

AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Abundant sunshine	Mostly cloudy and breezy	Cloudy with a couple of showers	A little morning rain; cloudy	Mostly cloudy with a little rain
PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
61°	46°	56°	42°	56°
HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
60°	46°	60°	41°	58°
46°	34°	50°	34°	46°
33°	33°	49°	33°	33°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

HIGH	LOW
48°	32°
Normals	57° 36°
Records	79° (1901) 11° (1935)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	Trace
Month to date	1.41"
Normal month to date	1.01"
Year to date	13.70"
Last year to date	10.34"
Normal year to date	9.95"

HERMISTON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

HIGH	LOW
56°	34°
Normals	59° 36°
Records	72° (2015) 6° (1935)

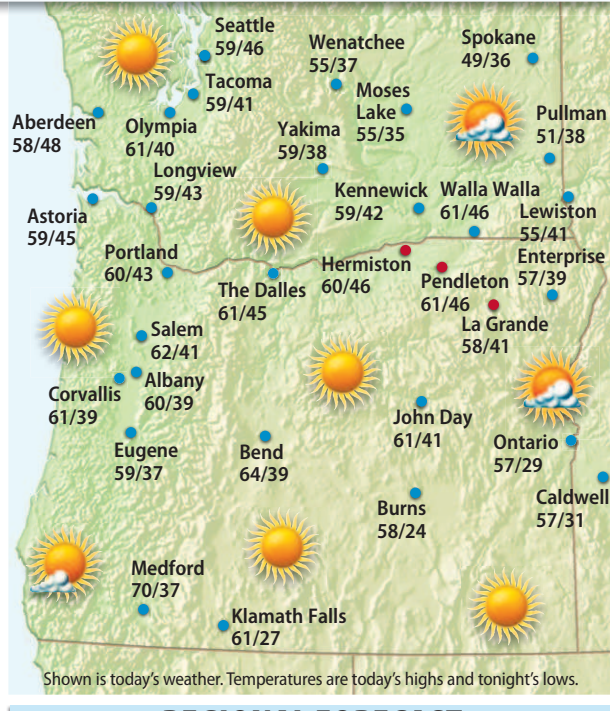
PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	0.79"
Normal month to date	0.68"
Year to date	7.80"
Last year to date	7.33"
Normal year to date	7.24"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 7:34 a.m.
Sunset tonight 5:43 p.m.
Moonrise today 4:20 p.m.
Moonset today 3:07 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
Nov 3	Nov 10	Nov 18	Nov 26



REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Mostly sunny today; pleasant. Partly cloudy tonight; a shower in spots across the north.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Sunny today, but some clouds in the upper Treasure Valley; warmer near the Cascades.

Western Washington: Sunshine today.

Eastern Washington: Partly sunny today; however, sunnier toward the Cascades.

Cascades: Plenty of sunshine today; warmer. A passing shower across the north tonight.

Northern California: Mostly sunny today; pleasant in central parts. Mostly clear tonight.

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	59	45	s	55	42	sh
Baker City	59	28	s	58	29	s
Bend	64	39	s	58	33	pc
Brookings	66	47	pc	58	47	s
Burns	58	24	s	61	23	s
Enterprise	57	39	s	52	35	c
Eugene	59	37	s	59	41	pc
Heppner	61	44	s	55	41	s
Hermiston	60	46	s	60	41	c
John Day	61	41	s	57	39	s
Klamath Falls	61	27	s	64	33	s
La Grande	58	41	s	54	37	c
Meacham	57	39	s	51	37	c
Medford	70	37	s	67	41	s
Newport	60	46	s	57	46	pc
North Bend	63	45	s	59	44	pc
Ontario	57	29	pc	61	32	s
Pasco	60	39	s	60	38	c
Pendleton	61	46	s	56	42	c
Portland	60	43	s	57	44	c
Redmond	65	35	s	59	40	pc
Salem	62	41	s	59	44	pc
Spokane	49	36	pc	49	33	c
Ukiah	58	37	s	52	36	s
Vancouver	59	42	s	56	45	s
Walla Walla	61	46	s	56	42	pc
Yakima	59	38	s	61	31	pc

