

9. Community facilities

Forks facilities

Forks is a non-charter code city incorporated in 1945 utilizing the Mayor-Council form of government with 5 elected council positions including Mayor Pro Tem and an elected Mayor. Appointed positions include the Planning Commission, Civil Service Commission, and Park Board.

Forks provides water and sewer utilities, street maintenance and improvements, police and jail facility, airport facilities, building permits, and comprehensive planning and zoning services

Forks departments include the Mayor's office with Mayor and Human Resources, Clerk/Treasurer's department with 4 staff, Public Works with 10 staff, Police Chief with 6 staff plus Jail with 6 staff, and Attorney/Planning Department with 2 staff or 30 total staff in 2024.

Forks facilities including rental properties consist of:

- **Forks City Hall** - located at 500 East Division Street on 2.44-acres that houses all staff including the Police Department and Jail.
- **Forks Visitor Center & Timber Museum** - established in 1984 and located at 1421 South Forks Avenue with an indoor museum, fire lookout and grounds display, covered pavilion, and the Forks Chamber of Commerce.
- **Rainforest Arts Center** - located at 35 North Forks Avenue that was reopened in 2015 to include a small meeting room, a main hall with movable stage that can be used for a wide variety of events including concerts, films, theater productions, wedding receptions, a commercial kitchen, and a 1,000-foot commercial space in the south-east corner of the building.
- **West End Business & Tech Center** - with rental office spaces and conference facilities located in retail space in downtown Forks.

- **Forks Industrial Park** - with 65 acres of industrial zoned 0.5 to 5-acre lots for lease with paved road access, water, power, and telecommunications to some parcels, and direct access to US-101.
- **Tillicum Park** - with 20 acres located on Tillicum Lane improved with playground equipment, skate park, Allen sports courts (pickleball and basketball courts), covered picnic shelter, ball fields, arena, disc golf, and the historic Shay locomotive and Scorpion M56 vehicle on display.
- **Calawah River Boat Launch** - with 5 acres located at 158302-6 North Forks Avenue with boat ramp, dog park, picnic tables, and trails.
- **Ford Park** - with 1.5 acres of green space located at east end west of alder grove - and Prairie.

Fire protection services

Fire protection services are provided by Clallam County Fire Protection District Number 1 (CCFD#1) from the Forks Fire Hall located at 11 Spartan Avenue in Forks with backup from the Beaver Fire Station located at 20011 US-101 in Beaver. CCFD#1 is overseen by an elected 4-member Board of Commissioners.

CCFD#1's 39 person staff include a District Chief, Assistant Chief, 3 Lieutenants, an Instructor, 17 Firefighters (7 stationed in Forks), 8 Recruits (3 stationed in Forks), 4 additional Swift Water Rescue, and a District Secretary.

CCFD#1 initiated a Swift Water Rescue operation in 2018 that responds to all emergencies related to fresh water with a jurisdiction in West Clallam County and Western Jefferson County.

CCFD#1 initiated a Wildland Special Operations Team in 2024 that responds to all emergencies related to wildland fire within the CCFD#1's jurisdiction and when requested by the Department of Natural Resources. The specially trained firefighters are red carded and have attended classes taught by DNR officials and volunteers

who have wildland firefighting expertise.

In 2025, CCFD#1 also added an ambulance service component to their volunteer based emergency response services.

Educational facilities

Quillayute Valley School District (QVSD) Number 402 - is overseen by a 5-member elected Board that provides primary and secondary schooling for K-12 students from Forks and surrounding area in 6 schools including a central, consolidated campus that includes:

- **Forks Elementary School** - located at 301 South Elderberry Avenue served 341 K-4 grades in the 2022-2023 school year.
- **Forks Middle School** - located at 121 South Spartan Avenue served 273 5-8 grades in the 2022-2023 school year.
- **Forks High School** - located at 261 Spartan Avenue served 290 9-12 grades in the 2022-2023 school year.
- **District Run Home School** - served 9 students K-12 grades in the 2022-2023 school year.
- **Insight (Accredited Online High School) School of Washington Open Doors Program** -served 1,556 students 9-12 grades in the 2022-2023 school year.

QVSD enrollment was 2,473 students for the 2022-2023 year which was a 24.9% decline over 2,696 students for the 2021-2022 school year. QVSD students include 50% minority including Native American, 15.7% economically disadvantaged students, taught by 181 teachers with a student/teacher ratio of 13.68.

