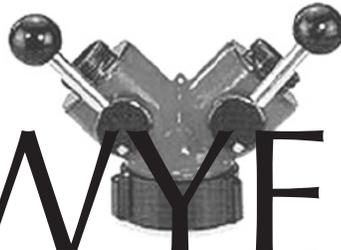


GATED WYE



May 2011 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 328

LEPC formed for Multnomah County

Interim State Fire Marshal Jim Walker presented an official charter recognition certificate to members of the Multnomah County Local Emergency Planning Committee at their first official meeting in April.

"It's important we each prepare our emergency operation plan, review it and practice it to make



Jim Walker presents LEPC Chair James Swayze (left) with the charter certificate

sure everything works before a hazardous substance incident occurs," said Multnomah County LEPC Chairman Jim Swayze. "Each one of you is here because you play a very important role in preplanning, mitigating, or responding to an emergency in some way."

The next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m., May 13, 2011 at the Hall of Fame Room, University of Portland's Chiles Center, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd., Portland, OR.

[More LEPC information](#) is available on the OSFM website.

Wildfire Awareness Week and Firewise - a good combination

by ODF National Fire Plan Coordinator Kristin Babbs

Homeowners are choosing to live in the wildland urban interface, and that choice involves risk. While federal and state agencies and local fire agencies have their respective jurisdictions, wildland fire protection is just too big a challenge for a single agency or department. Cooperation from private landowners and homeowners is an essential component of Oregon's complete and coordinated fire protection system.

Each year, the first week of May is designated as *Wildfire Awareness Week*. Fire officials use this time to remind Oregonians that we live in a beautifully forested, yet highly flammable state. They educate forest landowners, other rural residents, and the public about the threat of wildfire, and actions they can take to lower their property risk. Through these collaborative education efforts, fire staff are able to achieve more fire prevention objectives than are possible alone, and bring an added measure of safety to communities.

Spring is the time for planting, cleaning around the house, and eliminating debris. When

the weather is cool and plants are flush with green leaves and blooms, fire isn't on the minds of most Oregonians. Yet, all of these activities provide excellent teachable moments to promote the benefits of the [Firewise Communities/USA program](#), and engage neighborhood participation in prevention activities.

The national Firewise Communities/USA program educates homeowners about wildland fire and offers steps they can take to reduce their risk. It's a perfect fit for small communities and neighborhood associations willing to implement risk reduction measures that meet their unique needs and maintain a level of fire readiness every year. Communities create the programs themselves with cooperative assistance from state forestry agencies and local fire staff.

Wildfire Awareness Week is the ideal time to draw attention to the Home Ignition Zone as fire season approaches. Think you have a good Firewise Community candidate? Contact Kristin Babbs, National Fire Plan Coordinator and Oregon Firewise State Liaison, at 503-945-7444 or kbabbs@odf.state.or.us.

From the desk of the Interim State Fire Marshal



Thank you to all who participated and volunteered a week out of your lives for Officer Kilcullen and his family.”

Properly honoring a fallen public safety servant

Members of Oregon’s incident management teams (IMT) continue to step up when called upon. Unfortunately, they were called for the second time this year to help in the aftermath of a line of duty death of an Oregon law enforcement officer.

Members of the OSFM’s Blue Incident Management Team, along with a few folks from other teams who filled in for unavailable blue team members, joined a diverse group of individuals to plan and organize memorial events in honor of Eugene Police Officer Chris Kilcullen.

Officer Kilcullen was killed by a single gunshot while performing a routine traffic stop, April 22.

Properly honoring a fallen public safety servant can be a daunting task for most local agencies. Soon after beginning their planning, the Eugene Police Department requested IMT assistance because the scope of ensuring Officer Kilcullen was properly honored, was growing rapidly.

Mixed feelings are always a challenge to deal with. While it saddens me that one of our IMTs was deployed yet again to assist with such a tragic event, I am pleased and honored at the way they performed their mission in such a capable and professional way.

