

Gas prices edge lower to kick off summer driving season

East Oregonian

PORTLAND — Pump prices continue to inch down despite strong demand. The vast majority of Memorial Day travelers found gas prices a little lower than they were in early May. For the week, the national average loses 2 cents to \$2.83 a gallon while the Oregon average dips a penny to \$3.42 a gallon.

“Gas prices are edging lower and that’s a trend drivers can expect to continue into early June. Stable crude oil prices are helping to put downward pressure on pump prices, despite tight domestic supplies and robust demand. Another bump in demand could push prices higher but only by a few cents,” said Marie Dodds, public affairs director for AAA Oregon/Idaho.

Oregon is one of 43 states and the District of Columbia where prices are lower this week. Ohio (-7 cents) has the largest weekly decrease, while Wyoming (+3 cents) has the largest week-over-week increase. This week there are nine states with an average above \$3 a gallon, down from 10 a week ago.

Oregon is one of 12 states with higher prices now than a month ago. The national

GAS PRICES

The West Coast continues to have the highest pump prices in the nation with all of the region’s states landing on the top 10 most expensive list.

1. California \$3.99
2. Hawaii \$3.65
3. Washington \$3.54
4. Alaska \$3.49
5. Nevada \$3.48
6. Oregon \$3.42
7. Idaho \$3.20
8. Utah \$3.18
9. Arizona \$3.13
10. Pennsylvania \$2.98

average is 6 cents less and the Oregon average is 2 cents more than a month ago. This is the ninth-largest monthly increase in the country. Utah (+23 cents) has the largest month-over-month jump, Idaho (+18 cents) is second and Alaska (+12 cents) is third. North Carolina (-14 cents) has the largest monthly decrease.

The West Coast continues to have the highest pump prices in the nation with all of the region’s states landing on the top 10 most expensive list. California tops the list for the 10th consecutive week with Hawaii, Washington, Alaska,

Nevada, and Oregon rounding out the top six. Oregon is sixth for the third week in a row. This week California drops just below \$4 a gallon. Prices in the region have seen mostly modest decreases on the week, with Alaska (+2 cents) seeing the largest jump and California (-4 cents) seeing the largest decline.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration’s recent weekly report for the week ending on May 17 shows that West Coast gasoline stocks grew significantly by 1.3 million bbl from the previous week and now sit at 27.7 million bbl. The current level is 2.5 million bbl less than last year’s level at this time. The West Coast may see continued price volatility, as a result of tight stocks in the region.

Oregon is one of only eight states where drivers are paying more than a year ago to fill up. The national average is 14 cents less and the Oregon average is seven cents more than a year ago, which is the sixth-largest yearly increase in the country. California (+26 cents), Nevada (+15 cents), and Arizona (+9 cents) have the greatest year-over-year increases. Florida (-31 cents) and Delaware (-28 cents) have the largest year-over-year decreases.

Trade progress with Mexico, Canada, Japan offers opportunity for U.S. meat exports

By CAROL RYAN DUMAS
Capital Press

With the U.S. reaching a resolution with Mexico and Canada on steel and aluminum tariffs and Japan lifting restriction on imports of U.S. beef, things are looking up for U.S. meat exports.

Mexico and Canada retaliated against U.S. steel and aluminum tariffs levied a year ago, with Mexico slapping a 20% tariff on imports of U.S. pork and Canada putting a 10% tariff on imports of prepared beef products from the U.S.

Pork exports to Mexico — the top foreign market for U.S. pork — were down 29% in value year over year in the first quarter of 2019, and Canada’s imports of U.S. beef were down 14%.

The U.S. Meat Export Federation is encouraged by Mexico and Canada lifting their retaliatory tariffs, Dan Halstrom, president and CEO of USMEF, said in a media call from the federation’s spring meeting in Kansas City, Mo.

USMEF is hopeful the development will lead to the quick passage of the new US-Mexico-Canada Agreement, or NAFTA 2.0. The value of the relationship with Canada and Mexico for U.S. beef, pork and



USMEF /Capital Press
President and CEO Dan Halstrom addresses USMEF members at the organization’s spring conference and board of directors meeting in Kansas City, Mo.

lamb cannot be overstated, he said.

“I mean it’s immense, immense opportunity, has been in the past and will continue to be in the future,” he said.

In another trade development, Japan has lifted its longstanding restriction on U.S. beef from cattle over 30 months of age.

That will open the market for products such as mountain chain tripe and tongue on the variety meat side and tenderloins, strip loins and chuck rolls on the middle meat side, he said.

“This is another segment that competes pretty directly

with Australia where we should be able to make some market-share in relatively short order,” he said.

USMEF estimates the additional access will boost U.S. beef exports to Japan by \$150 million to \$200 million per year.

“However, headwinds continue on another front and that’s on the tariff front for the rest of our beef,” he said.

Competitors participating in the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership enjoy a roughly 12% tariff advantage in Japan over U.S. beef, he said.

