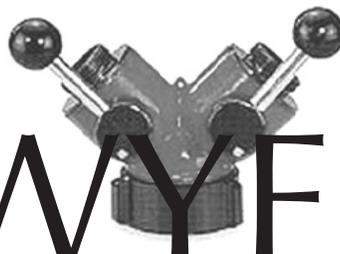


# GATED WYE



March 2009 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 302

## Oregon Senate passes novelty lighter bill

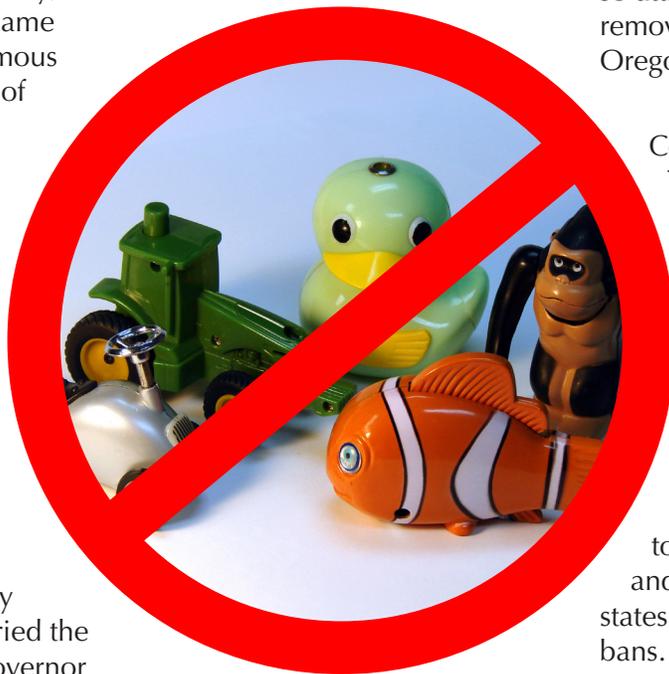
**O**n February 23, the Oregon Senate passed HB 2365, a bill banning the manufacture, sale, and distribution of toylike (novelty) lighters. The Senate vote came just 19 days after a unanimous pass vote from the House of Representatives.

Chair of the House Consumer Protection Committee, Representative Paul Holvey (D-Eugene) and Representative Greg Matthews (D-Gresham) who is also a Gresham firefighter, led the bill to the House floor while Senators Suzanne Bonamici (D-Washington County/Portland) and Larry George (R-Sherwood) carried the bill to the Senate floor. Governor Kulongoski is expected to sign the bill.

"This is an exciting day for the fire service," said State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson. "We're glad that Oregon Senators and Representatives have taken a leading role in keeping these deceptive devices out of the hands of children."

Under the bill, novelty lighters with features attractive

to children, including visual effects, flashing lights, musical sounds, and toylike designs are prohibited from being sold,



distributed, or manufactured for the purpose of sale or distribution in Oregon.

Since 2003, it has been the vision of OSFM's Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program Coordinator Judy Okulitch to have toylike lighter bans on a state and national level. "This has been a long road to success," said Okulitch. "It's

taken a lot of hard work by many people but now we can rest a little easier knowing these dangerous tools that are so attractive to children will be removed from retail shelves in Oregon."

The Oregon Fire Safety Coalition, chaired by retired Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue Division Chief Tim Birr brought stakeholders together to support the concept.

The bill becomes effective 90 days after the Governor's signature and would make Oregon the third state to ban toylike lighters, after Maine and Tennessee. Fourteen other states are considering similar bans.

The National Association of State Fire Marshals as well as The Lighter Association, a national trade group, is supporting an effort to ban toylike lighters across the country.

For more information on toylike lighters, visit [http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/Novelty\\_Toylike\\_Lighters.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/Novelty_Toylike_Lighters.shtml).

## From the desk of the State Fire Marshal



**“The ORRS will eliminate the need to convert data from other programs, saving time and money for OSFM and the fire service.”**

### Development of new response reporting system is underway

It's been a long road to get here but I'm pleased to announce that we have selected ImageTrend to develop the new Oregon Response Reporting System (ORRS) and work is well underway.

The new ORRS will replace the current Oregon All Incident Reporting System (OAIRS) and I am excited about the advances it will bring. We are working hard with ImageTrend and we are determined to have it ready for all Oregon departments and districts by January 1, 2010.

The new ORRS will be a web-based program allowing real-time data access to all departments. The system will also be platform independent which means all you need to use it is internet access and a web browser.