It was a tremendous undertaking by three co-incident commanders: Rich Stronach from the Eugene Police Department, Kristie Hammitt from the City of Eugene, and retired chief Gary Seidel from the Blue IMT. These three ICs and their respective crews, along with the many representatives from other agencies, integrated seamlessly to arrange a memorial procession and ceremony giving honor and respect to Officer Kilcullen and his family.

Thank you to all who participated and volunteered a week of your lives for Officer Kilcullen and his family. I’ve never been more proud of our team members, their work, and those supporting them from their home stations. I just wish we didn’t have to do it for such occasions.



**Interim
State Fire Marshal
Jim Walker**

**Office of
State Fire Marshal**

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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.

ATF to regulate Ag fireworks

Beginning this month, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) will begin regulating agricultural fireworks known as explosive pest control devices (EPCD).

The ATF requires purchasers of EPCDs to obtain a federal license and clearance, and requires companies selling EPCDs to ensure purchasers have an ATF license and clearance. After this process, ATF personnel will inspect EPCD storage areas throughout the state.

The Office of State Fire Marshal's agricultural fireworks permit process remains the same; however, a copy of each permit is now provided to the local fire agency to advise of storage.

For more information, contact Anita Phillips at 503-934-8264 or anita.phillips@state.or.us.

Meritorious awards banquet May 14

The 10th Annual Oregon Fire Service Meritorious Awards Banquet, hosted by the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, is scheduled Saturday, May 14, 2011 at the Salem Convention Center. The event begins with a no-host bar at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Attire is semi-formal/formal; Class A uniforms recommended.

The event represents the only statewide forum for agencies and individuals to recognize and pay tribute to members of the Oregon fire service for acts of courage, heroism, and dedication to their profession.

Cost is \$35 per person. RSVPs must be received by Monday, May 9, 2011 at 503-587-9427, 888-846-5741, or email ofca@ofca.org. You can [download an RSVP form here](#).



Team offers more chaplain resources

In March, a new Oregon Chaplain Response Team (OCRT) was formed after 30 chaplains from around the state underwent three days of intense training at the Oregon Public Safety Academy. As a result, agencies, communities, and state incident management teams now have another resource to draw from when they need the services of trained chaplains.

The OCRT is a self-regulated fellowship of chaplains regionally located throughout Oregon. Current membership includes chaplains from the fire service, law enforcement, and department of corrections. Other chaplains are welcome to become members of the team as long as they have at least five years experience and are willing to meet the training requirements.

The March training, designed for existing emergency services chaplains, focused on critical incident stress management and the skills and knowledge chaplains need when assisting at large-scale or particularly traumatic incidents. Attending chaplains also completed the IS 100-800 classes.

Any emergency service agency, community or other organization can request Oregon Chaplain Response Team assistance by contacting the Oregon Emergency Response System at 800-452-0311 and ask for chaplain assistance from the Office of State Fire Marshal duty officer. The duty officer then contacts OCRT coordinators, Chaplains Jim Crowley and Steve Brodehl. These volunteer coordinators will work with the requesting agency to deploy trained and certified chaplains to assist in any way possible.

A second chaplain training is scheduled November 2 - 4, 2011 at the Oregon Public Safety Academy.

For more information, contact Chaplain Jim Crowley from Central Oregon Police Chaplaincy at 541-410-6128, or Chaplain Steve Brodehl at Hillsboro Fire & Rescue at 503-849-8772.

A voice from the fire service

by Albany Deputy Fire Marshal
Bob Brooks



Snakes in the city

Perhaps you think rattlesnakes only live in the dry desert areas of Oregon, or that a king cobra taken from the jungles of Asia could not survive in the wet Oregon weather. Take those snakes and add a green bush viper, rhinoceros viper, gaboan viper, and black mamba - now you have a recipe for excitement! The truth is.....any one of those snakes, or the more than 25 varieties of venomous snakes residing in Oregon, can provide plenty of excitement to an unsuspecting firefighter or paramedic.

On March 9, the Albany Fire Department invited Bob Roper, a known snake expert for more than 40 years, to speak to an audience of firefighters, law enforcement officers, and city officials. Roper lives in Albany and was able to tell us what is slithering around inside the homes of our city. The information was shocking! Anyone can order venomous snakes from anywhere in the world and have them flown here on any major airline. Then, they simply pick up the snake at the airport with a baggage claim ticket and take it home!

