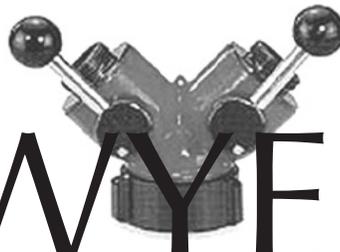


# GATED WYE



June 2011 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 329

## OSFM awards Sparky winners

Interim State Fire Marshal Jim Walker bestowed the Office of State Fire Marshal's highest awards for outstanding achievement in fire prevention and fire safety education during the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association annual Meritorious Awards Banquet in Salem, May 14, 2011.

The Golden Sparky award was presented to Canby Fire Marshal/Division Chief Troy Buzalsky and the Silver Sparky was presented to Lynda Kristoffersen, President of the Bay Area Sunrise Rotary Club in Coos Bay.

"In his more than 25 years serving in Canby Fire Department's Fire Prevention Division, Fire Marshal/Division Chief Troy Buzalsky has personally taught more than 7,500 grade school kids, and developed a student outreach program that rewards them for completing interactive homework with their families," said Interim State Fire Marshal Jim Walker. "Every year, Fire Marshal Buzalsky has tirelessly recruited area businesses and community partners to maintain funding for this successful program."

"The Bay Area Sunrise Rotary Club has performed a great service to the communities of Coos Bay, North Bend, Charleston, and beyond, by committing to spreading the fire safety message to these communities," said Interim State Fire Marshal Jim Walker. "The Rotary club has used grant money to conduct fire safety training for the public and to organize an extensive advertising campaign on home fire safety. As part of their efforts, they have provided smoke alarms and fire extinguishers free to the public. I cannot think of another group more deserving of this award."



**Golden Sparky recipient  
Canby Fire Marshal/Division  
Chief Troy Buzalsky**



**Silver Sparky recipient Bay  
Area Sunrise Rotary President  
Lynda Kristoffersen with  
nominator Steve Schneiderman**

## NFPA theme for Fire Prevention Week 2011

The National Fire Protection Association's theme for Fire Prevention Week 2011 is *Protect Your Family From Fire*. Fire Prevention Week will be held October 9-15, 2011. This year's theme focuses on how to protect your family from fire by planning ahead and integrating simple things into your everyday life.

During the five-year-period from 2005-2009, NFPA estimates that U.S. fire departments responded to an average of 373,900 reported home fires per year. These fires caused an estimated average of 2,650 civilian deaths, 12,890 civilian injuries, and \$7.1 billion in direct property damage per year. Nationally, smoking materials remain the leading cause of home fire deaths, while cooking equipment is the leading cause of home structure fires and home fire injuries.

# From the desk of the Interim State Fire Marshal



**“If your agency is not using the hazardous information collected by our CR2K unit, I urge you to do so.”**

## The value of chemical reporting and emergency planning

The recent hazardous material release at Precision Cast Parts in Milwaukie, Oregon served to reinforce the importance of the OSFM's Community Right to Know program, as well as the need for communities across Oregon to form local emergency planning committees.

Our CR2K program staff administer the Oregon Community Right to Know and Protection Act, established to ensure citizens and emergency responders know what chemicals are used, stored, and manufactured in their communities.

The CR2K program accomplishes this through hazardous substance information surveys of industries throughout the state and by maintaining a database of this information accessible to emergency responders, emergency planners, and the public.

The role of the OSFM's Community Right to Know program is also crucial in assisting communities to establish local emergency planning committees (LEPC).

For the past several years, our Planning and Training Assistance Program staff have been assisting Oregon communities in developing local emergency planning committees (LEPC). These committees are designed to understand local chemical hazards, prevent chemical accidents, evaluate emergency plans, and educate the public on how to protect themselves in the event of a release.

All of these services are extremely valuable as those of us in public safety work to keep Oregonians and their property safe from fire and hazardous materials.

