



Tree branches, broken from the weight of heavy snow, are scattered on the ground of the park blocks across from the Portland Art Museum in Portland, Wednesday.

Portland, parts of Washington buried by massive snowstorm

PORTLAND (AP) — A major snowstorm spread Wednesday through Portland and parts of Washington state — toppling trees, closing schools and cutting power to thousands in the heaviest snowfall for the city since at least 2008.

Some Portland neighborhoods got more than a foot of snow, a rare event in a city known for its rain.

Snow that started falling Tuesday was still coming down Wednesday before tapering off around noon. The storm's intensity surprised meteorologists, with most expecting no more than 4 inches.

"We are going to be analyzing this one, because this is a special one," National Weather Service meteorologist Treena Jensen said.

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown and Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler declared states of emergency Wednesday due to the severe winter storm conditions.

"As snow continues to accumulate and local authorities respond to provide core services and clear roadways, all available state resources will be made available to ensure the safety of communities throughout Oregon," Brown said in a news release.

The state declaration allows the deployment of the Oregon State Police and the Oregon National Guard to support communities needing assistance and also allows for aid in recovery efforts related to the storms. Wheeler's decision could allow the release of money to help handle the weather's impact, particularly on infrastructure and homeless people.

Portland has many homeless residents and four people have died of hypothermia since Jan. 1. Portland police Sgt. Pete Simpson

said officers took about three dozen homeless people to warming shelters during the storm. Jackets were given to some who refused to leave the outdoors.

Temperatures were expected to remain at or near freezing before hitting 50 degrees early next week. Meteorologists said they are concerned about flooding when the temperatures rise.

The storm arrived in a Pacific Northwest winter that has been unusually cold, punctuated by several snow and ice storms.

The snow began at the end of Tuesday's rush-hour commute, so the roads were free of heavy traffic during the storm. Still, some vehicles jackknifed, spun out or were left abandoned by fearful drivers on Interstate 5 and other highways.

The Oregon Department of Transportation urged drivers to retrieve their vehicles Wednesday and free up space for snow plows and sanders. The agency also warned drivers to stay home, if possible.

"The timing of this was definitely fortuitous," ODOT spokesman Don Hamilton said. "When these kinds of storms happen in the middle of the working day, at noon or 2 p.m., it can be very tricky."

He added: "But we still had a big rush of cars coming out at 8 or 9 o'clock, right when the storm was at its fiercest, and that's where we had a lot of the problems."

Snow didn't hit Seattle but southwestern Washington got soaked. Clark County closed its non-essential government offices for the day.

In the central part of the state, the Grant County Sheriff's Office warned motorists to stay off roads, saying snow drifts of 3 to 5 feet made them impassable.

Heavy snow weighs on roofs

By AUBREY WIEBER
The Bulletin

BEND — After another day of relentless snowfall, Bendites living in a typical 2,300-square-foot home are likely sipping their coffee this morning under about 31 tons of snow. That's more weight than five Asian elephants lounging around on your roof.

With storm after storm piling snow onto roofs all over Bend — and the warm weather needed to melt it practically nonexistent — the city is in uncharted territory, said Dave Howe, Battalion Chief and spokesman for the Bend Fire Department.

"We haven't had this much snow piled up on roofs that I can remember, and I've been here 39 years," he said. "This is really quite unusual."

The city of Bend building code requires roofs to withstand 20 to 25 pounds per square foot. With wet snow being as heavy as 21 pounds per square foot, many structures throughout the city are stressed as snow continues to pile up. As Tuesday's temperatures hovered in the mid-30s, the snow was wetter than what fell previously and city officials said that if rain starts to fall, the snow will become much heavier.

A joint press release issued Tuesday by the city of Bend and Deschutes County warned the public of the weight of snow slowly accumulating on their roofs and suggested looking into having it removed if snow levels surpass 20 inches. A drive around Bend shows numerous homes with far more than that piled up, but the city and county also discouraged DIY removal.

Howe suggested calling a roofing company or an arborist. But if you do plan to seek expert help, expect to wait.