Roper provided insight on how and where snakes live and their breeding habits, including the areas of Oregon with the most venomous snakes and how they got there. He explained what to do if someone is bitten; where to locate the serum; and how long it could take to get it. Roper was quick to point out - as much as most people don't like snakes, snakes don't like people either. Most snakes would rather hide than attack. Simply respecting the reptile will go a long way toward personal safety.

photo: Ron Wackford



Great Basin Rattlesnake

The real excitement came when we got to see the snakes up close and personal. Roper brought along about 15 snakes in separate locked cages, most of them venomous. The king cobra was by far the crowd favorite.

As Roper shared his knowledge and firsthand experiences, it became very apparent that Albany has its share of venomous snakes; as do most other cities in Oregon. The snakes are easy to acquire and, for a while, easy to take care of. As the snakes grow, a lot of folks get nervous and scared and don't know what to do with them.

Bob Roper is recognized by the Oregon Department of Fish and Game as an authority on venomous snakes and is licensed by the state to keep and maintain any specie of venomous or non-venomous snakes. He works in conjunction with state authorities to house confiscated illegal species of snakes, in addition to taking in snakes from the general public.

If your agency or community group is interested in this snake training, contact Bob Roper at 541-619-6958 or email rcroper1313@aol.com.

ORFED fire extinguisher training May 21

The Oregon Fire Equipment Distributors (ORFED) is hosting a one-day training on portable fire extinguishers May 21, 2011 at the Holiday Inn, Portland Airport.

J.R. Nerat from Fire Protection Specialist Inc. will cover NFPA 10, how to understand and use occupancy classifications, review Class "B" and other hazard coverage requirements, UL-299 Obsolete Extinguishers, annual maintenance, and more.

Authorities having jurisdiction can register and attend at no charge. ORFED members pay \$35, other state association members may attend for \$75 each.

For more information, contact Brenda Casey at Brenda@metrosafetyandfire.com

DATA Connection

News from the Data Collection & Research Unit

Teaching your community about home fire sprinklers

Home fire sprinkler legislation is a hot topic across the country. All model safety codes include fire sprinklers in all new home construction, and it is now up to states and local jurisdictions to adopt these requirements.

Regardless of the status of legislation, raising awareness about home fire sprinklers should be part of every fire department and district's life safety education program. The facts are indisputable: home fire sprinklers significantly reduce the risk of dying in a fire and the amount of property loss from fire.

There are many misconceptions to dispel about the functionality and cost of fire sprinklers. According to a national poll, only 63% of homeowners are aware fire sprinklers are available for home use. In addition, 48% of homeowners said a fear of water damage would prevent them from installing a home fire sprinkler system.¹

Your agency can have a significant impact in raising awareness and knowledge about home fire sprinklers. Here are some community outreach ideas from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to assist with your home fire sprinkler campaign:

Hold a public education forum. A public education forum on home fire sprinklers serves as a focused, informative opportunity to educate residents about sprinklers and their benefits to the community. You can hold the forum at your fire station, the public library, a community center, or the city hall. Address the overall value of home fire sprinklers and how they work, and be prepared to dispel unsubstantiated fears or doubts. You can invite a local contractor who installs sprinklers to address the installation process and costs, and a home insurance representative to educate the group about reduced homeowners' insurance premiums associated with sprinkler installation.

¹ Survey conducted by Harris Interactive® for the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition, December 2005.

Arrange a public demonstration. One of the best ways for a fire agency to raise awareness about home fire safety is to host a live fire demonstration. The [Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition](#) offers a Side-by-Side Burn Kit, which has all the instructions you need to build a side-by-side burn demonstration unit for your agency. Consider partnering with a home improvement store or other retailer for the demonstration.

Use the media. The local media may give you free publicity for your campaign. Public relation tools, including sample press releases, letters to the editor, advertisements, and talking points are available on the [NFPA](#) website.

