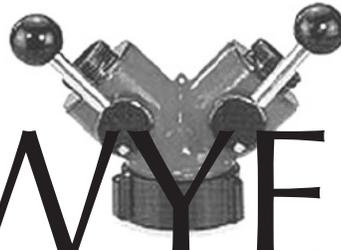


# GATED WYE



February 2015 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 374

## Sparky nominations close February 13

Time is drawing near to complete your nomination for the Golden and Silver Sparky awards as the deadline is 5:00 p.m., Friday, February 13, 2015.

Nomination forms are available on the OSFM website.

**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 civilian agency for outstanding achievement in fire prevention or public safety education.**



Please submit your completed nomination form with an explanation and examples of your nominee's achievements. Additional award submission information is included on the nomination form.

State Fire Marshal Jim Walker will present the awards at the Oregon Fire Marshals conference March 17, 2015 in Bend, Oregon.

For more information, contact Sally Cravinho at 503-934-8205 or [sally.cravinho@state.or.us](mailto:sally.cravinho@state.or.us).

## HMEP grant application period now open

The FY 2015-16 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant application period is now open until February 26, 2015.

The purpose of the grant program is to:

- Increase effectiveness in safely and efficiently handling hazardous material accidents and incidents,
- Enhance implementation of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, and
- Encourage a comprehensive approach to emergency training and planning by incorporating the unique challenges of responses to transportation situations.

The [HMEP grant application kit](#) is available on the [OSFM website](#).

For more information, contact Sue Otjen at 503-934-8227 or [sue.otjen@state.or.us](mailto:sue.otjen@state.or.us).

# From the desk of the state fire marshal



**At the OSFM, we are preparing for a busy and productive year.**

– Jim Walker

## Looking to 2015

**A**s we start the New Year, I have a few items of interest to cover and a call to action.

As most of you are aware, February begins the busy legislative session in Salem. As of this writing, there are approximately 3,000 proposed bills on the docket. Legislators have many demands on their time during this period, however I encourage you to reach out to your local representative and let them know your concerns from a fire service perspective and the importance of the services you provide to your community. The fire service is held in good esteem and you have the opportunity to capitalize on this with an open honest dialogue with your political leaders on issues important to you, your department, and your community. Be sure to double check who your local representative(s) are, as there may have been some changes with last November's elections.

As we noted on the front page of January's Gated Wye, we have been strengthening our fire investigation partnerships with OSP Arson and local agencies with positive results. I am proud of our deputies and the team approach they continue to nourish in an effort to bring arsonists to justice.

We have opened the nomination period for our annual Golden and Silver Sparky awards. These awards are to recognize a fire service member or fire agency (Golden Sparky) and a civilian or civilian organization (Silver Sparky) for their work in fire prevention education. With the all signs pointing to an increase of fire fatalities in 2014, there is no better time to recognize those who are making great efforts to keep the number of fatalities down. Last year's winners, Marion County Deputy Fire Marshal Alfredo Mendez and Adult Foster Home Licensor Jayna Indeck, were both very deserving. I'm sure we will get some great nominees this year as well.

At the OSFM, we are preparing for a busy and productive year. We look forward to new and exciting challenges in 2015.

Again, thanks for all you do and your continued commitment to public safety.



**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](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM)  
503-934-8200**

Administration  
503-934-8205

Codes & Technical  
Services  
503-934-8204

Fire & Life Safety Education  
503-934-8236

Community  
Right-to-Know  
503-934-8214

Analytics & Intelligence  
503-934-8273

Emergency Response  
503-934-8238

Fire & Life Safety  
503-934-8256

License & Permits  
503-934-8264

Youth Prevention  
& Intervention  
503-934-8240



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](mailto:richard.hoover@state.or.us). In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, alternative formats of this publication are available.

## 2015 Mobilization Plan available for review

The OSFM's 2015 Fire Service Mobilization Plan Review Committee is seeking input and comments from fire service members on proposed changes to the Fire Service Mobilization Plan for 2015.

You can visit the [Mobilization Plan Review Committee webpage](#) to view a draft of the mobilization plan as well as the proposed changes. You may also submit comments via the [Doodle comment page](#) set up by the OSFM.