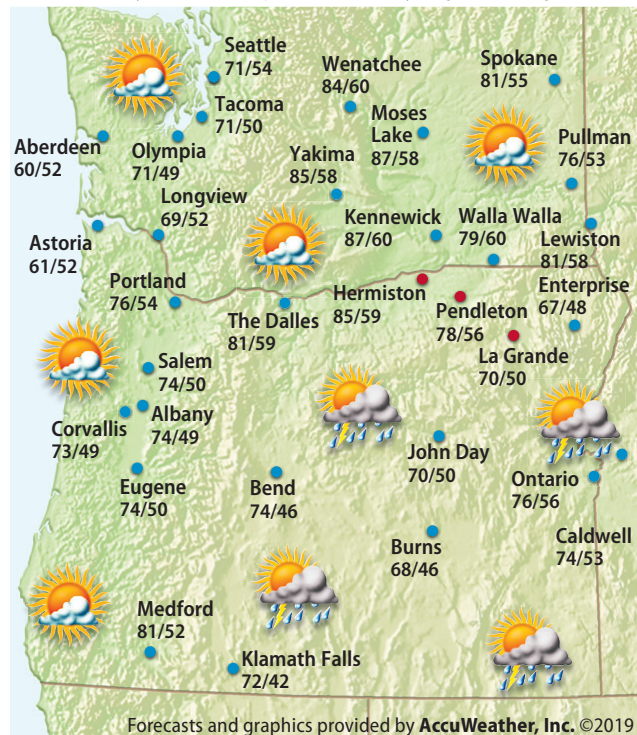
Forecast for Pendleton Area

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TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
78° 56°	80° 57°	85° 59°	87° 59°	83° 51°
85° 59°	87° 60°	92° 63°	94° 63°	88° 54°

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	77°	55°
Normals	73°	49°
Records	100° (1934)	31° (1918)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 1.50"
Normal month to date 1.23"
Year to date 9.26"
Last year to date 6.07"
Normal year to date 6.34"

HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.

TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	84°	60°
Normals	75°	50°
Records	102° (1934)	37° (1954)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.54"
Normal month to date 1.01"
Year to date 4.42"
Last year to date 4.96"
Normal year to date 5.00"

WINDS (in mph)
Today Thu.
Boardman WSW 6-12 SW 4-8
Pendleton W 6-12 W 6-12

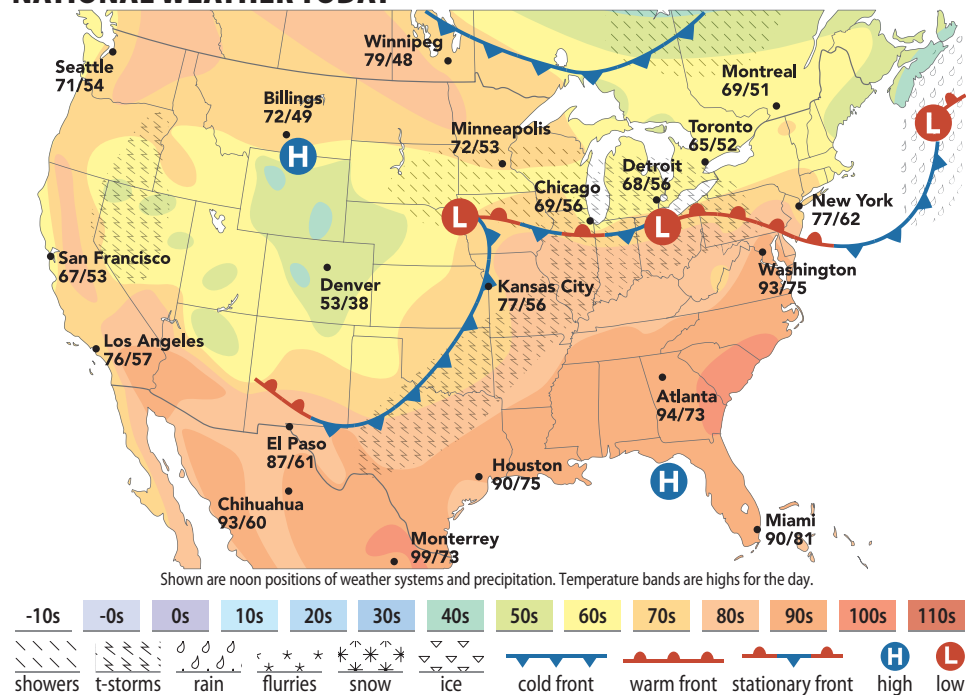
SUN AND MOON
Sunrise today 5:11 a.m.
Sunset tonight 8:34 p.m.
Moonrise today 3:13 a.m.
Moonset today 3:30 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
June 3	June 9	June 17	June 25

NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday’s National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 103° in Zapata, Texas Low 16° in Climax, Colo.

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



BRIEFLY

Teen who brought gun to high school faces new charge

PORTLAND (AP) — A teenage student who was tackled after reportedly bringing a gun into a classroom at an Oregon high school has been indicted on a new charge that claims he was trying to fire the gun.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reported 19-year-old Angel Granados-Diaz was arraigned May 20 on suspicion of possession of a firearm in a public building, possession of a loaded firearm in public and reckless endangering. He pleaded not guilty.

A Multnomah County grand jury on Friday indicted Granados-Diaz on those three charges as well as discharge of a firearm at a school.

Portland police told The Oregonian/OregonLive that officers found no evidence Granados-Diaz fired the shotgun while at Parkrose High School May 17.

The teen appeared briefly in court Tuesday for an indictment hearing, but it was postponed to Wednesday because his attorney Adam Thayne wasn’t able to attend.

Lawmakers add Holocaust education to school curriculum

SALEM (AP) — Oregon will require public schools to teach about the Holocaust under a measure sent to the governor.

Lawmakers unanimously voted Tuesday to add Holocaust instruction to the school curriculum starting in the 2019-20 school year. Ten other states require some level of genocide education in schools.

A recent poll found that one in five American millennials surveyed were unfamiliar with the Holocaust.

Some say that those awareness gaps can have consequences. The Anti-Defamation League reports that anti-Semitic incidents at K-12 schools quadrupled from 2015 to 2017.

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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