



OREGON OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

February 3, 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.

Hazard tree removal work expands

The devastating wildfires that swept through Oregon in September 2020 left an estimated 300,000 hazard trees behind. Swift action is needed to mitigate the safety risk these trees pose. The Debris Management Task Force is focusing operations on hazard tree removal to ensure the safety of travelers, citizens and recovery crews.

In harder hit areas such as the McKenzie River corridor, people are noticing a stark difference in the landscape. Most Oregonians have an emotional connection to the natural beauty of our state. The removal of hundreds of thousands of trees - while necessary - is a painful sight. This necessary step to clear the area for replanting and rebuilding is a difficult but crucial part of the recovery process.

This work includes marking, cutting down, and clearing trees, branches and debris. There will be staging areas for larger logs along the road and continual movement of crews and machinery. Travelers are advised to use caution in these areas, follow all posted signs and be prepared to stop if necessary. For updates on wildfire clean up efforts, visit wildfire.oregon.gov/cleanup. Property owners can call 503-934-1700 for more information.

HUMAN IMPACTS

Sheltered persons: **1,100**

Source: American Red Cross & Oregon Department of Human Services

Households in Direct Housing: **94**

Source: FEMA Direct Temporary Housing Program

Individual Assistance Registrants:
25,251

Amount Approved: **\$34 million**

*Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency;
Total registration count may vary due to applications pending review.

Parcels cleared of
hazardous waste: **2,285**

Source: Environmental Protection Agency

Continue to work with FEMA to keep your recovery on track

Oregon wildfire survivors who have applied for FEMA assistance should stay in touch with FEMA to ensure the disaster assistance process stays on track. Be sure to keep contact information and current recovery status up to date with FEMA as they may need to reach out to conduct home inspections or get additional information.

Survivors who registered with FEMA may update contact information in the following ways:

- Online at DisasterAssistance.gov
- Download the FEMA app
- Call 800-621-3362. Multilingual operators are available 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week.
- Disaster survivors who are deaf, have a speech or hearing disability and use TTY may call 800-462-7585.
- Disaster survivors who use 711 or VRS (Video Relay Service) may call 800-621-3362.

wildfire.oregon.gov

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

HELP WITH FOOD AND COUNSELING IS AVAILABLE

If you are an Oregonian experiencing food scarcity and are 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 Housing & Community Services (OHCS) assists with food programs by supporting a variety of nutritional and educational programs that are 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.

Help is also available for Oregonians in need of counseling assistance. The Safe+Strong Helpline is available for both children and adults who are struggling with stress, anxiety or other disaster-related depression-like symptoms. For help, call 800-923-4357 or visit safestrongoregon.org/mental-emotional-health. This is a free service provided by the Oregon Health Authority and Portland-based nonprofit agency Lines for Life.

Lines of Life, a FEMA-funded outreach program, is designed to connect 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 their team, call 971-420-1028 for English, 971-420-1018 for Spanish, or email at FEMAhelp@linesforlife.org.

Oregon helps with wildfire-affected domestic wells

The Oregon Legislature recently allocated funds to the Oregon Health Authority to support 2020 wildfire victims with domestic well water testing. This will benefit an estimated 2,000 households that rely on wells for drinking water.

Information can be found at healthoregon.org/wells including a damage assessment, action steps to protect domestic wells and guidance on getting well water tested.

The assessment helps guide well users on what they can do themselves and what steps a licensed professional should take care of. There are multiple steps to ensuring safe drinking water including repairing and replacing damaged well components, re-pressurizing and refilling the well, flushing water lines, treating the well for microbial contaminants and testing.

Property owners can select from a list of approved environmental laboratories in Oregon and OHA that will provide vouchers for testing services. The deadline for these vouchers is May 15, 2021. For questions or more information, please visit healthoregon.org/wells.

NOTE: This publication is released every Wednesday.

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

This news release 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 format, 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.

INFORMATION RESOURCES

[Active Recovery Dashboard](#)

[Oregon Wildfire News](#)

[Emergency management websites](#)

[by county](#)

[Oregon Insurance Commission](#)

Donation Opportunities

[American Red Cross](#)

[Team Rubicon](#)

[Salvation Army](#)

[Northwest Baptist Disaster Relief](#)

[Wildland Firefighters Fund](#)

[Oregon Food Bank](#)

[Oregon Humane Society](#)

[Oregon Community Foundation](#)

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