve Hart Excavating	Civic Centre
Mar 22	Canadian Tire Woodstock	Reeves Red
Mar 24	Lind Equipment	Civic Centre
Mar 25	City of Woodstock – Parks & Rec	Reeves Green
Mar 26	Viewcon	Civic Centre
Mar 31	Dr. Lail & Associates Family Dentistry	Civic Centre

Adult Skating

Participants must be 18 years of age or older. This will be strictly enforced. Please respect all skaters.

Mondays, 1:15–2:05 p.m. – Reeves Red Rink
 Wednesdays, 1:15–2:05 p.m. – Reeves Red Rink
 Thursdays, 10–10:50 a.m. – Civic Centre Arena (ends Mar 26)
 Fridays, 1:15–2:05 p.m. – Reeves Red Rink
NO SKATING: Mar 12, 16, 18, 20

Parent and Tot Skating

Maximum age of child participants is five years of age. Pucks and sticks are not permitted on ice. Skating aids will be available.

Reeves Community Complex
 Wednesdays, 1–1:50 p.m. – Green Rink
 Fridays, 9–9:50 a.m. – Green Rink
 Fridays, 4:45–5:15 p.m. – Red Rink

Parent and Tot Shiny

Maximum age of child participants is five years of age. Pucks and sticks are permitted on ice. All participants must wear a helmet and gloves. Skating aids are not allowed.

Civic Centre
 Tuesdays, 1–1:50 p.m.
 Thursdays, 1–1:50 p.m.

March Break Skating

Reeves Community Complex – Red Rink
 Mar 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 1:15–2:05 p.m.

Sponsored by C.L. Routenburg & Sons Ltd.

MORE INFO: www.cityofwoodstock.ca/skatingschedule

Please note, skating times may change due to special events not scheduled at the time of printing.



SPRING Clean-up

EARTH DAY
Saturday, April 18

Community TREE PLANTING

ARBOR DAY
Saturday, April 25

Visit www.cityofwoodstock.ca/specialevents for more info.



Parks and Sports Fields open May 1

As spring approaches, the Parks Department would like to remind you that parks and sports fields open for the season on May 1.

In the meantime, please stay off the fields to prevent deep ruts and other damage that can occur when the soil is wet due to melting snow or rain.

Thank you!



Learn more about the City's parks, trails and sports fields at:
www.cityofwoodstock.ca/parks



CONVENTIONAL & SPECIALIZED TRANSIT HOURS OF OPERATION

- Monday–Saturday: 6 a.m.–10 p.m.

No Sunday or Holiday bus service. Find route and schedule details at www.cityofwoodstock.ca/transit

FARES & PASSES

Fare Type	Adult	Student/ Senior (60+)	Child (under 5)/ Veteran
Cash	\$2.75 (exact fare)	\$2.75 (exact fare)	Free bus service
Monthly Pass (non-transferable)	\$66.00	\$53.00	Free bus service
Han-D-Ride Pass (discounted)	\$27.50 (12 rides)	\$27.50 (12 rides)	Free bus service
Group Pass (2–5 riders)	\$8.25 (all day)	\$8.25 (all day)	Free bus service

WHO SELLS RELOADABLE PASSES?

You can purchase reloadable Monthly and Han-D-Ride cards at these convenient vendor locations:

- City Hall, 500 Dundas St.
- Pioneer Gas Station, 334 Norwich Ave.
- Southside Aquatic Centre, 315 Finkle St.
- Walmart Lottery Kiosk, 499 Norwich Ave.
- Woodstock Public Library, 445 Hunter St.

SPECIALIZED TRANSIT

Woodstock Transit offers door to door bus service for residents that qualify and are registered with the City of Woodstock. Applications for this service are available online at www.cityofwoodstock.ca/para-transit. All trips must be booked in advance.

DISPATCH OFFICE HOURS

- Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

To book, call 519-539-2382 ext. 2510 (TTY 519-539-7268). Voicemail is available outside these hours.



What's on Woodstock is your go-to source for information on our city and community.

