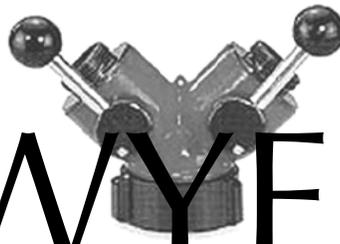


GATED WYE



February 2016 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem, Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 386

Oregon student's CO poster wins national public vote

In early 2015, the Consumer Product Safety Commission challenged middle school students to create posters warning people about the dangers of poisonous carbon monoxide (CO). The CPSC received a record 700 poster entries.

Three winners were selected from each grade level (6,7,&8), as well as one grand prize winner, and one public vote winner.

Talent Middle School (Jackson County) 6th grader, Josephine Bolstad, was selected as the national public vote winner for her poster design.

In December, OSFM Deputy State Fire Marshal Jeff Henderson and CPSC Investigator David Burns appeared at a school assembly to recognize Josephine for her winning poster and to watch her make a presentation to 500 of her fellow schoolmates on the dangers of CO and how to protect themselves.

OSFM Deputy Henderson presented Josephine with a certificate of appreciation and CPSC Investigator Burns presented the school with an enlarged version of Josephine's poster for a wall display.

The grand prize winner of the poster contest received \$1,000, while other winners received \$500 each.

All the [winning posters can be viewed on the CPSC website.](#)



CO poster contest public vote winner Josephine Bolstad (with poster), with her father, Firefighter/EMT Brian Bolstad standing directly behind her, poses with OSFM Deputy Jeff Henderson (left) and CPSC Investigator David Burns (right) and surrounded by members of Jackson County Fire District #5.



Talent Middle School 6th grader Josephine Bolstad gives a presentation to her classmates on the dangers of CO poisoning.

From the desk of the state fire marshal



A well deserved thanks

Fire Service Appreciation Day in Oregon was just last Wednesday, and I hope many of you received well-deserved recognition from various members of your local community.

This is the ninth year since the Oregon Legislature passed House Joint Resolution 25, recognizing January 27 of every year as Fire Service Appreciation Day. And I want to make sure I use this opportunity to give my thanks.

Being in the fire service is like having an extended family where each individual makes up part of the whole, and contributes to the uniqueness of every agency.

While those in the fire service who put their lives on the line everyday deserve our thanks, I don't want to overlook those whose jobs are not in the limelight like those of frontline firefighters.

A tremendous amount of credit goes to all of the support personnel and volunteers who keep our fire agencies running smoothly. From administration to code enforcement and inspection, to those in fire prevention education, these folks are just as dedicated and deserve recognition.

I also want to recognize Bob Reeves, whom we unfortunately lost this past December.

Bob was finishing his second three-year term on the Governor's Fire Service Policy Council, where he represented the Oregon Fire District Directors Association. He served on the OFDDA board from 2009 to 2013, and as its president in 2012.

Bob was a staunch supporter of the men and women who dedicate their lives to the fire service mission. He also served on the Hoodland Fire District Board of Directors for ten years, and was involved in numerous other community committees. He had a great spirit and sense of commitment, and he will be missed.

I want to thank all of you for your support and partnerships this past year. We could not be as successful in our mission, and achieve our goals, without your help and service.



**State Fire Marshal
Jim Walker**

**Office of
State Fire Marshal**

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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. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, alternative formats of this publication are available.

“... each individual makes up part of the whole, and contributes to the uniqueness of every agency.”

- Jim Walker

Registration open for IMT training conference

Registration is now open for current IMT members to attend the combined Office of State Fire Marshal's and Oregon Department of Forestry's Incident Management Team conference March 29-31, 2016, at the Valley River Inn in Eugene, Oregon. [Register online](#) using the event password: train2016.

Attendees are responsible for making their own lodging accommodations. Room blocks at the Valley River Inn will be released March 1, 2016. The conference is listed under OSFM/ODF IMT Conference.

