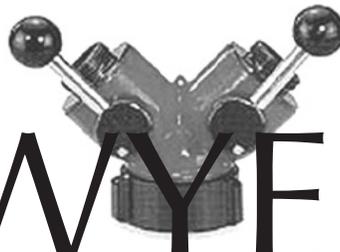


GATED WYE



July 2010 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 318

Fire fatality report available online

The Oregon Fire Fatality Review Committee (OFFRC), an advisory group to the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM), has released its report on Oregon residential fire deaths from 2004 - 2008.

The OFFRC's task is to collectively review the fire fatality data and make recommendations to reduce residential fire fatalities in Oregon. The committee consists of representatives from the fire service, Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, Oregon Fire Marshals Association, Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association, the National Fire Protection Association, the OSFM, and others.

The report covers top causes of fatal fires and where they occurred, human factors, demographics of fatalities, smoke alarm presence and performance, and sprinkler presence. Also included are eight recommendations, based on the findings, to reduce the causes of residential fire fatalities. [Download the report here.](#)

Basic Fire Investigation 200 available for college credit

Portland Community College (PCC) fire protection program staff reviewed the Office of State Fire Marshal's (OSFM) fire investigation curriculum and determined individuals may receive college credit by completing OSFM's fire investigation courses and some additional online training.

To receive credit for the FP212 Fire Investigation course (3 credit hours) follow these steps:

1. Complete OSFM courses:

- Basic Fire Investigation 100 (3 hour online or classroom)
- Basic Fire Investigation 200 (16 hour classroom)

Log onto iLearnOregon to view a schedule of classes. Click here for a [Quick Start Guide.](#)

Click here for the [iLearnOregon log in page.](#)

2. Complete four modules of Fire Investigation Related Training (excludes HAZWOPER) on the International [Association of Arson Investigators](#) website.

3. Complete the top portion of a PCC [registration form](#) (include Social Security number and signature).

4. Mail or fax:

- Your registration form,
- Copy of Basic Fire Investigation 100 and 200 certificates, and
- Four certificates of completion for the CFI Trainer modules

Fax to 503-978-5535, or mail to:

PCC
Fire Protection Technology,
CA, PSEB
Attn: Ed Lindsey
705 North Killingsworth
Portland, OR 97217

5. Pay the invoice you receive from PCC for \$10 per credit hour (3 credit hours for this course) and the \$19 admissions fee.

For more information about course credit equivalencies contact, PCC Fire Protection at 503-978-5581.



From the desk of the State Fire Marshal



“During an incident, getting the right resources, to the right place, at the right time, can be a matter of life and death.”

What's your type?

Am I your type? Are you my type? Although it may sound like a personal relationship question, it isn't. It's actually a potentially life saving question.

Any incident, whether natural disaster, terrorism or other human-caused event has the potential to become a regional or national emergency. As we have seen in past conflagrations in our own state, no department or jurisdiction has every resource available to respond to every incident. That's why we have instate mutual aid/assistance agreements as well as the Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

However, an effective response to requests for aid or assistance depends in large part on the requesting agency getting what it needs from the lending agency. During an incident, getting the right resources, to the right place, at the right time, can be a matter of life and death.

Just as Oregon's Fire Service Mobilization Plan developed incident management teams under National Incident Management System guidelines (NIMS), we now have moved to typing statewide resources using NIMS typing guidelines. This is the next step in setting up common terminology and standards when helping other agencies and states, or when requesting help from other agencies, states, or the federal government.

Resource typing is a critical part of resource management. It helps us respond to incidents effectively, and makes it easier to request the proper assistance when it's needed. Standardized resource typing helps us communicate needs and requirements with other agencies, whether they are in another state or at the federal level.

I encourage fire chiefs to review the typing in the updated mobilization plan and ensure their task forces and strike teams meet the typing standards.

You may access the updated mobilization plan from the OSFM website on July 6, 2010. Until then you can [click here to view the NIMS resource typing guidelines](#).



State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson

Office of State Fire Marshal

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

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

Administration
ext. 211

Codes & Technical
Services
ext. 269

Community Education
ext. 273

Community
Right-to-Know
ext. 214

Data Services
ext. 236

Emergency Planning &
Response
ext. 227

Emergency Response
ext. 238

Fire & Life Safety
ext. 204

Firesetter Intervention
ext. 230

License & Permits
ext. 264

The Gated Wye is published monthly by the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal. For submissions or suggestions contact Rich Hoover at 503-934-8217 or e-mail richard.hoover@state.or.us. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, alternative formats of this publication are available.