If your agency is not using the hazardous information collected by our CR2K unit, I urge you to do so. Also, if your agency is not involved in an LEPC, I strongly encourage you to take a leadership role to organize and maintain one. Our office has the expertise to assist you. Please contact our planning and training assistance experts at 503-934-8219.



**Interim  
State Fire Marshal  
Jim Walker**

**Office of  
State Fire Marshal**

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

**[www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM)  
503-373-1540**

Administration  
ext. 211

Codes & Technical  
Services  
ext. 269

Community Education  
ext. 236

Community  
Right-to-Know  
ext. 214

Data Collection & Research  
ext. 273

Emergency Planning &  
Response  
ext. 227

Emergency Response  
ext. 238

Fire & Life Safety  
ext. 204

License & Permits  
ext. 264

Youth Prevention  
& Intervention  
ext. 230

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](mailto:richard.hoover@state.or.us). In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, alternative formats of this publication are available.

## Fireworks education and enforcement resources

As fireworks season approaches, the OSFM reminds fire agencies about a number of online resources available to assist with your fireworks education and enforcement efforts. Click on the following links to access information:

- [Common Inspection Elements for Retail Fireworks Sales](#)
- [Retail Sales Toolkit](#)
- [Outdoor Fireworks Display Inspection Checklist](#)
- [Fireworks Display Toolkit](#)
- [Illegal Fireworks Toolkit](#)
- [Public Education Toolkit](#)

[Pocket Guides for Fireworks Enforcement](#) are available on the OSFM website or by calling 503-934-8285.

## Fire marshal certification deadline is July 1

As required by OAR 837-039-0120, [Certification and Training Requirements for Conducting Fire Code Enforcement](#), every fire inspector in Oregon who inspects for fire code compliance, must have a competency recognition certificate equivalent to their scope of practice. The rule also establishes statewide standards for certification and training of fire officials responsible for administration of a fire code approved by the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal.

The rule identifies four levels of competency recognition and uses a phase-in date approach for compliance: Company Inspector, January 1, 2009; Fire and Life Safety Specialist 1, July 1, 2010; Fire and Life Safety Specialist 2, January 1, 2011; and **Fire Marshal, July 1, 2011.**

Fire and Life Safety Competency Recognition standards identify the scope of practice, training, technical certification, and experience required to administer and enforce the fire code in Oregon.

Visit online to [view your competency recognition level](#) and [competency recognition requirements](#).

## NFPA 58 valve requirement deadline is July 1

In 2001, retroactive valve requirements were added to National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 58 with a deadline of July 1, 2011. The new requirement involves valves that are intended to improve the safety of Liquefied Propane Gas (LPG) containers larger than 4,000 gallons (water capacity) by containing the contents should there be a catastrophic hose or piping failure, or fire. The requirements incorporate systems to stop the flow of liquid propane, from remote shut-down locations, in an emergency.

In 2001, the NFPA 58 Technical Committee gave the propane industry 10 years to fit their plants with these safety features. To assist fire agencies with their inspection efforts, the Office of State Fire Marshal distributed a resource pack to all exempt jurisdictions. The pack includes a field inspection form, relative code sections, and sample exhibits of required components. The OSFM would like to ensure all propane bulk plant storage facilities in Oregon comply with the retroactive valve requirements by the deadline.

If you are an exempt jurisdiction and have not received a resource packet or have questions, contact OSFM Compliance Specialist Jay Hardwick at 503-934-8278 or email [jay.hardwick@state.or.us](mailto:jay.hardwick@state.or.us).



### Jim Walker going to jail?

Interim State Fire Marshal Jim Walker has been sentenced to serve time at the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) maximum appreciation jail site, unless he can "make bail" prior to the June 21, 2011 deadline.

Walker's bail is set at sending three local Salem area kids with muscular dystrophy to MDA Summer Camp, which is \$2,400. Your donation to his bail will also help provide funds for groundbreaking research, support groups, and medical clinics at OHSU and Shriners' Hospital for Children.