From the NFPA:

"Even though residential fire sprinklers are now required in all national model codes, the debate is far from over. It will take both education and advocacy to successfully see residential sprinkler requirements implemented nationwide. The two best resources on residential fire sprinkler education and advocacy are the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition and NFPA's Fire Sprinkler Initiative.

The [Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition](#) focuses on education directed at targeted audiences. Their free resources are individually geared toward home builders, consumers, real estate agents, insurance agents, local officials, and the fire service. Every fire agency should check out their website to learn how to become a "built for life" department.

The [Fire Sprinkler Initiative](#) demonstrates NFPA's commitment to residential fire sprinkler advocacy. This program provides resources for legislative efforts as well as up-to-date research and data related to the use and adoption of residential fire sprinkler requirements.

Together, these resources and the staff behind them are there to help you promote residential fire sprinklers."

– Crosby Grindle
Northwest Regional Director
National Fire Protection Association

LEPC Highlights

by Community Planning Coordinator Bill Brauer

Umatilla County LEPC

The Umatilla County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) officially formed in December of 2009 and recently conducted their first annual meeting in April.

The committee comprises a diverse group of representatives from emergency response agencies, emergency management, emergency services, health, tribes, and facilities that possess some of the most extremely hazardous chemicals.

“Having a local emergency planning committee is a way for responders, local industry, and the public to prepare for an emergency in their community, says Hermiston Fire Chief and LEPC co-chair Pat Hart. “Being part of an LEPC gives participants the ability to refine response plans and to engage in prevention. I would encourage responders and industry, especially industry that stores and uses hazardous chemicals, to help form and participate with an LEPC.”

Planning for hazardous materials incidents is not new to Umatilla County. The county has been involved with the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) since its inception in the early 1990's. CSEPP's purpose is to enhance emergency preparedness in the community surrounding the Umatilla Army Depot's chemical warfare agent storage site. The depot is in the last phase of destroying its stockpile of chemical warfare agents stored in bunkers since World War II.

The Umatilla County LEPC is now busy with several projects including evaluating the emergency plans of local facilities possessing extremely hazardous substances and first responder agencies, and conducting research on the training and staffing of a confined-space rescue team.

Visit the OSFM website for [more information on Oregon's LEPC program](#) or contact Terry Wolfe at 503-934-8219 or terry.wolfe@state.or.us.

Fire grant update

by Hines Lieutenant/Grant Writer Jonathan Manski

I recently received a fortune cookie that read, “Patience is a virtue for those involved in the fire grant process.” How true!

The 2010 Fire Prevention & Safety grant award announcements are still a few months out.

The 2010 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) awards have just about ended, and in Oregon we are nearly done, except for those very final few that may be awarded in spite of receiving second-round denials stating “lack of funding.” Any remaining funding down the road may turn a secondary denial letter into some good news. However, if you haven't received the 1199a & “10 questions,” you should put your efforts and hopes into the 2011 program.

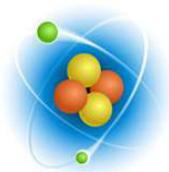
I would also recommend that you continue to work on the narrative for your 2011 AFG, whose start date is waiting for final approval from the program's guidance. That approval is tied to the federal budget. Understanding that process, my friends, could be the basis for a good mystery novel.

From what I read, it looks like Congress has passed a budget that includes decent funding for the 2011 Fire Act Grants program including \$405 million each for both Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response (SAFER) grants and AFG. The budgets will not be increasing in the future, so take advantage of these programs this year.

Oregon departments continued to capture several nice 2010 Recruitment & Retention SAFER grants, including those awarded to Astoria, Cornelius, Philomath, Silverton, and Oakridge. Nice work folks.

