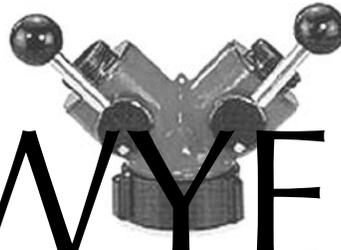


# GATED WYE



November 2015 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem, Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 383

## Fire season 2015

The 2015 fire season was record breaking for the Office of State Fire Marshal, OSFM incident management teams (IMT), and responding structural task forces. Records were set for the number of IMTs and task forces deployed at the same time.

Although all six of the incidents the IMTs were mobilized to were unique and posed their own challenges, some common themes from the deployments did emerge.

OSFM IMTs had several opportunities this season to join unified command with other teams they had not worked with in the past, including several from out of state. The ability for team members and agency representatives to be flexible and open to new ideas has proven to be key to successful integration. It is apparent that having a strong understanding and respect for Incident Command System concepts is vital when working with unfamiliar partners.

Prior to this fire season, OSFM was in a position to invest in new communications technology which markedly improved our ability to communicate with local resources, OSFM-mobilized resources, and wildland fire resources. Having

two new CODAN repeaters and 75 Bendix King radios proved to be an excellent investment. This season, OSFM supplemented our communications caches by using caches maintained by the Oregon Department of Transportation; ODOT

provided not only equipment, but also personnel with invaluable local knowledge. The IMTs also received significant support from OSP. Troopers were tremendously helpful with evacuations and road closures as well as other staffing and support. The OSFM intends to continue to look into ways we can collaborate with other state agencies to execute our mission.

The prevalence and power of social media cannot be denied. The OSFM recognizes the importance of embracing social media and we have taken steps to research and document ways to take advantage of it during future incidents.

At one point in mid-August, all of the OSFM's three IMTs were deployed along with 19 task forces from across the state. The ability of the Oregon fire service to collaborate to fill resource requests was a testament to the strength of the Oregon Mobilization Plan

### 2015 Fire Season Summary

- Stouts Fire near Milo – 07/30/15, 22,500 acres, 163 structures threatened, none lost
- County Line 2 Fire near Warm Springs – 08/12/15, 64,450 acres, 1,084 structures threatened, seven structures and four homes lost
- Cornet / Windy Ridge Fire near Baker City – 08/13/15, 103,540 acres, 487 structures threatened, 25 structures and four homes lost
- Canyon Creek Complex near John Day – 08/14/15, 109,876 acres, 700 structures threatened, 53 structures and 43 homes lost
- Grizzly Bear Complex near Troy – 08/20/15, 68,180 acres, 503 structures threatened, 33 structures and five homes lost
- Dry Gulch Fire near Halfway – 09/14/15, 17,800 acres, 150 structures threatened, none lost

# From the desk of the state fire marshal



## Surviving crises through partnerships

The recent tragedy in Roseburg reinforces the importance of established partnerships, especially during crises.

The morning of the event, I was requested by OSP Superintendent Rich Evans to travel to Roseburg as a representative of the OSFM and the Oregon fire service in support of the first responders, and to see if there was any assistance our agencies could provide.

Upon arriving, I was very impressed at the number of local agencies that responded to assist. I saw good leadership, bravery, kindness, compassion, selflessness, and generosity.

I'm also proud of the help provided by a number of our deputy state fire marshals and incident management team members. There was also a number of fire service public information officers who responded to ease the burden on local agencies trying to manage the huge international media demands.

Responding partners also provided the crucial emotional support that is so important during the aftermath of such a grievous event. The community truly rallied to take care of everyone experiencing grief and shock.

The citizens of Roseburg will never forget what happened, and although it will be a long time before the community will have any sense of normalcy, they will also long remember the response and outpouring of support they received and the close bonds they created.

**“The community truly rallied to take care of everyone experiencing grief and shock.”**

- Jim Walker



**State Fire Marshal  
Jim Walker**

**Office of  
State Fire Marshal**

**Oregon State Police  
4760 Portland Rd. NE  
Salem Oregon  
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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.

## fire season

continued from page 1

and to the efforts put into pre-season training and relationship building. Fire defense districts which had not previously worked together were able to communicate and form task forces, where alone they would not have been able to participate in the statewide effort. It's clear our outreach and education to local partners is beneficial, and we will continue to look for ways to foster relationships.

OSFM is a part of the Pacific Northwest Coordinating Group, which includes the Oregon Department of Forestry, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Washington Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Washington State Fire Marshal's Office, and fire service representatives from Oregon and Washington. The OSFM's involvement in this group and the associated Multi-Agency Coordinating Group has proven valuable. In particular, OSFM's relationship with ODF has been an appreciable benefit this season. Though not often working the same incidents, OSFM and ODF remained in contact daily, sharing information, coordinating messages to the Governor, and working to request Fire Management Assistance Grants to help fund the response.

The past several seasons have seen increased fire activity, and an increase in wildland/urban interface fires. As we attempt to define and prepare for the new normal, a number of topics need to be addressed. How can we best prepare for large fires in the northwest? Are there ways to fund firefighting efforts that we haven't explored? What education and prevention can be done to minimize structural loss? These questions and others have moved to the forefront for the 2016 season.

It is important to recognize the efforts of everyone involved in this year's fire season. Local responders, task force leaders and personnel, fire defense board chiefs, IMT members, state agencies including ODF, ODOT, Oregon Emergency Management, and OSFM staff in our Agency Operations Center have all expended a great deal of effort in keeping firefighters and the public safe.

Unfortunately, structures were lost to fire, but resources completed the objectives on all incidents and everyone involved should be commended for their efforts.

## Start Safe: A Fire and Burn Safety Program for Preschoolers and Their Families training available

Did you know that fire and burn injuries are one of the top five leading causes of unintentional injuries and death in young children? Check your calendar now and schedule a *Start Safe: A Fire and Burn Safety Program for Preschoolers and Their Families* training. There is no cost for the training or materials. Just let us know when and where, and we will bring the program to your local area.

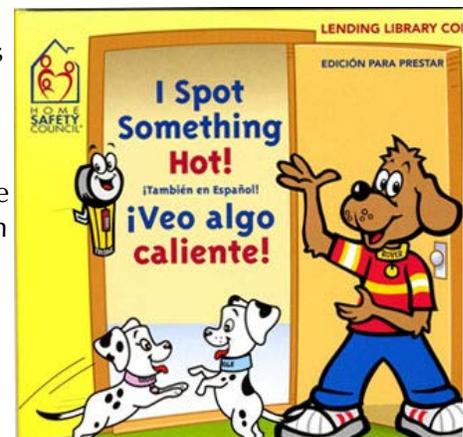
Community representatives (schools, preschools), Head Start, and fire service personnel from surrounding areas are encouraged to attend.

*Start Safe* gives fire educators and preschool teachers the tools to reach preschool children and their families with key safety messages and help them take action to reduce the risk of fires and burns at home. Curriculums will be provided to all attendees at no charge, and most materials are in English and Spanish.

The Office of State Fire Marshal's Youth Fire Prevention and Intervention Unit, in partnership with the National Head Start Association, Safe Kids Worldwide, and Safe Kids Oregon, will provide the *Start Safe* training and all program materials at no cost. Registration is required, but there is no registration fee.

An overview of the material is available on the [OSFM website](#).

To schedule a training, pick a date, time, and location, and email [Shawna.Fenison@state.or.us](mailto:Shawna.Fenison@state.or.us) or call Shawna Fenison at 503-934-2136.



# New OSFM deputy state fire marshals



*State Fire Marshal Jim Walker (center) with newly sworn OSFM deputy state fire marshals Jonathan Jones (left) and Scott Rice (right).*

## **Scott Rice**

Deputy State Fire Marshal

Rice graduated from Bonanza High School in 1976, and attended Chemeketa Community College, graduating in 1981 with an AS degree in paramedicine.

He began his firefighting career in 1983 as a firefighter/EMT-III with Klamath County Fire District No. 1. In 1985, his EMT certification was upgraded to paramedic status.

In 1996, he transferred into the fire prevention division at KCFD No. 1 as a deputy fire marshal, and eventually fire marshal, where he worked closely with the District Attorney's Office, Oregon State Police Arson Division, Sheriff's Department, Klamath Falls City Police, Juvenile Department, and the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal.

In June 2015, Rice was hired as the OSFM deputy state fire marshal for Klamath and Lake counties. He has recently completed his certification requirements for fire inspector I, II, and III.

