



OREGON OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

OEM: Weekly Watch Report

August 29-September 5, 2016

Message from the Director –

Weather –

You can view the current watches and warnings [here](#).

You can view the weekly forecast [here](#).

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

In the News –

- ['Text to 9-1-1' service activated for Portland metro area](#)
- [More planning than kit building this week](#)
- [Search and rescue missions mark busy stretch for Columbia River Gorge responders](#)
[Text-to-911 goes online in Portland and other communities](#)

OEM Phone System –

The Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM) recently upgraded to a new phone system. While the main number remains the same, individuals in the office now have a new direct dial line. Please check our [updated directory](#).

National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month begins on Thursday. OEM has several new and updated publications and other materials to help spread the word about personal and family preparedness. Let us know what is going on in your community so that we can help to promote this important time period.

Hazards Update –

- Drought
 - Even though the past winter and spring brought some relief to drought across Oregon, water officials and emergency managers are closely monitoring [conditions this summer](#). Counties facing potential drought this year can now receive help faster. A new process for requesting a drought declaration under ORS 536 provides access to many water policy tools without requiring a declaration of emergency under ORS 401. Further details are available in the [memo and request template at the OWRD website](#) or at the monthly Drought Readiness Council meetings. For more information contact [Erik Rau](#) or 503-378-3252.
- Wildfire
 - OEM has developed a [Wildfire Communications Toolkit](#) with suggested messages, templates and social media shareables for the 2016 fire season. OEM has also updated the [Wildfire Factsheet](#).
- Zika

- Oregon does not have the type of mosquitos known to spread Zika so the risk of mosquitos spreading Zika in Oregon remains low. General information for the public (updated every Tuesday) may be found at www.healthoregon.org/zika.

Training –

- Several classes in Psychological First Aid are available:
 - [Red Cross - Psychological First Aid](#) (PFA) – The American Red Cross course is to prepare all first responders to provide basic care, comfort and support to people who are experiencing disaster-related stress. Wednesday, September 14, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mid-Columbia Fire & Rescue, 1400 W 8th St. The Dalles, OR.
 - [Red Cross - Psychological First Aid and Resilience for Families, Friends & Neighbors](#) – This 4-hour modular curriculum teaches participants how to build their own resilience and the ability to recover quickly after difficult times. Wednesday, September 14, 2 – 6 p.m. Mid-Columbia Fire & Rescue, 1400 W 8th St. The Dalles, OR.
- 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

Community Engagement –

- Has your agency or organization registered to be part of the [Great Oregon ShakeOut](#) on October 20? Our goal this year is 600,000. Sign up and submit your letter of support today!
- September 10 – Get Ready Salem, a free family-focused event hosted by NW Natural and local emergency groups, takes place on the Capitol Steps and Mall in Salem from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. [Additional events](#) are scheduled on September 10 in Astoria and Coos Bay, on September 17 in Lincoln city and Gresham, and on September 24 in The Dalles.
- September 19-22 - [2016 Washington State Emergency Management Association Conference](#), Northern Quest Resort in Spokane.
- September 28 – October 1 - [American Society of Civil Engineers \(ASCE\) Convention](#).
- October 4-6, the [Oregon Emergency Management Association \(OEMA\) 2016 Conference](#) at the Salishan Spa and Golf Resort. This year’s keynote speaker is Lt. General Russel L. Honoré (Ret.) Commander of the Joint Task Force Katrina and Global Preparedness Authority.

Planning –

- FEMA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and their federal partners in the Mitigation Federal Leadership Group (MitFLG) Disaster Resilience Indicators Subcommittee released a [“Draft Interagency Concept for Community Resilience Indicators and National-Level Progress Measures.”](#)
- The Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration updated the [Guidance and Standards](#) used for flood mapping and risk analysis efforts. There were five standards with significant updates, three new standards, six standards with minor terminology updates and five rescinded standards in this maintenance cycle.

