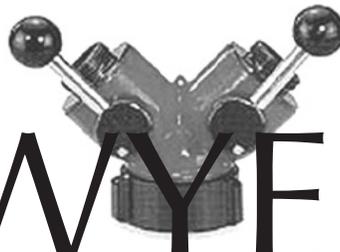


GATED WYE



December 2008 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 299

US&R team members train for structural collapse incidents

More than 40 members of Oregon's Urban Search and Rescue Task Force (US&R) spent 11 days last month in classroom and hands-on training in structural collapse rescue in Eugene and Springfield, Oregon.

The training served to increase the skills and knowledge US&R team members use when performing search and rescue operations in damaged and collapsed structures.

The firefighters and technicians came from departments throughout the Willamette Valley - Albany, Clackamas, Corvallis, Eugene, Gresham, Hillsboro, Portland, Salem, Springfield, and Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue. Other state and private entities also participated.



Members of Oregon's US&R Training Committee planned the training. The Eugene and Springfield fire departments

co-hosted the training, providing classrooms and other logistical materials. Training funds were provided by the Office of



State Fire Marshal, the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training and a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

The Oregon Department of Transportation provided logistical and mechanical support for the three Oregon US&R caches of rescue equipment. Western Shelters provided labor, portable shelters and other equipment to help with the training.

"This training is another great example of Oregon's first responders working with state and local entities to improve their skills and ability to respond to natural and man-made disasters," said Acting State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson.



Springfield Fire & Life Safety Captain John McDowell (left) describes the structural collapse training to Oregon Representative Nancy Nathanson (center) and Acting State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson

From the desk of the Acting State Fire Marshal



“We will continue the issues and efforts started under Nancy’s tenure but we will also move forward with new initiatives, ideas and partnerships.”

Our mission continues

As Acting State Fire Marshal, my first message is to thank all of you who turned out last month at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training to honor former State Fire Marshal Nancy Orr.

I know many more of you wanted to attend but couldn’t because of duty schedules or prior commitments. Nancy truly appreciated the hundreds of personal messages and cards wishing her well in retirement.

However, our mission goes on. State Fire Marshal Orr left significant achievements to follow, and I look forward to the challenge it gives us.

We will continue the issues and efforts started under Nancy’s tenure but we will also move forward with new initiatives, ideas and partnerships.

The 2009 legislative session is around the corner and we have a number of issues concerning the fire service and public safety. Our main goals this biennium include:

- Reducing residential fire deaths by 3% annually
- Ensuring emergency response readiness through multi-discipline training and exercises
- Increasing fire department reporting to 98% by implementing a web-based incident reporting system
- Establishing our non-retail fueling (card-lock), fireworks and liquefied propane gas programs to be self-sustaining by raising appropriate program fees
- Pursuing a statewide ban on toylike (novelty lighters)

I am excited about working with all of you on these and other issues facing the Oregon fire service, and look forward to contributing to the success of the OSFM.



**Acting
State Fire Marshal
Randy Simpson**

**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 email richard.hoover@state.or.us. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, alternative formats of this publication are available, contact 503-934-8228 or email colleen.olson@state.or.us.

Enhanced HSIS CD released

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal's Community Right-to-Know unit is releasing an updated version of the Hazardous Substance Information System (HSIS) CD in December 2008. Fire departments will receive the updated version during the regular distribution cycle based on county.

The HSIS CD's interactive program allows emergency responders and planners to access hazardous substance information statewide. It is a tool allowing users to make informed decisions about how to protect life, property, and the environment from hazardous material incidents.

New features in the updated version include:

- Improved search engine
- New feature listing facility chemicals by building
- An export feature allowing data to be downloaded into a separate table or spreadsheet
- Material Safety Data Sheets can be saved directly to the user's computer hard drive

Enhancements to the CD are a result of user recommendations. The Community Right-to-Know Unit thanks those who submitted recommendations for enhancements and those involved in testing the new program.

If you are interested in receiving training on the HSIS CD, contact Bill Brauer at 503-934-8233 or email bill.brauer@state.or.us.

Help OSFM reduce costs

The Office of State Fire Marshal is requesting everyone currently receiving printed copies of the Gated Wye to sign up to receive the newsletter via email. If all those who currently receive the Gated Wye by standard mail were to request an email version instead, the OSFM would save hundreds of dollars per year.

To transfer your printed subscription to an email only subscription please send your name, title, organization and email address to richard.hoover@state.or.us.

