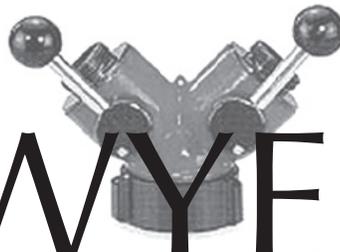


GATED WYE

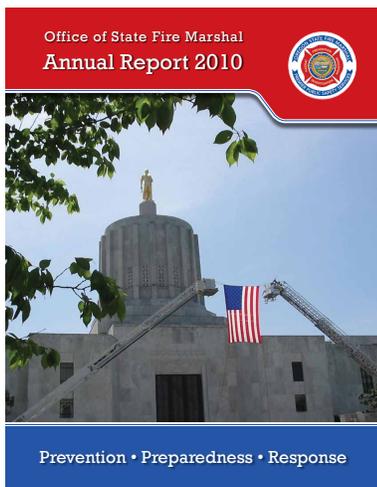


July 2011 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 330

OSFM 2010 Annual Report available

The 2010 Office of State Fire Marshal [Annual Report](#) is available on the [OSFM website](#).

The report highlights OSFM accomplishments and shows how the agency's activities align with 2011-2013 strategic plan.



A main accomplishment highlighted in the report is the implementation of Oregon Fire & EMS Bridge™, the new state incident reporting system. Data summarized in the Fires in Oregon section of the annual report was produced from the new Oregon Fire & EMS Bridge™ reporting system.

For questions, contact Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Jim Walker at 503-934-8209 or jim.walker@state.or.us.

Don't forget adults when planning Fire Prevention Week activities!

A message from the OSFM Fire & Life Safety Education Section

It's not too early to start planning your Fire Prevention Week activities. Are you planning an event in your community? Will you gear your open house, presentations or other events toward adults too?

If we are going to reduce fire casualties, it is important to provide adults with fire prevention and safety information. From 2004 through 2008, there were 167 fatalities and 970 injuries from unintentional fires in Oregon. Most fatalities (68%) were age 50 or older, whereas most injuries (62%) were in the 18-49 year old age group.

The majority of fire casualties were preventable, even after the fire started. If the occupants would have had working smoke alarms to alert them of fire, or sprinklers to suppress the fire, they would have had a chance to escape unharmed.

- 49% of fatality and 38% of injury victims had no smoke alarm or had an alarm, but it did not operate.
- Egress problems were reported in 15% of fatal fires.
- 96% of fatalities and 94% of injuries had no home fire sprinkler protection.

This year's theme, *It's Fire Prevention Week! Protect Your Family From Fire!*, focuses on smoke alarms, home escape planning, and home fire sprinklers.

How are you planning to educate adults in your community about fire? What can you do to help your community install smoke alarms and implement a home fire escape plan? If you educate people to be fire safe and continue to reinforce the message, they can change their behavior.

If you would like more information or resources regarding adult fire safety education, contact Candice Clark at 503-934-8266 or email candice.clark@state.or.us.

Note - *all statistics for this article are for 2004-08. For more Oregon data and reports, to help with your Fire Prevention Week planning, visit the [OSFM reports and statistics webpage](#).*

From the desk of the Interim State Fire Marshal



“... I look forward to the OSFM benefiting from his (Chief Wallace’s) experience and knowledge...”

Exciting future . . .

To begin my last column as interim state fire marshal, I want to thank everyone in the Oregon fire service for their cooperation and support of my efforts to keep the OSFM moving forward in a positive direction. I’ve enjoyed the challenge of the past six months performing as both the interim state fire marshal and chief deputy.

As I carry on in my role as chief deputy, you can be sure I will continue to work closely with the Oregon fire service, our stakeholders, and incoming State Fire Marshal.

By the time you read this, former McKinney, Texas Fire Chief Mark Wallace will have officially started his tenure as Oregon’s 20th state fire marshal.

Mark’s career in the fire service has spanned 42 years. In addition to his service as fire chief in Sheridan, Colorado, and most recently McKinney, Texas, Mark holds an associate degree in fire science technology, a bachelor’s in business administration, and a master’s in public administration. He is also a graduate of the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer Program.

He spent 10 years teaching courses in the Fire Science Technology Program of Aims College in Greeley, Colorado. In 1984, Mark joined the adjunct faculty at the National Fire Academy where in 1990, he became a lead instructor of fire arson investigation.

As you can see, Mark brings a host of experience and skill with him to the OSFM. I am excited to have him on board and look forward to the OSFM benefiting from his experience, knowledge, and leadership to advance the OSFM mission and take our agency to the next level.