[Easily and securely donate to Jim Walker's bail online](#) and help out a great cause.

## Get your OSFM *Guide to Station Tours*

Fire service professionals are called on to do a lot more than fight fires. Everything they do is an essential function to the important, life-saving work for which they are known.

One of the responsibilities of fire service professionals is to develop skills in delivering effective fire and life safety messages and programs that are age-appropriate for all citizens, both young and old. Communities and schools rely on the fire service to provide accurate information in their area of expertise – fire and life safety. And, as a fire service professional, you can rely on your schools for accurate information in their areas of expertise – effective teaching strategies, research, and child development.

With this in mind, the Office of State Fire Marshal consulted with experienced fire educators and teaching professionals to develop an easy-to-use guide for station tours. The content and suggestions provided in the guide are research-based and supported by leading fire and life safety educators across the country. Yet, one size does not fit all.

The guide was developed to allow users the flexibility to adapt the material based on their agency's standard operating procedures and community needs.

The information provided in *A Guide to Station Tours* is organized by age groups and color-coded. The guide aligns key fire safety messages to the developmental abilities of each age group and provides scripts you can use to deliver fire and life safety messages while conducting a tour.

To request a printed copy of *A Guide to Station Tours*, contact Judy Okulitch at 503-934-8230 or [judy.okulitch@state.or.us](mailto:judy.okulitch@state.or.us).



## Three names added to memorial wall

Three names were added to the Oregon Law Enforcement Memorial wall in May, during an annual ceremony at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem.

Hundreds of law enforcement personnel, family members, and friends watched as tributes were given for Rainier Police Chief Ralph Painter, Independence Police Officer Roger Lloyd, and Lake Oswego Police Chief Daniel K. Duncan.

Guest speakers included Oregon Chief Justice Paul DeMuniz, Rainier Mayor Jerry Cole, Independence Police Chief Vernon Wells, and Lake Oswego Interim Police Chief Don Forman.

[Visit the Oregon Fallen Law Enforcement Memorial website.](#)

## State hazmat teams keep busy

April 8 through May 11 was unusually busy for state hazmat teams as they were called out to six high-profile incidents.

April 8 – Hazmat 14 Ontario, responded to a white powder call on Interstate 84. Substance was determined to be 400 pounds of sodium bicarbonate. No injuries.

April 14 & 25 – Hazmat 13 Salem, responded to two white powder calls; first at Capital Chevrolet and the other at Oregon Department of Revenue. First substance was determined to be common household flour; second substance was determined to be seed oils. No injuries reported in either.

May 4 – Hazmat 6 Portland and Hazmat 9 Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, responded to a train derailment near the intersection of Hwy. 30 and Cornelius Pass Road. A tank car carrying ethanol was punctured and caught fire. No injuries.

May 11 – Hazmat 3 Gresham/Multnomah County and Hazmat 6 Portland, responded to a toxic cloud call in Milwaukie. Substance was determined to be hydrochloric nitric acid from a manufacturing facility. Minor injuries to two firefighters and two civilians.

[Learn more about Oregon's hazmat teams by visiting the Office of State Fire Marshal's website.](#)

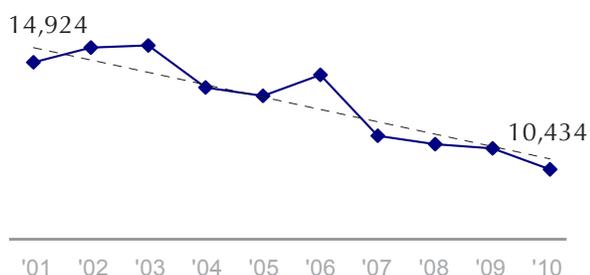
## DATA Connection

News from the Data Collection & Research Unit

### Oregon Fires in 2010

This month, the Office of State Fire Marshal releases its 2010 Annual Report. Here is a sneak preview of data in the report about our state's structural fire agency response during 2010.