Most importantly, the new system will be compliant with the National Fire Incident Reporting System, with specific requirements added for Oregon reporting.

The OSFM will provide the technical code for Oregon specific requirements to all Oregon departments that use third party software for incident reporting. These departments will need to work with their software vendor to include the Oregon specific reporting requirements. The OSFM is committed to working with departments to ensure they have the information needed to update their software.

The ORRS will eliminate the need to convert data from other programs, saving time and money for OSFM and the fire service. The system will allow real-time data analysis and give departments the ability to compare their data with certain data from other departments.

This is an exciting step forward. Each month we will send fire chiefs and marshals an update on the progress of the project.

For more information, contact Claire McGrew at 503-934-8236 or [claire.mcgrew@state.or.us](mailto:claire.mcgrew@state.or.us). You may also contact Scott Showers at 503-934-8423 or [scott.showers@state.or.us](mailto:scott.showers@state.or.us) or.



### State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson

Office of  
State Fire Marshal

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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 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, contact 503-934-8217.

## OSFM seeks nominations for Sparky awards

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is accepting nominations for the 2009 Golden and Silver Sparky awards. Nomination forms are available online at [http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Administration/09\\_Sparkyform.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Administration/09_Sparkyform.pdf) or by contacting Laura Drager at 503-934-8211 or email [laura.drager@state.or.us](mailto:laura.drager@state.or.us). Nomination deadline is April 15, 2009.

Submit completed forms with an explanation and examples of your nominee's achievements and contributions to preventing fires and fire losses in Oregon.

Send forms to State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson by email, standard mail or fax. To submit by email, send to [randy.simpson@state.or.us](mailto:randy.simpson@state.or.us); by standard mail, send to OSFM 4760 Portland Road NE, Salem, OR 97305; or fax your nomination to 503-373-1825.

Awards will be presented Saturday, May 30, 2009 at the Oregon Fire Service Meritorious Awards banquet at the Salem Conference Center in Salem, Oregon.

## Simpson oath of office ceremony set for March 13

Governor Kulongoski will administer the oath of office to newly appointed Oregon State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson at 1:30 p.m., Friday, March 13, at the Chemeketa Community College campus auditorium. Members of the Oregon fire service and general public are invited to attend.

Chemeketa Community College is located at 4000 Lancaster Drive NE in Salem. The auditorium is Building 6. For a campus map, visit <http://www.chemeketa.edu/aboutus/locations/salem/map.html>. Parking permits are not required. There will be signs to help with directions on campus.

A coffee and cake reception follows the ceremony. For more information, contact Laura Drager at 503-934-8211 or email [laura.drager@state.or.us](mailto:laura.drager@state.or.us).

## Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I training

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal is sponsoring two days of training for certification as Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I, March 17 & 18 at the Chiloquin-Agency Lake Rural Fire Protection District in Chiloquin, Oregon.

The 16-hour course includes an overview of Oregon's juvenile firesetter intervention program, including: policies, procedures and laws, child development and communication, practice using the *Juvenile with Fire* screening tool, intervention options including educational strategies and referral procedures, as well as networking steps and data collection.

The class also provides students with the training to complete the task book required by the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training for National Fire Protection Association 1035 certification as Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I in Oregon.

Instructors include OSFM Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program Coordinator Judy Okulitch and Oregon Deputy State Fire Marshal Greg Davis.

When: March 17-18, 2008, 8:30 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.

Where: Chiloquin-Agency Lake RFPD  
127 S. First Avenue  
Chiloquin, Oregon 97624

Cost: \$20, includes lunch both days

Registration forms may be downloaded at <http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/Training.shtml>. Mail completed forms with payment to Chiloquin-Agency Lake RFPD at the address above. Registration deadline is March 12, 2009.

For more information, visit <http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/Training.shtml>, or contact Judy Okulitch at 503-934-8230 or email [judy.okulitch@state.or.us](mailto:judy.okulitch@state.or.us).

# Legislative update

by Senior Policy Analyst Donna Disch

The 75th Legislative Assembly convened January 12, 2009. That same day, all OSFM pre-session filed bills were introduced. OSFM bills look a bit different from the original seven developed immediately after the 2007 session. The surviving four bills and one policy option package include:

**SB 88 - Cardlock program funding (fiscal sustainability issue):**

Changes statute to increase funding to avoid shortfall in the 09-11 biennium. Clarifies statutory language by removing duplicative and outdated verbiage. Public hearing held in the Business and Transportation Committee, January 22.

