

AEG OREGON NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026

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Resilience: Lessons from Oregon
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[RSVP here.](#)

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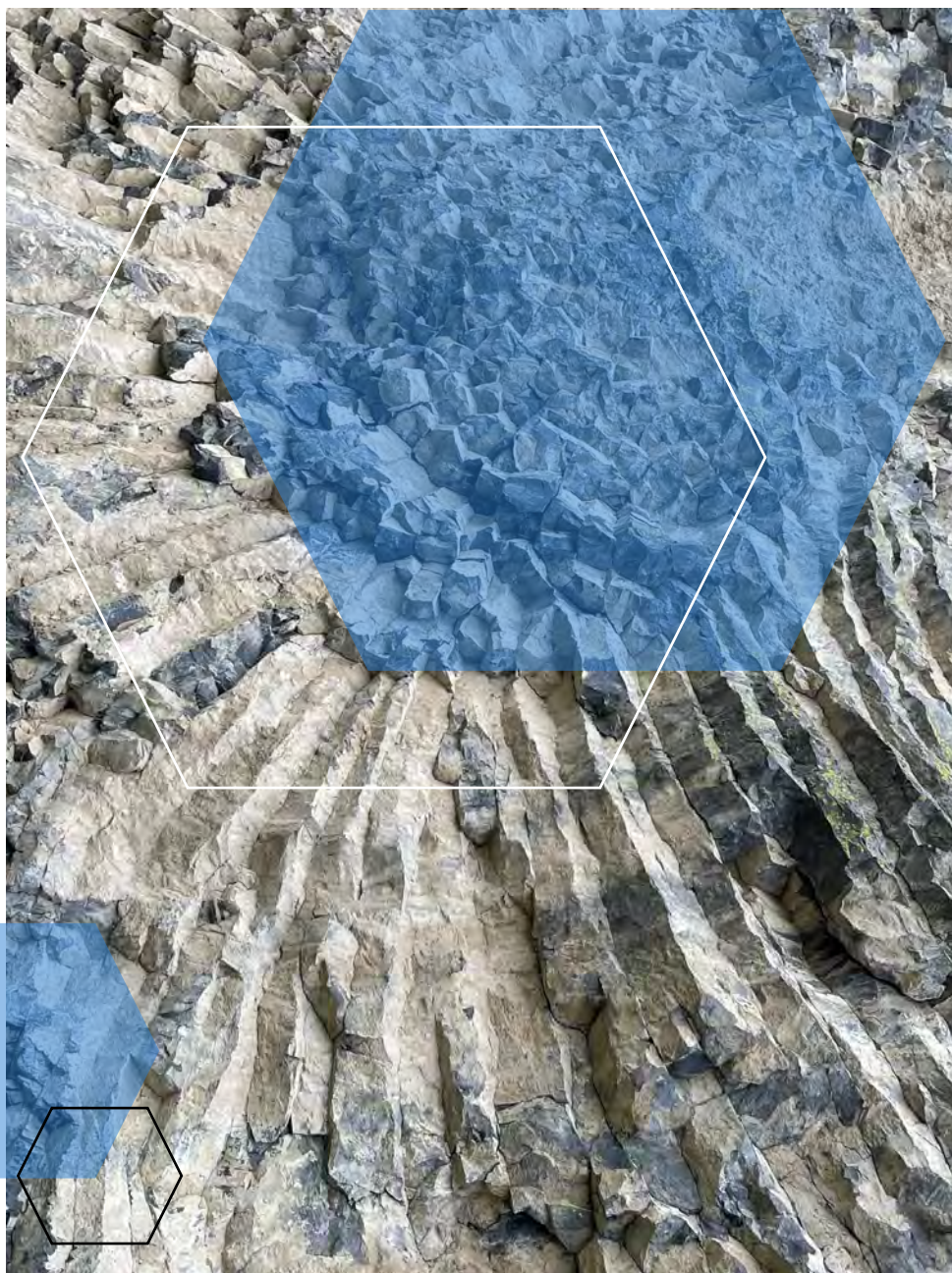
Yumei Wang

Letter from the Chair

October Reflections on Oregon's
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AEG Oregon Bulletin

Local industry goings-on.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

OCTOBER 13, 2026

Yumei Wang, *Towards Critical
Infrastructure Resilience: Lessons from
Oregon Experience*

Old Market Pub

6959 SW Multnomah Boulevard
Portland, Oregon

OCTOBER 25, 2026—FIELD TRIP!

