



The Oregon Examiner.

Published by the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering & Land Surveying

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Mission

The mission of the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering & Land Surveying (OSBEELS) is to regulate the practice of engineering, land surveying, photogrammetric mapping, and water right certification in the state as they relate to the welfare of the public in safeguarding life, health and property.

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On the cover: Kiger Notch (Kiger Gorge, Steens Mountain)

The Kiger Notch is a feature of the long north ridge of Steens Mountain and can be seen from the highway as you are driving towards Frenchglen. Kiger Gorge, carved through basalt by ice age glaciers, is about a half-mile deep. Kiger Creek, as well as Kiger Island in the Willamette River near Corvallis, are named for Reuben C. Kiger and his family, pioneers who settled in Benton County in the mid-19th century. In 1874, they moved to Harney County to the Steens Mountain vicinity.

Upcoming at OSBEELS:

December 11-12: Committee Meetings

December 31: Deadline for Renewal (Last Names A-F)

January 13: Board Meeting

April 30 - May 3: NCEES Western Zone Meeting

[Download the NEW 2026 OSBEELS Calendar here](#)



The Oregon Examiner is published by the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering & Land Surveying (OSBEELS). To stay up-to-date with all things OSBEELS, find us online at www.oregon.gov/osbeels

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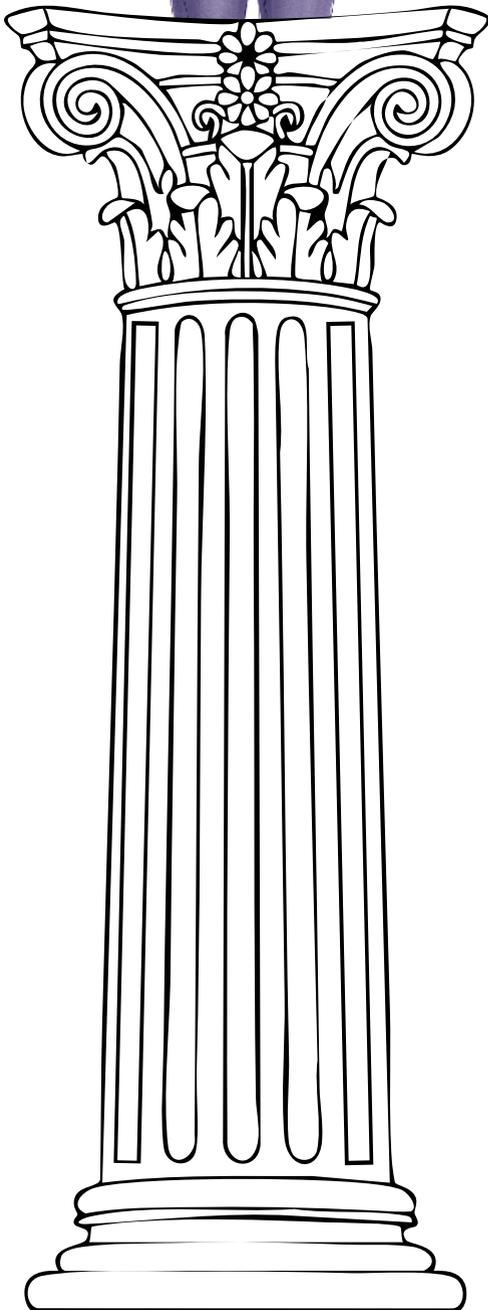
from the desk of Renee Clough, PLS, PE

This is the first of what I hope will be a regular column in *The Oregon Examiner*. In addition to serving on the OSBEELS Board, I am a member of the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon (PLSO), Their Board Chair has a regular column in the Oregon Surveyor; I appreciate the insight it gives to the thoughts and priorities of the organization's leadership and would like to bring something similar to OSBEELS. I remember a seminar speaker years ago opening with the line, "I'm from the government and I'm here to help."; the speaker meant it as a legitimate, honest fact without any sarcasm. I share that philosophy and hope that this column can be one small way of putting it into practice.