NEXT EDITIONS

- April 2026 – RESERVE BY MARCH 4
- May/June 2026 – RESERVE BY APRIL 8
- July/August 2026 – RESERVE BY MAY 27
- September 2026 – RESERVE BY AUGUST 5

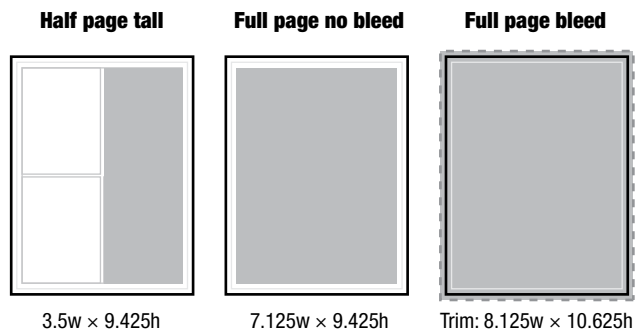
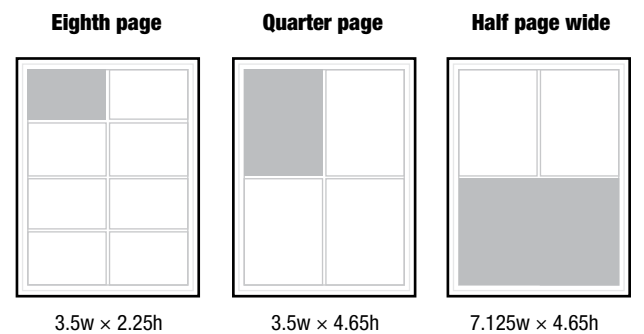
Advertise today: www.cityofwoodstock.ca/wow

ADVERTISING RATES

Size	Non-Profit	Regular
Eighth page	\$100	\$120
Quarter page	\$160	\$225
Half page (tall or wide)	\$270	\$375
Full page	\$510	\$650
Covers (inside, back)	\$875	\$875

Note: Advertising rates are for ad placement only.

ADVERTISING SIZES



Full Bleed Note: Please add 0.25" to all four sides for bleed pages.



PUBLIC LIBRARY

Monday to Thursday 10 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Friday & Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday 1 – 5 p.m.

Closed March 25–27 for renovations

445 Hunter St., Woodstock ON

www.mywpl.ca



Step into a world of magic at WPL with Enchanted March Break! Explore hidden surprises through enchanted activities, stories, crafts, and more. Join us all week long to discover a world inspired by enchanted forests! Registration not required unless indicated in the program description.

Enchanted March Break (Family)

March 16–21 – All Day during library open hours

Join us for an unforgettable week of Enchanted Forest fun, where fairies flutter, dragons roam, and adventure awaits around every corner. Explore our whimsical scavenger hunt, dive into enchanting activities, and discover surprises in the Children's Area all week long.

Enchanted Forest Party (Family)

Monday, March 16 – 11 a.m.–12 p.m.

Step into a world of wonder as we launch March Break with a magical Enchanted Forest Party. Children are invited to enjoy a charming tea-time experience filled with stories, crafts, and imaginative play. Costumes are welcome—fairies, elves, woodland animals, and all magical beings are encouraged to join the fun.

Family Movie: *Enchanted* (Family)

Monday, March 16 – 2:30–4:20 p.m.

Join us for a family friendly movie! We will be showing *Enchanted* (PG). Popcorn included!

Enchanted Loom Knitting (8–14 years)

Tuesday, March 17 – 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Learn how to loom knit a magical mini fairy pouch! Experienced and beginner loom knitters are welcome. All supplies will be provided. **Registration required.**

Seedy Saturday: Enchanted Garden

Saturday, March 14 – 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

In partnership with Woodstock Environmental Advisory Committee, Seedy Saturday will include Family Storytime at 11 a.m. with free seeds and activity books for families, seed sharing/saving activities, and seed donation station for your seed library.

Enchanted Creative Lab (6–12 years)

Wednesday, March 18 – 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

Drop by the library during our Creative Lab and delve into a crafty world of enchantment where you'll fly with unicorns, harness dragons, and design a magical world of your very own, all with the help of the library's trusty art supplies!

Enchanted Discovery Lab (6–12 years)

Friday, March 20 – 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

Drop by the library to try your hand at enchanting STEM based activities full of potions, magic, and more!



I SPY: Exploring an Enchanted Forest (Family) March 2–31 – All Day

Drop into the library and check out the display case in the Children's Department to test your skills with our monthly *I Spy* quizzes for great prizes.

