

Dad ignores lice infestation found in daughter's hair

DEAR ABBY: I take care of two girls. I have never asked for money from their dad. Because they are poor, I go to great lengths to make sure they get the same advantages as everyone else.

I took the girls to the hair salon because I wanted them to feel pretty. When it was the youngest girl's turn, the stylist found lice in her hair! She was at what they call an "infestation period." After that it's an infection and then baldness.

I went to their father and asked about the lice. He knew the entire time that she had lice and did not warn me or my family. Abby, he knowingly put my loved ones at risk! He isn't a good parent and doesn't make the youngest shower or take lice treatments. I know he doesn't care about the lice, so he's probably making her go to school despite the lice policy. What should I do?



DEAR ABBY

I'm 50 now, and she has never been a part of my life. I'm not sure if I should go and see her before she dies.

— UNSURE OF IT

DEAR UNSURE OF IT: Your half-sister may have contacted you to give you closure before your mother dies, or because your mother asked her to. If you have ANY questions you would like answered, you should go. Having never met your mother, I can't judge whether she's "not a good person" or simply someone who made terrible decisions and got on the wrong path when she was still a teenager. And I'm not sure you should judge her either, until after you have had a conversation with her.

DEAR ABBY: Is it possible to "choose" to forgive someone? My 20-year-old nephew recently turned his life around. He has a good job, a nice girlfriend and a baby on the way. But when he and my sister were living with my late mother a few years ago, he trashed Mom's basement (where he was living), and it cost her hundreds of dollars to repair the damage. He also stole money from her and once threatened my life. He smoked and drank as a teen, quit school, and did nothing more than play video games.

I'm glad he has changed his ways, but he has never apologized for the way he treated us. It seems I'm expected by everyone to forgive and forget, but I can't. Please don't suggest counseling. He wouldn't go.

I don't want to be estranged from his girlfriend and my great-nephew, but I have no interest in engaging with him unless he makes amends for his past behavior. My sister always seemed oblivious to his bad behavior. In her eyes, her son can do no wrong. Is there any way to reconcile his particular past with the present?

— STILL ANGRY IN MINNESOTA

DEAR STILL ANGRY: Yes, it is possible to choose to forgive. But it doesn't appear that your nephew has completely turned his life around. Part of growing up is becoming a responsible individual. Making amends for past misdeeds is a part of that process your nephew seems to have skipped.

If you would like to have a relationship with his girlfriend and their child, nothing prevents it. But it doesn't mean you must have amnesia about the way you and your mother were treated by your nephew. Talk to him about this so you can get the closure you are seeking.

National Guard to help protect California towns from fires

Dan Thompson
The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — California is calling in the National Guard for the first time next month to help protect communities from devastating fires.

It's pulling the troops away from President Donald Trump's border protection efforts and devoting them to fire protection, another area where Trump has been critical of California's Democratic officials — even repeatedly threatening to cut off federal disaster funding.

Starting next week, 110 California National Guard troops will receive 11 days of training in using shovels, rakes and chain saws to help thin trees and brush, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection spokesman Mike Mohler said.

They will be divided into five teams that will travel around the state starting in April to work on forest management projects, mainly clearing or reducing trees and vegetation in an effort to deprive flames of fuel.

"They will be boots on the ground doing fuels projects alongside CalFire crews," Mohler said. "We've had them out for flood fighting, several different operations, but this would be the first time their mission would be fuels thinning and forest management."

They have helped fight fires before, however.

Former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger was the first in recent decades to deploy California National

Guard troops as firefighters. That occurred on July 4, 2008, after lightning storms sparked hundreds of fires, Guard Lt. Col. Jonathan Shiroma said.

While many of the troops are being reassigned from the border this time, the Guard also is asking other service members if they want to participate, Shiroma said.

The training is similar for firefighting and fire protection. Mohler said the troops also will receive some training in forest management, "so they're not just out there cutting brush" but understand why they're doing what they're doing.

For instance, firefighting crews generally cut fire lines down to mineral earth during active wildfires, while fuels management crews often do less-intensive thinning of trees and chaparral to slow advancing flames.

That often involves creating fuel breaks. They can range from stripping away all woody vegetation on wide strips of land to thinning larger trees and removing shorter trees, brush and debris to discourage fires from climbing into treetops and jumping from tree to tree.

Critics say the work damages forests and can be useless against wind-driven fires.

