

GATED WYE

January 2008 . Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal . 4760 Portland Road NE . Salem Oregon 97305-1760 . No. 288

First IMT deploys to all hazard – all risk in Vernonia

For the first time, an Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) all-risk Incident Management Team (IMT) deployed to a non-fire event, assisting city and county leaders with flood recovery efforts in Vernonia.

Tuesday, December 4, the OSFM Red IMT deployed after Vernonia Rural Fire Chief Paul Epler notified the Columbia County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) his district's resources were overwhelmed responding to the flood.

When team members arrived in Vernonia, they immediately established a unified command with Vernonia Police Chief Matt Workman and Vernonia Fire Chief Paul Epler.

IMT members went to work managing debris removal and transport, deployment and work priorities of inmate clean-up crews, a supply distribution center, public health assistance, deployment of a water treatment facility and efforts of the Red Cross and other volunteers.

"This is the first time in Oregon that incident response and communication integrated with a county emergency

operations center, the State Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) and the OSFM's Emergency Response Center," says Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson.



From left - Operations Chief John Ketchum, Department of Corrections Officer Steve Smith, Operations Deputy Chief Doug Koellermeier and Division Supervisor Scott Stutzman (partially obscured) organize inmate work crew schedules.

"Communications worked extremely well with the deployment of our specialized communications vehicle operated by Oregon Department of Transportation employees and IMT members David Neys and Drew Holmes. They did a fantastic job of keeping a link between the field units and the state ECC in Salem," said Simpson.

By the third day, incident recovery efforts were two weeks ahead of those in 1996 when Vernonia experienced a similar flood event.

"The Washington County Type III team from Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue also did a great job working with Columbia County EOC to manage the county's response," said OSFM Emergency Response Unit Manager Mariana Ruiz-Temple.

Local officials began shadowing key IMT positions on Friday, December 7, allowing for a smooth transition to local command and control by Sunday, December 9.

After-action reviews by Oregon Emergency Management, the OSFM and Washington County will identify areas of success and those needing improvement.



From left - Training Specialist John West (partially obscured), Division Supervisor Scott Stutzman (back to camera) and Safety Officer Sam Phillips discuss debris removal.

From the desk of the State Fire Marshal



“The day’s title is significant in its intent to honor the entire spectrum of roles involved in protecting the lives and property of Oregonians from fire and other life threatening incidents.”

A day for thanks

There are few better ways to begin the new year than pausing to reflect and appreciate the service of those who might usually go unnoticed. I am pleased the Oregon Legislature is honoring those in our profession by establishing January 27 of each year as Fire Service Appreciation Day.

Fire Service Appreciation Day gives all of us a wonderful, annual opportunity to honor the men and women who unselfishly serve and continually strive to maintain the highest level of skill and professionalism.

The day’s title is significant in its intent to honor the entire spectrum of roles involved in protecting the lives and property of Oregonians from fire and other life threatening incidents.

Although firefighters have the most visible roles as first responders at the scene of a disaster, there are many others dedicated to the fire service mission who perform roles in prevention education, code enforcement and inspection, public information, and administration.

Volunteer firefighters deserve special recognition for unselfishly giving their time and skills for the well being of others. Volunteers use their personal time responding as firefighters, emergency medical technicians and hazardous materials response team members, in addition to training and maintaining certifications.

All of this and they still find time to volunteer at their local firehouse fund-raising events. They are truly invaluable community resources.

On behalf of the state, thanks to all of you for your dedication, your compassion, your professionalism, and your personal sacrifice to keep Oregonians safe where they live, work, recreate and go to school.



**State Fire Marshal
Nancy Orr**

**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 503-373-1540 ext. 217 or email richard.hoover@state.or.us. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, alternative formats of this publication are available, contact 503-373-1540 ext. 228 or email colleen.olson@state.or.us.

Incident reports for 2007 due January 7, 2008

Fire department incident reports need to be submitted to the Office of State Fire Marshal's (OSFM) Information and Data Services unit by January 7, 2008, to be included in the OSFM 2007 Annual Report. Fire department data is necessary to determine fire-trend analysis and guide the direction of fire-related programs and activities throughout Oregon.