#### Fires in Oregon 10-Year Trend: -3.3%



Oregon's structural fire agencies responded to 10,434 fires in 2010.<sup>1</sup> This represents a 7.6% decline from 2009, and the continuation of a long-term downward trend. Oregon fires have declined an average of 3.3% annually over the last ten years. This trend is solid evidence that the fire prevention education, engineering, and enforcement focus along with efforts of the OSFM and Oregon's fire agencies are making a positive impact across the state.

#### Select 2010 data highlights:

- The leading fire causes in 2010 were heating equipment (12%), cigarettes (11%), cooking (11%), and electrical (9%). Our annual report presents the five-year trends of several common causes of fire, most of which are declining. Only cooking fires showed a significant upward trend in 2009 and 2010. Cooking is the number one cause of fire-related injuries in Oregon, accounting for 19% of reported injuries.
- Building fires (non-confined structure fires) account for 22% of all fires in Oregon, but are responsible for the vast majority of the state's

fire related casualties and property loss. Building fires declined by 4% from 2009.

- The majority (43%) of Oregon's fires occurred on residential properties, including single- and multi-family dwellings, hotels, residential board and care facilities, and dormitories.
- Although fires in fixed mobile property (e.g. mobile homes, motor homes, and campers used as a fixed residence) make up only 1% of all Oregon fires, they are responsible for 25% of the fire-related deaths in 2010.
- Smoke alarm presence in Oregon homes has significantly improved over the last 10 years. In 2010, smoke alarms were present in 62% of all home structure fires, compared to only 47% in 2001.

#### Oregon Fire Fatalities

There were 24 civilian fire fatalities in 2010. Of these, 16 were in unintentional residential structure fires, five were in vehicle fires resulting from single-car crashes, and three were suicides. Heating equipment was involved in the majority (6) of the fatal residential fires, and three of these involved portable heaters. Cigarettes, the second leading cause of fatal residential fires in 2010, are responsible for three deaths.

Unfortunately, the first five months of 2011 saw twice the number of fire fatalities than the same period in 2010.

2011 year-to-date, there have been 20 fire fatalities, including five children ages five and under, in Oregon. Fire causes are still under investigation; however, it appears that heating equipment, in too close proximity to combustibles, will again be a significant cause of fatal fires this year.

For more 2010 data, watch for the release of our Annual Report on our website this month. Questions? Please contact the Data Collection & Research Unit at 503-373-1540, ext. 273.

<sup>1</sup> Statistics in this article were compiled from incident reports by Oregon fire agencies, submitted to the Office of State Fire Marshal.

## LEPC Highlights

by Community Planning Coordinator Krista Fischer

### Multnomah County LEPC

The Multnomah County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) was officially chartered in April 2011. Members represent a cross-section of the community, from local, state, and federal governments, public safety, emergency management, first responders, healthcare, schools, and community groups, to the owner/operators of facilities subject to emergency planning under the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA).

The LEPC is in the process of training its members, organizing committees, reviewing public outreach opportunities, establishing community partnerships, and scheduling emergency plan reviews, in an effort to identify, assess, and plan for a potential hazardous substance incident, while complying with the EPCRA requirements.

"We are moving forward to integrate the newly formed Multnomah County LEPC into the existing emergency infrastructure, with a particular emphasis on Community Right to Know and emergency response plans," said Chairman Jim Swayze. "Citizens have the right, and should know the potential for a hazardous substance incident and what they should do when an event does happen."

The LEPC uses a variety of methods to ensure community preparedness and planning. The Multnomah County LEPC will accomplish their goals by working with local partners to pre-plan for an incident and practice responding to the plan; conducting reviews of existing emergency operations plan; informing and educating the public on the hazards that exist and what to do when an incident occurs.

