

**From:** [Tammie Murray](#)  
**To:** [HWREC Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** Wildfire meeting testimony  
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Dear Committee Members of Wildfire Recovery and Natural Resources:

Oregonians are once again dealing with wildfire issues, although this time life and property were drastically impacted. I cried, worried and was hyper vigilant for days observing my surroundings. I live in a zone rated for moderate wildfire incidents, but educated myself on the dangers of nature's catastrophes. How to maintain our property to minimize loss and plan for escape, if necessary, and a route opened to do so. Thankfully our little member owned electric cooperative deenergized during the wind event that spread wildfires at an extraordinary rate this last fire season.

There are a brevity of informational media available on wildfire disaster mitigation. In fact ODF booth at the Oregon State Fair three decades ago presented media for small forest landowners that helped me plan the layout of landscaping and accessory structures. Here are links to wildfire education I studied recently:

[https://www.nifc.gov/prevEdu/prevEdu\\_wfrTeams.html](https://www.nifc.gov/prevEdu/prevEdu_wfrTeams.html)  
<https://www.bia.gov/bia/ots/dfwfm/bwfm/wildfire-prevention-and-education>

First youtube video is excellent learning material, because your house doesn't catch on fire the tinder and landscaping a person allows to build up and the overgrowth around your house catches the house on fire.

[https://youtu.be/vL\\_syp1ZScM](https://youtu.be/vL_syp1ZScM)  
<https://youtu.be/HeOI2N6iLyQ>

Second point, density of structures and septs is neither good for our ecosystems or environment that are recommended in building codes and sanitation system laws.

Oregonians would turning their key values into a mockery if the scientific studies on populating areas again with structures and sanitary systems in the same manner as decades past that were unknown qualifiers for nature's disasters.

Third point, educate, educate, educate... Oregonians on natural disasters.

I live tenth of a mile on high ground from the Nehalem River but it did not stop me from also studying floods or thinking about how to prepare and escape if bridges washed out. In 1996 flood houses, bridges, trees and small farm animals were washed down river. FEMA and inmates came to help mitigate and dispose. People along the river whose house survived in my neighborhood had 3-5 feet of water in their homes. Some homes were gone or ineligible to rebuild under building code of 1996

If memory serves me right the state responses were not the same as this last wildfire season. Instead our relying on government to solve our disaster problems we pulled on our boots and dug in to clean up the damage because that's what Oregonians DO....

May you all think of the future and realize that not all people experiencing natural disasters can be made whole again, because life is fraught with rules. Please know that if you let emotion drive legislation it probably won't turn out well in the future for people or planet.

Best regards,  
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