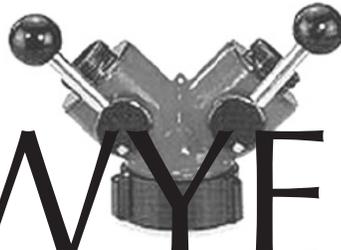


# GATED WYE



September 2010 · Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal · 4760 Portland Road NE · Salem Oregon 97305-1760 · No. 320

## Fire Prevention Week – Do the Drill!

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is encouraging fire departments and districts statewide to partner with local school districts to participate in the Do the Drill! campaign focusing on fire evacuation planning, drills, and reporting during this year's Fire Prevention Week, October 3-9.

The OSFM, in collaboration with the Oregon Fire Code Committee and the Oregon Fire Marshals Association, created a fire drill evacuation guideline as part of the larger [School Resource Guide to Evacuation Planning](#) that has been sent to

every school, fire department, and fire district in Oregon.

The resource guide, developed in partnership with representatives from the Oregon Department of Education, Oregon Emergency Management, Oregon Fire Code Committee, Oregon Fire Marshals Association, the Oregon School Resource Officers Association, and Special Districts Association of Oregon, also provides information and procedures for safety drills dealing with earthquakes, sheltering-in-place, and lockdowns.

In the past five years, more than 1,300 school fires have

been reported to the OSFM.

Last year, when a fire destroyed Marysville Elementary School in Portland, the school's evacuation planning paid off when students, staff, and visitors escaped without injury.

At the beginning of each school year, administrators work with their staff to prepare evacuation plans and practice fire drills with their students. Fire Prevention Week and participating in Do the Drill! provides fire departments and districts with an excellent opportunity to enhance their relationships with local schools.

## Free educational materials available from the OSFM

Governor Theodore Kulongoski has proclaimed October 3-9 *Fire Prevention Week 2010* in Oregon. The Office of State Fire Marshal has free materials to help Oregon fire departments and districts enhance their prevention messages in support of the national theme *Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live With*. Materials include:

- **Smoke alarm brochures**

Cover basic information on alarm types, where to install them, and maintenance tips. The OSFM also encourages fire

agencies to take advantage of free alarms and funding for door-to-door smoke alarm campaigns. [Get more information about smoke alarm campaigns here.](#)

- **Virtual fire safety house, home escape maps, and rulers/bookmarks**

The OSFM has created a web-based, interactive, fire safety house called [Live FireSmart](#). Online visitors can click items located throughout the virtual home to view fire prevention and safety messages.

Also available is a new [home](#)

[escape plan/map and a ruler/bookmark](#) to assist with drawing on the home escape map. Both the ruler and bookmark direct families to the *Live FireSmart* virtual safety house and home escape plan.

[More free materials](#), including brochures on [kitchen safety](#), [gasoline safety](#), and [fire safety for older adults](#) are available free from the OSFM. You can preview and [order these materials online](#), or by calling 503-934-8266, or emailing [osfm.ce@state.or.us](mailto:osfm.ce@state.or.us).

# From the desk of the State Fire Marshal



“Recently, there has been a disturbing rise in human carelessness regarding abandoned campfires in central Oregon.”

## Keeping the pressure on wildland fire prevention

While there may be friendly rivalries between those of us in the structural and wildland firefighting professions, when it comes down to the ‘nitty-gritty,’ professionals on both sides never hesitate to jump in and help the other. And as far as fire prevention messages go, one of these nitty-gritty moments is now.

Recently, there’s been a disturbing rise in human carelessness regarding abandoned campfires in central Oregon. The Central Oregon Interagency Dispatch Center reported that just a few days after the 6,000 acre Rooster Rock Fire, firefighters responded to a second fire start just a mile west of the Rooster Rock point of origin. Luckily, they got a jump on it and kept it at a half-acre. The cause was an abandoned campfire.

The dispatch center noted in just a two-week period (July 31 – August 16), firefighters responded to 20 abandoned campfires primarily on Deschutes National Forest land.

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) reports, from January 1 through August 30, 2010, 353 human-caused fires have burned 5,226 acres (66% of total fires, and 87% of total acreage) on ODF protected lands.

I realize a majority of structural fire departments are located west of the cascades, but I also know a majority of campers and recreationists visiting central and eastern Oregon come from west of the Cascades.

We owe it to our wildland and structural partners throughout the state to remind everyone about campfire safety and the extreme fire danger that still exists in the dryer areas to our east.

I hope you consider supporting our wildland partners by including reminders about wildland fire prevention and safety along with the other fire prevention and safety messages you routinely disseminate.



