April 3, 2020

City has raised threshold for campsite cleanups, focusing on health and safety during COVID-19 crisis

The Centers for Disease Control has issued specific guidance for local jurisdictions regarding encampments and unsheltered homelessness. In compliance with those public health guidelines, the City’s Homelessness and Urban Camping Impact Reduction Program (HUCIRP) has placed several emergency hygiene units in the community and is doing everything possible to allow people living in encampments to stay in their current locations, and to avoid collecting personal property for storage.

While there is no moratorium on campsite cleanups requiring people to move, HUCIRP has significantly increased the threshold. The only sites where movement might be required are those that pose a significant public health and safety risk, including those set up in the middle of a street blocking traffic and emergency vehicle access or next to fast-moving traffic such as a highway on/off ramp.

HUCIRP will continue to monitor situations at camps through community reports. Please continue to file reports using just one of the following methods (HUCIRP recommends once or twice a week):

2. PDX Reporter: [https://pdxreporter.org](https://pdxreporter.org) and then select the “campsite reporting” icon
3. Calling City/County Information & Referral: 503-823-4000

Filing a report through any one of these methods will automatically dispatch a team to pick up garbage and assess the situation.

Important Note: If you see a City representative at a campsite, that does not necessarily mean the City is collecting personal property and making people move. The HUCIRP team has directed vendors to assist with biohazard removal and trash cleanup. In partnership with the Joint Office of Homeless Services, we are focusing on outreach efforts to ensure that people living outside have access to the information and resources they need to stay safe. You can learn more about those efforts [here](https://www.portlandoregon.gov/campsites).