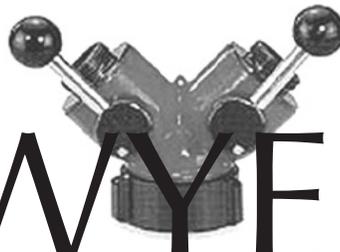


GATED WYE



January 2010 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 312

Fire Service Appreciation Day is January 27

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) along with a number of partner agencies is hosting a ceremony honoring the Oregon fire service Wednesday, January 27, 2010 at the OSFM headquarters in Salem.

A small formal ceremony and brief remarks will begin at 11:00 a.m. Members of the fire service and general public are invited to tour the building to view a variety of displays recognizing members of the fire service for their work in 2009.

Ceremony participants include the Oregon Fire Choir and the Salem Professional Firefighters Pipes & Drums. Light refreshments will also be served.

"It's a privilege to host the event this year," says State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson. "We want members of the fire service to know how much we appreciate all their sacrifice this past year."

In 2007, the Oregon legislature passed a permanent resolution establishing January 27 each year as Fire Service Appreciation Day in Oregon. The resolution honors all those in the fire service who work to save lives and property. This includes firefighters who risk their safety in the

course of their duties as well as unsung heroes in fire prevention, education, and public information working behind the scenes.

The OSFM encourages communities throughout the state to honor their local fire departments and districts.

"There are a number of things communities can do," says State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson. "From community groups hosting a breakfast, lunch, or dinner to local merchants offering special discounts to schools holding essay con-

tests, this is an opportunity for everyone to say thanks."

Local recognition in past years has included city mayors presenting fire chiefs with a certificate of thanks, fire district boards presenting coins and certificates to volunteers, and local newspapers publishing articles and ads thanking members of the fire service.

For more information on Fire Service Appreciation Day at the OSFM, contact Rich Hoover at 503-834-8217 or email Richard.hoover@state.or.us.



Ladder trucks fly the flag during Fire Service Appreciation Day 2005

From the desk of the State Fire Marshal



“So, who do you know who took action and made a difference in 2009?”

‘Hope’ you have a good year

First and foremost, I begin my first column of 2010 by wishing all of you a successful and safe year. We now move out of one decade and into another.

We have seen many changes the past ten years, and as always, a new year brings with it new thoughts about a fresh start and a heart full of good hope at what the future will bring.

But it’s not really about what the future will bring to us, it’s about what we bring to the future. It’s easy to have hope when looking forward – I hope this happens or that happens or I hope I accomplish this or that.

However, it’s not hope that gets us where we want to be. What affects the future and makes our hopes reality are the actions we take every day.

For instance, every year all of us ‘hope’ home fires decrease and no civilians or firefighters are injured or killed by fire. Although this is positive thinking, hope doesn’t make it happen, it’s our actions that make a difference.

And making a difference is why we all got into this line of work to begin with. So, who do you know who took action and made a difference in 2009? If you know of someone, it’s time to let us know so we can honor them.

Taking action and making a difference is not always easy. That’s why each year the OSFM searches out those deserving of recognition and presents them with our Golden or Silver Sparky award. But we need your nominations to make it work.

Now, I’m asking you to take action by nominating a fire service member and/or a civilian who deserves a Golden or Silver Sparky award.

You are our eyes and ears for what happens on the front lines and behind the scenes when those unsung heroes take action to make a difference.

For a nomination form click [here](#).

And thanks for taking action.



**State Fire Marshal
Randy Simpson**

**Office of
State Fire Marshal**

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

**www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM
503-373-1540**

Administration
ext. 211

Codes & Technical
Services
ext. 269

Community Education
ext. 273

Community
Right-to-Know
ext. 214

Data Services
ext. 236

Emergency Planning &
Response
ext. 227

Emergency Response
ext. 238

Fire & Life Safety
ext. 204

Firesetter Intervention
ext. 230

License & Permits
ext. 264

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.

Simpson photo courtesy of ODOT Photo and Video Services.

OSFM offers Fire & Life Safety Awareness classes

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is hosting Fire and Life Safety Awareness I and II training Tuesday, January 12, 2010 at the OSFM office in Salem. Classes are free. There are no prerequisites for Life Safety Awareness I. Life Safety Awareness II students must have completed Life Safety Awareness I.

