

GATED WYE



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Son of OSFM staff member honored with park dedication

A dedication ceremony was held in Keizer, Oregon on November 8, to name a park in honor of Army PFC Ryan J. Hill, the son of OSFM Administrative Specialist Shawna Fenison.

Hill, a former student at Keizer's McNary High School, joined the army in 2005 and was deployed to Iraq in 2006. On January 20, 2007, Hill was riding in a Humvee on patrol in Iraq when an IED buried in the road exploded under his seat, killing him instantly. PFC Hill was 20 years old.

"This is a wonderful legacy to honor my son's sacrifice," said Fenison. "Since Ryan had no children, I was searching for a way for his legacy to be carried forward. This wonderful park where people come together to have fun and relax is a fitting tribute."

Oregon Representative Kurt Schrader commented, "It is heartening to know that members of his community have come together to recognize Private Hill for his service and sacrifice. He is missed by his family and friends but will remain honored in his community."

The 1.3 acre park is located in the Keizer Station complex near the corner of Keizer Station Boulevard and Stadium Drive NE.



PFC Ryan J. Hill



Shawna Fenison (in blue top) is greeted by well-wishers next to the sign naming the park for her son Ryan J. Hill.

Nomination period open for Sparky awards

The Office of State Fire Marshal has opened the nomination period for the Golden and Silver sparky awards. The nomination period closes February 7, 2014.

The Golden Sparky recognizes a fire service member or fire agency for outstanding achievement in fire prevention or public safety education. The Silver Sparky recognizes a civilian or a civilian agency in either of the same categories.

[Nomination forms are available on the OSFM website.](#) Please submit your completed nomination form with an explanation and examples of the nominee's achievements. Additional award submission information is included on the nomination form.

State Fire Marshal Mark Wallace will present the awards at the Oregon Fire Prevention Workshop taking place March 5-7, 2014 at the Oregon Garden in Silverton.

For more information, contact Sally Cravinho at 503-934-8205.



“The quality, accuracy, and completeness of the statistics we can collect, analyze, and report concerning fires in Oregon is limited by the information we receive . . .”

– SFM Mark Wallace

Statutory mandates for fire investigation

Last month, in our summary of the 2013 conflagrations, we inadvertently left out the Douglas County mutual aid task force that worked for two days protecting structures in and around Glendale during the Douglas Complex conflagration. Our apologies for the omission.

This month, I am writing about statutory mandates for fire investigation in Oregon, and the responsibilities of providing full reports to the OSFM of every fire in every jurisdiction (statutes on these issues may be found in ORS 476.210, 476.220, and 476.090). These sections do not apply to forestlands under the jurisdiction of the state forester.

By statute, municipal fire marshals, fire chiefs, constables, and other officers referred to in ORS 476.060 “shall investigate the cause, origin, and circumstances of each fire occurring in their respective cities, villages, or townships by which property has been destroyed or damaged...” It goes on to require [shall] they conduct an investigation to determine if the fire was due to “carelessness or design.” Our deputy state fire marshals will assist when requested, and conduct fire investigations in areas not protected by a fire department. Many areas have developed a F.I.T. (fire investigation team) to provide additional investigative assistance.

Fires can occur by accident, or be intentionally set, or the result of natural occurrence. Yes, some fires are the result of dry lightning strikes. We also know it is impossible to intentionally cause an accidental fire. Many times, identifying the most probable cause of a fire is the best we can do. This column is intended to refresh recollections concerning state statute provisions.

Statute ORS 476.210 requires the fire chief of every city or rural fire protection district to provide the state fire marshal with a full report of every fire within their jurisdiction using a form provided or approved by the state fire marshal. The OSFM provides (at no charge) an electronic fire reporting system that is accessible anywhere a chief or other

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**State Fire Marshal
Mark Wallace**

**Office of
State Fire Marshal**

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

**www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM
503-934-8200**

Administration
503-934-8205

Codes & Technical
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503-934-8240



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fire department representative has internet access, and we encourage all Oregon departments to use it. Some fire departments use other software. We have the ability under the statute to approve the use of other systems. However, we want those systems to export their report data in a manner compatible for importing into the Fire Bridge software.

