

AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Milder with a little rain	Cloudy with a snow shower	A bit of snow and rain	Rain, mixed with snow early	A little snow in the morning
PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
46°	28°	37°	28°	42°
HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
45°	29°	39°	28°	43°
43°	38°	43°	37°	46°
33°	35°	36°	37°	35°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	38°	27°
Normals	39°	26°
Records	62° (1917)	-12° (1964)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.11"
Month to date	1.73"
Normal month to date	0.80"
Year to date	9.54"
Last year to date	11.73"
Normal year to date	12.27"

HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	35°	31°
Normals	39°	27°
Records	61° (1937)	-8° (1964)

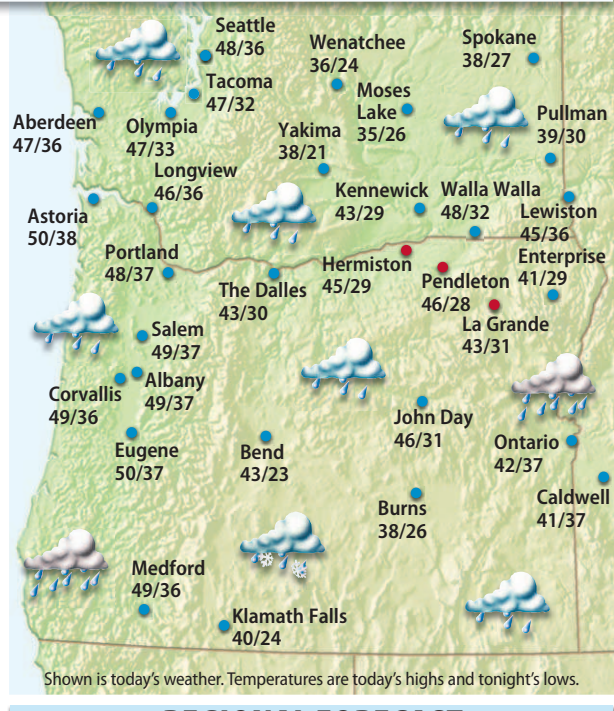
PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.06"
Month to date	1.17"
Normal month to date	0.85"
Year to date	6.56"
Last year to date	6.74"
Normal year to date	9.32"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	7:31 a.m.
Sunset tonight	4:12 p.m.
Moonrise today	12:07 p.m.
Moonset today	none

Phase	First	Full	Last	New
Dec 18	Dec 25	Jan 1	Jan 9	



REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Occasional rain today and tonight. A passing shower tomorrow, except dry in the south.

Eastern and Central Oregon: A shower today, but occasional rain and drizzle in the upper Treasure Valley.

Western Washington: Variable cloudiness today with spotty showers. Cloudy tonight with brief showers.

Eastern Washington: Ice in central sections today; an icy mix for the Cascades. Snow in the north and mountains. Rain in the south.

Cascades: Periods of snow today; rain mixed in early with little or no accumulation.

Northern California: Rain today, except a bit of snow in the interior mountains.

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today			Sat.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	50	38	sh	48	44	sh
Baker City	40	30	sh	38	17	sn
Bend	43	23	r	36	22	sf
Brookings	50	39	r	48	40	c
Burns	38	26	r	34	15	c
Enterprise	41	29	sh	35	15	sn
Eugene	50	37	sh	47	38	c
Heppner	45	27	r	38	26	c
Hermiston	45	29	r	39	28	c
John Day	46	31	c	40	26	sf
Klamath Falls	40	24	sn	34	19	sn
La Grande	43	31	r	38	18	sn
Meacham	40	27	r	35	21	sn
Medford	49	36	r	42	32	c
Newport	49	39	sh	48	42	sh
North Bend	52	39	r	51	44	c
Ontario	42	37	r	43	25	c
Pasco	44	28	sh	38	26	c
Pendleton	46	28	r	37	28	sf
Portland	48	37	sh	45	40	c
Redmond	44	24	r	37	20	sf
Salem	49	37	sh	47	39	c
Spokane	38	27	r	35	26	sf
Ukiah	41	26	r	35	19	sf
Vancouver	47	37	sh	44	39	c
Walla Walla	48	32	r	44	30	sf
Yakima	38	21	sn	36	24	c

WORLD CITIES

City	Today			Sat.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	41	18	s	39	23	c
Hong Kong	62	56	s	67	60	s
Jerusalem	53	40	s	54	39	sh
London	56	53	pc	61	53	pc
Mexico City	67	42	pc	72	43	pc
Moscow	28	26	c	39	35	sh
Paris	55	48	pc	59	49	pc
Rome	59	40	pc	59	40	s
Seoul	39	23	pc	40	26	s
Sydney	83	69	s	86	70	s
Tokyo	51	40	pc	52	38	s

WINDS

(in mph)