Fire & Life Safety Awareness I provides training on the Oregon statutes, rules, and attorney general opinions related to the powers and duties of the state fire marshal and assistants to the state fire marshal. The training includes inspection procedures, due process, investigation of fires, and the dispute resolution process.

Fire & Life Safety Awareness II training provides a foundation on general provisions of fire department access as established in the 2007 Oregon Fire Code, including: permits, fire department access roads, building access, and fire hydrant systems. Additionally the course covers fire department water supply, calculating water supply per NFPA 1142: *Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting*, fire flow, and number and distribution of fire hydrants per 2007 Oregon Fire Code.

Click here to register on iLearn. Students may enroll in one or both classes. Space is limited to 10 students. For more information, contact Anita Horsley at 503-934-8249 or email anita.horsley@state.or.us.

Save the date

Western Juvenile with Fire Intervention
Conference Cultivating Partnerships III:
Juveniles With Fire and the Impact of Media.
August 17 & 18, 2010

Hilton Eugene & Conference Center
Eugene, Oregon

Conference Early Registration fee: \$199.00

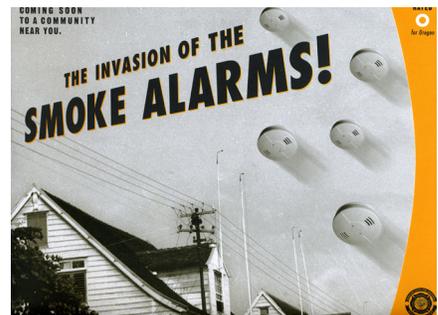
Registration will be available soon. For more information call Helen Feroli at 503-934-8240.

Door-to-door smoke alarm program trainings in January

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is hosting workshops throughout Oregon in January on conducting community door-to-door smoke alarm campaigns. The two-hour workshops are free and cover implementation of all phases of the model community door-to-door smoke alarm campaign. The workshop includes recommendations for planning, recruiting community partners, and implementing and evaluating your program.

Community-based door-to-door smoke alarm campaigns are proven effective in reaching residents who haven't responded to previous education efforts to change attitudes and behaviors regarding proper smoke alarm maintenance and home fire safety.

Departments attending the workshop receive a free *Invasion of the Smoke Alarms Door-to-Door Smoke Alarm Campaign* kit (one per department). The kit includes instructions and steps for conducting successful campaigns. When a fire department's door-to-door campaign application is accepted by the OSFM, the department may receive up to 50 free smoke alarms and \$250 for each campaign.



Cover image of the door-to-door smoke alarm campaign kit

Upcoming Workshops:

January 11, 2010, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m., Florence

January 15, 2010, 10 a.m. - noon, Lebanon

January 20, 2010, 10 a.m. - noon, Roseburg

January 21, 2010, 10 a.m. - noon, Salem

January 26, 2010, 10 a.m. - noon, Veneta

January 28, 2010, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m., Lincoln City

For a registration form click here.

For more information, contact Colleen Olson at 503-934-8228 or email colleen.olson@state.or.us.

National Fire Academy classes in Oregon

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) are hosting two 2-day National Fire Academy courses April 26-29, 2010, at the Oregon Public Safety Academy (OPSA) in Salem, Oregon. Classes are free. The OSFM is awarding 25 openings to Oregon fire prevention and safety educators. Free lodging is provided at the OPSA dormitory for participants who live more than 60 miles from Salem. Free meal cards are provided for all students. Travel expenses are the student's responsibility.

Preventing Fire Risk Based on Socioeconomic Factors: Rural and Urban Settings April 26-27, 2010

This new 2-day course develops ideas and plans for addressing the high fire incidence among populations based on socioeconomic factors. The course is designed for students in the prevention field. Values, attitudes, and behaviors, as well as social and economic characteristics are evaluated. Effective change techniques, existing programs, and community collaboration are reviewed to develop solutions for community high-risk target groups. Course content includes how socioeconomic factors play a significant role in high incidence of fire, fire deaths, and fire injuries; attitudes, values, and behaviors of populations at high risk for fire; poverty and low education levels may explain up to one-third of the variation in fire deaths; reaching into neighborhoods to create change for populations at high risk for fire; and program issues for high-risk groups in rural and urban areas. Participants take a short multiple-choice exam on key course concepts.