Once again, renewal season is here! Licensees with last names starting with A-F have a renewal deadline of December 31, just a few weeks after this *Oregon Examiner* issue. Part of the renewal process is providing evidence of Professional Development Hours (PDHs), per OAR 820-010-0635. Why do we have PDHs? They can feel like a drag...taking time away from project deadlines. However, completing the required PDHs is one way to demonstrate competency in your profession – keeping up with technology, advancements, and innovation. The specific benefits of PDHs depend on what opportunities you seek out, but here are the ones I focus on and what I get out of them:

- "Active participation in professional or technical society..." and "Active participation in seminars...workshops, and professional conventions" – As I mentioned above, I am a member of the PLSO. I attend most of the local chapter meetings and statewide Annual Meetings; of all the PDH activities I do, this is hands down the one that I get the most benefit from. It gives me the opportunity to exchange perspectives and experiences with other surveyors in my area. I can think of multiple times when discussions from these meetings influenced my work for the better and, I'd like to think, commentary I've given has been a positive influence for others.
- "Authoring...published papers, articles..." – As you've probably guessed from my choice to introduce this column, I don't shy away from writing articles. I also love to read what others have written. As a result, I have written a handful or so of book review articles for the PLSO's Oregon Surveyor. I could have read the books, counted it as a self-study PDH and been done with it. However, taking it to the next level (writing articles about the books) helps me make sure all the pieces have come together into a clear picture.

In other PDH news, the 2025 OSBEELS Symposium recently occurred but staff is already starting to plan for the 2026 Symposium. If you have an idea for an interesting topic or speaker, please reach out to Ashlee Graybeal at ashlee.d.graybeal@osbeels.oregon.gov.





Confluence

2025 OSBEELS Symposium

OSBEEELS gathered professionals, partners, and students for the 2025 OSBEELS Symposium on September 25–26. Across two full days, engineers, surveyors, academics, and industry leaders explored cutting-edge projects, regulatory updates, workforce development, and resilience planning that will shape the built environment in the years ahead.

The Symposium opened Thursday morning with remarks from new Board Administrator Jenn Gilbert and recently elected Board President Renee Clough, PE, PLS, setting a tone of renewal and strategic focus for the year. The first technical session, “Just say ‘no’ to single track: TriMet’s Better Red Project” presented by Parametrix, examined the complexities of expanding transit infrastructure and the planning required to deliver reliable, multimodal service to the region.

After a short break, attendees engaged with a timely ethics session delivered by John Greenhalge of the Ohio State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors. The presentation reinforced core professional

responsibilities and addressed emerging ethical questions as technology and practice evolve. Late morning brought an inspiring Student Spotlight: Rebekah O’Neill from Oregon State University (OSU) Cascades presented “Project HULK SMASH: Adaptive Skateboarding System for a Student with Cerebral Palsy,” a warmly received demonstration of human-centered engineering.

Thursday afternoon focused on geospatial accuracy and workforce readiness. OSU’s Michael Olson, PhD, and Chase Simpson, PLS, presented “Be in the Right Place at the Right Time: Adopting the Modernized NSRS,” outlining critical changes to the National Spatial Reference System and what they mean for surveying and engineering workflows. The day closed with a practical and forward-looking session from OSBEELS Communications Coordinator Ashlee Graybeal, “Preparing the Future Workforce: Professional Awareness & Emotional Literacy,” which emphasized workforce development, outreach, mentoring, and the interpersonal skills necessary to retain the next generation of professionals.

Friday began with an overview of the Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors (OACES) from Bradley Cross, PLS, OACES President-Elect, followed by a deep dive into a major transportation effort: the “I-5 Over 26th Ave Bridge Replacement,” presented by engineers from ODOT and David Evans and Associates. The mid-morning session from Mackenzie, Inc., “AI in Engineering, Architecture, and Construction,” sparked conversation about practical applications of Artificial Intelligence, opportunities to boost productivity, and the ethical guardrails professionals must consider.

