



OREGON STATE FIRE MARSHAL

THE GATED WYE

MARCH 2024



DELIVERY DAY ARRIVES FOR OSFM ENGINE PROGRAM

February 2024 marked a major milestone for Oregon as the first engines as part of the OSFM's \$25-million Engine Program arrived at the agency's headquarters in Salem.

The type 3 engines that are arriving will be a valuable asset for communities across Oregon. Over the next year, 76 type 3, type 6, and water tenders will be heading to a local fire agency near you.

[READ MORE ON PAGE 2.](#)

OSFM'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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WILDFIRE INVESTMENTS

ENGINE PROGRAM

February marked a milestone for the OSFM and the Oregon fire service as the first engines from the agency's engine program were delivered. The type 3 engine deliveries are a significant stride towards increasing response capabilities across Oregon.

The first recipients of these newly-acquired type 3 fire engines included Central Cascades Fire & EMS, Jefferson County Fire & EMS, Monroe Fire District, and Carlton Fire District. Each of these agencies plays a vital role in protecting their respective communities from the ever-present threat of wildfires and other emergencies. With these advanced firefighting vehicles, their operational capacity receives a significant boost, enhancing their ability to respond effectively to incidents and protect lives and property.

The Oregon State Fire Marshal's Engine Program stands as a testament to the state's commitment to fortifying its emergency response capabilities. This powerful \$25-million initiative aims to equip local fire agencies with a fleet of type 3, type 6, and water tender fire engines. The program's goal is to ensure that communities across Oregon are adequately prepared to face the challenges posed by wildfires and other emergencies.

The delivery of the type 3 fire engines represents just the beginning of a broader effort to modernize and expand Oregon's firefighting resources. As more engines make their way to fire agencies throughout the state, the collective resilience of Oregon's firefighting infrastructure continues to strengthen.



(CONT FROM PG. 2) The significance of these deliveries extends beyond the acquisition of equipment; it highlights the invaluable partnership between the state government and local fire agencies in safeguarding Oregonian communities. By investing in state-of-the-art firefighting assets and providing support to frontline responders, Oregon demonstrates a proactive approach to reducing the impact of natural disasters and ensuring the safety and well-being of its people.

Looking ahead, the momentum of the OSFM's Engine Program shows no signs of slowing down. With more engines slated for delivery in the coming months, more fire agencies across the state will soon benefit from enhanced firefighting capabilities. This concerted effort to equip local responders with the tools they need to effectively combat wildfires reaffirms Oregon's proactive stance in confronting the growing wildfire crisis.

[LEARN MORE HERE.](#)





GET READY FOR **WILDFIRE** AWARENESS MONTH

The Oregon State Fire Marshal is gearing up for Wildfire Awareness Month in May. With the goal of educating and preparing communities for the upcoming fire season, the OSFM has announced the opening of the ordering window for Wildfire Awareness Month boxes filled with educational materials for the Oregon fire service.

With wildfires becoming an increasingly common occurrence in the Pacific Northwest, the need for proactive measures to prevent and lessen their impact has never been more urgent. Wildfire Awareness Month serves as an opportunity for communities to learn about wildfire safety, preparedness, and prevention strategies.

The boxes will contain helpful and engaging educational materials including stickers, buttons, banners, coffee sleeves, and reusable bags. To [place an order, click here.](#)



WELCOME TO THE TEAM

Troy Davis joins the OSFM as our new diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) manager. We are excited to have Troy for the development of DEI goals and initiatives across the OSFM.

Troy comes to the agency from Jacksonville, Oregon where he worked in WorkSource operations of the Employment Department. Troy was chair and vice chair for the Employment Department Equity and Inclusion Council.

Before joining the public sector, Troy held management positions in retail, brand management, e-commerce, and digital marketing. Troy has been an advocate and ally in advancing workplace equity, inclusion, and belonging.

Troy has a wife, Susan, and three cats, Pepper, Sage, and Dash. In his free time, Troy likes to cook, travel, practice hot yoga, and explore Southern Oregon wineries.

