Oregon Life Safety Team

Oregon Office of the State Fire Marshal

July 21st, 2022

Welcome!

Take a minute to orient yourself with Microsoft Teams:

- Turn on your camera and give us a quick wave if you're able.
- Introduce yourself in the chat, with your name and agency(s) you're representing.

We'll get started shortly.

AGENDA

➤ Welcome and Introductions

➤ OSFM Update and Overview of OSU Risk Map from OSFM Public Affairs Director, Alison Green

➤ Summer Events and Survey Overview

➤ Fire Prevention Month 2022

➤ Local Happenings and Good of the Order

➤ Adjourn

Next meeting:
September 15th ,2022 at 1:00PM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
DEFENSIBLE SPACE

What is defensible space?

Defensible space is the buffer you create between your business or home and the grass, trees, shrubs, or any wildland area that surrounds it. Proper defensible space can slow or stop the spread of wildfire and help protect your home or business.

How does defensible space help protect my home?

Defensible space offers your home or business protection from wildfire, and even small actions make a big difference. Embers are the leading cause of home loss during a wildfire. They can travel up to three miles ahead of the large flame front. Well-maintained defensible space can increase your home's chance of survival by 75%.

Where can I learn more about defensible space best practices?

The Office of State Fire Marshal has resources on our website for homeowners to get started with defensible space.

Defensible Space Tips: English & Spanish

Where do I start when creating my defensible space?

- We recommend breaking it up into small weekend projects in the spring, fall, and winter.
- First, start at your home and work out from there. Remove combustible materials like dry leaves and pine needles from your roof, gutters, and eaves.
- Next, move to the foundation of your home and make sure combustible landscaping like bark dust or mulch is not touching your home. Consider replacing combustible landscaping with bare dirt, gravel, or pavers.
- Next, trim and limb bushes and trees, so they are not touching your home. This does not mean you need to remove all the plants from your yard. Instead, give plants some space from one another. Consider removing tall brush from under trees and some of the lower limbs so fire on the ground cannot get into the tree canopy.
- Continue moving outward from your home to give added protection from wildfire.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
DEFENSIBLE SPACE

Defensible space seems like a lot of work; how do I get all these projects done?

Much like preparing for any natural disaster, Oregonians can tackle these projects one at a time. Your defensible space does not need to be completed in a day. Instead, plan a weekend project like cleaning the gutters. The following weekend, move to the next project on the list. In small increments, a defensible space plan can come together. Your defensible space plan also does not have to encompass multiple acres of work. Instead, focus on the immediate area around your home to give it the best chance of surviving a wildfire.

Who can I talk to about defensible space recommendations?

The OSFM has resources available to discuss defensible space. We have seven fire risk reduction specialists across the state working in local communities to answer questions. Your local fire department is also a great resource. Check if your community is participating in a voluntary neighborhood program like Firewise USA® or another program geared towards better protecting homes from wildfire.

Is there funding to help Oregonians with defensible space projects?

The Office of State Fire Marshal is working to develop grant programs to help with defensible space projects. To learn about our office's grant programs, visit our [website.](#)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
OREGON DEFENSIBLE SPACE CODE

What is the Oregon Defensible Space Code?

The Oregon Defensible Space Code is modeled after the 2021 International Wildland-Urban Interface Code. When adopted, the code will apply to areas identified in the wildland-urban interface AND at high or extreme risk of wildfire. These areas are determined by a map created by Oregon State University and the Oregon Department of Forestry.

What is the purpose of the Oregon Defensible Space Code?

The purpose of the Oregon Defensible Space Code is to establish minimum requirements for protecting life and property. Standards in the code are intended to mitigate the risk to life, structures, and other values from wildfire.

What are the processes to adopt the Oregon Defensible Space Code?

In creating the Oregon Defensible Space Code, the Office of State Fire Marshal went through the same process as the Oregon Fire Code adoption process. A committee of stakeholders was created to offer suggestions, ask questions, and help shape the code within the legislative framework. Public comment was also received during the code adoption process. Public comments can be requested or submitted at any time.

