

AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Cloudy, a little rain; windy	Partly sunny	Some sun, then clouds and chilly	Occasional rain in the afternoon	Partly sunny with a shower
PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
61°	33°	49°	32°	47°
HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
62°	31°	53°	32°	50°
47°	37°	46°	36°	56°
36°	56°	36°	56°	36°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	48°	35°
Normals	55°	36°
Records	76° (1900)	10° (1906)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.

Month to date	0.01"
Normal month to date	0.71"
Year to date	4.99"
Last year to date	3.35"
Normal year to date	3.22"

HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	51°	32°
Normals	58°	35°
Records	76° (1972)	19° (2002)

PRECIPITATION

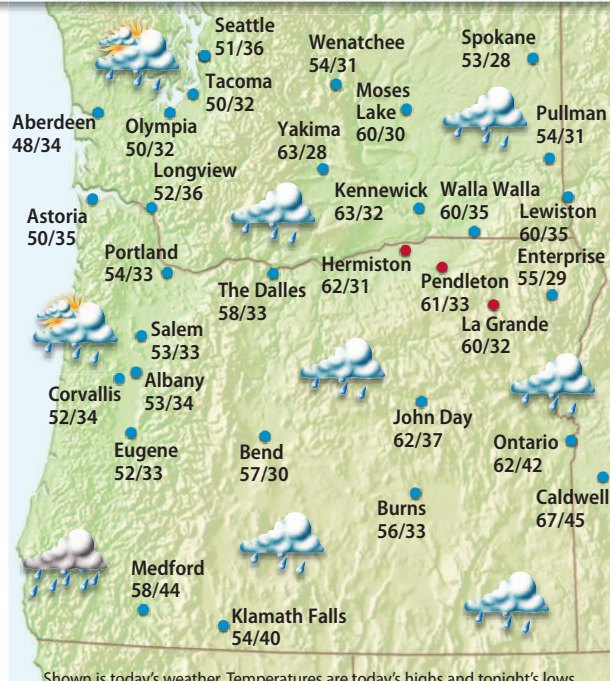
24 hours ending 3 p.m.

Month to date	Trace
Normal month to date	0.51"
Year to date	0.53"
Last year to date	3.97"
Normal year to date	2.12"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	7:02 a.m.
Sunset tonight	7:05 p.m.
Moonrise today	12:22 a.m.
Moonset today	10:24 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
Mar 20	Mar 27	Apr 3	Apr 10



REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Mostly cloudy today. A little rain; arriving during the afternoon in the south.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Cloudy and windy today. A little rain; only in the morning near the Cascades.

Western Washington: Rain this morning, then a shower or two. A couple of showers at the coast tonight.

Eastern Washington: Cloudy today with a couple of showers. Clear to partly cloudy tonight.

Cascades: Rain today; rain, then snow in the south.

Northern California: Occasional rain today. Cooler; breezy in the interior mountains.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Sun.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	50	35	r	53	39	pc
Baker City	61	31	r	55	31	pc
Bend	57	30	sh	52	33	pc
Brookings	52	44	r	58	50	pc
Burns	56	33	r	50	34	c
Enterprise	55	29	r	50	31	pc
Eugene	52	33	r	56	40	pc
Heppner	60	30	r	49	31	pc
Hermiston	62	31	c	53	32	pc
John Day	62	37	r	56	42	c
Klamath Falls	54	40	r	57	40	c
La Grande	60	32	r	52	32	pc
Meacham	57	28	r	49	30	pc
Medford	58	44	r	63	48	c
Newport	49	35	r	53	41	pc
North Bend	53	38	r	58	46	pc
Ontario	62	42	c	56	39	c
Pasco	62	30	r	54	32	pc
Pendleton	61	33	r	49	32	pc
Portland	54	33	r	57	40	pc
Redmond	59	26	r	54	30	pc
Salem	53	33	r	56	39	pc
Spokane	53	28	r	44	27	pc
Ukiah	56	27	r	48	30	pc
Vancouver	53	35	r	59	41	pc
Walla Walla	60	35	r	52	35	pc
Yakima	63	28	r	54	32	pc

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Sun.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	69	37	s	69	47	pc
Hong Kong	73	68	sh	73	69	c
Jerusalem	65	49	pc	58	44	pc
London	59	52	sh	59	51	c
Mexico City	75	43	pc	75	43	pc
Moscow	46	36	c	45	37	r
Paris	57	49	sh	58	46	c
Rome	62	51	pc	64	48	pc
Seoul	58	32	pc	62	37	s
Sydney	76	70	sh	78	71	sh
Tokyo	55	46	pc	60	46	s

