

Webinar Follow-Up Information: COVID-19: Guidance for Agricultural Workers and Employers and Testing Strategy for COVID-19 in High-Density Critical Infrastructure Workplaces

Oregon legislation and funding to support farm workers, growers and food manufacturers re: Covid-19

- Oregon OSHA received a petition for rule making from a farmworker advocate group in April of this year. Long story short, the Governor requested money from CARES funding and Oregon recently passed legislation and dedicated \$30 million towards farmworker protection.
 - \$16m of that is targeted to [temporary rules](#) which Oregon OSHA released in May and focused on three areas and provides financial assistance to producers to comply with these increased measures during peak harvest. :
 - requiring increased field sanitation measures (example – changed from one porta potty and hand wash station per 20 workers to one for every 10 workers)
 - housing regulations that reduce crowding (temp modifications to existing housing, temporary on farm alternative housing (RV or modular housing rentals), hotel/motel)
 - transportation regulations (limit the spacing of employees and requiring face covering during transportation).
 - The other \$14m is targeted to mitigation of COVID-19, including providing farmworkers with PPE (distributed 1 M K95 masks and 5000 gal of alcohol sanitizer), community-based outreach and communication and a Quarantine Fund which allows farmworkers the ability to take time off to recuperate, seek care, and quarantine due to COVID19. Here is the website if that's helpful <https://www.oregon.gov/oweb/fsfs/Pages/index.aspx>. (Note: The K95 masks had failed effectiveness checks and FDA allowed these masks to be repurposed for use by the agricultural community.)
- Oregon is also doing creative work around food processing facilities. Oregon Health Authority, OR-OSHA and ODA have developed a 'playbook' which lays out a coordinated response when a facility has positive employee(s). The goal is for a small team to assist the business, with Local Public Health Officials, to identify risk points within the facility, help determine the necessary response and elevate when additional resources are needed (ie additional testing, PPE, etc) while trying to minimize disruption to the facility and ultimately the food supply. As part of the playbook, Oregon developed a business toolkit to help businesses be proactive before they have an outbreak - repackaging many resources that were already out there (some FDA resources used). More info on the playbook and toolkit can be found here <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORODA/bulletins/28f2567>.

NV Public Health Covid-19 efforts
<https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/>