

# The Register-Guard

News ▾ Sports ▾ Business ▾ Opinion ▾ Life ▾

## Eugene Public Works: More than 1,500 public trees damaged by ice storms in December still pose hazards

BY THE REGISTER-GUARD

JAN. 24, 2017

Eugene Public Works crews have cleared about half of the damaged trees affecting parks and rights of way following last month's massive ice storm, the department said Tuesday.

Crews have been moving through neighborhoods since the mid-December storm. Public Works officials said in a statement Tuesday that the workers have responded to more than 600 tree-related work orders, affecting more than 1,400 trees. The damaged trees have been cleared from parks, walking paths and other public areas.

The department estimates more than 1,540 damaged trees in parks and on rights of way still pose hazards that need to be addressed. The ice storm, which started Dec. 14, cost local public agencies and utilities more than \$9.4 million combined, toppling thousands of tree branches onto electric wires and houses.



Public Works crews have worked more than 15,000 staff hours to collect more than 7,725 cubic yards of tree debris and leaves from the storm. Residents are responsible for addressing tree hazards on private property.

Left and above right: Nine members from the Eugene-based Northwest Service Corps, supported by AmeriCorps, were contracted to assist Eugene and Springfield Public Works Departments in clearing woody debris and hazard limbs from various public parks. The damage is a result of one of the worst ice storms in southern Willamette Valley on record. (photos provided by Northwest Youth Corps.)