



Hood River County Health Department

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Hood River County Health Department Heat Wave, Wildfires, Power Outages, *and COVID-19*

Hood River County Health Department urges our community to be prepared for all hazards and potential emergency situations. In addition to the global COVID pandemic, this week our area experienced wildfires, and short-duration power outages. This announcement is aimed at reminding everyone to always be prepared.

We are particularly concerned regarding a potential disruption to electrical service in our community. While the risk is low at this time, we want everyone to be prepared, especially those vulnerable populations that are dependent on electricity for their health/life/safety.

The Mosier Creek Fire is burning close to the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) transmission lines. Firefighting efforts could require power to be shut off to the lines to protect firefighter's safety. If this occurred, residents in Western Wasco CO. and parts of Hood River Co. could be impacted. While the outlook today seems to indicate a low likelihood of another power outage, a small risk remains and the public needs to be prepared in case the situation changes:

- A high heat event is pending for this weekend;
 - Wildfire season is in full swing, expect poor air-quality and the potential for new fires;
- COVID cases are still occurring in our communities;
- There is a small risk for more power outages:
 - An outage associated with the Mosier Creek Fire may come with little notice; and
 - Increased fire-weather situations may increase the likelihood of a 'Public Safety Power Outage' too.

If anyone has questions, or needs special assistance regarding a power outage, please contact your electricity utility provider directly.

- Pacific Power (*City of Hood River and Mosier*): 1-888-221-7070
- Hood River Electric Coop (*Hood River Valley*): 541-354-1233

Stay informed. Sign up for our local area's 'Citizen Alert' system via Everbridge®:

- Hood River County: <https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736721762%20#/login>
- Wasco County: <https://member.everbridge.net/453003085612392/login>

Information regarding high heat preparedness and poor air quality may be found on the CDC website:

- Heat: <https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/features/extremeheat/index.html>
- Smoke: <https://www.cdc.gov/air/wildfire-smoke/default.htm>

Information regarding the Mosier Creek Fire may be found at *InciWeb - Incident Information System*:

- <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/article/6955/53176/>