**SB 89 - Amends state explosives statutes (streamlining and compatibility with federal laws):**

Eliminates overlapping state and federal regulation of the explosives industry by allowing compliance with federal explosives regulations to satisfy state requirements. Public hearing held in the Judiciary Committee, January 20. Work session held February 23 adopting an amendment requiring USDOT compliance.

**SB 91 - Liquefied petroleum gas program funding (fiscal sustainability issue):**

Changes statute to increase funding to avoid shortfall in the 09-11 biennium, allowing program to continue to operate at the same service level. Public hearing held by the Business and Transportation Committee, January 22.

**HB 2365 - Prohibits the sale and distribution of novelty (toylike) lighters:** Prohibits retail sale and distribution of novelty (toylike) lighters in Oregon and imposes civil penalties on noncompliant retailers. (See story on page one.)

Policy Option Package - \$116,538 FIPT

**Fire inspection training**

Adds a limited duration position. Increases the number of trained fire inspectors for providing consistent statewide fire code enforcement by developing, publishing and distributing inspection training curriculum and training to the Oregon fire service.

Additionally, OSFM worked with the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, and the fireworks industry to develop **HB 5038** to **raise fireworks license and permit fees** through administrative rules to continue the safest possible fire and life safety protection for fireworks dealers, their customers, and first responders.

The OSFM web page on the 2009 Legislative session, [http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/2009\\_Legis.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/2009_Legis.shtml), lists the fifteen House bills and nine Senate bills of interest to the Office of State Fire Marshal. The number of bills monitored will likely increase as the session continues and more bills are introduced.

Currently monitored bills include **HB 2420** establishing presumptions that certain cancers are compensable occupational diseases for non-volunteer firefighters; **SB 189** clarifying the obligation of timberland owners regarding payment of assessments and taxes; and **HB 2457** allowing journeyman plumbers to design fire sprinkler systems in 1- & 2-family dwellings.

OSFM monitors only a portion of the bills of interest to the Oregon fire service. The OSFM watches a larger group of bills of interest to the fire service through the Joint Fire Service Legislative Committee (JFSLC). Fire organizations represented on JFSLC include representatives from Oregon Fire District Directors Association, the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, the Oregon Fire Marshals Association, Oregon Firefighters Council, Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association and the Oregon 9-1-1 group known as APCO-NENA.

Oregon has a Citizen Legislature consisting of a Senate, whose 30 members are elected to four-year terms, and a House of Representatives, with 60 members elected to two-year terms. The regular assembly convenes every two years on the second Monday in January, during odd-numbered years. The Oregon Constitution does not limit session length, however most sessions last about six months.

For more information, contact Office of State Fire Marshal Senior Policy Analyst Donna Disch, 503-934-8275 or [donna.disch@state.or.us](mailto:donna.disch@state.or.us) or visit OSFM's web page on the 2009 Legislative Session: [http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/2009\\_Legis.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/2009_Legis.shtml).

## Fireworks education and safety training in Albany

The non-profit Fireworks Education & Safety Training, Inc. has scheduled three days of fireworks training, April 20-22, 2009 at the Albany Fairgrounds in Albany, Oregon.

Training is designed for fire personnel, law enforcement, Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives agents, and pyrotechnicians.

Each day's training focuses on a single topic:

- April 20 – Outdoor displays
- April 21 – Proximate indoor displays
- April 22 – Flame effects

Demonstrations are planned as long as safety precautions allow.

The training enhances inspection practices prior to permit approval by increasing understanding and analysis of indoor and outdoor pyrotechnic displays. Training follows National Fire Protection Association 1123, 1126, and 160 guidelines.

Space is limited, register early. Registration deadline is April 10, 2009. A registration form and additional information is available at [http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Licensing\\_permits/fireworks/FESTFlyer.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Licensing_permits/fireworks/FESTFlyer.pdf).

## Hazardous materials grant application and guidance

The Application and Guidance Manual for the 2009/2010 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant is available. All Oregon emergency response organizations will receive a printed copy. An electronic version is available on the OSFM web site at [http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/HMEP\\_Synop.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/HMEP_Synop.shtml).

The HMEP grant provides funding for planning and training projects related to hazardous materials. The deadline for grant submissions is May 15, 2009. The performance period for approved projects begins October 1, 2009 and ends September 30, 2010.

