

Christmas Tree Chipping Fundraiser

Parksville Firefighters Association will host a Christmas tree chipping for charity event on Saturday, January 6 from 10 am to 2 pm at Wembley Mall.

Members of Parksville Fire Rescue will offer Christmas tree chipping and disposal by cash donation to the Parksville Firefighters Association Charitable Fund to support community projects during the year. Branching Out Urban Forestry has donated the tree chipper and staff so every cent donated will support the firefighters' fundraising efforts.

Between now and when it's time to get rid of your Christmas tree, here are some safety tips from Parksville Fire Rescue to keep your tree from drying out too quickly and also reduce the risk of fire in your home:

- Keep your tree in a shady cool spot away from sun and heat.
- Christmas trees are thirsty, don't let them run dry... ever! Check the water level daily.
- Use LED lights in good working order. These emit very little heat.
- Make sure your tree is not blocking an exit, such as a door or window.
- Don't leave your Christmas tree plugged in when you're away from home or asleep.
- Test your smoke alarms which save lives by alerting the household to a fire.

If you are bringing your tree to this year's event, please ensure all decorations are removed before bringing it to Wembley Mall. We look forward to seeing you on January 6 at our first Christmas tree chipping event.

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For more information: Parksville Fire Rescue 250 248-3242; fire@parksville.ca

> The City of Parksville is located on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish Nations, home to the Snaw-Naw-As First Nation and the Qualicum First Nation.

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