WINDS

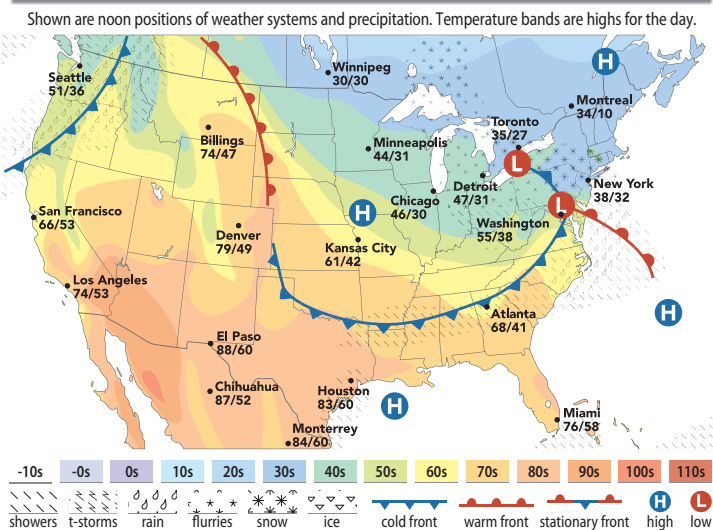
(in mph)	Today	Sunday
Boardman	SW 15-25	NE 4-8
Pendleton	SW 20-30	NNW 6-12

UV INDEX TODAY



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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



National Summary: Snow will fall across the eastern Great Lakes, central Appalachians and the upper mid-Atlantic coast today with rain from the lower Middle Atlantic to northeastern Texas. More rain will dampen the Northwest.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 96° in Thermal, Calif. **Low** -5° in Watertown, N.Y.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Sun.			Today			Sun.			
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	
Albuquerque	79	50	s	81	49	s	Louisville	51	34	s	58	41	pc
Atlanta	68	41	sh	62	42	s	Memphis	70	43	pc	66	54	s
Atlanta City	45	36	r	44	33	pc	Miami	76	58	pc	81	63	s
Baltimore	51	35	sh	51	31	pc	Milwaukee	45	31	pc	48	38	s
Billings	74	47	c	51	32	r	Minneapolis	44	31	pc	58	35	pc
Birmingham	72	40	pc	65	45	s	Nashville	64	34	pc	61	44	s
Boise	68	46	r	60	44	pc	New Orleans	77	59	pc	76	58	pc
Boston	38	31	pc	37	29	sn	New York City	38	32	sn	43	30	sf
Charleston, SC	71	44	sh	63	39	s	Oklahoma City	76	59	pc	84	61	s
Charleston, WV	51	34	sh	49	29	pc	Omaha	58	41	s	74	42	s
Chicago	46	30	pc	54	44	s	Philadelphia	44	34	sn	48	30	pc
Cleveland	43	34	sn	44	32	pc	Phoenix	95	66	s	95	66	s
Dallas	83	64	pc	85	62	s	Portland, ME	35	22	s	36	24	c
Denver	79	49	s	79	47	pc	Providence	43	31	pc	39	29	sn
Detroit	47	31	sn	47	33	pc	Raleigh	66	38	sh	60	34	pc
El Paso	88	60	s	89	61	s	Rapid City	73	49	s	69	30	pc
Fairbanks	9	-17	s	12	-19	s	Reno	69	42	c	68	45	r
Fargo	43	32	pc	56	28	pc	Sacramento	66	49	c	68	52	c
Honolulu	82	69	s	83	72	s	St. Louis	57	35	s	61	50	pc
Houston	83	60	pc	83	59	pc	Salt Lake City	81	52	pc	72	50	c
Indianapolis	44	31	c	53	39	pc	San Diego	67	57	pc	69	57	pc
Jacksonville	77	48	s	68	40	s	San Francisco	66	53	c	65	53	c
Kansas City	61	42	pc	75	54	pc	Seattle	51	36	r	51	37	pc
Las Vegas	90	63	s	88	64	s	Tucson	93	61	r	94	61	s
Little Rock	72	46	pc	68	56	pc	Washington, DC	55	38	sh	52	37	pc
Los Angeles	74	53	pc	74	54	pc	Wichita	70	51	s	86	54	pc

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

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Pilot program puts homeless in residents' backyards

PORTLAND (AP) — A pilot program in Portland, Oregon will put homeless families in little modular homes built in the backyards of willing homeowners.

In exchange, the homeowners will own the fully plumbed tiny houses after a five-year lease and can rent them out.

The idea will start with just four units but Multnomah County officials hope to expand.

It's believed to be the first project nationally to join homeowners with the homeless.

It's a way for Portland to bridge a gap while affordable housing is constructed in a city where nearly 1,900 people sleep outside each night.

County housing officials say 200 homeowners have signed up to learn more after the pilot was made public.

A critical housing shortage has led officials to experiment with sleeping pods and "tiny house" villages.

BRIEFLY

He was killed after police were called to his home by his therapist who believed he was experiencing a crisis. Authorities say Babb was armed with a rifle when officer Will Stutesman shot him. Prosecutors ruled the shooting was legal and justified.

Property owner charged in killings of two trespassers

PORTLAND (AP) — Authorities say two men found dead at a rural property southeast of Portland were shot by the owner after trespassing.

Sgt. Brian Jensen of the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office released the details Thursday, a day after Robert Hilands was arrested in the killings of Dustin Childress and Thomas Hegar.