**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](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM)  
503-373-1540**

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ext. 227

Emergency Response  
ext. 238

Fire & Life Safety  
ext. 204

Firesetter Intervention  
ext. 230

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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 e-mail [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.

Simpson photo courtesy of ODOT Photo and Video Services.

## OSFM says goodbye to OSP Superintendent McLain

In August, the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) staff invited retiring Oregon State Police Superintendent Tim McLain to drop by the OSFM headquarters for a brief but heartfelt presentation in appreciation of his support of the OSFM over the past four years.

“Superintendent McLain has done more to support the OSFM during his leadership than any previous superintendent,” said State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson. “Although our staff is sad to see him leave, he deserves to enjoy this next stage of his life. We all thank him tremendously for everything he has done for our agency.”



*State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson (right) presents Superintendent Tim McLain with a traditional fire chief helmet in honor of his retirement.*

## New online Basic Building Code course coming

On September 3, the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) will release a new web-based course that meets a core curriculum training requirement for the Fire and Life Safety [Competency Recognition Program](#).

The four-hour, online Basic Building Code training provides a conceptual introduction to regulatory conditions referenced in the fire code but typically enumerated in building codes, with emphasis on the Oregon Structural Specialty Code.

[Oregon Administrative Rule 837-039-0120](#) (*Certification and Training Requirements for Conducting Fire Code Enforcement*), establishes statewide standards for certification and training requirements for fire officials responsible for administration of a fire code approved by the OSFM.

[Enroll on iLearnOregon](#). For assistance contact Sandi McClaghry at 503-934-8256.

## Fire & Life Safety Awareness II classroom course October 12

This is part of the core curriculum training requirement for the Fire and Life Safety [Competency Recognition Program](#) as explained in [Oregon Administrative Rule 837-039-0120](#).

Fire & Life Safety Awareness II has two modules: Module 2A covers fire department access, and Module 2B covers water supply and fire flow.

The two-module course is scheduled October 12, from 1-5 p.m. at Coburg Rural Fire Protection District (approx. 6 miles north of Eugene, Oregon).

Per [837-039-0110](#) (*Certification and Training Requirements for Plan Review*), fire officials who review plans only for fire department access and fire protection water supplies must successfully complete the OSFM Fire and Life Safety Awareness courses on fire department access, water supply, and fire flow.

[Enroll on iLearnOregon](#). For assistance contact Sandi McClaghry at 503-934-8256.



## OREGON FALLEN FIRE FIGHTERS MEMORIAL

SEPTEMBER 16, 2010 AT 1:00 PM

OREGON PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY  
4190 AUMSVILLE HWY SE  
SALEM, OREGON 97317

## New monthly column will highlight LEPC activities

Beginning next month, the Gated Wye will devote a regular column to activities and information from Oregon's growing list of local emergency planning committees (LEPC).

LEPCs are a requirement of the federal Emergency Planning & Community Right-to-Know Act, passed in 1986.

LEPCs are based on collaborative partnerships among local authorities, communities, academia, industries, and emergency responders and planners to improve the coordinated response to hazardous material releases. LEPCs also serve to educate citizens on how to protect themselves in case of hazardous material releases.

In Oregon, the LEPC program includes opportunities for committees to participate in all-hazard activities. This provides for consolidation of various types of pre-planning activities and enables complete emergency coordination within a single committee structure.

Oregon currently has seven recognized LEPCs, incorporating eight counties.

Clatsop, Columbia, Klamath, Lincoln, Morrow, and Umatilla counties have been established as independent LEPCs, while Linn and Benton counties have combined to create a single LEPC.

The OSFM Planning & Training Assistance group is currently working with Lane, Multnomah, and Hood River counties to achieve recognized LEPC status.

For more information on LEPCs, [visit the OSFM LEPC webpage](#).

## September is Campus Fire Safety Month

Governor Theodore Kulongoski, along with governors from 10 other states, has proclaimed September as Campus Fire Safety Month.

For more information, resources, and web links, [visit the campus fire safety section](#) on the Office of State Fire Marshal website.

## New OSFM employees

### Lori VanDanAcker

Licensing Representative  
Compliance & Education  
Section



Lori grew up in central Seattle and moved to Oregon in 1985, after living five years in Fairbanks, Alaska. She has two children, Sara (27) and Tyler (25). After running a business for 15 years, she sold it in 2005.

Free time/hobbies consist of circuit training, weight lifting, spinning, snow boarding, and going to the dog park with her two Yorkshire Terriers and two Golden Retrievers.

"I am starting a new chapter here at OSFM," says Lori. "Life is good!"

