

**OREGON
FARM
BUREAU**

OFB Summer 2022 Update



US Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack addresses state Farm Bureau presidents in Washington D.C. July 13.

Fighting for you

While the legislative session may be out, the Oregon Farm Bureau is still hard at work for you. You know the list of challenges and set-backs from public policy overreach to mother nature. There are also bright spots. We are proud to have come together with other agricultural groups to form the Oregon Agricultural Water Alliance to advocate for needed accountability in water resources management and investment in needed water infrastructure. We hope this alliance can chart a course to more effective water management.

Most importantly, we have tremendous hope for our collective future: We have a rare opportunity to set Oregon back on track with November's election. With voters across Oregon fed up with the lack of leadership from Salem, this is our chance to restore balance in the legislature and elect a governor who actually support and protect Oregon agriculture. Making this change will require all hands on deck to motivate rural Oregonians to turn out and

vote. Our future cannot change if you do not show up. It has never been more important to vote, and your vote has never mattered more. We hope you'll join us in fighting for change this November.

DC Advocacy

OFB President Angi Bailey just returned from Washington, DC where she had the chance to hear from and interact with the US Secretary of Agriculture, EPA administrator, director of BLM, director of US Fish and Wildlife Service, the top Bureau of Reclamation operations official, and four key members of congress. Issues covered included the farm bill, grazing, water supply, Klamath, wild horses and burros, endangered species, disaster assistance, availability of inputs like Atrazine, inflation and supply chain, energy, proposed on-farm SEC climate regulations, trade opportunities, wildfire, and labor and immigration. "A key to Farm Bureau's strength is our ability to work with leaders on both sides of the aisle. Getting in front of these key national leaders on issues of real world

impact is a critical step in finding better solutions. In all of these meetings, the needs of member farmers and ranchers were politely but directly and forcefully raised. The clout and credibility of Farm Bureau opens these doors. It proves again we're stronger together," said Bailey.

Wildfire Maps

Oregon's Wildfire Risk maps have been released and are now available to the public. The maps identify the wildland-urban interface and wildfire risk at the property ownership level. Every tax lot in the state has received a wildfire risk category, ranging from no risk to extreme risk.

Because properties designated as high or extreme risk and located within the wildland-urban interface will be subject to regulation, including defensible space and home hardening standards (on future construction or remodel), and local governments may also regulate other risk classes and state agencies may seek further regulation on high and extreme risk classes outside of the wildland-urban interface, it is important that you know your property's designation.

See the map at: https://tools.oregonexplorer.info/OE_HtmlViewer/index.html?viewer=wildfire. You can search by address.

Now is your chance as a landowner to appeal your property's wildfire risk designation – but you must file an appeal before Sept. 15, 2022. At this time, you cannot appeal your designation in the wildland-urban interface. To file an appeal, use the

appeal form (<https://www.oregon.gov/odf/fire/documents/wildfire-risk-classification-appeal-form.pdf>) and submit it electronically, or mail it to:

Oregon Department of Forestry Protection Division
Attn: Risk map appeals
2600 State Street
Salem, OR 97310

Young Leaders Step Up

The Oregon Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee (YF&R) has been involved in many local events across the state. If you would like to participate in your local area, please email youngfarmersandranchers@oregonfb.org. The group has held tractor safety certificate programs as well as tractor driving contests with the FFA. In fact, the FFA State Tractor Driving Contest will be held at the Oregon State Fair on August 25th. Oregon has been fortunate to have Jon Iverson serve on the National YF&R Committee as well as serve as their Chair for the past year. Jon just finished his offboarding process where he traveled to New York to meet up with the rest of the National Committee. John states, "Offboarding was a perfect way to wrap up our time on the YF&R Committee. It allowed us to reflect on our growth and let us know that AFBF truly cares about our next steps as leaders in Farm Bureau."

The YF&R Committee is busy planning an Ag tour and Leadership Conference for the Fall – be on the lookout for registration information. If you would like more information, or to get on our mailing list email youngfarmersandranchers@oregonfb.org

Supporting Health and Safety

Volunteers under the leadership of OFB 4th VP Kristie Glaser are hard at work as well. The Farm Bureau family collectively supported all four Ronald McDonald Houses in Oregon. Ronald McDonald Houses provide long term housing and meals for parents of children being treated for injuries or illness that require long stays at hospitals far from home. "It's a privilege to bring Farm Bureau support to these families during a difficult time in the health journey of their children," said Glaser. The Health and Safety Committee is again partnering with numerous radio stations and several county Farm Bureaus to run ads reminding the non-farm public about the importance of driving with care in farm zones this summer.



Send your best shots for 2023 OFB calendar

Twelve photos will be selected for the OFB 2023 calendar, which is distributed to over 66,000 households across Oregon. Selected images and runners-up (if any) will earn a modest prize.

Deadline: Sept. 15, 2022. Learn more: www.oregonfb.org/calendar. Email images to tiffany@oregonfb.org with the email subject "calendar." Include your name, address, phone, and email address so we can contact you. By submitting a photo, you agree to be bound by the terms of conditions set forth by Oregon Farm Bureau.



Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation (OAEF) is the 501c3 partner to Oregon Farm Bureau.

Through the programs at right, OAEF celebrates, connects, educates, and elevates Oregon's farm and ranch families.

The application for all but REAL Oregon come in the spring. If you would like to apply for any of these, nominate someone else, or find out how to volunteer or support these volunteer-led efforts, visit www.oregonfb.org/oaef.

Contributions to the foundation and all of its projects are tax deductible charitable gifts under IRS rules.



2022 Farm Dog of the Year: A new tradition

Congratulations to Cindy Murdoch of Timberview Farm and her Lapponian Herder, Ripley, who was chosen as Oregon's Farm Dog of the Year for 2022. The judges selected Ripley because of his dedication to protecting Cindy's reindeer herd from cougars in the southern Willamette Valley. Ripley is a popular farm ambassador traveling to displays and enjoying attention from people who come to see his reindeer. The Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation launched this annual competition because farm dogs play an important role on our farms and ranches and can connect us to dog lovers across Oregon on and off the farm.

Scholarships: A record-breaking year when it's needed most

This spring, the Oregon Farm Bureau Memorial Scholarship Program awarded \$53,500 in scholarships to 31 students for the 2022-23 academic year. This is the first year of the Anne Marie Moss Memorial Scholarship, which will join three other endowed scholarships that will help students get the higher education they need for ag-related careers in perpetuity. **Special thanks to NW Farm Credit Services for its generous anchor gift to make the Anne Marie Moss Scholarship a reality this spring.**

Century Farm and Ranch: Honoring 100- and 150-year farm and ranch families

The Oregon Century Farm and Ranch program will honor 9 farm families with Century (five) and Sesquicentennial (four) Farm and Ranch recognition at the Oregon State Fair in August. Since the program was established in 1959, 1,254 farms and ranches have been honored, with

42 recipients recognized as sesquicentennial farms. Honorees must document that a single family has operated them continuously in the same location for 100 years or more.

SAI: Teaching K-12 teachers about ag for over 30 years

Summer Ag Institute (SAI) programs welcomed 22 teachers this summer to a weeklong experience in agricultural classrooms and laboratories, field visits and farm and ranch family home stays. Teachers will earn graduate level education credit after developing lesson plans to use in their classrooms. Sessions are offered in LaGrande and Corvallis. This is the

32nd anniversary of the original SAI Corvallis program.

REAL Oregon: Equipping and connecting ag and resource leaders

The Resource Education and Agricultural Leadership (REAL) Oregon program graduated its fifth class this spring. Each class of ag, forestry, fisheries, and agency leaders completes a five-day session curriculum that takes them all over Oregon to connect them to our communities and to each other. The alumni network now numbers over 120 leaders. Applications for Class 6 are available now at www.realoregon.net. **The deadline is Aug. 12.**



Members of REAL Oregon Class 5 enjoy a moment together before their graduation ceremony in Ontario. Over 120 Oregon leaders have now completed REAL Oregon.