Attendees received updates from PEO and PLSO before reconvening after lunch to hear the Dog River Pipeline Replacement Project from Jacobs Engineering, which highlighted coordinated planning and engineering solutions for long-term water reliability. The Symposium concluded with a crucial resilience-focused presentation by Erica Fischer, PhD, OSU, “Fire-Resilient Infrastructure: Strengthening Infrastructure Against Wildfire Risk,”

underscoring how climate-driven hazards must now be central to design and asset management.

As the two-day event wrapped, participants left energized by substantive technical content and renewed commitment to collaboration across disciplines. The 2025 OSBEELS Symposium reinforced that the future of engineering and surveying depends on ethical practice, technological adaptability, and a workforce prepared to meet complex societal challenges.

Mark your calendars now for the 2026 OSBEELS Symposium on September 17 & 18, 2026!

A massive THANK YOU to the presenters who shared their time and work with us:

Aaron George – Jacobs Engineering

Chase Simpson, PLS – Oregon State University

Dan Naughton, PE – Shiels Obletz Johnsen, Inc.

Erica Fischer, PhD, PE – Oregon State University

Guy Horchy, PE – Parametrix

Joel Tubbs, PE, SE – David Evans and Associates, Inc.

John F. Greenhalge – Ohio State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors

John Willis – Parametrix

Josh McDowell, PE, SE, LEED AP – Mackenzie, Inc.

Marcelo Axevedo, PE – Jacobs Engineering

Matthew Baldwin, PE – Jacobs Engineering

Matthew Tuan, PE – Mackenzie, Inc.

Michael Alexander – Stacey and Witbeck

Michael Olson, PhD – Oregon State University

Rebekah O'Neill – Oregon State University

Robert DeVassie, PE, PMP, STP – Oregon Department of Transportation

Sarah Touey, PE – S2E Consulting, LLC

Tim Bedford, PE – Jacobs Engineering

Zach Davis, PE – Oregon Department of Transportation

Belinda Rasmussen, CMM – Professional Engineers of Oregon

Bradley Cross, PLS – Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors

Dan Nelson, PLS – Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon

Ron Stillmaker, PE – Professional Engineers of Oregon

NEW / Submit your Speaker Requests using the our new online form:

<https://www.oregon.gov/osbeels/aboutus/Pages/Speaker-Request.aspx>

Help us help you!!

Speaking Engagements:

Do you have a meeting or event in Oregon involving engineers, land surveyors, water right examiners, or photogrammetrists? We are available to give presentations on who we are and what we do, including how the licensure process works. We're also happy to set up an informational booth and be available during your event to answer any OSBEELS related questions.

Continuing Education Opportunities:

How are you earning your PDHs toward your biennial renewal? Send us opportunities that we can share on our webpage and in our Examiner newsletter of learning opportunities for our professionals. We want to help everyone keep up on those continuing education requirements.

Photos of Your Work:

We invite you to share your work experiences with the OSBEELS community! We're looking for photos of noteworthy projects, monuments, or work site locations that you think others will appreciate. They may be featured in future issues of the Examiner as well as our social media pages.

Send your event info, learning opportunities, and work photos (.jpg or .png format preferred) to our Communications Coordinator, Ashlee Graybeal at ashlee.d.graybeal@osbeels.oregon.gov

Expanding Awareness, Building Connections: A Year of Outreach at OSBEELS



Over the past year, OSBEELS has significantly expanded its outreach efforts to strengthen awareness of the engineering and surveying professions across Oregon. With a focus on early career exploration, licensure support, and deeper engagement with the professional community, the Board has been working statewide to build connections that support both the future workforce and today's licensed professionals.