### Cynthia DeForest

Cardlock Compliance  
Specialist  
Compliance & Education  
Section



Born and raised in southern California, Cynthia enjoyed working in the family business and in the aerospace industry.

Thinking it was time for a change, she moved to Eugene, Oregon in 1989. Cynthia started her career with the State of Oregon in 1990 and is happily celebrating her 20th year.

She and her husband Terry enjoy country living and raising organic beef cattle with their three German Shepherds and two cats. The couple love exploring Oregon and nearby states on their Honda Goldwing.

"I look forward to working with everyone at the OSFM office, the friendliness and laughter makes each day a good day."

# DATA Connection

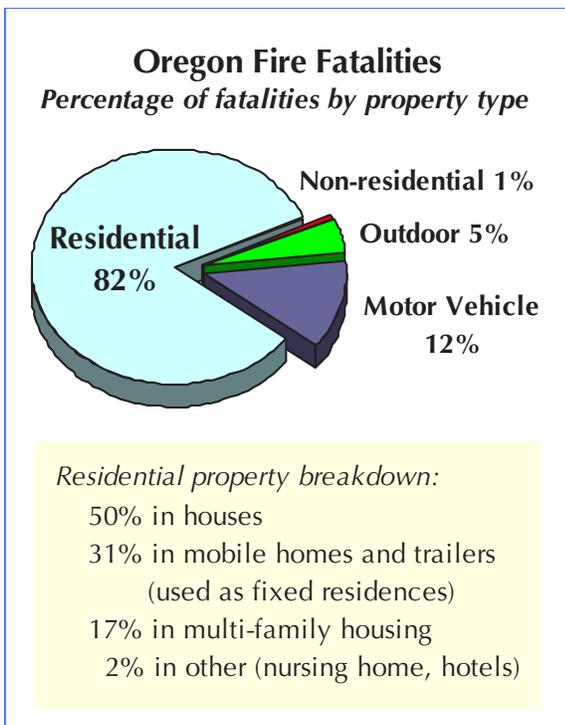
News & technical tips from the Data Unit

## Preventing fire fatalities in Oregon

From 2004 through 2008, there were 167 fatalities in unintentional fires in Oregon. As seen in the chart below, the majority of fatalities (82%) occurred in residential buildings, twelve percent occurred in motor vehicles, five percent in outdoor property, and one percent in non-residential buildings.

Earlier this year, the Oregon Fire Fatality Review Committee (OFFRC) published the *Oregon Fire Fatality Review 2004-2008* report presenting analysis results of fatal unintentional residential property fires.<sup>1</sup> The committee's report contains several recommendations to the fire service to help reduce residential fire deaths in Oregon.

The fire service must evaluate and act on these recommendations for the efforts of the committee to make a difference, and to productively learn from the circumstances of Oregon's fire victims.



The eight recommendations are summarized here:

- 1. Expand fire prevention education to older adults.** Adults age 50 and older account for the majority (68%) of residential fire fatalities. Does your agency educate older adults in your community about fire? How well and how often do you reach this target audience? The United States Fire Administration (USFA) report, [Fire and the Older Adult](#), is a useful reference about this population's fire risk.
- 2. Improve smoke alarm programs.** About one out of every two fatalities (49%) either had no smoke alarm or had an alarm that did not operate, typically because the battery was missing or disconnected. How many smoke alarms did your agency install and test in the last twelve months? What more can you do to help your community understand the importance of having a smoke alarm?
- 3. Increase home fire escape planning efforts.** Egress problems were reported in fifteen percent of fatal fires. The committee recommended fire agencies provide education on home fire escape planning in combination with door-to-door smoke alarm installation campaigns. What does your agency do to educate your community about escape planning?
- 4. Promote installation of home fire sprinklers.** 96% of the fatalities had no sprinkler protection in their residence. The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and the Oregon Fire Sprinkler Coalition (OFSC) continue to advocate installation of residential fire sprinklers. For more information, visit the [OFSC on Facebook](#).
- 5. Target fire prevention and life safety education to at-risk populations.** Older adults and lower-income households are primary at-risk populations identified in the report. Do you know the who, where, and how to reach your at-risk populations? Does your staff need more training to effectively teach at-risk populations? Is your agency taking advantage of teachable moments? The USFA report, [Socioeconomic Factors and the Incidence of Fire](#), provides insight into socioeconomic factors as predictors of fire rates at the neighborhood level.