The OSFM also submits reports to the National Fire Incident Reporting System, ensuring Oregon fire departments qualify for United States Fire Administration Assistance to Firefighter grants.

Please submit 2007 reports to Data Services electronically or using paper forms. Required reports include:

- All fire runs (F10)
- Non-fire responses – using the Quarterly Non-Fire Incident Report (when electronically reporting all types of situations, the Non-Fire Incident Report is not needed.)
- Juveniles involved with fires or juveniles who were seen as walk-ins (10J)
- Reportable hazardous materials incidents

Report forms may be downloaded at <http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/ISandData.shtml>.

Reports are also needed if your department had no fires, no juvenile with fire incidents (walk-ins), or no reportable hazardous materials incidents for 2007. Please send these reports by email to OSFM.data@state.or.us or standard mail using the blue mailer. For more information, contact Data Services at 503-378-3473.



OSFM defines qualifications for fire department recognition

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) has clarified the requirements necessary for fire departments and districts to maintain or earn a state Fire Department Identification Number (FDID).

FDIDs are used to:

- recognize departments
- track incident reporting and
- maintain departments' eligibility for state and federal funds

OSFM defines fire departments or districts as:

Sub-Governmental/Public Fire Departments (Career, Volunteer or Combination)

-476.005 Definition (2) "Governmental subdivision" means a city, county or rural fire protection district in this state whose functions include regulation of building use and occupancy and the administration of fire safety laws, ordinances and regulations.

-476.010 Definition (2) As used in ORS 476.030 and other laws relating to the duties of the State Fire Marshal, "Governmental subdivision" means a city, county, municipal corporation, quasi-municipal corporation and rural fire protection district, created under the laws of Oregon.

The following meet the above definitions:

- Rural Fire Protection District formed under ORS 478 and ORS 198
- City Fire Department formed under city charter
- Domestic Water Supply District under ORS 264.340 and ORS 198
- County Service District under ORS 451.010 and 199.420(7)
- Governmental Industry Fire Brigades

OSFM is now using a fire department's audit status and standing with the Secretary of State to determine if an FDID should remain valid or be vacated. Departments and districts must maintain

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FDID

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current audit records and be listed as 'in good standing' by the Secretary of State or OSFM will vacate their FDID number.

OSFM is vacating the FDID of agencies meeting the following definition(s):

- Volunteer associations, i.e. any organization not formally organized to fight fire which is required to meet OR-OSHA mandates; nor do they meet financial scrutiny of a governmental agency for financial recordkeeping.
- Rangeland protection associations and Zone 1 land organized through the Oregon Department of Forestry
- Zone 2 land because they are county contracted
- Private fire department (fire brigade - OR-OSHA) – means an organized group of employees with knowledge, training, and skill in at least basic firefighting operations. These include:
 - For-profit corporations or businesses
 - Non-profit corporations (501 C 3) – can be all volunteer departments
 - Private industry fire brigades – A group of employees within an industry, required to fight interior structural fires at their place of employment.

The OSFM will continue to provide public education, code enforcement, and investigation resources to communities without a recognized fire department or district.

OSFM has also outlined steps non-recognized firefighting organizations may take to earn an FDID. This and other information, including a matrix outlining the benefits of becoming a recognized department, is available at: http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/FDID_Eligibility.shtml.

For questions, contact Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson at 503-373-1540 ext. 216 or email randy.simpson@state.or.us.

play safe! be safe!® training scheduled for February

The Hillsboro Fire Department and Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal are sponsoring a *play safe! be safe!* fire education workshop February 29, 2008, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Hillsboro Civic Center Complex in Hillsboro, Oregon.

The workshop, presented by Dr. Robert Cole, Associate Professor of Clinical Nursing at the University of Rochester, explores children's perception of fire and the limits of their ability to understand potential risk of fire and its consequences. The *play safe! be safe!* program is a multimedia fire safety education program created especially for children ages three to five. It teaches children the basics of fire prevention and how to respond to specific fire situations.