Agenda items include: individual and joint team meetings, lessons learned, MAC groups, OSFM/ODF integration, resource capacity and succession management, functional breakouts, and guest speakers.

If you have questions or concerns, contact IMT Program Coordinator Mariah Rawlins at 503-934-8293 or mariah.rawlins@state.or.us.

HMEP grant application period now open

The FY 2016-17 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant application period is now open until March 15, 2016.

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.

2016 update of *Do the Drill* now available

The Oregon Office of State Marshal and our partner agencies are excited to release the 2016 edition of the popular *Do the Drill!* school resource guide.

Do the Drill! was created in 2010 to help schools in the development and review of fire safety, evacuation, and conduction of drills.

The guide covers the importance of safety planning for drills and provides instruction on fire, earthquake (and where appropriate tsunami), lockdown, lockout, shelter-in-place, evacuation, and the recording and reporting of these activities as required by statute.

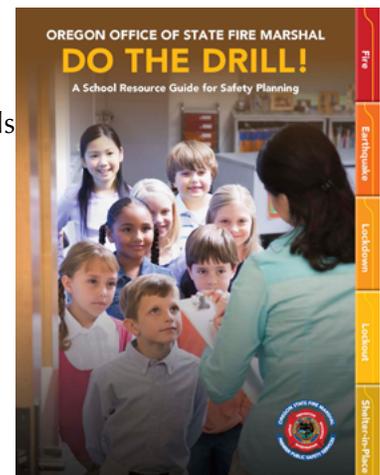
Having an up-to-date safety plan and practicing fire and other emergency drills with students, staff, and first responders, prepares everyone to safely and calmly respond to emergencies.

The Oregon Task Force on School Safety, established in 2014 by the Oregon Legislature, has been an integral part of ensuring the committee's revision of *Do the Drill!* addresses the challenges facing schools.

Committee members included the OSFM, Oregon Fire Marshals Association, Oregon Emergency Management, Oregon School Resource Officers Association, Special Districts Association of Oregon/PACE, Oregon Department of Education, and American Red Cross.

Copies of the guide were distributed to all Oregon school superintendents, principals, education service districts, fire chiefs, and fire marshals to assist them in collaborating to review school safety plans annually to ensure they are accurate and up-to-date.

The guide may be [downloaded online](#) or printed copies may be [ordered using the OSFM online education materials order form](#).



New university athletic-themed smoke alarm tip cards available

The OSFM, in partnership with Oregon State University and the University of Oregon athletic departments, has developed smoke alarm tip cards (wallet size) for distribution by any fire agency in Oregon. Interested citizens will have the option of choosing either card with their favorite university's logo on one side and three essential smoke alarm reminder tips on the opposite side.

Fire agencies can order the cards via the [OSFM public education materials online order form](#). Orders can only be filled in packets of 50 cards each. You can place orders for just one university's branded cards, or both.

The OSFM is in a two-year partnership with each university to promote smoke alarm safety and other fire safety education topics through each school's athletic department.

The objectives of the combined marketing campaigns are intended to establish a connection between the OSFM and the Beaver and Duck fan bases across the state; to build brand awareness and educate Oregonians about fire prevention and smoke alarms; and to use the university mascots

as a focal point for the OSFM in the marketing campaigns.

In the fall of 2015, the OSFM teamed up with OSU football to promote smoke alarm awareness through radio ads during live games and an online smoke alarm selfie contest.

The UofO and the OSFM have teamed to promote more smoke alarm safety messages throughout the Ducks basketball season with in-game radio ads and another social media contest with the winner to receive four tickets for a basketball fan experience during the next game against the Oregon State Beavers.

The OSFM has also created a marketing committee made up of OSFM staff, fire agency representatives, and other stakeholders to help develop future marketing concepts with each university's marketing contractors.

For more information, contact Stephanie Stafford at stephanie.stafford@state.or.us or Rich Hoover at richard.hoover@state.or.us.



SAFETY TIPS

You are four times more likely to survive a home fire if you have working smoke alarms.

Location: Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home, outside sleeping areas (hallway), and in each bedroom.

