

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Robin Fahle Ohlgren  
208-301-1011 | robin.ohlgren@gmail.com



### Communities of Malden and Pine City host Labor Day Celebration

August 17, 2021 (MALDEN, Wash.) — The Pine Creek Community Restoration Long Term Recovery Operation (LTRO) and the Town of Malden will be hosting a Labor Day Celebration one year after the Babb Road Fire engulfed the towns of Malden and Pine City, forcing nearly 200 residents to evacuate and re-locate. The celebration will take place on Monday, September 6th, at the site of the old Fire Station on the corner of Moreland and Main in downtown Malden. Festivities will begin at 11:30 a.m. with a flag presentation by the Upper Columbia Academy Pathfinders.

The Pine Creek Community Restoration recovery effort, which was delayed by a FEMA disaster designation that took 151 days after the wildfire of September 7, 2020, is in the final stages of debris clean-up and testing phase of rebuilding. Temporary laundry and shower facilities were recently installed, serving residents who are living in 23 recreational vehicles, and any visitors, volunteers, and workers. Charitable organizations rebuilt two homes for uninsured homeowners earlier this year, and seven more are being planned for later this fall.

"This celebration is an opportunity for the town to come together after a traumatic event, celebrate what we used to have, and what we hope to have again, by reestablishing the underlying foundation of our community," says Alyssa Hale, event coordinator.

"It is also a time for us to thank all the first responders in their successful efforts to ensure no lives were lost to the fire. This is a great time for community members to connect with to their local council and LTRO members in a fun family event," adds Hale.

The LTRO has launched a Community Connection Questionnaire to expand its outreach effort, and to engage residents and partners in shaping the future. All Malden and Pine City residents, community partners, state and national agency partners are encouraged to complete the questionnaire. The link to complete the questionnaire online is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PineCreek2021>. Hard copies of the questionnaire will be available at the Labor Day Celebration and at Malden Town Hall.

Anyone struggling with the fire recovery process can call Washington Listens to talk it through at 833-681-0211.

For questions about the September 6th community celebration, please contact Alyssa at [Alyssahale31@gmail.com](mailto:Alyssahale31@gmail.com) or 509-919-9559. For information about the Pine Creek Community Restoration LTRO or the Community Connection Questionnaire, please contact [babbroadfirerecovery@gmail.com](mailto:babbroadfirerecovery@gmail.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

*The Pine Creek Community Restoration Long Term Recovery Organization is a non-profit organization established to help unite the residents of the Malden and Pine City communities in the aftermath of the Babb Road Fire on September 7, 2020. To learn more, visit [pinecreekcommunityrestoration.org](http://pinecreekcommunityrestoration.org).*

---

**Media Contact:** Robin Ohlgren, Media Relations | [robin.ohlgren@gmail.com](mailto:robin.ohlgren@gmail.com) | 208-301-1011

**Event Contact:** Alyssa Hale, Event Coordinator | [Alyssahale31@gmail.com](mailto:Alyssahale31@gmail.com) | 509-919-9559