

New Masking Rules Released

Today, new masking rules were released, which apply broadly to nearly all indoor spaces. [Read the new mask rules here.](#)

Effective tomorrow, August 13, masks must be worn in indoor spaces, broadly defined as: *public and private workplaces, businesses, indoor areas open to the public, building lobbies, common or shared spaces, classrooms, elevators, bathrooms, transportation services and other indoor space where people may gather for any purpose. An indoor space does not include a private residence or a private automobile being used for personal use and that is not used for ride sharing.*

The new mask rules apply regardless of vaccination status, although the rules provide an exemption for a workspace that is fully enclosed by walls and a door. **We want to draw your attention to a requirement that a person responsible for an indoor space must (section 5a-c):**

1. Ensure that employees, contractors, and volunteers comply with this rule within the indoor space
2. Make reasonable efforts to ensure customers, guests, visitors and other individuals comply with this rule within the indoor space.
3. Post signs at every entrance to the indoor space that face coverings are required as described in this rule.

We anticipate the release of OR-OSHA rules tomorrow, further explaining enforcement, as well as new signage released by OHA or OR-OSHA tomorrow.

Statewide Mask Mandate Effective Friday, August 13

Yesterday, Governor Brown reinstated a statewide mask requirement for all indoor public settings, including businesses, regardless of vaccination status. The new mandate comes as COVID-19 hospitalizations break records throughout the state due to the highly transmissible delta variant. **The mandate goes into effect this Friday, August 13.** Employers are required to post signage. Eating and drinking establishments will be allowed to continue to offer indoor dining. Continue to check [Oregon Health Authority's Covid-19 website](#) for details and information on the pending mask mandate.

It is our understanding that Oregon OSHA's intent in the immediate term will be to focus on making sure that employers are: (1) posting appropriate signage and (2) making sure that their employees are masked. Content changes constantly, please continue to check [Oregon OSHA's Covide-19 website](#) for details, resources and information.

PPP Loan Forgiveness Portal Open

The Small Business Administration is currently accepting applications through the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Forgiveness Portal which is a streamlined application portal that allows borrowers with PPP loans \$150,000 or less through participating lenders to apply for forgiveness directly through the SBA. To learn more see the [SBA press release](#) regarding loan forgiveness or contact your local lender directly.

OSHA Publishes Temporary Heat & Smoke Rules

On August 2, the Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) published temporary workplace rules related to heat and labor housing, and wildfire smoke. The rules went into effect this past Monday, August 9 and will remain in effect for 180 days while work on a permanent rule continues. OSHA previously published [temporary heat rules](#) on July 8. The full text of the wildfire smoke rules can be found [here](#), and the heat/housing rules [here](#). Below you will find a brief overview of each.

Wildfire Smoke Rules

The rule requires employers to put administrative controls in place and provide respirators (N95 masks) to employees. When AQI exceeds 500, employees who will be exposed to hazardous levels must wear respiratory protection. OSHA will develop training materials for businesses to use to fulfill the training requirements. Some N95s will also be made available through distribution depots.

Heat/Housing Rules

The new provisions require that when the heat index is at or above 80 degrees Fahrenheit, housing without suitable temperature control (able to keep indoor temperatures under 78 degrees Fahrenheit) must include common areas to provide some relief from the heat. Employers can provide indoor cooling rooms (using air conditioners, evaporative coolers, air purifiers with coolers, or other reliable means) or shaded outdoor rest areas open to the breeze. They also need to equip outdoor rest areas with misters or provide individual cooling measures that won't be shared without washing. Thermometers are now required in all housing units, and humidity gauges are encouraged. Employers must also ensure windows can be shaded or protected from radiant heat and fans are available for occupant use. Lastly, the new provisions call for employers to ensure that the occupants in labor housing have information about heat illness, how to avoid it, and how to contact emergency medical care in the event of serious illness. Oregon OSHA is providing posters in English and Spanish that can be customized by employer housing operators to support this education.

BOLI Also Adopts Rules Related to Smoke & Heat. It's also important to note that, on July 22, the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) adopted [temporary rules](#) related to smoke and heat. The rules provide that employees can use sick time to cover absences due to evacuation orders at the employee's home or workplace. Employees can also use accrued sick time if a public official determines that air quality or heat are at levels that would jeopardize the health of the employee.

Project Leadership is Back!

The chamber is currently accepting applications for its distinguished 2021-22 Project Leadership program. The 32nd year of Project Leadership Roseburg will begin on Thursday, September 9, 2021. Project Leadership Roseburg provides participants with comprehensive insight of Douglas County and an understanding of how our community works directly from public and private-sector leaders from throughout our county. The chamber is proud to have graduated nearly 650 community leaders from its leadership program and looks forward to welcoming and working with a new group of future community-minded individuals. For more information about Project Leadership, the 2021-22 workshop schedule and to download an application, [CLICK HERE!](#)

Chamber Membership Luncheon Season Passes on Sale Now!

The Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce's 2021-22 membership meeting lunch schedule is set and season passes are on sale. The chamber's in-person membership meeting lunches are set to resume on Monday, September 20, 2021. NEVER RSVP for a chamber luncheon again! Attend membership meeting lunches with the purchase of a season pass and not only save money due to the discounted price, but even better, never worry about forgetting to make a reservation. With your season pass, it's all taken care of! Individual season passes for RACC members are \$175. A full table of eight for the entire season is \$1,400. Season passes for 2021-22 may be purchased [ONLINE HERE](#). RACC members interested in paying in advance for a full table for the whole 2021-22 season may purchase online or contact the chamber at roseburg@roseburgareachamber.org to be billed.

Mark the Calendar / 2021-22 Membership Meeting Luncheons

Monday, September 20, 2021
Monday, October 18, 2021
Monday, November 15, 2021
Monday, January 10, 2022
Monday, February 14, 2022
Monday, March 14, 2022
Monday, April 11, 2022
Monday, May 16, 2022

Chamber's Most Requested/Distributed Publication Accepting Ad Reservations Through August

The Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce's 2021-22 *InUmpqua*—a business directory, community profile and visitor magazine—is now accepting reservations for ad placement. Thousands of copies of the *InUmpqua* have and will be distributed to residents, businesses, visitors and folks relocating to our area. Not to mention the thousands of views and downloads of the online edition of the publication each year.

The *InUmpqua* remains one of the best advertising mediums available to market our members' goods and services. It also provides an opportunity to support the chamber and local business community, as a portion of these "non-dues" revenue helps underwrite the work the chamber does each year on behalf of businesses.

Check out the online edition of the [2020-21 InUmpqua](#) and the [2021-22 InUmpqua advertising rate sheet](#).

More Chamber News, "Save The Dates" and Event/Program Updates

As chamber programs, activities and events return, in addition to the membership meeting lunch dates, above, be sure and save these dates, too!

September 9, 2021 2021-22 Project Leadership Commences / [Download Online Application Form](#)

September 20, 2021 Membership Meeting Luncheons Return

November 9 Business After Hours at Cascade Community Credit Union

November 15, 2021 Economic Forecast 2021

More news and details coming soon!

The Roseburg Area Chamber's 2021 "Shop Chamber & Save" exclusive member-to-member discount program flyer is [online](#).

Check out the chamber's [July/August Business Perspectives newsletter](#). Missed a past issue of *Business Perspectives* or one of those "oh-so-informative" membership email blasts? No worries. They are posted on the chamber website on the [Monthly Newsletter page](#) . . . just scroll.

Debbie

Debra L. Fromdahl, IOM
President & CEO
Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce

