

## AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
A t-storm in spots in the p.m.	Hazy sunshine	Pleasant with partial sunshine	Sunny and delightful	Mostly sunny
<b>85° 62°</b>	<b>82° 56°</b>	<b>77° 50°</b>	<b>84° 54°</b>	<b>87° 54°</b>
<b>88° 65°</b>	<b>84° 55°</b>	<b>80° 48°</b>	<b>85° 51°</b>	<b>89° 51°</b>

### ALMANAC

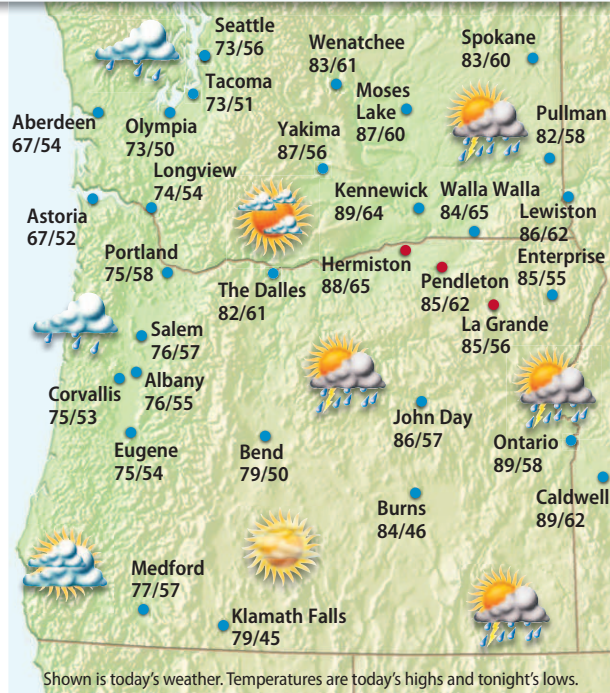
#### PENDELTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	85°	62°
Normals	81°	52°
Records	100° (1932)	32° (1910)

**PRECIPITATION**

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	0.00"
Normal month to date	0.11"
Year to date	11.37"
Last year to date	7.69"
Normal year to date	8.49"



#### HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	84°	59°
Normals	82°	51°
Records	101° (1955)	32° (1929)

**PRECIPITATION**

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	0.00"
Normal month to date	0.08"
Year to date	6.65"
Last year to date	5.40"
Normal year to date	6.20"

### REGIONAL FORECAST

**Coastal Oregon:** Cloudy most of the time today; a shower in spots across the north.

**Eastern and Central Oregon:** A shower or thunderstorm in spots today, except dry near the Cascades.

**Western Washington:** Mostly cloudy today with a shower in places. Partly cloudy tonight.

**Eastern Washington:** Smoky today with hazy sunshine; a shower or thunderstorm in spots in the north.

**Cascades:** Smoky today with intervals of clouds and sunshine. Clear to partly cloudy tonight.

**Northern California:** Sun and clouds today; a thunderstorm in spots in the interior mountains.

### REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Sat.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	67	52	c	65	51	c
Baker City	86	51	pc	84	45	pc
Bend	79	50	pc	78	46	pc
Brookings	68	56	c	69	58	pc
Burns	84	46	pc	85	44	pc
Enterprise	85	55	pc	81	50	t
Eugene	75	54	pc	73	52	pc
Heppner	83	60	pc	80	54	pc
Hermiston	88	65	pc	84	55	pc
John Day	86	57	pc	84	51	pc
Klamath Falls	79	45	pc	80	45	pc
La Grande	85	56	pc	82	49	pc
Meacham	81	52	pc	78	46	pc
Medford	77	57	pc	80	54	pc
Newport	64	52	c	63	51	c
North Bend	66	53	c	67	53	s
Ontario	89	58	pc	88	57	pc
Pasco	87	59	pc	83	48	pc
Pendleton	85	62	pc	82	56	pc
Portland	75	58	pc	72	57	pc
Redmond	81	47	pc	79	43	pc
Salem	76	57	pc	72	54	pc
Spokane	83	60	pc	77	51	pc
Ukiah	84	52	pc	79	47	pc
Vancouver	75	56	pc	69	57	pc
Walla Walla	84	65	pc	81	58	pc
Yakima	87	56	pc	80	49	pc

### WORLD CITIES

	Today			Sat.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	89	68	pc	87	69	c
Hong Kong	89	79	c	88	81	t
Jerusalem	88	69	s	89	69	s
London	65	50	r	64	49	t
Mexico City	69	56	pc	63	54	t
Moscow	58	46	c	62	51	c
Paris	66	52	c	65	49	t
Rome	79	61	pc	78	68	s
Seoul	83	64	pc	83	66	pc
Sydney	68	49	s	66	49	s
Tokyo	80	68	r	81	70	pc