Peninsula College at Forks - is located at 481 South Forks Avenue and provides a full range of student support services. A learning center is staffed to provide academic or technical support to students enrolled in online or face-to-face classes. The college's educational opportunities include:

- Day and evening classes to fulfill requirements for the Associate of Arts degree and Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Education
- Distance learning courses coordinated with other Peninsula College campuses
- Access to and technical support for fully online programming
- Open enrollment for Transitional Studies, GED Preparation and High School 21+ daytime classes
- English Language Acquisition (ELA) evening classes with open enrollment

Library

The North Olympic Library System (NOLS) is a special purpose taxing district, (sometimes referred to as a "junior taxing district"), providing public library services to all of Clallam County. The NOLS is governed by a 5-member volunteer Board of Trustees, the members of which are appointed by the Clallam County Commissioners with central offices located at 2210 S Peabody Street in Port Angeles.

The NOLS consists of a Main Library and Administrative Center in Port Angeles, branches in Clallam Bay, Forks, and Sequim, an Outreach program providing books and other materials to people who are homebound, and a variety of web-based services. NOLS offers a collection of more than 260,000 items, including books, DVDs, ebooks, audiobooks, CDs, and extensive online resources. Residency in Clallam County is required for full service, but NOLS does offer limited-service accounts to visitors and non-residents who can establish proof of identity. All NOLS libraries offer free Wi-Fi connections.

Forks Branch of NOLS is located at 171 South Forks Avenue in a renovated 6,000 square foot space providing a conference room, meeting room, and express-check-out station. The Library's circulation exceeds 7,000 items per month. Services include children and adult programs, homebound patron services, and internet access.

University of Washington Olympic Natural Resources Center (ONRC)

University of Washington Olympic Natural Resources Center (ONRC) located at 1455 South Forks Avenue is administered by the University of Washington's (UW) College of Environment and the School of Environment and Forest Science. The center was established in 1991 by the Washington Legislature to integrate ecology and economics in the management of both forest and marine resources.

ONRC's research, education, and community service facilities are available to public, nonprofit, and commercial groups for a fee if there are no other comparable facilities available.

ONRC meeting spaces include:

- Hemlock Forest Conference Room seats up to 70 guests at tables in conference style or up to 100 guests' theater-style.
- Social Hall seats up to 64 diners with an attached communal kitchen.
- Cedar Room and additional break out space provide for small group setting.

ONRC accommodations for overnight attendees include:

- Dormitory and apartment lodging for up to 40 guests.
- Apartments with kitchens, desks, sofas, dining tables, and chairs and bathroom facilities with showers.
- Dormitory rooms include bunk beds, desks, and dressers.

The Center grounds include 2.5 miles of trails in surrounding DNR forestlands.

Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

In 1957, the legislature created the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to manage state trust lands for the people of Washington. DNR manages state owned forested timber lands

on the Olympic Peninsula with the objective of generating revenue for trust beneficiaries while preserve forests, water, and habitat.

DNR manages 5.6 million acres of forest, range, agricultural, aquatic, and commercial lands for more than \$200 million in annual financial benefit for public schools, state institutions, and county services.

DNR's mission is to manage, sustain, and protect the health and productivity of Washington's lands and waters to meet the needs of present and future generations.

DNR's Forks field office is located at 411 Tillicum Lane.

Washington Department of Fish & Game (WDFW) North Coastal Field Office

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) preserves, protect, and perpetuates fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities. WDFW's Forks field office is located at 551 Tillicum Lane.

By actively managing lands, restoring habitats, and preserving wild places, WDFW serves as stewards for Washington's natural places, protecting the state's land and water for human and wildlife populations.

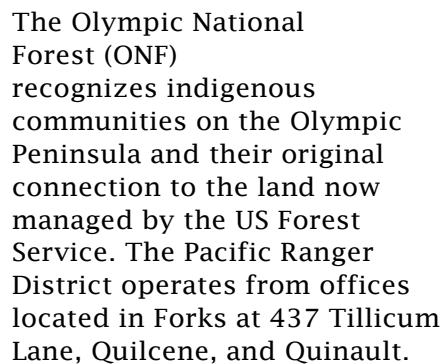
In addition to acquiring land for wildlife and their habitat, WDFW purchases lands to preserve Washington's natural and cultural heritage, provide access for hunting, fishing, and wildlife-related recreation, and foster outdoor experiences and exploration throughout the state.

Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission (NIFC)

NWIFC is a natural resources management support service organization for 20 treaty Indian tribes in western Washington located at 549 Tillicum Lane. Headquartered in Olympia, NWIFC

NWIFC was created following the 1974 Boldt Decision reaffirming the tribes' treaty-reserved fishing rights. The ruling recognized the tribes as natural resources co-managers with the State of Washington with an equal share of the harvestable number of salmon returning annually.

