SITUATION SUMMARY

On Oct. 19, at the request of the State of Oregon and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency began work to survey, remove and dispose of household hazardous waste (HHW) from properties in Jackson County affected by wildfires. The HHW removal is Step 1 of the overall cleanup and is at no cost to property owners. Call 541-225-5549 if you have questions about EPA’s removal of HHW; help is available in English and Spanish.

HUMAN IMPACTS

Confirmed fatalities: 9  
Source: Oregon State Medical Examiner

Missing persons: 1  
Source: Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS)

Sheltered persons: 1,840  
Outdoor Congregate: 88  
Non-Congregate: 1,752  
Source: American Red Cross

Individual Assistance Registrants: 21,793

Assistance Approved: $20.69 million  
Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency

DAILY STATS

Acres burned (approx.): 1.2 million  
Source: Oregon Department of Forestry

Residences destroyed: 4,008  
Source: OEM Planning Section

Other structures destroyed: >1,400*  
Source: Integrated Reporting of Wildland-Fire Information (IRWIN)  
• Approximate

NEED TO KNOW

If you were a victim of wildfire losses, have registered with FEMA’s Individual Assistance program, and have received an eligibility decision from them, you have a right to appeal their decision. You must submit your appeal within 60 days of the date on your eligibility notification letter. For information, go to DisasterAssistance.gov or call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 or for TTY call 800-621-3362. You will need to submit a signed, written explanation outlining why you believe FEMA’s decision is incorrect and copies of any documents supporting your appeal, including proof of your disaster losses and original claim information to: FEMA; P.O. Box 10055; Hyattsville, Md. 20782-8055 OR.

EPA field crews in Phoenix, Ore. - October 19, 2020

Media inquiries  
fire.info@state.or.us  
503-378-7872
SIGN UP FOR ASSISTANCE!

www.DisasterAssistance.gov  1-800-621-3362
1-800-462-7585 TTY

Individual Assistance is available to people impacted by fires in Clackamas, Douglas, Jackson, Klamath, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, and Marion counties.

Public Assistance is available in Benton, Clackamas, Columbia, Coos, Deschutes, Douglas, Jackson, Jefferson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Multnomah, Tillamook, Wasco, Washington and Yamhill counties for publicly owned infrastructure impacted by the wildfires.

DON'T FALL FOR SCAMS AND FRAUD

If you suffered property or job loss due to the recent wildfires you may also be the target of scam and/or fraud. As the EPA begins cleanup in Oregon, it's a reminder how officials will or won't contact you to aid in cleanup.

- EPA never asks for personal information like your immigration status, Social Security number or bank account numbers.
- Cleanup crews working for the state and federal government will only contact you if you have filled out a Right Of Entry (ROE) form.
- Watch out for imposters. Guard your personal information. Know that federal and state agencies do not charge application fees.
- FEMA and the state of Oregon are offering free hazardous waste and ash and debris cleanup (unless you decide to hire a licensed contractor). There will be no cost for wildfire survivors to clear their land. You must fill out an ROE form if you would like to take advantage of this service.
- If you choose to do the cleanup on your own, research contractors. Visit ccb.state.or.us/search to verify the contractor has an active license and check their complaint history.
- Be skeptical of anyone promising immediate clean-up and debris removal. Be wary of people who quote outrageous prices and/or demand payment upfront.
- Never pay by wire transfer, gift card, cash or by signing over an insurance check. And never make the final payment until the work is done.
- Spot rental-listing scams: don't send security deposits or rent before you've met or signed a lease.

INFORMATION RESOURCES

Active fire dashboard
Oregon Wildfire News
Sign up for Individual Assistance
Emergency management websites by county
Oregon Insurance Commissioner

NOTE: This publication is released Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
Check wildfire.oregon.gov or visit our Twitter or Facebook pages for additional updates.