

AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly sunny and nice	Pleasant with sunshine	Pleasant with sunshine	Mostly sunny	Very warm with partial sunshine
72° 50°	72° 49°	76° 50°	81° 55°	86° 60°
PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
72° 50°	72° 49°	76° 50°	81° 55°	86° 60°
HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
79° 51°	79° 51°	84° 52°	89° 55°	93° 62°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	
HIGH	LOW
Yesterday 66°	46°
Normals 71°	47°
Records 94° (2006)	28° (1905)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	0.92"
Normal month to date	0.70"
Year to date	9.13"
Last year to date	5.31"
Normal year to date	5.81"

HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

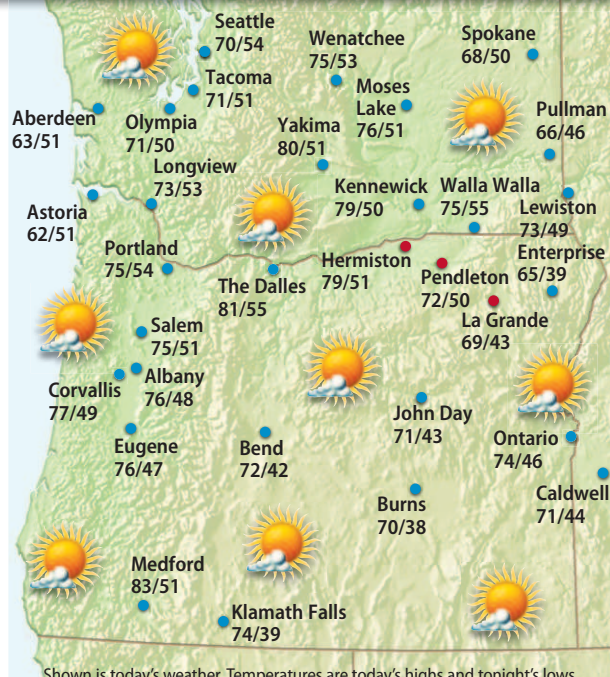
TEMPERATURE	
HIGH	LOW
Yesterday 71°	49°
Normals 74°	47°
Records 95° (2008)	33° (1966)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	0.43"
Normal month to date	0.66"
Year to date	6.31"
Last year to date	4.20"
Normal year to date	4.65"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:20 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:24 p.m.
Moonrise today	2:11 a.m.
Moonset today	1:09 p.m.



REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Mostly sunny today. Partly cloudy tonight.

Eastern Washington: Sunny to partly cloudy today.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Mostly sunny today; pleasant. Clear tonight.

Cascades: Mostly sunny today; pleasant.

Western Washington: Sunshine and patchy clouds today.

Northern California: Plenty of sun today; warmer in the interior mountains. Clear tonight.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Sat.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	62	51	s	62	49	sh
Baker City	68	37	s	68	39	s
Bend	72	42	s	70	41	s
Brookings	65	50	s	66	52	s
Burns	70	38	s	71	40	s
Enterprise	65	39	s	64	40	sh
Eugene	76	47	s	70	48	pc
Heppner	72	45	s	72	45	s
Hermiston	79	51	s	79	51	s
John Day	71	43	s	71	44	s
Klamath Falls	74	39	s	75	41	s
La Grande	69	43	s	68	44	sh
Meacham	67	39	s	65	42	s
Medford	83	51	s	82	50	s
Newport	59	49	s	60	47	pc
North Bend	62	51	s	62	51	pc
Ontario	74	46	s	77	51	s
Pasco	79	49	s	79	49	s
Pendleton	72	50	s	72	49	s
Portland	75	54	s	70	53	c
Redmond	76	39	s	72	39	s
Salem	75	51	s	71	51	c
Spokane	68	50	s	66	49	pc
Ukiah	68	39	s	66	41	pc
Vancouver	74	52	s	69	52	c
Walla Walla	75	55	s	74	52	s
Yakima	80	51	s	79	50	s

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Sat.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	101	65	pc	96	65	s
Hong Kong	82	76	sh	83	78	c
Jerusalem	79	58	s	69	55	pc
London	60	47	t	62	48	t
Mexico City	86	58	pc	86	57	pc
Moscow	68	50	pc	70	53	pc
Paris	60	46	t	64	48	t
Rome	76	57	t	71	56	pc
Seoul	79	55	s	80	55	pc
Sydney	70	62	sh	72	59	r
Tokyo	75	64	s	78	67	s

