



# OREGON OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

July 7, 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.

### President Biden Increases Federal Cost-Share for September 2020 Wildfires

To help impacted communities recover from last year's devastating wildfires, President Biden made additional disaster assistance available for the state of Oregon.

Under the President's order, the federal share for debris removal and emergency protective measures, including direct federal assistance under the Public Assistance program, has been increased to 100% (from the previous 75%) of the total eligible costs. This increase will cover a continuous period of 30 days, to be established by the state of Oregon.

To ensure federal funding is maximized, OEM will work closely with partner agencies and local governments to determine the optimal 30-day period in which the most FEMA-eligible costs were incurred. Once that date is determined, all previously reimbursed FEMA costs for that period will be reimbursed for the full 100% total cost.

This support and collaboration reflects the importance of devoting resources to help Oregon communities not only recover from last year's wildfires, but also to build back stronger.

### Debris Cleanup Update

Overall, 71% of statewide debris removal work is complete, with many fire areas only weeks away from full completion. A majority of fire-damaged trees statewide have been assessed and 33% of hazard tree removal work is finished.

With many complexities impacting this work, Oregonians may notice a slow-down in debris removal and hazard tree operations. Difficult terrain, soil sampling close-outs, hydro-mulching activities on cleared properties and navigating proximity between properties all play a part in the overall timeline.

Specific fire-by-fire updates are posted to the [debris and tree removal data dashboard](#). The interactive status map is also posted, providing a visual of work underway.

### BY THE NUMBERS

Sheltered persons: **1,041**

Source: Oregon Department of Human Services

Individuals in Direct Housing: **382**

Source: FEMA Direct Temporary Housing Program

Hazardous trees removed: **48,717**

Source: Oregon Department of Transportation

Home Sites Cleared: **2,146** (71.8%  
of total home sites)

Source: Oregon Department of Transportation

Individual Assistance Registrants:  
**25,251**

Source: FEMA Direct Temporary Housing Program

**Amount Approved: \$37.1 million**

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency



wildfire.oregon.gov

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

## Holdover Fires

Drought conditions and record-breaking heat have contributed to unseasonable fire conditions, causing holdover fires to reignite statewide in the footprints of last year's wildfires. Holdover fires are a natural phenomenon and common occurrence in the year following a wildfire, particularly if the area was severely burned.

Fire managers continue to monitor known holdover fires while looking for new fire starts -- on the ground and from the air using infrared technology and detection cameras.

If you see smoke coming from forestlands, call 911 to report it. Every Oregonian plays a key role in the state's wildfire detection system. Your reports help detect fires early and keep them as small as possible.

## The Gateway Project Brings Housing to Talent, Oregon

Earlier this month, Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) leadership, along with state and county officials, celebrated a milestone in recovery efforts at the Gateway Project Groundbreaking in Talent, Oregon.

The Gateway project, providing 53 RVs to serve as temporary housing while long-term rebuilding is underway, brings welcome stability to wildfire survivors and their families. The site allows school-age children to remain in their school districts. Located near retail and grocery stores, this temporary housing option offers a sense of community for residents after a tumultuous year of uncertainty.

This project is yet another example of collaboration resulting in real outcomes for Oregonians. Many thanks to Talent Urban Renewal Agency and Phoenix-Talent School District for their continued efforts.

NOTE: This publication is released bi-weekly on Wednesdays. Check [wildfire.oregon.gov](http://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](#). It is also available in large print, braille and additional formats. For assistance, call 971-719-1183 or email [language@state.or.us](mailto:language@state.or.us). We accept all relay calls, or you can dial 711.

## FEMA help still available in Jackson County

If you have already applied for Federal Disaster Assistance with FEMA, but still have questions about your application, FEMA representatives are offering In-person assistance July 30 - Aug. 2, 2021, at the Phoenix Civic Center, 200 N. Main St., Phoenix, OR 97535. Walk-in appointments will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis on the day of the event. Masks or face coverings are required for entry and service. Hours are:

- 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and Monday
- 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Sign language and Spanish interpreters available upon request.

Can't attend this event? If you need help with your application, a letter you received, or the appeals process, contact FEMA at [DisasterAssistance.gov](http://DisasterAssistance.gov) or call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 (TTY: 800-462-7585). Press 2 for a Spanish representative. FEMA specialists are available 4 a.m. to 8 p.m. PST, seven days a week.

## Free Legal Assistance

The Oregon Disaster Legal Services offers free legal assistance to low-income Oregonians affected by the 2020 wildfires.



To see what benefits are available, visit [oregondisasterlegalservices.org](http://oregondisasterlegalservices.org) or call 844-944-2428.

Free legal help is also available through the Oregon State Bar's Disaster Legal Assistance Hotline. Call 800-452-7636 or visit [osbar.org/public](http://osbar.org/public)

## INFORMATION RESOURCES

[Active Recovery Dashboard](#)

[Oregon Wildfire News](#)

[Emergency Management Websites by County](#)

[Oregon Insurance Commission](#)