

ODOT and Team Oregon offer tips to prevent motorcycle fatalities

According to preliminary reports from the Oregon Department of Transportation, there

were 13 people killed in motorcycle related crashes in Oregon in August. That's the high-

est in one month since 1986. Most of the crashes can be attributed to motorcycle driver error such as speeding, improper cornering maneuver or impaired driving.

"Motorcycling is different from driving a car – you need a higher level of skill and awareness than you do in a passen-

ger vehicle," said Pat Hahn, Communications and Outreach Manager with TEAM OREGON Motorcycle Safety Program. "It doesn't matter whether you're a first time rider or a seasoned expert, motorcycle training will help take your skills to a higher level."

ODOT-approved motorcycle

safety courses are provided by the TEAM OREGON Motorcycle Safety Program. Since 1997, Oregon law has required all riders under 21 to complete a TEAM OREGON Basic Rider Training course as part of the endorsement process. In 2009, the Oregon Legislature passed a phased-in mandatory training requirement for new riders. Currently, new riders age 21-40 must take either the Basic or Intermediate Rider Training course. Those under 21 must take the Basic Rider Training course. Additional age groups will be phased in as follows:

- Jan. 1, 2013 – All new riders under age 51,
- Jan. 1, 2014 – All new riders under age 61,
- Jan. 1, 2015 – All new riders no matter what age.

The hope is that as more people go through training, the number of crashes will decline.

ODOT and TEAM OREGON offer tips for motorcyclists:

- Remember that operating a motorcycle is much more complex than driving a car. It takes an estimated 2,500 tasks to ride a motorcycle and only 800 to drive a car. That's why it's so important to not drink and ride. If you stop at a drinking establishment, have non-alcoholic drink instead of beer or wine.

- Realize that conditions such as heat, cold or fatigue can impair your ability to pay attention and respond to road hazards.

- Riding in groups or carrying a passenger can be very distracting. Stay focused on managing the roadway and traffic.

- Don't overestimate your ability to take corners. Speeding and cornering kills more motorcyclists than any other combination.

- Take a motorcycle training course. Visit <http://team-oregon.org/> to see the latest class schedules and locations and to register.

Additional data include preliminary motorcycle related fatalities for 2012 year-to-date – 34 and total motorcycle related fatalities for 2011 – 40. Average age of motorcyclist killed in August 2012 in Oregon – 45.

Of the 13 people killed in motorcycle crashes in August 2012 in Oregon, 12 were men and one was a woman.

ST. MARY'S ANNUAL QUILT & CRAFT FAIR

QUILTS OF MANY COLORS, CRAFTS OF MANY TALENTS

Sept. 20-23 Thursday thru Sunday
10 am - 4 pm

Quilt Fair admission (still only) \$1.00 per person

Lunch daily at 11 am

"Star of Bethlehem" Quilt Raffle Tickets
\$1.00 each, or 6 for \$5.00

Vendors Call: Willamae 503 429-7871,
Mary 503-366-8014 or Pat K. 503-429-5641

17 miles North of Hwy 47. Follow the Signs!

St Mary's Church 960 Missouri Ave., Vernonia, OR
503-429-8841 stmarys08@agalis.net

New Hong Kong

Northern Chinese Cuisine
Specializing in Hunan & Szechuan

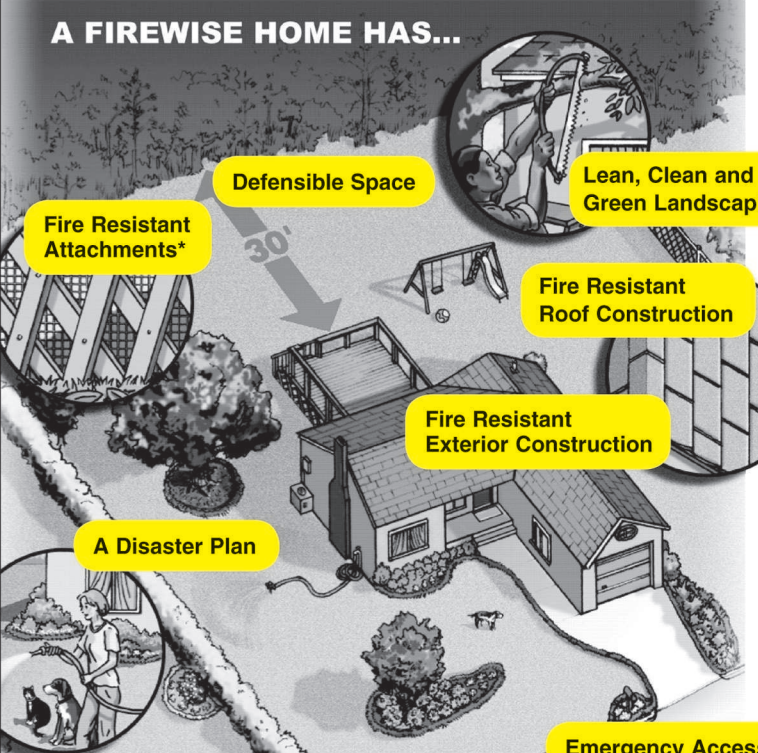
HOURS
Tue. - Thu. 11:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 11:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Closed Monday

Food To Go
503-429-5062

669 Mist Drive,
Vernonia, OR



A FIREWISE HOME HAS...



*such as fences, decks and sheds

Graphic courtesy of Firewise Communities

Clear the Fuel Remove the Threat Get FIREWISE

Late summer and fall are peak wildfire seasons. It's also the perfect time to create a defensible space of 30 to 200 feet around your home.

- Clear all dead plant material and prune trees and shrubs, especially close to the house.
- Plant low-growing, fire-resistant plants. Keep them well watered during the dry months.
- Stack your woodpile well away from the house.
- Keep your roof and gutters clean.
- Keep the grass mowed.

Be Firewise and keep your home and property lean, clean and green - before wildfire strikes! The Oregon Department of Forestry is providing grant incentives for making your home and landscape Firewise. To schedule your free assessment or to request the brochure *Living with Fire*, call 503-397-2636.



**Columbia 9-1-1
Communications District
Always there.**