

# New smoke rules to allow more prescribed burns

PORTLAND (AP) — The Oregon Environmental Quality Commission has approved new smoke rules for the state that will allow more planned burns that reduce wildfire risk by getting rid of underbrush and dead trees.

Oregon Public Broadcasting reports that the rules approved Thursday are a tradeoff between having some smoke drift into communities during the winter months and the potential for devastating wildfires in the summer.

On the color-based system used for air quality alerts, the cutoff would now be within the yellow or “moderate” category.

The rules also designate limits for the 24-hour average of smoke in communities. The new rules apply to public and private landowners and burning on industrial timberlands.

“This change will allow relatively low levels of smoke from prescribed burning to occur more frequently in communities. And that’s a tradeoff for reducing the potential for much worse smoke incidence from wildfire in the summer season,”



A haze hangs over downtown Pendleton on Aug. 14, 2018, as smoke from regional wildfires has inundated the region.

said Department of Environmental Quality director Richard Whitman.

The new state standards still fall within federal guidelines.

Support for the changes has not been unanimous; some health and air quality advocates objected during the rule-making process.

Still others asked for even

more flexibility to use fire to restore forests.

Communities interested in promoting prescribed burns will also be able to apply to state regulators for exemptions to occasionally allow higher hourly smoke totals, which would provide even more flexibility.

“We’ll be able to do the amount of controlled burn-

ing, which will occasionally will put a small amount of smoke for not a long time into the community, just because of weather conditions,” said Ashland Mayor John Stromburg.

Much of Ashland is surrounded by fire-prone forests, and the city has been proactive in supporting work to reduce the wildfire risk.

# Measles outbreak traced to PDX, Blazers game and retail stores

By GILLIAN FLACCUS  
Associated Press

VANCOUVER, Wash. — The number of confirmed measles cases near Portland grew to 30 on Friday — an outbreak boosted by lower-than-normal vaccination rates in what’s been identified as an anti-vaccination U.S. “hot spot.”

Public health officials in southwest Washington, just across the Columbia River from Portland, said people may have been exposed to the dangerous disease at more than three dozen locations, including Portland International Airport, a Portland Trail Blazers game, an Amazon Locker location and stores such as Costco and Ikea.

Twenty-six of the confirmed patients had not been vaccinated against measles and the vaccination status of four others who were infected is unknown. One person has been hospitalized. Authorities say nine additional cases are suspected.

Most of the cases involved children younger than 10, the Clark County Public Health Department

said in a statement. One adult is infected and the rest are teenagers.

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee, a Democrat, declared a statewide public health emergency for his state on Friday and authorities in neighboring Oregon and Idaho have issued warnings to residents.

Inslee said the number of cases “creates an extreme public health risk that may quickly spread to other counties.”

Clark County, which includes the Portland bedroom community of Vancouver, Washington, has a measles vaccination rate of 78 percent, well below the 92 to 94 percent rate required for so-called “herd immunity,” said Marissa Armstrong, the department’s spokeswoman.

Herd immunity happens when unvaccinated individuals are protected from infection because almost everyone around them has been vaccinated and is immune to a disease.

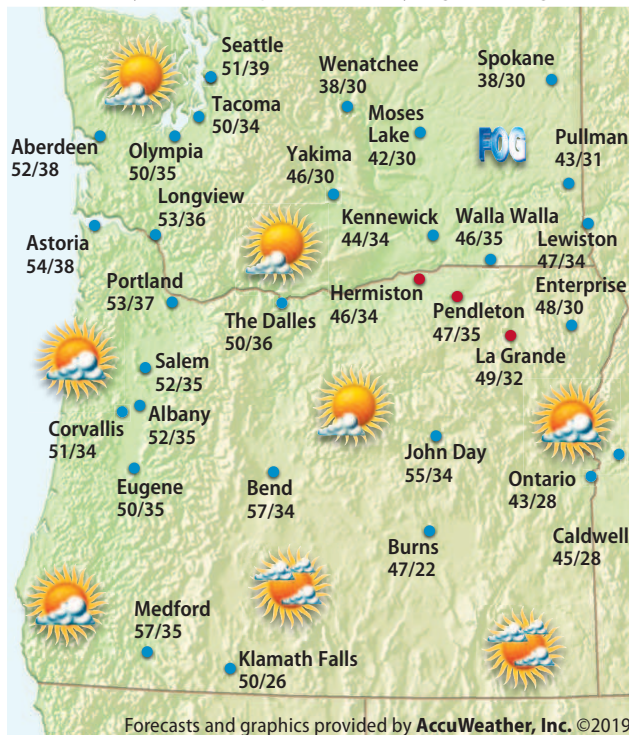
The measles vaccination rate for 2-year-olds in Multnomah County, home to Portland, was 87 percent in 2017, according to state data.

## Forecast for Pendleton Area

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Low clouds and fog breaking	Low clouds and fog breaking	Low clouds, fog breaking	Mostly sunny and chilly	Mostly cloudy
PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
47° 35°	52° 28°	43° 27°	42° 28°	46° 31°
HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
46° 34°	52° 30°	47° 26°	43° 28°	46° 31°

## OREGON FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



## ALMANAC

PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest.

TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	47°	31°
Normals	42°	28°
Records	65° (1935)	-10° (1957)

PRECIPITATION  
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"  
Month to date 2.07"  
Normal month to date 1.18"  
Year to date 2.07"  
Last year to date 1.46"  
Normal year to date 1.18"

HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.

TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	47°	29°
Normals	43°	29°
Records	60° (1968)	-17° (1949)

PRECIPITATION  
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"  
Month to date 1.53"  
Normal month to date 1.04"  
Year to date 1.53"  
Last year to date 1.02"  
Normal year to date 1.04"

WINDS (in mph)

Boardman	Today	Sun.
	NNE 4-8	NW 4-8
Pendleton	NNE 4-8	W 6-12

SUN AND MOON

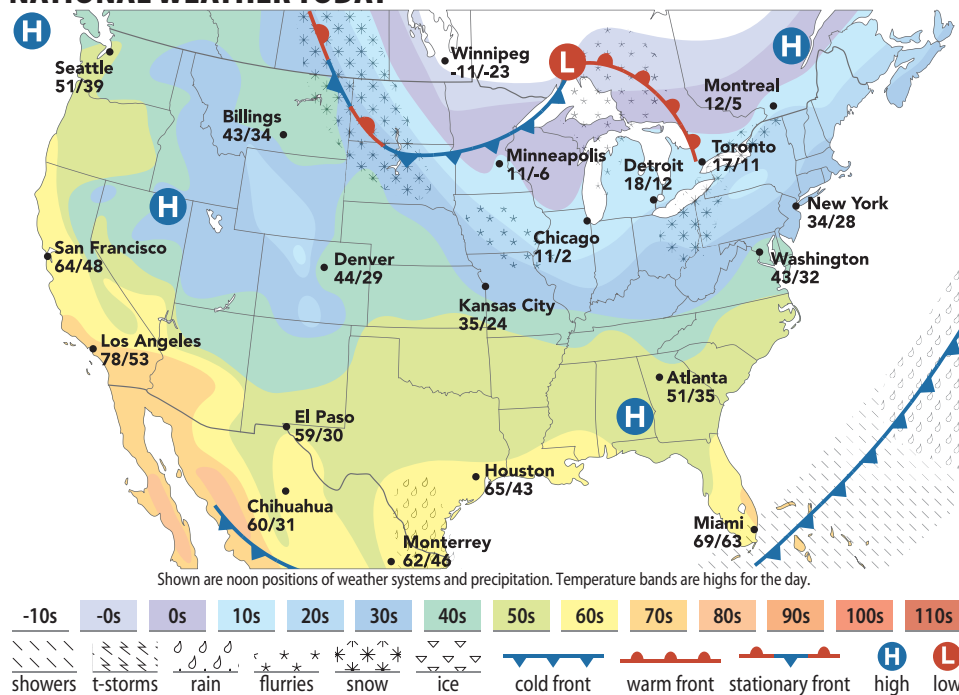
Sunrise today	7:24 a.m.
Sunset tonight	4:52 p.m.
Moonrise today	11:58 p.m.
Moonset today	10:47 a.m.

Last New First Full  
Jan 27 Feb 4 Feb 12 Feb 19

## NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)  
High 80° in Camarillo, Calif. Low -37° in International Falls, Minn.

## NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



## BRIEFLY

### DA clears police in deadly shooting at Oregon middle school

PORTLAND (AP) — Prosecutors say the actions by two police officers were justified in the deadly shooting of a man who showed up with a gun at an Oregon middle school amid a custody dispute.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reports Lane County District Attorney Patty Perlow announced the finding Thursday, saying 30-year-old Charles Landeros fired first and caused the officers to fear for their lives.

Perlow says Landeros refused to leave Cascade Middle School in Eugene when the school resource officers asked.

A struggle erupted when the officers moved Landeros outside and told him he was under arrest.

Perlow says Landeros pulled out a handgun and fired two shots. An officer fired once, striking Landeros in the head.

The prosecutor says Landeros' daughter and two other people witnessed the shooting. Other students were nearby.

### Portland glass maker settles class action lawsuit for \$6.5 million

PORTLAND (AP) — A Portland glass manufacturer has settled a class action lawsuit brought by neighbors over concerns about toxic air pollution.

Oregon Public Broadcasting reported Thursday that the \$6.5 million settlement with Bullseye Glass Co. will allow for cash payments for over 2,000 households in southeast Portland neighborhoods surrounding the glass maker.

In February 2016, the state ordered the company to stop using some dangerous chemicals after high levels of cadmium and arsenic were detected around the plant. The complaint filed in March 2016 alleged that Bullseye released arsenic, cadmium and other potentially toxic heavy metals from its plant over decades.

The company has installed new filtration systems and said in a news release that the company is now “in compliance with the most stringent federal and state emissions standards.”

**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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# EAST OREGONIAN

— Founded Oct. 16, 1875 —

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333 E. Main St., Hermiston 541-567-6211  
Office hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Closed major holidays

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East Oregonian (USPS 164-980) is published daily except Sunday, Monday and postal holidays, 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.

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**Single copy price:**  
\$1 Tuesday through Friday, \$1.50 Saturday

**Circulation Manager:**  
Bonny Tuller, 541-966-0828

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