WORLD CITIES

City	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	60	39	pc	63	40	s
Hong Kong	78	70	pc	81	71	s
Jerusalem	69	58	pc	68	54	c
London	57	46	pc	59	43	c
Mexico City	74	55	t	75	57	pc
Moscow	37	30	sn	32	23	sf
Paris	52	38	s	57	46	c
Rome	68	45	pc	66	45	s
Seoul	64	50	pc	66	51	c
Sydney	68	54	c	68	59	c
Tokyo	61	52	c	67	54	pc

WINDS

(in mph)

City	Today	Wednesday
Boardman	SW 6-12	WSW 10-20
Pendleton	SW 4-8	W 12-25

UV INDEX TODAY

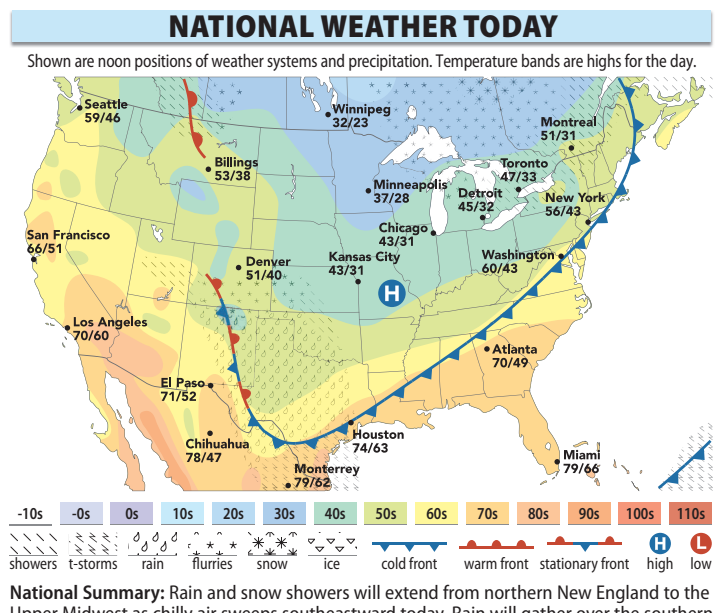
0 1 2 2 1 0

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.

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National Summary: Rain and snow showers will extend from northern New England to the Upper Midwest as chilly air sweeps southeastward today. Rain will gather over the southern Plains. Most other areas will be dry.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 90° in Gila Bend, Ariz. Low 14° in Angel Fire, N.M.

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	60	43	c	71	45	s
Atlanta	70	49	s	72	54	pc
Atlantic City	60	43	s	59	54	pc
Baltimore	58	36	s	55	46	c
Billings	53	38	c	44	26	r
Birmingham	69	52	s	68	58	pc
Boise	57	37	pc	63	35	s
Boston	58	41	s	54	48	pc
Charleston, SC	74	50	s	77	59	s
Charleston, WV	52	31	pc	52	46	sh
Chicago	43	31	pc	49	45	c
Cleveland	45	33	pc	51	43	c
Dallas	59	48	r	78	62	pc
Denver	51	40	sf	72	39	pc
Detroit	45	32	pc	49	43	c
El Paso	71	52	c	78	54	pc
Fairbanks	32	22	pc	30	19	pc
Fargo	37	27	pc	44	27	sn
Honolulu	85	74	sh	87	73	t
Houston	74	63	pc	80	68	t
Indianapolis	44	33	pc	50	44	r
Jacksonville	76	50	s	79	58	pc
Kansas City	43	31	pc	55	48	pc
Las Vegas	80	58	pc	79	57	s
Little Rock	57	41	pc	60	56	t
Los Angeles	70	60	pc	68	58	pc
Louisville	50	36	s	52	50	r
Memphis	58	45	pc	63	61	t
Miami	79	66	pc	81	69	pc
Milwaukee	43	31	pc	48	44	c
Minneapolis	37	28	pc	42	34	sn
Nashville	57	41	s	63	56	c
New Orleans	77	62	pc	77	66	c
New York City	56	43	s	55	50	pc
Oklahoma City	53	38	r	70	52	pc
Omaha	43	32	pc	59	40	pc
Philadelphia	57	40	s	56	51	c
Phoenix	82	62	pc	83	62	s
Portland, ME	57	35	s	52	42	s
Providence	59	37	s	57	46	pc
Raleigh	67	44	s	71	51	c
Rapid City	49	34	pc	54	27	pc
Reno	65	35	s	72	39	s
Sacramento	71	46	s	69	46	s
St. Louis	47	37	pc	52	49	pc
Salt Lake City	58	42	pc	70	48	s
San Diego	69	62	pc	69	60	pc
San Francisco	66	51	pc	66	53	s
Seattle	59	46	s	54	43	sh
Tucson	82	57	pc	83	54	pc
Washington, DC	60	43	s	58	50	c
Wichita	45	34	r	60	46	pc

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

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Christmas tree prices expected to rise amid shortages

By JONATHAN BACH
Statesman Journal

SALEM (AP) — Americans will pay more for pre-cut Christmas trees this year as shortages deepen from the country's top two producers, Oregon and North Carolina.