Calls to more than a dozen roofing companies Tuesday afternoon resulted in mostly busy signals and voicemail boxes. One company representative stayed on the phone long enough to report that they were indeed very busy, before promptly hanging up.

Craig Junker, owner of River Roofing, was the only roofer The Bulletin was able to reach. Junker said his company was booked five weeks out for snow removal. He received 250 calls for service Monday, and by 2 p.m. Tuesday he had already received 80 voicemails that day from potential clients who couldn't get through due to the volume of calls.

While newer construction is



Mark Davis helps shovel snow off the roof of Columbia Outdoors Sports and Surplus on Main Street, Hermiston, on Wednesday.

"We haven't had this much snow piled up on roofs that I can remember, and I've been here 39 years. This is really quite unusual."

— Dave Howe, Battalion Chief for the Bend Fire Department

better suited to withstand a few weeks of heavy snow, Bend didn't start enforcing building codes until the late 1960s.

Howe said buildings built before that might not have taken structural standards into account at all. Furthermore, each storm can weaken a structure, Howe said, and some around Bend have weathered quite a few.

So far, the damage has been minimal. A warehouse collapsed early in the winter, and Howe reported a barn collapsed Monday in Tumalo. But those with older structures might want to have their buildings checked by a structural engineer, he said.

While the snow can stress structures, it can also block exhaust pipes and cause fatal carbon monoxide gas to back up into a house. Homes with gas water heaters and furnaces have pipes on roofs that generally are taller than the snow. But with snow depths reaching record highs, some homes might be in danger.

Both Howe and Junker said most often the exhaust will melt the snow around the pipe, creating a path for gas to escape. But that isn't always the case. Junker said his company responded to a couple of homes and found the top of the pipe covered in snow.

Some exhaust pipes have a mechanism to shut off the furnace or water heater if the exhaust path is blocked, but others don't, Junker said. Howe said the length of pipe likely depends on the contractor who installed it, rather than it being of a specific era.

"If you have a gas water heater, or even a furnace, they just need to check and make sure it's not being blocked by snow," Howe said.

Snow certainly presents a danger on the roof, but it also buries things on the ground. Howe said fire hydrants all over Bend are completely covered in snow. Howe said rough department calculations claim any given block in town has a 1-in-60 chance of a house fire once per year, and while the department has a map of all the hydrants in town, locating them isn't the primary objective when responding to a fire.

"If we can have a hydrant opened up on each block, we can spend our time fighting the fire rather than shoveling snow," he said.

Howe asks that residents locate the hydrant closest to their home and dig it out from the street in, so firefighters can quickly access it.

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.

EAST OREGONIAN

— Founded Oct. 16, 1875 —

211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton 541-276-2211
333 E. Main St., Hermiston 541-567-6211
Office hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed major holidays

www.eastoregonian.com

To subscribe, call 1-800-522-0255
or go online to www.eastoregonian.com
and click on 'Subscribe'

East Oregonian (USPS 164-980) is published daily except Sunday, Monday and Dec. 25, by the EO Media Group, 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801. Periodicals postage paid at Pendleton, OR. Postmaster: send address changes to East Oregonian, 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801. Copyright © 2017, EO Media Group

Subscriber services:
For home delivery, vacation stops or delivery concerns: 1-800-522-0255

Didn't receive your paper? Call 1-800-522-0255 before noon Tuesday through Friday or before 10 a.m. Saturday for same-day redelivery

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

	Local home delivery	Savings off cover price
EZPay	\$14.50	41 percent
52 weeks	\$173.67	41 percent
26 weeks	\$91.86	38 percent
13 weeks	\$47.77	36 percent

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

Single copy price:

\$1 Tuesday through Friday, \$1.50 Saturday

Advertising Director: Marissa Williams
1-800-966-2669 • adirector@eastoregonian.com