I hope you will join me in welcoming him to our wonderful state and as the newest member of the Oregon fire service.

Always at your service.

- JW



**Interim
State Fire Marshal
Jim Walker**

**Office of
State Fire Marshal**

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

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

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ext. 214

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Emergency Response
ext. 238

Fire & Life Safety
ext. 204

License & Permits
ext. 264

Youth Prevention
& Intervention
ext. 230

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.

Juvenile Intervention Specialist 1 training

This class prepares fire service personnel for completing the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training Task Book for National Fire Protection Association 1035 certification as Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist 1 in Oregon. All participants will receive a certificate of completion indicating 14 hours of professional development training.

Date: August 17th & 18th, 2011

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue Training Ctr.
12400 SW Tonquin Road
Sherwood, Oregon

For more information, contact Judy Okulitch at 503-934-8230 or judy.okulitch@state.or.us.

2011 mobilization plan now available

The Oregon Fire Service Mobilization Plan has been revised and updated for 2011 and is now available in two formats. A new smaller 5.5 x 8.5 inch, spiral bound format, will be delivered to all fire agencies in the coming weeks by OSFM deputies; a standard 8.5 x 11 inch format is [available for downloading from the OSFM website](#).

The new smaller format is also available by contacting Becky Oberfall at 503-934-8405.

The more significant changes and updates to the plan include:

- Ensuring all standards are correct
- Moving many checklists and flowcharts to the appendices
- Ensuring equipment-typing is aligned with the National Incident Management System
- Adding rates for advance life support and basic life support

For questions on the Oregon Fire Service Mobilization Plan visit the OSFM's [Emergency Mobilization page](#) on the web, or contact Mariana Ruiz-Temple at 503-934-8238.

OSFM uses billboards to reach adults about responsibility

The Office of State Fire Marshal's Youth Fire Prevention and Intervention Program worked with Meadow Outdoor to install five billboards in Boardman, Coos Bay, Grants Pass, Medford, and Salem, targeting adults with fire safety messages.

The billboards compliment Start Safe, a fire and burn prevention program for preschoolers and their families, by stressing the parents/caregivers role in testing smoke alarms and conducting home fire drills with their children.



This billboard outside of Boardman is one of five in Oregon designed to reach adults and emphasize their role in fire safety.

Start Safe recognizes home fire safety as an adult responsibility. Reaching parents and caregivers is critical so that changes can be made in the home to reduce the risk of fires and burn injuries to very young children.

The OSFM partnered with the [Home Safety Council](#), [Oregon Safe Kids](#), and the [Oregon Burn Center](#) to offer training on the Start Safe curriculum to fire departments and Head Start programs throughout the state, at no cost. To schedule training in your community, email Judy.Okulitch@state.or.us.

HFSC redesigns website

The Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC) has redesigned its website. The user-friendly site features easier navigation to get to education materials more quickly. In addition to a new look and feel, [the new website](#) offers a shopping cart feature that makes it easy to order HFSC's educational materials (available at no cost.)

OSFM takes action on sky lanterns in Oregon

The Office of State Fire Marshal has taken action regarding a potentially dangerous fire threat growing in popularity across the country. Sky lanterns, also known as wish lanterns, sky candles, and fire balloons are like mini hot air balloons. They are commonly made of paper, a bamboo frame, and a small candle or fuel cell made from a waxy cloth or other combustible material. When lit, the flame heats the air inside the lantern, thus causing the lantern to rise into the air and travel to wherever air currents take them.

The use of these devices poses a potentially extreme fire hazard depending on how they are handled, used, and where the lanterns may land. Although these items are not regulated as fireworks in Oregon, the US Department of Transportation regulates them as novelty items.



photo courtesy of theskylantern.com

The OSFM has advised that sky lanterns (et. al.) are considered as regulated items under the following Oregon Fire Code sections: 305.4 Deliberate or negligent burning; 308.1.2 Throwing or placing of sources of ignition; 308.1.5 Location near combustibles; 308.1.6 Open-flame devices; 102.9 Matters not provided for.

Sky lanterns have been showing up for sale at fireworks retail stands, and the OSFM is advising agencies finding these devices at retail stands to have them removed from sale. The OSFM is developing a Safety Alert to address the sky lantern issue. The state of Hawaii has banned the use of sky lanterns.

For questions, contact Deputy State Fire Marshal John Caul at 503-934-8269; john.caul@state.or.us or Anita Phillips at 503-934-8264; anita.phillips@state.or.us.

