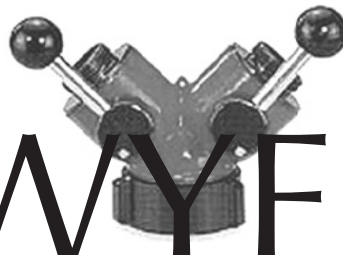


GATED WYE



November 2010 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 322

Governor selects Chris Brown as new OSP Superintendent

Governor Kulongoski announced the appointment of Chris P. Brown to the position of Superintendent of the Oregon State Police effective September 1, 2010 pending State Senate confirmation. Brown will assume the Department's leadership following the retirement of Superintendent Timothy McLain in July.



Chris Brown had served as the Public Safety Service Bureau Commander for the Oregon State Police beginning in 2008. McLain appointed Brown as Deputy Superintendent in 2009 with responsibility for overall operations, policy, and administration of the Department. Brown also previously served as Chief of Police for the City of Roseburg and as Sheriff of Douglas County.

Brown will be the 11th Superintendent in the Department's history since formation in 1931.

Time change offers another opportunity for revised message

It's time for the biannual routine of changing our clocks, and another chance to remind Oregonians when adjusting their clocks to Pacific Standard Time Sunday, November 7 to recommend residents test their smoke alarms before automatically changing the batteries.

Oregon law requires ionization-only alarms, that are solely battery-powered, to come equipped with a hush feature and a 10-year battery. Because of these requirements, the national slogan "Change your clock, Change your battery" may not apply to many Oregon residents who have this type of alarm.

Adding to the confusion is that many other types of smoke alarms are now sold with a 10-year battery. This means if a household member follows the national slogan they could be replacing a good battery at extra expense.

"Fire safety products and manufacturing methods continue to evolve," says State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson. "With the increased use of 10-year batteries it's time to encourage our citizens to take a closer look at their smoke alarms and follow

the manufacturer's instructions when testing and maintaining them."

Oregonians are also encouraged to replace any smoke alarm 10-years-old or older because the sensing devices deteriorate over time.

"The Oregon fire service should stress at least these three main themes with residents," urged Simpson.

- Test smoke alarms before automatically changing the battery.
- Follow manufacturer instructions when testing and maintaining alarms.
- Replace all smoke alarms 10-years-old or older.

The OSFM has a number of resources available to any Oregon fire agency to enhance their public education efforts on [smoke alarms](#) and other home fire safety issues.

Visit the OSFM [Community Education Program webpage](#) to view, order, or download fire safety materials and other information.

From the desk of the State Fire Marshal



“How can our survey results say we do a great job yet many in the fire service don't know what we have to offer?”

Are you an information giver or a holder?

Recently I had the pleasure of meeting with a relatively new member of the Oregon fire service. I say relatively new because the person has been in Oregon for the past 18 months after transferring from a fire agency in another state.

During this conversation, I learned it was only recently that this battalion chief learned about the Office of State Fire Marshal and the variety of information and resources we could provide to his agency. This came as a surprise to me.

Last year we sent a survey to the fire service asking about the OSFM and the job we were doing for Oregon fire agencies. The response rate was 30% with a majority of respondents (80%) giving us a good or excellent rating.

But yet, the battalion chief I spoke with just recently learned of the services, products, and information we offer. The chief also told me there were more out there, like him, who didn't know what the OSFM offered.

So, where is the disconnect? How can our survey results say we do a great job yet many in the fire service don't know what we have to offer?

There's obviously an information gap - but where. Is the OSFM actually not reaching out enough to the fire service? Are there different ways in which we need to disseminate our information?

Is the disconnect with individual fire agencies? Is our message reaching fire agencies yet somehow not being distributed to everyone in the agency? If information is power, why aren't fire agencies empowering their line staff with information that can benefit their department and community? In either case, what can the OSFM do to change this?

As the state fire marshal, my goal is to deliver the information and resources available from this agency to empower every member of every fire agency in the state. How can I make that happen? You tell me.



**State Fire Marshal
Randy Simpson**

**Office of
State Fire Marshal**

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97305-1760**

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

Administration
ext. 211

Codes & Technical
Services
ext. 269

Community Education
ext. 236

Community
Right-to-Know
ext. 214

Data Services
ext. 273

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ext. 227

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Fire & Life Safety
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ext. 230

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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 e-mail 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.

Preview of OSFM 2011 legislative concepts

Legislative Concept (LC) 907 Streamlines ORS Chapter 479 on Protection of Buildings from Fire; Electrical Safety Law

Issue: Many provisions of ORS 479 addressed in the State's adopted building and fire codes are either outdated, redundant, or in conflict with current fire code.

