

Only two major industries cut jobs last month as Oregon adds 4,600 workers

In October, Oregon's non-farm payroll employment grew by 4,600 jobs, following a revised gain of 4,700 jobs in September.

Monthly gains in October were widespread, with nine of the top 13 industries adding jobs, led by professional and business services (+1,500 jobs); wholesale trade (+1,000 jobs); and government (+1,000 jobs).

Only two major industries

cut jobs substantially in October: private educational services (-800 jobs) and financial activities (-900 jobs).

Oregon's unemployment rate was 3.8 percent in October, the same as in August and September. These were Oregon's lowest unemployment rates since comparable records began in 1976.

The U.S. unemployment rate held steady at 3.7 percent in both September and Octo-

ber.

Oregon's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 38,100 jobs, or 2.0 percent, since October 2017. In that time, construction remained the fastest growing industry, with a gain of 8,200 jobs, or 8.2 percent.

Health care and social assistance added 6,200 jobs, or 2.6 percent. Professional and business services also grew rapidly, adding 5,400 jobs, or

2.2 percent. However, three of Oregon's major industries slowed recently, with gains close to one percent since October 2017: financial activities (+1,000 jobs, or 1.0%); leisure and hospitality (+1,700 jobs, or 0.8%); and retail trade (+1,200 jobs, or 0.6%).

And two industries declined over the year: information (100 jobs, or -0.3%) and private educational services

(-800 jobs, or -2.2%).

Over the past two years, retail trade has seen multiple store closures and the bankruptcies of several major national retailers. These closures and other factors contributed to a moderation in overall retail employment growth.

Since October 2016, Oregon's retail employment grew at an annual rate of only 1.0 percent, which was about half

the growth rate of Oregon's total nonfarm payroll employment.

Somewhat counterbalancing retail's slowing was moderate growth in wholesale trade (up 2.8 percent in the past 12 months) and in transportation, warehousing, and utilities, which grew consistently close to a three percent annual rate over the past six years.

Umpqua Christmas tree permits on sale, free passes for 4th graders

Christmas tree permits are on sale until Dec. 21 at all Umpqua National Forest offices. For many families, the excursion into the forest to cut a Christmas tree is an annual holiday tradition.

The Umpqua National Forest would like to thank the local vendors who have agreed to help us sell Tree permits. "We really have to thank our local vendors who have each helped make this program a success," said Alice Carlton, Umpqua National Forest Supervisor. "Their dedication to this program ensures that everyone who wishes a permit

has easy access to buying one."

Permits are available at Umpqua National Forest offices in Roseburg, Glide, Tiller, Toketee and Cottage Grove between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The hunt for a Christmas tree is a great way for families to get into fresh air after their holiday meal.

The permits are for personal use only and cost \$5 per tree. There's a limit of five tree permits per household.

Permits may be used only on those lands open to Christmas tree harvesting on the Umpqua National

Forest. Maps identifying these areas will be provided at the time of permit purchase.

As part of the ongoing national initiative Every Kid in a Park, fourth graders who get their free pass to access thousands of fee sites across the country may also bring that pass into their local Forest Service office and receive one Christmas tree permit, free of charge.

To get the fourth graders in your life their free Every Kid in a Park pass, visit www.everykidinapark.gov.

Please note that the fourth grade pass holder *must* be present, with his or her pass, to receive the free permit.

Forest visitors are advised to be prepared for adverse weather and winter road conditions when heading out to the woods. Safety mea-

sures include packing warm clothing, a winter survival kit containing traction devices, a shovel, saw or ax, flares, flashlight, food and water, and matches in your vehicle.

Always travel with a full tank of gas. Watch for log

trucks on forest roads. Be sure to tell someone where you are going before you leave and your expected return time.

For more information, contact the Umpqua National Forest Supervisor's office at 541-957-3200.

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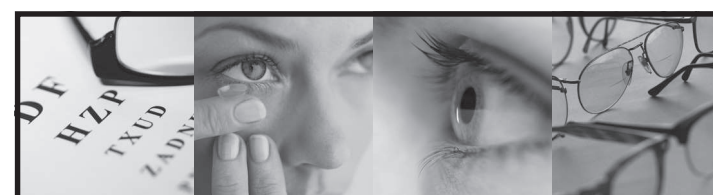
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A Cottage Grove Family Tradition
Sat., Dec. 1st - Activities all day
5PM Tree Lighting at All America City Square
Full Event Schedule available at C.G. Visitor Center



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