Methods of Enhancing Safety Education April 28-29, 2010

This 2-day course is designed for those who coordinate or assist their organization in public education. The course does not teach how to deliver safety programs, rather it supports efforts to enhance safety education in their organizations and in their communities. Content is ideal for students from smaller or volunteer organizations who want to enhance their public education and prevention efforts. Students will outline ideas and plans they would like to apply when returning home. Students
January 2010, GATED WYE, page 4

will be able to determine if public education is valued in their organizations and in their communities. Course content emphasizes three simple methods for establishing 'roots' in public fire and life safety education: personal commitment to public education; determining and improving the organization's role in public education; and enhancing programs through greater community support.

Candidates may apply for one or both courses.

What's provided: Free NFA classes, free lodging at OPSA for recipients who live more than 60 miles from Salem, and free meal cards for all students. Travel expenses are the student's responsibility.

Click here for an application.

Applications must be submitted to OSFM by 5:00 p.m., February 26, 2010. Applications are approved on a first come, first served basis. A maximum of two applications per fire department, per class will be approved. The OSFM will notify candidates of their status by March 12, 2010.

For more information, contact Colleen Olson at 503-934-8228 or colleen.olson@state.or.us, or Stephanie Stafford at 503-934-8245 or stephanie.stafford@state.or.us.

January workshop on Multi-Family Housing, Fire Reduction Program

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R) is conducting a free train-the-trainer workshop on the Multi-Family Housing Fire Reduction Program, January 21, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM).

The workshop is designed to help fire departments develop their own fire and life safety training program for apartment managers. The train-the-trainer workshop is delivered through a partnership between TVF&R, the OSFM, and the Oregon Life Safety Team.

Register online by clicking [here](#). Submit registrations via email using the online form or print and send by fax to 503-373-1825. Space is limited to 24 participants.

For more information, contact Colleen Olson at 503-934-8228 or email colleen.olson@state.or.us.

No cost command and control course available

The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST), in cooperation with Region X TRADE, is hosting a free six-day National Fire Academy course *Command & Control of Incident Operations*, February 1-6, 2010, at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem.

During the 6-day course, fire officers are introduced to the Incident Command System (ICS) and analyze proper fire command techniques for control and extinguishment of fires ranging from small, residential structures to multi-occupancy, commercial complexes. Topics covered include problem-solving and fire command, interagency and mutual aid, the ICS, incident management, size-up and strategy, tactics and action plans, truck company operations, engine company operations, building construction and fire behavior, pre-incident preparation, incident organization, and strategic command. Special emphasis is placed on firefighter safety.

Selection Criteria: Must be a chief officer or company officer with command responsibilities at emergency incidents. Additionally, officers who are upwardly mobile in their organizations may be considered. A letter from the fire chief on department letterhead is required for these applicants.

Additionally, individuals who may have this responsibility and are upwardly mobile in their organizations may be considered. Certification in the form of a letter of recommendation from their fire department stating that they meet the selection criteria based on the need and organizational structure of the represented department is required.

Prerequisites: Must have demonstrated experience in the ICS, and completion of a previous command course.

DPSST also provides housing and meals at no cost.

[Click here for an application.](#)

Fax or mail completed application and supporting documentation to: Thelma Denney, DPSST, 4190 Aumsville Hwy, SE, Salem, Oregon 97317. Phone: 503-378-2408, fax: 503-378-3345, email: thelma.denney@state.or.us.

DPSST hosting firefighter near-miss workshops

The Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards & Training is hosting free workshops and a train-the-trainer course May 3 and 4, 2010, covering the *National Fire Fighter Near-Miss Reporting System*.

The workshops cover the value of the near-miss reporting system and a basic understanding of its use. The train-the-trainer course emphasizes using the resources and learning the importance near-miss plays in a fire department's safety program.

Near-miss workshops

Four hours (2 offerings):

May 3, 2010 0800-1200 hrs.