What this concept does: Developed in collaboration with stakeholders from the Oregon fire service, this concept streamlines ORS 479 by rescinding outdated, redundant, and conflicting language. Minimum requirements for building construction and maintenance within Oregon, will now be limited to the state adopted building and fire codes by the proposed changes in LC 907.

Legislative Concept 909 Amends ORS 480.120 through 480.165, 480.200, 480.990, 164.055, 166.660, Repeals 480.110 on Fireworks

Issues: Oregon's fireworks statutes date to 1949; over the years revisions were made only to a few specific areas. Citizen complaints about illegal fireworks, lack of statutory clarity for enforcement, and courts adjudicating the cases continue to increase.

Law enforcement is reluctant to issue criminal citations for illegal fireworks possession because of the time involved for criminal court cases. Law enforcement officers advised they need more specific direction and authority for enforcing fireworks laws, and citizens demand law enforcement address the problem of illegal fireworks.

What this concept does: Created through collaboration with citizens, the fire service, law enforcement, and the fireworks industry, LC 909 amends most of ORS 480 and intends to decrease illegal fireworks use in Oregon.

Amendments provide statutory clarity for law enforcement and courts adjudicating fireworks cases. Amendments clarify statutes for retail sales, agricultural fireworks applicants, and the fireworks industry. Revisions include:

- Lengthening the retail sales application deadlines by 15 days.
- Amending language and revising penalties for illegal fireworks use and possession. The

penalty for less than 50 pounds gross weight of illegal fireworks will be a Class A violation. For 50 pounds or more it will be a Class A misdemeanor.

- Lengthening retail permit application deadlines from 15 days prior to sale to 30 days prior to sale
- Allowing additional businesses, such as golf courses, to use pyrotechnic control devices to protect their property from damage by birds and other animals.

LC 910 – Amends ORS 479.260 and 479.297 on Smoke Alarms

Issues: Language in ORS 479.297 (1) & (2) applies to ionization alarms only and specifies *only ionization smoke alarms, that are solely battery-powered, must be sold with a 10-year, long-life battery.*

Misinterpretations of this law have resulted in unnecessary actions such as homeowners or realtors replacing hard-wired smoke alarms with solely battery-operated alarms. This is not necessary since a hard-wired system with a battery back-up offers the same life-saving attributes, through a slightly different power source.

What this concept does: Developed in collaboration with stakeholders from the Oregon fire service and the real estate sales and rental industry, this concept clarifies and amends ORS 479.260 references to 479.297 and amends ORS 479.297.

The concept specifies required design features in an ionization smoke alarm when a seller is transferring a dwelling unit or lodging house. It does NOT exclude other types of alarms or limit Oregon smoke alarm choices by making ionization alarms mandatory.

LEPC Highlights

by Planning and Training Assistance Coordinator
Terry Wolfe

Columbia Emergency Planning Association

In 1987, a hazardous material release occurred at an industrial facility in the Columbia County community of St. Helens. Because of that incident, local industry and emergency responders established a Community Awareness & Emergency Response (CAER) group, called the Columbia Emergency Planning Association (CEPA). The goal was to create a venue for these groups to better coordinate their planning activities for responding to hazardous material releases.

In 2008, the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) invited the CEPA group to obtain local emergency planning committee (LEPC) status. In October of that year, the CEPA membership voted to become Oregon's first localized LEPC, which encompasses all of Columbia County. With 112 members and a mailing list of over 300 interested parties, CEPA is currently Oregon's largest LEPC.

"Key to the longevity of CEPA is consistent leadership and committed membership participation" states Diane Dillard, a founding member of CEPA and the LEPC Information Coordinator.

CEPA has a history of effective outreach programs, such as the CEPA Expo held as part of the Columbia County Fair. For six years this safety expo has educated thousands of residents on a variety of emergency preparedness topics. Recently, CEPA worked with the OSFM and the Columbia 911 Communications District on mailing important information to local residents on how to shelter-in-place during a hazardous materials release.

In June 2010, members of the CEPA Extremely Hazardous Substance sub-committee completed a multilevel capability assessment of the county's emergency response plans. The review included response plans of emergency responders out to the county level. The Oregon State Police and the Oregon Department of Transportation also participated in the assessment.

For more information, visit [Oregon's LEPC program online](#) or contact Terry Wolfe at 503-934-8219 or terry.wolfe@state.or.us

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OSFM deploys new communication trailers

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) recently deployed three new communication trailers to enhance the communication capability for OSFM incident management teams during mobilizations.