Rogue Valley trains for conflagrations

On May 17, 2011, Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association conducted training titled "Preparing for the Conflagration 2011." The training included more than 60 local participants working through four separate scenarios. All four scenarios were designed to escalate to the point where local and mutual aid resources were no longer available and the loss potential remained high, thereby requiring state assistance through the Conflagration Act and the Fire Service Mobilization Plan.

This exercise provided an opportunity for each of the four local Type III Incident Management Teams to make a request for a conflagration and participate in a simulated OSFM conference call used to evaluate the request and determine needed resources. Teams then worked to prepare an in-briefing that was delivered upon the arrival of the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Blue Incident Management Team.

The training was very valuable for both local agencies and the OSFM IMT. A "lessons learned" document was developed and will be used to refine procedures.



Participants in the conflagration exercise, from left to right, OSFM IMT Finance Chief Mark Johnston, Medford Fire & Rescue Captain Erin Sawall, Williams Fire Chief Mike Kuntz, and Grants Pass Fire & Rescue Deputy Chief Lang Johnson

76th legislative session winds down

On June 29, 2011, as the 30 Senate members and 60 House members race to Sine Die, or close of session, 3,020 bills had been introduced; 938 passed by the House, 894 passed by the Senate, and 515 signed by the Governor. The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) monitored 40 House bills and 14 Senate bills which may at some level affect the OSFM and to some extent, the Oregon fire service. Highlights:

HB 2078: Signed by the Governor on May 19. House Bill 2078 was crafted in collaboration with stakeholders with interests in fire service and building codes. Free of any fiscal impact, this streamlines ORS chapter 479 by deleting a number of statutes that are either outdated, redundant, or are in conflict with the state's current adopted fire and building code. Minimum requirements for building construction and maintenance are currently, and will remain in the Oregon's adopted building and fire codes. The bill passed the House 59-0 and the Senate 25-0.

HB 2726: Last action June 30. Senate president signed. This bill was one of six bills opening debate on Oregon's Indoor Clean Air Act. Wrought with emotional debate between smoking and health advocates, the new legislation allows the state's 20 hookah lounges and retail smoke shops to continue operation, but limits growth. The state fire marshal changes did not dilute these issues, but simply corrected misplaced authority to the state fire marshal in ORS 433. The Oregon Building Codes, the Oregon Health Authority, and the OSFM agreed eliminating the reference to the assistant to the State Fire Marshal streamlines statute, removes duplication of responsibilities, as well as potential confusion for the regulated businesses. The bill initially passed the House 35-23, the Senate 18-11, then the House again by re-referral 31-29.

HB 3672: Last Action June 24. Third reading. Carried by Burdick, Morse. Passed. A large tax credit bill, HB 3672 replaced HB 2525 & SB 686, which were duplicate bills extending sunset of tax credit for insurers transacting fire insurance, among others, and ultimately affect the Fire Insurance Premium Tax (FIPT), which comprises over 50% of OSFM funding. Among a wide range of supporters

for the bill were the insurance industry, who highlighted services funded by FIPT at the OSFM, Department of Public Safety Standards and Training, and State Police Arson, all of which operate with FIPT funding. The bill extended the FIPT tax credit under ORS 317.122 through January 1, 2018. The bill passed the House 57-2 and the Senate 26-1.

SB 69: Last action on May 3. Motion to re-refer to Judiciary carried on voice vote. The bill did not pass, but made an impressive impact raising awareness among legislators regarding illegal fireworks. The bill's failure was described as having 'too many moving parts.' Portions are likely to be carried forward by individual legislators, or resurrected in bills during future sessions. The bill was created through collaboration with citizens, the fire service, law enforcement, and the fireworks industry. SB 69 had revised most of ORS 480 making changes favorable to law enforcement clarifying statute for retail display, agricultural fireworks applicants, and the fireworks industry.

SB 5537: Last action June 30. Third reading. Carried by G. Smith. Passed. The budget bill for Oregon State Police includes the OSFM budget. As with most budget bills, this bill featured dramatic cuts and loss of positions, including four positions in the OSFM's Community Right to Know (CR2K) unit. Though all programs will continue under the proposed bill, there is a total reduction of 72 positions (including the four OSFM positions). Still, it will not be business as usual. The fire service and industry appealed to legislators to maintain the Planning and Training Assistance Program supporting the state's emergency preparedness of local emergency planning committees, and CR2K. Passed the Senate 26-2, House 56-2.