### WINDS

(in mph)

	Today	Saturday
Boardman	WSW 8-16	WSW 8-16
Pendleton	W 7-14	W 8-16

### UV INDEX TODAY

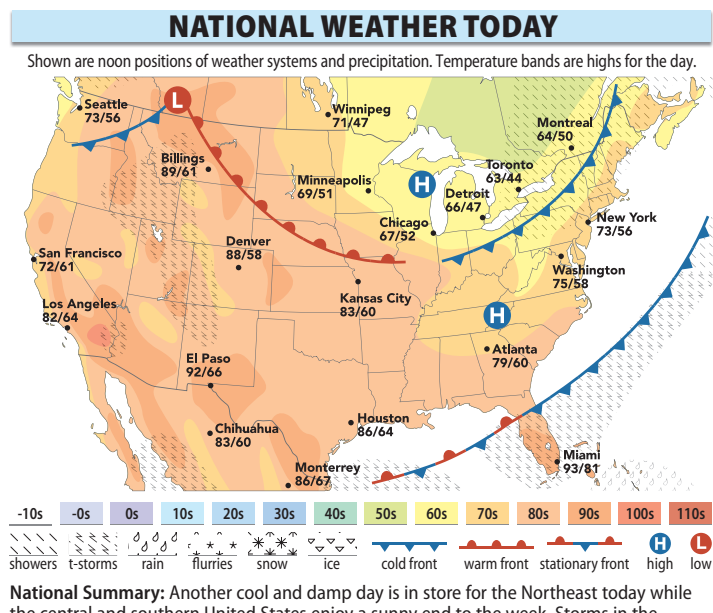
1 3 5 5 3 1

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 CITIES

	Today			Sat.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	88	63	pc	87	62	pc
Atlanta	79	60	s	79	61	s
Atlanta City	75	56	s	72	56	s
Baltimore	74	52	s	71	51	s
Birmingham	89	61	s	92	63	s
Boise	90	64	pc	85	59	pc
Boston	75	56	pc	69	56	pc
Charleston, SC	83	64	s	79	65	pc
Charleston, WV	74	51	pc	72	49	s
Chicago	67	52	pc	70	50	s
Cleveland	67	54	sh	67	48	s
Dallas	87	65	s	87	65	s
Denver	88	58	pc	90	60	s
Detroit	66	47	c	66	47	c
El Paso	92	66	s	91	65	s
Fairbanks	64	40	c	62	42	c
Fargo	71	51	s	77	60	c
Honolulu	88	76	pc	88	75	pc
Houston	86	64	s	87	66	s
Indianapolis	78	55	pc	74	50	s
Jacksonville	83	73	s	81	72	t
Kansas City	83	60	s	83	62	s
Las Vegas	91	72	pc	85	72	t
Little Rock	81	59	s	81	59	s
Los Angeles	82	64	pc	83	66	pc
Louisville	79	57	s	75	53	s
Memphis	80	60	s	82	60	s
Miami	93	81	pc	88	78	r
Milwaukee	65	53	pc	66	53	s
Minneapolis	69	51	s	73	59	s
Nashville	78	56	s	81	54	s
New Orleans	84	69	s	86	71	s
New York City	73	56	pc	69	55	pc
Oklahoma City	84	59	s	84	60	pc
Omaha	86	61	pc	86	66	pc
Philadelphia	74	56	pc	72	55	pc
Phoenix	96	77	pc	96	79	t
Portland, ME	72	52	pc	69	51	pc
Providence	75	54	pc	72	53	pc
Raleigh	79	55	s	77	54	s
Rapid City	84	55	pc	87	56	s
Reno	83	54	pc	83	56	s
Sacramento	86	59	pc	89	61	s
St. Louis	83	61	s	81	60	s
Salt Lake City	93	68	t	86	63	s
San Diego	77	68	pc	78	68	pc
San Francisco	72	61	pc	74	61	pc
Seattle	73	56	c	65	57	c
Tucson	92	71	t	91	69	t
Washington, DC	75	58	pc	73	56	s
Wichita	87	61	s	86	62	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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# SEASON: Nine firefighters have died and 35 have been injured this year

Continued from 1A

A snowy winter across much of the West raised hopes that 2017 wouldn't be a dried-out, fire-prone year, but a hot, dry summer spoiled that.

Here's what happened, and how bad things are:

### How did we get here?

Heavy snows last winter brought relief from a long, brutal drought across much of the West and produced a lush growth of natural grasses — thicker and taller than many vegetation experts had ever seen. But the weather turned very hot very fast in the spring, and the snow melted much faster than expected.

