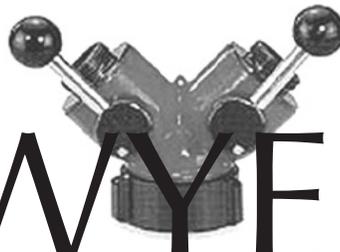


GATED WYE



December 2009 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 311

Open recruitment for OSFM incident management team positions

The Office of State Fire Marshal is accepting applications for all incident management team (IMT) positions and pools. The state IMTs are Type 2 teams organized and trained to manage structural protection during wildfires, and address logistical, fiscal, planning, operational, safety, and community issues related to structural protection or declared emergencies in all-risk incidents.

IMT members are expected to commit to participating on a team for three years. Applicants who are qualified and accepted, but without an open position on a team, may be placed in a pool for their qualified position.

Current openings include planning section chief, law enforcement officer specialist, documentation unit leader, facilities unit leader, and deputy operations section chief.



Members of the OSFM Green Incident Management Team at work during a recent drill in Corvallis



Applicants lacking minimal requirements or a task book may be accepted as trainees.

Application deadline is December 31, 2009.

For more information, applications, and position descriptions visit: www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/ERU_IMTeams.shtml. For additional questions, contact Jackie Sparks at 503-934-8405 or email jacque-line.sparks@state.or.us.

SFM Simpson receives OFDDA President's Award

State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson was awarded the Oregon Fire District Directors Association (OFDDA) President's Award at the joint OFDDA/OFCFA conference in November. OFDDA President Connie Barton presented Simpson with the award recognizing his 30 years of commitment to the Oregon fire service and the citizens of Oregon. President Barton personally acknowledged Simpson for "...his instrumental help to me during my year as president."



OFDDA President Connie Barton (right), congratulates SFM Simpson

SFM Simpson was extremely honored and left unusually speechless with the presentation of the award. He did manage a heartfelt, "thank you" to all.

From the desk of the State Fire Marshal



“We are committed to this improved system, and with providing you the resources to help with your transition.”

The future of incident reporting is here

With apologies to Gene Roddenberry, William Shatner, and *Star Trek* fans everywhere.

Chief's log: Star Date 2009.12 – “For some time now, the crew from the data unit have been on a mission to develop the next generation incident reporting system for fire departments in Oregon.

I have charged them with bringing the future of incident reporting to today. As part of this goal, their task has been to ensure the new system is an easily accessible centralized data repository for fire department data. It also must be secure and accessible by any department via the Internet. And most importantly the new system must increase efficiency and reduce data entry time.”

Although this may read like something from the future, I'm pleased to report the future is now. Fire Bridge is the new online reporting program we are launching January 1, 2010. The current Oregon All Incident Reporting System will be decommissioned December 31, 2009.

While change always comes with some trepidation, the new Fire Bridge reporting system has simplified the reporting process and given departments new powerful features to manage their data. With Fire Bridge, users can take advantage of automated forms to record and report incident information. Data entry is complete and errors minimized with easy data entry shortcuts such as drop down selection boxes. You can also easily upload third-party vendor information.

We are committed to this improved system, and with providing you the resources to help with your transition. All staff members from the Data Unit are qualified to deliver training on the new program. In addition, all deputy state fire marshals including Chief Deputy Jim Walker and I will be trained to provide assistance on Fire Bridge to any Oregon department.

Staff have been conducting training sessions around the state for the past few months. If your department has not participated, I encourage you to contact Claire McGrew at 503-934-8236.



**State Fire Marshal
Randy Simpson**

**Office of
State Fire Marshal**

**Oregon State Police
4760 Portland Rd. NE
Salem Oregon
97305-1760**

**www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM
503-373-1540**

Administration
ext. 211

Codes & Technical
Services
ext. 269

Community Education
ext. 273

Community
Right-to-Know
ext. 214

Data Services
ext. 236

Emergency Planning &
Response
ext. 227

Emergency Response
ext. 238

Fire & Life Safety
ext. 204

Firesetter Intervention
ext. 230

License & Permits
ext. 264

The Gated Wye is published monthly by the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal. For submissions or suggestions contact Rich Hoover at 503-934-8217 or email richard.hoover@state.or.us. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, alternative formats of this publication are available.

Simpson photo courtesy of ODOT Photo and Video Services.

