



Friday Forum

7/2/2021

**Governor Ends
COVID Regulations,
OSHA Keeps Some
Rules in Place**

**Bills of Interest
Updates**

**OHBA Offering
Structural Wood
Code Change
Classes**

OHBA Week in Review

Governor Ends COVID Regulations, OSHA Keeps Some Rules in Place

An [executive order](#) signed by Gov. Kate Brown **lifts Oregon's statewide mask mandate and physical distancing requirements for most businesses** (except specialized settings following federal guidance like airports, public transit, and health care). This rescinds Governor Brown's Safe + Strong Oregon order, which provided a county risk framework and sector-specific guidance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Masks and physical distancing requirements are removed for all businesses with some exceptions** (airports, public transit, and health care settings). Proof of vaccination is no longer required.
- **Employers may set their own policies**, and counties can establish local requirements. However, if an employee chooses to wear a mask, face shield, or face covering even when it is not required, **the employer must allow them to do so.**
- **Other OR-OSHA requirements on sanitation, ventilation, and infection control are still in effect (see below).**
- **Full in-person instruction is expected for K-12 schools in the fall.** An updated Ready Schools, Safe Learners policy is published on the [Oregon Department of Education website](#).

OR-OSHA released a [temporary rule](#) in light of the Governor's order. The rule eliminates mask and social distancing requirements except for health care settings, **but largely maintains** the employer requirements around sanitation,

HVAC ventilation, infection control plans, and employee rights and notifications.

The executive order preserves the state of emergency for the purpose of federal funding and agencies' emergency rulemaking. [Find a full breakdown of the updated rules here.](#)

Updates on Previous Bills of Interest

SB 762A –Passed both Chambers

Last minute changes to SB762 removed the overly broad definition of “Wildland Urban Interface” from the bill and directed the Oregon Department of Forestry to define the WUI through rule-making. Previous versions of the bill included language that may have expanded the WUI outside of the area where a concentration of dwellings interfaces wildland. This change was important to not only improve the bill, but to obtain bi-partisan support for such a major policy shift in Oregon.

New Lead Paint RRP Classes Scheduled in July and August

OHBA has scheduled a new round of Initial 8-Hour Lead Paint RRP classes on the following dates:

- July 13 – Salem
- July 16 – Medford
- July 22 – Portland
- July 27 – Salem
- August 10 – Salem
- August 24 – Salem

The cost is \$240 for OHBA members, and \$290 for non-members. Registration is now electronic

and online! To sign up for a class visit www.oregonhba.com.

New Classes for Structural Wood Code Changes Coming in July

OHBA and the American Plywood Association will offer a series of in-depth technical classes to aid builders with the new “Brace Panel” and structural building codes coming in October. Classes will be taught by Larry Oenning, PE., who is an Engineered Wood Specialist with the Field Services Division of APA – The Engineered Wood Association. There are currently two classes scheduled, both of which qualify for one CEU through the CCB. Please visit www.oregonhba.com to register for the following classes:

July 13th – The Challenges of Advanced Framing

As energy codes become stricter, builders and designers are seeking options for energy-efficient construction that maintain strength, durability, sustainability, and cost-effectiveness. One effective solution is advanced framing, a system of construction framing techniques that optimize material use and increase energy efficiency. Join APA's Larry Oenning as he discusses common advanced framing techniques, the benefits of the system and typical challenges that builders encounter during the conversion from traditional framing to advanced framing.

[To sign up for this class, click here.](#)

July 20th – Code Compliant Portal Frames Built Right

On October 1, 2021, the Oregon Building Codes Division is rescinding both the 97-01 Portal Frame Bracing and the 13-01 Wall Bracing Statewide Alternate Methods based on the recommendation provided by the governing

advisory board. The 2021 Oregon Residential Specialty Code references the prescriptive methods of the 2018 International Residential Code. This course can help you in the transition of your current wall bracing and portal frame designs to comply with the 2018 International Residential Code using both IRC and APA portal frame designs. Participants will understand the importance of wall bracing to resist wind and earthquake loads, recognize the role of portal frames in resisting lateral loads, identify the different portal frame options in the International Residential Code (IRC), spot the key elements of a portal frame and avoid common installation and design errors.

[To sign up for this class, click here.](#)