Fire Service Appreciation Day January 27, 2009

The Oregon League of Cities is promoting Oregon's second Fire Service Appreciation Day Tuesday, January 27, 2009. The Oregon Legislature passed a permanent resolution in 2007 to honor those who keep 'Oregon citizens safe from the ravages of fire.'

Communities across the state have an opportunity to host a variety of events recognizing members of their local fire departments and districts for their dedication, commitment and sacrifice. For more information visit <http://www.orcities.org/>.

OSFM recruiting for Incident Management Team positions

The Office of State Fire Marshal is recruiting for pool positions on the Oregon Incident Management Teams (IMT). The state IMTs are Type 2 teams organized to manage structural protection during wildfires and address logistical, fiscal, planning, operational, safety, and community issues related to structural protection or all-risk incidents.

Pool members are fully trained in Incident Command positions and may be called-up on a rotational basis to augment IMTs during deployments.

Current pool positions available include:

Planning Section Chief

Resource Unit Leader

Logistics Section Chief

Finance Section Chief

There are also vacancies for Deputy Incident Commander and Resource Unit Leader on the Green Team.

For more information or applications, visit the OSFM website at http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/ERU_IMTeams.shtml#NEW__2009_Open_Recruitment. You may also contact Tina Toney at 503-934-8212 or email tina.toney@state.or.us.

OSFM issues temporary suspension of gas mines

In November, the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) issued a preliminary ruling suspending the use of gas mines at public fireworks displays. The ruling is effective until the Oregon Fire Code Committee gives a final recommendation to the state fire marshal.

The OSFM based their ruling in part on the following:

- Gas mines may be a significant fire hazard and, therefore, are not appropriate for use in a public fireworks display.
- There are no safety standards, guidelines or precautions listed in the International Fire Code or the Oregon Fire Code for this type of effect.
- Gasoline does not meet the definition of public display fireworks. (OAR 837-020-0720(35)).
- Gas mines are movie special effects. The National Fire Protection Association does not specifically address this type of effect.

A gas mine is created when a powder charge is placed on top of gasoline in a mortar tube. The charge is ignited which sends up a column of fire.

An Oregon Fire Code Committee work group is researching the issues and facts concerning gas mines and will submit its findings to the Oregon Fire Code Committee. The committee chair will make a recommendation to the Oregon State Fire Marshal, based on the consensus of the fire code committee.

For more information, contact Licensing and Permit Services Manager Anita Phillips at 503-934-8264 or email anita.phillips@state.or.us.

More departments conducting door-to-door smoke alarm campaigns

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal has distributed more than 1,150 ionization and 450 combination smoke alarms to 34 fire departments around the state that have conducted or have planned door-to-door smoke alarm campaigns.

Along with the alarms, the OSFM has given \$5,000 to 20 of these departments to help them conduct their campaigns.

Seventeen of the 34 fire departments have completed campaigns: Arlington Fire Department, Boardman Rural Fire District, Boring Fire District, Colton Rural Fire District, Condon Fire Department, Corvallis Fire Department, Crooked River Ranch Rural Fire District, Jackson County Fire District #3, McMinnville Fire Department, Medical Springs Rural Fire District, Milton-Freewater Rural Fire Department, Monument Fire District, Newport Fire Department, Siuslaw Valley Fire & Rescue, Sweet Home Fire District, and Vale Fire Department.

Campaign highlights include:

- Boardman RFPD visited three neighborhoods from April through October, contacted 227 homes and installed 81 smoke alarms. They are planning to conduct three more neighborhood campaigns in 2009.
- Boring Fire District contacted 170 residences at a local mobile home park during a campaign in June 2008. Of the 120 residents at home, the department installed 53 alarms.
- Jackson County #3 visited a 78-home mobile home park over a three-day period in October. They were able to inspect 49 of the homes and installed 37 alarms. A single alarm was installed in 26 of the homes and two alarms were installed in 11 of the homes.

Departments interested in receiving alarms and funding assistance for their door-to-door smoke alarm campaigns can contact Stephanie Stafford at 503-934-8245 or email Stephanie.stafford@state.or.us.

Training available for campus fire safety educators

Firewise Campus has partnered with the The Center for Campus Fire Safety and Underwriters Laboratories to provide a two-day training class for fire service members involved in college and university fire safety.