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Saturday
Boardman	SW 3-6	WNW 4-8
Pendleton	NNW 4-8	W 6-12

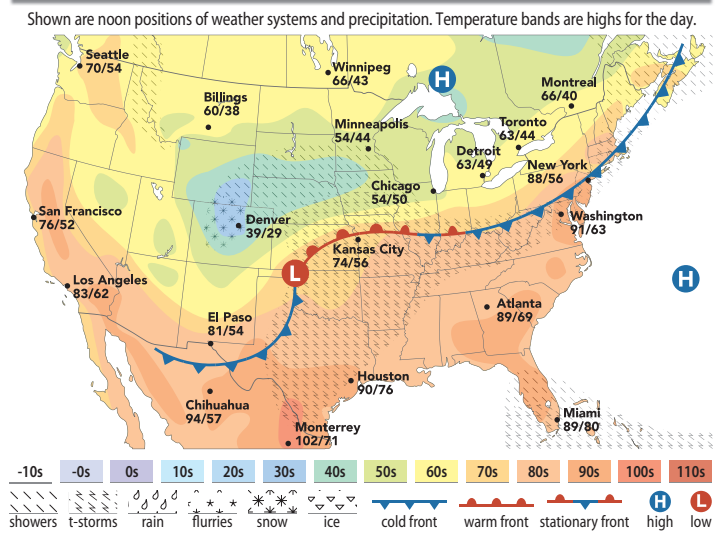
UV INDEX TODAY



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: Showers and storms will extend from eastern Maine to southern Texas today with severe weather in the Central states. As rain soaks parts of the northern Plains, more snow will fall on the central Rockies.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 102° in Dryden, Texas **Low 20°** in Randolph, Utah

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Sat.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	66	43	s	70	48	s
Atlanta	89	69	t	89	69	pc
Atlanta City	81	59	pc	83	62	pc
Baltimore	90	59	t	70	54	pc
Billings	60	38	pc	66	44	c
Birmingham	89	69	t	88	69	c
Boise	69	47	s	75	47	s
Boston	83	52	pc	82	50	s
Charleston, SC	87	67	pc	88	69	pc
Charleston, WV	81	63	t	86	67	t
Chicago	54	50	sh	74	56	t
Cleveland	62	53	pc	79	66	pc
Dallas	87	67	t	78	62	t
Denver	39	29	sn	57	36	pc
Detroit	63	49	pc	68	59	pc
El Paso	81	54	s	84	60	s
Fairbanks	63	43	sh	61	38	pc
Fargo	64	39	pc	54	41	r
Honolulu	84	72	pc	85	71	sh
Houston	90	76	pc	88	72	t
Indianapolis	76	64	t	81	64	t
Jacksonville	87	68	pc	87	69	sh
Kansas City	74	56	t	65	46	t
Las Vegas	82	64	s	89	69	s
Little Rock	85	69	t	81	63	t
Los Angeles	83	62	s	86	62	s
Louisville	83	70	t	87	69	t
Memphis	87	72	t	85	67	t
Miami	89	80	sh	89	79	pc
Milwaukee	50	45	sh	63	54	r
Minneapolis	54	44	pc	54	45	r
Nashville	88	71	t	89	68	t
New Orleans	86	74	pc	84	72	s
New York City	88	56	pc	70	53	s
Oklahoma City	76	52	t	71	47	pc
Omaha	55	47	t	56	43	t
Philadelphia	91	59	pc	72	53	pc
Phoenix	88	66	s	95	70	s
Portland, ME	77	43	pc	64	44	s
Providence	87	53	pc	69	47	s
Raleigh	91	69	pc	87	65	t
Rapid City	45	32	r	56	34	r
Reno	77	50	s	83	52	s
Sacramento	90	57	s	93	57	s
St. Louis	80	70	t	81	59	t
Salt Lake City	62	46	pc	70	52	s
San Diego	77	61	s	77	61	s
San Francisco	76	52	s	76	51	s
Seattle	70	54	s	68	52	pc
Tucson	85	56	s	92	61	s
Washington, DC	91	63	t	73	59	pc
Wichita	74	50	t	65	47	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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Azure Farms agree to try a new weed control plan

Neighbors are wary organic plan won't be enough

By ERIC MORTENSON
EO Media Group

MORO — Azure Farms and Sherman County officials agreed Thursday to try a new weed control plan that would allow the farm to retain its organic certification. The agreement came during a two-hour county court meeting that saw approximately 300 people, more than one-sixth of the county's population, file into the high school gym.