Advertising Services: Laura Jensen
541-966-0806 • ljensen@eastoregonian.com

Multimedia Consultants:
• Terri Briggs
541-278-2678 • tbriggs@eastoregonian.com

• Elizabeth Freemantle
541-278-2683 • efreemantle@eastoregonian.com

• Jeanne Jewett
541-564-4531 • jjewett@eastoregonian.com

• Chris McClellan
541-966-0827 • cmcclellan@eastoregonian.com

• Stephanie Newsom
541-278-2687 • snewsom@eastoregonian.com

• Dayle Stinson
541-278-2670 • dstinson@eastoregonian.com

• Audra Workman
541-564-4538 • aworkman@eastoregonian.com

Classified & Legal Advertising

1-800-966-2819 or 541-278-2678
classifieds@eastoregonian.com or legal@eastoregonian.com

NEWS

- To submit news tips and press releases: • call 541-966-0818 • fax 541-278-8314 • email news@eastoregonian.com
- To submit community events, calendar items and Your EO News: email community@eastoregonian.com or call Tammy Malgesini at 541-564-4539 or Renee Struthers in 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

COMMERCIAL PRINTING

Production Manager: Mike Jensen
541-215-0824 • mjensen@eastoregonian.com

AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
COLD	COLD	COLD	COLD	
Partly sunny and frigid	Sunshine and bitterly cold	Very cold with periods of sun	Partly sunny and frigid	Cold with some sun; ice at night
15° 5°	15° 6°	16° 3°	18° 4°	22° 18°

HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST
17° 5° 16° 7° 16° 6° 20° 7° 19° 16°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

HIGH	LOW
Yesterday 17°	13°
Normals 41°	27°
Records 63° (1953)	-11° (1963)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.38"
Month to date	1.06"
Normal month to date	0.62"
Year to date	1.06"
Last year to date	0.06"
Normal year to date	0.62"

HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

HIGH	LOW
Yesterday 22°	17°
Normals 41°	28°
Records 61° (2014)	-10° (1937)

PRECIPITATION

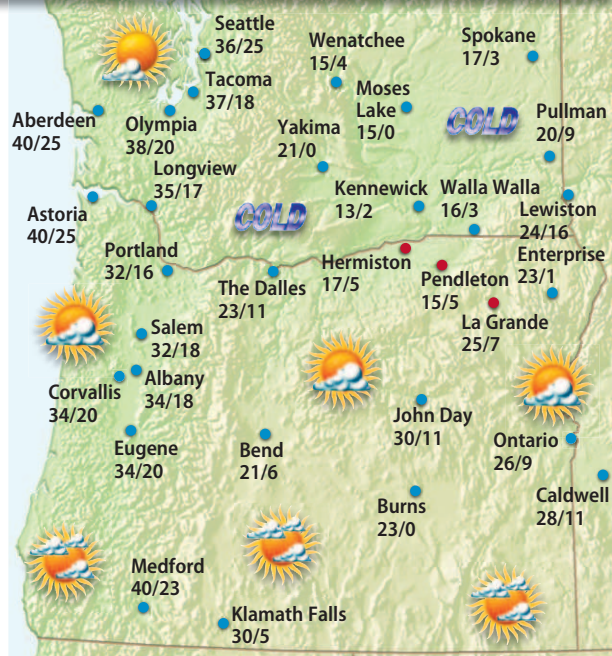
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	Trace
Month to date	0.41"
Normal month to date	0.45"
Year to date	0.41"
Last year to date	0.05"
Normal year to date	0.45"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	7:34 a.m.
Sunset tonight	4:34 p.m.
Moonrise today	5:21 p.m.
Moonset today	7:27 a.m.