HSIS software now available on the OSFM website

The Hazardous Substance Information System (HSIS) software, previously only available by CD, is now available for download from the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) website.

The HSIS software contains data from facilities throughout the state that use, store, manufacture, or dispose of hazardous substances. A number of preset queries and reports are available. The online software is updated monthly.

To download the HSIS software visit: www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/CR2K_InfoAvailable.shtml. The webpage contains links to download the HSIS software and instructions for downloading. Because the information on the HSIS software is confidential and secured, you will need a username and password to perform the download. The OSFM recently sent the password and username to all Oregon fire chiefs.

If you need assistance, contact the Community Right to Know Unit at 503-934-8353.

2009 incident reports due

The transition from the Oregon All Incident Reporting System (OAIRS) to the Oregon Fire Bridge™ is scheduled for January 1, 2010. This system conversion adds extra emphasis to the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) request that all Oregon fire departments and districts submit their 2009 incident reports to the OSFM by January 31, 2010.

A number of fire departments and district have not reported a single incident for calendar year 2009.

If you have questions, or would like to verify the OSFM is receiving your incident reports, you can request a summary of your 2009 reporting status by emailing: osfm.data@state.or.us. We appreciate your dedication to reporting.

Fire prevention workshop, February 22-26, 2010

The Pacific Northwest Fire Prevention Cooperatives are hosting the 2010 Pacific Northwest Fire Prevention Training Workshop, February 22-26 at Salishan Lodge in Gleneden Beach, Oregon. The \$588.80 workshop fee covers room and board from Monday night February 22 through Friday morning breakfast, February 26. There is also a \$175 registration fee.

Workshop highlights include:

- Leadership in Tough Economic Times
- Reading Media & Writing Press
- Reaching Grants
- Communicating in Social Networks
- Developing Ordinances
- Ethics
- Public Relations
- Juvenile Firesetter Intervention
- Fire Prevention Teams
- Fire Prevention Plans
- Firewise
- Wildland Fire Investigation
- Working with Assisted Living Facilities
- Verbal Judo
- Running an Effective Meeting

Registration deadline is January 18, 2010. The registration form and more information is available at: www.ofma.net/.

Ashland bans fireworks

The Ashland City Council voted to ban fireworks throughout the city in their meeting October 20, 2009. The city-wide ban went beyond the request of Ashland Fire & Rescue Chief John Karns. The initial proposal from Karns was to ban fireworks above Siskiyou Boulevard and North Main Street.

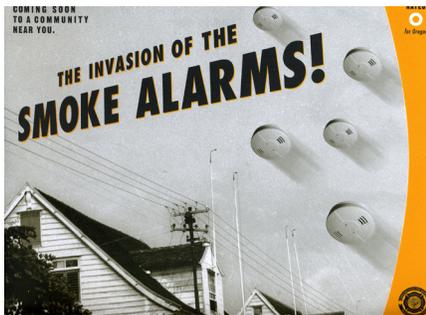
Ashland already had a ban on the use of fireworks during the fire season — except from June 23 to July 6. Professional and permitted public fireworks displays are not affected.

Door to door smoke alarm program training scheduled

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is hosting workshops throughout Oregon in January on conducting community door-to-door smoke alarm campaigns. The two-hour workshops are free and cover implementation of all phases of the model community door-to-door smoke alarm campaign. The workshop includes recommendations for planning, recruiting community partners, and implementing and evaluating your program.

Community-based door-to-door smoke alarm campaigns are proven effective in reaching residents who haven't responded to previous education efforts to change attitudes and behaviors regarding proper smoke alarm maintenance and home fire safety.

Departments attending the workshop receive a free *Invasion of the Smoke Alarms Door-to-Door Smoke Alarm Campaign* kit (one per department). The kit includes instructions and steps for conducting successful campaigns. When a fire department's door-to-door campaign application is accepted by the OSFM, the department may receive up to 50 free smoke alarms and \$250 for each campaign.



Cover image of the door-to-door smoke alarm campaign kit

Upcoming Workshops:

- January 11, 2010, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m., Florence
- January 15, 2010, 10 a.m. - noon, Lebanon
- January 20, 2010, 10 a.m. - noon, Roseburg
- January 21, 2010, 10 a.m. - noon, Salem
- January 26, 2010, 10 a.m. - noon, Veneta
- January 28, 2010, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m., Lincoln City

Register at: www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/Training.shtml.