Joe Territo sells Oregon trees in San Jose, California. But he's becoming increasingly frustrated with rising costs, from the trees to labor. Territo says the only figure going down is profit.

"It seems like every year, it's harder and harder," Territo said. He expects to sell 6-foot Noble firs for about \$75 a piece this season, up from about \$69 last year.

The problem is one of supply. Christmas tree growers are coming up short as their 2017 harvest enters its critical period, with trees being shipped coast-to-coast and abroad.

Around the time of the Great Recession, growers had an oversupply of trees after planting too many in the early 2000s. Subsequent low prices forced many farmers out of the Christmas tree business, leaving other growers to tend to the market.

But now, with only so many trees to go around, remaining farmers can't keep up with demand — and they might not catch up for years. It can take nine years before some trees are ready to be cut and sold.

Oregon farms harvest the most trees in the United



Gerald Beard, left, Alberto Valdez and Alberto Bolla bale and sort Christmas trees in November 2016, at Hupp Farms in the Silverton area. Christmas trees in Oregon may cost a bit more this year as the supply of holiday firs in the state has dropped.

States, exporting them to places like Asia and California. Trees from North Carolina are generally shipped to states east of the Mississippi River.

Casey Grogan is a manager at Silver Bells Tree Farm, a few hundred acres outside of Salem. He reckons the farm has received 20 times its normal number of customer inquiries.

"We just have enough to supply the customers we've been supplying, so we're not able to help them," Grogan said.

But Grogan is optimistic for fellow Oregonians who should be able to find fresh

fir trees. And there are many u-cut tree farms.

"The people that are really gonna suffer from this, I think, are going to be people in Southern California, Arizona, Texas, places like that," he said.

Tim O'Connor, executive director of the National

Christmas Tree Association, denies a shortage, but acknowledges, "Supply is tight."

"Everyone who wants a tree will be able to get one," O'Connor said.

Christmas tree farmers aren't so confident.

"Right now, there's a tree

shortage. It's been coming down the line for the last eight or 10 years, or so," said Jason Hupp, who helps manage Hupp Farms near Silver Falls State Park in Oregon.

"So our biggest challenges are having enough trees to supply customers and just getting phone calls after phone calls after phone calls of people desperate for trees that don't exist," he said.

One recent morning, a helicopter piloted by Terry Harchenko swooped over Hupp Farms, snatching up bundles of trees after Raul Sosa, a lone worker clad in high-visibility orange, connected them to a hook on the chopper's dangling line.

It's dangerous work — the hook could swing and strike Sosa — but worker and pilot worked gracefully in concert.

"It's like air ballet. It's crazy," Hupp said beforehand.

The helicopter dropped the heavy trees in a nearby lot, where other workers pulled away ropes holding them together.

Wholesale growers estimate they're raising prices

at least 10 percent year-over-year. Growers don't expect normal harvest levels for Christmas trees to return until at least 2021 or 2025.

Like Hupp Farms in Oregon, Barr Evergreens in North Carolina can fulfill wholesale orders for its existing customers but has to turn away new ones, said owner Rusty Barr.

Barr expects to raise prices \$2 to \$3 for pre-cut Fraser fir trees at his retail outfit. That's on top of the \$60 to \$80 they've sold for in the past, depending on size.

North Carolina harvested an estimated 3.5 million trees in 2016, according to the Pacific Northwest Christmas Tree Association. The state was followed by Michigan (3 million), Pennsylvania (2.3 million) and Washington (1.5 million).

By contrast, Oregon cut down approximately 5.2 million trees.

For Oregon growers, popular Noble firs are especially lucrative — but they only grow so fast, often spending nine years in the ground to grow to 6 feet in the Pacific Northwest.

Corrections

The weekend lifestyle "Ride of the Living Dead" should have stated Jesselee Leachman of Pendleton attended Pendleton High School, not graduated. 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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