



OREGON OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

OEM: Weekly Watch Report

March 14, 2016 – March 20, 2016

[Message from the Director](#) -

Weather –

You can view the weekly forecast here: <http://graphical.weather.gov/sectors/oregonWeek.php#tabs>.

- [NWS Portland](#)
- [NWS Pendleton](#)
- [NWS Medford](#)
- [NWS Boise](#)

Updates from the Joint Field Office in Salem for DR 4258, the 2015 Pacific Storm Event –

Oregon and the Federal Emergency Management Agency continue to reach milestones in the recovery since the major disaster declaration Feb. 17. The declaration assists state, tribal, eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations affected by severe winter storms, straight-line winds, flooding, landslides and mudslides occurring Dec. 6-23, 2015.

The following is a disaster recovery update for the 12 counties declared for Public Assistance: Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, Curry, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Multnomah, Polk, Tillamook, Washington, and Yamhill.

As of March 11:

- The state conducted all applicant briefings for the 12 counties detailing the assistance process.
- Applicants submitted approximately 67 Requests for Public Assistance; **the deadline is March 18**.
- Public Assistance staff completed 36 exploratory calls with eligible applicants.
- 33 Recovery Scoping Meetings were scheduled; nine of those meetings are complete.

Douglas County completed a Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) on Friday, March 11. The county provided the state with additional disaster damages that occurred December 6-23, 2015. The state and FEMA Public Assistance staff surveyed additional damages and analyzed for potential consideration under the FEMA-4258-DR-OR, the major disaster declaration of Feb. 17, 2016.

December 2015 Pacific Storm Event (DR-4258) Major Disaster Declaration Recovery Process –

- The Small Business Administration (SBA) announced low-interest federal disaster loans are available to Oregon businesses and residents affected by the Pacific Storm Event that occurred Dec. 6-23, 2015.
- The disaster declaration makes SBA assistance available in Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Hood River, Lincoln, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Tillamook, Wasco, Washington and Yamhill counties.
- The SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers will be open on these days and times:
 - Clackamas County
Clackamas County Development Services Building (aka DSB Building)
150 Beaver Creek Road, Oregon City, OR 97045

Opens at 9 a.m. Monday, March 14
Mondays - Fridays, 9 a.m. -- 6 p.m.
Center closes at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 24

- Tillamook County
Port of Tillamook Bay Main Offices Conference Room 380
4000 Blimp Blvd., Suite 100, Tillamook, OR 97141
Opens at 9 a.m. Monday, March 14
Mondays - Fridays, 9 a.m. -- 6 p.m.
Center closes at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 24

In the News –

- [SBA offers low-interest disaster assistance loans to local businesses and residents affected by December storms](#)
- [Oregon tests tsunami walkout Friday](#)
- [Coos Bay conducts tsunami walk out evacuation drill Friday](#)
- [Douglas County hosts free earthquake preparation response training workshop](#)
- [Sheriff's 9-1-1 radio upgrade granted](#)

Critical Infrastructure/Private Sector –

- Emergency Support Function (ESF) 2 Telecommunications Cascadia Playbook Workshop
 - Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC) is hosting a workshop to cover the next steps in developing an Implementation Plan
 - Wednesday, March 16 from 1-4p.m.
 - Contact Rick Carter, OPUC at 503-378-6631 or rick.carter@state.or.us
- The National Critical Infrastructure Protection Program (NCIPP) Data Call and Critical Infrastructure Partner Workshop will be hosted by the Oregon TITAN Fusion Center.
 - Thursday, March 24 from 1-4p.m., Camp Withycombe
 - Contact Shannon Marheine at 503.934.2022 or shannon.m.marheine@doj.state.or.us
- Clear Path IV is an energy focused disaster response exercise sponsored by the US Department of Energy. It is scheduled to take place in Portland in April. This exercise will provide an opportunity for government (local, state and federal) and industry to examine challenges in responding to the Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake and tsunami. This exercise will provide the energy sector with building block information for Cascadia Rising 2016.
 - April 19, 2016 – Clear Path IV Local, State and Regional Energy Sector Response Coordination
 - April 20, 2016 – National Level Energy Coordination
- FEMA Region X is offering a Cascadia Rising Virtual Tabletop Exercise for the private sector. Pre-registration for this training opportunity is required. Contact Lucianne Phillips at 425-487-2104 or lucianne.phillips@fema.dhs.gov for more information. This training exercise is available on the following dates:
 - April 14, 2016 1:00 - 3:30p.m.
 - April 22, 2016 9:00 - 11:30a.m.
 - April 26, 2016 9:00 - 11:30a.m.

