

## **Free PPE for Roseburg Businesses**

With Douglas County's downgrade from "Extreme" to "High" risk level, valuable local restaurants, gyms, bowling alleys and more businesses will be open January 1. So, first of all . . . Hooray! And, secondly, businesses are going to need more PPE. Here's where the City of Roseburg and Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce come in . . . to provide personal protective equipment (PPE)—free of charge—to Roseburg businesses. The PPE available includes: 3-ply ear-loop disposal masks, washable reusable cloth masks, non-surgical KN95 masks, pump-bottle hand sanitizer, antibacterial wipes and disposable nitrile gloves.

To receive the no-cost PPE, businesses should apply through the chamber's website and certify that they were financially impacted by COVID-19. To apply, visit [\*\*COVID-19 Business Recovery Resource Center Library\*\*](#) or click [\*\*HERE!\*\*](#)

## **"State of the County" Program Tickets on Sale NOW!**

Online reservations are open for the chamber's January 11, 2021 membership program, "State of the County" presented by Douglas County 2020 chair of the board of commissioners, the Honorable Chris Boice.

Advanced registration is required and the deadline to register is noon on January 8. A one-time access code/link will be forwarded per registration the week prior to the program. Our January program is sponsored by CSO Avista Utilities. [\*\*MAKE MY RESERVATION\*\*](#)

Obviously, with the current uncertainty about when the chamber's monthly luncheon programs will actually return to in-person luncheon programs, the chamber will not be selling season passes in January. The chamber expects that virtual versus in-person monthly membership programs will be a month-to-month decision through May 2021. The chamber will be changing its membership meeting season pass year to September through May. Those season passes will go on sale summer 2021.

## **U.S. Chamber Guide to Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Loans Updated**

Last week, the U.S. Chamber created a new [\*\*Guide to Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Loans\*\*](#) to provide local chambers and our members with the latest information and answers to FAQs about the changes that have been made to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) Program as part of the end-of-year pandemic relief package Congress passed and which is tentatively slated to become law.

[\*\*Click here\*\*](#) to view the U.S. Chamber's new Guide to Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Loans. As federal pandemic relief packages are authorized and signed into law, we will continue to provide updated information as it becomes available.

## **New! Douglas County Downgrade (which feels more like an upgrade) to "High" Risk Level**

Effective Friday, January 1, Douglas County moves out of the "Extreme" risk level it has been in for the past four weeks and moves to "High." With that change, indoor dining at 25% capacity is allowed at eating and drinking establishments, gyms and other indoor recreation and fitness establishments can open at 25% capacity, entertainment establishments such as bowling alleys, museums and theaters can open at 25% capacity, to name a few. Each risk level has different safety mandates, to see "High" risk level, check out the [\*\*assigned health and safety measure mandates\*\*](#).

The Oregon Health Authority examines and publishes county data weekly. County risk levels will be reassigned every two weeks, the updated risk assignment level takes effect on January 1, 2021. Any future change in the risk level would be evaluated on January 11, announced on January 12 and become effective January 15. Watch for updates and continue to check the complete list of counties and their associated risk levels is available [\*\*here\*\*](#).

For more **information about the risk levels and activity guidance, guidance based on county risk level** or read the **full press release**. State of Oregon, Office of the Governor **Executive Order 20-66**.

Just a reminder, the chamber will post any new information, resource materials and/or links on its [\*\*COVID-19 Business Recovery Resource Center Library\*\*](#) page on our website as soon as we obtain it.

## **Nominate Today!**

### ***RACC Accepting Nominations for 2020 First Citizens, Businesses of the Year, Chamber Volunteer of the Year Honors***

Nominations are open for male and female first citizen honors, outstanding businesses of the year and chamber volunteer of the year recognitions. Honorees will be announced on March 18, 2021.

"Business of the year" honors include three categories: small, medium and large-size chamber-member businesses. The chamber will also recognize an outstanding individual as its volunteer of the year and a local business for its innovation. The chamber is also seeking nominations for deserving individuals for our community's highest honor, first citizens. For nomination criteria and forms: **Business of the Year**, **Chamber Volunteer of the Year**, **Business Innovator** and **First Citizens** nomination forms. Nomination deadline is 5:00 pm on January 29, 2021.