Who was involved with the code development process?

A list of the Oregon Defensible Space Code Committee members, minutes, and meeting recordings can be found on our website at tinyurl.com/2udrjznv.

Is public comment still being accepted as part of the code development process?

Yes, public comment is still being accepted as part of the code development process. Anyone wishing to submit a comment should send it to SB762@osp.oregon.gov.

Who does the Oregon Defensible Space Code apply to?

The Oregon Defensible Space Code applies to homes and businesses identified on the wildfire risk map, developed by Oregon State University and the Oregon Department of Forestry, in both the wildland-urban interface **_and_** high or extreme risk.

When will the Oregon Defensible Space Code take effect?

The code development process and the adoption must be complete by December 2022. When the code is complete, it will be reviewed by the Oregon Fire Code Advisory Board (OFCAB). The OFCAB will consider, review, and recommend the draft code to the State Fire Marshal for adoption. The code will take effect in 2023.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
OREGON DEFENSIBLE SPACE CODE

-Can local governments adopt a more stringent defensible space code?

Yes. The Oregon Defensible Space Code establishes the minimum defensible space requirements across the state for wildfire risk reduction on lands identified on the wildfire risk map. Any local requirements that a local government adopts for defensible space must be defensible space standards selected from the framework set forth in the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code.

Who will be enforcing the code?

The Oregon Defensible Space Code can be enforced by the Office of State Fire Marshal and those identified as assistants to the State Fire Marshal (ORS 476.060).

How will the code be enforced?

The Office of State Fire Marshal's philosophy is to prioritize education before enforcement. When the Office of State Fire Marshal begins inspections, the Office will follow the existing code enforcement practices.

What is the process to determine if my home/business meets code requirements?

The code inspection process and assessment tools are under development. For an educational consult or questions about defensible space, please contact our Office at SB762@osp.oregon.gov or 503-934-8204.

Where can I learn more about the Oregon Defensible Space Code adoption process?

A portion of OSFM's website explains the defensible space code. Please visit tinyurl.com/2udrjznv for previous meeting recordings and to provide public comment.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
WILDFIRE RISK MAP

How can I find out what my risk classification is?

Property owners can find their risk classification on the Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer. You can enter your address to view the risk classification on your property and download a homeowners report. A paper copy can be requested by emailing the Oregon Department of Forestry at forestryinfo@odf.oregon.gov.

My home or business is in the wildland-urban interface and at high or extreme risk; what does this mean for me?

Homes and businesses within the wildland-urban interface **_AND_** at high or extreme risk based on the wildfire risk map may be subject to the Oregon Defensible Space Code. On properties where structures have been issued a certificate of occupancy, a defensible space code will apply to homes and businesses.

My home or business is not in the wildland-urban interface and not at high or extreme risk; what does this mean?

Homes and businesses not in the wildland-urban interface **_AND_** at high or extreme risk, based on the wildfire risk map, are not subject to the Oregon Defensible Space Code. The Office of State Fire Marshal recommends that home and business owners at high or extreme risk but NOT in the wildland-urban interface follow defensible space best practices. Wildfire does not recognize map boundary lines.

My home or business is at high or extreme risk but not in the wildland-urban interface; does the code apply to me? What should I do?

No. The Oregon Defensible Space Code only applies to homes and businesses in both the wildland-urban interface AND at high or extreme risk based on the wildfire risk map developed by Oregon State University and the Oregon Department of Forestry.

The Office of State Fire Marshal recommends that home and business owners at high or extreme risk but NOT in the wildland-urban interface follow defensible space best practices. Wildfire does not recognize map boundary lines.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
WILDFIRE RISK MAP

My home or business is in the wildland-urban interface but not at high or extreme risk; does the code apply to me? What should I do?

No. The Oregon Defensible Space Code only applies to homes and businesses in both the wildland-urban interface AND at high or extreme risk based on the wildfire risk map developed by Oregon State University and the Oregon Department of Forestry. To be better protected against wildfire, follow defensible space best practices.

