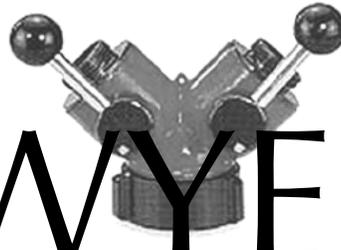


# GATED WYE



May 2014 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 364

## OSFM teams up with ODF and KOG on Wildfire Awareness Month

The Oregon Department of Forestry, Keep Oregon Green, and the OSFM are partnering on a series of weekly media releases highlighting a different wildfire prevention topic each week based on the theme - *Wildfire Knows No Season*. Weekly topics include: Equipment Use, Defensible Space, Debris Burning, and Recreation/Campfires.

In addition to these media messages, all fire agencies can access the [toolkit available on the ODF website](#) that includes:

- Weekly fire data/stats
- Wildfire Awareness Week background information
- Checklists covering each weekly safety topic
- Social media pre-scripted messages
- Press releases
- Links to ODF, KOG, Smokey Bear, and Fire Adapted Communities public service announcements
- Half-page flyer
- Poster
- 1/4 page print ad template
- Web banner

The 2014 wildfire season is predicted to be as volatile, if not more so, than last year's

homeowners they all play a role in wildfire prevention.

"Creating defensible space around your home is the single most important thing you can do to help save your home from wildfire," says Interim State Fire Marshal Jim Walker. "The more you do to make your home defensible, the easier it is for fire-fighters to protect it."

There are a number of on-line resources for homeowners to learn about creating a defensible space around their home and property, as well as evacuation pre-planning.

The websites for [Keep Oregon Green](#), the [Oregon Department of Forestry](#), [Firewise](#), and the [U.S. Fire Administration](#) all have great resources on wildfire prevention and planning.



record-breaking wildfire season. Firefighting costs set a record, and more than 100,000 state-protected acres burned, the most since 1951 at the close of the Tillamook Burn era.

The OSFM encourages all Oregon fire agencies to remind

# From the desk of the Interim State Fire Marshal



## It's all about preparedness

When dealing with all-hazard emergency incident response, it often comes back to preparedness.

As first responders, we are always encouraging residents to prepare for a variety of emergencies and hazards. We tell them to set up emergency supply kits and emergency plans, and stay informed on the different hazards where they live.

Of course, as emergency responders, ensuring our own preparedness is critical. This includes all manner and types of responders, from government to private agencies.

There are as many forms of preparedness as there are agencies charged with protecting citizens, property, and the environment. However, there is an ingredient in all preparedness plans that does not change - collaboration.

In most large emergency incidents, rarely can a single agency manage it alone; it takes a variety of agencies, capabilities, and personnel. It's important to have good working relationships with other government and private agencies to assist with the planning, response, and effective mitigation of significant incidents.

The issue of increasing crude oil transportation through Oregon has raised attention and concern from many parties. Governor Kitzhaber requested agencies involved in rail safety, incident response, and mitigation of a crude oil incident to conduct a briefing and demonstration of current plans and capabilities, as well as the work being done to increase safety, response, and mitigation. Attendees also had opportunities to ask questions and relay concerns (see page 8).

This successful event highlighted the close coordination of public and private agencies and how they continue to take steps to increase their ability in regards to safety, response, and mitigation.

Building relationships is a critical component to our preparedness. We must remain vigilant in our own preparedness to maintain the credibility of our preparedness message to our citizens.

“Building relationships is a critical component of our preparedness.”

- Jim Walker



**Interim  
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**[www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM)  
503-934-8200**

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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 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.

## 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 covering the topic your agency is interested in:

- [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](#)

Each of these resources are available for download from the OSFM website or you may email [sfm.lp@state.or.us](mailto:sfm.lp@state.or.us), or call 503-934-8285.