The statute also stipulates that whenever a fire chief (of cities under 200,000 population) finds any fire as undetermined, suspicious in origin, or involves a death or serious injury, the fire chief shall immediately notify the state fire marshal or deputy state fire marshal and shall assemble all known facts and circumstances concerning the fire on an approved form and shall submit such report to the state fire marshal or deputy state fire marshal assigned to the territory in which the fire originated. It doesn't stipulate that a deputy state fire marshal is required to respond and conduct an investigation or assist with every reported fire – just be notified of fires with undetermined or suspicious origins and fires involving a death or serious injury. However, when evidence clearly indicates the cause of the fire is of incendiary origin (intentionally set), the fire chief "shall" also immediately notify the state, county, or municipal law enforcement agency. The Oregon State Police Arson Unit also is available to assist as may be appropriate.

Statute ORS 476.220 requires the officer making an investigation of a fire occurring in a city, village, or township to notify the state fire marshal they are conducting the investigation. In addition, it requires the officer provide a written statement of all facts relating to the cause and origin of the fire and other information required by the forms provided by the OSFM for this purpose.

This is important because another statute (ORS 476.090) requires the state fire marshal to keep a record of all fires in the state and all facts concerning those fires. This includes statistics on the extent of such fires, the damage caused, and whether the loss is covered by insurance and if so, in what amount. Although much investigatory information can be withheld, the basic and summary records remain open to the public.

These requirements are nothing new. Most of the provisions were enacted by the Oregon Legis-

lature in 1967 with the most recent amendment occurring in 1981.

The quality, accuracy, and completeness of the statistics we can collect, analyze, and report concerning fires in Oregon is limited by the information we receive from the fire departments. We provide free software and allow the use of other software vendors as long as the data can be exported into the State's system. We provide free assistance, advice, and training. A regional deputy state fire marshal is available for on scene assistance or via phone advice whenever requested. In the final analysis, it's up to Oregon's fire chiefs to ensure the fires their departments respond to are investigated, and reported to the [OSFM Data and Research Unit](#).

OSFM recruiting for incident management team positions

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal has opened recruitment for the following vacant incident management team positions:

Team vacancies

- **Deputy Incident Commander**
- **Assistant Safety Officer**
- **Law Enforcement Officer**
- **Resource Unit Leader**
- **Communications Unit Leader**
- **Assistant Communication Unit Leader**

Trainees are also needed for the following positions:

- **Incident Commander**
- **Safety Officer**
- **Planning Section Chief**
- **Communication Unit Leader**
- **Assistant Communication Unit Leader**
- **Communication Unit Technician**

Recruitment is open until January 13, 2014. [Details and applications are available on the OSFM website.](#)

The OSFM's three incident management teams provide comprehensive incident command to manage ongoing emergency operations. Those selected as IMT members are expected to make a three year commitment to participate on the team, and their employer must provide an agency vehicle for IMT deployments.

Do you know where hazardous materials are stored in your jurisdiction?

In 1985, the Oregon Legislature passed the Oregon Community Right to Know and Protection Act (CR2K). This legislation requires the Office of State Fire Marshal to survey facilities in Oregon that store or have the potential to store, hazardous substances at their fixed sites. This is accomplished using the Oregon Hazardous Substance Information Survey (HSIS).

Currently, more than 13,000 facilities are reporting more than 24,400 different substances to the OSFM CR2K unit. Reporting thresholds for most substances is 500 gallons, pounds, or cubic feet. Explosives and highly toxic substances are reportable at 5 gallons, 10 pounds, and 20 cubic feet. Radioactive substances, not in a sealed source, are reportable in any amount. Information collected includes type of substance, amount, where it is stored at the site, and hazards associated with it. In addition, the CR2K unit has 15,519 Material Safety Data Sheets currently on record with more added every month.

