

Energy assistance available for Lane County residents impacted by COVID-19

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the federal office of Health and Human Services (HHS) has released energy assistance funding for income-qualified households.

A total of \$575,000 has been made available for Lane County residents.

This funding, known as LP20 CARES, is intended to assist households that have been impacted by COVID-19, either financially or due to

health. This funding is separate from the pre-existing Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and households that have already received LIHEAP funding between Oct. 1, 2019 and the present are encouraged to apply for LP20 CARES.

The program provides qualifying households with a one-time payment toward their energy bill. It may be applied to electricity, natural gas, home

heating oil, propane, wood pellets and wood.

The LP20 CARES program opened in Lane County on June 8.

To qualify for LP20 CARES, a household's current gross monthly income must be at or below 60 percent of Oregon's median income.

A household of one person can have a gross monthly income as high as \$2,160; a household of four can have

a gross monthly income of \$4,163.

The amount of assistance a household receives depends on a number of factors. The program pays the assistance directly into a household's utility account as a one-time payment that ranges from \$250-\$550.

Interested households may call one of the agencies listed below to be placed on a LP20 CARES waiting list.

Households may place

themselves on the waiting list for funding by contacting a partner agency below, or visiting www.lanecounty.org/LIHEAPCares.

Households that do have a senior citizen (60 and over) can contact Cottage Grove Senior Connections at 541-682-7810.

Households that don't have a senior citizen can contact: Community Sharing in Cottage Grove at 541-942-6492.

Business After Hours returns today

The Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours will resume today (June 18) after a brief hiatus.

It will be hosted by the City of Cottage Grove at Middlefield Golf Course from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

The event will be outdoors and social distancing will be practiced and enforced.

Cottage Grove and Creswell members are invited to enjoy an evening of networking via social distancing and win some great prizes.

Attendees can see what is new at Middlefield, including the new all electric golf cart fleet, a golf simulator and a new golf cart storage facility for privately owned carts.

City to host 'virtual open house' on flood damage prevention code

The City of Cottage Grove is planning on replacing its current Chapter 14.37.200 Flood Damage Prevention with new code language that includes the same content in a new format to comply with FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) requirements and the State of Oregon's 2019 Model Flood Hazard Management Ordinance.

The city is hosting a 'virtual open house' on this new proposed code Tuesday, June 23, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The public is invited to attend to find out more about the proposed code and how it works to

protect development within the floodplain.

The meeting can be attended by computer, tablet or smartphone by visiting: www.gotomeet.me/RichardMeyers/flood-damage-prevention-open-house.

Interested parties can also dial in using their phone:

- United States (Toll Free): 1-877-309-2073
- United States: +1 312-757-3129

The virtual meeting will use GoToMeeting and those new to the application may install it prior to the event by visiting [stall/523089557.](http://global.gotomeeting.com/in-</p>
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The access code for the event is 523-089-557.

Chapter 14.37.200 applies to those areas within the FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Areas (Zone AE or the 100-year floodplain), or within the regulatory floodway, of the Coast Fork Willamette River, Silk Creek, Bennet Creek or the Row River.

It does not apply to Zone X or 500-year floodplain areas.

The proposed code includes changes that reflect the updates made by the State of Oregon to the model code under the guidance of FEMA, including:

- Refined definition section.
 - Compliance with Oregon Specialty Codes.
 - Clarifications to floodway development standards.
 - Clarifications to Substantial Damage/Substantial Improvement requirements.
 - Requirements for flood development permits for all buildings, including accessory buildings that would be exempt from Oregon building code permit requirements, which are located within the SFHA.
- For more information, contact the Community Development Department at 541-942-3340.

LRAPA announces outdoor burning season now over until October

This past Monday, June 15, was the final day for outdoor burning for most Lane County residents until October. The season, which runs from Oct. 1 to June 15, will close as scheduled.

Yard debris may not be

burned during the closed season. Lane Forest Products, Rexius, or Lane County's transfer stations and dumpsites are resources available to the community to dispose of debris. Composting and chipping are also encouraged.

Violations for burning during the closed season can range from \$50 to \$2,500 or more.

The reopening of outdoor burning season is decided by the Lane County Fire Defense Board. Usually the season resumes on Oct. 1 but can be de-

layed in response to high fire risks in the county.

The season's status is listed online at www.LRAPA.org as well as on our daily outdoor open burning advisory hotline: 541-726-3976.



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