## 2014 Fire Service Mobilization Plan available

The [2014 Oregon Fire Service Mobilization Plan and updated conflagration tools](#) are now available on the OSFM website. Resources include:

- [Conflagration request packet](#)
- [Typing quick guide](#)
- [2014 Task Force/Strike Team leader guide book](#)
- [Instructions on how to enter resources into Oregon Firebridge™](#)

For questions, contact Assistant Chief Deputy Mariana Ruiz-Temple at 503-934-8238 or [mariana.ruiz-temple@state.or.us](mailto:mariana.ruiz-temple@state.or.us).

## OSP arson news

by OSP Administrative Specialist John Lawson

Oregon State Police Arson Sergeant Matt Lawson is pleased to announce that Trooper Joe Feland has been selected as the newest Arson and Explosives Unit detective.

Trooper Feland was selected out of a group of highly qualified applicants and he brings an excellent background and exceptional drive to the unit. He will be assigned to the Roseburg office starting May 1, 2014.

Sgt. Lawson thanks Deputy State Fire Marshals Charlie Chase, Michelle Stevens, and Kristina Deschaine, and OSP Detectives Russ Jones, Brett Keller, and Arson Office Manager John Lawson for their participation on the interview board.

The Oregon State Police Arson Unit management and Salem area detectives have moved into new offices in the Oregon State Fire Marshal's building. This move strengthens the ongoing relationship OSP detectives share with the team of deputy state fire marshals. The Salem office, along with detectives based strategically around the state, comprise the premiere law enforcement fire investigative team in Oregon.

Statewide, the OSP Arson Unit responds to accidental, incendiary, and undetermined fires that cause millions of dollars in property loss annually. Oregon State Police fire investigators have years of experience and training. They are available statewide at no charge to fire agencies to provide assistance and advice in conducting any complex arson investigation.

Contact the Arson Unit through state dispatch 800-452-7888 or 1-800-442-2068, or by contacting Sgt. Matt Lawson at 503-991-7618.

## Arson Awareness Week is May 4-10

This week, sponsored by the U.S. Fire Administration, raises awareness of arson and provides individuals with strategies to combat it in their community. Resources are available on the [Arson Awareness Week website](#) to educate your community on this year's theme of "Vehicle arson – a combustible crime."

## Silver Sparky award

Interim State Fire Marshal Jim Walker presented the Silver Sparky award to Jayna Indeck on April 16th. Indeck, who is a prevention advocate and licenser of adult foster homes in Washington County, worked with her local fire marshal to develop a fire safety training class for adult foster home caregivers.

Over the eight years this program has been in existence, hundreds of caregivers have received safety training aimed at keeping an at-risk population safe from the dangers of fire.



Silver Sparky awardee Jayna Indeck, flanked by Interim State Fire Marshal Jim Walker (right), and nominator Joanne Hatch, Public Education Chief for Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue.

## Colleen Olson is retiring

Colleen has worked in state service for just over 26 years. The last 20 of those years have been here at the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal.

The OSFM is hosting a cake and refreshment event in Colleen's honor at 3:30 p.m., Friday, May 16, 2014 at the OSFM headquarters, 4760 Portland Road, Salem, Oregon.



If you would like to attend this retirement celebration, please contact Claire McGrew at 503-934-8236 or [claire.mcgrew@state.or.us](mailto:claire.mcgrew@state.or.us).