There are three parts to hazardous material incident mitigation: information, pre-planning, and response. Collecting, validating, and disseminating hazardous substance information and their associated risks is key to the entire mitigation process.

Staff in the CR2K unit work every day to process, validate, and disseminate this information to Oregon fire departments, Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams, emergency pre-planners at all levels of government, local emergency planning committees, health officials, and the public. The information is available in several different ways, including the Hazardous Substance Information System software, compact discs, online searchable databases, and custom information requests. These resources allow you to search for facilities in your area and view information about substances stored at their locations. This can be vital information for both pre-planning activities and emergency response.

This past year there have been several incidents involving hazardous materials, including the tragic events in West, Texas. These events are stark reminders how quickly a hazardous material incident

can significantly impact both a community and individual lives for a very long time.

If your agency is not using the hazardous substance information collected by the OSFM CR2K unit, the OSFM encourages you to do so. For assistance accessing this information, visit the [CR2K Information Access and Reports webpage](#) or email osfm.cr2k@state.or.us.

Seized illegal fireworks destroyed

This year, through enforcement actions by various agencies, approximately 750 pounds of illegal fireworks were seized during the days surrounding (and including) the 4th of July holiday.

These confiscated fireworks were gathered and destroyed during two controlled events on November 1st and 8th.

This is the eighth year of the successful partnership between Portland Police Explosives Unit, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, Oregon State Police Explosives Unit, and the Office of State Fire Marshal in working together to gather, temporarily store, and dispose of illegal fireworks.

For more information on having illegal fireworks picked up and securely stored until they can be destroyed, contact OSFM License and Permits Manager Anita Phillips at 503-934-8264 or anita.phillips@state.or.us.



DATA Connection

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*News from the Data Collection & Research Unit
by Program Coordinator Dave Gulledge*

A look back

It will be four years ago, this January 1, 2014, since the Office of State Fire Marshal launched the Oregon Fire & EMS Bridge™. One of the goals of moving to this new system was to improve the collection and quality of incident reports by not only serving as the state's repository of fire, hazmat, and youth intervention reports, but also providing local fire agencies with free and easy access to electronic incident reporting. This move was accompanied by adopting the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) version 5.0 as the standard for incident reporting. Looking back, this move has proved successful.

Before switching to the Oregon Fire & EMS Bridge™, Oregon's annual average of fire agencies reporting their incidents to the OSFM was at 63%. Since switching to Oregon Fire & EMS Bridge™, the annual average has increased to 75%.

In 2012, 82% of all structural fire protection agencies reported their incident data to the OSFM. Based on information provided by Portland State University's Population Research Center, these reporting agencies represented approximately 98% of the state's population.

Data shows that more fire agencies are not only reporting their incident data, but they are reporting it sooner than ever before. This timely reporting of incident data allows for earlier identification of dangerous trends that place our citizens at risk.

In 2010, 24,418 reports were received by April 15 of that year. In contrast, between January 1 and April 15, 2013, there were a total of 35,369 reports received, a 45% increase over 2010. As of the end of October 2013, we have realized an average increase of 33.7% in the number of incidents received per month since 2010. On average over the last four years, we have received a total of 174,603 incidents by the end of October. In 2013, we received 202,777 incidents in the same period.

Another indicator of success is the increase in the statewide incident validity rate. The statewide incident validity rate is a measure of incident reports with data entered in all of the required

fields necessary for effective analysis. The statewide incident validity rate was 85% in 2010, 91.9% in 2011 and 98.3% in 2012. As of the end of October 2013, the statewide incident validity rate was 98.6%.

More agencies reporting, more timely reporting, and better quality data are key factors that indicate progress is being made. We can always do better and we will strive to do just that, but as a state, we are clearly moving in the right direction!

Training is available

We recognize there are agencies that struggle with incident reporting. After all, it is a complex system with many rules and codes. Doing it is one thing, doing it correctly generally involves a degree of training. We can help with that.

