



Colorado-Willow Fire (Lake County) 7/6/2026

Office of the Governor

Jared Polis

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Denver, CO 80203

(303) 866-2471

[Colorado Governor's Office Home Page](#) | [Colorado Governor Jared Polis](#)

[Governor Jared Polis \(@GovofCO\) / X](#)

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Press Release July 5th –

Governor Polis announced that Colorado has been authorized for a FEMA Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) for the Willow Fire burning in Lake County. The Governor first declared a verbal disaster emergency for the Willow Fire on Monday, June 29. The Willow Fire has burned over 4,000 acres and put more than 1,500 people under mandatory evacuation orders and another 2,100 under pre-evacuation orders. The Willow Fire is 1% contained.

“This Federal Fire Management Assistance Grant will help our state take all necessary actions to protect Coloradans and communities. Protecting lives, property, and businesses is our top priority. I thank all the firefighters across the state who spent the holiday weekend bravely facing the flames to keep us safe. I remind Coloradans of our responsibility to be fire safe; we owe it to the firefighters putting themselves in harm’s way to prevent new fires from starting,” said Governor Polis.

The authorization makes FEMA funding available to pay 75% of the State’s eligible firefighting costs under an approved grant for managing, mitigating, and controlling designated fires. These grants do not provide assistance to individual home or business owners and do not cover other infrastructure damage caused by the fire.

The Governor’s verbal declaration from June 29th activated the State Emergency Operations Plan and directed the Department of Public Safety and its Divisions of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) and Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC) to take responsibility for all response, recovery, and mitigation efforts on the Willow Fire. This support includes State and interagency engines and hand crews, DFPC and interagency aviation resources, and incident management personnel and overhead to assist in management of the fire and containment efforts.

In addition, DFPC is supporting Lake County and the incident with administrative and financial oversight and intelligence products that include imaging, mapping, and fire behavior modeling and projects. DHSEM is directly supporting the Lake County Emergency Manager and the emergency operations center with on-site area field managers. The Governor's declaration also authorized the National Guard to assist in response efforts.

Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Lake County Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

700 E 10th St

Leadville, CO 80461

EOC Activated Phone: (719) 486-3333

Non-Emergency Phone: (719) 486-1249

[Office of Emergency Management | Lake County, CO](#)

[Lake County Office of Emergency Management | Leadville CO | Facebook](#)

American Red Cross

American Red Cross of Southern Colorado

1040 S. 8th St

Colorado Springs, CO 80905

1-719-632-3563

[Southern Colorado | Colorado Region | American Red Cross](#)

Please see below and at the following link for additional shelters and resources:

[Willow Fire | Lake County, CO](#)

Darren Patterson Christian Academy

518 S. San Juan

Buena Vista, CO 81211

Battle Mountain High School

151 Miller Ranch Road

Edwards, CO 81632

Department of Transportation

Colorado Department of Transportation

222 S. 6th St., #317

Grand Junction, CO 81501

(970) 243-2368

[Homepage — Colorado Department of Transportation](#)

[Colorado Department of Transportation | Denver CO | Facebook](#)

[Colorado Department of Transportation \(CDOT\) \(@ColoradoDOT\) / X](#)

[CDOT \(@coloradodot\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

Please see the following link for updated traffic conditions:

[COtrip Traveler Information Map](#)

United Way/211 Information and Referrals Lines

These information and referral lines may know of additional resources currently providing assistance, such as food pantries, clothing closets, emergency shelters, and agencies offering financial assistance. Please dial 2-1-1 and provide your zip code and demographic information in order to receive referrals. Information can also be obtained at [Call 211 for Essential Community Services | United Way 211.](#)

Western Colorado 2-1-1

Call 211 or (970) 244-8400

[Western Colorado 211](#)

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

(800) 621-3362

[FEMA.gov](#)

Please visit the website and click on “*Disaster Declarations*”. If a disaster is declared, please call to apply for assistance by phone, or visit: [Individual Assistance | FEMA.gov](#) to apply online.

DisasterAssistance.gov

[Home | disasterassistance.gov](#)

Offers information about local resources for disasters, including: FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs), Red Cross, food, shelter, state emergency management agencies, and hospital locators.

To determine if individual disaster assistance is available through FEMA, please visit the website and enter the address.

To locate your local state emergency management agency for disaster information and updates, please visit: [Search Your Location | FEMA.gov](#)

American Red Cross National

(800) 733-2767

[American Red Cross | Help Those Affected by Disasters](#)

National Weather Service

Weather alerts by state are available at: [Active Alerts \(weather.gov\)](#).

The Weather Channel

Local forecasts and severe weather.

[National and Local Weather Radar, Daily Forecast, Hurricane and information from The Weather Channel and weather.com.](#)

Safe Travel USA

[SafeTravelUSA](#)

National Traffic And Road Closure Information

[National Traffic and Road Closure Information | Federal Highway Administration \(dot.gov\)](#)

Free Help Line

Optum, a leading health and behavioral health services company, is offering a free emotional-support help line.

The toll-free number, 866-447-3573, will be open Monday-Friday, 8am-8pm CST. The service is free of charge and open to anyone. Specially trained Optum mental health specialists help people manage their stress and anxiety so they can continue to address their everyday needs. Callers may also receive referrals to community resources to help them with specific concerns, including financial and legal matters.

Along with the toll-free help line, emotional-support resources and information are available online at <https://www.liveandworkwell.com>.