Two Row Learning (6–12 years) Monday, March 2 – 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Through discussions, hands-on activities, and crafts, we'll delve into the wisdom of the 7 grandfather teachings; Love, Respect, Bravery, Honesty, Humility, Wisdom, and Truth. Enjoy complimentary pizza and snacks.

Dungeons & Dragons Escape Room (All Ages) Thursday, March 19 – 1:30–4:30 p.m.

Woodstock Public Library has become the underground home for a village escaping attacks by dark elves! Get a group together to help the villagers find a solution and escape! Registration required.

Craft Club (8–12 years) Saturday, March 21 – 2:30–3:30 p.m.

Create your own mini Enchanted Forest Snowglobe! All materials will be provided.

Fun & Friendly Kids Chess Friday, March 20 – 2:30–3:30 p.m.

Interested in learning to play the game of chess? Are you between 8–12 years old? Whether you are a Grandmaster or just learning the game of kings, you are welcome to join us for Fun & Friendly Kids Chess! Registration required.



Children & Families

Toddler Art (18 months–2 years) Thursday, March 19 – 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Some messy fun for curious tots as they learn and explore through process art. Enjoy stories, songs and art making for 18 months to 2 years old. Please bring a smock or an old t-shirt or something that can get dirty, as aprons/smocks will not be provided. Registration required.

Code with Scratch (6–12 years) Saturday, March 28 – 2:30–3:30 p.m.

Drop in and have fun coding with Scratch! Beginners are welcome. Laptops and iPads will be provided, however participants are welcome to bring their own device and are encouraged to bring headphones. Please bring a USB so the project can be taken home. Please note: Any children under the age of 12 must have a parent or guardian present in the library throughout the duration of the program. No registration required.




Messy Art (3–5 years) Thursday, March 19 – 12–1 p.m.

Some messy fun for curious children as they learn and explore through process art. Chaos is expected. Please bring an old t-shirt or something that can get dirty, as these won't be provided. Registration required.

Storytimes!

Each program includes age-appropriate stories, rhymes, songs, and activities designed by library professionals to help children develop literacy skills and a love of reading. Dedicated time for play and to meet other families is provided at the end of the program. Children should be accompanied by a caregiver. **No registration required.**

Program	Description	Dates/Times
Tales & Tunes (Family)	An interactive storytime that will cultivate a love of books with stories, songs, rhymes, and other activities.	Wednesday Mar 4, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
Toddler Tales (12–36 months)	An active program with stories, rhymes, songs, and other activities.	Thursday Mar 5, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
Books & Bounces (Birth–18 months)	Babies and caregivers will hear stories, and learn songs, rhymes, and bounces that will help foster a love of reading.	Thursday Mar 5, 12–1 p.m.
Story Explorers (3–5 years)	Build on stories through songs, rhymes, and hands on STEAM activities for preschoolers.	Friday Mar 6, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
Baby Sign Storytime (Birth–18 months)	Infants and their caregivers are invited to learn ASL vocabulary signs through stories and rhymes	Friday Mar 6, 12–12:45 p.m.




Forest Of Reading Awards

January 1, 2026 - April 30, 2026

Join one of Canada's largest book clubs for kids (4-16 years)- where YOU get to pick the winner! Nominated titles are on display now in the children's department.

Read the books, do fun activities, and vote for your favourite book during the month of April!



Family Storytimes

Paper Bag Princess Storytime

Saturday, March 7 – 11 a.m.–12 p.m.

Stop by the children's department to celebrate a Canadian classic with a storytime and activities! No registration required.

Seedy Saturday Storytime

Saturday, March 14 – 11–11:30 a.m.

Join us for a special family storytime to celebrate gardens, seeds and harvests! Part of the Seedy Saturday activities. No registration required.

Youth & Young Adults

Fairy/Galaxy Jars (12–18 years)
Tuesday, March 17 – 2–3:30 p.m.

Join us at the library to create your own enchanted world in a jar! Make a galaxy or fairy jar with glitter, paint, and other supplies. All materials provided. **Registration required.**



Lunch Time Breakout (12–18 years)
Thursdays, March 5, 12 – 11–11:45 a.m.

Can you and your friends solve all the puzzles to break open the box? A new Breakout EDU game will be featured each week! **No registration required.**

Homeschool Meetup (Family)
Monday, March 2 – 1–3 p.m.