Inspiring the Next Generation

To encourage more young people to consider engineering and surveying as future careers, OSBEELS has visited middle and high schools across Oregon, meeting students where career curiosity begins. Staff have delivered classroom presentations that introduce the realworld impact of licensed professionals, discuss pathways into STEM careers, and highlight the everyday relevance of engineering and surveying in the communities students call home. OSBEELS has also increased its presence at middle and high school career fairs, offering hands-on activities and one-on-

one conversations designed to make these technical professions more accessible and exciting for students of all backgrounds.

Supporting College Students as They Prepare for Licensure

At the university level, OSBEELS has been engaging directly with engineering and geomatics students through classroom presentations and campus visits. These sessions have focused on demystifying the licensure process—clarifying the steps toward becoming a Professional Engineer (PE) or Professional Land Surveyor (PLS), explaining exam requirements, and answering individual questions. By connecting with students at this critical stage, the Board aims to empower them with the knowledge and confidence they need to successfully navigate the early stages of their professional journeys.

Strengthening Relationships with the Professional Community

In addition to student-focused outreach, OSBEELS has been actively participating in conferences and events hosted by professional organizations throughout the state. These engagements provide opportunities to bring awareness to our agency's role in regulation, share updates and trends, and emphasize the Board's ongoing commitment to supporting licensure. Just as importantly, these events help OSBEELS foster human connections—allowing staff to listen directly to the needs, challenges, and successes of the professional community.

Looking Ahead

This year's outreach represents a continued investment in the future of engineering and surveying in Oregon. By inspiring students, supporting emerging professionals, and strengthening relationships across the industry, OSBEELS is working to ensure that these essential professions remain vibrant, inclusive, and well-supported for years to come.

2025 Events

Middle/High School

Hamilton Creek School, Lebanon
McNary High School, Keizer
Waldo Middle School, Salem
ASCE Future Engineer Day
Judson Middle School, Salem
Houck Middle School, Salem
PLSO Scouts Survey Badge Day
2025 Salem-Area College & Career Fair
Sprague High School, Salem
North Salem High School, Salem
Lane County Middle School Career Expo
Pendleton Middle and High Schools

College

Oregon State University, 2025 Capstone Engineering Class
Oregon State University, Geomatics and Civil Engineering Classes
Portland State University, Civil Engineering Class
Oregon Institute of Technology, Geomatics and Civil Engineering Classes
OIT Engineering & Geomatics Job Fair

Professional

2025 PLSO Conference
OSU Survey Law Workshop
2025 ODOT Surveyors Conference
2025 PEO Conference
ASHRAE Chapter Meeting
ACEC Fall Conference
OACES Fall Conference
PLSO Blue Mountain Chapter Workshop



Booth @ ACEC Fall Conference



2025 OSBEELS Symposium –
Behind the scenes



Lane County Middle School Career Expo -
OSBEELS booth next to PLSO



OIT Senior CE Cohort –
Their licensed faculty pride



OACES Fall Conference –
OSBEELS Presentation

Meet OSBEELS

Jenn *Board Administrator*

How long have you worked for OSBEELS?

Since I moved to Oregon in 2001!!

What do you enjoy about your job?

Hearing about the great work that goes on in our state and interacting with our licensees.

What is your favorite place in Oregon?

That's a hard question—Oregon is such a beautiful state. Living in the Valley, I'm only about an hour from both the ocean and the mountains, which makes it easy to enjoy a little of everything. Oregon also has incredible state parks that are perfect for hiking, camping, and exploring the outdoors.

What are some of your hobbies?

I love to read—I pretty much always have a book with me. I also enjoy visiting different wineries for tastings and food pairings, and they usually have such peaceful views.



From the viewpoint of your role, can you share some reminders or tips for our registrants?

Read everything! Our staff works hard to make the process as clear and simple as possible, and we're always updating our language based on feedback. And if something still doesn't make sense, just give us a call—we're here to help!