<sup>1</sup> All statistics in this article are for 2004-2008. [Download the OFFRC full report.](#)

## DATA

continued from page 5

### 6. Increase cigarette-caused fire education.

Cigarettes are the leading cause of fire fatalities, accounting for 46% of the deaths, 2004-2008. The 2008 Fire Standard Compliant Cigarette law is anticipated to have an impact on the fatality rate attributed to cigarette fires. Special messaging campaigns are still necessary, such as education about the danger of smoking while using medical oxygen.

**7. Monitor legislative and regulatory processes.** As with cigarette fire safety regulation and the ban on novelty lighters, the OSFM continues to participate in and monitor legislative initiatives affecting fire and life safety.

**8. Improve data collection and review.** Does your agency conduct follow-up of serious fire injuries to determine if a fatality resulted? Accurate, comprehensive reporting of the details surrounding a fatal fire incident provides the quality data needed for identification of regional and statewide trends.

*Interested in participating on the Oregon Fire Fatality Review Committee? The committee meets quarterly to review fire fatality data and monitor the progress of its recommendations. Membership includes representatives from the fire service, private agencies, and the OSFM. For more information, contact committee chair Claire McGrew at 503-934-8236 or [claire.mcgreg@state.or.us](mailto:claire.mcgreg@state.or.us)*

## Fire & life safety recognition



**Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal Bob Wright (right) presents Illinois Valley Fire District Fire Marshal Jerry Scheaffer with his Oregon Fire Marshal Certificate in July.**

## Fire grant update

by Hines Lieutenant/Grant Writer  
Jonathan Manski



Most of the 2009 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant awards (10 question and denial letters), have been released. Recruitment & Retention awards continue to be elusive. This is source of frustration for many departments. Now with the 2010 SAFER program underway, you will have your chance to try again.

Some reductions have been noted on items identified in applications in the 2010 Assistance to Firefighters Grant. This is a good sign that the first round of 1199a's may be around the corner. Getting back on schedule would be a plus for the program which struggled with computer issues and Station Construction Grants during 2009. Word on the street about the release of 1199a's varies greatly. Estimates range from early September until mid-October. Don't bet the station on this one.

Lastly, here is a little known grant opportunity that has made some Oregon awards in the past, and is not strictly fire related. The [Jenny's Heroes Community Grant Program](#), is sponsored by talk show host Jenny Jones and has funded several fire related projects up to \$25,000.

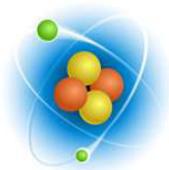
Visit the [FEMA website](#) for the latest grant information.

## Port Orford VFD receives grant award

Port Orford Volunteer Fire Department Chief Gayle Wilcox announced her department received a grant of more than \$102,000 to purchase a newer pumper to replace their 1980 La France pumper. The grant also provides enough money to outfit the new pumper with the necessary equipment.

"The newer pumper will not only be an asset to our community, but to neighboring communities as well," said Wilcox.

Over the past three years, the department has received more than \$142,000 in grants to replace aging equipment and protective gear.



## Titanium <sub>Ti</sub>

### Description:

- Chemical element
- Odorless dark grey powder or silver-gray metal
- CAS No.: 7440-32-6
- EPA Section 302 EHS: Not listed
- OSHA Process Safety Management: Not listed

### NFPA 704 Information:

- Health: Not provided
- Flammability: Not provided
- Reactivity: Not provided
- Special: Not provided

### Uses and Occurrences:

- Found in mineral deposits
- Used in several metal alloys
- Refined into titanium dioxide
- Used in orthopedic implants

### Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Stable under normal conditions
- Flash point: 2,192° F (solid)
- Flash point: 860° F (for -100 mesh)
- Auto-ignition temperature: 896° F (fine particles in cloud form)
- May burn in an atmosphere of carbon dioxide, nitrogen, or air
- Possibility of hydrogen generation in moist scrap – See Ch. 9, Section 6, pg.158, Fire Protection Handbook 20<sup>th</sup> Edition Volume I
- Incompatible materials include: air, aluminum, carbon dioxide, nitrogen, oxygen, halogens, acids, steam, oxidants, halocarbons

### Health Hazards:

- OSHA PEL (powder): 15 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (total dust); 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (respirable dust)
- Ingestion: Relatively non-toxic
- Eye contact may cause irritation
- Skin contact may cause abrasive irritation
- Prolonged inhalation may cause mild irritation

### Fire Fighting Measures:

- Extinguishing media: Use a listed Class D extinguishing agent appropriate for titanium
- Do not use water, foams, halon, carbon dioxide, nitrogen

- Water applied to hot titanium may evolve hydrogen, causing an explosion
- NFPA 484 Chapter 13 for emergency response information