GET COMFORTABLE WITH **DEFENSIBLE SPACE.**



FIVE WINTER AND SPRING PROJECTS TO CREATE DEFENSIBLE SPACE:

- 1** **Remove** leaves, pine needles, and other debris from the roof, gutters, and on and under the deck.
- 2** **Trim** tall plants and bushes growing directly under your eaves.
- 3** **Trim** trees and bushes to make sure they have adequate space from your home and other vegetation.
- 4** **Remove** dead and combustible plants and mulch, especially within the first several feet from the home. Replace with decorative rock or gravel.
- 5** **Cover** exterior attic vents, soffit vents, and areas below decks and patios with 1/8" metal wire mesh.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP FOR
A **FREE DEFENSIBLE ASSESSMENT.**



WILDFIRE SEASON STAFFING GRANT APPLICATION OPEN

On March 1, the application period for the 2024 Wildfire Season Staffing Grant began!

This grant program has proven extremely successful and demonstrated the critical importance of proactive measures in combating wildfires and protecting communities across Oregon. Building upon this momentum, the Oregon State Fire Marshal is repeating the same general criteria and process for the 2024 grant cycle.

Under the guidelines, agencies with annual property tax income of less than \$2 million are eligible to receive up to \$35,000 in funding, mirroring the allocation from last year.

While larger agencies may also apply for the grant, funding for these entities will be contingent upon the availability of remaining funds after smaller agencies have been served. The final determination regarding funding for larger agencies will be made after the grant application period closes.

The OSFM estimates the grant will fund between 171 to 190 local fire agencies, depending on requests.

The **deadline for applications is March 22**. To assist agencies throughout the application process, the Oregon State Fire Marshal will host two informational and question-and-answer webinars.

The 2024 Wildfire Season Staffing Grant is part of the OSFM's Response Ready Oregon initiative. It serves as a proactive measure to make sure local fire agencies have the tools and resources to better protect their communities. Through collaboration and strategic investments, the OSFM remains committed to enhancing wildfire preparedness and resilience for the benefit of all Oregonians.

[LEARN MORE HERE.](#)





DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHALS SET **NEW RECORDS** IN 2023

The numbers are in and 2023 was a big year for the OSFM deputy state fire marshals as they set a record for the most fire and life safety inspections completed in a single year. Deputies completed 3,990 inspections statewide. The number of deputy state fire marshals doubled in size to better serve Oregonians. The OSFM now has 26 deputy state fire marshals across the state.

The DFSMs performed plan reviews for access and water supply where construction and development plans were evaluated for fire and life safety code compliance. Deputies provided fire code inspections to identify and lessen fire hazards in commercial buildings and institutional buildings such as schools, multi-family housing with three or more units, and high-hazard operations.

Deputies help save lives and property by determining the origin and cause of a fire and identifying whether the cause is a result of carelessness or design. Fire investigations identify the fire's origin and cause and leverage lessons learned to build program messaging and outreach to further prevent similar types of fires before they start.

BY THE NUMBERS

- **17** in-person classes, including certified NFPA Fire Investigation and Fire Inspector 1 & 2 Courses, with a total of
- **267** fire service members
- **4,561** inspections completed by DFSMs
- **323** fire investigations conducted
- **242** state property inspections, predominantly DOC facilities

JOIN THE OSFM **SMOKE ALARM** INSTALLATION PROGRAM

Is your agency interested in joining the OSFM's Smoke Alarm Installation Program? The program provides smoke alarms to Oregon fire agencies to install in homes that do not have them.

There are several opportunities to learn more about the program during free webinars. Participants will learn about program eligibility and requirements, smoke alarms and installation information, project planning and ideas, and safety materials available to order. The free one-hour live webinar training is required for fire agencies who wish to participate in the program. Click the dates to register.



[March 28, 2024](#)

[April 25, 2024](#)

OSFM OFFERING **NEW** EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

In February, the OSFM's education division launched a new program with the goal of reducing smoking fires. In 2022, smoking was the third leading cause of fires in Oregon. Program staff hosted a webinar introducing the program to fire service partners. You can watch the recording [here](#).