City	Today	Saturday
Boardman	WSW 3-6	SW 3-6
Pendleton	W 4-8	WSW 3-6

UV INDEX TODAY

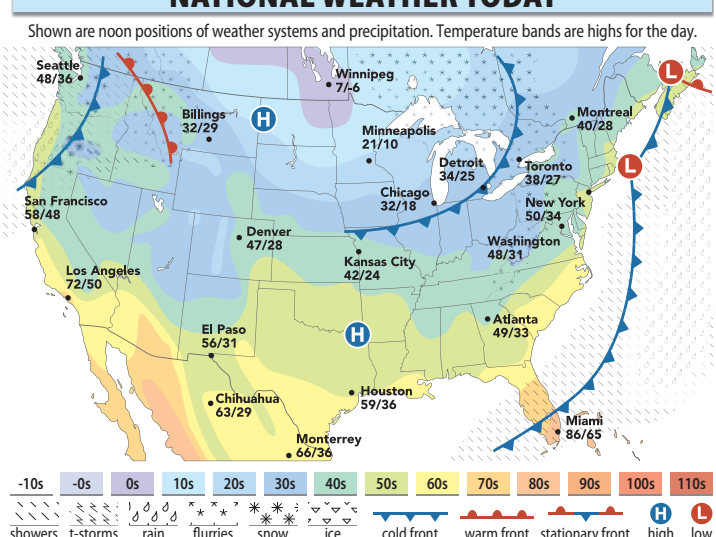
Time	UV Index
8 a.m.	0
10 a.m.	0
Noon	0
2 p.m.	0
4 p.m.	0
6 p.m.	0

0-2, Low; 3-5, Moderate; 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



National Summary: Colder air will sweep from the Upper Midwest to the East Coast today. Lake-effect snow will extend to the central Appalachians. As showers linger in South Florida, rain and snow will affect the Northwest.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 87° in Vero Beach, Fla. **Low** -24° in West Yellowstone, Mont.

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today			Sat.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	45	23	s	49	31	s
Atlanta	49	33	c	53	35	s
Atlantic City	50	35	c	43	32	s
Baltimore	46	27	pc	45	24	s
Billings	32	29	c	38	25	s
Birmingham	51	30	s	56	33	s
Boise	42	38	r	41	26	sn
Boston	51	34	r	42	31	s
Charleston, SC	66	34	pc	57	35	s
Charleston, WV	39	26	sf	43	23	s
Chicago	32	18	c	31	25	s
Cleveland	36	25	sf	34	24	sf
Dallas	55	38	s	63	50	s
Denver	47	28	pc	53	31	s
Detroit	34	25	sf	33	23	pc
El Paso	56	31	s	62	39	pc
Fairbanks	0	-2	pc	7	-4	c
Fargo	12	0	pc	22	17	pc
Honolulu	81	74	sh	82	72	pc
Houston	59	36	s	64	50	s
Indianapolis	35	23	pc	36	25	s
Jacksonville	66	36	pc	59	37	s
Kansas City	42	24	s	49	42	s
Las Vegas	55	37	s	60	39	pc
Little Rock	51	32	s	59	36	s
Los Angeles	72	50	s	64	47	pc
Louisville	41	30	pc	45	32	s
Memphis	48	34	s	58	39	s
Miami	86	65	t	77	68	pc
Milwaukee	31	18	c	30	24	s
Minneapolis	21	10	pc	26	22	pc
Nashville	45	29	pc	53	32	s
New Orleans	60	42	s	61	48	s
New York City	50	34	pc	42	33	s
Oklahoma City	50	32	s	59	44	s
Omaha	36	19	s	43	36	s
Philadelphia	47	33	pc	44	30	s
Phoenix	70	44	s	70	44	s
Portland, ME	48	26	c	40	22	s
Providence	51	32	r	42	29	s
Raleigh	57	29	pc	50	28	s
Rapid City	27	13	pc	46	21	pc
Reno	49	33	c	42	23	sf
Sacramento	58	45	sh	56	36	sh
St. Louis	43	26	s	48	39	s
Salt Lake City	42	29	c	44	29	pc
San Diego	69	51	s	66	54	pc
Salt Lake City	58	48	r	54	44	pc
Seattle	48	36	sh	45	39	c
Tucson	71	41	s	73	38	pc
Washington, DC	48	31	pc	45	29	s
Wichita	47	27	s	54	44	s

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

EAST OREGONIAN

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*EZ Pay = one-year rate with a monthly credit or debit card/check charge

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NEWS

To submit news tips and press releases: • call 541-966-0818 • fax 541-276-8314 • email news@eastoregonian.com

To submit community events, calendar items and Your EO News: email community@eastoregonian.com or call Tammy Malgesini in Hermiston at 541-564-4539 or Renee Struthers in Pendleton at 541-966-0818.