May 3, 2010 1300-1700 hrs.

Near-miss Train-the-Trainer

Eight hours (1 offering):

May 4, 2010 0800-1700 hrs.

All training is at the Department of Public Safety Standards & Training, 4190 Aumsville Hwy., Salem, Oregon. Lodging is available on request and meals are provided. Seats are limited. Register online by clicking [here](#).

For more information, contact Thelma Denney at 503-378-2408 or thelma.denney@state.or.us.

2010 HazMat conference

The 2010 Oregon Hazardous Materials Response Teams Conference is set for April 27-29, 2010, at Eagle Crest Resort in Redmond, Oregon.

Classes offered include: Explosive Labs, Sampling, Radiation, Bulging Drums, Ammonia, Tank Truck Emergencies, Railroad Emergencies, HazMat Tactics, SensIR, Chemistry, Mercury, IED/CBRNE Awareness, and more.

Registration opens January 15, 2010. The \$325 fee includes lunch April 27-29 and dinner April 27 & 28.

For more information, contact Jamie Kometz at 503-934-8280 or jamie.kometz@state.or.us.

2010 Oregon Fire Code effective July 1

The Oregon Fire Code originally scheduled for April 1, 2010 has been moved to July 1, 2010.

The 2010 Oregon Fire Code (OFC) along with the Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC), the Oregon Mechanical Specialty Code (OMSC), and the new 2010 Oregon Energy Efficiency Specialty Code (OEESC) were intended to become effective April 1, 2010.

Although the OFC, OSSC, and OMSC were on target to meet the April 1 date, the OEESC will not be ready. The building codes division determined the OSSC, OMSC and OEESC should be effective on the same date and so have postponed their code updates until July.

Because the OSSC and OMSC are closely interrelated with the OFC, the Office of State Fire Marshal has decided to postpone the regular April 1 effective date of the 2010 Oregon Fire Code to match the July 1, 2010 effective date of all other building-related codes.

In addition, there will be a three-month phase-in period for the 2010 codes from July 1, 2010 to September 30, 2010. This means for new construction plan review only, the permit applicant may request plan review to follow the 2007 or 2010 code edition. For fire departments with new construction plan review input, your building official will advise you as to which edition of the code to use.

For all other subjects covered by the Oregon Fire Code, the 2010 edition is effective July 1, 2010.

If you have any questions about the implementation date, call Deputy State Fire Marshal John Caul at 503-934-8269 or e-mail john.caul@state.or.us.

Fire grant update

by Hines Firefighter/Grant Writer Jonathan Manski

Patience has its virtues, but firefighters have only so much patience when it comes to the end of an eight-month wait for Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) program news.

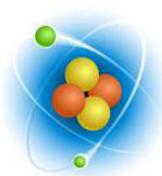
A flood of pre-notification indicators for the 2009 AFG awards has started. Here's how to check if your department has one of them. If you're a previous award winner, login to the grant application page, find your first year of a grant award, and in the right-hand column titled 'Action,' select 'View 1199A.' In the upper left of the new page you will see a list of 'Reference Award Number.' A EMW-2009-XX-XXXX in red here is fantastic news whether it's for operations & safety, vehicles, or regional projects. If this is your first award, check the current year 'Action' column for the 1199A. If you see nothing, there is still hope as 1199A's are updated through the program duration. This year, this is the second indicator you're headed toward some new equipment, training, or vehicle. Next you'll receive the '10 questions,' then finally a call from a congressional representative, and a congratulatory email from the Department of Homeland Security.

Although not guaranteed, this large release of 1199A's indicates a pending award of your grant project(s) is near. Although no official awards made it out before Christmas, it now seems most plausible to occur in January; we hope. This is a big difference in timing of the award releases compared to the first round of announcements in 2008 that started July 4th. I expect a huge release of announcements for the first round compared to what I normally expect, since the timing of the program is off so significantly.

Because of confusion in the 2009 SAFER program guidance on hiring, the application period is extended to January 15, 2010. Review the updated guidance which more clearly explains the changes in hiring. Those engaged here have a little additional time. This grant program is historically under used.