Please submit comments by February 20, 2015. If you have any questions, contact Mariah Rawlins at 503-934-8293 or mariah.rawlins@state.or.us.

## CR2K focuses to improve information for emergency planners and responders

Effective in 2014, the Oregon Community Right to Know program (CR2K) required new Hazardous Substance Information Survey (HSIS) data to be reported by facilities. The purpose was to have better information on extremely hazardous substances (EHS) at facilities and better emergency contact information of facility personnel.

In 2014, the CR2K program focused on Good Data, Complete Data, and EHS Data. To support that, we required all HSIS data fields to be complete. We then spent a majority of the year validating the data, especially EHS data. This resulted in our ability to provide better information to emergency managers, pre-planners, and responders about hazardous substances in their communities.

In 2015, we will continue efforts to obtain and validate hazardous substance information. We will also focus on supporting emergency pre-planning and response efforts with more dissemination of that information. Please [visit the CR2K webpage](#) to learn more about the program and hazardous substance information or call the hazardous substance information line at 503-378-6835 or 1-800-454-6125, M-F, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

## SERC and LEPC update

### SERC

ORS 453.520 designates the State Fire Marshal as the [State Emergency Response Commission](#) (SERC) as required by the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) of 1986. The Oregon SERC is responsible for:

- Designating Emergency Planning Districts (EPDs) throughout Oregon,
- Establishing local emergency planning committees (LEPCs) within the EPDs,
- Appointing membership to the LEPCs,
- Providing review and comment on local community emergency response plans.

OSFM recognized a need to develop an administrative rule to provide guidance on those responsibilities. A SERC/LEPC Working Group developed OAR 837-095, effective January 1, 2015, that establishes a SERC Executive Committee to assist in carrying out the required EPCRA responsibilities. Committee members will consist of designated agencies and organizations.

County boundaries have been designated as the Emergency Planning Districts for Oregon; however the OAR provides for two or more emergency planning districts to combine resources and function as a single emergency planning district.

### LEPC

There are now [10 LEPCs](#) established in Oregon. In the coming months, the OSFM will be working with other emergency planning districts to establish LEPCs, as well as supporting those already active.

LEPCs benefit communities by serving as a link between citizens, industries, and governments in community emergency planning and preparedness.

The LEPC serves as a forum to involve citizens in emergency planning and response, bring together people who can assist local governments in preparing emergency response plans and evaluate needs for response resources.

The LEPC works with local industry members on the prevention of hazardous material incidents. In addition, LEPCs have access to Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant funds for hazardous material related planning, training, and exercise projects.

# OSFM releases results of needs assessment survey

In response to Governor Kitzhaber's request, the OSFM, in collaboration with the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, developed a survey designed to provide a picture of the readiness and necessary equipment needed for effective response by Oregon fire service agencies in relation to a crude oil incident on rail lines in Oregon.

All Oregon fire chiefs were requested to respond to the online survey. There were 127 viable responses. Eighty fire agencies reported their jurisdictions had railways that carry crude oil or other hazardous materials.

Main findings from the statewide survey included:

- Most agencies lacked crude oil emergency response equipment.
- The majority of respondents agreed that the most effective plan for adequate equipment investment, and the best method for storage, maintenance, and management oversight of the equipment was through the State Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team (RHMERT) program.

The OSFM, State Emergency Response Commission, and the RHMERT developed an initial budget to address the shortfall. However, the proposed biennial budget of \$2.7 million is for start-up costs only. A funding source for this has yet to be determined, as well as a funding source for ongoing maintenance costs in future bienniums.

It should also be noted that the recommendations do not supply all local jurisdictions with the equipment necessary for their specific jurisdictions. The added equipment leverages local response with the State Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Teams.

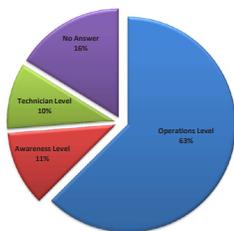
The OSFM will continue close dialogue with local agencies and RHMERTs as these recommendations are implemented.