Stop by the library and meet other Homeschooling families for an afternoon of fun! Bring your own board games, or play one of ours. Test out a robot or two. We will also provide the snacks! **No registration required.**

Adventure with Muk (10–14 years)
Saturday, March 7 – 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Muk invites young players to join him on a Dungeons and Dragons adventure. Players will continue to work on their own characters and to adventure with Muk and friends through Dankwood. New players are always welcome. **Registration required.**



Adults & Families

Knitting and Crochet Drop-In
Saturdays, March 14 – 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Come out for a cozy hour of knitting and crochet! Bring your current project or check out our collection of crochet and knitting books for patterns. **No registration required.**

New to the craft? We will have extra crochet hooks, knitting needles, and yarn for you to get started!

Mah-Jongg
Tuesdays, March 3–31 – 10:15 a.m.–12 p.m.

American Mah-Jongg is an exciting game that will challenge participants. Join us! **No registration required.**

Chit Chat Circle
Tuesdays, March 3–31 – 1:30–3 p.m.

Socialize in a safe space hosted by the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA). **No registration required.**



Adults & Families

Mama and Baby Wellness Series

Wednesday, March 4 – 12–1 p.m.

Join Coach Alysia, certified personal trainer, at the Woodstock Public Library for our new fitness and wellness series for moms with babes in arms.

In this series, Coach Alysia will begin each workshop with an informational session about the dimensions of wellness, followed by a gentle Pilates-inspired workout. Please bring a mat, a water bottle, and dress comfortably.



Crafty Adults

Thursday, March 19 – 7–8 p.m.

Lost your bookmark? Then join us at the library this month to make your own stained glass bookmark! All supplies will be provided by the library, no prior experience is required.

WPL Book Club

Tuesday, March 10 – 2–3 p.m.

Thursday, March 12 – 7–8 p.m.

Thursday, April 9 – 7–8 p.m.

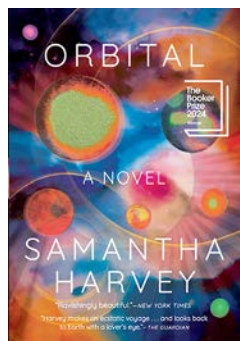
Tuesday, April 14 – 2–3 p.m.

Begin each month with a good read! Join us for our afternoon or evening session for a lively discussion on the title selected. Open to all. No registration required.

March Title

Orbital

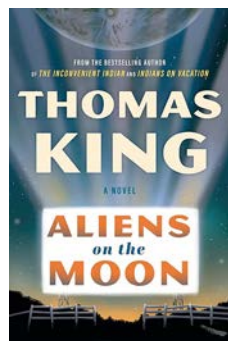
Samantha Harvey



April Title

Aliens on the Moon

Thomas King



Queer Conversations (16+ years)

Tuesday, March 17 – 6:30–8 p.m.

Join the Oxford County Community Health Centre and the Woodstock Public Library for a gathering of 2SLGBTQIA+ community and conversation. No registration required.



Oxford County
Community Health Centre



Queer Conversations

AGES 16+

COMING UP FOR MARCH:

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

WOODSTOCK PUBLIC LIBRARY

Pub Trivia Night

Wednesday, March 18 – 7–8:30 p.m.

Join us at Upper Thames Brewing Company for Pub Trivia, where you and your teammates can test your smarts against other beer enthusiasts. Upper Thames Brewing Co. will sell the drinks and WPL will provide the questions!

Cyber Assist

Tuesdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, 5:30–6:30 p.m.

Fridays, 2:30–3:30 p.m.

Book one-on-one assistance with our technology specialist. Sessions are 30 minutes in length. Book online or call 519-539-4801, extension 3006.

Genealogy Assist

Book a one-on-one session with a genealogy specialist librarian. Learn how to use the library's digital microfilm readers and e-Resources including Ancestry Library Edition and Paper of Record. Each session is 50 minutes in length. Registration required. Check our website or call 519-539-4801, extension 3006 for available dates and times.



Spring Programs



Museum Book Club

Tuesday, March 24 | 6:30–8 p.m.