Pacific Ranger District – Forks



US Forestry Service (USFS)

- Provide a diverse range of quality natural and cultural resource-based recreation opportunities in partnership with people and communities.
- Protect the natural, cultural, and scenic environment for present and future generations to enjoy.
- Partner with public and private recreation benefit providers that meet public needs and expectations.

10,000 Years Institute is a Washington non-profit corporation, located at 341 North Forks Avenue. Institute staff are scientists and community activists with backgrounds in ecology, geology, fisheries, and forestry. 10,000 Years Institute seeks and develops partnerships with other non-profit organizations, Native American tribes and nations, government agencies and other resource managers; and may also act independently.

Medical and emergency facilities

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Forks Community Hospital completed accreditation from DNV GL - Healthcare in 2013 meeting or exceeding patient safety standards (Conditions of Participation) set forth by the US Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. DNV GL's accreditation program is the only one to integrate the ISO 9001 Quality Management System with the Medicare Conditions of Participation.

FCH operates the following services in Forks:

- **Forks Community Hospital** - located at 530 Bogachiel Way provides 25 acute, swing bed, and observation rooms with nurses trained and certified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Basic Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, Neonatal Resuscitation Program, and Trauma Nursing Core Course.
- **Bogachiel Medical Clinic and Women's Health** - located at 390 Founders Way provides a full range of family healthcare and specialty care for patients of all ages, including infants, children, teens, and adults. Bogachiel Clinic is a certified Rural Health Clinic.
- **Forks Family Medical** - located at 461 West G Street provides a full range of family healthcare and specialty care for patients of all ages, including infants, children, teens, and adults. Forks Family Medical Clinic is a certified Rural Health Clinic.
- **Clallam Bay Medical Clinic** - located at 74 Bogachiel Street in Clallam Bay provides a full range of family healthcare and specialty care to families living and visiting Clallam Bay, Sekiu, Neah Bay and surrounding areas. Clallam Bay Medical Clinic is a certified Rural Health Clinic.
- **Forks Ambulance Service** - serves Forks and La Push, provides ambulance and rescue coverage for West Clallam County into West Jefferson County, and responds to Olympic Corrections Center and all access points to the rivers, trails, and back roads - and area over 900 square miles. All EMT's are state licensed and certified as required by state law. Forks Ambulance has full-time and per diem EMT's. The volunteer EMT program is known as the Ray

Ellis Memorial Volunteer Ambulance Corps (REMVAC) and has been serving the community for over 60 years.

Solid waste disposal

West Waste & Recycling located at 272 La Push Road provides solid waste collection under contract with Forks for the Forks area. West Waste & Recycling is regulated by the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) for the unincorporated Forks UGA.

West Waste & Recycling provides residential and commercial curbside collection, drop box services, recycling, and disposal services at the transfer facility on La Push Road, and commercial paper and cardboard collection routes.

The Clallam County Regional Transfer Facility is located at 3501 West 18th Street in Port Angeles that accepts garbage, metals, motor oil, antifreeze, tires, yard waste, solid waste (appliances,) but not glass.

Essential public facilities

Essential public facilities are determined by the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) subject to a local siting process. When essential public facilities are proposed ~~the City~~ Forks will appoint an advisory City-Wide Site Evaluation Committee composed of citizen members selected to represent a broad range of interest groups and expertise including one individual with technical expertise relating to the type of facility. The committee will develop specific siting criteria for the proposed project and identify, analyze, and rank potential project sites.

The City-Wide Site Evaluation Committee will at a minimum consider the following:

- Existing city standards for siting such facilities.
- Existing public facilities and the effect on the community.
- The relative potential for reshaping the economy, environment,

- and the community character.
- The location of resource lands or critical areas.
- Essential public facilities should not be located beyond the UGA unless self-contained and do not require the extension of urban governmental services.

Goals and policies

COMFAC GOAL 1 - Assure Forks residents receive ample, quality, and reliable community facilities and services.

COMFAC Policy 1.1 - Work with and coordinate the deployment of infrastructure with land development in the FUGA.

COMFAC Policy 1.2 - Ensure a straightforward means of permitting essential distribution systems exists while protecting the public's interest in knowing the activities occurring within Forks.

COMFAC Policy 1.3 - Encourage and educate households to help in waste reduction and recycling of waste materials.

COMFAC Policy 1.4 - Maintain a cost effective and responsive solid waste and recycle collection system.