



Umatilla County Emergency Management

NEWS RELEASE

July 1, 2008

Contact: Ray Denny, Emergency Manager
(541) 966-3705

Smoke Management Public Meetings

Pendleton, Ore. – The Umatilla County Smoke Management Committee will hold public meetings at 6:30 p.m. on July 8, 9, and 10th in the following locations:

Tuesday, July 8th - Milton-Freewater - Public Library, Albie Room

Wednesday, July 9th - Pendleton - Umatilla County Criminal Justice Center, Media Room

Thursday, July 10th – Hermiston - Stafford Hansell Government Building, Doherty Conference Room

The goal of these meetings is to adopt an Open Burning Program for the Umatilla County Grass Seed Industry. These goals include developing and maintaining a field burning program that enables the grass seed producers to proceed with open field burning in a timely manner, and to assure the public that unreasonably high volumes of smoke will not be generated, especially at times when smoke dispersal is limited by weather or existing forest fires.

The Grass Seed Industry acknowledges that burning grass seed fields requires cooperation with both neighbors and the community that surrounds a grass seed farm. Understanding the needs of neighbors and the community, and striving to conduct a burn that meets mutual needs and interests will help insure that burning will continue to be an available tool for future management of grass seed fields and varieties needing heat sanitation to sustain a healthy crop, while also being sensitive about and reasonably responsive to public concerns. *(Excerpt from Grass Seed Industry Proposal)*

To access a copy of the Grass Seed Industry Proposal go to: www.csepp.net
Or pick up a copy at the Umatilla County Courthouse in Pendleton.

If you will not be able to attend a public hearing, please put your comments in writing and send to:

UMATILLA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
4700 NW PIONEER PLACE
PENDLETON OR 97801

For more information, contact Ray Denny at (541) 966-3705

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