Remember, now is the time to start your work on the 2010 AFG program because we can all use some financial grant assistance!

For the latest information on FEMA grants, click [here](#).



Chemical of the month by Alec Carte

Sulfuric Acid H_2SO_4

Description:

- Synonyms: Oil of Vitriol
- Odorless, clear, colorless liquid
- Acute health hazard; corrosive; reactive; chronic health hazard
- CAS No.: 7664-93-9
- Flash point: None
- DOT: Corrosive Class 8
- UN/NA: 1830
- EPA section 302 extremely hazardous substance; TPQ: 1000 pounds

NFPA Information:

- Health: 3
- Flammability: 0
- Reactivity: 2
- Special: water reactive

Uses and Occurrences:

- Produced industrially from sulfur, oxygen, and water
- Used in lead acid batteries, ore processing, fertilizer manufacturing, oil refining

Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Non-flammable
- Stable under ordinary conditions of use
- Slowly add acid to water when making a solution. Sulfuric acid plus water produces an exothermic reaction with large amounts of heat
- Reacts with: steam or water to produce toxic and corrosive fumes; carbonates to produce carbon dioxide gas; cyanides to produce hydrogen cyanide gas; sulfides to produce hydrogen sulfide gas
- Incompatibles include: metals (yields hydrogen gas), bases, oxidizing agents, reducing agents, organic materials, flammable liquids
- **Health Hazards:**
- OSHA PEL: 1 mg/m³ TWA
- Inhalation damages the mucous membranes and upper respiratory tract
- Corrosive
- Causes severe burns to all body tissue
- May cause blindness
- May be fatal if swallowed
- Strong inorganic acid mist containing sulfuric

acid can cause cancer

- Repeated exposure to mist or vapor may damage teeth
- LD50: 2140 mg/kg rat
- IDLH: 80 mg/m³

Personal Protective Equipment:

- Emergency responders should use self-contained breathing apparatus and full protective clothing
- Use local exhaust ventilation or other engineering controls to stay within PELs
- Wear impervious protective clothing, splash goggles and face shield
- Use an approved respirator if appropriate

Inspection and Storage Tips:

- Keep container tightly closed
- Store in a cool, dry, well ventilated area
- Use non-sparking tools when opening containers since hydrogen gas could be present
- 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 289 facilities in Oregon currently reporting sulfuric acid or a sulfuric acid solution on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey
- There have been 46 hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986 involving sulfuric acid

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

Community education manager retires

Community Education Section Manager Tari Glocar has retired after nearly 30 years of service to the Office of State Fire Marshal. Glocar began with the agency in April 1980 and held a number of positions in her years of service.

The staff at OSFM are grateful for Tari's many years of service. The agency will miss her experience and expertise.



Tari Glocar

License and Permit Section Manager Anita Phillips is overseeing the Community Education Section for the interim.

Fire & life safety certification



Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal Dave Jones presents Albany Fire Department Lieutenant Don Schlies with his Fire and Life Safety Specialist II recognition with Fire Plans Examiner endorsement at the Oregon Fire Code Committee meeting November 24

Recent reports released by the National Fire Protection Association

- **Possible Impairment by Alcohol or Drugs as a Contributing Factor in Home Fire Deaths**
Examines fire circumstances and victim characteristics when possible impairment by alcohol or drugs was cited as a factor contributing to fatal injury and compares these circumstances and characteristics with those found in home fire deaths overall.
You must be an NFPA member to download the full report. Non-members may view an executive summary by clicking [here](#).
- **Fire Service Performance Measures**
Presents twenty performance measures by major response type: fire, medical aid, hazmat, and other calls. Includes a discussion about what each measure tells you and cautions to consider when using the measure. Each measure also contains information about a corresponding NFPA standard or recommendation and suggestions for how to use NFIRS to evaluate performance, where applicable.
To download the report click [here](#).
- **U.S. Fire Department Profile**
Includes statistics through 2008 on the numbers and characteristics of U.S. fire departments and firefighters. It also includes information on the number of fire stations, pumpers, and ladders nationwide, rates of usage of such equipment by community size, and total national direct expenditures on local fire protection.
Non-members may view a one-page fact sheet by clicking [here](#).