Our book selection, *Enough* by Kimia Eslah, is inspired by the Museum's upcoming exhibit *Eve of Change: Breaking into the Old Boys Club!* Set at an Ontario City Hall, this fictional workplace drama looks at cultural barriers people face municipally and women being seen as equals. Register online now, pick up your book at the Museum front desk in January and in March we'll look at the exhibit and discuss our thoughts. **Ages: 16+**

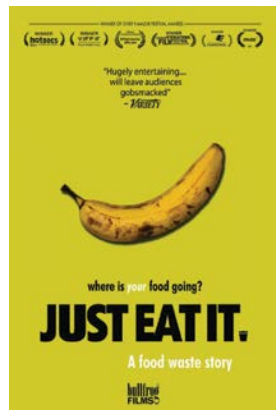


FREE

Food Waste Film Screening

Saturday, April 14 | 6:30–9 p.m.

Join us to watch *Just Eat It: A Food Waste Story* where filmmakers live only on rescued food for 6 months. A discussion afterward will be an opportunity to share your ideas and learn about what's happening locally. Popcorn included! Register in advance. **Ages 16+, \$5**



Lunch & Learn: Spring Series

Select Tuesdays | 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Join us for a unique topic at the Woodstock Museum followed by a light lunch. Register in advance to reserve your spot. **Ages 16+**

April 21: Life of Woodstock Artist Florence Carlyle

Artist Florence Carlyle lived in Woodstock for much of her life. Join Woodstock Art Gallery's Danielle Hovenaars as she dives into everyday life and

culture in the late 19th and early 20th century to illuminate the life and work of this prominent Canadian painter.

May 26: Oscar Wilde's Visit to Woodstock

Join us in the same room Oscar Wilde spoke during his time in Woodstock. Dr. Jason Pankratz, back by popular demand, will share stories of Wilde's life, his connection with the art aesthetics movement and the legacy of his later years.

June 23: Ode to Drive-in Movies

How we watch movies has changed a lot in the last 20 years but there is nothing like the drive-in movies for a bit of nostalgia. Librarian Chris Harrington will share the history of local drive-ins, their post-war boom, and how they survive in the digital era.

\$25 (Members \$20)

Dig This PA Day

Friday, April 24 | 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Get the dirt on all the cool plants of springtime. We'll take home some seeds, a planted pot of veggies, play some nature games and go outside for fun! **Ages: 5–12**

\$55 (Members \$49.50)



Retro Games PA Day

Friday, May 29 | 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Play the games of the past in this fun and retro day. Learn to use a rotary phone, play games of chance and skill, make your own game and enjoy creative play! **Ages: 5–12**

\$55 (Members \$49.50)

February 16th to June 20th



**Bernadette Smith: Eve of Change
Breaking the Old Boys Club**

**An exhibit on life of the first elected female
mayor of a city in Canada**

Created by the Woodstock Museum



2026 Summer Camps

Registration starts Tuesday, Feb. 3 at 10 a.m.

Join in all the fun this summer with learning, history, games, excursions, special guests and unique themes. Make some friends and try something new! Buy a family membership now to receive a discount on programs all year.

Full day camps run on weekdays from 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Extended care is not available.

Unicorn Camp – FULL

July 6–10 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Our unicorn utopia has everything you need to fulfill your magical fantasies. Get glittered, make unicorn crafts and play fun, magical games this week! **Ages: 4–7**

5-Day Camp: \$200 (Members \$180)

Dino Camp – FULL

July 13–17 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

If you dig dinosaurs, this week of fun at the Museum is for you. Bones and fossils can tell you what types of dinosaurs lived long ago, what they ate and how they got around. Get pre-historic with fun games and Dino crafts! **Ages: 4–7**

5-Day Camp: \$200 (Members \$180)

Culture Camp: Museum

July 20–24 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

This specialty camp explores our local culture with fun, hands-on activities, a deep dive into Museum-land with amazing field trips to the Woodstock Art Gallery, parks, artists, dancers, heritage activities and so much more. Pick up and drop off at Woodstock Museum. **Ages: 6–12**

Specialty Camp: \$300 (Members \$250)

Spectacular Science Jr. – FULL

July 27–31 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Crank up the chemistry, blare the biology and fill up with physics! Try super fun experiments, play outdoor games, make science themed crafts and learn coding from our friends at Codelets. Great for curious minds. **Ages: 5–8**

5-Day Camp: \$200 (Members \$180)

Make & Bake Youth Camp

Aug. 4–7 | 1–4:30 p.m.

For the foodie, we have a fun afternoon program that explores baking and cool historic “icebox” treats. We’ll use local food and ingredients to craft our own bread, make frozen or chilled sides to cool us down and learn about food traditions.

