

# Hood River County Sheriff's Office Joint Information Center

Daily Update  
September 12, 2017

**Inciweb:** <https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/5584>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/EagleCreekandIndianCreekFires2017>

**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/eaglecreekfire>

**Oregon Smoke Information:** <https://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com>

**Multnomah County Sheriff Flash Alert:** <https://www.flashalert.net/id/MCSO>

**Hood River County Sheriff:** <http://www.hoodriversheriff.com/news/breaking-news>

**Road Closures:** <https://tripcheck.com>

**Firewise Information:** <http://www.firewise.org>

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*This update is intended to provide a summary of public agency response operations addressing the Eagle Creek Fire.*

## **Eagle Creek Fire (via Fire Information Center as of 8:00 a.m.):**

At approximately 8:00 p.m. last night, a smoke plume west of Herman Creek became visible for miles along the Columbia River Gorge. This type of activity had been anticipated, as winds were expected to blow the fire back down across already burned areas. Containment has increased to 11 percent.

Winds will be light overnight, becoming westerly and gusting 25 to 35 mph as a cold front moves through the fire area. These conditions could result in increased fire behavior but are not expected to present a threat to Cascade Locks.

A cool, moist trend is predicted on Thursday and Friday. Fire behavior analysts are predicting low to moderate fire behavior. On the high ridges to the south, away from populated areas, the fire will continue burning at low intensity.

Today's plan includes strengthening and holding the containment lines along the Interstate 84 corridor, improving containment lines toward Shell Rock Mountain, and continuing efforts to secure the eastern and southeastern contingency lines. Helicopter bucket drops are planned for today to cool fire activity in the Herman Creek drainage.

## **Weather (via National Weather Service Portland as of 9/12 at 9:48 a.m.):**

A northwest onshore flow will bring a progressively cooler air mass today and Wednesday as an upper level trough of low pressure drops over the region. Seasonally cool weather remains through the weekend, then another deeper trough of low pressure moves in late Sunday and early next week for cooler than normal temperatures along with the chance of rain.

### **Evacuation Levels (via Hood River County Sheriff's Office as of 9/12):**

Evacuation levels remain the same since Friday and are as follows: The level one ("get ready") area runs from Collins Road in Dee at the south end to Interstate 84 on the north end, and includes all areas west of the following lines: Country Club south to Reed Road, running due south to HWY 281, continuing along HWY 281 to milepost 12.5, then following the middle fork of the Hood River until it comes parallel with the south end of Collins Road. Level one means people should be ready for potential evacuation, and should plan for what they might need to take with them. No structures are under immediate threat from the fire.

### **Highway & Road Closures (via Oregon Department of Transportation as of 9/11 at p.m.):**

Interstate 84 remains an active evacuation zone as the Eagle Creek Fire burns. ODOT is working closely with fire officials to determine when westbound lanes of I-84 can reopen. Eastbound I-84 will remain closed at least another week— the minimum time required to complete rock removal. The Historic Columbia River Highway remains closed with no schedule to reopen due to rocks and trees continuing to fall. ODOT is working to keep the highway available for firefighters, but the highway is not safe for travel.

### **Shelters (via Red Cross Cascades Region as of 9/11):**

As of Sunday, approximately 146 people sought refuge at the Red Cross Shelter located at the Skamania County Fairgrounds Hedgewald Center (710 SW Rock Creek Drive, Stevenson, WA). Twenty-two people slept inside the shelter and another 124 stayed in RVs in the parking lot and ate meals, used shower facilities, etc. Individuals seeking shelter for themselves or their animals due to evacuations in Hood River County should call 541-387-6941 (English) or 541-387-6942 (Spanish).

### **Public Health & Hospitals (via Hood River County Public Health as of 9/11):**

Smoke and air quality conditions in the Hood River area depend on weather and wildfire activity. The best protection is to avoid smoke altogether by staying inside, with windows and doors close. Residents can view current air quality conditions at [www.deq.state.or.us/aqi](http://www.deq.state.or.us/aqi). The index also offers guidance on what precautions various groups should take depending on air quality.

### **Schools (via Hood River County School District as of 9/12 at 9:00 a.m.):**

All Hood River County School District schools are operating on their normal schedule. Due to air quality, athletics will be limited to light outdoor activities or will be moved indoors. The district is working to replace all filters in school air update systems.

### **Recreation (via U.S. Forest Service as of 9/11):**

Due to the wildfire, a closure order is in effect on Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area lands south of the Columbia River, east of the Sandy River Delta, north of the Columbia River National Scenic Area boundary, and west of the Hood River.

**(via Hood River County as of 9/7):** All Hood River County forest land has been closed to the public due to fire fighting operations.

**Volunteer & Donation Information (via Oregon Office of Emergency Management):**

The urge to help at this critical time is strong. While we thank you for your generous hearts, do not send physical goods before confirming the need with a relief agency. Financial support to voluntary agencies responding to disasters is the most effective way to help people affected by Oregon's wildfires. For donation and volunteer information, call 541-387-6911 (English) or 541-387-7080 (Spanish)."

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