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





Styrene $C_6H_5CH=CH_2$

Description:

- Synonyms: Styrene monomer, Ethenylbenzene, vinyl benzene
- CAS No.: 100-42-5
- EPA Section 302 EHS: Not listed
- EPA Section 112R : Not listed
- EPA Section 304 EHS: Not listed
- OSHA Process Safety Management: Not listed

NFPA 704 Information:

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

Uses and Occurrences:

- Low levels occur naturally in plants
- Used in production of plastics

Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Flash point: 88° F
- LEL: 0.9%; UEL: 6.8%
- Autoignition temperature: 914° F
- Vapor density (air = 1): 3.6
- Specific gravity (water = 1): 0.906
- Boiling point: 293-295° F
- Insoluble in water
- Addition of a stabilizer (4-tert-butylcatechol) reduces but does not eliminate the possibility of polymerization
- Reaction with oxygen above 104° F forms explosive peroxides
- Slow polymerization and oxidation occur on exposure to light and air resulting in formation of peroxides
- Polymerization self-sustaining above 203° F
- Incompatibles include strong acids, strong oxidizers, and metallic salts

Health Hazards:

- OSHA PEL: 100 ppm (TWA)
- Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH): 700 ppm
- Irritating to the respiratory tract, eyes and skin
- Chronic: may have nervous system effects

Fire Fighting Measures:

- Extinguishing media: Water fog, foam, or carbon dioxide
- Extinguish fire only if flow can be stopped
- Closed containers exposed to heat may explode
- Cool fire exposed containers with water fog
- Vapors may ignite at distant ignition source and flash back
- Material floats on water

2008 Emergency Response Guidebook:

- Shipping name: Styrene monomer, stabilized
- Hazard Classes: Flammable liquid, 3
- UN/NA: 2055; Guide # 128p (Substances with a "p" may polymerize explosively when heated or involved in a fire)
- Spill: Initially isolate 150 feet in all directions
- Not listed in Table 1

2010 Oregon Fire Code: Table 2703.1.1(1)

- Class IC 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 styrene or styrene monomer on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey: Nine
- Hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986: Three

References include:

- <http://cameochemicals.noaa.gov/chemical/4553>
- Mallinckrodt-Baker, MSDS Styrene (stabilized)
- <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npg/npgd0571.html>
- 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

2011 Mid-Session Legislative Brief

April 21 was the deadline for committee work sessions on first chamber bills. This means if a house bill has not been heard by a house committee or a senate bill has not been heard by a senate committee, it is dead for the session and will not be continuing on.

Exceptions are bills in Ways & Means, Revenue, Rules and Redistricting Committees. All continuing bills must be heard in both chambers by May 23.

So far this session, the Legislature introduced 2,936 bills, with the House passing 278 and the Senate passing 220 while the Governor has signed six.

Among the bills tracked by the OSFM and considered live, continuing their journey through the session are:

HB 2078: Free of any fiscal impact, the bill streamlines ORS chapter 479 by deleting a number of statutes that are either outdated, redundant, or are in conflict with the state's current adopted fire and building code. The bill waits for action by the Senate Business, Transportation, and Economic Development Committee.

SB 69-A2: The fireworks bill is free of any fiscal impact. The amended bill:

- Revises language and penalties for illegal fireworks use and possession. Less than 50 pounds gross weight of illegal fireworks will be a Class A violation. For 50 pounds or more, violators may receive a Class A misdemeanor.
- Allows additional businesses, such as golf courses and waste facilities to use pyrotechnic control devices to protect their property from damage by birds and other animals.

For more on bills monitored by the Office of State Fire Marshal, [visit the OSFM 2011 legislative webpage](#) and click on the appropriate link. You may also contact Senior Policy Analyst Donna Disch-Curtis at 503-934-8275 or donna.dish@state.or.us.

OSFM Positive Action Committee recognition

Recently, a group of OSFM managers created the "Positive Action Committee" with the goal of keeping morale high through recognition and awards and to provide opportunities to improve skills and professionalism that benefit the employee and the agency.

Employees can be recognized or nominated by anyone in or outside the agency. Visitors to the OSFM's Salem office are encouraged to comment on their experiences with our employees using the cards available at the front desk.

March honorees:



PAC member Donna Dish-Curtis (left) presents a certificate and gift card to IT Help Desk Support Assistant Beth Tinney - *"In appreciation for your friendly and positive attitude, assisting staff with help desk requests. You are consistently friendly while helping to resolve stressful IT situations."*



PAC member Dave Gulledge (right) presents a certificate and gift card to Licensing Assistant Micheline Stubblefield - *"In appreciation for your positive attitude, cheerful personality, and can-do attitude."*