Ages: 10–14

Specialty Camp: \$180 (Members \$160)



Swiftly Summer – FULL

Aug. 10–14 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Don’t have a “Cruel Summer”, “Shake it Off” with us as we embark on a whirlwind adventure filled with Taylor-themed crafts, activities, and tons of music and dance. Make a friendship bracelet and see why Taylor is such a huge star! **Ages: 7–12**

5-Day Camp: \$200 (Members \$180)

Dogs We Love

Aug. 17–21 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

If your favourite dog is Bluey or you are a Scooby fan, this fictional “dogs we love” week is for you! Play pooch games, make adorable fluffy crafts and find bones hidden around in this howling good camp. **Ages: 4–6**

5 Day Camp: \$200 (Members \$180)

COMMUNITY EVENTS

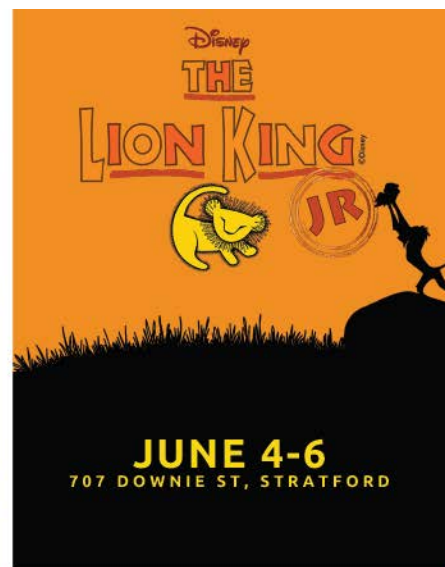
March

- 7 **'Murder on the High Seas' Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre**, South Gate Centre, 5–10 p.m. Buy tickets at the Front Desk or online at www.southgatectr.com/events. Join us as we set sail on a collision course with pirates. Costume suggestions, cruise/beachwear or dress like a pirate!
- 14 **Best U Health Expo 2026 – 8th Annual Health & Wellness Fair**, South Gate Centre, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Free admission. Featuring exhibitors, vendors and presenters on the topics of health, wellness and safety. Everyone welcome.
- 16–20 **March Break Skating**, Reeves Community Complex, Red Rink, 381 Finkle St, 1:15–2:05 p.m. Sponsored by C.L. Routenburg & Sons Ltd. Visit www.cityofwoodstock.ca/skatingschedule
- 24 **Life Worth Living**, Woodstock Polish Hall, 878 Dufferin St, 7 p.m. Free. New documentary produced by Woodstock native Alex Schadenberg. Screening and Q & A with Alex.
- 25 **Oxford Historical Society Meeting**, Chartwell Oxford Gardens, 423 Devonshire Ave, 6:30 p.m. Free event. Donations welcome. Colin Currie presents Oxford County's rich railroad history: 'Little Engines Can Do Big Things.' Visit oxhs.ca or email info@oxhs.ca for details.
- 26 **Municipal and School Board Election Candidate Information Session**, County Council Chambers, 21 Reeve St, 6 p.m. Open to new, returning or interested candidates and members of the public.

28 **Annual Rec & Leisure Fair**, Oxford Auditorium, 875 Nellis St, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Sports, community groups and many leisure interests. Details at www.cityofwoodstock.ca/recfair

April

- 3 **Ingersoll Choral Society Good Friday Concert**, Sacred Heart Church, 131 Thames St. N., Ingersoll, 8 p.m. Free will offering. Ingersoll Choral Society performs 'Come Touch the Robe' with orchestral accompaniment. Visit ingersollchoralsociety.ca
- 11 **In the Mood with Big Bandemic**, South Gate Centre, 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Buy tickets at the Front Desk or online at www.southgatectr.com/events. Big Bandemic will have you dancing and singing along with their 17 piece big band, 10 piece strings section and 2 terrific crooners!
- 16–18 **PAC presents 'The Magician's Elephant'**, Woodstock Collegiate Institute, 35 Riddell St, Apr. 16–18 at 7 p.m. and Apr. 18 at 1 p.m. Tickets \$30. Woodstock Performing Arts Collective youth theatre group presents the Canadian premiere of this musical. Visit onstagedirect.com/tme
- 16–18 **K2K Productions presents 'Seussical Jr.'** Hope Church, 64 Blandford St, Innerkip, 7 p.m. Matinée on Apr. 18 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$25. Bring your family and soak up every second! "Oh, the thinks you can think!" when imagination runs wild in Seussical Jr., presented by K2K's Junior Company! Tickets: k2kproductions.ca/boxoffice



K2K PRODUCTIONS 2026 SEASON

...where students discover who they are, where they fit, and their purpose.