Ian Madin, *The Sandy River Canyon: A View
into the Stratigraphy of the Portland Basin*

Lewis and Clark State Recreation Site

1 Jordan Road
Troutdale, Oregon

Meet at 9 a.m.

NOVEMBER 10, 2026

Ben Leschinsky, *Post-Fire Debris Flow Study*

Old Market Pub

6959 SW Multnomah Boulevard
Portland, Oregon

DECEMBER 15, 2026

Adam Booth, *Patterns of Paleolandslides
and Paleoequakes in Oregon and
Washington*

Old Market Pub

6959 SW Multnomah Boulevard
Portland, Oregon



OCTOBER MEETING

TOWARDS CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCE: LESSONS FROM OREGON EXPERIENCE

Critical infrastructure is essential for public safety and normal societal functioning. Much critical infrastructure remains vulnerable to extensive damage from earthquakes, as evidenced by past earthquakes and numerous risk studies. To assure effective post-disaster response and timely recovery after future earthquakes, it is imperative that the reliability and resilience of our critical infrastructure be substantially improved.

This presentation discusses efforts in Oregon over the past 30 years to improve the resilience of the state's civic infrastructure and lifeline systems. We have used innovative approaches to achieve the enactment of successful statewide policies and programs to improve the safety of schools and emergency response facilities from earthquakes and tsunamis. We have systematically identified and quantified expected post-earthquake delays in resumption of basic lifeline services—as reflected in the 2013 Oregon Resilience Plan—and we have initiated statewide efforts to improve lifeline system resilience. We have used research results from local risk studies as well as information on the actual performance of lifelines from various earthquakes to increase awareness and to inform the creation of new policies and programs. I will also discuss significant vulnerabilities in existing lifeline systems, their interdependencies, lack of coordination among lifeline systems, and lack of regulatory oversight of existing system performance.

Our society is still in the early stages of understanding and addressing the resilience of critical infrastructure, particularly the reliability of lifeline services after earthquakes. To assure public safety, the earthquake professional community must make it a priority to remedy the deficiencies in our critical infrastructure, especially including lifeline systems.

MEETING DETAILS

Date:

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Agenda:

5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Social

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Dinner

7:00 p.m., Presentation

Location:

Old Market Pub

6959 SW Multnomah Boulevard

RSVP:

Ticket prices vary. Use cash or check to pay at the door. If you want to pay with card, [RSVP here](#).





MEET THE PRESENTER

YUMEI WANG, PE, FASCE, F.PEO

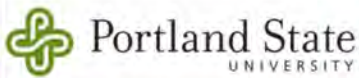
Yumei Wang serves as Affiliate Faculty and Senior Advisor on Infrastructure Resilience and Risk in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department of the Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science. Wang's primary research interests relate to the transformation of communities from vulnerability to resilience in the face of disasters, including Cascadia earthquakes and tsunamis. She has extensive experience with post-earthquake investigations around the world, which has informed her research.

Her engineering work intersects with policy and media communications and includes over 100 publications. She served as a Congressional Fellow in the U.S. Senate in Washington DC, and has appeared on PBS NewsHour, OPB, NOVA, National Geographic, and Discovery. Wang is a fellow of the American

Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and past-chair of their Council on Disaster Risk Management and Technical Council on Lifeline Earthquake Engineering. She received her BA in Geological Sciences from the University of California at Santa Barbara and MS in Civil Engineering from University of California at Berkeley.

Wang is an Oregon-licensed professional engineer and a licensed engineering geologist in the state of Washington. Among other awards, she received the 2018 ASCE LeVal Lund Award for Practicing Lifeline Risk Reduction, the 2022 Engineer of the Year from the Professional Engineers of Oregon, and the 2026 Distinguished Lecturer from the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute.





