

Snow in Sequim

by Sandy Evans Smith



Snow has come to the Sequim area of Washington for the third time since December 14, a very unusual event for this area. For those of you unfamiliar with this part of Washington State, we are northwest of Seattle, on the west side of Puget Sound on the Olympic Peninsula. Because we are just north of the Olympic Mountains, we are in what is referred to as the "rain shadow" or "blue hole". Sequim gets very little rain compared to the rest of the state, averaging about 14 inches a year. Snow is a rare and a welcome sight, at least for those of us from California who came up here to experience that phenomenon referred to as "seasons", something we really didn't have in southern California. The climate is moderate and when the temp reaches 80 degrees (maybe a couple of times in the summer), some people here are inclined to turn on the a/c, for fear they might suffer heat stroke.

A bonus to living here is that we are on the Straits of Juan de Fuca, the waterway which separates the US from Canada and with a 20 minute drive west to Port Angeles we can catch a car ferry to Victoria, BC and be there in 1-1/2 hours. In the summer, a pedestrian-only ferry can have you in Victoria's Inner Harbor in less than an hour. It's a great place to take visitors, but we often go over just for a day of shopping and lunch. If you're ever in the area, stop by. Visitors are always welcome!

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