BOX OFFICE TICKETS:

k2kproductions.ca/boxoffice | 519.290.9525

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TICKETS \$25





Programs

Spring & Summer Camps

March Break Art Camp

March 16–20

8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

March Break Art Camp is designed to provide a full week of fun and inspiring hands-on art projects, field trips, collaborative activities, and special guests! Find inspiration while touring the gallery exhibits and exploring our local parks and trails. Discover numerous artistic techniques, media, tools, and equipment through mindful creative practices with art education professionals. Learn painting and printmaking fundamentals with guest instructor and Master printmaker, Ron Milton. By the end of the week, young artists will develop an exhibition of their work to be professionally displayed in the Community Gallery this spring March 31–June 19, 2026! All materials are included in the cost of registration.

Age: 6–12

Cost: \$350 (Members \$300)

Graffiti Art Camp

July 6–10

8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Unleash your inner graffiti artist, design your own tag, and express yourself! This camp will reveal the fascinating world of graffiti, urban art, and murals. Discover numerous graffiti techniques, non-traditional tools, and specialty equipment with guidance from art education professionals and special guest artist, Chris Seaton. Examine the history, legal responsibilities, and health and safety requirements of urban art. Young artists will collaboratively design and paint a professional graffiti mural.

Age: 6–12

Cost: \$350 (Members \$300)

Mini Makers

July 13–17, Aug. 17–21

9:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

Discover your inner Mini Maker! Professional art educators will introduce young artists to a variety of artistic fundamentals, techniques, tools, and materials through mindful artistic practices and collaborative art projects during these half-day art classes. Learn about colour theory, the elements of art, observational skills, art appreciation, and other foundational art concepts through age-appropriate, hands-on, formal art lessons and guided gallery tours. Young artists will also enjoy plenty of self-guided play, outdoor exploration, and social interaction with their peers.

Age: 4–6

Cost: \$225 (Members \$200)

Culture Camp: WAG

July 20–24

8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Discover the rich culture of our community! This camp offers a dynamic week of immersive experiences for young artists, combining engaging art lessons with exciting field trips. Find inspiration from local artists during guided gallery tours, explore a variety of artistic techniques and mediums, and foster teamwork while creating collaborative projects. Field trips to the Woodstock Museum NHS and local parks, trails, and businesses allow participants to develop cultural awareness and an appreciation for our local history and identity.

Age: 6–12

Cost: \$250 (Members \$200)

Fantasy Art Camp

Aug. 4–7, 2026

8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Awaken your imagination and step into a world of legends and lore! Young artists will be transported to enchanted realms where legendary creatures and epic tales come to life. Explore the rich history, cultural significance, and symbolism of global myths. Discover various artistic techniques and mediums, engage in collaborative projects, design unique mythical creatures, and create fantastical worlds with guidance from art education professionals and special guest artist, Lindsay Liboiron.

Age: 6–12

Cost: \$285 (Members \$250)

Nature Art Camp

Aug. 10–14

8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Uncover the beauty of nature through art! Explore a variety of ecosystems at our local parks and trails, learn about climate change, examine the importance of conservation practices with the City of Woodstock's Parks and Forestry experts, and appreciate the deeply interconnected relationship between art and nature. Gather nature items and experiment with found objects and non-traditional media, create collaborative outdoor art, and explore current exhibitions with art education professionals.

Age: 6–12

Cost: \$350 (Members \$300)

Youth & Adult Workshops

Beaded Gemstone Necklaces

Saturday, March 7

10:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

Join artist and founder of Baldwin Beads, Brittney Baldwin in this full-day beading workshop. Using seed beads, stone cabochons and leather, Brittney will guide registrants through beadwork foundations and examine proper use and handling of beading tools. Learn and practice methods of flat stitch beading embroidery, tubular peyote stitch, and how to finish off completed flat stitch beadwork with a basic edging stitch. Be inspired to continue beading and learn about other Indigenous businesses in Ontario that carry beading supplies. No experience required, but all levels welcome. All tools and materials provided.