Maintenance: Test your alarm batteries by pushing the test button at least once a month, replace the batteries when needed. Alarms 10 years old or older should be replaced.

Hush Feature: Do not remove batteries for nuisance alarms (cooking smoke or shower steam). Push the hush button to temporarily silence the alarm.

oregon.gov/osp/sfm | [fb.com/OregonStateFireMarshal](https://www.facebook.com/OregonStateFireMarshal) | twitter.com/OSFM



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oregon.gov/osp/sfm | [fb.com/OregonStateFireMarshal](https://www.facebook.com/OregonStateFireMarshal) | twitter.com/OSFM

DATA Connection

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

2015 Incident Reporting Accolades

Completing and submitting incident reports is not the glamorous part of firefighting or the part that most people think about when it comes to firefighting. It is, however, the basis from which many decisions are made within the fire service, from the local to the national level. The data captured in an incident report helps to guide training programs, support budget requests for new equipment, drive education efforts, and demonstrate the agency's value to the people it serves and the fire service as a whole.

The Office of State Fire Marshal would like to recognize Oregon's fire service agencies for their contributions in the following three key aspects of incident reporting:

Timely Reporting

Having timely incident response data is essential to quickly identifying trends and issues that put our citizens at risk. Through its ongoing analysis, the OSFM uses this information to help develop efforts aimed at alleviating those risks.

Over the last five years, the statewide average number of days to report an incident (days between the actual date of the incident and when it is reported to the OSFM), was 73 days. The average for just 2015 was 58 days. While not quite ideal, it does indicate a big step forward. Out of Oregon's 316 fire agencies, 70 reported incidents within 7 days on average in 2015, while 59 agencies averaged more than 90 days to report.

There were 14 agencies in 2015 that achieved a zero as an average number of days to report incidents. In 2015, these 14 agencies typically reported incidents the same day they occurred: **Baker City FD, Coos Bay FD, Gladstone FD, Jackson County Fire District #5, North Bay RFPD, North Bend FD, Ontario F&R, Ontario RFPD, Payette RFPD, Pendleton Fire & Ambulance, Redmond F&R, Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD, Spray Volunteer FD, and Washington County Fire District #2.**

Undetermined Fires

Capturing information on fire cause is critical for identifying how we can prevent these incidents. Perhaps the most important item related to causal data is the heat source. This is what actually ignited the fire.

On average over the last five years, just 56% of all fire reports statewide identified a heat source. The average in 2015 was 55.7%.

Looking only at agencies reporting 20 or more fires during 2015, the top five agencies with the highest percentage of fires where a heat source is identified were: **Portland Fire & Rescue 87.9%; Charleston RFPD 82.6%; Tillamook Fire District 71.2%; Elgin RFPD 71.1%; and Harrisburg Fire & Rescue 70.4%.**

Validity Rate

The validity rate is a measure of the number of incident reports that have all required fields completed. This is an indicator of data quality. The higher the validity rate, the better quality reports we have to conduct analysis. This results in better decision making. Although Oregon fire agencies did a good job of submitting quality reports in 2015, there is still plenty of room for improvement as demonstrated by the following:

- 82 agencies had a validity rate of 100%, accounting for 111,006 incidents;
- About half of all agencies (154), had a validity rate of 98% or better, accounting for 265,045 incidents;
- 91 agencies had a validity rate of 75% or less, accounting for 5,759 incidents;
- 14 agencies had a validity rate of 0%, accounting for 199 incidents.

Incident reporting can seem like a thankless job that serves an unseen purpose, but these efforts are critical to the success of the fire service. The benefits are definitely worth the investment and the OSFM thanks all of those who have taken the time to do so in 2015.

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

Partnership promotes the *Report School Fires* program

By Scott Neufeld, Director of Risk Management
S | D | A | O

In 2005, Special Districts Association of Oregon and the Oregon Office of the State Fire Marshal partnered on the development of the *Report School Fires* program. SDAO worked with the OSFM on this project as a way to provide a valuable resource to member fire districts, while at the same time providing grant funding to assist in local education and prevention activities to reduce school fires.