Jensen says Childress and Hegar trespassed Tuesday morning after a vehicle dropped them off at the property in Beavercreek. Roughly 15 minutes later, Childress called one of the women in the vehicle to say someone opened fire and Hegar had been wounded while fleeing.

More than seven hours later, one of the women called 9-1-1 to report they couldn't find the men.

Jensen says deputies discovered the bodies concealed near the front gate of Hilands' property.

The 33-year-old Hilands was booked into jail on charges of aggravated murder and unlawful use of a weapon. His court-appointed attorney, Laurie Bender, did not immediately return a phone message.

Searchers recover body of skier missing for 8 days

HOOD RIVER (AP) — Search teams have recovered the body of a skier who was reported missing on Mt. Hood eight days ago. Sgt. Pete Hughes of

the Hood River County Sheriff's Department said Thursday it appears 57-year-old Steve Leavitt hit a tree while skiing and died on impact.

His body was then covered by snow and was discovered late Wednesday.

The Subaru dealership sales manager from The Dalles was last seen skiing at Mt. Hood Meadows on March 7 in the middle of a snow storm.

His family reported him missing that day but bad weather and the risk of an avalanche hampered search efforts.

His body was brought off the mountain Thursday.

Police: Shooter in park had previous gun charges

CORVALLIS (AP) — Police say a 31-year-old man who they believe killed a woman before turning the gun on himself was previously charged with gun theft.

The *Corvallis Gazette-Times* reports that police say Derek Brown shot 38-year-old Karla Melson at the Orleans Natural Area March 10 before shooting himself near Highway 34. Melson was pronounced dead at the scene. Brown died at a hospital Sunday.

Benton County Sheriff's Office jail rosters show Brown spent most of the last two months in the county jail. Brown was arrested Jan. 5 after he allegedly grabbed a gun from a counter of Corvallis Guns and ran. He was released from jail on his own recognizance Feb. 28.

Court records show Brown failed to appear at a hearing in the case just one day before the shooting.

Bill would authorize GMO trespass lawsuits against patent holders

Genetic technology companies would be liable for GMO damages

By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI
Capital Bureau

SALEM — New lawsuits over trespass by genetically engineered crops would be authorized in Oregon under proposed legislation that would hold biotech patent holders liable for damages.

Supporters of House Bill 2739 say it's a common sense strategy to remedy problems caused by genetically modified organisms, or GMOs, similar to consumer lawsuits over defective products.

"This is not a wild legal grab. We will not be compensated for our angst. We will only be compensated for provable legal damages," said Sandra Bishop of the Our Family Farms Coalition, which supports HB 2739.

Jerry Erstrom, a Malheur County farmer, said he supports the bill even though he's planted genetically engineered corn on his property.

"If you do something that messes up my livelihood, you should be held accountable for it," Erstrom said at a March 16 hearing of the House Judiciary Committee.

Creeping bentgrass that's genetically engineered to tolerate glyphosate herbicides escaped control in Eastern Oregon, and the crop's patent holder should be responsible for control costs as it spreads, he said.

"It's coming to the Willamette Valley. Say what you want, it's going to be here," Erstrom said.

Proponents of HB 2739 say there's nothing new about holding companies liable for their products hurting people

or property, but organic and conventional farmers must currently bear the financial burden from GMO crop contamination alone.

"We're not coming to you from a level playing field. Harm is only coming one way," said Amy van Saun, legal fellow with the Center for Food Safety, which supports the bill.

Supporters say the legal mechanism of HB 2739 is simple and fair because the liability rests with companies that profit from GMO patents.

Complicated searches for a culprit won't be necessary, since biotech traits can be determined with genetic tests, said Elise Higley, director of the Our Family Farms Coalition.

"It's super easy to track it back to who is responsible," Higley said.

Opponents of the bill argue that pollination among related crops isn't limited to GMOs, but neighboring farmers have long found practical ways to avoid unwanted crosses.

"It's one of the greatest risks I face, but it's a manageable risk," said Kevin Richards, who grows seeds and other crops near Madras, Ore.

Under a provision in HB 2739, plaintiffs are entitled to triple the amount of economic damages caused by the unwanted presence of GMOs, which is clearly meant to be punitive, according to the bill's detractors.

"It would single out and stigmatize biotech patents," said Barry Bushue, president of the Oregon Farm Bureau.

Critics also questioned the logic of making patent holders liable for unauthorized GMOs, since the problem may be caused by irresponsible practices of neighboring landowners or factors beyond human control, like birds.

"They sell the seed but they have no control once that happens," said Roger Beyer, a lobbyist for the Oregon Seed Council and other crop groups.

Apart from the immediate impacts of the bill, imposing new liability on patent holders may discourage seed companies from offering innovative products in Oregon, said Scott Dahlman, policy director of the Oregonians for Food and Shelter agribusiness group.

If companies face the threat of additional lawsuits, "they will reconsider whether they sell things here," Dahlman 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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