Age: 13+

Cost: \$95 (Members \$80)

Up to Scratch: Drypoint Printmaking

Wednesdays, March 25–April 22

6–8 p.m.

This five-week course will explore the direct method of intaglio printmaking, known as drypoint. An image in line is produced by scratching into a Plexiglas plate, applying ink, and printing with an etching

press. Participants who enjoy drawing will find this method versatile and expressive. Drypoint examples by various artists will offer insights into techniques and visual ideas. Participants are encouraged to pursue their own subject matter and personal approach to imagery.

Age: 13+

Cost: \$300 (Members \$250)

Impressionist Acrylic Painting

Saturday, April 4

10:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

Explore the world of Claude Monet and the Impressionist movement. The first part of the workshop students learn about the history of Claude Monet and the elements and techniques that define Impressionism. Create your own Water Lily painting with art instructor, Lindsay Liboiron's guided instruction and photo reference. Paint bright bold colours using acrylic paint and gel medium to create texture and depth in your artwork. Spend the second half of the day painting your own impressionist nature scene, inspired by Monet's Water Lily artwork using a personal reference photo. Open to beginners and novice students. All tools and materials are included in the cost of registration.

Age: 13+

Cost: \$250 (Members \$200)

Just for Teens: Music As Art (Drawing Class)

Saturdays, April 11 – May 2, 2026

10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Explore the connections of music and art by blending lyrics with images. Tour the gallery exhibitions and explore a list of songs as inspiration for your own unique final drawing. Examine artwork you are drawn to as you listen. Join local arts professional Mercedes Schuster to learn about thumbnail, gesture and contour drawings. Utilize charcoal alongside pencil crayons to create a drawing with layers or musical meaning.

Age: 13+

Cost: \$250 (Members \$200)

Winter & Spring Exhibitions



Great Small Things: 60 Years of Collecting

On view until Jan. 10, 2027
Curator: Danielle Hoevenaars

Louise Scott (American/Canadian, 1936–2007), *La Vista II*, c. 1966, oil on fibreboard, Gift of Ontario Centennial Art Exhibition by Province of Ontario, Woodstock Art Gallery Permanent Collection, Photo credit: Robert McNair



Florence's Woodstock

On view until Aug. 29, 2026
Curator: Danielle Hoevenaars

Florence Carlyle (Canadian, 1964–1923), *The Garden at Englewood*, c. 1907, oil on canvas, Purchased with the support of the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Communications and Art Gallery Trust Fund, Woodstock Art Gallery Permanent Collection, Photo Credit: John Tamblyn



Arctic Abundance: How Environment Shapes Creativity

On view March 28 – June 20, 2026
Curator: Braeden Gruber

Oshaweetok B., *Walrus*, Soapstone, Courtesy of Ross and Fran McElroy. Photo Credit: Braeden Gruber



ᑕᑭᑭᑦᑭᑦ *Tautuppa | Long Looking: Tim Pitsiulak*

On view March 28 – June 20, 2026
Opening Reception: Thursday, April 9
Curator: Taqralik Partridge

Artwork Credit: Tim Pitsiulak, ᑕᑭᑭᑦᑭᑦ *Lumaajuuq*, 2015, coloured pencil on paper, 55.9 x 76.2 cm. Private collection. Photo credit: Martin Schwalbe

ESSENTIAL SAFETY TIPS FOR APARTMENT & CONDO

RESIDENTS



High-rise dwellers! Know your escape routes.

Find at least two ways out from every room in your apartment. Practice in the dark – you might need to escape that way!



Fire doors save lives! Never prop them open or block them.

They're designed to slow fire spread, giving you precious escape time. Keep them closed and clear!



Fire in your building? Forget the elevator!

Always use the stairs to escape. Elevators may be unavailable, get called to the ground floor, or stop on fire-affected floors. Stairs are your lifeline!



Hear that alarm? Act fast!

Every second counts in a high-rise fire. Don't wait to see what others do – start your escape immediately. Your quick action could save your life!



Know your building's crossover floors.

These unlocked levels let you switch stairwells if needed. It could be your backup escape route!



In a high-rise fire and can't escape?

Close your door, stuff towels in cracks, and call 911. Open a window slightly and signal for help. Firefighters will find you!



Your condo, your responsibility!

Install smoke alarms, test them monthly, and replace batteries yearly. Early warning is crucial in high-rise fires.



Questions?

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