Training --

- [“Tsunami Safe: Hospitality Begins with Safety”](#) training sessions are scheduled for various locations along the coast from Feb. 22 to March 17. This round of trainings will offer two components on each date. The first component is introductory training for facilities that have not already received that training. The second component is a new disaster planning training for hospitality industry management.
 - Wednesday, March 16, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
 - Gold Beach Fire Hall Meeting Room, 29592 Ellensburg Ave., Gold Beach
 - Thursday, March 17, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
 - Newport Chamber of Commerce, 555 SW Coast Highway, Newport
- Check the [training calendar](#) for the most up to date list of training.
- Planning on going to EMI for training? Your application needs to be submitted no less than six weeks prior to the class. Submit your 119 form to: james.adams@state.or.us

Exercises –

- The Cascadia Rising Final Planning Meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2015, 10:30a.m. – 3:30p.m., at Kah-Nee-Ta.

Community Engagement –

- March 15 at 6p.m., Douglas County is hosting a Cascadia Subduction Zone preparedness workshop at Douglas County Library in the Ford room.
- [My Preparedness Story: Staying Healthy & Resilient Video Challenge](#) is accepting video submissions until March 29, 2016. Videos should answer the question “How are you helping family, friends, and community protect their health during disasters and every day?”
- FEMA is seeking public comments on all aspects of the [Disaster Deductible](#) concept until March 21, 2016. Comments may be submitted through [Regulations.gov](#) under docket [ID FEMA-2016-003](#).
- In early January, FEMA entered the next phase of tribal consultation for the Stafford Act disaster declaration process for tribal governments. The draft guidance is posted to the [Federal Register](#) and will be available for comment until April 7, 2016. Additional information regarding the consultation process may be found at [Second Draft Tribal Declaration Pilot Guidance](#).

9-1-1 Program –

- The OEM Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) Project Management Team (PMT) and the Department of Administrative Services, Enterprise Technology Service (DAS ETS) continue to meet for the Frame Relay Replacement Project.
- Check the [OEM web site](#) for project updates.

Grants –

- The Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant application for 2016-2017 is now open. Grant applications are due by 5p.m. March 15, 2016. For additional information, please contact Sue Otjen at 503-934-8227 or sue.otjen@state.or.us.

Planning –

- The third annual Oregon Emergency Preparedness Workshop is meant to build partnerships by sharing experiences and ideas while strengthening collaboration. The workshop will provide participants with networking opportunities, training and information on programs, current issues and best practices related to all phases of emergency management. Additional information will be coming in the near future. For more information contact [Sidra Metzger-Hines](#) or at 503-378-2911.
Currently all rooms at Kah-Nee-Ta Spa and Resort are full. Through partnerships with local hotels, we have been able to extend our negotiated conference rate to partner hotels in nearby Madras. If you have not yet made your reservations, we ask that you please still work through our host, Kah-Nee-Ta Resort and Spa to ensure you receive the negotiated conference rate of \$89/night (+taxes & fees). Lodging reservations are the sole responsibility of the attendee.
 - April 4 – 8, 2016
 - Kah-Nee-Ta, Oregon
- OEM is supporting the special event planning effort for the World Indoor Track and Field Championships scheduled for March 17-20 in Portland.

Preparedness Tip –

- Test smoke alarms at least once a month
 - Smoke alarms provide early warning of a fire to allow individuals and families to escape, but only if they work.
 - Test your smoke alarm by pushing the test button
 - Replace batteries according to manufacturer instructions and retest the alarm
 - Replace smoke alarms that are 10 years old or older

Disaster of the Week –

March 18, 1937: The [London School in New London, Texas](#) exploded following a natural gas leak, killing approximately 300 people, mostly children. [Walker Cronkite](#), a young journalist, covered the explosion. Cronkite, went on to cover World War II, the Vietnam War and the Kennedy Assassination, said he never covered a story throughout his 60 year career that equaled the magnitude of the New London School explosion.

Lessons learned: The explosion was caused after the school canceled its natural gas service contract to save money. Instead, plumbers installed a gas line to a nearby oil refinery to use the natural gas generated through the refinement process. Natural gas is odorless and colorless; no one knew the new gas line was leaking. It is believed an employee of the refinery caused a spark using an electric sander, igniting the gas vapors and causing the explosion. Following this disaster, Texas mandated that [thiol](#), a chemical compound, be added to natural gas to give it a distinctive odor. This practice is still in use today. The school district and oil refinery were both sued, but the courts ruled neither entity could be held responsible for the explosion. Among the foreign heads of state to send condolences to the community was German Chancellor Adolph Hitler, and a copy of the telegram is on display at the [New London School Museum](#).

RAPTOR: -

Users can now add data from the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries' release of the Landslide Susceptibility data. This option is available as a map underneath the "Add ArcGIS Online Data" under the "Add Data" menu option.



This adds the Landslide Susceptibility data into the layer list, allowing users to view this within the RAPTOR mapping interface.

Check out the [DOGAMI Landslide Susceptibility](#) publication website to find our more.

ECC –

- The State ECC is currently in Level 1 Standby. All requests for assistance should be made by contacting OERS at 1-800-452-0311.