For more information, contact Colleen Olson at 503-934-8228 or email colleen.olson@state.or.us.

Workshop available on Multi-Family Housing, Fire Reduction Program

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R) is conducting a free train-the-trainer workshop on the Multi-Family Housing Fire Reduction Program, January 21, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM).

The workshop is designed to help fire departments develop their own fire and life safety training program for apartment managers. The train-the-trainer workshop is delivered through a partnership between TVF&R, the OSFM, and the Oregon Life Safety Team.

A registration form is available at: www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/Training.shtml. Registrations may be submitted via email using the online form or the form may be printed and sent by fax or standard mail. Fax to 503-373-1825; standard mail to 4760 Portland Road NE, Salem, OR 97305, attention Colleen Olson. Early registration is recommended, space is limited to 24 participants.

For more information, contact Colleen Olson at 503-934-8228 or email Colleen.Olson@state.or.us.

2010 Harvard Fire Executive Fellowship Program

Application procedures have been announced for the 2010 Harvard Fire Executive Fellowship Program. Senior fire executives who are selected will be awarded fellowships to attend Harvard's annual *Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government*.

The 3-week program is conducted on the Harvard campus in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Selected Fellows will be assigned to attend one of the two session dates: June 7-25, 2010 or July 5-23, 2010. Fellows must be available to attend either session.

For a complete description, application, and instructions, visit: www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/harvard/index.shtm.

National Fire Academy classes in Oregon

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) are hosting two, 2-day National Fire Academy courses April 26-29, 2010 at the Oregon Public Safety Academy (OPSA) in Salem, Oregon. Classes are free. The OSFM is awarding 25 openings to Oregon fire prevention and safety educators. Free lodging is provided at the OPSA dormitory for participants who live more than 60 miles from Salem. Free meal cards are provided for all students. Travel expenses are the student's responsibility.

Preventing Fire Risk Based on Socioeconomic Factors: Rural and Urban Settings, April 26-27, 2010

This new 2-day course develops ideas and plans addressing the high fire incidence among populations based on socioeconomic factors. The course is designed for students in the prevention field. Values, attitudes, and behaviors as well as social and economic characteristics are evaluated. Effective change techniques, existing programs, and community collaboration are reviewed to develop effective solutions for community high-risk target groups. Course content includes how socioeconomic factors play a significant role in high incidence of fire, fire deaths, and fire injuries; attitudes, values, and behaviors of populations at high risk for fire; poverty and low education levels may explain up to one-third of the variation in fire deaths; reaching into neighborhoods to create change for populations that are at high risk for fire; and program issues for high-risk groups in rural and urban areas. Participants take a short multiple-choice exam on key course concepts.

Methods of Enhancing Safety Education, April 28-29, 2010

This 2-day course is designed for those who coordinate or assist their organization in public education. The course does not teach how to deliver safety programs; rather it supports efforts to enhance safety education in their organizations and in their communities. Content is ideal for students from smaller or volunteer organizations who want to enhance their public education and prevention efforts. Students will outline ideas and plans they would like to apply when returning home. Students

will be able to determine if public education is valued in their organizations and in their communities. Course content emphasizes three simple methods for establishing 'roots' in public fire and life safety education: personal commitment to public education; determining and improving the organization's role in public education; and enhancing programs through greater community support.

Candidates may apply for one or both courses.

What's provided: Free NFA classes, free lodging at OPSA for recipients who live more than 60 miles from Salem, and free meal cards for all students. Travel expenses are the student's responsibility.

Application available at: www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/NFA_OR.shtml.

Applications must be submitted to OSFM by 5:00 p.m., February 26, 2010. Applications approved on a first come, first served basis. A maximum of two applications per fire department, per class will be approved. The OSFM will notify candidates of their status by March 12, 2010.

For more information, contact Colleen Olson at 503-934-8228 or colleen.olson@state.or.us, or Stephanie Stafford at 503-934-8245 or stephanie.stafford@state.or.us.

IAAI fire and arson school

The International Association of Arson Investigators Rogue Valley District is hosting the 24th Advanced Fire and Arson Career Development School in Medford, January 12-15, 2010.

Experts will speak on the following topics:

- NFPA 921 in Court
- Process of Elimination & Negative Corpus
- Vehicle Fire Investigations
- Report Writing
- Electrical Fire Investigations

For more information about the seminar, topics and speakers, visit: www.ci.medford.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=2191.