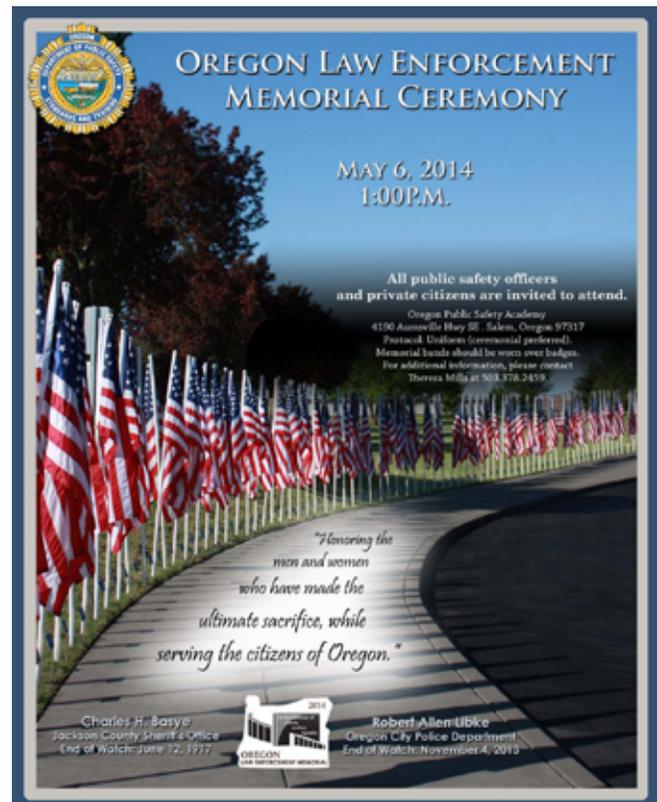
## Oregon Fire Service Museum Kickstarter campaign

The Oregon Fire Service Museum has launched a limited time Kickstarter campaign to fund their Phase 1 building plan at Antique Powerland in Brooks, Oregon.

Currently the museum has a collection of more than 15 historic fire trucks and other apparatus dating to the hand and horse-drawn era. The collection is currently stored in various donated warehouses and is not accessible to the public.

The Kickstarter has a goal of \$50,000 and a deadline of May 28, 2014. There are various pledge levels with each pledged amount receiving a gift or other recognition.

[Visit the Oregon Fire Service Museum page on the Kickstarter website.](#)



## DATA Connection

News from the Data Collection & Research Unit  
by Program Coordinator Dave Gullledge

We are beginning a series of articles on the Data Connection page titled **How Do You Code That?** In this series, we will provide a photo of an incident scene and general information on how the incident should be coded on a National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) form. We will also cover common coding mistakes pertaining to the incident.

Properly coded incident reports are crucial to conducting meaningful analysis of data, which can be used to measure the effectiveness of operations, identify problems, improve resource allocation for combating fires, and identify training needs.

We will start this series off with a relatively easy one:



### How do you code that?

The Incident Type for this incident is 131 (Passenger vehicle fire). This might be rather obvious, but how to code remaining portions of the report can be tricky.

In this instance, since the car is on a residential street, the Property Use should be coded as 962 (residential street, road, or residential driveway). The Property Use for these fires is often coded incorrectly.

In the background, you may notice a white car parked in a driveway. If that was the car on fire, the Property Use for the incident would still be 962 because the incident occurred in a driveway. Many times situations like that are incorrectly coded as 419 (1-or 2-family dwelling). Although the incident may be located at a residence, what needs to be considered is the actual use of the property where the incident occurred, not the overall use of the property.

When it comes to vehicle fires, the Area of Fire Origin should identify where the fire started; in or on the vehicle. Based on the photo, we will assume this fire started in the engine area of the vehicle. Accordingly, the Area of Origin would be coded 83 (engine area). Car fires occur frequently on streets, roads, or parking lots; many times this section of the report is incorrectly coded as 92 (highway, parking lot, or street).

The Heat Source, Item, and Material First Ignited will vary from incident to incident, but should be identified as best as possible for each situation.

Information such as Mobile Property Type (in this case it would be 11-Automobile), Make, Model, License Plate Number, and VIN should all be provided when the information is known and/or available. This information is vital to identify hazardous trends in certain types of vehicles and to support vehicle recalls.

Being sure to capture and accurately complete all of these fields in the NFIRS report will go a long way to providing reliable data on car fires. The benefits from which can be realized at the national, state, and local levels.

There are approximately 1,500 vehicle fires reported in Oregon every year. Accurately capturing the data regarding these fires helps to identify increased fire and safety risks associated with certain vehicles. Also, knowing the frequency of these types of fires in a local jurisdiction can help guide resource and deployment strategies as well as training needs.

Questions? Please contact the Data Collection & Research Unit at 503-934-8250, toll free at 877-588-8787, or email [osfm.data@state.or.us](mailto:osfm.data@state.or.us).