Simpson photo courtesy of ODOT Photo and Video Services.

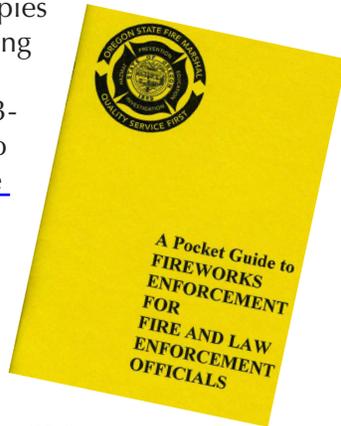
Pocket Guide to Fireworks Enforcement available

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) has available a pocket guide to assist agencies with fireworks enforcement.

The quick reference guide provides fire and law enforcement officials with knowledge on policies, guidelines, definitions, and procedures when enforcing fireworks statutes and rules.

You may request copies of the guide by contacting Nicole Lewis at Nicole.lewis@state.or.us or 503-934-8285. You may also [download a copy of the guide here](#).

The OSFM would also like to hear about your fireworks education and enforcement efforts. Please contact Anita Phillips at 503-934-8264 or anita.phillips@state.or.us.



Fallen firefighters memorial scheduled September 16, 2010

The annual Oregon Fallen Firefighters Memorial ceremony is scheduled for 1:00 p.m., Thursday, September 16, 2010 at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem, Oregon. Class A uniform is preferred for service personnel; memorial bands should be worn over badges.

For more information, contact Julie Olsen-Fink at 503-378-2297.

Oregon Fire Bridge training available

Call Oregon State Fire Marshal Data Specialist Dan Wright at 503-934-8244 to set up one-on-one training for your department.

Hazardous Substance Information System software available online

Emergency responders, are you safe? The Hazardous Substance Information System (HSIS) software is your tool to identify and plan for hazardous substances in your community.

Increase the safety of your department personnel with better knowledge of on-site hazardous substances. From determining the hazardous substances at a single facility, to isolating all sites in your area storing an extremely hazardous substance, the HSIS is the tool.

HSIS information comes from annual surveys of public and private businesses in Oregon with the potential to possess hazardous substances. This survey is authorized by the Oregon Community Right to Know and Protection Act to provide first responders and the public with information about hazardous substances in their response areas and neighborhoods.

The Community Right to Know Unit collects, validates, and disseminates this information, and makes quarterly updates available online.

It is simple to use and easy to access. For security reasons, a username and password must be requested prior to downloading the software. [Request it now!](#) Or, [click here to learn more](#).

Multi-hazard house available

The Office of State Fire Marshal has a Multi-Hazard House trailer available for loan to Oregon fire departments and districts. The mobile prop is an educational aid allowing participants to learn and practice: fire prevention, fire safety, calling 9-1-1, correct smoke alarm response, safe exiting procedures, and disaster and severe weather safety skills.

The prop is also equipped to demonstrate the effectiveness of a home fire sprinkler system.

[Visit the OSFM website](#) for more information, or to reserve the Multi-Hazard House, contact Candice Clark at 503-934-8266 or email candice.clark@state.or.us.

Youth Fire Prevention and Intervention Conference August 17-18 in Eugene

The Office of State Fire Marshal in cooperation with Fire Safe Children and Families, the Oregon Burn Center, the Denver Children's Hospital, and the San Diego Burn Institute is sponsoring Cultivating Partnerships III: Juvenile with Fire and the Impact of Media conference August 17 & 18, 2010 at the Hilton Eugene Conference Center.

Workshops allow participants to expand their knowledge about the impact of media on youth, and develop new ways to use media to connect with children and adolescents. The target audience for this workshop is fire interventionists and investigators, school resource officers, mental health providers, juvenile justice counselors, educators, and child welfare case workers.

Online registration is available for \$199 (plus processing fee). Registration covers tuition, workshop materials, two continental breakfasts and two luncheons.

NFPA awarding scholarships to November Remembering When Conference

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is selecting representatives from up to 35 communities to attend the 2010 Remembering When Conference, November 14-16 in Boston, Massachusetts. The conference emphasizes reaching older adults through home visits, to ensure the program reaches the most vulnerable of older adults.