9-1-1 Program –

- The Portland Dispatch Center Consortium Text to 9-1-1 pilot was launched on August 23, with a kickoff press conference held at Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency. The pilot of this web-based application is for a 6-month period. If the pilot proves successful, it is anticipated that the Text to 9-1-1 web-based application will be fully implemented statewide by July 2017.
- August 29-31 is the annual [Oregon GIS Mapping and MSAG Coordinators Conference](#) at the Eagle Crest Resort. For more information contact Michael Gurley at Michael.gurley@state.or.us or 503-378-3229.
- The OEM Frame Relay Replacement Team has contracted with Team IBM for the replacement of the frame relay network and associated equipment. IBM has partnered with CenturyLink, Azimuth Communications and Intrado to provide these services. All 5 pilot sites have now successfully been cut over to the new IP based network.
- Check the [OEM web site](#) for project updates.

Grants –

- EMPG: OEM received its FY16 federal grant award August 12th. Staff will conduct a review of the terms and conditions to determine those which must go into subrecipient agreements. Once done, the subrecipient agreements will be reviewed by DOJ. We anticipate having the subrecipient awards about by September 15th. If you haven't submitted your revised budget yet, please do so ASAP. If you have any questions please contact Kelly Jo Craigmiles at 503-378-2865.
- The [Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program \(SRGP\)](#) provides funding for seismic rehabilitation of critical public buildings, particularly public schools and emergency services facilities. The next application period opens July 1 and closes September 30. In order to apply, contact the Business Oregon SRGP Coordinator, [Gloria Zacharias](#), phone 503-986-0132.

Mitigation and Recovery —

- OEM continues its work with federal agencies on the Fire Management Assistant Grant (FMAG) – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) pilot program. OEM has also filed an extension and will provide updates in the near future.

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

Public entities in 14 counties (Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, Curry, Douglas, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Multnomah, Polk, Tillamook, Washington and Yamhill) qualified to receive federal disaster assistance after the December 2015 Pacific Storm event.

- The JFO closed July 15; a small contingent of FEMA staff remain in Salem fulfilling public assistance grants. They expect to be on site through September.

RAPTOR –

RAPTOR has been recognized by the Department of Homeland Security as a key application for the Geospatial Concept of Operations. OEM is the first State agency listed on the new DHS [website](#). RAPTOR and OEM are highlighted as a primary stakeholder, capability, and a best practice.

Preparedness Tip –

Labor Day is next week and many people take the long weekend as a chance to celebrate the last days of summer. Road trips and outdoor parties are common so keep these safety tips in mind:

Driving safety:

- Pay attention to the weather forecast for the destination.
- Buckle up, slow down, and don't drink and drive.
- Carry a Disaster Supplies Kit in the trunk.
- Don't let the gas tank get too low.
- If car trouble occurs, pull as far as possible off the highway.

Grilling safety

- Always supervise a barbecue grill when in use.
- Never grill indoors – not in the house, camper, tent, or any enclosed area.
- Keep the grill out in the open, away from the house, deck, tree branches or anything that could catch fire.
- Use the long-handled tools especially made for cooking on the grill to keep the chef safe.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when coals have already been ignited.

Now Hiring –

- Cowlitz County is hiring a [Local Emergency Response Coordinator](#).
- Columbia County has an open [Public Affairs Coordinator](#) position.

Disaster of the Week –

September 1-3, 2004: A group of armed Islamic Separatists demanding independence for Chechnya [stormed a school in Beslan, North Ossetia](#) (a region of the Russian Federation) and took the students and teachers hostage. After three days,

Russian troops entered the building amid gunfire and explosions, and ended the siege. However, of the more than 1,200 hostages, 334 were killed including 186 children.

Lessons learned: Investigations into the response of the Russian authorities have indicated that up to 80% of the casualties were caused by Russian military and police forces. Although it is hard to fathom such an attack occurring in the United States, on-going [active-shooter training](#) and planning for all emergencies, both naturally-occurring and human-caused at schools, houses of worship, and any facility where large crowds gather improve everyone's ability to respond to an emergency or disaster and get themselves out of harm's way.

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.