

On The Record

Oregonians asked to refrain from outdoor burning due to COVID-19 response efforts

In response to the “Stay Home, Save Lives” Executive Order to reduce the effects of the COVID-19 virus, a coalition of Oregon state agencies are asking Oregonians to voluntarily refrain from conducting outdoor burning.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), Oregon State Fire Marshal’s Office (OSFM), Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) recognize that many Oregonians use fire as a necessary tool to manage their lands, including industrial

forest landowners, farmers, small woodland owners, and rural residents. However, it’s important to weigh possible effects on the wider community before choosing to burn. Please be a good neighbor. Smoke from fires during the current pandemic may result in the following negative consequences for the public and first responders:

- Smoke inhalation can cause upper respiratory symptoms, which could be incorrectly attributed to COVID-19, leading to unnecessary testing or self-isolation.
- Exposure to smoke and

other forms of air pollution can increase the risk of contracting infectious respiratory disease such as COVID-19, increase the severity of existing respiratory infections, and worsen underlying chronic respiratory conditions.

- There is a severe shortage of personal protective equipment to reduce smoke exposure at this time.
- First responders and other emergency services are operating at a reduced capacity and have limited resources to respond to out-of-control burns.

COVID-19 affects the

respiratory system. Fever, cough and difficulty breathing are the most common symptoms. While some people with COVID-19 are hospitalized, most patients recover at home, where smoke from a nearby outdoor burn could worsen their condition. To avoid additional health impacts, all people in Oregon are asked to voluntarily refrain from conducting outdoor burning activities until further notice.

Burning that can be delayed includes: Debris burning around one’s property, burn barrels, industrial burning, slash and forest burning,

and agricultural burning that would impact neighbors and can be delayed

Local officials may already have prohibited outdoor burning in your area. If you must conduct outdoor burning, please first check with your local fire agency to see if outdoor burning is still allowed. If it is, please follow best burn practices, which can be found on the website

of the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

DEQ, ODF, OSFM, and ODA encourage the public to use the following alternatives to burning when available:

- Recycle paper products when possible
- Compost or chip yard debris on site
- Haul to a yard debris composting or recycling site
- Reuse old lumber

POLICE INVESTIGATION

On Tuesday at around 12:30 p.m., the Lane County Sheriff’s Office received a report of a possible road rage incident that was accompanied by shots fired involving two vehicles on Row River Road, between MP 0.5 and MP 1.5.

The LCSO received additional information that a white male was seen firing a weapon before he entered the woods nearby.

Deputies responded, along with Cottage Grove Police and the Oregon State Police, and located a gray Dodge Dakota off the road and unoccupied.

The second involved vehicle, believed to be a white, four-door sedan or wagon (possibly a white Dodge Magnum), fled the scene and likely has front end damage on the passenger side and fender. The white vehicle was

last seen on Row River Road, near Dorena Dam.

Law enforcement officers searched the area along with K9 Teams but were unable to locate the involved or the white vehicle.

The Lane County Sheriff’s Office is asking anyone who

has information on this incident, including the whereabouts of the drivers of both vehicles and the location of the white vehicle, to call 541-682-4150 then press 1.

Row River Road was eventually reopened about 4 p.m.

Irene M. Pearson October 12, 1930 - March 24, 2020



Irene enjoyed bowling, reading, hunting and fishing. She was a paper tester at International Paper Company, formerly Crown Zellerbach, retiring in 1992.

Irene is survived by her son Butch Cardoza (Anita) of Creswell and daughter Francine Winsor of Louisville, Tennessee, sister Edwina McMillan of Sacramento California, and brother Constantine Freitas of Fort Fairfield, Maine, grandchildren Jennifer and Damian of Tennessee, Natalie and Laura of Oregon, numerous great-grandchildren, her long time partner William Kropp, and her beloved cat GG.

Irene was born to Joseph and Minnie (Vieira) Freitas in Banta, California. For most of her life she was a resident of Oakley, California and moved to Creswell in April of 2014.

Final Arrangements Handled with Care

- Cremation Options
- Memorial & Funeral Planning
- Monuments & Memorials • Cemetery Options
- Family Owned & Operated



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DEATH NOTICES

BALDWIN—Cynthia Loretta Baldwin, 93, of Drain, Ore., died April 6, 2020.

Private Interment at East Drain Cemetery, in Drain.

Arrangements by Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel.

HEDGERS—Rocky Ray Hedgers, 60, of Drain, Ore., died April 3, 2020.

Arrangements by Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral

Chapel in Cottage Grove.

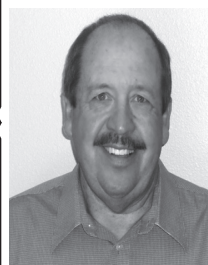
PARKS—Hattie Ruth Parks, 89, of Cottage Grove, Ore., died April 1, 2020.

Arrangements in the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel.

GUGGISBERG—Ruth Elizabeth “Peggy”, 98, of Cottage Grove, Ore., died April 4, 2020.

Arrangements by Smith-Lund Mills Funeral Chapel in Cottage Grove.

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help simplify
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Paul Henrichs ~ Independent Agent
coverage4oregon@gmail.com

Our Hearts Are With You



As we confront the unprecedented challenges of a devastating virus, we celebrate the incredible, brave hearts of our caregivers and physicians who are serving our community with compassion.

Thank you Lane County for your outpouring of support, prayers and words of encouragement.

Strength in community. Compassion in care. Grateful hearts in abundance.