NFPA is asking fire departments to partner with an agency whose main outreach to older adults is through home visits. Such agencies include visiting nurse associations, home health care agencies, church outreach groups, and other organizations.

Each Remembering When Conference Award is valued at more than \$4,000 and covers travel, hotel, and group meals for each team. Application deadline is August 6, 2010.

Visit online for more information and an application.

Workshop available on Multi-Family Housing, Fire Reduction Program

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R) is conducting a free Train-the-Trainer workshop on the Multi-Family Housing Fire Reduction Program, July 15, 2010 at the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM). The workshop is designed to help fire departments develop their own fire and life safety training program for apartment managers.

The train-the-trainer workshop is delivered through a partnership between TVF&R, the OSFM, and the Oregon Life Safety Team.

When: July 15, 2010, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Office of State Fire Marshal
4760 Portland Road NE
Salem, OR 97305

A registration form is available on the web. Registrations may be submitted via email using the online form, or fax it to 503-373-1825; standard mail to 4760 Portland Road NE, Salem, OR 97305, attention Colleen Olson.

More information is available on the web, or by contacting Colleen Olson at 503-934-8228 or colleen.olson@state.or.us.

2009 Oregon fire loss clock

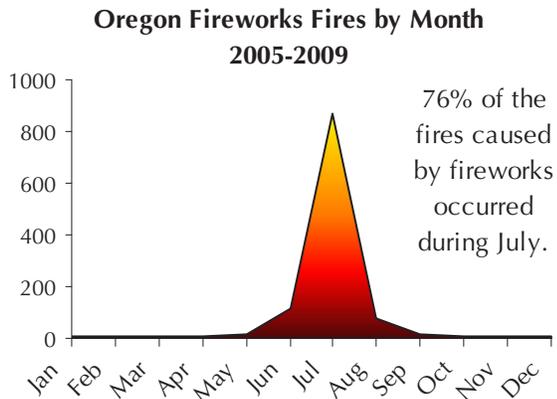
- Every 47 minutes a fire agency responded to a fire.
- One structure fire was reported every 2 hours and 15 minutes.
- One vehicle fire was reported every 5 hours and 12 minutes.
- One outside fire was reported every 1 hour and 44 minutes.
- One home structure fire was reported every 3 hours.
- One civilian fire injury was reported every 36 hours.
- One civilian fire death was reported every two weeks.

DATA Connection

News & technical tips from the Data Unit

Fireworks fires in Oregon

July is the month we celebrate the birth of our nation, but it's also the month fire and medical agencies know they will be responding to a large number of fireworks incidents. Most fires caused by fireworks occur during July.



Over the last five years, 2005-2009, Oregon fire departments and districts reported 1,143 fireworks-related fires, resulting in one death, 17 injuries, and \$3.4 million in property loss. Twenty-seven percent of these fires involved youth age 17 and under. During the same period, the Oregon Department of Forestry reported 132 wildfires started by fireworks, burning 263 acres.

Are you reporting non-fire fireworks incidents? Reporting EMS calls to the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) allows us to analyze the extent of the problem of fireworks-caused injuries. In addition, the OSFM annually conducts a hospital fireworks survey to collect information about fireworks casualties – type of fireworks involved, age of person, and injury description.

Fireworks incident and injury reporting provides valuable data for community education efforts, and supports prevention budgets, and fireworks legislation. Let's hope, this year we see the fruits of our collective prevention efforts.

Fireworks incident reporting

To assist with reporting fireworks incidents, here are examples using NFIRS codes specific to fireworks-related incidents:

Example: A fire started by fireworks.

- In the Fire Module, section D2–Heat Source, use code 54 'Fireworks'

Example: A wildland fire started by fireworks.

- In the Wildland Fire Module, section E–Heat Source, use code 54 'Fireworks'
- In the Wildland Fire Module, section L4–Activity of Person Involved, use code 21 'Fireworks use'

Example: A fireworks explosion without fire.

- In the Basic Module, section C–Incident Type, use code 243 'Fireworks explosion (no fire)'

Example: An EMS call to assist a bystander burned by sparks from a firecracker.

- In the EMS Module, section H3–Cause of Illness/Injury, use code 25 'Fireworks'

Example: A fire at a fireworks tent.