## LEPC Highlights

by Planning and Training Assistance Program  
Coordinator Terry Wolfe

It's only May, but Oregon LEPCs are already having a productive year. Mid-Valley (Linn & Benton counties), Multnomah, Umatilla, and Lane counties have all conducted their annual public meetings for 2014.

These meetings are the cornerstone of an LEPC's ability to educate the public about the chemical hazards in their community, as well as the planning and training efforts that occur to prepare for chemical releases. Columbia and Morrow counties completed their annual public meetings in the last quarter of 2013.

Oregon LEPCs submitted a record number of requests for the 2014 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grants. Projects include exercises, specialized hazmat classification training, an LEPC conference, consultants to assist in emergency planning, and oil-train related projects specific to the Bakken crude oil unit trains traveling through some communities. The OSFM submitted these grant proposals to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) in April. PHMSA will announce awarded projects in September 2014.

As a reminder, April was the first anniversary of the tragic West, Texas ammonium nitrate (AN) explosion that killed 13 emergency responders and two civilians. Although the federal government and fertilizer industry struggle to come to any agreement on updated storage standards for AN, LEPCs and emergency responders can take a proactive role in identifying facilities possessing large quantities of AN and working with those facilities to be better prepared in the event of a fire or explosion.

The [OSFM Community Right to Know Unit's](#), Hazardous Substance Information System has the information needed to identify where these facilities are, the amount of AN on site, and who the contact person is for each facility.

For more information, call 503-934-8353 or email [sfm.cr2k@state.or.us](mailto:sfm.cr2k@state.or.us).

## Fire grant update

by Hines Asst. Chief/Grant Writer Jonathan Manski

The 2013 Assistance to Firefighters Grant awards have started to flow and the first award in Round One went to Klamath County Fire District #1 to benefit their Wellness & Fitness program; congratulations! I expect to see a steady stream of awards as it seems the program is not wasting time in getting through the 2013 program to get back on the timing track for the 2014 program, tentatively set for late summer.

The 2013 Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response hiring grant program added one more generous award to Douglas County Fire District #2. For the year, Oregon stands at more than \$11 million dollars in SAFER funding. Wow!

The 2013 fire prevention grant application period resulted in just 18 Oregon submissions. This program has not been in "favored" status with Oregon grant writers and, as a whole, has been on a steady decline of project submissions since 2007 when a substantial 48 Oregon projects were submitted.

The current grant program had 14 fire department applications and four community organization proposals. Amounts requested ranged from \$9,975 to \$387,920. Grant requests were submitted from five career, one volunteer, and eight combination fire departments.

For latest grant information, visit the [FEMA grants webpage](#).

## OFMA annual business meeting and conference

The OFMA conference is set for May 19-21, 2014 at the Resort at the Mountain in Welches, Oregon. **Registration deadline is May 9<sup>th</sup>.**

Training topics include: Fire Inspection, Code Changes, Oregon Procurement Law, 2012 IFC & IBC HazMat Provisions, Photography Basics, and more.

To register, or for more information, visit the [OFMA website](#).



## Methylene Chloride $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$

### Description:

- Synonyms: Dichloromethane, R 30 (Refrigerant)
- Colorless liquid with a sweet penetrating ether-like odor
- CAS No.: 75-09-2
- EPA Section 302 EHS: Not listed
- EPA Section 112<sub>R</sub>: Not listed
- EPA Section 304 EHS: Not listed

### NFPA 704 Information:

- Health: 2
- Flammability: 0-1
- Reactivity: 0
- Special: None

### Uses and Occurrences:

- Occurs naturally but most is produced
- Used as a solvent, paint stripper, and degreaser
- The liquid in toy “drinking bird”

### Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Stable
- Flash point: NA
- LEL: 12%; UEL: 23%
- Forms flammable vapor/air mixtures
- Autoignition temperature: 1033-1236° F
- Vapor density (air = 1): 2.93
- Specific gravity (water = 1): 1.33
- Boiling point: 104° F
- May explode when mixed with dinitrogen pentoxide or nitric acid
- Incompatible with strong oxidizers, strong caustics, amines, zinc, alloys of aluminum, magnesium, zinc, and aluminum or magnesium powders