When needed, the trailers will be deployed by the communication unit leaders of each incident management team. Trailers are prepositioned in Astoria, Florence, and Springfield.



A new communication trailer (left) next to a smaller one it is replacing.

The new larger trailers include a work area for radio repair and programming, extra equipment storage, air conditioning, interior lights, and power outlets.

The trailers were purchased with grant funds from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Fire safety house underway

The Oregon Department of Forestry and the Office of State Fire Marshal have signed a memorandum of understanding with The Oregon Garden Foundation, Moonstone Garden Management, Inc., and Oregon State University to develop the nation's first full-scale fire prevention and safety house at The Oregon Garden in Silverton.

The project involves remodeling the interior and exterior of a 1970s' era home to showcase exterior fire-resistant landscaping and construction and interior fire prevention and safety.

When completed (Summer 2011), visitors will get a first-hand look at how homes can be retrofitted to improve survivability in the event of a wild-fire, and the best practices they can employ for fire prevention and safety inside the home.

DATA Connection

News & technical tips from the Data Unit

Fighting fire with facts

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) oversees data collection and analysis with three main objectives:

- (1) Benchmark and improve the OSFM's existing prevention programs;
- (2) Identify potential new programs to help reduce the number of fires, casualties, and property loss; and
- (3) Increase the quality and completeness of incident reporting to ensure true representation of Oregon's fire problem.

The legitimacy of analysis conducted for the first two objectives is contingent upon success with the third objective – improving incident reporting. It is the responsibility of every Oregon fire agency to report and maintain complete, accurate, and timely data in the state's incident reporting database. This ensures quality data is readily available for critical decision-making. Moreover, your agency will have the data it needs when the time comes to prepare grant applications and standards of cover.

Do you tailor your prevention efforts to the right people, places, and causes? Your historical incident data will quantify the top causes of fire in your jurisdiction, pinpoint where the most fires occur, and help you profile the demographics of your population experiencing the most fires. If you need assistance with analyzing your fire data in Fire Bridge™, contact the Data Unit at 503-373-1540, extensions 234, 244, or 237.

We need your juvenile data

The OSFM's Youth Fire Prevention and Intervention program relies on the data you report in Fire Bridge™ to understand the extent of youth-involved fires in Oregon. We analyze juvenile firesetter data from: (1) fire incidents that involved fire department response, and (2) youth intervention provided via walk-in or referral to fire agencies. Your agency should be using Fire Bridge™ to report all juvenile fire and intervention data. If

you need assistance with preparing a report in Fire Bridge™, contact Charissa Divine, Fire Reporting Assistant, at 503-934-8234.

Did you know... In 2009, of Oregon's youth involved with fire, **89%** are boys, **67%** were between ages 10 and 17, and **33%** were age 9 and under.

Oregon Fire Bridge™ Update

On January 1, 2010, the OSFM launched Fire Bridge™, a real-time, web-based reporting system, with the vision of providing Oregon's fire departments and districts a comprehensive system that improves the reporting and overall administrative efficiency of their agency. As of late October, 283 agencies have reported their year 2010 incidents to the state:

- 222 agencies are actively using Fire Bridge™
- 61 agencies are importing their incident data into Fire Bridge from other software
- 150,000+ 2010 incidents have been reported, of these, 7,200+ are fires
- 6,000 of the fire reports are 100% valid
- 1,200 of the fire reports are <100% valid

If your incident reports are less than 100% valid, they are not accepted into the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) database. The omission may cause your grant applications to be rejected. Grant administrators verify the incident response numbers you provide with NFIRS. Please make sure all your incident reports are 100% valid with no errors or warnings.

Fire Bridge™ will soon be Fire & EMS Bridge™!

With the name change comes the new capability of reporting both fire and ambulance calls in one place. This month, EMS and Trauma Systems will begin using Fire & EMS Bridge™ for ambulance service data collection, conforming to National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) data guidelines. What this means is fire agencies that also provide ambulance services will have 'one-stop reporting' for both NFIRS and NEMSIS data. Stay tuned!

Basic Fire Investigation 200 classroom course in December

The Office of State Fire Marshal in partnership with Crooked River Ranch Rural Fire Protection District (CRR) is offering a Basic Fire Investigation 200 class December 4-5 at the CRR station in Terrebonne, Oregon. Course fee is \$40.