The county has warned it will ask the Oregon Department of Agriculture to quarantine the 1,922-acre organic farm if it doesn't control rampant noxious weeds that neighboring wheat farmers say are spreading on to their ground. The local weed control supervisor said the county will spray herbicide and bill the farm for the work if the problem is not dealt with.

The situation, which has been a local issue since at least 2006, came to a head this spring when local farmers renewed complaints that Azure's property is filled with Rush Skeleton weed, Canada Thistle, Bindweed, White Top and Morning Glory.

Conventional farmers, especially those who grow certified seed, said weeds from Azure can contaminate their crops and increase their input costs due to additional spraying.

For Azure Farms, however, spraying conventional herbicides would cause it to lose valuable organic certification for three years after the last application.

Azure Farms is part of Azure Standard, a major distributor of organic products, and the company's first response — a video that urged a social media uprising against the county — didn't win them any local friends. County officials counted approximately 57,000 emails from around



Eric Mortenson/Capital Press
David Stelzer, center, CEO of Azure Standard, and his brother, Nathan Stelzer, left, Azure Farms manager, address the Sherman County crowd about their weed problems.

the world, critical of their proposed action. The county courthouse also shut down its phone system after being deluged with protests.

At the Wednesday meeting, however, Azure representatives said they regret the conflict.

"We have every intention of living peaceably with all of our neighbors," farm manager Nathan Stelzer said. "I'm deeply sorry if we hurt you guys," he added later.

His brother, David Stelzer, CEO of Azure Standard, said he authorized the social media campaign but doesn't have a Facebook account himself and didn't understand the implications.

"I do apologize for unleashing social media on the county," he said. "I am sorry."

But the brothers made it clear they don't want to use weed control methods that will cause them to lose organic certification. They proposed a combination of tillage, mowing and organic products to do the job. County weed district Supervisor Rod Asher said he will work with Azure in concert with farmers, university weed experts and perhaps organic consultants.

Some of the conventional farmers in the area are skeptical. During the meeting, several said Azure Farms should simply spray herbicide, clean up its fields and resume organic operations in three years.

"This has gone on long

enough," said Bryan Cranston, who grows certified wheat seed adjacent to Azure Farms. He said the farm should use Milestone, a powerful herbicide that will kill the weeds.

Grower Chris Moore, who also farms next to Azure property, said the time he spends on weed abatement has gone from hours to days, and he's losing productive ground. He said "half measures" by Azure won't be sufficient.

"If you do undertake it, control every weed," he said. "Don't let it go to seed. If you do that, I don't think you'll have a problem with your neighbors."

Jean Luxford-Hubert was blunt.

"What we're looking at here is bad farming practices that have gone on for a number of years," she said. "This is pure and simple poor management, poor soil control, poor conservation of the fields."

"You need to fix this problem because you're encroaching on your neighbors," she told the Stelzers. "That's not the way it should be in an agricultural community."

Blake Rowe, CEO of the Oregon Wheat Growers League in Portland, said Sherman County is one of the state's key wheat producing regions. Wheat is among the state's leading export products, with much of it going to Asia, and the area's reputation for high quality is at risk, Rowe said.

OHA: Determining Medicaid eligibility a complicated task

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE
Capital Bureau

SALEM — More than three years after Oregon opted to expand healthcare coverage under Medicaid, the government's healthcare plan, it's still not clear how much the state may have spent on people who don't qualify.

In response to an audit memo released by the Oregon Secretary of State this week, the Oregon Health Authority said that the process for determining eligibility for the program has been hampered by old, disparate systems for keeping track of Medicaid recipients and the failure of Cover Oregon, the state's expensive attempt at a health insurance marketplace.

Oregon decided to expand Medicaid in 2013 under the federal Affordable Care Act, and dramatically widened the pool of Oregonians who could receive government health coverage.