Oregon's representative form of government is governed by rules, laws, and procedures. Although the process is long, complex, and dominated by committees, all laws begin as someone's idea.

For more on bills monitored by the Office of State Fire Marshal, visit the [OSFM Legislative Information webpage](#) and click the 2011 Legislative Session link. You may also contact Senior Policy Analyst Donna Disch-Curtis at Donna.Disch@state.or.us or 503-934-8275.

LEPC Highlights

by Community Planning Coordinator Krista Fischer

Record number of submissions for HMEP grants

The closing period for the 2011/2012 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grants was June 1, 2011, and this year the OSFM saw a record number of projects submitted for the federal fiscal year beginning October 1, 2011.

The HMEP grant program is intended to provide financial and technical assistance and national direction and guidance to enhance state, territorial, tribal, and local hazardous materials emergency planning and training. The program distributes fees collected from shippers and carriers of hazardous materials through a designated state agency, to emergency responders and local emergency planning committees (LEPC) for hazmat related planning and training projects.

In all, more than 30 projects were submitted, totaling more than \$597,000 in requests. Even though Oregon's share of the grant is just under \$278,000, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has requested that states submitting grant applications also submit supplemental projects for funding consideration, because they have had extra funding available over the last several years.

"This holds great potential for us as a state," says OSFM Planning and Training Assistance Coordinator Terry Wolfe. "In the past, we've been held back on supporting a lot of projects, because of the limitation from the PHMSA with no chance of any additional funds. Now, with the changes at the federal level, it has opened up the possibility of receiving more funding in the future. But it also has the potential to backfire on us too because the PHMSA has increased restrictions on the types of projects it will support. We'll just have to wait and see how it all unfolds," says Wolfe.

In all, seven projects were submitted for either functional or full-scale exercises. Another 19 were submitted for training projects covering everything from awareness and operations to confined space. Award information from the PHMSA should be available by the end of August.

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Fire grant update

by Hines Lieutenant/Grant Writer Jonathan Manski

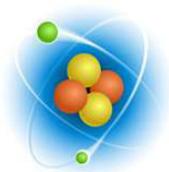
First off, for the past month the 2010 Fire Prevention and Safety program has begun announcing awards. Congratulations are in order for Stayton RFPD and two organizations with ties to fire prevention programs, Portland State University Foundation and Fire Safe Children and Family. Hopefully, more good news to follow in coming weeks.

Everyone is still holding their collective breath for the 2011 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) guidance and program opening, which is likely to happen mid-July. AFG workshops have been scheduled and if you haven't attended this year, you should put this on your "must do" list. There is going to be an entirely new look and feel to the application process this year; major reason to attend a workshop and carefully study the program guidance. The AFG regional program specialists will be happy to discuss these new features with you at one of the remaining workshops. Workshop notes and a schedule are available on their website.

Finally, the Department of Interior sponsored Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) grant program is closed and application review is underway. This grant is targeted for rural departments and is a good source for wildland and structural equipment. In addition to the VFA program, another grant program for rural departments is the Ready Reserve Grant Program. This grant is open until July 6 and provides money for wildland fire training. Contact me at jmanski@blm.gov if you need details about this grant.

Vision 20/20 Fire Prevention Advocacy Toolkit available

The Institution of Fire Engineers USA Branch has launched a new web-based Vision 20/20 Fire Prevention Advocacy Toolkit to give local fire departments and Fire Corps teams the tools they need to prove the value of fire prevention in saving lives and reducing the impact of fire on a community and its economy. The toolkit is available at StrategicFire.com.



Hydrogen H₂

Description:

- Chemical element with atomic number 1
- Lightest and most abundant element
- Combines with most elements
- Odorless, colorless flammable gas
- Synonyms: Dihydrogen
- CAS No.: 1333-74-0
- EPA Section 302 EHS: Not listed
- EPA Section 112R 1,920,000 cu ft./10,000 lbs.
- OSHA Process Safety Management (PSM): Not listed

NFPA 704 Information:

- Health: Gas 0, liquid 3
- Flammability: 4
- Reactivity: 0
- Special: None

NFPA Standards include: 2, 52, 55, and 400

Uses and Occurrences:

- Produced by natural gas steam reforming
- Used in petroleum refining for hydrocracking
- Used in some welding
- Used in the space shuttle main engine

Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Highly flammable gas
- LEL: 4%; UEL 75%
- Auto-ignition temperature: 751.4° to 1064° F
- Strong reducing agent
- Forms explosive mixtures with air and oxidizing agents
- Fireball forms if gas cloud ignites immediately after release
- Escaping gas may ignite spontaneously
- Incompatible with: oxidizing agents

