



Eugene City Manager's Office

September 9 City of Eugene Community Update and Wildfire Resources

The past few days have been extremely difficult for our community and the State of Oregon. We know some of you may live in affected areas and our thoughts are with you. Please take care of yourselves and your families. We are working with our partner organizations to provide current information and support.



Information and Resources

See the following official sources for the most current information:

[*Sign-up for local emergency notifications](#)

Lane County Non-Emergency Call Center

Residents who are affected by the McKenzie Fire are welcome to call Lane County's non-emergency call center at 541-682-3977 between the hours of 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. After-hours calls will be transferred to the Sheriff's Office non-emergency phone line.

McKenzie Fire (aka Holiday Farm Fire) Updates and Evacuation Notices

- [Lane County website](#) (Click "evacuation information" for the most up-to-date locations and map.)
- [Lane County Facebook page](#)
- [Holiday Farm \(aka McKenzie Fire\) Facebook page](#)
- [State of Oregon Fire and Hot Spots Dashboard](#)

Air Quality Updates and Information

- [Lane Regional Air Protection Agency \(LRAPA\) website](#)
- [LRAPA Facebook page](#)

Water and Power Information

- [Eugene Water & Electric Board \(EWEB\) website](#)
- [EWEB Facebook page](#)
- [EWEB Water Advice](#) (posted Sept. 8)
- [How to Prepare to Evacuate](#)

City of Eugene Updates

Parks

Because of the nearby McKenzie Fire and windy conditions, the City of Eugene Parks and Open Space Division has closed both the entire Ridgeline Park System as well as Skinner Butte Summit in downtown Eugene through Thursday morning. Hendricks Park is considered part of the Ridgeline Park System, so it will be closed as well.

Library and Recreation

See the City website for [daily updates about Library and Rec programs and facilities](#)

Road Conditions

- [Trip Check](#)

Additional Resources

- [National Weather Service website](#)
- [Red Cross Safe and Well Site](#)
- [Donate to the Red Cross in Oregon](#)
- [FEMA](#)
- [Be Aware: Smoky air can cause symptoms similar to COVID-19 \(KLCC\)](#)

City Opens Clean Air Day Centers for Individuals with Respiratory Issues

The City of Eugene is opening two community centers for individuals who have compromised respiratory systems and need respite from the wildfire smoke. Petersen Barn and Hilyard community centers will serve as daytime Clean Air Centers, opening today, Sept. 9. These centers will have limited capacity because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Appropriate safety precautions, including physical distancing and sanitation, will be taken to keep patrons and staff safe. No showers, food or supplies are available at the Clean Air Day Centers but charging of electronic devices will be available. These day centers will remain open for the next two days and may be extended if needed. Please check the [City's website for daily updates](#). Also note anyone wishing to donate supplies should contact the [Red Cross](#).

Additionally, Lane County is opening a day center at the Lane Events Center.

Eugene Locations

- Hilyard Community Center (2850 Hilyard St.) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Petersen Barn Community Center (870 Berntzen Rd.) 12-5 p.m.
- Lane Events Center (796 W. 13th Ave.) 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Willamalane Temporary Smoke and Fire Shelters

Additionally, Willamalane has opened the following temporary rescue shelters for community members who have been evacuated or lost power.

- Bob Keefer Center, 250 S. 32nd St., Springfield
- Willamalane Adult Activity Center, 215 W. C St., Springfield

These sites will have capacity limits, adhere to social distancing requirements and include other regular sanitation protocols as required with current health guidelines. Willamalane can't offer showers right now, but that status may change as the situation progresses. Willamalane won't be charging any fees for people to use its facilities for temporary shelter. The Bob Keefer Center parking lot is allowing RV parking. There are limited spaces available.

Safety Tips

Fire

- **Avoid the area:** Do not approach the area as fire crews are working to respond. Unnecessary traffic can cause delays and confusion during the response. Respect any road closures.
- **Follow the evacuation notices:** If you are under an evacuation notice, please comply with requests made for Level 1 (Be Ready), Level 2 (Be Set) and Level 3 (Go Now).

Smoke

- Stay indoors and keep windows and doors shut.
- Do not exercise outdoors.



- Be prepared for power loss by having flashlights, headlamps and candles available.
- If you have heart or lung disease or asthma, follow your healthcare provider's advice.

Driving During Heavy Smoke and Wildfires

The Oregon Department of Transportation has shared the following tips as we may see additional smoky conditions in the weeks ahead. Remember to avoid driving in these conditions if at all possible. If you must drive, be alert, don't drive distracted and remember you play a big part to help avoiding wildfires.

Tips for safe driving if you encounter heavy smoke:

- **Slow down and stay alert.** Slow driving gives you more time to respond to unexpected conditions.
- **Turn on your headlights.** Even during daylight hours, your headlights will help others on the road see you. Use low-beams. High-beams reflect off the moisture in the air and cause glare.
- **Use fog lights.** If you have them, fog lights can help cut through the smoke.
- **Check your entire route before setting out.** Conditions may be very different at your destination.
- **Find an alternate route.** Fire is wildly unpredictable, especially in high winds. If at all possible, find a route that takes you away from fires.
- **Keep plenty of space between you and other vehicles.** Visibility, of course, decreases in smoke so maintain a safe stopping distance between you and the vehicle up front.
- **If visibility becomes too dangerous** to continue, pull off to the side of the road as soon as safely possible.
- **Never stop in a travel lane.** Look for a safe area completely off the road if possible and turn off all lights, including flashers, until it's safe to continue.
- **Don't tailgate.** Keep a steady, reliable pace. Remember that everyone else on the road is experiencing the same conditions. They're counting on you to help show the way.
- **Roll up the windows.** Set your fan to recirculate.
- **Have your car ready before you go.** Make sure you have a full gas tank before leaving and your vehicle is in good condition. Have water, food, and medications with you – and for any pets you bring.

COVID-19 Information/Resources

Practice the 4 Ws

It's up to all of us to do our part. Help protect yourself and others:

1. **Wear a face covering** – indoor and out, it's a statewide requirement
2. **Watch your distance** – stay 6 feet apart from those outside your household
3. **Wash your hands** – often with soap and water for 20 seconds throughout the day
4. **Wait it out** – stay home if you are sick

Answer the Call – Contact Tracing is Important to Stop the Spread

If you get a call or voicemail from a Public Health contact tracer, please answer or return the call. Contact tracing is critical to our community's ability to continue limiting the spread of COVID-19. People who participate in contact tracing are actively helping to keep their community safe by helping public health officials track the virus. For more information from Lane County Public Health on contact tracing please visit their contact tracing webpage. The State of Oregon's contact tracing web page also offers useful information and resources.

More resources

See a list of [Community Resources](#) for physical and mental health, food, housing, businesses, employees, schools and children, as well as information in Spanish. Also learn how you can help.

Our partners have a significant amount of information available online. Please visit these resources for the most up to date information:

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [State of Oregon](#)
- [Oregon Health Authority](#)
- [Lane County Public Health](#)
- **Lane County Call Center:** Open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., 541-682-1380

[Previous Community Update](#)

- [COVID-19 Community Update](#) (September 3, 2020)