SAVE THE DATE

Inaugural Event

2026 Disaster Resilient Infrastructure Symposium

Date: Thursday, October 15, 2026

Time: 3:00pm – 6:00pm

Location: Portland State University
(Room/Building details to follow)

Featuring

2026 EERI Distinguished Lecture

***Towards Critical Infrastructure Resilience:
Lessons from the Oregon Experience***

Yumei Wang, *PSU CEE Senior Advisor on Infrastructure Resilience and Risk*

Expert Panelists

Kent Yu, *SEFT Consulting, Principal*

Jonna Papaethimiou, *State Resilience Officer*

Mike Korten Hof, *Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ret.)*

Dan Pippenger, *Port of Portland, Chief Aviation Officer*

Register for FREE today!

Registration link:

<https://tinyurl.com/DRI-PSU>

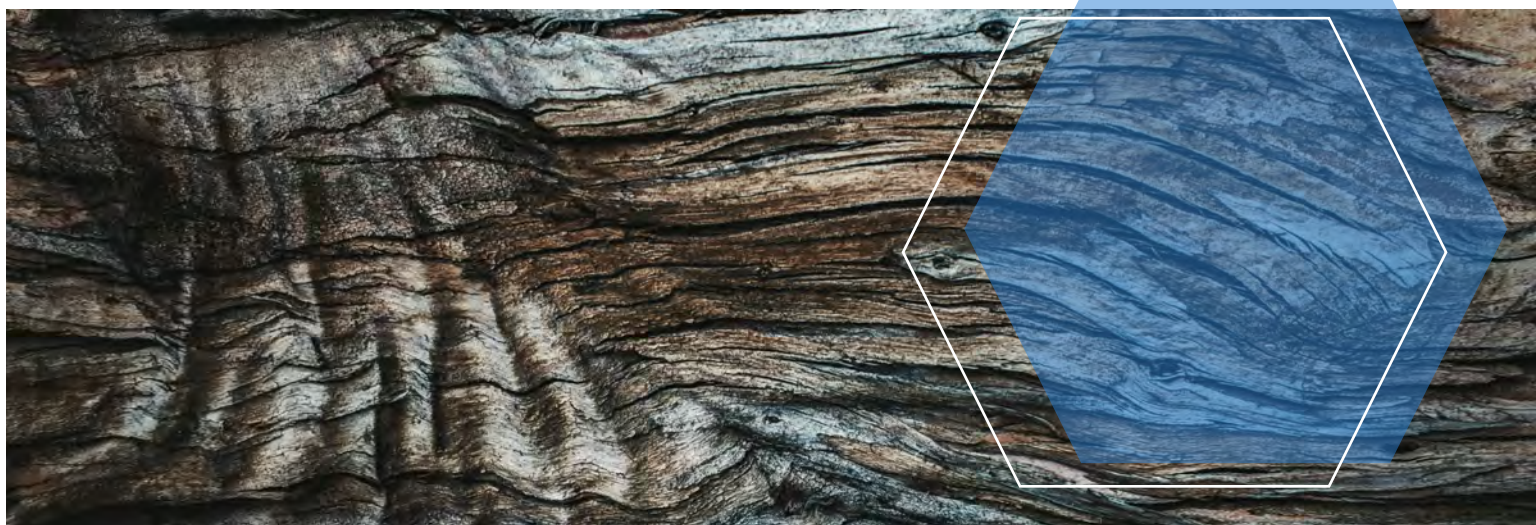
or scan QR code



Contact: Nadeem Hanayneh at nadeem2@pdx.edu

GIGSO Website: geotech.cee.pdx.edu

A Civil and Environmental Engineering Department event established by Yumei Wang and hosted by the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) Student Chapter at Portland State University and the Geo-Institute Graduate Student Organization (GIGSO) in collaboration with Portland State University ASCE Student Chapter



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

OCTOBER REFLECTIONS ON OREGON'S GEOHAZARDS

As much as I love Oregon summers, every year around this time I'm thankful for the transition from the long, hot days toward the shorter, wetter days of fall. The changing season is also a good reminder of how closely our work as geologists is tied to the natural systems around us (and not just because we're sitting in drill rigs out in the rain). Oregon is a land of geohazards; as the winter rains move in, it is a fitting time to think about preparedness—not just for slope hazards, but also for the larger events that have the potential to affect communities in our area.

