

**From:** [Supervisors of unclassified employees](#) on behalf of [Doyle, Thomas L](#)  
**To:** [classified\\_supervisors@lists.oregonstate.edu](mailto:classified_supervisors@lists.oregonstate.edu); [supervisors\\_of\\_unclassified\\_employees@lists.oregonstate.edu](mailto:supervisors_of_unclassified_employees@lists.oregonstate.edu)  
**Subject:** [Supervisors\_of\_unclassified\_employees] Oregon OSHA Wildfire Smoke Rule  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 17, 2021 2:19:11 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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## Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S)

Dear Supervisors,

The state of Oregon has adopted a temporary [rule](#) that applies to all employees who, while working, may be exposed to wildfire smoke where the Air Quality Index (AQI) is at or above 101 for more than 15 minutes in an hour, or more than two hours in a 24-hour period.

This Oregon Occupational Safety and Health (Oregon OSHA) rule applies to work occurring outside, in a building without a mechanical ventilation system, and within an enclosed vehicle without a cabin air filter.

If you supervise employees who work in these conditions, or work in these conditions yourself, please review the [summary of key elements](#) of this rule requiring compliance. These include:

- **Training.** Employees working within the conditions noted above must take training before exposure to wildfire smoke where the AQI is at or above 101.

*Oregon OSHA provides [online training](#) that meets six of 10 emergency rule requirements. The OSU Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) has developed a [Safety Instruction](#) to assist supervisors and employees in fulfilling the remaining four operational practice training requirements.*

- **Masks/respirators.** Supervisors must make respirators (masks) available for voluntary employee use when the AQI is at or above 101, and for required use by employees when AQI is at or above 201.

*KN95 masks are available free of charge for OSU employees. Departments can place orders for masks by using [BennyBuy](#). Select "Resumption Order Form" to place order. NIOSH-approved N95 respirators are also available from [Chemistry Stores](#).*

- **Work spaces and schedules.** Supervisors must use engineering controls to reduce employee exposure (such as providing enclosed workspaces in buildings, structures, or

vehicles in which the air is adequately filtered) or administrative controls (such as relocating work or changing work schedules) to reduce exposures when the AQI is at or above 201. The temporary rules do not specify a preference between the two approaches so the supervisor can choose the most feasible control measures to reduce exposure.

*Units are encouraged to make plans in advance. Information about the mechanical ventilation capabilities within OSU Corvallis campus buildings is available [here](#).*

Please contact OSU Office of Environmental Health and Safety with any questions about the requirements of this new Oregon OSHA rule.

Regards,

Tom Doyle  
Director  
Environmental Health and Safety

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