



OREGON OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

March 24, 2021

Wildfire Recovery Update

The Oregon Office of Emergency Management, in coordination with state and federal partners, distributes this update of collated and verified information on Oregon's wildfire recovery efforts.

Recovery resource: Free legal assistance

As the recovery process moves forward, it is important for wildfire-impacted Oregonians have access to all available benefits and resources.

It's not easy to navigate the complex networks of insurance, state and federal benefits, and private contractors while also trying to meet basic needs -- and there are resources available to help.

For low-income Oregonians, Legal Aid's Disaster Relief Program offers free legal help to people affected by the 2020 wildfires. Their trained professionals provide guidance to help with paperwork, answer questions and ensure all available benefits are made available. To see what benefits you qualify for, visit [The Oregon Disaster Legal Services website](#) or call 844-944-2428.

Oregon Trail Lawyers Association is also offering free assistance with insurance claims. Learn more at the [Oregon Trail Lawyers website](#) or call 800-809-0616.

If you do not qualify for low-income assistance, you may still receive free legal help from the Oregon State Bar's Disaster Legal Assistance Hotline: 800-452-7636 or 503-684-3763.

Wildfire Debris Cleanup is making progress as weather improves

With warmer, sunnier weather, outdoor activities have increased, providing opportunity to see both wildfire impacts and the great progress made by debris cleanup crews. Work has ramped up with 75 contractor crews on the ground marking and cutting hazard trees, testing for asbestos and cleaning sites to prepare properties for rebuilding.

The majority of sites have been cleared for asbestos, but it is not too late to have your property tested by ODOT. If you have not submitted a Right of Entry form, visit the [Oregon Wildfire Cleanup page](#) and click on your county to access the appropriate form.

Working closely with arborists, crews continue to remove hazard trees from public and private property. To date, more than 15,300 hazard trees have been removed and 845 home sites have been cleaned. You can track these numbers along with cleanup status by property address at [ODOT's Step 2 Cleanup page](#).

With Oregonians out and about for Spring Break activities, the public is urged to use caution when traveling and recreating as debris removal crews are working in wildfire impacted areas. Thanks in advance for helping us keep recovery operations moving safely and efficiently.

BY THE NUMBERS

Sheltered persons: **1,217**

Individuals in Direct Housing: **288**

Source: Oregon Department of Human Services

Hazardous trees removed: **15,395**

Source: Oregon Department of Transportation

Individual Assistance Registrants:
25,251

Source: FEMA Direct Temporary Housing Program

Amount Approved: \$35.7 million

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency

*Total registration count may vary due to applications pending review.

wildfire.oregon.gov

Media inquiries
fire.info@state.or.us
503-378-7872

Wildfire recovery - 6 months later

As we reach the six-month mark of the devastating September wildfires, we want to thank our FEMA team, state and federal partners and local service organizations for their hard work during these unprecedented times. Whether working remotely or in the field, many have played a part in bringing wildfire survivors much needed assistance, helping clear the path to long-term recovery.

OEM is a state agency whose role is typically behind the scenes when it comes to disaster preparedness and response. But the recovery process has brought an awareness to Oregonians on OEM's work facilitating resources and information to people impacted by disasters. We are here to help maximize the availability and use of federal assistance, identify and share resources, and support communities in need.



OREGON RISING
**STRONGER
TOGETHER**

HELP WITH FOOD AND COUNSELING IS AVAILABLE

Times are tough and the recovery process can seem overwhelming, but you are not alone! There are many resources to help you in your time of need.



Oregon Food Bank and Oregon Dept. of Human Services (ODHS)

For Oregonians in need of emergency food, the Oregon Food Bank works with a cooperative, statewide network of partner agencies to distribute food to hungry people.

The Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) supports a variety of nutritional and educational programs operated through Oregon Food Bank's statewide network of 21 regional food banks. For more information, go to [Oregon.gov/dhs/assistance/food-benefits/pages/food-resources.aspx](https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/assistance/food-benefits/pages/food-resources.aspx).



Safe • Strong Helpline

The Safe+Strong Helpline is available for children and adults who are struggling with stress, anxiety or other disaster-related depression-like symptoms.

Visit safestrongoregon.org/mental-emotional-health.

Call **800-923-4357**.

This free service is provided by the Oregon Health Authority and Portland-based nonprofit agency Lines for Life.

Lines for Life

Lines for Life, a FEMA-funded outreach program, connects individuals with compassionate assistance and resources such as housing/shelter support, food assistance, legal assistance, transportation, small business relief and more. These services are free, confidential and have no eligibility criteria - anyone who needs support, gets support. To connect with a member of its team, call **971-420-1028** for English, **971-420-1018** for Spanish, or email FEMAhelp@linesforlife.org.

INFORMATION RESOURCES

[Active Recovery Dashboard](#)

[Oregon Wildfire News](#)

[Emergency Management Websites by County](#)

[Oregon Insurance Commission](#)

NOTE: This publication is released every Wednesday.

Check wildfire.oregon.gov or visit our [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) pages for additional updates.

This publication is available in Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese on the [Oregon Wildfire Recovery Website: Oregon Wildfire Recovery - Media Resources](#). For other languages, large print, braille or other formats, contact David Cardona, OEM Language Access Coordinator, at 971-719-1183 or email david.cardona@state.or.us. We accept all relay calls, or you can dial 711.

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