To submit engagements, weddings and anniversaries: email rstruthers@eastoregonian.com or visit www.eastoregonian.com/community/announcements

To submit a Letter to the Editor: mail to Managing Editor Daniel Wattenburger, 211 S.E. Byers Ave. Pendleton, OR 97801 or email editor@eastoregonian.com

To submit sports or outdoors information or tips: 541-966-0838 • sports@eastoregonian.com

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Postal Service draws line on marijuana ads

EO Media Group

The U.S. Postal Service has issued a national policy declaring it illegal to mail newspapers with marijuana advertising but instructing local postmasters to continue to accept the mail.

The guidance, issued after the Postal Service in Portland raised questions in late November about marijuana ads in the Coast Weekend section of the *Chinook Observer*, places the legal burden on newspapers to decide whether to risk the mailings.

Local postmasters are not authorized to determine whether the mailers are illegal or to reject the mail. The policy instructs postmasters to advise newspapers of the federal law that classifies marijuana as an illegal drug and to report the mailers to the U.S. Postal Inspection Service for potential referral to federal law enforcement agencies.

The national policy was outlined Tuesday in a letter from Thomas Marshall, the general counsel and executive vice president of the Postal Service, to U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Oregon, who along with other Oregon lawmakers had sought clarification on behalf of EO Media Group, which publishes the *Chinook Observer*, *East Oregonian* and other newspapers.

"Based on our review of the pertinent statutory provisions, we have concluded that advertisements for the sale of marijuana are non-mailable," wrote Marshall, who advised Wyden that it would be up to Congress to change federal law and allow the ads.

"We are working as a delegation to quickly find the best option to address this agency's intransigence," Wyden said in a statement today with U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley, U.S. Rep. Suzanne Bonamici and U.S. Rep. Earl Blumenauer. "We want federal authorities

to respect decisions made by law-abiding Oregonians and small business owners in the state.

"Unfortunately, the outdated federal approach to marijuana as described in the response from the Postal Service undermines and threatens news publications that choose to accept advertising from legal marijuana businesses in Oregon and other states where voters also have freely decided to legalize marijuana."

The national policy creates a potential conflict between the emerging marijuana industry in Oregon and other states and the federal government. Oregon, Washington state, Alaska and Colorado have legalized marijuana for recreational use, but the federal government considers marijuana a Schedule I drug similar to heroin and methamphetamine.

The Postal Service maintains that federal law prohibits ads for Schedule I drugs and the use of the mail for "the commission of any act or acts constituting a felony."

The Postal Service's policy puts newspapers and others that advertise marijuana through the mail under a legal cloud.

Matt Winters, the publisher of the *Chinook Observer* in Long Beach, Washington, said the notification from the Postal Service in November was a surprise because recreational marijuana has been legal in Washington for three years and the publication has been running marijuana ads for months without complaints.

EO Media Group will soon decide whether to continue to publish and mail newspapers with the ads.

"We're in touch with our legal counsel and we're looking at our options," said Steve Forrester, the president and CEO of EO Media Group.

More money to fight wildfires, but no long-term budget fix

By MEAD GRUVER
 Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — Budget legislation headed toward approval by Congress includes an additional \$610 million for the U.S. Forest Service to fight wildfires next year but no long-term fix to how the agency, year after year, has had to borrow money from other programs to keep up with the ever-growing cost of fighting fires.

The Forest Service spent a record \$1.7 billion fighting fires this year. Firefighting now accounts for more than half of the agency's budget, up from 16 percent 20 years ago.

The Obama administration wants to address the Forest Service's firefighting budget shuffle by treating wildfires like other types of natural disasters for funding purposes. The proposal, however, didn't make it into the budget legislation the House and Senate plan to vote on Friday.

Paying for wildfires the same way

the government responds to hurricanes and tornadoes needs more review, said Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, chairwoman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

One potential problem: A destructive tornado or hurricane is a single event, while a nasty fire season is series of events, some much worse than others. The tipping point at which federal disaster relief would be warranted for wildfires in any given year could be difficult to gauge.

"I believe the administration's proposal could set a bad precedent, prove unworkable, and fall short of its own goals," Murkowski said in a news release this week.

The budget legislation would provide \$1.6 billion for firefighting, up from \$1 billion in a season that killed seven firefighters and burned a near-record 15,000 square miles nationwide.

Including the Interior Department's budget, which covers the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, the budget

legislation includes a total of \$2.1 billion for firefighting. That's \$500 million more than the 10-year average.

Western lawmakers including Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., praised the measures for giving the Forest Service enough money so that it hopefully doesn't have to resort to borrowing next year.

But it's a Band-Aid solution that neglects programs that would make forests more resilient to fire, U.S. Department of Agriculture Undersecretary Robert Bonnie said Thursday.

"The challenge is that fire is squeezing out all the other work we need to do. Forest restoration, forest management, recreation, trails, research — all of that stuff," Bonnie said.

The problem is unlikely to go away as wildfire season lasts longer year after year, he said.

"Congress has to face up and solve this problem. Because if we don't, the Forest Service is going to become the fire service," Bonnie said.



Corrections

The *East Oregonian* works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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