"I'm excited to be with the OSFM and be their representative in Klamath and Lake counties."

## **Jonathon A. Jones**

Deputy State Fire Marshal

Jones was born in Taipei, Taiwan and grew up in a U.S. Navy household, ultimately ending up

in Las Vegas, NV. His 22 years of fire experience began with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management as a wildland firefighter before getting hired as a structural and aircraft rescue firefighter by the Clark County Fire Department of Las Vegas, from which he retired after being offered a position as an Oregon deputy state fire marshal.

He has an AA degree in architectural drafting from Anthem College, a paramedicine degree from the University of Nevada's School of Medicine, and a hazmat specialist II certification through nine years of service with FEMA's Nevada Task Force. Jones was also part of Hurricane Katrina's Rescue and Recovery team.

He holds other qualifications and skills including polygraph examiner, internal administrative affairs investigator, and a medicolegal death investigator. Jones is a certified fire and explosives investigator, fire investigative technician, ICC fire inspector I & II, and fire plans examiner. Jones is also the International Association of Arson Investigator's Taiwan Chapter representative. He is working towards his evidence collection technician certification from IAAI since graduating as a forensic evidence collection technician from the National Fire Academy.

Jones previously attended the National Fire Academy for continuing education training in fire/arson origin-and-cause, forensic evidence collection and interview, interrogation, and courtroom testimony courses.

He and his wife, Kerri, have two children, Adria, 6 and Christian, 4. They are all extremely excited to be out of the desert and living in Oregon.

"I am very grateful of being accepted by this office and am even happier that I am able to use most of my experience and skills within the duties of my appointment. I want to thank everyone for making me feel like part of the family."



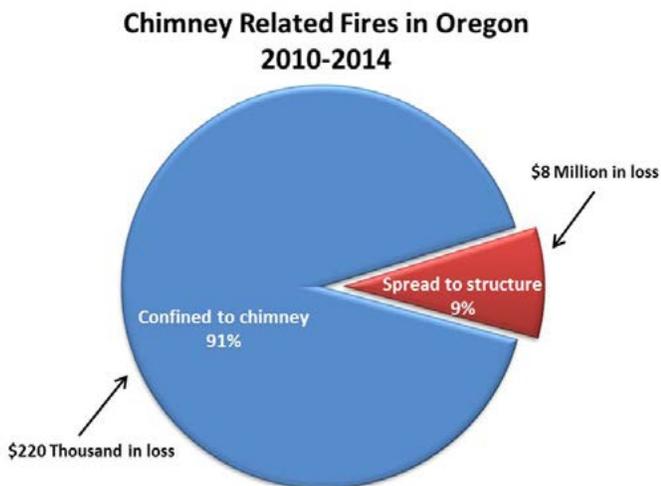
## DATA Connection

News from the Analytics & Intelligence Unit  
by Program Coordinator Dave Gullede

### Chimney fires

As temperatures begin to drop, Oregonians will start using their fireplaces and woodstoves, and fire agencies will find themselves responding to chimney fires. Eighteen percent of all residential fires are chimney fires. The largest percentage of chimney-related fires (65%) occur between November and February.

Looking at houses and apartments in Oregon from 2010 through 2014, there were 3,064 fires that were either confined to a chimney/flue or started in a fireplace, chimney, or flue and extended to the structure. During this five-year period, these fires resulted in one death, 14 injuries, and more than \$9 million in estimated damage.



Most fires involving chimneys are confined to the chimney or flue (see chart). These confined fires rarely result in serious injury, and account for just 3% of estimated losses in chimney-related fires. The average estimated loss per fire that was confined to the chimney or flue was \$95.

Conversely, 9% of chimney fires spread to become building fires. These fires account for 97% of estimated losses in chimney-related fires.

The average estimated loss per fire, not confined to a chimney or flue, was more than \$33,000.

Additional chimney-related fire statistics:

- The largest percentage (46%) were caused by failure to clean.
- Half of all chimney fires occurred between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m.
- There has been a 2.6% average decrease in chimney fire incidents over the last five years.
- The average dollar loss from a chimney fire that spreads to the structure is about 350 times greater than the average dollar loss from a chimney fire confined to the chimney.

The trends, issues, and threats associated with chimney fires in a local community can easily be identified through complete and accurate incident reports.