The Office of State Fire Marshal recommends that home and business owners in the wildland-urban interface but NOT at high or extreme risk follow defensible space best practices. Wildfire does not recognize map boundary lines. To be better protected against wildfire, follow defensible space best practices.

I disagree with the Wildfire Risk Map's assessment of my home/business; is there an appeals process?

The Oregon Department of Forestry manages the Oregon Wildfire Risk Map. Concerns regarding wildfire risk level or wildland-urban interface boundaries should follow the Oregon Department of Forestry's appeals process [found here](#).

OREGON OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL
PARTNER AGENCY CONTACTS

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is mandated through Senate Bill 762 to develop and maintain a defensible space code. The OSFM can answer questions about defensible space code requirements and defensible space best practices. For other elements related to Senate Bill 762, different state agencies are the expert in those fields. Find which agency to contact for specific topics below.

RISK CLASSIFICATION

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) maintains the statewide wildfire risk map.

ODF can answer questions regarding:
- Risk level
- Map layers or statistics
- Risk appeals process

CONTACT:
forestryinfo@odf.oregon.gov

HOME HARDENING

The Building Codes Division (BCD), within the Department of Consumer and Business Services, develops new rules and codes for buildings.

BCD can answer questions regarding:
- Home Building Codes
- Code Development

CONTACT:
bcd.info@dcbs.oregon.gov

INSURANCE

The Division of Financial Regulation (DFR) oversees insurance best practices in Oregon.

DFR can answer questions regarding:
- Insurance best practices
- Support with insurance complaints
- Insurance research

CONTACT:
DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov

WILDFIRE RISK MAP

The Oregon State University (OSU) created the wildfire risk map. They continue to manage the data and the map interface on the Wildfire Risk Explorer.
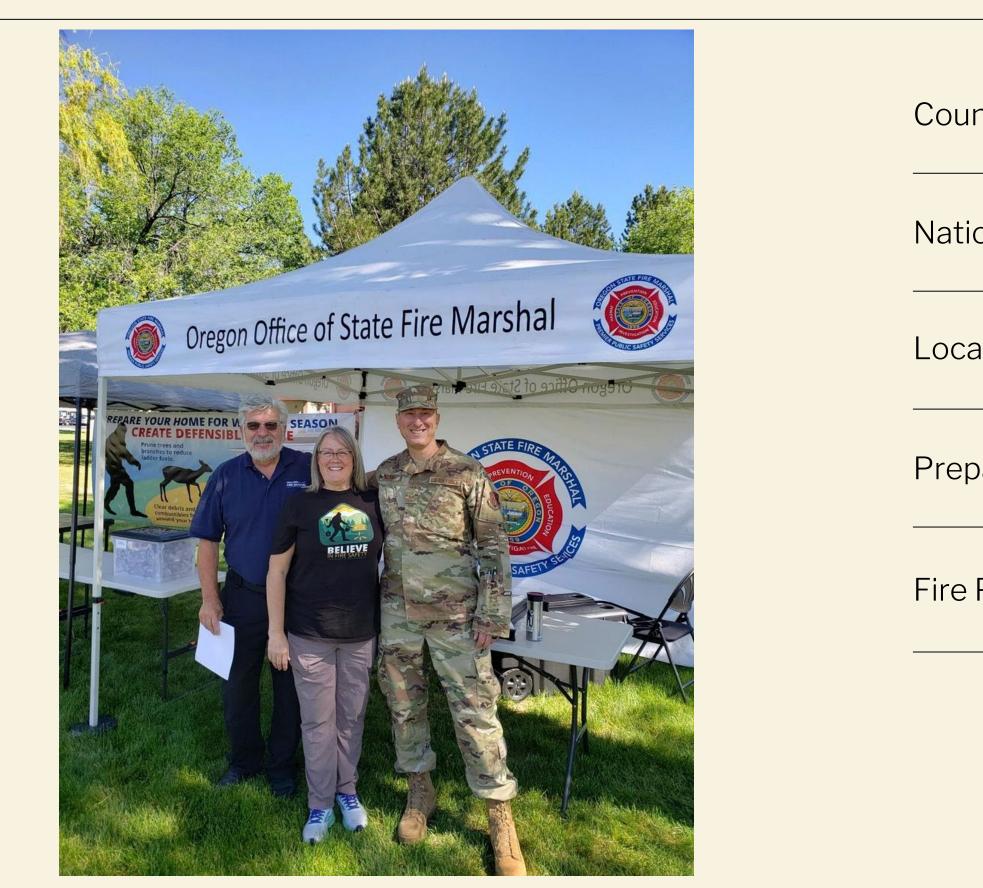
OSU can answer questions regarding:
- Data questions
- Wildfire Risk Explorer