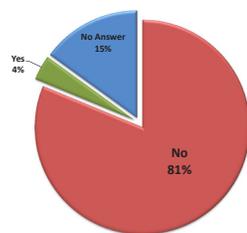
## Oregon's Response Equipment Gaps Pertaining to a Possible Crude Oil Incident



Level of response to crude oil incidents



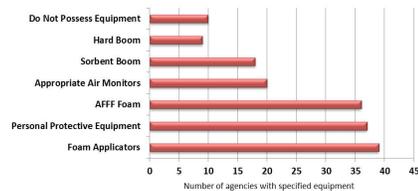
Does your agency have necessary equipment?



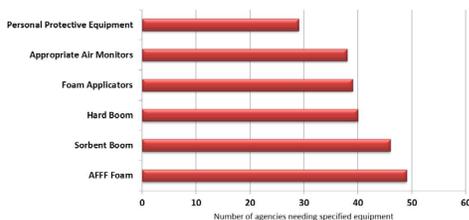
## Oregon's Response Equipment Gaps Pertaining to a Possible Crude Oil Incident



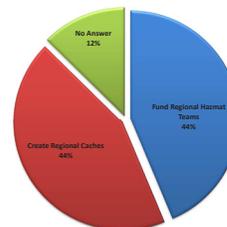
Crude oil response equipment currently possessed by local fire agencies



Crude oil response equipment needed by local fire agencies

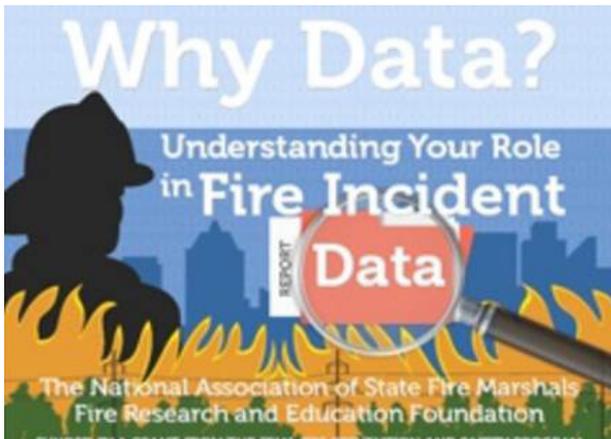


What is the most effective way to organize crude oil response equipment?



## DATA Connection

News from the Analytics & Intelligence unit  
by Program Coordinator Dave Gullede



### New Class Available

Last year, fires killed more than 3,000 people, injured more than 15,000, and caused an estimated \$11.5 billion in damage. Over a five-year period, the cause of ignition in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) was unknown in almost three out of every five home fire deaths, according to the United States Fire Administration and the National Fire Protection Association.

Recognizing the reporting gap in NFIRS, the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) has launched a free, online training program for the fire service, *Understanding Your Role in Fire Incident Data*, available at NASFM's training portal, [www.nasfm-training.org](http://www.nasfm-training.org).

The new training program is the result of a project by NASFM's Fire Education Research Foundation, funded by a FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Grant, to determine the root causes contributing to the reporting gap and develop a training solution to help fire departments across the nation with stronger reporting practices.

Butch Browning, NASFM President and Louisiana State Fire Marshal says, "If we don't know what is causing these fires, we really can't work effectively to prevent them with solutions that specifically address the root problems. By explaining to fire fighters and chief officers the critical importance of accurately reporting the cause of fires, big and

small, in their communities, we can go a long way towards closing this gap."

To ensure that the program was applicable in as many environments as possible, the NASFM Foundation developed it in close collaboration with the International Association of Fire Chiefs, International Association of Fire Fighters, National Fire Information Council, National Fire Protection Association, National Volunteer Fire Council, the North American Fire Training Directors, the United States Fire Administration, and the Vision 20/20 project.

Research conducted for this project identified four areas that contributed to this data gap. These areas are addressed in the training program:

- **Closing the loop.** So often, there is a disconnect within fire departments between those who make the initial fire report entry, such as the line officer, and the fire investigator who later determines the cause of the fire, and the initial report is not updated with the new information.
- **Clearing the litigation cloud.** Fire departments are often reluctant to enter the cause of the fire unless they are 100% sure because of the potential for being called to task at a future court proceeding.
- **Black Hole.** A number of people interviewed for the project had an inaccurate impression that the information went into a "black hole" and didn't really make a difference, either locally or nationally.
- **Complexity.** The current NFIRS system is perceived as being overly complex and not user-friendly, which discourages those using it from taking the time to accurately enter the information.

