

## Bend DEQ moves to temporary location

*by Bend\_Weekly\_News\_Sources*

Following a fire in December that forced the Bend office of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to operate out of an emergency operations trailer, the agency has announced that effective Monday it will be open for business in a new temporary location.

Bend DEQ will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday on the first and second floors of the Lotus Building at 300 SE Reed Market Road. Staff for all programs will once again be available by phone at their regular office phone numbers and extensions.

The new temporary location for Bend's DEQ office is located in the Lotus Building at 300 SE Reed Market Road.

The Lotus Building is an 8,551 square-foot professional office building located at the corner of SE Reed Market Road and SE Third Street. Visitor and handicapped parking is available adjacent to the building. Entry to the main reception area on the first floor is through the parking area. Elevator access from the reception area to the second floor is fully ADA accessible.

The Bend DEQ occupied their former building at 2146 NE Fourth Street for almost 30 years. After the fire on December 1 of last year, the agency maintained general reception operations for the public from its Emergency Operations Trailer at the same location. During the transition to the new location this week, staff will be available by voice and e-mail for anyone needing to do business with the Bend office.

"We appreciate the public's patience and understanding during this process," said Joni Hammond, DEQ's Eastern Region Administrator. "The new location is temporary until DEQ can evaluate its long-term space needs. Although smaller than the Fourth Street location, our office in the Lotus Building can house all staff and serve our customers well."

The Bend DEQ office provides full DEQ services for air quality, water quality and land quality programs, including onsite septic services for contract counties.

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