



Elder abuse and neglect...



*Are YOU
a mandatory
reporter?*





*You must
report
elder
abuse and
neglect*



*Changes in Oregon law have
added new categories of
mandatory reporters and types
of elder abuse. Do you know if
you are a mandatory reporter?
Take a look — it might mean
you!*





What is elder abuse?

Oregon law is designed to protect persons age 65 or older from abuse. The law defines elder abuse as:

- Any physical injury caused by other than accident;
- Neglect leading to harm;
- Abandonment;
- Willful infliction of physical pain or injury;
- Unwanted sexual contact or the inability to consent to sexual contact;
- Financial exploitation — wrongfully taking or the threat of wrongfully taking money or property.



How big a problem is elder abuse?



Each year, the Oregon Department of Human Services; local offices of Seniors and People with Disabilities and Area Agencies on Aging investigates more than 11,000 complaints of elder abuse and neglect.





As the “Baby Boomer” generation ages, the problem will worsen.



According to the 2000 US Census, 438,177 Oregonians are age 65 and older. The Oregon Office of Economic Analysis estimates that by 2025 the 65 and older population will double (Oregon office of Economic Analysis).



Who should report elder abuse?

Everyone. All citizens have a responsibility to protect those who cannot protect themselves. For some, however, reporting is mandatory.

Under Oregon law certain people are required to report suspected cases of abuse of people age 65 or older.





Mandatory reporters include:

- Physician, including naturopathic, osteopathic, chiropractor, podiatric, surgeon, intern, and resident;
- Licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, nurse's aide, home health aide or employee of an in-home health service;
- Employee of the Department of Human Services, county health department or community mental health and developmental disabilities program;
- Peace officer;
- Member of the clergy;
- Licensed clinical social worker;
- Physical, speech or occupational therapist;
- Information, referral or outreach worker;
- Licensed professional counselor;





- Any public official who comes in contact with elderly persons in the performance of the official's official duties;
- Firefighter or emergency medical technician.



Who investigates elder abuse?

The Oregon Department of Human Services, local offices of Seniors and People with Disabilities and Area Agencies on Aging provide protective services and investigate reports of suspected abuse. These agencies will determine whether or not abuse or neglect occurred and work with law enforcement when a potential crime may have occurred.





Will my name be kept confidential?

State law protects the confidentiality of all people reporting abuse. You are not required to give your name if you wish to remain anonymous.

Am I protected if I make a report?

Yes. Oregon's elder abuse reporting law affords protection for anyone who reports suspected abuse in good faith. Anyone reporting elder abuse with reasonable grounds is immune from all civil and criminal liability. Any such participant shall have the same immunity in judicial proceedings resulting from the report.





*How do
I report
elder
abuse?*



Call the Oregon
Elder Abuse
Hotline at **1-800-232-3020**

TTY/Voice: **503-945-5811**

Fax: **503-378-8966**



You can also report elder abuse by contacting the local offices of the state Seniors and People with Disabilities or Area Agency on Aging. They respond to all calls that describe abuse and neglect of adults age 65 and older and adults with physical disabilities. You can also contact local law enforcement.



This brochure is available in alternate formats by calling 1-800-282-8096.





<i>County</i>	<i>Local #</i>	<i>Toll-free#</i>
Baker	541-523-5846	1-866-752-5235
Benton	541-967-8630	1-800-638-0510
Clackamas	503-655-8640	1-800-287-8011 x6
Clatsop — Astoria	503-325-4543	
Seaside	503-738-7050	1-800-442-8614
Columbia	503-397-5863	1-800-243-4987
Coos	541-756-2017	1-800-306-9927
Crook	541-693-2707	
Curry	541-247-4515	1-800-257-1385
Deschutes	541-693-2707	
Douglas	541-440-3427	1-800-548-3381
Gilliam	541-298-4114	1-800-452-2333
Grant	541-575-0255	1-800-358-6267
Harney	541-573-2691	1-800-442-2867
Hood River	541-386-9080	1-800-368-6209
Jackson	541-776-6222	
Jefferson	541-693-2707	
Josephine	541-474-3110	1-800-633-6409
Klamath	541-883-9067	1-877-654-0423

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<i>County</i>	<i>Local #</i>	<i>Toll-free#</i>
Lake	541-883-9067	1-877-654-0423
Lane	541-682-4038	1-800-441-4038
Lincoln	541-336-2289	1-800-354-1095
Linn	541-967-8630	1-800-638-0510
Malheur	541-889-7553	1-888-607-9185
Marion	503-304-3400	1-800-846-9165
Morrow	541-567-2274	1-888-374-8080
Multnomah	503-988-4450	
Polk	503-304-3400	1-800-846-9165
Sherman	541-298-4114	1-800-452-2333
Tillamook	503-304-3400	1-800-584-9712
Umatilla	541-278-4161	1-800-442-4352
Union	541-963-7276	1-800-430-7231
Wallowa	541-426-55x238	1-866-538-5804 x238
Wasco	541-298-4114	1-800-452-2333
Washington	503-640-3489	
Wheeler	541-298-4114	1-800-452-2333
Yamhill	503-472-9441	





*“How far you go in life depends on
your being tender with the young,
compassionate with the aged, sympathetic
with the striving, and tolerant of the weak
and strong. Because someday in your life
you will have been all of these.”*

— George Washington Carver



*Oregon Department of Human
Services
Seniors and People with
Disabilities*

*500 Summer St. NE E95
Salem OR 97301-1073*



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