Health Hazards:

- Liquid can cause frostbite
- Gas is a simple asphyxiant

Fire Fighting Measures:

- Burns with a pale blue almost invisible flame
- Use an alternate method of detection, such as thermal camera
- Extinguishing media: water, carbon dioxide or dry chemical
- Temperatures should not exceed 125° F

- Cryogenic containers are equipped with pressure relief devices and pressure controlling valve. Under normal conditions these containers will periodically vent the hydrogen.
- Cool fire exposed containers with water spray
- Hydrogen is lighter than air and may collect in upper portions of storage areas
- Vapors may travel to distant source of ignition and flash back
- Ventilation fans must be explosion proof

2008 Emergency Response Guidebook:

- DOT Flammable gas, Hazard Class 2.1
- UN/NA: Gas 1049, refrigerated liquid 1966; Guide # 115,
- Spill: Initially isolate 330 feet in all directions
- Large spill: First isolate ½ mile downwind

2010 Oregon Fire Code: Table 2703.1.1(1)

- Flammable gas
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per control area:
 - Unprotected by sprinklers or approved storage cabinets: 1000 cubic ft.
 - In sprinklered building, not within approved storage cabinets: 2000 cubic ft.
 - In unsprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 2000 cubic ft.
 - In sprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 4000 cubic ft.

Group when MAQ is exceeded: H-2

Incident Reporting and Information:

- Facilities reporting hydrogen on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey: 215
- Hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986: 3
- [Hydrogen incident database online](#)

References include:

- Airgas, Inc. Hydrogen MSDS
- Praxair, Inc. Hydrogen MSDS
- BOC Gases, Hydrogen MSDS
- [CAMEO chemicals online database](#)

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

Fire & life safety recognition



Regional Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal Bob Wright (far right) presents Salem Deputy Fire Marshal Sean Mansfield (center left) with his Oregon Fire Marshal certificate with Fire Plans Examiner endorsement June 7, 2011. Joining in congratulating Mansfield are Salem Deputy Chief, Fire and Life Safety Jim Stewart (far left), and Salem Fire Chief Mike Niblock.

IAAI Chapter 31 calls for award nominations

August 19, 2011, is the deadline for annual award submissions for Oregon Chapter 31 of the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI). The Chapter will present the awards at their annual banquet September 21, 2011, at the Seaside Convention Center in Seaside, Oregon. This is an opportunity for nominators to recognize the hard work of individuals and organizations with the following awards:

- Life Membership Award
- Distinguished Service Award
- Investigator of the Year Award
- Award of Recognition
- Outstanding Accomplishment Award
- Outstanding District Award
- Photography Award
- Amusing Award

There will also be four openings this year on the Chapter Board. Three director positions and the 2nd vice-president position will be vacant in September. [A Letter of Commitment form](#) must be submitted if you are interested in a board position.

For more information regarding the awards process, [visit the Chapter's website](#) or contact James Christiansen at christiansenj@crfr.com or Kristina Deschaine at kristina.deschaine@state.or.us.
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OSFM Positive Action Committee recognition

The goal of the OSFM Positive Action Committee is to recognize and award non-management staff and to provide opportunities to improve employee skills and professionalism, benefiting the employee and the agency. OSFM's June honoree is Sandi McClaughry - "In appreciation of your responsive approach and positive attitude. You consistently go above and beyond assisting staff with logistical challenges."



Emergency Response Section Manager Mariana Ruiz-Temple (right) presents Fire & Life Safety Administration Specialist Sandi McClaughry with Positive Action Certificate.

Districts merge to form largest volunteer force in Oregon

The board of directors for Boring Fire District #59 and Clackamas Fire District #1 entered into a comprehensive intergovernmental agreement to establish a joint volunteer program and share other collaborative joint services beginning July 1, 2011.

The program creates a joint volunteer force of 168 members to be used by both fire districts. The new joint volunteer force will more than double the size of any other fire department in Oregon.

The program avoids duplication of effort, creates financial savings for both districts, and allows for a consistently higher level of customer service for citizens in each fire district.

For more information, contact Boring Fire Division Chief George Eisert at 971-563-4167; Clackamas Fire Deputy Chief Jim Syring at 503-789-0260; Boring Fire Chief Doug Branch at 503-663-4638; or Clackamas Fire Chief Ed Kirchhofer at 971-563-0710.