The class is scheduled for January 15-16, 2008 at the Embassy Suites at the Portland International Airport. Topics include:

- Best practices
- A roadmap for creating a successful campus fire safety program
- Exercises addressing common issues and obstacles
- A toolkit for addressing various issues
- Methods to involve administrators, parents, resident assistants, landlords and students
- An exercise for evaluating and targeting a successful fire safety program

The training is funded by a Department of Homeland Security Grant and is designed for fire service personnel working with college campuses and campus safety professionals responsible for student fire safety planning.

Training is free and includes lodging for two nights and lunch on January 16th.

For more information visit <http://www.firewise-campus.org>, or contact Corvallis Fire Prevention Officer Jim Patton at 541-766-6903 or email jim.patton@ci.corvallis.or.us.

Coquille Fire Department celebrates 100 years

Members of the Coquille Fire Department highlighted a year long celebration of their department's 100th anniversary at a ceremony in October.

Coquille Fire Chief Dave Waddington was presented with awards on behalf of the Oregon State Fire Marshal and the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association for 100 years of community dedication.

Advanced fire and arson career development school

The International Association of Arson Investigators Rogue Valley District has set its 23rd Annual Advanced Fire and Arson Career Development School January 13-16, 2009 at the Red Lion Hotel of Medford.

The training is designed for fire service, law enforcement, insurance industry, independent investigators, and local, state and federal agencies involved in fire or arson investigation.

Topics include:

- Investigation of equipment-caused wildfires
- Coordination of wildfire origin and cause investigations, October 2007 Southern California wildfire siege
- Ethics – Walking the talk of honor, character and integrity
- Digital evidence
- Website, poster, and flyer development to promote educational programs
- Arson-Fraud public and private interaction
- Understanding child development before interviewing

Portions of the training are accredited through the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training.

For more information and registration form, visit <http://www.or-iaai.net/Home.htm>.

New department recognized

Acting State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson congratulates the Burns Paiute Tribe Fire Department as Oregon's newest department. The Burns Paiute Tribe Fire Chief is Kenton Dick.

The department may be reached at 100 Pasigo Street, Burns, Oregon 97720.

Personnel of all recognized fire departments and districts are statutorily assistants to the state fire marshal by virtue of the offices they hold (ORS 476.060).

DHS announces guidance for preparedness grants

The Federal Emergency Management Administration has released its Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 Application Guidance for 14 federal grant programs.

The programs total more than \$3 billion in federal funding to assist state and local governments in strengthening community preparedness.

DHS also announced the FY 2009 targeted allocations under the State Homeland Security Program and Urban Areas Security Initiative. The department will continue to use the peer review process and applicants' effectiveness scores in determining final allocations.

Highlights of the FY 2009 grant program allocations include:

Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) – \$1.7 billion for FY 2009 HSGP funding priorities are targeted for either states or urban areas, and reflect capabilities most critical to build in those jurisdictions. At least 25 percent of the total FY 2009 HSGP funding must be dedicated for activities involving planning, training and exercises in building or sustaining capabilities. HSGP is comprised of four programs:

- State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) – \$861.3 million to strengthen and build state, territorial and local preparedness capabilities through planning, equipment, training and exercise activities.
- Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) – \$798.6 million to enhance regional preparedness by strengthening capabilities in 62 high-threat, high-density urban areas across the country. The seven highest risk urban areas will compete for 55 percent of available funds, while the remaining areas will compete for about 45 percent of the funds.
- Metropolitan Medical Response System Program (MMRS) – \$39.8 million is divided evenly among 124 MMRS jurisdictions to enhance and sustain comprehensive regional mass casualty incident response and preparedness capabilities.

- Citizen Corps Program (CCP) – \$14.6 million for states and territories to bring community and government leaders together to engage citizens in community preparedness, response and recovery activities.

State Homeland Security Program Tribal (SHSP Tribal) – approximately \$1.7 million will be provided to tribal applicants to build preparedness and response capabilities, and to implement homeland security plans.

Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) – \$306 million to assist state and local governments in enhancing and sustaining all-hazards emergency management capabilities.

Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) – \$48.6 million for planning, training, exercises and equipment to states, territories, local and tribal governments to carry out initiatives identified in Statewide Communication Interoperability Plans, and improve interoperable emergency communications for responding to natural disasters and acts of terrorism.

Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) – \$34 million to enhance catastrophic incident preparedness in selected high-risk, high-consequence urban areas and to support technical assistance funding in FY 2009. RCPGP supports coordination of regional all-hazards planning for catastrophic events, including the development of plans, protocols, and procedures.

Selected preparedness grants, such as the Urban Areas Security Initiative, are awarded according to a risk assessment methodology that assesses threat, vulnerability and consequence. The FY 2009 risk methodology is the same as FY 2008.

Applications for the HSGP programs are due March 20, 2009. Other program application deadlines are listed in the program guidance.

Further information on preparedness grant programs is available at www.dhs.gov and www.fema.gov/grants.



Sodium Hypochlorite NaClO

Description:

- Synonyms: chlorine bleach; bleach; soda bleach; hypochlorous acid, sodium salt
- Colorless to yellowish liquid with a chlorine-like odor
- Acute and chronic health hazard; corrosive; reactive; strong oxidizer
- CAS No.: 7681-52-9
- DOT Hazard Class 8; UN/NA: 1791

NFPA Information:

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

Uses and Occurrences:

- Produced by absorbing chlorine gas in a cold sodium hydroxide solution
- Household bleach for disinfection and laundry (3-6% Sodium Hypochlorite solution)
- Chlorination of water (approx.12% Sodium Hypochlorite solution)
- Wastewater treatment (approx.15% Sodium Hypochlorite solution)

Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Unstable in air unless mixed with sodium hydroxide
- Reacts with chemicals such as ammonia, acids, detergents or organic matter to release chlorine gas
- Forms explosive compounds with primary amines
- May evolve chloramine gas when ammonia and bleach are mixed
- Contact with metals may evolve flammable hydrogen gas
- Incompatibles include: ammonia, ammonium salts, methanol, cellulose, air, organic matter

Health Hazards:

- Corrosive
- Eye contact may result in corneal damage
- May cause severe irritation and burns to skin
- Inhalation can result in irritation, severe over exposure can lead to lung damage

- Ingestion can result in burns, swelling of the throat, collapse
- OSHA (PEL) 0.5 ppm TWA; oral LD50 (depends on concentration): 13g/kg (rat 5%), 5 g/kg (rat 12.5%)

Personal Protective Equipment:

- Emergency responders should use self-contained breathing apparatus and full protective equipment
- Use local exhaust ventilation or other engineering controls
- Wear gloves, apron, splash goggles
- Use a respirator as appropriate

Inspection and Storage Tips:

- Keep container tightly closed
- Keep container in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area
- Never add water to the container
- Store away from incompatibles

2007 Oregon Fire Code:

- Corrosive
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per S occupancy control area:
 - Unprotected by sprinklers or approved storage cabinets: 500 gallons
 - In sprinklered building, not within approved storage cabinets: 1000 gallons
 - In unsprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 1000 gallons
 - In sprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 2000 gallons

Incident Reporting and Information:

- There are 267 facilities in Oregon currently reporting sodium hypochlorite on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey
- There have been eight hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986 involving sodium hypochlorite

For questions or suggestions contact HazMat Information Specialist Alec Carte at 503-934-8262, or email aleta.carte@state.or.us

Scappoose Fire District issues 'Thanks!'

The Scappoose Fire District has many people to be thankful for during this season of giving. On August 17th, we experienced the loss of one of our own, Firefighter/EMT Robert Hales. We appreciate the showering of support, comfort, and help from our Oregon Fire Service family.

From that heartbreaking moment on, the Oregon fire service family has been there to help us respond to emergencies, organize, plan, and stand with us while we grieved.

The compassion, professionalism, and care they brought to Scappoose was respectful and amazing. We have tried to thank each agency and individual for their help, but we know it doesn't cover everyone. Thank You!

In memoriam

The Keizer Fire District is sad to announce the passing of former Fire Chief Duane Sanford, October 30, 2008. He was 79 years old.

Sanford joined the Keizer Fire District as a volunteer in 1952. In 1965 he was promoted to fire chief. He retired in 1988 as the district's longest serving fire chief.

During Sanford's tenure, Keizer grew from about 1,000 residents to more than 20,000.

He is survived by his wife Jan; daughters Wendy Williams and Teresa Masee of Keizer; and sons Jeff of Salem, Greg of Stevenson, Washington, Brent of Keizer; foster son James Werner of Deer Lodge, Montana; 15 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. He is also survived by brothers Glen and John, both of Keizer; sisters Laura Potter of Salem and Francis Endicott of Washington.



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