All workshop participants will receive a *play safe! be safe!* kit. Trainers will receive additional kits for distribution, training slides, notes and a resource list. The training, made possible through a grant from the Department of Homeland Security, is free to the first 100 early childhood educators to register.

Registration forms are available at http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Comm_Ed/Training/PSBS_regis_FINAL.pdf. Fax completed registration forms to 503-373-1825.

For more information, contact Dee Anna Morgan at 503-373-1540 ext. 416 or email dee.anna.morgan@state.or.us.

State and local representatives awarded scholarships to attend conference on senior fire safety

Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) representative Judy Okulitch, along with Roseburg Fire Chief Jack Cooley, Douglas County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Director Sam Liken, and Oregon Department of Human Services, Field Services Manager Carolyn Ross attended the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) conference, *Remembering When: A Fire and Fall Prevention Program for Older Adults*.

The Oregon group represented two of 40, two-member teams selected from throughout the United States to attend the conference and receive curriculum materials and training.



From left - Jack Cooley, Sam Liken, Carolyn Ross, and Judy Okulitch with a copy of the 'Remembering When' training kit.

Each two-member team is comprised of a fire service representative and an individual from an agency that serves older adults through home visits.

"Adults 65 years and older are twice as likely to be killed in a fire compared to the population at large, and falls are the leading cause of death from injuries in this group," said Sharon Gamache, Executive Director of the NFPA Center for High-Risk Outreach. "This training offers strategies participants can share with their communities to help prevent fires and falls among older adults."

Each team will conduct a minimum of five group presentations and two train-the-trainer sessions to organizations in their community or state.

The OSFM is partnering with the Department of Human Services (DHS), Seniors and People with Disabilities Division to deliver train-the-trainer workshops to home care workers throughout the state who provide in-home service to more than 12,000 independent seniors able to remain in their own homes.

The Oregon Life Safety Team will also receive a presentation on the *Remembering When*TM program to recruit fire departments around the state interested in delivering the senior program in coordination with their local DHS partners.

Fire departments interested in receiving training may contact Judy Okulitch at 503-373-1540 ext. 230 or email judy.okulitch@state.or.us.

OFMA Winter School scheduled for January 29 - February 1, 2008

The Oregon Fire Marshals Association is sponsoring three days of training beginning noon January 29 and ending at noon February 1, 2008, at Mt. Bachelor Village in Bend, Oregon.

Training topics include:

- Alarm testing and inspection
- Fire-rated construction
- Spray booth inspections
- Means of egress
- Egress components
- Photography
- Apartment safety
- Commercial hood inspections

Full, single-day or half-day registrations are available. Registration fee includes lunches, pre-meeting, morning and afternoon breaks and all handouts and materials.

To register or for more information, visit www.ofma.net or email Doug Friant at dfriant@fire.ci.portland.or.us or Michelle Stevens at michelle.stevens@state.or.us.

TVF&R Chief Jeff Johnson appointed IAFC Second Vice President

The board of directors of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) appointed Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue Chief Jeff Johnson as second vice president succeeding Janesville (Wis.) Fire Chief Larry Grorud.

Grorud assumed the position of first vice president when Shreveport (La.) Chief Kelvin Cochran resigned from the IAFC executive committee to become Atlanta (Ga.) Fire Chief.



Johnson was running uncontested for IAFC's second vice president in the 2008 election.

"Accepting the position of second vice president is not a matter to be taken lightly and I am confident Chief Johnson will make an excellent addition to our leadership team," said IAFC President Steven P. Westermann.

OFIA Safety and Survival Symposium is January 11 – 13

The Oregon Fire Instructors Association is hosting a Firefighter Safety and Survival Symposium titled *The Art of Survival*, January 11 – 13, 2008, at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training in Salem, Oregon.

Topics include Rules of Engagement, Commanding the Mayday RIC Ops, Rules of Air Management, RIT Operations, Task Force Leader Special Operations, Hazmat Safety Officer, NFPA 472 Certification and more.