There are also agencies that would like to either use the free Oregon Fire & EMS Bridge™ to report, or access it's many other functions. Although the system is designed to be user friendly and intuitive, some quick and simple training can go a long way in making the system work the way you need it to for your agency.

The OSFM Data Collection & Research Unit offers free on-site training to local fire agencies on NFIRS as well as Oregon Fire & EMS Bridge™. If your agency and/or others in your area would like to receive training on either of these, simply contact us to set it up.

End of year wrap-up

As the end of the year approaches, it's time again to remind all of Oregon's structural fire protection agencies to submit their incident reports to the OSFM. All 2013 incident reports need to be submitted by January 31, 2014.

Questions? Please contact the Data Collection & Research Unit at 503-934-8250, toll free at 877-588-8787, or email osfm.data@state.or.us.

Post Fire Prevention Week initial survey results

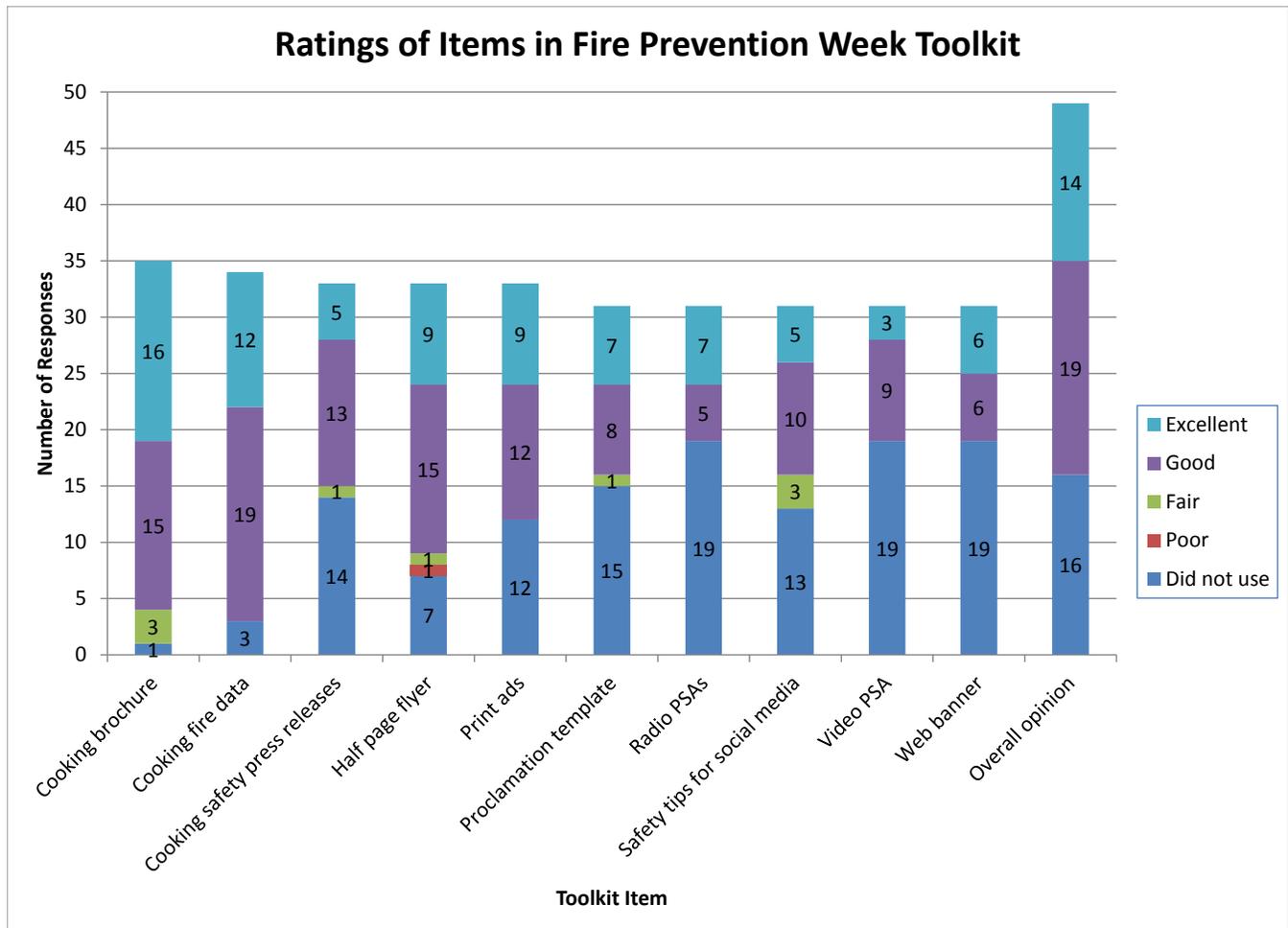
For Fire Prevention Week (FPW) 2013, the OSFM provided and made available a toolkit, brochures, and other materials to Oregon fire agencies to complement the National Fire Protection Association's theme "Prevent Kitchen Fires." In an effort to continue to improve our products and services we asked members of the fire service to complete a survey on the use of the FPW materials made available to them. Sixty-three fire service professionals responded to the survey. The scores and comments will help the OSFM improve on future education materials.