The coming Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake is a particularly timely topic in Oregon this month. Recent attention has focused on the need for tsunami vertical evacuation structures along the Oregon Coast. Additionally, Federal Emergency Management Agency funding was recently announced for upgrades to Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria, which includes a tsunami evacuation structure. These types of project highlight the important role that engineers, geologists, emergency managers, and other professionals play in turning our understanding of Cascadia hazards into practical measures that can help people.

Just in time for the Great Oregon Shakeout on October 15, 2026, our speaker this month will be Yumei Wang. I had the pleasure of working alongside Yumei at the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries several years ago. In fact, I still have a thriving jade plant from a cutting she gave me nearly ten years ago, which has since produced multiple generations of cuttings that have been passed along to others. While I worked with her, I was consistently impressed by her deep understanding of the complex issues surrounding Cascadia infrastructure preparedness and her dogged commitment to developing effective solutions. I encourage everyone to join us for what should be an informative, timely discussion by an expert on the topic.

Justin McCarley





SUSTAINABLE SLOPE PROTECTION

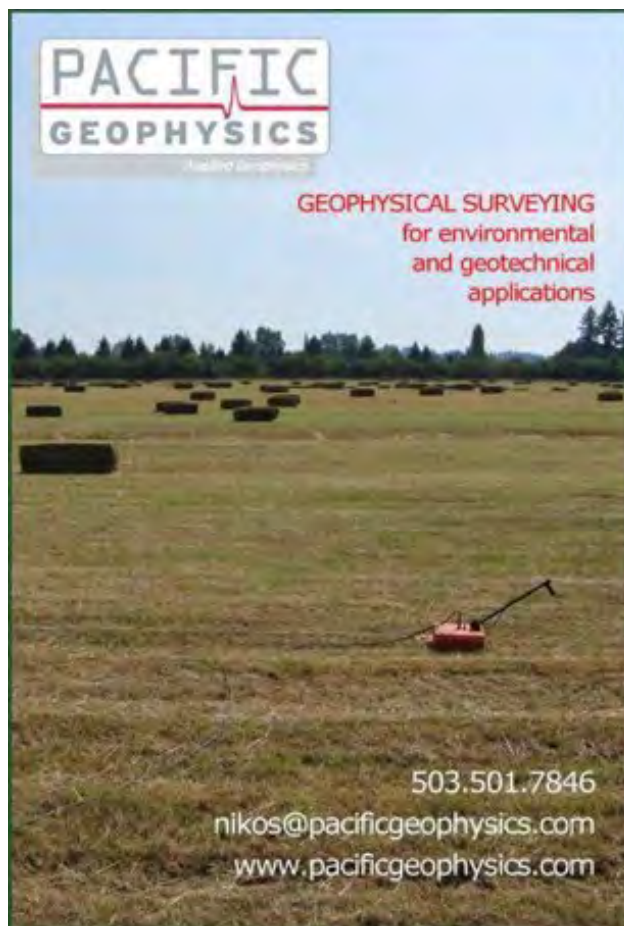
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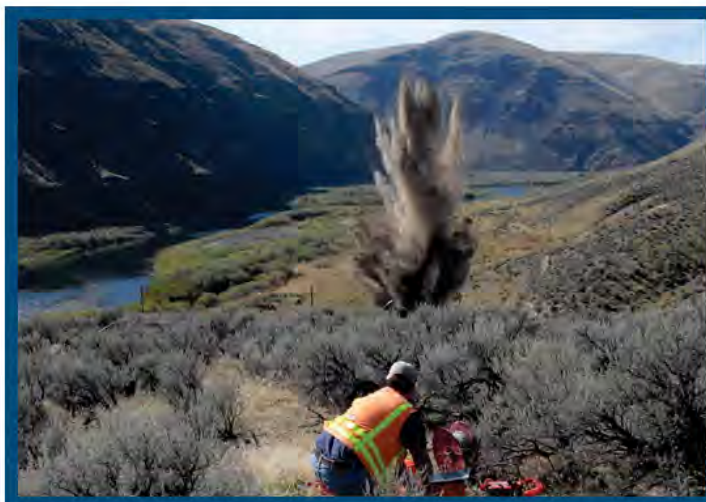