"CalFire is taking the Trump approach, logging the forest and weakening critical environmental protections, and that's the exact opposite of what we need to be doing," Center for Biological Diversity scientist Shayne Wolf said.

She said the better approach is to make homes more fire resistant while pruning vegetation immediately surrounding homes.

CalFire this month listed 35 fuel-reduction projects it wants to start immediately, covering more than 140 square miles. But state officials estimate 23,438 square miles of California forestland need thinning or other restoration.

"It's not a problem that's going to get fixed overnight," Mohler said.

Such thinning operations are getting more attention in recent years, with the U.S. Forest Service estimating last month that 18 million trees died in California over the last year.

The agency estimated that more than 147 million trees have died across nearly 15,625 square miles during a drought that began in 2010, while about 1.5 million dead trees have been cut down.

Moreover, investigations have often blamed recent wildfires on utilities not doing a good enough job of clearing vegetation around power lines and equipment. Democratic state Sen. Bill Dodd of Napa has proposed legislation that would require CalFire to tell utilities which trees and brush to remove and then inspect the work.

Aside from Guard troops, CalFire also is creating 10 civilian fuels management crews this year. The 10-member crews could help with initial fire suppression if needed but will primarily reduce fuels, Mohler said.

weather

TONIGHT Cloudy with a little rain	SAT A little morning rain	SUN Partly sunny	MON Mostly cloudy	TUE Turning cloudy
Baker City 37 Comfort Index™ 10	51 32 0	55 30 9	56 31 5	53 32 4
La Grande 40 Comfort Index™ 10	49 31 2	52 31 9	53 34 4	51 30 4
Enterprise 36 Comfort Index™ 9	44 31 1	48 29 6	51 33 4	48 29 4

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC	WED. EXTREMES
TEMPERATURES	NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
High Wednesday 63°	High: 86° Eloy, Ariz.
Low Wednesday 22°	Low: -16° Walden, Colo.
PRECIPITATION (inches)	Wettest: 1.28" Big Sur, Calif.
Wednesday 0.00	OREGON
Month to date 0.35	High: 77° Aurora
Normal month to date 0.52	Low: 22° Baker City
Year to date 2.81	Wettest: 0.02" Klamath Falls
Normal year to date 1.90	

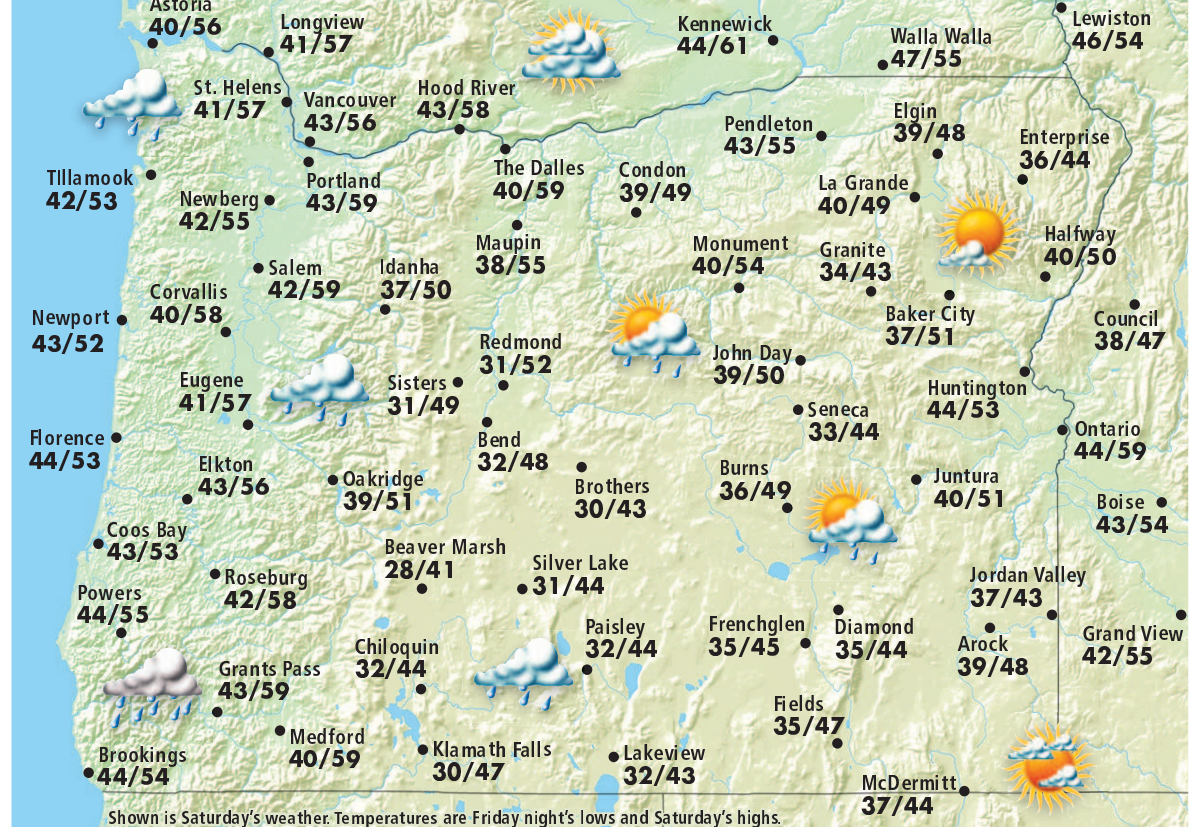
AGRICULTURAL INFO.
HAY INFORMATION SATURDAY
Lowest relative humidity 50%
Afternoon wind NW at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine 7.5
Evapotranspiration 0.06