In addition to the training available online, the training program is also available on CDs that may be checked out through the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Analytics & Intelligence Unit.

Questions? Please contact the Analytics & Intelligence unit at 503-934-8250, toll free at 877-588-8787, or email [osfm.data@state.or.us](mailto:osfm.data@state.or.us).

## SAFER application period now open

The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) application period is scheduled to begin February 9, 2015 and end on March 6, 2015.

The SAFER grant program was created to provide funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter interest organizations to them increase or maintain the number of trained, “front line” firefighters available in their communities. The goal of SAFER is to enhance the local fire departments’ abilities to comply with staffing, response, and operational standards established by the NFPA.

To receive a SAFER grant award, you must be registered and have up-to-date information in the online System for Award Management (Sam.gov). Registration is required of all Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program applicants and awardees. Visit the [SAM website](#) and follow the [FAQs and User Guides](#) for help in completing the registration process.

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

### Upcoming Events

**Oregon Fire Marshal Association Annual Business Meeting/Conference**  
March 17-20, 2015  
Riverhouse in Bend Oregon

**2015 SERC/LEPC Conference**  
May 12-14, 2015  
Seaside Convention Center  
Seaside, Oregon State Police  
Registration will open March 1, 2015  
No Cost

## Product recall

The Consumer Products Safety Commission, in cooperation with Sunbeam Products, Inc., has announced a recall of the Holmes Oil-Filled Heater.

The oil-filled heaters can spray heated oil, posing a scald risk. The firm has received approximately 40 reports of units that unexpectedly sprayed heated oil, resulting in reports of property damage involving carpets and fabrics.

The recall involves Holmes brand oil-filled heaters that are black or white in color, and approximately 23 inches tall, 6 inches deep, and 12 inches wide.

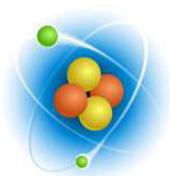


These heaters have the model number HOH3000 or HOH3000B printed on the label on the bottom of the product. The “Holmes” logo is near the power switch and temperature control.



Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled heater, unplug it, and contact Sunbeam at 800-515-4715 anytime or online at [Holmes Products](#) and click on “Oil-Filled Heater Recall” for more information.

This recall affects approximately 34,000 units sold at Target and small department stores nationwide from August 2014 through November 2014.



## Hexane $C_6H_{14}$

### Description:

- Hexane (n-hexane) is an isomer – isomers have the same molecular formula but different chemical structures
- Other isomers are 2-methylpentane, 3-methylpentane, 2,2-dimethylbutane and 2,3-dimethylbutane
- Synonyms: Normal-hexane, hexyl hydride
- Clear colorless liquid with a petroleum-like or gasoline-like odor
- CAS No.: 110-54-3
- EPA Section 302 EHS: Not listed
- EPA Section 112R : Not listed
- EPA Section 304 EHS: Not listed

### NFPA 704 Information:

- Health: 1-2
- Flammability: 3
- Reactivity: 0
- Special: None

### Uses and Occurrences:

- Found in crude oil and natural gas
- Used to extract cooking oil from seeds, liquid in low temp thermometers and as a solvent

### Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Stable
- Highly flammable
- Flash point:  $-9.4$  to  $-7^\circ$  F
- LEL: 1.1%; UEL: 7.5%
- Autoignition temperature:  $437^\circ$  F
- Vapor density (air = 1): 3.0
- Specific gravity (water = 1): 0.66
- Boiling point:  $156^\circ$  F
- Electrostatic discharge may be generated by flow or agitation resulting in ignition or explosion
- Reacts vigorously with strong oxidizers
- Incompatibles include oxidizing agents, halogens, combustible materials, and strong acids

### Health Hazards:

- IDLH: 1100 ppm
- Irritation to eyes, skin, and respiratory system
- May cause nervous system damage
- Has anesthetic effects in high concentrations