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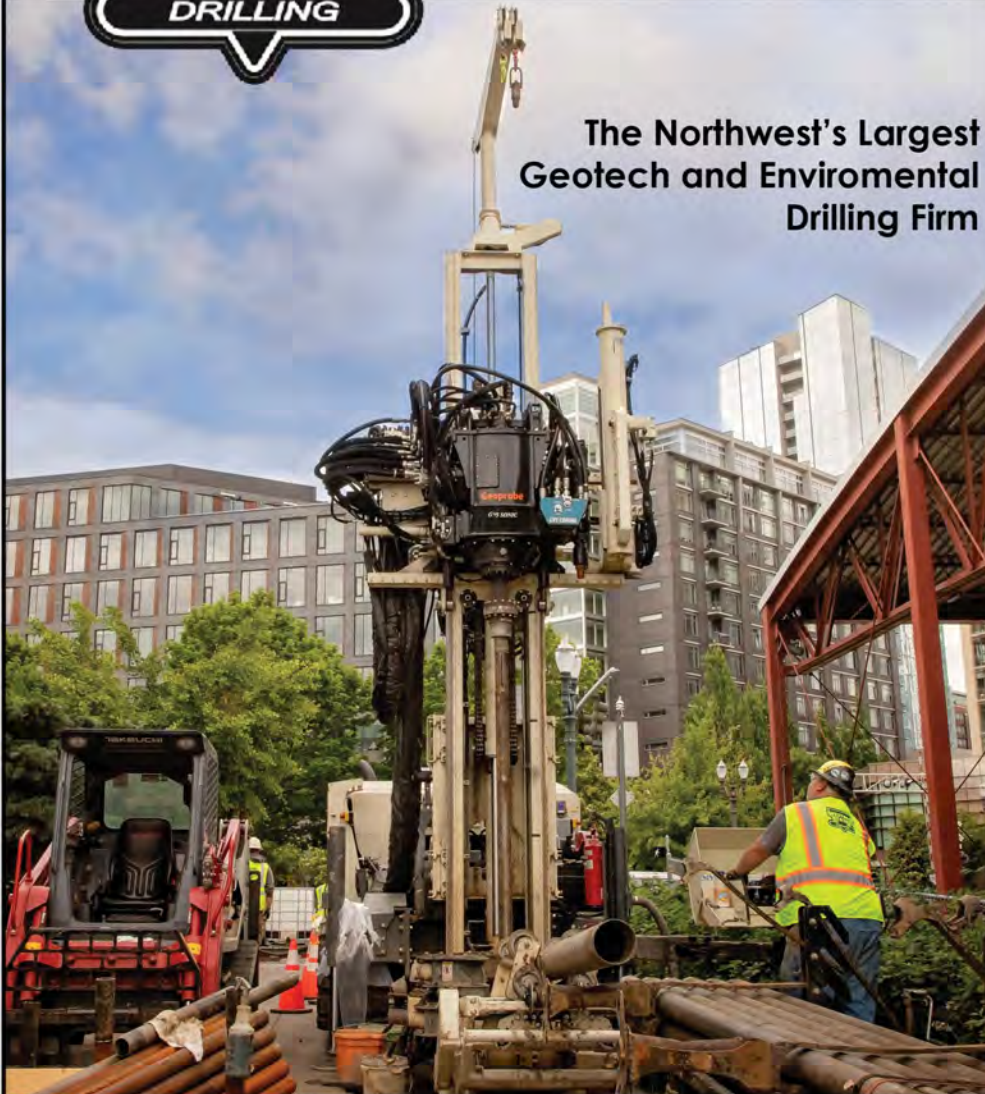
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AEG OREGON BULLETIN

AEG OREGON SPECIAL EVENT

This month, AEG Oregon is going on a field trip! Ian Madin will be our guide to learn about the stratigraphy of the Sandy River Canyon. Participants will ride together to view outcrops and landslides and take a moderate 2-mile hike to a waterfall that exposes the basin stratigraphy.