LEPC meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be from 9 a.m. to noon, June 17, 2011, at Portland Community College's Cascade Campus, Terrell Hall (TH122) on the corner of N. Kirby and N. Jessup, Portland, Oregon.

[Go online to learn more about Oregon's LEPCs.](#)

## Fire grant update

by Hines Lieutenant/Grant Writer Jonathan Manski

Most of the 2010 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) awards have been made, and by now the secondary peer review denial letters seem to have finally been sent.

In summary, for Oregon the 2010 AFG produced decent results although less than the 10-year averages. Fifty awards, representing a 29% success rate, for \$6.3 million dollars were spread across 48 departments.

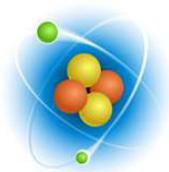
Let's look forward to the 2011 program which seems likely to hold the last of significant funding levels for the next few years. The 2011 grant program is the one in which you will want to ask for your highest priority projects.

AFG workshop notes point out many important changes to the 2011 program. Highlights include a new scoring method, where a 50/50 score is derived from computer and peer panelists scores, and now ambulances are considered high priority in the "fire department vehicle projects." Also, each project in your application now needs its own narrative, not just a single narrative per application. With a number of application changes, it's imperative to [review program guidance and attend an AFG workshop.](#)

Oregon fire departments and districts fared very well with the 2010 Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response grants, including awards for eight departments totaling nearly \$4.4 million dollars; almost twice the six-year average funding levels.

Most of you are aware that the U.S. Department of Agriculture Volunteer Fire Assistance grant program, administered by the Oregon Department of Forestry, is open until June 7, 2011. This grant has a maximum award of \$20,000 but will likely be reduced in order to spread the most good to the most departments.

Because of federal budget issues this year, the Rural Fire Assistance program has been suspended for 2011. These grants target small departments or districts in rural areas and communities of 10,000 or less population. [Visit the ODF website for more information.](#)



# Denatured Alcohol

## Description:

- Synonyms: Denatured ethanol
- Chemicals are added to make ethanol toxic or unpalatable to prevent drinking it
- Methanol is the most common denaturant
- Other denaturants include isopropyl alcohol, methyl isobutyl ketone, and denatonium
- The uses help determine the denaturant
- CAS No.: 64-17-5 (ethanol)
- EPA Section 302 EHS: Not listed
- EPA Section 112R : Not listed
- EPA Section 304 EHS: Not listed
- OSHA Process Safety Management (PSM): Not listed

## NFPA 704 Information:

- Health: 2
- Flammability: 3
- Reactivity: 0
- Special: None

## Uses and Occurrences:

- Used in place of ethanol
- Uses include: solvent, cleaners, and camp stove fuel

## Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Flash point: 55° F (ethanol)
- LEL: 3.3%; UEL: 19.0% (ethanol)
- Autoignition temperature: 685.4° F (ethanol)
- Vapor density (air = 1): 1.6 (ethanol)
- Specific gravity (water = 1): 0.80 (ethanol)
- Boiling point: 172° F (ethanol)
- Stable under normal conditions
- Ethanol burns with a pale blue flame
- Incompatibles include strong acids, strong oxidizers, alkali metals, and halogens

## Health Hazards:

- OSHA PELs, IDLH and health hazards vary depending on the denaturant and its concentration – refer to specific MSDS
- Methanol can be absorbed through the skin
- Methanol may cause blindness
- Ingestion of 100 to 125ml of 100% methanol may be fatal
- Irritating to the respiratory tract, eyes, and skin
- Chronic: may have liver and kidney effects

## Fire Fighting Measures:

- Extinguishing media: water fog, foam, carbon dioxide, or dry chemical
- Cool fire exposed containers with water fog
- Vapors may settle in low areas
- Vapors may ignite at distant ignition source and flash back
- Material floats on water

## 2008 Emergency Response Guidebook:

- Shipping name: Denatured alcohol
- Hazard Classes: Flammable liquid, 3
- UN/NA: 1987; Guide # 127
- Spill: Initially isolate 150 feet in all directions
- Not listed in Table 1