Full Last New First

Jan 12 Jan 19 Jan 27 Feb 3



REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Partly sunny today. Clear to partly cloudy and cold tonight.
Eastern Washington: Mostly sunny today.
Eastern and Central Oregon: Partly sunny and cold today.
Cascades: Partly sunny today; very cold across the north. Partly cloudy and cold tonight.
Northern California: Cool today with clouds and sun; a snow shower in the interior mountains.
Western Washington: Mostly sunny today; however, clouds giving way to sun across the south.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	40	25	s	42	29	c
Baker City	19	1	pc	18	3	s
Bend	21	6	pc	25	13	s
Brookings	48	34	pc	48	36	pc
Burns	23	0	pc	18	-2	s
Enterprise	23	1	pc	23	10	s
Eugene	34	20	pc	34	25	s
Heppner	18	4	pc	19	7	s
Hermiston	17	5	pc	16	7	s
John Day	30	11	pc	31	16	s
Klamath Falls	30	5	pc	24	6	s
La Grande	25	7	pc	26	13	s
Meacham	24	7	pc	26	11	s
Medford	40	23	pc	38	24	s
Newport	41	27	pc	42	31	s
North Bend	46	30	pc	49	33	s
Ontario	26	9	pc	20	10	s
Pasco	15	1	s	14	3	s
Pendleton	15	5	pc	15	6	s
Portland	32	16	pc	31	19	s
Redmond	21	5	pc	25	6	s
Salem	32	18	pc	31	20	s
Spokane	17	3	pc	18	12	s
Ukiah	24	1	pc	25	8	s
Vancouver	33	15	pc	32	20	s
Walla Walla	16	3	s	15	5	s
Yakima	21	0	s	16	4	s

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	42	18	s	38	12	s
Hong Kong	69	60	c	68	60	c
Jerusalem	58	42	pc	53	44	pc
London	43	31	r	41	32	pc
Mexico City	73	43	pc	72	44	pc
Moscow	22	20	sn	27	24	sn
Paris	45	34	r	40	31	c
Rome	53	49	sh	58	34	sh
Seoul	34	15	s	30	12	pc
Sydney	81	72	pc	90	80	pc
Tokyo	51	42	s	51	37	s

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Fri.
Boardman	ENE 3-6	NE 4-8
Pendleton	N 4-8	N 4-8

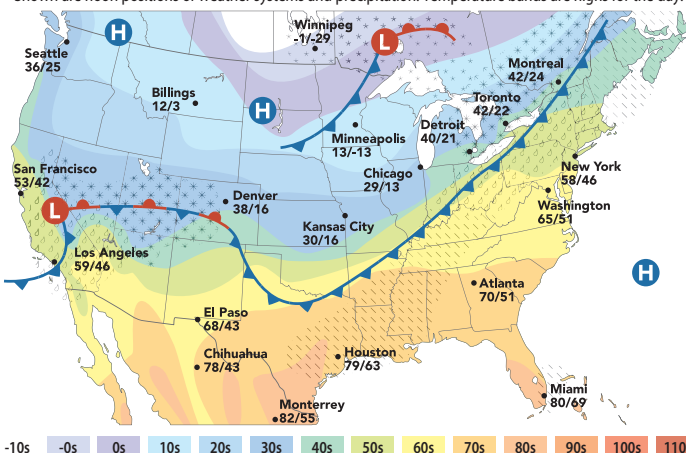
UV INDEX TODAY

0 1 1 1 0 0
8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.
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.

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2017

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



National Summary: Rain with warm air will extend from Texas to Maine today. Colder air with some ice and snow will push eastward over the Upper Midwest. Coastal rain with inland snow are in store for the Southwest.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 88° in Cotulla, Texas Low -34° in Loma, Mont.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.			Today			Fri.			
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	
Albuquerque	57	33	pc	56	41	c	Louisville	67	34	t	41	35	r
Atlanta	70	51	pc	72	51	pc	Memphis	71	48	sh	57	49	c
Atlanta City	57	48	pc	51	31	c	Miami	80	69	pc	79	69	pc
Baltimore	63	49	c	51	29	c	Millwaukee	27	8	sf	21	16	pc
Billings	12	3	pc	23	6	s	Minneapolis	13	-13	pc	8	0	sn
Birmingham	72	59	pc	72	51	pc	Nashville	75	42	pc	52	46	c
Boston	27	11	pc	22	9	s	New Orleans	70	61	pc	73	57	pc
Charleston, SC	55	42	c	43	18	pc	New York City	58	46	r	47	26	pc
Charleston, WV	75	50	s	76	50	s	Oklahoma City	51	30	pc	34	29	i
Chicago	29	13	t	25	21	pc	Omaha	25	11	pc	23	15	c
Cleveland	56	24	r	29	22	pc	Philadelphia	61	48	c	49	29	pc
Dallas	76	58	pc	67	56	t	Phoenix	67	52	pc	65	49	c
Denver	38	16	c	35	22	c	Portland, ME	50	37	c	39		