Field Trip Title: *The Sandy River Canyon: A View into the Stratigraphy of the Portland Basin*

Where: Lewis and Clark State Recreation Site

When: 9 a.m. October 25, 2026

RSVP: Keep an eye out for our announcement including RSVP link and pricing information. Space will be limited!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 15, 2026: Portland State University Civil and Environmental Engineering Department presents the 2026 Disaster Resilient Infrastructure Symposium. Portland State University, Portland, Oregon, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/DRI-PSU>

Oct. 19–20, 2026: Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors (OACES) presents the 2026 OACES Fall Conference. Best Western Plus Hood River, Hood River, Oregon. Registration deadline Oct. 9.

Oct. 27, 2026: Central Oregon Geoscience Society presents P. Kyle House, *Corridor of Cataclysm—Mapping the Perilous Geologic Journey of the Owyhee River*. Worthy Brewing, Bend, Oregon, and online, 5:30 p.m.

SEEKING

The AEG Oregon Scott Burns Enduring Impact Award is now receiving applications. The purpose of this scholarship award is to assist students and early career professionals in costs related to their education and professional development. [Apply here.](#)

CALL FOR CONTENT!

We would love to hear from you! Tell us about your recent projects, career milestones, events, awards, and job postings or submit articles and visual elements. Send newsletter contributions to Sarah Norton at snorton@gri.com.

WELCOME ABOARD

Our Membership Chair seat on the board has been filled! Thank you and welcome, Shaun Cordes.

2026 – 2027 CHAPTER OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS



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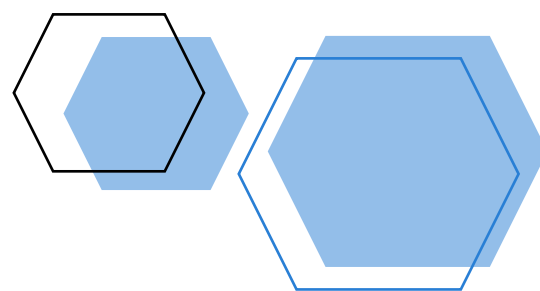
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THANKS FOR SUPPORTING AEG

A BIG THANKS TO OUR...

Members, Volunteers, DOGAMI, Earth Dynamics LLC., Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Geobruigg, ODOT, Oregon State University, Pacific Geophysics, Portland State University, and Western Oregon University.

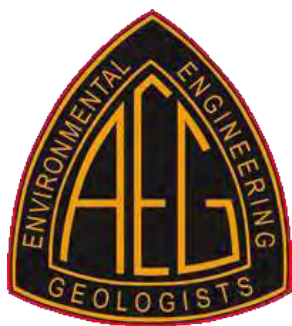


THE OREGON CHAPTER IS ALSO ON THE WEB

<http://www.aegoregon.org>

NATIONAL AEG WEBPAGE

<http://aegweb.org>



THE AEG OREGON CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

The Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG) contributes to its members' professional success and the public's welfare by providing leadership, advocacy, and applied research in environmental and engineering geology. AEG's values are based on the belief that its members have a responsibility to assume stewardship over their fields of expertise. AEG is the acknowledged international leader in environmental and engineering geology and is greatly respected for its stewardship of the profession.

The AEG OREGON CHAPTER NEWSLETTER is published monthly from September through May. Subscribe to the newsletter by filling out our form [here](#). News items are invited and should be sent to: Sarah Norton, AEG Oregon Newsletter Editor, at snorton@gri.com. Deadline for submittal is the 20th of the month. Advertising: business card size \$100/yr; ¼ page \$200/yr; ½ page \$350/yr; 1 page \$450/yr.

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