This program provides printable resources that can be cobranded for your community members. To learn more about the program, [visit our website](#).

FIRES SPARKED BY CIGARETTES, CIGARS, AND PIPES ARE A BIG PROBLEM IN OREGON.

yearly fires caused by
cigarettes, cigars, or pipes

1,599

\$5.1 MILLION
average yearly losses caused by
smoking material fires

199 STRUCTURE
FIRES
caused by smoking materials each
year in Oregon

35% of deaths from smoking-
related fires are caused by
smoking on medical oxygen

top months for
smoking fire incidents
JUNE, JULY, AUGUST

8% of fire deaths are
caused by smoking



In **March**, the OSFM is focused on youth fire safety, highlighting important messages often forgotten when we talk about fire safety. While practicing a home fire escape, understanding that fire is a tool for adults and not a toy for kids is extremely important. Below are some important things to keep in mind and pass along to youngsters.

Remember to call 9-1-1 only during an emergency. Calling 9-1-1 when there is no emergency could cause others to not get the help they need. It can also put firefighters in danger needlessly.

WHEN THE 9-1-1 DISPATCHER ANSWERS, TELL THEM:

- The type of emergency
- Your name
- The location you are calling from
- The telephone number from where you are calling
- Stay on the telephone until the dispatcher tells you to hang up

TIPS FOR YOUR FAMILY HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLAN:

- Make a home escape plan if you don't already have one.
- Draw a map of each level of your home.
- Show all doors and windows.
- Practice the plan with everyone in your home, including visitors.
- Children, older adults, and people with disabilities may need assistance to wake up and get out. Make sure someone will help them.
- Teach your children how to escape on their own in case you cannot help them.
- Make sure kids can open windows, remove screens, and unlock doors.
- Have a plan for everyone in your home, especially those who have a disability.
- Know at least two ways out of every room if possible.
- Make sure all doors and windows that lead outside can open.
- Identify where smoke alarms are in your home.
- When you practice your escape plan, test your smoke alarms.

YOUTH FIRE SAFETY IN FOCUS DURING MARCH





OSFM HEADQUARTERS
APRIL 11, 2024
3-5 P.M.
RSVP HERE

REMEMBERING THE HARRIS'

Please join us as we gather to honor Eddie Harris and his wife Betty who both passed away in late 2023.

The event will be held at the Oregon State Fire Marshal headquarters at 3991 Fairview Industrial Drive SE Salem, Oregon on April 11, 2024, from 3 - 5 p.m.

The couple was married for 66 years. Ed was a graduate of North Bend High School and Oregon Technical Institute. He was a career firefighter and diesel mechanic with the North Bend Fire Department before joining the Oregon State Fire Marshal as a deputy state fire marshal, where he was an instructor and arson investigator.

We look forward to sharing memories and visiting with old friends. Please RSVP by emailing Sally Cravinho at Sally.Cravinho@osfm.oregon.gov.