For more information or to request a printed copy of the application, contact Terry Wolfe at 503-934-8219 or email [terry.wolfe@state.or.us](mailto:terry.wolfe@state.or.us).

## National Fire Academy classes offered in Oregon

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is hosting two, 2-day National Fire Academy courses June 1-4, 2009 at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) in Salem, Oregon.

The OSFM is awarding 30 tuition scholarships to fire prevention and safety educators. Travel and meals are students' responsibility. Low cost meals are available at the DPSST cafeteria.

### **Community Risk Issues and Prevention Interventions, June 1-2, 2009**

Students receive an overview of the three E's of prevention - education, engineering, and enforcement. Topics include evaluation of types and levels of community prevention; how injuries, fires, and burns can be prevented; strategies and countermeasures to help people understand the injury, fire, or burn event and more.

### **Fire Prevention for High-Risk Populations: Age and Disability Factors, June 3-4, 2009**

Provides an overview of the knowledge, skills, and process to conduct successful risk reduction efforts among older adult populations and very young children. Topics include personal beliefs and observations about the aging process; developing sensitivities about growing older; characteristics and challenges associated with addressing risk among older adult and very young population groups; the risk reduction process for older adults; and more.

More information and an application is available at: [www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Comm\\_Ed/Training/National\\_Fire\\_Academy\\_Classes\\_in\\_Oregon.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Comm_Ed/Training/National_Fire_Academy_Classes_in_Oregon.shtml). Applications are due by 5 p.m., April 15, 2009. Students may apply to attend one or both courses. Space is limited, only 30 scholarships for each class are available. The OSFM will notify candidates of their status by April 30, 2009.

For more information, contact Stephanie Stafford at 503-934-8245 or [stephanie.stafford@state.or.us](mailto:stephanie.stafford@state.or.us) or contact Nicole Ohmart at 503-934-8366 or [nicole.ohmart@state.or.us](mailto:nicole.ohmart@state.or.us).

## Workshop available on Multi-Family Housing, Fire Reduction Program

**T**ualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R) is conducting a free Train-the-Trainer workshop on the Multi-Family Housing Fire Reduction Program, April 16, 2008 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: April 16, 2009, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

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

A registration form is available at [http://egov.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Comm\\_Ed/Training/TVF\\_R\\_Registration\\_Form.pdf](http://egov.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Comm_Ed/Training/TVF_R_Registration_Form.pdf). Registrations may be submitted via email using the online form or you can print the form and submit it by fax or standard mail. Send fax to 503-373-1825; standard mail to 4760 Portland Road NE, Salem, OR 97305, attention Candice Clark.

Early registration is recommended, space is limited to 24 participants. For more information, contact Candice Clark at 503-934-8266 or email [candice.clark@state.or.us](mailto:candice.clark@state.or.us).

## LPG testing now available online

**T**he License and Permit Services unit has made online testing available for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) exams.

Applicants initially applying to be licensed as an LPG fitter, truck equipment operator or business operator no longer must wait until the second Tuesday of the month to travel to Salem to take the exam. With online exams they are now able to test at a time and location convenient for them.

For more information, contact Sally Cravinho at 503-934-8274 or email [sally.cravinho@state.or.us](mailto:sally.cravinho@state.or.us).

## Fire grant update

by Hines Firefighter/Grant Writer Jonathan Manski

**W**ith the 2008 Fire Prevention & Safety Grant deadline approaching and the 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grant due to open, March should be very busy for Oregon fire grant writers. Don't wait for the AFG to open to begin your narrative and research. Successful grant seekers should prepare all year, learning from past mistakes and building on recent successes.

The hammer dropped on February's Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> for many of the remaining fire department grant applications, as what should be the final round of AFG turndowns were sent out. If you made it this far, consider your application well done. It was likely a simple lack of funding that kept you out of the money.

Consensus is that all the successful awards have been announced or are pending. A glimmer of hope rests with those who received a turndown email stating, "if we identify any excess funding from unused administrative funds or if some of the applicants decline their grant offer, we may be able to fund your request." If this happens, it would not occur until late in the fiscal year, generally August or September. If your department ranked very high on the final turndown list, odds may still be in your favor.

Cumulatively for the 2008 AFG program, 51 Oregon departments were awarded funding which now totals more than \$6 million.

Two departments were successful in the 2008 SAFER Grants in February. Cloverdale RFPD plans to hire three firefighters and Cornelius FD received firefighter recruitment funding. Awards for both departments totaled more than \$530,000.

