

Situational Report – Friday, October 2, 2020

Emerging Conditions and News

Did You Receive a FEMA Denial Letter? There are in-person FEMA representatives at the [MARC](#) 815 S. Oakdale Ave in Medford to help. The rejection may have been the result of not filling out the online FEMA form correctly. The FEMA staff can help you correct your application or explain how to appeal the decision. Other common reasons determined ineligible: [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Fire Debris Clean-up. Removing fire debris is a two-step process. Step 1 is clearing properties of household hazardous waste, and Step 2 is removal of ash, debris and burned-out structures.

Step 1 Status. With property owner permission, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, using EPA strike teams, will begin to remove household hazardous waste in mid-October.

Step 2 Update. The state has formed a Debris Management Taskforce and is currently working with local governments to develop strategies to complete the massive cleanup. Jackson County and the Cities of Phoenix and Talent are currently recommending that property owners do not attempt to clean up their properties themselves.

Scams. We are hearing increasing stories of “contractors” offering to clean properties for a fraction of the real expected costs. These are scams. Please help get the word out to be aware of fraudulent cleanup activities. See scam [news release](#).

Housing. This is the toughest issue of the recovery process and deals with everything from short-term transitional housing to the long-term rebuilding of two cities and a large area of unincorporated properties. The state has formed a Housing Taskforce for fire recovery and there are dozens of local initiatives to assist in this effort. A Sheltering Taskforce (short-term housing) has been formed and will have their first meeting on Monday.

FEMA. The MARC continues to operate at Old Central High School at 815 S. Oakdale in Medford. The MARC will be open seven days a week from 8AM – 8PM until further notice. FEMA representatives are also out in our community, including at the Phoenix Civic Center (220 N. Main St) and the Talent Elementary School (307 W. Wagner St) from 8AM – 6PM.

Unemployment Assistance – Wildfire-Related Disaster. The Oregon Employment Department has officially [launched wildfire-related Disaster Unemployment Assistance \(DUA\)](#). They are now accepting applications.

Fire Damage Assessment Dashboard Now Available. This [interactive](#) mapping tool will allow anyone with internet access to quickly locate and view the extent of damage to individual properties. In addition to information for individual properties, the dashboard also provides overall statistics for the region.

Help line is open to help citizens register for citizen alert. Call 541-776-7338 to get assistance with signing up for [citizen alert](#) and get general fire questions answered.

Fire Quick Facts

	Almeda	Obenchain
Lead Agency	JaCo EOC	NE WA Team 2
Start Date/Time	9/8 11:04AM	9/8 1:59PM
Containment	100%	96%
Total Impacted Properties	2,760	55

Email: [Almeda](#) and [Obenchain](#)

Facebook: [Almeda](#) and [Obenchain](#)

Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7185>

FEMA and Red Cross Quick Facts

Red Cross Shelter at Expo Center	6 individuals inside, 89 outside
Red Cross Non-congregate	275 individuals at 9 hotels
Individuals & Households in Jackson County Registered with FEMA	2,887 registrations, 1,545 inspections completed

Essential Fire and Community Information (NEW/UPDATED ITEMS ARE MARKED WITH ♦)

<p>Cremains Recovery Project</p>	<p>Alta Heritage Foundation, an all-volunteer crew of these specialized recovery teams, will be here in Jackson County working with residents and local archaeologists to recover and restore cremated remains to the families. This service is provided at NO COST to the families and is an entirely volunteer-based effort. Of the many treasured items that were lost in our devastating fires, perhaps few are as heart-wrenching to lose as the cremated remains of a loved one. While few things survive the intensity of fire such as we experienced, cremated remains can be recovered from the debris of a structure fire. The work requires a specially trained crew of forensic archaeologists working in tandem with canine teams.</p> <p>Funding can be donated to this effort, this can be done directly at the Alta website. PPE donations can be made by contacting Chelsea Rose, Archaeologist at SOULA: rosec@sou.edu. Tyvek suits, masks, and gloves are needed.</p>
<p>Federal Support (FEMA) Status and Resources</p>	<p><u>Individuals & Households Assistance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Status to Date (Subject to Change) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ 2,887 Individuals & Households have registered in Jackson County, this is an increase of 74 registrants since last sit report. • Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MARC ○ Register online: https://www.disasterassistance.gov/ ○ Additional Information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assistance Programs and Individual & Households Programs ○ See FAQs at https://www.disasterassistance.gov/help/faqs
<p>FEMA Category A (Debris Removal)</p>	<p>♦ A request for approval of FEMA Public Assistance Category A (Debris Removal) to be eligible for this disaster was submitted.</p>
<p>Shelter & Evacuation Center</p>	<p><u>The Expo Location</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsibility: Shelter operated by Red Cross • Location: Jackson County Expo Phone: 541-774-8270 Address: 1 Peninger Road Central Point, OR ♦ Sheltering Individuals/Households: 6 inside and 89 outside • Services: Shelter, food, shower, laundry