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Thursday)
Phillips Reservoir 11% of capacity
Unity Reservoir 41% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir 51% of capacity
McKay Reservoir 66% of capacity
Wallowa Lake 37% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir 107% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Wednesday)
Grande Ronde at Troy 4000 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder N.A.
Burnt River near Unity 28 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon 757 cfs
Minam River at Minam 339 cfs
Powder River near Richland 622 cfs

SUN & MOON
FRI. Sunrise 6:53 a.m. Sunset 7:07 p.m.
SAT. Sunrise 6:51 a.m. Sunset 7:08 p.m.
MOON PHASES
Last Mar 27
New Apr 5
First Apr 12
Full Apr 19

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION



REGIONAL CITIES

City	SAT. Hi/Lo/W	SUN. Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	56/36/pc	62/43/pc
Bend	48/26/pc	54/33/pc
Boise	54/38/sh	57/38/sn
Brookings	54/40/pc	57/44/pc
Burns	49/29/c	53/32/pc
Coos Bay	53/38/pc	59/44/pc
Corvallis	58/37/sh	63/41/pc
Council Bluffs	47/31/r	48/27/sn
Elgin	48/32/c	52/29/c
Eugene	57/37/pc	63/42/pc
Hermiston	61/38/c	61/37/pc
Hood River	58/37/pc	59/39/pc
Imnaha	50/35/r	52/29/r
John Day	50/31/c	54/34/pc
Joseph	44/30/r	47/28/c
Kennewick	61/38/c	61/35/pc
Klamath Falls	47/26/c	54/35/pc
Lakeview	43/24/c	49/31/pc
Lewiston	54/42/r	53/36/c
Longview	57/38/sh	63/40/pc
Meacham	46/30/c	50/27/c
Medford	59/35/pc	67/43/pc
Newport	52/39/sh	58/44/pc
Olympia	60/39/r	63/36/pc
Ontario	59/39/r	62/34/c
Pasco	60/36/c	60/34/pc
Pendleton	55/38/c	57/38/pc
Portland	59/41/sh	65/46/pc
Powers	55/36/pc	62/44/pc
Redmond	52/26/pc	58/33/pc
Roseburg	58/38/sh	66/44/pc
Salem	59/38/sh	65/44/pc
Spokane	54/37/c	52/33/c
The Dalles	59/37/pc	60/39/pc
Ukiah	47/28/c	50/31/pc
Walla Walla	55/43/c	55/44/c

RECREATION FORECAST SATURDAY

Location	Forecast	Temp
ANTHONY LAKES	A little snow	28 16
PHILLIPS LAKE	A little p.m. rain	45 27
MT. EMILY REC.	A little a.m. rain	37 26
BROWNLEE RES.	A little a.m. rain	52 33
EAGLE CAP WILD.	Morning snow, 1-3"	34 19
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	A little a.m. rain	42 26
WALLOWA LAKE	A little a.m. rain	44 30
MCKAY RESERVOIR	Mostly cloudy	54 36
THIEF VALLEY RES.	A bit of rain	51 32
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	A little a.m. rain	49 31

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