By understanding the prevalence and causes of chimney fires in their local jurisdictions, fire agencies can lead public education campaigns to help prevent these types of fires.

Reminding homeowners to have chimney and woodstove flues inspected and cleaned each year by a qualified chimney sweep can help prevent these fires.

In addition, educating homeowners about safe practices, such as using a fireplace screen, keeping combustibles away from heat sources, and properly disposing of ashes, will also translate to fewer fires.

The Office of State Fire Marshal has educational materials covering home heating and many other topics. You can [review and order materials on the OSFM website](#).

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

# Free NFA wildland urban interface classes in January

The Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training and the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal are hosting two National Fire Academy (NFA) two-day classes about Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Fire Adapted Communities (FAC). This is a great opportunity to help prepare for the 2016 fire season. Space is limited, so register early!

## **NFA WUI/Fire Adapted Communities: Introduction and Leadership F0637**

Dates: January 11-12, 2016

Time: 0800-1700

Location: Oregon Public Safety Academy, 4190 Aumsville Hwy SE, Salem, OR 97301

Cost: Free

### **Registration Deadline: December 11, 2015**

Course Description: This two-day course introduces students to the national Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) fire problem and motivates them to initiate action to address the problem within their local community. This course defines the WUI fire problem, identifies the elements of a Fire Adapted Community (FAC) in the WUI, and illustrates the need for action at the local level.

Prerequisites: None

## **NFA WUI/Fire Adapted Communities: Strategies for Developing Fire Adapted Communities F0638**

Dates: January 13-14, 2016

Time: 0800-1700

Location: Oregon Public Safety Academy, 4190 Aumsville Hwy SE, Salem, OR 97301

Cost: Free

### **Registration Deadline: December 13, 2015**

Course Description: This two-day course empowers the student to select applicable Fire Adapted Community (FAC) mitigation strategies to include in a Community Wildfire Protection

Plan (CWPP) for the local community. The course is designed to identify mitigation strategies in each of the four Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) hazard attribute environments as a critical step in the development of a CWPP.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of F0637: WUI/Fire Adapted Communities: Introduction and Leadership.

### **Selection criteria:**

The target audience for the above courses may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- \* Fire and emergency service representatives
- \* Community leaders / decision makers
- \* Commissioners, elected officials and other local policy makers
- \* Code officials: building, planning, etc.
- \* Environmental groups
- \* Land managers and foresters
- \* Other key local stakeholders

To register for either course visit the [DPSST online registration page](#) and click on "course registration application" located on the left side of the page. Email all completed forms to Leigha Carver at [leigha.carver@state.or.us](mailto:leigha.carver@state.or.us).

For questions, contact DPSST Fire Training Support Specialist Leigha Carver at 503-378-2408 or email [leigha.carver@state.or.us](mailto:leigha.carver@state.or.us).

Lodging: Dorm room lodging and meals are available at DPSST for those traveling more than 75 miles one-way.

If you would like to request dorm room housing (AFTER you receive an email confirming you have been registered for the class), please contact Rebecca Nolte at [rebecca.nolte@state.or.us](mailto:rebecca.nolte@state.or.us) or call 503-378-4399 **no later than December 10, 2015**.



## Methyl Ethyl Ketone (2-Butanone) $\text{CH}_3\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_3$

### Description:

- Synonyms: MEK; methyl acetone: ethyl methyl ketone
- Clear colorless liquid with an acetone-like odor
- CAS No.: 78-93-3
- EPA Section 302 EHS: Not listed
- EPA Section 112R : Not listed
- EPA Section 304 EHS: Not listed

### NFPA 704 Information:

- Health: 1-2
- Flammability: 3
- Reactivity: 0
- Special: None

### Uses and Occurrences:

- Uses include solvent used in surface coatings, for making other chemicals and for production of wax from petroleum

### Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Stable under recommended storage conditions
- Highly flammable
- Flash point: 15.8-27° F
- LEL: 1.0%; UEL: 11.4%
- Autoignition temperature: 759 - 961° F
- Vapor density (air = 1): 2.41-2.49
- Specific gravity (water = 1): 0.805-0.81
- Boiling point: 173-178° F
- Soluble in water
- Ignition on contact with potassium tert-butoxide
- Mixture with 2-propanol will form explosive peroxides during storage
- Incompatibles include oxidizing agents, strong reducing agents, strong acids, strong bases, amines, isocyanates, ammonia
- Vapors may form explosive mixtures with air