	<p>Phoenix Location</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsibility: Red Cross • Location: Phoenix Elementary School Address: 215 N. Rose St, Phoenix, OR
<p>State of Oregon News</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide Wildfire Insurance Town Hall This Thursday • Department of Revenue outlines relief for wildfire victims • Governor Brown Issues New Residential Eviction Ban to Address Housing Needs During COVID-19 and Wildfire Response and Recovery Efforts • Disaster Unemployment Assistance Available for Oregon Wildfire Survivors • Keep in Touch – Update Information with FEMA to Avoid Delays • State issues insurance emergency order for wildfire victims • Fees waived for replacing some vital records lost to wildfires. • Affected Oregonians may enroll in health coverage due to Oregon wildfires. • Oregon Building Codes Division can help people locate manufactured home ownership documents.
<p>Non-profit, government, school districts other resources</p>	<p>DUE TODAY: Rogue Credit Union Grant funds for Southern Oregon Fire Relief. Rogue is administrating grant fund for local non-profit organizations, governments, or school districts. The deadline for proposals is Friday, October 2, 2020 at 5pm. Please submit your applications online.</p>
<p>U.S. Small Business Administration Resources</p>	<p>Low-interest federal disaster loans are now available to Oregon businesses and residents as a result of President Trump’s major disaster declaration, which covers Jackson County. The contact information for this service is:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Virtual Business Recovery Center and Virtual Disaster Loan Outreach Center Monday – Sunday (7 days/week) 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. EDT FOCWAAssistance@sba.gov (800) 659-2955</p>
<p>Community Resources</p>	<p>Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter Information and Community Resources • United Way of Jackson County • Access • Unete • Jackson County Voters • Oregon Wildfire Resources

[DMV](#)

[FEMA](#)

[Animal Information \(FOTAS\)](#) and [Jackson County Animal Services](#)

Housing

[Wildfire Damage Housing Relief](#)

[Housing Connection Portal](#)

Property Taxes

[Almeda, South Obenchain, Greenway MM 24, et al fires – Disaster Tax Relief](#)

Help Lines

Jackson County Mental Health Crisis line (541) 774-8201

Suicide Lifeline (800) 273-8255

[Senior Loneliness Line](#) (503) 200-1633

[Rogue Valley Aging and Disability Resource Connection](#) (541) 618-7572

[Military Helpline](#) (888) 457-4838

[YouthLine](#) (877) 968-8491 or Text HELLO to 741741

[National Domestic Violence Hotline](#) 1-800-799-7233 and TTY 1-800-787-3224

[Disaster Distress Helpline](#) 1-800-985-5990 and TTY 1-800-846-8517 Or text TalkWithUs to 66746

[Safe + Strong Helpline](#) or call [800-923-4357](#) (HELP)

Call 211 or go to [211info.org](#)

Receiving Donations

Rogue Valley Recovers. Go to [recovers](#) online to see list of organizations accepting donations.

Rogue Valley Habitat for Humanity is collecting furniture donations for fire victims. Donations can be made Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the administration office on South Pacific Highway. Families that lost furniture to fires can email programs@roguevalleyhabitat.org or call 541-779-1983. Once enough items have been collected, families will be contacted with a time for them to pick up furniture.