



News Release

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For Immediate Release

Oregon Celebrates the “Power of Public Works”

The state of Oregon will join the rest of the country in recognizing the importance of public works. Governor Kate Brown declared the week of May 20-26 as National Public Works Week in Oregon. She signed a proclamation that recognizes public works crews, their work and the infrastructure they build and maintain. The governor also urged people to learn about how public works impacts their everyday lives.

“The power of public works is in every city and on every corner,” said Jenifer Willer, President of the Oregon Chapter of the American Public Works Association. “We build and maintain most of the infrastructure that cities depend upon while continuously pushing the boundaries to make things safer and more sustainable.”

This year marks the 58th year for [National Public Works Week](#), sponsored by the American Public Works Association (APWA). This year’s theme is “The Power of Public Works.” National Public Works Week serves as a time to recognize the contributions of public works staff who design, build, plan, operate and maintain the transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste disposal systems, public buildings and other structures and facilities essential to our nation’s economy and quality of life.

The Oregon Chapter of APWA is celebrating Public Works Week with an equipment ROADeo competition on May 23 in Oregon City. Specialized and trained operators from around the state will demonstrate their ability to operate specific pieces of large equipment like backhoes under challenging circumstances. Competitors will work their way through pre-designed courses, which are divided into timed segments with corresponding point values. Event winners are eligible to compete this summer in the APWA National Equipment ROADeo in Kansas City, Missouri.

Communities around Oregon will also take time to celebrate National Public Works Weeks over the coming weeks. Events include:

- [Eugene Public Works Day on May 17](#)
- [Washington County Public Works Fair on May 19](#)
- [Hillsboro Public Works Day on May 19](#)
- [Tigard Public Works Day on May 19](#)
- [Newberg Public Works Day on June 20](#)

For more information on National Public Works Week, visit apwa.net. You can also follow the local chapter of APWA on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Public works professionals include those who manage water, sewer, public transportation, and refuse removal systems as well as those responsible for maintaining public building and grounds. They are, in short, the people who maintain and improve the systems and services vital to a community’s health, safety and comfort.

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