- In the Basic Module, section J–Property Use, use code 559 'Recreational stores'
- In the Fire Module, section C–On-Site Materials or Products, use code 934 'Fireworks, commercially made'
- In the Fire Module, section D–Item First Ignited, use code 88 'Pyrotechnics, explosives'

Fire Bridge™ update

Six months have passed since our launch of Fire Bridge™, Oregon's online incident reporting system. Many fire agencies are taking advantage of the 'extras', such as the training module and the report writer. Currently, 162 fire agencies are actively using Fire Bridge™, and an additional 51 agencies' data is imported into Fire Bridge™ from another program. To date, more than 60,000 2010 incidents, including nearly 2,500 fires, have been reported in Fire Bridge™.



Kudos to these 'Grand Masters'!

The top five users of Oregon Fire Bridge™, based on log-in frequency since January 1, are:

Joanna Jarvis – Dallas FD

Margie Perron – Winston-Dillard Fire District

Jeff Smith – Gladstone FD

Karna Cupples – Seaside F&R

Scott Shepherd – Jefferson RFPD



If you have any questions, contact the Data Unit at OSFM.Data@state.or.us or call us at 503-373-1540, extensions 234, 237, or 244.

HazMat members recognized

The Office of State Fire Marshal congratulates the following members of the Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response program on awards received at the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams conference in April.

These awards recognize the effort and dedication of team members who have gone above and beyond in their service to the program.

Award titles and recipients include:

So Others Will Succeed Award

Given to an individual who has worked thanklessly helping hazmat teams succeed. Presented to Steve Brewer, HazMat 01 Douglas County.

Behind the Scenes Award

Given to an individual who worked behind the scenes to contribute to the success of a team or the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams Program. This person can be from the Office of State Fire Marshal, other agency, or hazardous materials team. Presented to Mark Koss, HazMat 02 Eugene.

Call of the Year Award

Given to the hazardous materials team whose response to a call demonstrated a level of ingenuity and exceptional team proficiency resulting in a successful resolution. Presented to HazMat 10 Hermiston.

Committee Award (new this year)

Given to a group who has contributed to the success of the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams Program. Presented to the Outreach Committee: Scott Brainard and Larry Burg, HazMat 04 Klamath/Lake counties, Tracy Fox, HazMat 01 Douglas County, Reed Godfrey, HazMat 13 Salem, Jamie Kometz, the Office of State Fire Marshal.

OOPS Award

Given in fun, to a team or member where something went awry either during a drill, a call, or while training. Presented to Bruce Armstrong, the Office of State Fire Marshal.

Also receiving special recognition from the Office of State Fire Marshal for their contributions and dedication to the Regional HazMat Teams Program were the 102nd Oregon Civil Support Team, and Kyle Romey, HazMat 05 Linn/Benton counties.

Fire grant update

by Hines Lieutenant/Grant Writer
Jonathan Manski



Those 2010 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) applications not rejected by the initial computer scoring, funneled through the finals of the peer review process which took place in Baltimore June 21-25. Now a little more waiting is in order.

Here is a quick review of this year's Oregon AFG statistics:

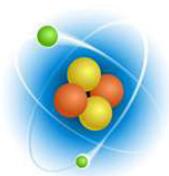
- 171 total applications were submitted: 103 Operations & Safety, 60 Vehicles, and 8 Regional requests.
- 104 departments submitted single applications, 32 departments submitted two applications and one department submitted an application for all three categories.
- Approximately 51% of Oregon departments submitted a proposal. Oregon project requests were down this year from an average of 207 applications submitted annually since 2001.

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

Some awards from the 2010 Rural Fire Assistance/Volunteer Fire Assistance grants have been posted by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). [Check the ODF website](#) for the latest information.

Finally, a couple of interesting grant opportunities:

- If you have a Georgia Pacific facility in your jurisdiction (13 of you do), [check out this website](#) for funding on firefighting projects. There is an August 13 deadline to submit applications.
- FM Global Insurance sponsors a fire prevention/investigation/planning type grant program, and a few Oregon organizations have taken advantage of this in the past. [Review the opportunity here.](#)



Chemical of the month by Alec Carte

**Special
Request**

Dimethyl Ether C_2H_6O

Description:

- Synonyms: Methoxymethane, DME, wood ether, dimethyl oxide
- Colorless liquefied gas with an ethereal odor
- CAS No.: 115-10-6
- EPA Section 302 EHS: Not listed
- EPA Section 112_R: 88,217 cu ft/10,000 lbs.
- OSHA Process Safety Management (PSM): Not listed

NFPA 704 Information:

- Health: 1
- Flammability: 4
- Reactivity: 1
- Special: None

Uses and Occurrences:

- Dimethyl ether is synthesized from natural gas, coal or petroleum residue
- Aerosol propellant
- Studied for use as alternative fuel
- Solvent and extraction agent

Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Stable under normal conditions
- Flammable gas, LEL: 3.4%; UEL: 27%
- Flash point: -42° F
- Auto-ignition temperature: 662° F
- Vapor density: 1.62 (air is 1)
- Boiling point: -12.7° F
- Presence of oxygen or prolonged exposure to direct sunlight may lead to formation of unstable peroxides, which may explode spontaneously or when heated
- Incompatible with oxidizers, halogens, acids, carbon monoxide, metals, aluminum hydride

Health Hazards:

- OSHA PEL: Not established
- Inhalation LC₅₀ (rat): 82,000 ppm/1 hour
- Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH): Not given
- Contact with rapidly expanding gas may cause burns or frostbite
- Acts as an asphyxiant
- May have a narcotic effect
- Repeated inhalation may cause headaches, dizziness, excitation, and psychic disturbances

Fire Fighting Measures:

- Extinguishing media: Water spray (fog), foam, or dry chemical
- Do not attempt to extinguish unless flow of material can be stopped first
- Containers may rupture or explode if exposed to heat
- Cool fire-exposed containers with water spray
- Cylinder temp. should not exceed 125° F
- Vapors or gas may ignite at distant ignition source and flash back

2008 Emergency Response Guidebook:

- DOT Flammable gas, Hazard Class 2.1
- UN/NA: 1033; Guide # 115
- Spill: Initially isolate 330 feet in all directions
- Large spill: Consider downwind evacuation 1/2 mile
- Not listed in Table 1

2007 Oregon Fire Code: Table 2703.1.1(1)

- Flammable gas
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per control area:
 - Unprotected by sprinklers or approved storage cabinets: 30 gal/1,000 cubic ft
 - In sprinklered building, not within approved storage cabinets: 60 gal/2,000 cubic ft
 - In unsprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 60 gal/2,000 cubic ft
 - In sprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 120 gal/4,000 cubic ft
 - Group when MAQ is exceeded: H-2

Incident Reporting and Information:

- No facilities currently report dimethyl ether on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey
- Hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986: None

References include:

- Airgas MSDS Dimethyl ether
- Praxair MSDS Dimethyl ether
- EPA List of Lists, October 2006

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

IAAI Oregon Chapter 31 call for award nominations

The deadline for annual award submissions for Oregon Chapter 31 of the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) is August 27, 2010. The chapter will present the awards at their 2010 annual banquet, September 29, 2010 at the Hood River Inn in 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 for Oregon Chapter 31 IAAI board. Three director positions and a 2nd vice-president position will be vacant in September. To apply, submit a [Letter of Commitment](#) form.

For more information on the awards and to access nomination forms, [visit the IAAI Oregon Chapter 31 website](#) or contact James E. Christiansen at christiansenj@crfr.com; Kristina Deschaine at kristina.deschaine@state.or.us; or Brian Huff at brian.huff@state.or.us.

Oregon vehicle extrication challenge Saturday July 31

The 8th annual Oregon Vehicle Extraction Challenge is scheduled for Saturday, July 31, 2010 at Dallas Fire headquarters. Judges include fire-rescue professionals from around the United States who are active in, and approved by the Transportation Emergency Rescue Committee (TERC).

The day long event is limited to six teams. This year's entrance fee has been dropped to \$100 per team. There are two categories for competing teams:

- Masters Class for teams having previously competed in judged vehicle extraction competitions
- Open Class for teams never having competed in a judged vehicle extraction competition

The top two teams overall are eligible to participate in the 2011 national TERC USA competition.

If your fire department or district has a team interested in participating or you would like more information, contact Battalion Chief Sean Condon at sean.condon@ci.dallas.us or 503-831-3531.

There is also a vehicle extrication learning symposium Friday, July 30, 2010 at the Dallas Fire Department. The symposium is a combination classroom and hands-on training opportunity allowing participants to learn the latest vehicle extrication tricks-of-the-trade from some of the nation's most knowledgeable instructors. Cost is \$20 per person.

Fire & life safety recognition



Photo by Kim Jordan

Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal Dave Jones presents Seaside Division Chief/Fire Marshal Chris Dugan (right) with his Oregon Fire Marshal recognition certificate during the Seaside City Council meeting in May.