The number one goal of the program is to educate schools throughout Oregon of the importance of reporting every fire, every time, any size, and anywhere they occur at school. Additional goals include:

- Foster the relationship between fire districts and school districts;
- Inform school districts that they are statutorily required to report all fires regardless of size or location;
- Encourage school districts to partner with volunteers and community groups to drive by schools during non-school hours/days when buildings are most vulnerable to arson; and
- Develop a system for schools and fire districts to encourage students to report information related to arson fires.

Program materials consist of a video, brochure, sprinkler system checklist, school surveillance sign-up sheet, and reward and reporting law posters.

In 2011, the video and program materials were refreshed and modernized for fire districts and school districts to educate local school personnel on reporting requirements for fires in their schools.

We have received feedback that this program is accomplishing its objectives. Amity Fire District Chief Bruce Hubbard said, "I feel the teachers are more aware of what is going on and what to look for. I also believe that placing this material around the schools has made a difference with the students. We had two fires back in 2011 and it was a success for us by getting kids to give us some great information in solving those fires."

Since the program's inception, SDAO has provided a grant to 93 member fire districts that have agreed to present the materials to local school districts. We have also worked with several non-member districts/departments to have the materials presented to their local schools.

SDAO continues to partner with our member fire districts and distributes 10 of these grants each year. In addition, the OSFM has provided a copy of the *Report School Fires* program to every fire district and department in the state as well as to every school principal, superintendent, and school resource officer.

For more information, contact Troy De Young or Scott Neufeld at 1-800-285-5461 or Krista Fischer at 503-934-8240 or krista.fischer@state.or.us.

Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I training in March

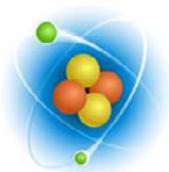
The Coos Bay Fire Prevention & Intervention Network, Coos Bay Fire and Rescue, and the OSFM Youth Fire Prevention & Intervention program are sponsoring two days of Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I training at Coos Bay Fire & Rescue Station, 450 Elrod Street, Coos Bay, Oregon, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., March 15th and 16th, 2016.

Training is free, although registration is required for all attendees. Attendees are responsible for travel, meals, lodging, or other expenses.

Class size is limited and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. [Registration is available online.](#)

The 16-hour training provides an overview of Oregon's juvenile firesetter intervention program. Topics include: policies, procedures and laws; child development and communication; practice using the Oregon Juvenile with Fire Screening Tool; educational fire safety resources; reporting and data collection; and networking steps.

The class helps to prepare fire service personnel for completion of the task book as required by the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training for the National Fire Protection Association 1035 certification as a Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I in Oregon.



Sodium Hydroxide NaOH

Description:

- Synonyms: Caustic soda, lye, soda lye
- Odorless white solid
- CAS No.: 1310-73-2
- EPA Section 302 EHS: Not listed
- EPA Section 112R : Not listed
- EPA Section 304 EHS: Not listed
- OSHA PSM: Not listed

NFPA 704 Information:

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

Uses and Occurrences:

- Produced industrially
- Used in chemical manufacturing, petroleum refining, cleaning compounds, drain openers

Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Non-Combustible
- Water reactive
- Hygroscopic
- Stable under recommended storage conditions
- Flash point: Not Applicable (NA)
- LEL: NA; UEL: NA
- Autoignition temperature: NA
- Vapor density (air = 1): 1.38
- Specific gravity (water = 1): 2.13
- Boiling point: 2,530-2,534° F
- Reaction with metals may evolve flammable hydrogen gas
- Reacts rapidly and exothermically with acids
- Contact with water may generate enough heat to ignite adjacent combustible materials
- May react with cellulose based absorbents and mineral and clay based absorbents
- Incompatibles include strong oxidizing agents, strong acids, metals such as aluminum, tin, and zinc, nitromethane, and organic materials

Health Hazards:

- IDLH: 10 mg/m³
- Corrosive causes severe chemical burns to all tissues

Fire Fighting Measures:

- Extinguishing media: Water spray, dry chemical, carbon dioxide, or appropriate foam
- Use water spray to cool unopened containers
- Do not get water inside containers

2012 Emergency Response Guidebook:

- Shipping name: Sodium Hydroxide or Caustic Soda (solid, bead, granular, flake, dry)
- Hazard Class: Corrosive Substance (8)
- UN/NA: 1823; Guide #154 Substances-Toxic and/or Corrosive (Non-Combustible)
- Spill or leak – Initially isolate 75 feet in all directions
- Fire – Tank, rail car, or tank truck: Initially isolate ½ mile in all directions

2014 Oregon Fire Code: Table 5003.1.1(2)

- Corrosives
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per control area:
 - Unprotected by sprinklers or approved storage cabinets: 5,000 pounds
 - In sprinklered building, not within approved storage cabinets: 10,000 lbs
 - In unsprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 10,000 pounds
 - In sprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 20,000 pounds
- Group when MAQ exceeded: None
- Note e and f

Incident Reporting and Information:

- Facilities reporting sodium hydroxide on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey: 30
- Hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986: 33

References include:

- [Cameo chemicals – Sodium Hydroxide, Solid](#)
- [Sigma-Aldrich – SDS Sodium Hydroxide](#) - (Link select download SDS)
- [Science Lab.Com – MSDS Sodium Hydroxide](#)
- [EPA List of Lists – March 2015](#)
- [CDC NIOSH Pocket Guide – Sodium Hydroxide](#)

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

OSFM recruiting for IMT positions

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal is currently recruiting members from the Oregon fire service to serve on our Type 2 all-hazards teams in the following positions: Incident Safety Officer, Line Safety Officer, Division/Group Supervisor, Deputy Planning Section Chief, and Resource Unit Leader.

Applications are due by 5:30 p.m., February 15, 2016. Visit the OSFM website to [apply or for more information and qualification requirements](#).

Wildfire Community Preparedness Day is May 7

The National Fire Protection Association is encouraging fire agencies, community groups, and individuals to participate in Wildfire Community Preparedness Day May 7, 2016 to make their communities safer from the impacts of wildfire.



The NFPA, in partnership with State Farm insurance, is also [offering funding for 125 projects](#) in the amount of \$500 each, to cover expenses related to individual grass roots efforts. The deadline to apply for the funding award is February 28th.

Activities can be coordinated by any individual, group, or organization working to reduce wildfire risk, advance wildfire preparedness, or minimize post-fire impacts from a recent fire.

More details may be found in the [official rules online](#).

Fire Defense Board Chief meeting March 9th

The 2016 Oregon Fire Defense Board Chief meeting is set for 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., March 9, 2016, at the Riverhouse Convention Center in Bend, Oregon. The meeting is open to fire defense board chiefs and alternates only.

A highlight this year will be a Year in Review panel discussion with representative fire chiefs and OSFM staff.

Registration information will be sent out by February 15, 2016.

For more information, contact Mariah Rawlins at 503-934-8293 or mariah.rawlins@state.or.us.

Registration open for OFMA training and business meeting

The 2016 Oregon Fire Marshals Association Annual Business Meeting and Training Conference is set for March 15-18, 2016 at the Best Western Plus Agate Beach Inn in Newport, Oregon.

Highlighted topics include: Marijuana Facilities, Performing Commercial Fire Inspections, Recruiting Volunteers for your Fire Prevention Program, National Code Services Association: Hazardous Materials, Hash Oil Lab Identification/Investigation/Prosecution, Fire Service Mains & their Appurtenances, Cultural Outreach & Effective Messaging, Pre-Incident Planning, and more.

Visit the [OFMA website](#) to register. Early registration ends March 8, 2016.

Save the Date
**2016 Oregon Hazardous Materials
Response Teams Conference**
May 17-19, 2016
Sunriver Resort, Sunriver, Oregon