## **Oregon OSHA Grants Grace-Period for Compliance with New COVID-19 Rules**

The recently adopted **Oregon OSHA Temporary COVID-19 rule** includes a series of deadlines, including three inter-related requirements. Under the rule, employers must complete both the required **Risk Assessment** and the **Infection Control Plan** based on that Risk Assessment by December 7, 2020 and must complete the required **Infection Control Training** (based in part on the Infection Control Plan) by December 21, 2020.

**A three-week implementation delay has been granted for certain employers – including restaurants, gyms and other businesses impacted the recent “freeze” and by the newly adopted risk levels.** All other employers who have been working to comply but have not yet completed that work are granted a one-week grace period. You can read more about this in **OR-OSHA's memo**.

### **Important timelines to remember:**

- **Base Rule: Effective November 16, 2020**
  - Physical Distancing
  - Masks
  - Cleaning & Sanitation
  - Poster Posted
- Building Operator Rules: **November 23, 2020**
- Exposure Risk Assessment: **December 7, 2020\***
- Infection Control Plan: **December 7, 2020\***
- Employee Training: **December 21, 2020**
- Ventilation Requirements (all workplaces): **January 6, 2021**

You can find additional materials on **Oregon OSHA's website**.

## **Reminder: Oregon OSHA COVID-19 Rule Resources Available**

- Infection Control Plan (**Fill-in Word document** or **Print version**)
- COVID-19 Hazards Poster **English** / **Spanish**
- Exposure Risk Assessment Form (**Fill-in Word document** or **Print version**)
- **Online Training Course**
- **Fact Sheet: Provisions with Delayed Effective Dates**
- **Temporary Rule 437-001-0744 and Appendix Addressing COVID-19 Workplace Risks**
- **Overview Table for Oregon OSHA COVID-19 Temporary Rule**
- **Model Policy for Notification of Employees when COVID-19 Exposure Occurs (PDF)** (Spanish - **PDF** and **Word document**)
- **Questions and Answers**

## **Recovery Resource Library Related to COVID-19 Pandemic & Wildfires**

### **Wildfire Recovery Assistance Information—**UPDATED INFORMATION ONLINE****

For those impacted by the recent wildfires, the Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce continues to update daily a detailed list of resources and information on our website to assist our local businesses and residents during recovery. Please check back often, as the resource information from FEMA, US

Small Business Administration, the state of Oregon and the chamber's economic-growth/sustainability partners, is relayed to the chamber almost daily. The wildfire disaster assistance information is under the chamber's "Current News" page, "[Resource Information for Recovery Related to 2020 Wildfires](#)" section. FYI, it's the section past all the COVID-19 pandemic resource information, about halfway down the page.

## **Information and Recovery Resources for Businesses Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic—[UPDATED INFORMATION](#)**

Please continue to check the chamber's online "[Business Recovery Resource Center Library Re: COVID-19 Pandemic](#)," as the chamber updates its resource information almost daily. And, please share this link with friends and colleagues. The more our local businesses are armed with information and access to resources, the stronger our recovery.

## **Chamber News, Programs & Updates**

**Membership Meeting Programs Return! Reservations Open** for the chamber's January 11 virtual **Membership Meeting** program "State of the County."

**Time to Nominate!** Be sure and download nomination forms for 2020 **first citizens**, **businesses of the year** and **chamber volunteer of the year** honors. And, grow your business in 2021 by participating in the "Shop Chamber & Save" exclusive member-to-member discount program.

**SAVE THE DATE!** March 18, 2021 the Roseburg Area Chamber will host several programs and events throughout the day and evening for its annual celebration of business, recognition and awards event and annual membership meeting. Look for more information in early 2021!

Be sure and take a look at the chamber's November/December 2020 issue of **Business Perspectives**. There is much information about upcoming programs and events. Missed a past issue of Business Perspectives or one of those "oh-so-informative" members email blasts? No worries. They are posted on the chamber website on the **Monthly Newsletter page** . . . just scroll.

## **Happy New Year from all of us at the Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce**

This year has been hard....really, really hard...for so many of our local businesses and members, their employees, our neighbors and community as a whole. It is always our immense privilege to serve Douglas County businesses, but never more than this past year. Thank you all for that honor. The Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce continues to be here to support local business and lead collaborative opportunities for recovery and our future growth. We look forward to 2021. We look forward to connecting with you in the New Year!

Take care, be safe and stay strong. Have a joyous holiday and celebrate all that is good!

*Debbie*

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