### 2008 Emergency Response Guidebook:

- Titanium powder, dry
- DOT, Spontaneously combustible;
- Hazard class: 4.2
- UN/NA: 2546; Guide # 135
- Spill: Initially isolate 75 feet in all directions
- Fire: Tank, rail car, tank truck: Isolate ½ mile

### 2010 Oregon Fire Code: Table 2703.1.1(1)

- Flammable solid (Powder form from MSDS)
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per control area:
  - Unprotected by sprinklers or approved storage cabinets: 125 pounds
  - In sprinklered building, not within approved storage cabinets: 250 pounds
  - In unsprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 250 pounds
  - In sprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 500 pounds
  - Group when MAQ is exceeded: H-3

### Incident Reporting and Information:

- Facilities currently reporting titanium on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey: 18
- Hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986: 2 (fires)
- Incidents outside of Oregon:
  - [Los Angeles - June 11, 2010](#)
  - [Los Angeles - July 14, 2010](#)

### References include:

- ESPI MSDS Titanium
- NFPA 484 Standard for Combustible Metals
- Fire Protection Handbook - 20<sup>th</sup> Edition Vol. I
- OSFM Codes and Technical Services Unit

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

## **Fireworks enforcement efforts**

*The following reports were sent to the Office of State Fire Marshal (on request) by departments and districts throughout the state highlighting their fireworks education and enforcement efforts in 2010. If your department conducted similar campaigns, contact the OSFM for recognition in future issues of the Gated Wye newsletter.*

### **Siuslaw**

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue (SVFR) Fire Marshal Sean Barrett reports fewer problems with illegal fireworks than at any time he can recall.

"We confiscated about \$800 worth of illegal fireworks and didn't write any citations," says Barrett. "I believe the pre-education and patrols between SVFR and Florence Police contributed to this success."

Thirteen firefighters patrolled in mobile units and rode with Florence Police. The police department dedicated six officers to patrolling mainly for illegal fireworks. The officers were involved with educating citizens on the city's recent ordinance banning all fireworks in Historic Old Town Florence.

### **Hillsboro**

Hillsboro Fire and Rescue inspectors conducted sting operations on fireworks retailers to ensure they were following laws prohibiting the sale of fireworks to minors. The operation checked 19 fireworks stands. Eight of the 19 outlets improperly sold fireworks to under-age teens. Fire Inspectors issued numerous warnings and revoked the sales permit of one retailer.

In that instance, the clerk rang-up the sale and the cash register prompted the clerk to check the girl's identification. He did and the girl confirmed she was not 16. The clerk then experienced a problem with the register and requested assistance from a supervisor. The supervisor checked the girl's ID, heard she was not 16, and overrode the register's ID caution flag.

"We felt this was particularly egregious in light of the fact it was an established retailer," said Hillsboro Deputy Chief John Rinier.

### **Ashland Fire & Rescue**

Ashland Fire and Rescue Division Chief/Fire Marshal Margueritte Hickman reports that in 2010,

the city of Ashland banned all fireworks inside city limits. "I think our educational campaign about the ban had amazing results," Hickman said.

The campaign included television and radio interviews, newspaper articles, a press conference, highway signs, posters at retail outlets outside the city limits, at local schools, and on the campus of Southern Oregon University.

"Two particular school grounds and a city park are usually littered with fireworks debris after July Fourth, leaving school and park employees with hours of clean up," said Hickman. "This year, there was no debris in those locations at all. I think all parties involved were amazed."

### **Lake Oswego**

Although the city of Lake Oswego issued no citations in 2010, they did confiscate a pickup truck load of illegal fireworks. Five staff members were on active patrol on the Fourth of July. These patrols experienced nearly 150 citizen contacts regarding illegal fireworks. The fire department disseminated fireworks safety messages in the city newsletter, the local newspaper, and via their website.

### **Canby**

Canby Fire Department partnered with Canby Police to purchase an educational ad in the local newspaper a week before July Fourth. They inspected all fireworks stands and aerial displays, and kept a visual presence during the downtown Independence Day celebration, and the community sponsored aerial display.

No citations were issued, however the fire department provided a location for safe disposal of legal and illegal fireworks. Division Chief/Fire Marshal Troy Buzalsky reports there were no firework-related fires or injuries reported in Canby this year.

### **Grants Pass**

Grants Pass Fire Marshal Brian Pike reports their education efforts included a media release outlining city and state regulations and educational information on the safe use of fireworks. They also provided a tri-fold pamphlet (available year-round) outlining the same information. "On the Fourth of July we add extra staffing to patrol neighborhoods to remind people to discharge fireworks safely and to enhance our response times for fireworks related 911 calls," said Pike.