OSFM unit strategic plans

In an effort to increase transparency, the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is periodically publishing the strategic plans of the five sections that make up the agency. This month focuses on the License & Permit Section.

The License and Permit Section administers two units that cover non-retail fueling and liquefied propane gas, and four programs dealing with explosives, fireworks, fire-standard compliant cigarettes, and novelty/toylike lighters.

2009-2011 Strategic Plan

Goals and Action Steps:

Clear, concise, and enforceable fireworks statutes.

- Obtain input from fire, law enforcement, and concerned citizens to develop a legislative concept.
- Develop a collaboration/blog website for comments.
- Gain support from legislators and stakeholders through periodic meetings.

Research and implement on-line licensing, permitting, and examinations for LPG, Cardlock, and Fireworks programs.

- Allow electronic submission and access for industries we regulate.
- Automate programs to reduce data entry time.
- Implement on-line exams to make the examination process more convenient for industry members and save staff time.

Continue to streamline all section processes and procedures.

- Meet quarterly to discuss suggestions and implement time and cost savings measures.
- Implement Laserfiche records storage and retrieval system.

Build stronger relationships with regulated industries.

- Hold regular advisory committee meetings.
- Develop and provide periodic informational newsletters.
- Attend industry meetings and conferences.

License and Permits Section Manager Anita Phillips encourages comments from industry members, the Oregon fire service, and public. Call 503-934-8264 or email anita.phillips@state.or.us.

Fire grant update

by Hines Firefighter/Grant Writer Jonathan Manski

The AFG program has provided a new link on their webpage that is worth a view: www.firegrantsupport.com/afg/spotlight.aspx. This link provides a broad overview of the status of the various programs within the AFG.

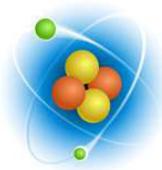
Well, even I can assume incorrectly that the flow of funding would have started for the 2009 AFG program. This year with the slowdown and turmoil generated by new computer software, a new AFG component, (SCG), and leftover 2008 awards, the program has slipped several months behind. The 2009 AFG has delivered pre-award clues for departments who have carefully reviewed their submitted application lately. If you've made it past the computer and peer review, some price or quantity reductions were made to the budget portion of your grant request. Although not a certainty, it seems realistic to see this as a good sign. In the past, any project item price reduction issued by the AFG program was delivered after the 1199 notice. So, we should see 1199a's followed quickly by the 10 questions which will include the price/quantity reduction, if it was found your requested vehicle, equipment, etc., was above the approved threshold. At the time of this article we still haven't seen the typical start of the celebration, but it should be happening very soon.

Round 2 of the Station Construction Grants either should have, or will be out any day. There was a release of 1199a's at the end of the second week of November, so good luck to any stragglers hanging on here. Another Oregon SCG award would make someone a very nice holiday gift.

It should be obvious that the 2009 SAFER program is open until December 18. Carefully review program guidance describing the intended priorities. There are clear benefits for career and volunteer departments, especially those of us with recruitment and retention problems.

Finally, the reauthorization of the AFG program for 2011-2014, passed the House and now sits in the Senate. Funding is set at \$1 billion each year. Great news for the fire service. By the way, all five Oregon representatives voted yes for the bill.

For the latest information on FEMA grants, visit: www.firegrantsupport.com.



Formaldehyde CH_2O

Description:

- Synonyms: Formaldehyde 37%, formalin, methyl aldehyde
- Gas at room temperature and pressure
- Commercially supplied, shipped and used as 37% or 56% solutions in water
- Clear, colorless liquid with a pungent odor
- Poison; chronic health hazard; flammable
- CAS No.: 50-00-0
- Flash point: 122 °F
- Boiling point: 205 °F
- DOT: Flammable Liquid Class 3; Corrosive Class 8
- UN/NA: 1198
- EPA section 302 extremely hazardous substance; TPQ: 500 pounds

NFPA Information:

- Health: 3
- Flammability: 2
- Reactivity: 0
- Special: None

Uses and Occurrences:

- Produced industrially by the catalytic oxidation of methanol
- Formaldehyde-based resins are used in the manufacture of many products including paints, explosives, and textiles

Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Flammable limits: LEL: 7.0%; UEL: 73%
- Stable under ordinary conditions of use
- Incompatibles include: alkalis, oxidizing agents, hydrochloric acid

Health Hazards:

- OSHA PEL: 0.75 ppm TWA
- Inhalation of concentrations of 25 to 30 ppm cause severe respiratory tract injury. High concentrations may be fatal
- OSHA regulated carcinogen standard 1910.1048
- Ingestion can cause unconsciousness and death. The methanol component may cause blindness.
- Vapors or splashes may cause irreversible eye damage

- May be absorbed through the skin (permeator) with symptoms similar to ingestion. May also cause burns.
- LD50: 100 mg/kg rat

Personal Protective Equipment:

- Emergency responders should use Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and full protective clothing
- Use local exhaust ventilation or other engineering controls to stay within PELs
- Wear impervious protective clothing, splash goggles and face shield
- Use an approved respirator if appropriate

Inspection and Storage Tips:

- Keep container tightly closed
- Containers should be grounded and bonded for transfer to avoid sparks
- Store away from incompatibles

2007 Oregon Fire Code:

- Combustible liquid Class II
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per S occupancy control area:
 - Unprotected by sprinklers or approved storage cabinets: 120 gallons
 - In sprinklered building, not within approved storage cabinets: 240 gallons
 - In unsprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 240 gallons
 - In sprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 480 gallons
 - Group when the maximum allowable quantity is exceeded H-2 or H-3

Incident Reporting and Information:

- There are 54 facilities in Oregon currently reporting formaldehyde or formalin on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey
- There have been three hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986 involving formaldehyde (formalin)

For questions or suggestions contact HazMat Information Specialist Alec Carte at 503-934-8262, or email aleta.carte@state.or.us

Fire & life safety certification



Canby Fire District Deputy Fire Marshal Todd Gary with his Fire and Life Safety Specialist II recognition with Fire Plans Examiner Endorsement. Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal Dave Jones presented the award at the district's staff meeting November 2nd.

Oregon Fire Choir looking for new members

Do you like to sing? How about with a group? The Oregon Fire Choir is welcoming new members!

Current or retired firefighters of any rank, civilian fire department employees, and family members are eligible to participate. Support of your department/employer is needed for attendance at events and infrequent practice sessions.

The Oregon Fire Choir performs at memorial services, Fire Service Appreciation Day, ball games, and various other events such as the Oregon Burn Center Christmas party.



Members of the fire choir perform at the Oregon capitol

If you are interested, contact Lt. Stew White at Portland Fire & Rescue, 503-823-2784 or email swhite@fire.ci.portland.or.us.

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Unclassifieds

Position openings

Fire Marshal - Corvallis Fire Department
Full-time, Exempt, Salary range: \$6,206.32 - \$8,396.27 per mo. - Excellent Benefits. Organize and manage personnel and non-emergency activities in all aspects of the Prevention Division. AA degree in a field related to the position and five years prevention experience in a full-service fire department is required. For information on additional qualifications, visit: www.ci.corvallis.or.us and click on 'Job Openings,' or call Human Resources 541-766-6902, TTD/TTY Oregon Relay 711, Fax 541-766-6780. If requested, materials will be mailed to applicants residing outside the city and do not have website access. A city of Corvallis employment application, cover letter, and resume, with at least three professional references, must be received by 5:00 p.m., Thursday, December 24, 2009. Resumes not accepted in lieu of application. AA/EOE in compliance with the INRA and ADA.

Firefighter - Medford Fire-Rescue
Anticipated start date is May 3, 2010. Salary range \$4496 - \$5658 per mo., depending on qualifications; incentives available. Apply by 4:00 p.m., Thursday, December 31, 2009. For more details, visit: www.medfordfirerescue.org.

Fire Inspector - Medford Fire-Rescue
Anticipated start date is May 3, 2010. Salary range \$4452 - \$6716 per mo., depending on qualifications; incentives available. Apply by 4:00 p.m., Thursday, December 31, 2009. For more details, visit: www.medfordfirerescue.org.

Fire Chief - Woodburn Rural Fire Protection District
The Board of Directors is accepting applications for fire chief. Deadline is 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 30, 2009. The fire district provides fire suppression, fire prevention services, and emergency medical assistance to residents within its 75 square-mile boundary. Boundary includes the city of Woodburn, city of Gervais, and a large area of unincorporated northern Marion County. The fire chief is accountable to a five member elected Board of Directors who approve budget, develop policy, and assist the chief with overall direction. Application packets are available at: www.Woodburnfire.com or send an email request to Annie@Woodburnfire.com.