NOMINATE TODAY FOR GOLD AND SILVER SPARKY AWARD

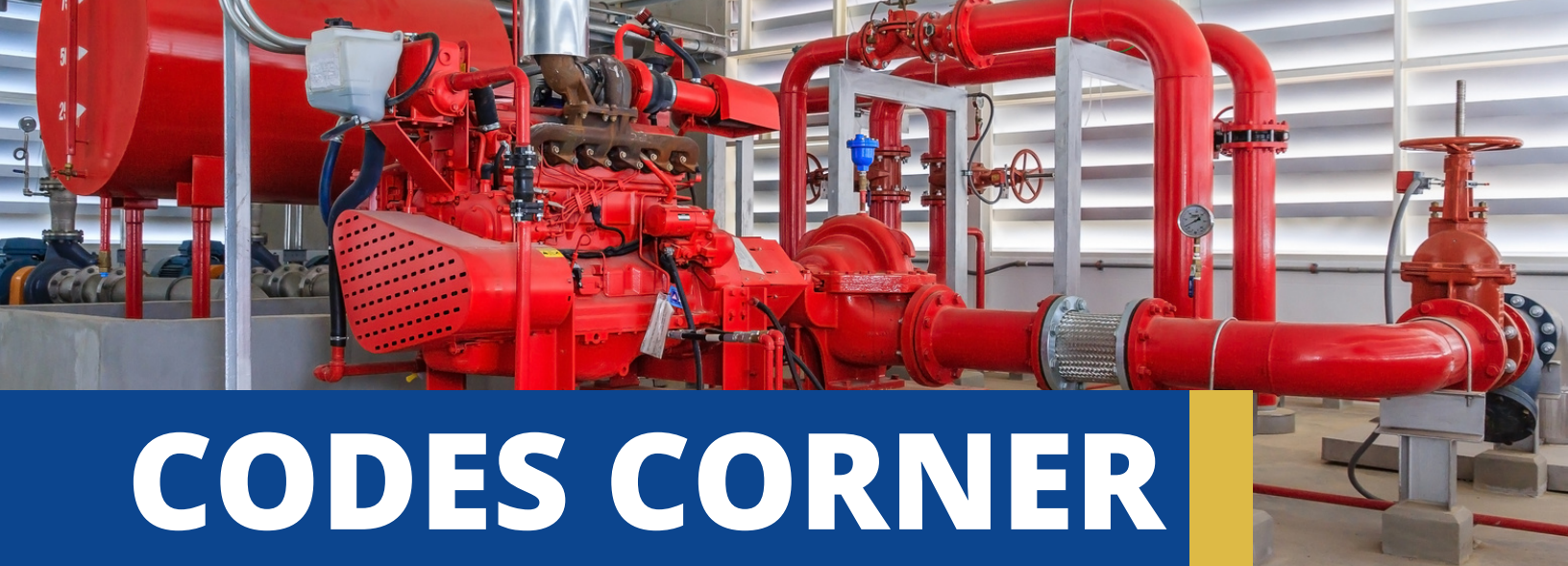
The Oregon State Fire Marshal is accepting nominations for the **2024 Golden and Silver Sparky Awards**. The Golden Sparky recognizes a fire service member or fire agency for outstanding fire prevention or public safety education achievement.

The Silver Sparky recognizes a civilian or civilian agency for outstanding achievement in fire prevention or public safety education. Nominations are open until April 1.

These awards have a long and rich history marking the achievements of local champions in our field. You can see some of the past winners here.

The OSFM encourages you to nominate a worthy recipient in your community and ask your networks to do the same. [Click here for more information.](#)





CODES CORNER

FIRE PUMPS TESTING & MAINTENANCE

In May 2023, three high-rises in Chicago broke out into major fires. All three buildings were found to have fire pump violations, making it harder for firefighters to access water on higher floors of the buildings. These fires are a stark reminder that the requirements of the 2022 Oregon Fire Code Section 913.5, testing and maintenance, are critical to ensure fire pump reliability. NFPA 25 provides the requirement for fire pump testing and maintenance along with NFPA 110 for the testing and maintenance requirements for generator sets and transfer switches.

Fire pumps are an essential part of many water-based fire protection systems. They are used to increase the pressure (measured in psi or bar) of a water source when that source pressure is not adequate for the system it's supplying. Fire pumps have been installed in buildings across Oregon in large and small jurisdictions.

Fire pumps require a higher level of expertise. The correct design, installation, and acceptance testing of these pumps ensure they are ready and available to protect the building on the day of the acceptance test. After that, once “the keys” are handed over to the building owner, there is no guarantee the pump will remain in a ready state to work as designed unless it undergoes routine inspection, testing, and maintenance (ITM). The 2020 edition of NFPA 25 is the adopted referenced standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems.

WHO CAN PERFORM THE INSPECTIONS AND TESTING?