## 2010 Oregon Fire Code: Table 2703.1.1(1)

- Class IB Flammable liquid
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per control area:
  - Unprotected by sprinklers or approved storage cabinets: 120 gallons
  - In sprinklered building, not within approved storage cabinets: 240 gallons
  - In unsprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 240 gallons
  - In sprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 480 gallons
  - Group when MAQ exceeded: H-2 or H-3

## Incident Reporting and Information:

- Facilities reporting denatured alcohol on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey: 27
- Hazardous material incidents reported in Oregon since 1986: Four

## References include:

- <http://cameochemicals.noaa.gov/chemical/17187>
- Mallinckrodt-Baker, MSDS Ethyl Alcohol, Completely Denatured
- Hill Brothers, MSDS Denatured Alcohol
- Mallinckrodt-Baker, MSDS Methyl Alcohol
- 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](mailto:aleta.carte@state.or.us)

## Fireworks flyers available

The flyer shown below is available free to all Oregon fire agencies from the OSFM. The 11 x 4 inch full color flyer can be used to enhance your fireworks education efforts. Ensure timely delivery of your order by contacting Lori Van Dan Acker at 503-934-8274 or email [lori.vandanacker@state.or.us](mailto:lori.vandanacker@state.or.us).

**No Fireworks  
on Beaches, Parks  
or Campgrounds**

**It's the Law!** Office of State Fire Marshal and Oregon State Parks



## Juvenile Intervention Specialist 1 training

This class prepares fire service personnel for completing the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training Task Book for National Fire Protection Association 1035 certification as Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist 1 in Oregon. All participants will receive a certificate of completion indicating 14 hours of professional development training.

When: August 17th & 18th, 2011

Where: Portland Area (TBD)

For more information, contact Judy Okulitch at 503-934-8230 or [judy.okulitch@state.or.us](mailto:judy.okulitch@state.or.us).

## Deputy fire marshal bids for berth in Guinness record book

submitted by Lorri Headrick,  
Albany Fire Department Administrative Supervisor

The Guinness Book of World Records is home to the longest, shortest, fastest, strongest, and the Albany Fire Department is home to Deputy Fire Marshal Bob Brooks, a Guinness World Record hopeful.

On Wednesday, June 22, Brooks will go for the world record for the most fire service patches collected. His collection of more than 8,300 patches will be on public display from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center. The event is open to the public and admission is free.

It has taken Brooks 27 years to collect the patches. His collection surpasses the 1996 world record of 4,400 patches set by a firefighter from Madrid, Spain. Brooks' collection is also unique: it consists solely of patches from fire service agencies in the United States with no duplications and no more than one patch per agency. He obtained most of the patches for free, but he has paid as much as \$80 for one and sold another for \$175.

A challenging patch to obtain was one for the Sherwood, Oregon, Fire Department, which ceased to exist in early 1970.

It took him 15 years to locate a Sherwood patch, which he just recently added to his collection. Probably the most difficult patch for anyone to obtain is from the Skywalker Ranch Fire Department, home of movie producer George Lucas. The patches are forbidden to be released.

Brooks managed, through a trade, to obtain one of very few in circulation.

Brooks' next goal is to increase his collection to 10,000 patches from the approximate 25,000 fire service agencies in the United States. His patch collection will eventually be on display at the Oregon Fire Service Education and Heritage Center, to be constructed through donations, at Antique Powerland in Brooks, Oregon.

Brooks joined the Albany Fire Department in 2005. He served previously as a firefighter in the U.S. Air Force, Klamath Falls Fire Department, and Mason County Fire District #2 in Washington state. He plans to retire in December 2011, but will continue collecting patches and being a world record holder. Fire service patch enthusiasts can reach Brooks at [firebucketbob@msn.com](mailto:firebucketbob@msn.com).