Right of Entry Notice Reminders

Notice must be written



Place Notice in a conspicuous place



Take photo of Notice after it is posted



Right of Entry for Land Surveyors

2025 Update

The Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineers and Land Surveying (OSBEELS) Law Enforcement Committee routinely reviews complaints submitted by the public and other licensed professionals. One of the most common issues involves **Right of Entry** procedures by land surveyors. These complaints typically focus on **inadequate notice**—either none was given, or the notice lacked required information.

This document serves as a **clarification of the notice requirements under ORS 672.047** and provides best practices to avoid enforcement actions.

Primary Issues

If there's any chance you will be crossing onto private property, which includes placing a property stake, give notice. If a surveyor, or their crew, places a monument or any piece of equipment on a shared boundary line, the implication is that the person has entered the properties on both sides of the line.

It's your responsibility to ensure the property owner (and occupant, if applicable) is properly notified ahead of time.

It's critical to understand that **verbal communication alone is not sufficient**. The notice **must be in writing**, and it is best practice to **retain proof** (copies of letters, photos of door hangers, etc.) that notice was properly provided.



Notice Requirements

A valid notice must contain the following:

1. **Surveyor's name and business name** (attach business card if using a door hanger).
2. **Business address.**
3. **Telephone number.**
4. **Purpose for entry** (e.g., boundary survey, monument location).
5. **Date notice is given and expected date(s) of entry**—a range of dates is recommended.
6. **Availability of a survey map.** If no map will be created, clearly state that.
7. **The presence of any temporary or permanent monuments or other markers to be left on the property.**

Delivering the Notice

- If you are **providing notice by mail**, it must be sent via **first-class mail** at least seven days before entry.
- If you are **providing notice in person, a written notice** must be placed in a conspicuous place prior to any work being performed. For many properties, this may be the door of the building or the main entrance of the property prior to entry.
- For properties that are in rural areas or gated lands without a residence, the notice must be placed where the owner of the property can reasonably be expected to see the notice. Place the notice at a **conspicuous location**—such as a gate or fence post prior to entry.



Tip: Ensure you're using accurate addresses when mailing notices. You are responsible to ensure notices are sent to the correct address(es).

Right of Entry for Land Surveyors

2025 Update

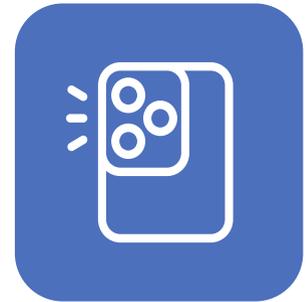
Special Case: Rental Properties

When surveying rental or multi-tenant properties:

- Notice must be provided to the **property owner**.
- **Notify all occupants** on the property by placing a notice in a conspicuous location in which the occupants may reasonably be expected to see the notice.

Best Practices

- **Take a photo** of every notice posted, ideally with the **address or property features visible**.
- If notice is placed at a gate, **geo-tag the photo** using your phone's location settings. This pinpoints the location and date the photo was taken.
- **Always inform the crew** about notice requirements, especially if you're not present during field work.
- **Remove flagging/stakes** promptly and inform the property owner of removal timing.
- **Provide copies** of survey maps when requested—or explain why a map won't be produced.
- **For rental properties with multiple tenants, it may be helpful to notify the property manager. Posting notice at a common area, such as on a bulletin board or near the mailboxes may be a good location for tenants to see the notice.**



When in doubt whether an appropriate notice was sent, send another notice—it's always better to over-notify than under-notify.

Denied Entry

Occasionally, property owners may refuse access even after being provided with proper notice. While you may have a legal right to enter the property, doing so is at your own risk. In such cases, it is advisable to consult with your attorney to determine the appropriate course of action.

Summary

Properly following the Right of Entry requirements, as specified in ORS 672.047, helps maintain professional integrity, public trust, and legal protection. The key is clear, written communication and documentation. Respect private property, leave no trace, and always be prepared to demonstrate that you've followed the law.

The Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon (PLSO) offers printed door hangers for purchase. These include space to fill in required information and attach your business card. Visit the [PLSO website](#) for details.

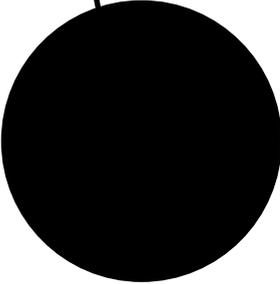


Notice Requirements

A valid notice must contain the following:

1. Surveyor's name and business name (attach business card if using a door hanger).
2. Business address.
3. Telephone number.
4. Purpose for entry (e.g., boundary survey, monument location).
5. Date notice is given and expected date(s) of entry—a range of dates is recommended.
6. Availability of a survey map. If no map will be created, clearly state that.
7. The presence of any temporary or permanent monuments or other markers to be left on the property.

#1 / #2 / #3



Sorry we missed you

It is necessary for us to enter upon your property to conduct a land survey.

Today's Date: _____ #5

Pursuant to ORS 672.047, as contained on the reverse herein, we are conducting a survey for the following purpose:

_____ #4

This survey primarily involves surveying:

This property

Neighboring property

Other

Several visits may be necessary for us to accomplish the required work. Temporary and/or permanent flagging, stakes or other materials may be placed on your property during the course of our work.

PLS: _____

Business Name: _____

Project: _____

Date(s) of Project: _____

Contact: _____

#6 If a request is made in writing in a timely manner, a copy of the survey will be provided in a timely manner to any landowner who owns property lying outside an urban growth boundary, if it is affected by the entry. Please include the project information when making a request. See reverse for the full ORS.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions , please contact us.

And don't forget to take a photo after you leave the Notice!

A public notice from our partners at Oregon BCD

INFORMATIONAL BACKGROUNDER



Department of Consumer
and Business Services

Plan Review Exception For One- and Two-Family Dwellings

Overview

Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 455.628 provides an exception to the required plan review for one- and two-family dwellings of conventional light-frame construction where certain conditions are met. This technical bulletin is intended to provide clarification on this plan review exception.

Plan review exception – ORS 455.628

ORS 455.628 specifies that a local building department may not require a plan review for one- and two-family dwellings that are of conventional light frame construction if:

- The plans for the dwelling are designed and stamped by a registered professional engineer or a registered architect; **and**
- The engineer or architect is certified by the Building Codes Division as being qualified to examine one- and two-family dwelling plans.”

Conventional light-frame construction is defined as construction whose primary structural elements are formed by a system of repetitive wood-framing members.

Required certifications

According to Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 918-098-1015, persons who possess the following certifications may review construction plans for compliance with the provisions of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC):

1. Oregon Inspector Certification (OIC)
2. Residential Plans Examiner (CAX)

Both certifications are issued by the division through the Inspector Training Program.

Obtaining the required certifications

1. To obtain the OIC, complete the OIC class provided by the Inspector Training Program. The class explains the roles and responsibilities of plans examiners.
Contact the Inspector Training Program to request enrollment into the class.
2. To obtain the CAX certification, complete the following:
 - a. Take and pass the International Code Council (ICC) exam for the Residential Plans Examiner (ICC R3) certification.
Learn more here: [ICCSafe.org/certification-exam-catalog/](https://www.iccsafe.org/certification-exam-catalog/)
 - b. Convert the ICC R3 certification to the CAX certification.
Learn more here: [Oregon.gov/bcd/inspector-certs/Pages/national-certifications.aspx](https://www.oregon.gov/bcd/inspector-certs/Pages/national-certifications.aspx)

References and definitions

Plan review exception: [See ORS 455](#)

Registered architect: [See ORS 671](#)

Professional engineer: [See ORS 672](#)

Certifications: [See OAR 918-098-1015](#)

Contact:

Inspector Training Program

training.bcd@dcbs.oregon.gov

503-373-7974