### Fire Fighting Measures:

- Extinguishing media: Appropriate foam, dry chemical, carbon dioxide, water spray, or fog
- Vapors may travel to source of ignition and flash back
- Vapors are heavier than air and may spread along the ground and collect in low areas
- Use water spray to cool containers
- If flames are accidentally extinguished without stopping the flow, explosive re-ignition may occur

### 2012 Emergency Response Guidebook:

- Shipping name: Hexanes
- Hazard Classes: Flammable Liquids (3)
- UN/NA: 1208; Guide # 128 Flammable Liquids (Non-Polar/Water-Miscible)
- Spill: Initially isolate 150 feet in all directions
- Tank, rail car, tank truck: isolate  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile

### 2014 Oregon Fire Code: Table 5003.1.1(1)

- Flammable liquid Class IB
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per 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 MAQ exceeded: H-2 or H-3

### Incident Reporting and Information:

- Facilities reporting hexane or hexanes on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey: 11
- Hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986: None

### References include:

- [Cameo chemicals – n-Hexane](#)
- [CDC Niosh Pocket Guide – n-Hexane](#)
- [Praxair, Inc. - n-Hexane MSDS](#)
- [Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc. - n-Hexane MSDS](#)
- [Fisher Scientific – Hexane MSDS](#)
- [EPA List of Lists, October 2012](#)

## OSFM new employee

### Matt Rodriguez

Compliance Specialist/CR2K

Matt was born in Portland, Oregon and primarily raised as a “military brat,” moving from state to state until ending up in Washington. After high school, he moved to Okinawa, Japan, for a year, visiting his parents and experiencing a different culture.



When Matt returned to the States, he moved to Dallas, Oregon and enrolled at Chemeketa Community College, hoping to eventually get into their fire program.

Ultimately, Matt decided to work in the construction field and in 1996, he began his career with the State of Oregon at the Building Codes Division as an inspector of manufactured construction. He has been with the State of Oregon ever since, working in construction as an inspector, investigator, enforcement officer, and a project coordinator.

Matt has been married to his wife, Shellee for 20 years and they have two beautiful daughters. He enjoys time with family and friends either at home, on a lake, on a beach, on the river, at a game, or on the golf course.

“I am excited to be a part of OSFM and I look forward to continuing to work in a field that prides itself in protecting people and their property.”

## OSFM Facebook page reaches first milestone

Here at the OSFM headquarters we did a little celebrating last month as [our Facebook page](#) surpassed the 1,000 “likes” threshold. We know there are many other fire agencies in Oregon with more than that, but we are on our way to reaching more Oregonians with fire safety messages. Please help us spread the word about our Facebook page to those in your jurisdiction. Thanks!

## Anniversary of the Great Cascadia earthquake

By Oregon Office of Emergency Management

January 26 marked the anniversary of the last major Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake that shook the Pacific Northwest 315 years ago. Scientists predict the next major Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake could strike our state at any time.

“Scientists believe Oregon is in the average window of time during which another massive, destructive quake could occur,” said Althea Rizzo, Geologic Hazards Program Coordinator.

Oregon is located in the Cascadia Subduction Zone, a fault line stretching from offshore British Columbia to Northern California. Experts say a rupture on the Cascadia Fault line will likely result in a 9.0 or higher earthquake with the potential to devastate the area.

“A quake of this size will produce severe damage - buildings will be so damaged that restoring full utility service could take months to years,” said Rizzo. “We are taking steps right now to prepare our state for a potential Cascadia earthquake.”

Rizzo said new guidelines recommend individuals prepare an emergency kit for at least two weeks; prior recommendations were for a three day kit.

“Highways may be down and electricity out for days, making it critical for you to have enough supplies to sustain yourself for weeks,” said Rizzo.

State and local government, private businesses and non-governmental organizations are doing much to prepare for the next Cascadia quake but individual preparedness is critical.

- Check out [Living on Shaky Ground: How to Survive Earthquakes and Tsunamis in Oregon](#), published by Oregon Emergency Management.
- Read the [Without Warning comic book](#) produced by Dark Horse Comics.
- Visit [Ready.gov](#) for resources on how you can be prepared before, during and after an earthquake.