### Health Hazards:

- OSHA PEL: 25 ppm (TWA)
- IDLH: 2300 ppm
- Severe eye/skin irritant with possible burns
- May cause central nervous system effects
- May cause carboxyhemoglobinemia
- Repeated exposure may cause blood, nerve, liver, and kidney damage

### Fire Fighting Measures:

- Slightly soluble in water
- Extinguishing media: Appropriate foam, dry chemical, carbon dioxide, water spray
- Vapors heavier than air

### 2012 Emergency Response Guidebook:

- Shipping name: Dichloromethane or Methylene chloride
- Hazard Classes: Toxic Substances (6.1)
- UN/NA: 1593; Guide # 160 Halogenated Solvents
- Spill: Initially isolate 150 feet in all directions
- Large spill: Consider evacuating 330 feet
- Tank, rail car, or tank truck: Isolate ½ mile in all directions

### 2010 Oregon Fire Code: Table 2703.1.1(2)

- Toxics
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per control area:
  - Unprotected by sprinklers or approved storage cabinets: 500 pounds
  - In sprinklered building, not within approved storage cabinets: 1,000 pounds
  - In unsprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 1,000 pounds
  - In sprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 2,000 pounds

### Incident Reporting and Information:

- Facilities reporting methylene chloride or dichloromethane on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey: 19
- Hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986: 6

### References include:

- [Cameo chemicals – Dichloromethane](#)
- [OSHA Safety Sheet – Methylene chloride](#)
- [CDC Niosh Pocket Guide – Methylene chloride](#)
- [Acros Organics MSDS – Methylene Chloride](#)
- [Sigma-Aldrich. – MSDS Methylene Chloride](#)
- [EPA List of Lists, October 2012](#)

**For questions or suggestions, contact Aleta Carte at 503-934-8262 or [aleta.carte@state.or.us](mailto:aleta.carte@state.or.us).**

## Rail safety briefing highlights planning and response

The OSFM worked with a number of state and federal agencies and rail companies to conduct a briefing on April 29th about rail safety and crude oil transportation at the request of Governor John Kitzhaber.

Those invited to the event included Oregon senators and representatives, other elected officials, emergency planners, fire officials, and members of local community groups. The event was not open to the public.

The focus of the event was to highlight the current planning, response, and mitigation capability of agencies that might be involved in the event of a derailment of cars carrying crude oil through Oregon.



*Karmen Fore, (facing audience, far left) Governor Kitzhaber's Sustainable Communities & Transportation Policy Advisor, gives opening remarks at the Field Briefing on Rail Safety.*

While all represented agencies were able to illustrate their roles in a crude oil incident, they also emphasized their efforts on continually improving safety efforts and emergency planning, response, and mitigation.



*Members of a tour group listen to information about tank cars.*

Governor Kitzhaber's office is exploring whether there are adequate resources for rail safety inspections and first responder training.

## OSFM new employee

### Brent Griffiths

Compliance Specialist II  
License and Permits (Cardlock)

Brent grew up in Coos County but moved to San Diego, California while in high school. After graduating in 1986, he joined the United States Air Force. He was stationed in Victorville, California and worked as an aircraft mechanic on the F-4 Vietnam era fighter jet.



After his Air Force service, Brent worked as an electrician in the cable TV industry. In 1997, he became a U.S. Border Patrol agent and was stationed in rural southern Arizona. He performed various duties as an agent including being a basic and post academy instructor, public information officer, horse patrol member, and a canine handler.

In 2005, after he, his wife, and two daughters began to miss home, Brent returned to Oregon and went to work as an investigator for the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS). During his nearly nine years with DCBS, he worked his way up to become the lead enforcement officer for the Building Codes Division.

"I am thoroughly enjoying working at the Office of State Fire Marshal," says Brent. "The staff here is great and clearly dedicated to serving Oregonians. I'm thankful for the opportunity to become part of the team."