The toolkit was rated 'Good' or 'Excellent' by a majority (67%) of respondents. However, 33% of respondents indicated they did not use the toolkit. This may indicate a need to improve the materials, or a lack of resources at the fire agency level to conduct education activities.

Fifty-two percent of respondents reported using materials created by the NFPA. Sixty percent reported celebrating FPW week during the entire month of October, 35% only during FPW, and 5% reported not celebrating it at all. The OSFM will continue supporting NFPA themes, and work to promote it throughout the month of October.

As part of the 2013 FPW campaign, the OSFM worked with the Oregon Association of Broadcasters to have public service announcements aired 771 times over radio and TV stations around the state. These announcements were seen or heard by 36% of survey respondents.

If you would like to provide feedback, assist in the future development of FPW materials, or are interested in joining the [Oregon Life Safety Team](#), email stephanie.stafford@state.or.us or call 503-934-8219.





Isobutyl Methacrylate $C_8H_{14}O_2$

Description:

- Synonym: Methacrylic acid, isobutyl ester
- Clear colorless liquid with a fruity odor
- CAS No.: 97-86-9
- EPA Section 302 EHS: Not listed
- EPA Section 112_R: Not listed
- EPA Section 304 EHS: Not listed

NFPA 704 Information:

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

Uses and Occurrences:

- Not naturally occurring
- Used In making polymer based products

Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Readily polymerizes
- May polymerize on exposure to light
- Inhibitor (MEHQ) added to prevent polymerization
- Flash point: 95-120° F
- LEL: No data; UEL: No data
- Autoignition temperature: No data
- Vapor density (air = 1): 4.9
- Specific gravity (water = 1): 0.8858
- Boiling point: 311° F
- Strong oxidizing acids may cause an exothermic reaction that ignites the reaction products
- Flammable hydrogen is generated by mixing with alkali metals and hydrides
- Pure vapor is uninhibited and may polymerize in vents and other confined spaces
- Incompatibles include oxidizing agents, strong acids, and bases
- Potentially incompatible absorbents include: cellulose based, mineral and clay based, and dirt/earth

Health Hazards:

- Causes eye and skin irritation

Fire Fighting Measures:

- Vapors may form an explosive mixture with air
- Sealed containers exposed to heat for prolonged periods or contamination may

- polymerize and violently rupture
- Extinguishing media: Appropriate foam, dry chemical, carbon dioxide, water spray
- Water may be inefficient
- Use water spray to cool unopened containers

2012 Emergency Response Guidebook:

- Shipping name: Isobutyl methacrylate, stabilized
- Hazard Classes: Flammable Liquids (3)
- UN/NA: 2283; Guide # 130P Flammable Liquids (Non-Polar/Water Immiscible/Noxious) P designates substances that may polymerize explosively when heated or involved in a fire
- Spill: Initially isolate 150 feet in all directions
- Large spill: Consider evacuating 1,000 feet