### Health Hazards:

- IDLH: 3000 ppm
- Liquid causes serious eye irritation or burns
- Vapor is an irritant
- May cause drowsiness, dizziness, headache, weakness, loss of consciousness

### Fire Fighting Measures:

- Extinguishing media: Appropriate foam, dry chemical, carbon dioxide, water fog
- Vapors may travel to a source of ignition and flash back
- Vapors will spread along ground and collect in low areas
- Use water spray to cool unopened containers

### 2012 Emergency Response Guidebook:

- Shipping name: Methyl ethyl ketone or Ethyl methyl ketone
- Hazard Classes: Flammable Liquids (3)
- UN/NA: 1193; Guide # 127 Flammable Liquids (Polar/Water-Miscible)
- Spill: Initially isolate 150 feet in all directions
- Fire: Tank, rail car, tank truck isolate ½ mile

### 2014 Oregon Fire Code: Table 5003.1.1(1)

- Flammable liquid Class IB
- 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
  - Note d and e

### Incident Reporting and Information:

- Facilities reporting methyl ethyl ketone on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey: 16
- Hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986: nine

### References include:

- [Cameo chemicals – Methyl Ethyl Ketone](#)
- [CDC NIOSH Pocket Guide – 2-Butanone](#)
- [Sigma-Aldrich – SDS 2-Butanone](#)
- [Fisher Scientific - SDS 2-Butanone](#)
- [Science Lab.Com-MSDS Methyl Ethyl Ketone](#)
- [EPA List of Lists, March 2015](#)

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

## Fire Prevention Month data and upcoming survey

**A**long with Oregon fire agencies, the Office of State Fire Marshal celebrated Fire Prevention Month's theme *Hear the Beep Where You Sleep: Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm* during October. The OSFM distributed 155,645 fire prevention education materials to 97 agencies in 25 counties to assist with fire safety outreach during a variety of activities such as open houses, booths, fairs, and school activities. The OSFM also collaborated with American Red Cross for smoke alarm installations and with the Bi-Mart Corporation and the Oregon Food Bank to disseminate smoke alarm information.

To assist the OSFM with planning for next year's Fire Prevention Month, an email survey will be sent to ensure materials and resources developed by the OSFM met the needs of the requesting agencies. This survey will be sent the 2nd week of November via the Oregon Public Educator electronic mail list and will have questions related to social media, adult and youth fire prevention materials, and the smoke alarm data sheet. For more information on the public educator electronic mail list, contact [osfm.ce@state.or.us](mailto:osfm.ce@state.or.us).

## OSFM Smoke Alarm Installation Program training

**T**he Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal is offering free one-hour trainings on our Smoke Alarm Installation Program, which is required for agencies who wish to participate in the program. The program provides smoke alarms, educational materials, and funding assistance to Oregon fire agencies who want to conduct a smoke alarm installation project in their jurisdiction.

- Nov. 18, 2:00 p.m. Webinar hosted by OSFM via computer & phone. Registration for this class ends: 11/12/2015 [Register](#)
- Dec. 17, 10:00 a.m. Webinar hosted by OSFM via computer & phone. Registration for this class ends: 12/11/2015 [Register](#)

For questions, call 503-934-8228 or email [osfm.ce@state.or.us](mailto:osfm.ce@state.or.us).

## Equipment for sale

Corvallis Fire Department has for sale a 1991 class A triple combination Grumman Fire Cat fire engine. The engine comes equipped with: 500 gallon steel water tank, 1,250 gpm centrifugal water pump, 3,000 watt gas generator, two foam tanks, 10' attic ladder, 14' roofer ladder, and 24' extension ladder. Price is \$10,000 or best offer.

Contact Joshua Hazen at 541-766-6471 or email [josh.hazen@corvallisoregon.gov](mailto:josh.hazen@corvallisoregon.gov).



## Save the Date

**Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal  
2016 Task Force Leader Symposium**

February 23 – 24, 2016  
Eugene, Oregon

This training is intended for current task force leaders, assistants, and those expected to fill the role in 2016. A limited number of lodging scholarships are available.

Topics include: structural prep & triage, social media, burnout operations, processes and procedures, tips of the trade, and radio 101.