## OFMA annual meeting set for May 4-8

**T**he Oregon Fire Marshals Association's annual business meeting and fire prevention institute is scheduled for May 4-8, 2009 at the Linn County Expo center in Albany, Oregon. The event will feature training for Fire and Life Safety Competency and Recognition levels 1, 2, 3, & 4 and more. Updated information will be posted at [www.ofma.net](http://www.ofma.net).



# Benzyl Bromide $C_7H_7Br$

## Description:

- Benzyl bromide  
CAS No.: 100-39-0
- Clear, colorless to slightly yellow or light brown liquid, with an unpleasant odor
- Acute and chronic health hazard, corrosive, combustible material
- DOT Hazard Class: 6.1 poisonous material  
UN/NA 1737

## NFPA Information:

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

## Uses and Occurrences:

- Prepared by incorporating bromine into toluene (bromination of toluene)
- Used in organic synthesis
- Used in preparing foaming and frothing agents
- Used as a tear gas in WWI

## Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Flash point: 186.8° F
- LEL and UEL: Not available
- Can undergo hazardous polymerization
- Water hydrolyzes benzyl bromide liberating acidic gas which, in contact with metal surfaces, can generate flammable/explosive hydrogen gas
- Stable under normal conditions of use and storage
- Incompatibles include: Oxidizing agents, bases, amines, and alcohols

## Health Hazards:

- OSHA PEL: 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> TWA Note: value is for a similar compound, benzyl chloride. Data is not available for benzyl bromide
- Eye irritant, strong lachrymator (increases flow of tears), causes redness, pain, and burns
- Irritating to the skin with redness, pain, and burns
- May be harmful if absorbed through the skin
- Causes respiratory tract irritation, may be fatal as a result of spasm, edema
- Ingestion may cause abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, and possible burns

- Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) 10 ppm Note: value is for a similar compound, benzyl chloride. Data is not available for benzyl bromide

## Personal Protective Equipment:

- Emergency responders should use Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and full protective equipment
- Use local exhaust ventilation or other engineering controls to stay within PELs
- Wear chemical resistant gloves, apron, splash goggles
- Use an approved respirator if appropriate

## Inspection and Storage Tips:

- Do not store in metal containers
- Store away from light or moisture
- Keep container in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area
- Protect against physical damage
- Store away from incompatibles

## 2007 Oregon Fire Code Information:

- Toxic
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per S occupancy control area:
  - Unprotected by sprinklers or approved storage cabinets: 500 gallons
  - In sprinklered building, not within approved storage cabinets: 1000 gallons
  - In unsprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 1000 gallons
  - In sprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 2,000 gallons

## Incident Reporting and Information:

- There are two facilities in Oregon currently reporting benzyl bromide on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey
- There have been no hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986 involving benzyl bromide

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For questions or suggestions contact HazMat Information Specialist Alec Carte at 503-934-8262, or email [aleta.carte@state.or.us](mailto:aleta.carte@state.or.us)

## Fire prevention co-op videos air on web and TV

The Rogue Valley Fire Prevention Cooperative has added a series of videos on wildland fire prevention to their website. The five-video series was produced in cooperation with local television station KDRV Channel 12. The 30-second public service announcements (PSAs) cover spring cleaning, fire-resistant plants, fire-wood storage, defensible space, and protecting homes from airborne embers. The spots aired during fire season 2008 on Channel 12 at no cost to the Co-op. The Co-op is now working on a set of similar PSAs to air on all networks and covering a wider range of fire prevention topics, both wildland and structural. They plan to use grant funding to buy prime media time to get the message to as many citizens as possible.

The website also has a variety of tips and information for rural homeowners about wildfire, wildland urban interface property regulations, home evacuation planning and more. Visit <http://www.rvfpc.com>.



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## In memoriam

**Lee Roy King**  
1936 – 2009

King was born and raised in North Bend, Oregon. After marrying his high school sweetheart, the couple moved to Ashland where he attended Southern Oregon University. King joined the Ashland Fire Department in 1965 and retired in 1991 after serving 12 years as fire chief.

**Dee Wescott**  
1927 – 2009

Born in Portland, Oregon, Wescott's family moved to Damascus, Oregon during the Great Depression. He joined Boring Fire District in 1950 and served in nearly every capacity until becoming chief in the early 1960s. He retired from active duty as assistant chief in 1997 and continued his service as a board member until his death. Wescott also helped organize the community of Damascus into a city in 2004 and served as its first mayor.