Basic Fire Investigation 100 (BFI 100) is a prerequisite to Basic Fire Investigation 200 (BFI 200). You can find BFI 100 online at [iLearnOregon](#). Bring your BFI 100 certificate to the BFI 200 class.

BFI 200 is a 2-day (16 hour) course providing basic fire investigation training for firefighters and fire officers, and often combined with a live-fire burn and practical fire investigation techniques. This is a Department of Public Safety Standards and Training certified course for fire prevention portions of the NFPA Fire Investigation Task Book for practical and knowledge JPR's. The BFI 100 Skill Evaluation check-off sheet can be checked off at the BFI 200 class.

To enroll, visit [iLearnOregon](#); registration deadline is Nov. 28.

For first time iLearn users, please follow the exact directions in the [iLearn Quick Start Guide](#).

NOTE: If you have taken a course with the Office of State Fire Marshal Fire and Life Safety Section, you may already have transcripts that are in iLearnOregon (even if you have never logged in before); thus, you already have an account.

Contact Sandi McLaughry at 503-934-8256 or sandi.mcclaughry@state.or.us; Connie Dalke at 503-934-8204 or connie.dalke@state.or.us to receive your log in ID and a temporary password.

This course is available for college credit at Portland Community College. [More information is available here](#).

NIMS-ICS Command & General Staff course available

NIMS-ICS Command & General Staff Functions for Local IMTs is scheduled for December 13-17, 2010, at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem. [Register here](#) or contact Thelma Denney at 503-378-2408 or email thelma.denney@state.or.us.

Fire grant update

by Hines Lieutenant/Grant Writer Jonathan Manski

If you are one of Oregon's 66 fire departments that have yet to win an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) award since the program's inception, and have submitted project proposals, please contact me at 541-573-4319. This grant program has been generous enough over the last 10 years that every one of the fire departments and districts in the state should have had an opportunity to be awarded some grant dollars.

The 2010 AFG award release has yet to officially start, at least as of the date I submit this article. Nationally however, several hundred 1199A's have been released, and a couple thousand more should follow sometime down the road. Waiting patiently is a virtue few fire departments teach their folks anymore, and sometimes I wonder how we can sit still in anticipation of what may come.

As a reminder, this year's funding was down significantly from previous years and it is still a competitive process. Nevertheless, we all want to make sure Oregon gets its piece of the pie.

[Visit the FEMA website](#) for the latest grant information.

IAAI presents annual awards

The International Association of Arson Investigators announced four awardees at this year's annual awards banquet in September.

Most notably, for the Office of State Fire Marshal, OSFM Youth Fire Prevention and Intervention Program Coordinator Judy Okulitch was presented with the IAAI Distinguished Service Award for her years of work in reducing the incidence of youth-involved fires by establishing a continuum of care for those youths and their families.

Other IAAI awardees included: Virginia Chapman, Fire Photography Award - Accidental; Lynn C. Davis, Life Membership Award; and Rick McGraw, Investigator of the Year Award.

Congratulations to all the award winners for their hard work and exemplary efforts.



Phenol C_6H_5OH

Description:

- Synonyms: Carboic acid, phenylic acid, Hydroxybenzene, phenyl hydroxide
- Colorless to light pink crystals with an odor that is medicinal, aromatic, somewhat sickening sweet and acrid.
- CAS No.: 108-95-2
- EPA Section 302 extremely hazardous substance TPQ: 500 lbs/10,000 pounds
- EPA Section 304 RQ: 1,000 pounds

NFPA 704 Information:

- Health: 4
- Flammability: 2
- Reactivity: 0
- Special: None

Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Combustible solid, LEL: 1.3%; UEL 8.6%
- Flash point: 174° F
- Autoignition temperature: 1,319° F
- Vapor density: 3.24 (air = 1)
- Boiling point: 360° F;
- Above flash point, within flammable limits, vapor-air mixtures are explosive
- Flammable in presence of sparks and open flames
- Sealed containers may rupture when heated
- Contact with strong oxidizers may cause fires
- Incompatibles include: Oxidizers, aluminum chloride, calcium hypochlorite, mineral oxidizing acids, and halogens

Health Hazards:

- Corrosive – will cause severe chemical burns to all body tissues
- Inhalation of dust will cause irritation
Symptoms may include burns of the respiratory tract, sneezing, and coughing
- Inhalation also causes digestive disturbances
- It has anaesthetic properties that may cause skin burns to be painless
- Severe overexposure can cause lung damage, choking, unconsciousness, and death

Fire Fighting Measures:

- Isolate hazard area, deny entry
- Structural firefighting turnouts are ineffective

for direct contact, and offer limited protection in fires

- Extinguishing media: water spray, alcohol foam, dry chemical, or carbon dioxide. Water spray can be used to keep fire exposed containers cool
- Stay away from sealed containers

2008 Emergency Response Guidebook:

- DOT Toxic substances, Hazard Class 6.1
- UN/NA: 1671 Phenol, solid; Guide # 153
- Spill: initially isolate for solid at least 75 feet in all directions

2010 Oregon Fire Code: Table 2703.1.1(2)

- Toxics
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per control area:
 - Unprotected by sprinklers or approved storage cabinets: 500 pounds
 - In sprinklered building, not within approved storage cabinets: 1,000 pounds
 - In unsprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 1,000 pounds
 - In sprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 2,000 pounds

Incident Reporting and Information:

- Facilities currently reporting phenol on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey: 7
- Hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986: 7

References and Resources:

Phenol, crystals MSDS Mallinckrodt baker, Inc.
Phenol MSDS Sciencelab.com
NFPA 400
EPA List of Lists October 2006
[Phenol-formaldehyde reaction hazards](#)
[OSHA health guidelines for phenol](#)
[CDC phenol information](#)

For questions or suggestions contact Alec Carte at 503-934-8262 or e-mail aleta.carte@state.or.us

OSFM and Vision 20/20

In 2007, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security awarded a grant to The Institution of Fire Engineers US Branch to develop a comprehensive national strategy for fire prevention. Titled Vision 20/20, the project goal is to consolidate fire prevention efforts and focus efforts collectively to address the fire problem in the United States.

The Fire Engineers US Branch established a committee comprised of noted fire service and related agency leaders to guide a national strategic planning process resulting in a national plan to coordinate activities and fire prevention efforts. The committee's final report is available here.

Five strategies were identified by the Vision 20/20 committee: **Strategy 1** - Increase Advocacy for Fire Prevention; **Strategy 2** - Conduct a National Fire Safety Education/Social Marketing Campaign; **Strategy 3** - Raise the Importance of Fire Prevention within the Fire Service; **Strategy 4** - Promote Technology to Enhance Fire and Life Safety; **Strategy 5** - Refine and Improve the Application of Codes and Standards that Enhance Public and Firefighter Safety and Preserve Community Assets.

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) has a number of programs that reflect Vision 20/20 strategies and strive to meet the criteria for model programs.

- OSFM programs are data-driven. By studying variables in fire incident data, the OSFM can identify commonalities and trends to develop best practices for prevention, education, and intervention programs.
Reflects Strategy 1.
- In January 2010, the OSFM implemented Oregon Fire Bridge™, a real-time, web-based incident reporting system to improve completeness, accuracy, and consistency of fire data.
Reflects Strategy 1.
- Oregon's fire prevention and disaster preparedness curriculum has been distributed to 900 elementary and middle schools and more than 190 teachers, school administrators, and educators have received curriculum instruction.
Reflects Strategy 2.

- The Community Education Program offers several programs to reduce fire deaths, injuries, and property loss through fire prevention and safety education programs to include: Home Fire Safety, Older Adult Fire and Fall Prevention & Safety, and the Smoke Alarm Program. The smoke alarm program works to increase the number of residences with working smoke alarms. Components include workshops, campaigns, real estate agent training, smoke alarms on fire agency apparatus, smoke alarms for the deaf and hard of hearing, brochures, and partnering with Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue to support their multi-family housing fire reduction training program.
Reflects Strategies 2 and 3.

- The OSFM Fire & Life Safety Competency Recognition Program defines competencies, provides education, and recognizes commitment and scope of practice among fire and building officials. In 2009, the OSFM issued 784 competency recognition certificates and 695 students were taught the OSFM curriculum including fire investigation, fire and life safety awareness, company inspection, basic mechanical code, and fire plans examiner. To streamline learning, OSFM provides classroom and online training programs.
Reflects Strategies 3 and 5.

- The Youth Fire Prevention and Intervention Program has adopted a community wellness model supported by comprehensive, evidence-based health programs. The program supports statewide multi-disciplinary, community-based intervention networks providing services from early identification to comprehensive educational intervention and mental health treatment of youth involved with fire. Resources are provided for those 3 to 17 years of age, their families, and professionals working with them. Recidivism is less than 1% for firesetting youths who participate in comprehensive educational intervention combined with mental health treatment.
Reflects Strategies 1 and 2.

The OSFM will continue to identify areas to match these strategies and continue to collaborate with state and national partners to develop a national strategic agenda for fire loss prevention supporting Vision 20/20.