Oregon Fire Code: Table 2703.1.1(1)

- Flammable liquid Class IC
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per control area: (Note: Lowest FP used)
 - 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 MAQ exceeded: H-2 or H-3

Incident Reporting and Information:

- Facilities reporting isobutyl methacrylate on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey: one
- Hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986: none

References include:

- [Cameo chemicals – Isobutyl methacrylate](#)
- [Acros Organics – MSDS Isobutyl methacrylate \(link to MSDS search\)](#)
- [Sigma-Aldrich. – MSDS Isobutyl methacrylate](#)
- [EPA List of Lists, October 2012](#)

For questions or suggestions, contact Aleta Carte at 503-934-8262 or aleta.carte@state.or.us.

Four OSFM employees retire

Connie Dalke

Connie is ending 36 years of service to the state of Oregon. Her first 20 years were spent at the Department of Motor Vehicles where she learned about vehicle codes, wrote procedures, set up contested case files, prepared bill analysis for legislation, drafted rules, developed forms, and did "work measurement" studies. During that time she worked in various DMV departments, such as PUC Permits, Driver Improvement Program, and Systems and Planning Branch. Her last position at the DMV was working for the Manager of Business Regulation, taking care of a voluminous amount of reports and supporting five Investigators. It was perfect training for her next job... at OSFM.

Connie has been an administrative specialist with the OSFM for 15 years.

"These have been glorious years," said Connie. "The thing I enjoyed most about my time here has been the friendships and fun. Laura Drager (former Administrative unit manager) gave me a ceramic egghead once, with a big smiling face on it. She said, 'See ... it's us.' We laughed our heads off."



Sandi McClaughry

Sandi has worked for the state of Oregon for 38 years in 14 different agencies, mostly having to do with licensing. For the past seven years she has worked as an administrative specialist with the OSFM Fire and Life Safety Unit.

Sandi says her working years with the OSFM have not only been great, but she has had a great manager, and wonderful people to work with.

Sandi looks forward to retirement with excitement. She plans on taking care of her parents, playing with her grandkids, doing some traveling, and doing some volunteer work at a landscaping nursery, just for fun.

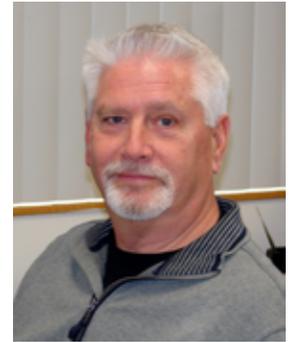


Bill Brauer

Bill is finishing up his 23rd year of state service; all of them having been with the Office of State Fire Marshal. He came to the OSFM with more than 13 years of experience in private industry as a chemist.

Bill started his OSFM career in the Community Right to Know unit (CR2K) working to establish chemistry databases. For the next 20 years, Bill worked on ways to make the information gathered through CR2K useful for emergency responders and planners. His last 2 ½ years have been working as a training and development specialist in the Fire and Life Safety Education unit.

In retirement, Bill plans to catch up with projects around the house, go fishing, play more golf, and get back into home brewing. He and his wife are also planning a trip to Costa Rica. After that, they will take off in their 5th wheel trailer and see where the road takes them.



Jim Mazza

Jim is finishing 25 years of service to the state of Oregon. Beginning at Oregon Emergency Management as a shelter evaluator; he went on to coordinate off-site emergency response for potential emergencies at the Trojan Power Plant and Hanford Nuclear Reactor. He then became OEM's hazardous materials coordinator, managing a variety of grants to develop and deliver some of Oregon's first Incident Command System training. Jim also coordinated the State Emergency Response Commission and Local Emergency Planning Committee activities. In 2000, his position moved to the OSFM as part of the Community Right to Know unit.

In retirement, Jim and his wife Helen are planning trips to Hawaii and Alaska. Jim thinks he'll also continue to pursue painting and woodcarving.