NFPA 25 says that ITM should be performed by a qualified person who has developed competence through training and experience. Many companies use a qualified outside contractor for the annual flow test on a pump and use in-house personnel for the weekly or monthly tests. No license or certification is available in Oregon to perform fire pump testing and inspection, but a local jurisdiction can require verification of knowledge through a “certificate of fitness” or similar local requirement.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14)

CODES CORNER

FIRE PUMPS TESTING & MAINTENANCE

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?

Requirements are outlined in NFPA 25, standard for the inspection, testing, and maintenance of water-based fire protection systems. Below is an overview of the inspection and testing activities that should be completed on your pump. A detailed checklist for an electric pump and diesel pump follow on subsequent pages.

WEEKLY

- Pump house, heating, ventilating louvers
- Fire pump system
- Pump operation (diesel only) — no flow start and run test for 30 minutes

MONTHLY

- Pump operation (electric only) — no flow start and run test for 10 minutes
- Annual
- Full flow test both diesel and electric pumps
- Fire pump alarm signals
- Maintenance
- Each year, service hydraulic systems, mechanical transmission, and motor
- All other maintenance on the pump and associated components varies and should be completed following the manufacturers' recommendations.



WELCOME TO THE TEAM

Kylie Howell joins the OSFM as our newest human resource analyst. She began her employment with the state 7.5 years ago with the Department of Education and Department of Human Services. In her most recent position as a lead administrative specialist, she supported position management, recruitment activities, operational workflow, and employee support.

Kylie grew up in Salem where she now lives with her husband Casey. She enjoys traveling, camping, watching movies, and spending time with her pets and loved ones.





TASK FORCE LEADER SYMPOSIUM REGISTER TODAY

The 2024 OSFM Task Force Leader Symposium will be held at Spirit Mountain Lodge on Tuesday, May 21 - 22.

This training event is intended for task force/strike team leaders and trainees and will tentatively include sessions about:

- Operations – sprinkler kits & pumps
- Air ops in the WUI
- Placarding
- Logistics & radios
- Electronic triage tools & mapping
- Fire season forecast
- Public information

REGISTER
HERE

Please register prior to
Friday, May 10, 2024

An email with room reservation information was sent to the Oregon fire service. If you have questions, please contact Jamie Kometz at jamie.kometz@osfm.oregon.gov.

The mobilization program's success relies on task force leaders to serve as exactly that – leaders to the personnel they supervise. The OSFM would like to thank our state's task force leaders for their dedication and recognize their time commitment during and outside of incident response. While the symposium does not provide a certification, it is an excellent opportunity to learn tricks of the trade and increase proficiency.

SAVE THE DATE

The Oregon Fire Chiefs Association (OFCA) announced the dates for the upcoming spring conference. The conference will take place May 1-3, 2024 at the Riverhouse on the Deschutes in Bend.

Join fire chiefs and chief officers from across the state for 2.5 days of training, important updates from fire organizations, connection with fire service partners, and networking.

For registration and more information about the conference, check out [OFCA's Annual Conference page](#).



WELCOME TO THE TEAM

Bryan Dorris joins the OSFM as a new deputy state fire marshal in Douglas County. Bryan has been in the fire service for the past 29 years, most recently as a captain at Jackson County Fire District #5.

Bryan has a bachelor's degree in fire service administration from Eastern Oregon University, a fire protection associate degree from Chemeketa Community College, and many certifications.

Bryan was born and raised in the Rogue Valley. He has been married for 10 years to his wife Katie. They have three children, two boys and a girl.



FROM THE **INTERNET**

To the river! In February, the La Grande Fire Department took advantage of a break in calls and the weather and got some swift water training with their partners from search and rescue.

The water was a bit chilly, and the department says it was a great training day! [Check out their post here.](#)

TIGHT SQUEEZE

Is it getting tight in here or is it just us? Crews with the Medford Fire Department participated in confined space training. They practiced rescuing a volunteer patient (fire personnel) from a confined space vault.

This technique involves using rig rope systems to access the patient, load them onto a rescue stretcher, and safely pull them out. Training opportunities like this ensure we're prepared for a multitude of emergency rescue situations. [See more photos here.](#)





Contact Us

Have a story idea or something you would like to know more about?

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