CONTACT:
osuwildfirerisk@oregonstate.edu

Summer Events

County Fairs

National Night Out Events

Local Festivals

Preparedness Month Events- September

Fire Prevention Month Events- October

Summer Event Survey's

➢ Beginning next week, OSFM Staff and partnering volunteers will be encouraging event goers to complete a very brief survey of their understanding of some of our most common practices for fire prevention.

➢ The survey includes a series of 5 questions that are either self assessment, knowledge based, event specific, or information gathering.

➢ Each event will have a survey code which will allow us to see which event the participants had contact with our team.

➢ A QR code will be displayed on the table where the public can then use their phone to scan the code and complete the survey.

➢ In addition, participants will be encouraged to provide some basic contact information which will be their entry into a drawing for Bigfoot Shirts and Hats.

Summer Event Survey's

The Questions:

1. How often do you practice a home fire escape plan?
2. How often do you test your smoke alarms?
3. How do you put out a grease fire in a pan on the stove?
4. What type of smoke alarms do you use?
5. How many minutes do you have to escape a home fire?

I will provide a follow-up to this process in our September meeting.

We hope to duplicate this process for Fire Prevention Month with your help.

Fire Prevention Month 2022

Fire won't wait. Plan your escape.™

Meeting Place X

firepreventionweek.org

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NFPA is
celebrating
100 Years of Fire
Prevention Week!

From NFPA

Key Points in the messaging:

- 100th year of recognizing fire prevention week. The longest running public health observance in our country.
- Todays homes burn faster than ever and that's not changing anytime soon.
- Early Warning (smoke alarms) and advance planning are key.

NFPA Resources

#FirePreventionWeek

FPW Tool kit:
* Out of the box ideas: https://www.nfpa.org/Events/Events/Fire-Prevention-Week/-/media/Files/FPW/Educate/2022/FPW22OOTB.ashx
* Link to the message desk reference
* Press Release template
* Plug and play event flyer

Videos: https://youtu.be/khyHziYGFZg

Teaching Tools: https://sparkyschoolhouse.org/
* Videos
* Games
* Anchor Chart

* **Read and Play Section**

* **Kahoot**

Kahoot

NFPA has partnered with Kahoot in creating four interactive quizzes that teachers and fire service can use in the classroom!

https://create.kahoot.it/profiles/53373e90-5b56-4cea-81ce-a047ab08026f

Creates an interactive experience
As the audience plays, it provides you with data!

Its time to play along!

OSFM Resources

Fire Prevention Month Website
- Proclamation
- Messaging
- Community events
- Classroom visits
- Downloads

Social Media Package
- Each week of fire prevention month
- Facebook and Instagram

Fire Prevention Month Box
- Stopwatches/Timers
- Lollipops
- Coffee Sleeves
- General Home Fire Safety- Open Doors design with planning prompts
- Sticker roll
- Fire Safety Randomizer
- Youth Guide to Home Escape Planning
- Survey cards

125 boxes and each will have 150 of each item.

Shipping out to fire agencies on or before September 16th

Order form will come to OLST ListServ and #FirePrevention ListServ

Local Happenings

- What fire prevention activities is your agency participating in this summer?
- What do you have planning for Fire Prevention Month
- Do you have an prevention wins to share?
- Any other updates?