All the grass that grew high dried out, and so did forests at higher elevations, leaving plenty of fuel for wildfires, said Bryan Henry, a manager at the National Interagency Fire Center, which coordinates wild-fire-fighting.

Summer lightning storms then dumped less rain than usual and weather conditions kept the humidity low, creating a natural tinderbox in many states.

"It was kind of a bad combination of things," Henry said.

### How big are the fires?

By Thursday, more than 76 large fires were burning in nine Western states — including 21 in Montana and 18 in Oregon, according to the interagency fire center.

So far this year, wildfires have burned more than 12,500 square miles nationwide. In the past decade,



AP Photo/Randy L. Rasmussen

**Pedestrians walk off the Bridge of the Gods, which spans the Columbia River between Washington and Oregon states, as smoke from the Eagle Creek wildfire obscures the Oregon hills in the background near Stevenson, Wash., Wednesday.**

only two years were worse at this point in the wildfire season: 2015 and 2012.

For all of 2015, a record 15,800 square miles burned. In 2012, 14,600 square miles were scorched.

### What about climate change?

It's making things worse for fires, said Jonathan Overpeck, dean of the School for Environment and Sustainability at the University of Michigan.

Hotter and drier weather is a symptom of human-caused climate change, and that's making fires worse by leaving forests and other vegetation more flammable.

"It's not of course playing the only role," he said. "There's natural variability at work."

"Humans are contributing to an ever-increasing degree to wildfires in the West as they emit greenhouse gases and warm the planet and warm the West," Overpeck said.

### Tree-eating beetles

Two dozen species of beetles have killed trees on nearly 85,000 square miles in the Western U.S. since 2000. They're responsible for about 20 percent of the 6.3 billion standing dead trees across the West, according to the U.S. Forest Service.

Researchers disagree on whether forests with beetle-killed trees are more likely to burn, or if they burn differently, than healthier forests.

Any standing dead

tree — whether killed by beetles, drought, lightning or other causes — can crash down, posing hazards for firefighters who must adjust their tactics to avoid them.

### Who's fighting the fires?

More than 26,000 people are fighting the fires, backed by more than 200 helicopters, 1,800 trucks and 28 air tankers dropping water and fire-retardant slurry. Three of those tankers are military C-130 planes.

The military has also assigned surveillance aircraft and at least 200 active-duty soldiers to fight fires and the National Guard has been called out in at least four states — California, Montana, Oregon and Washington.

"We're stretched thin,"

said Jennifer Jones, a spokeswoman for the inter-agency fire center.

Sometimes the center gets requests for more crews and equipment than it has, so "fire managers on the ground are adjusting their tactics and strategies to accommodate the resources they can get," Jones said.

"We don't pack up our tents and go home," she said.

### How bad are the losses?

Nine firefighters have died and 35 have been injured this year, according to the national Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center. Two of the deaths came during training.

Fires have destroyed an estimated 500 single-family homes and 32 commercial buildings this year, the inter-agency fire center said.

Janet Ruiz of the Insurance Information Institute sees a hopeful trend in fewer houses lost to wildfires in recent years. Ruiz credits better-equipped firefighters and homeowners who take steps to minimize the danger such as clearing trees away from buildings and installing screens over dwelling openings to keep embers out.

"It's a better-informed public and fire services better able to fight fire," she said.

### What about the smoke?

"It's unusually bad," said Henry, of the National Interagency Fire Center.

Smoke is lingering from northern California and central Nevada to Montana. The air over parts of northern

California, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington is rated very unhealthy on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's AirNow website. It was not clear whether sources other than fires were contributing.

The air over the towns of Cottonwood and Port-hill, Idaho, were listed as hazardous, the worst of six categories.

Fires spew particulates into the air, which are linked to premature death and cancer and can make asthma and chronic lung disease worse, said Dr. Norman H. Edelman, a senior science adviser to the American Lung Association.

"It certainly is bad enough to cause symptoms in people with chronic lung disease but also normal people," he said.

### How much has it cost?

Federal spending to fight fires appears to be headed for a record.

The two main firefighting agencies, the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Department of Interior, report spending of more than \$2.1 billion so far. That's about the same as they spent in all of 2015, the most expensive wildfire season on record.

Those figures do not include individual state spending, which no single agency compiles. Montana has spent \$50 million, exhausting its firefighting reserve fund in just over a month. Oregon has spent \$28 million, but the state expects to be reimbursed for part of that by the federal government and others.

## Wyden, Merkley block Bounds from U.S. Circuit Court

By NICK BUDNICK  
 Portland Tribune

Oregon's two Democratic U.S. Senators on Thursday informed the White House they won't approve President Donald Trump's nomination of federal prosecutor Ryan Bounds to sit on the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals until he goes through a bipartisan review process — essentially vowing to block consideration of Bounds until they give their OK.</