Register online at http://www.ofia.net/symposium_registration.asp or for more information visit <http://www.ofia.net/> or contact Tom Crowder at 503-742-2684 or Sam Phillips at 503-681-6166.

Training available for community door-to-door smoke alarm program

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is hosting a workshop January 17, 2008, for Oregon fire service members on conducting community door-to-door smoke alarm campaigns. The two-hour (10:00 a.m. – noon) workshop will be held at the OSFM office in Salem and will cover implementation of all phases of the model community door-to-door smoke alarm campaign kit developed by OSFM in partnership with the Oregon Life Safety Team.

These campaigns have proven to be an effective method for reaching residents who haven't responded to previous education efforts to change their attitudes and behaviors regarding proper smoke alarm maintenance and home fire safety.

In 2006, of the 18 fire fatalities in Oregon homes where smoke alarm presence and performance were known, eight people (44%), died in homes without a smoke alarm or without a working smoke alarm. These households continue to suffer a disproportionate number of fire deaths in our state. The workshop and accompanying campaign kit will give departments the tools necessary to conduct their own campaigns, contributing to a reduction in fire deaths, injury and property loss statewide.

The campaign kit includes step-by-step instructions for campaign planning, recruiting community partners, campaign implementation and evaluation as well as material templates. Workshop attendees will be familiarized with the elements of the kit, learn to identify steps of a successful campaign and develop an action plan for conducting their own community door-to-door smoke alarm campaign.

The workshop is free. Each attending organization committing to conducting a community campaign can receive 50 free smoke alarms from OSFM.

To register or for more information, contact Colleen Olson at 503-373-1540 ext. 228 or email colleen.olson@state.or.us.



Chemical of the month by Alec Carte

Carbon Monoxide (CO)

Description:

- Colorless, odorless gas
- Synonyms: carbonic oxide, carbon oxide; flue gas
- Hazard Class: (2.3) Poison Gas; (2.1) Flammable gas; (6.4) Chronic Health Hazard
CAS: 630-08-0
- UN: 1016

NFPA Information:

- Health – 3
- Flammability – 4
- Reactivity – 0
- Special Notice – None

Uses and Occurrences:

- Product of partial combustion of carbon-containing compounds
- Uses: Many applications in bulk chemical manufacturing. Methanol is produced by the hydrogenation of carbon monoxide

Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Autoignition Temperature = 1292 °F
- LEL: $\leq 12.5\%$, UEL: 74%
- Vapor/air mixtures are explosive
- Do not attempt to extinguish fire unless gas flow can be stopped first
- Incompatible with oxidizing agents, metals and halogens.

Health Hazards:

- OSHA PEL: 50 ppm
- Eye and skin contact can result in blisters and frostbite
- Inhalation can result in nausea, vomiting, hallucinations, bluish skin color, coma and death
- Long-term exposure can result in nerve and brain damage

Personal Protective Equipment:

- Contact lenses should not be worn
- Wear eye protection and appropriate protective clothing
- Appropriate respirators should be used as needed

Inspection and Storage Tips:

- Cylinders should be stored upright and secured in a dry, well-ventilated area away from sources of heat, ignition and direct sunlight, and should not exceed 125°F.
- Electrical equipment should be non-sparking and explosion proof.
- Cylinders should be separated from oxygen, chlorine and other oxidizers.
- 'No Smoking or Open Flames' signs should be posted.

2007 Oregon Fire Code Information:

- Toxic gas
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per S occupancy control area:
 - Unprotected by sprinklers or approved storage cabinets: 810 cf.
 - In sprinklered building, not within approved storage cabinets: 1,620 cf.
 - In unsprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 1,620 cf.
 - In sprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 1,620 cf.
- For storage of quantities exceeding the MAQ for S occupancy, the storage facility must conform to H-2 occupancy requirements as outlined in the *Uniform Building Code*.

Incident Reporting and Information:

- There are approximately 64 facilities in Oregon currently reporting carbon monoxide or a combination of carbon monoxide and other gases on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey.
- There has been one hazardous materials incident reported in Oregon since 1986 involving carbon monoxide.

Have a chemical of the month request?
Contact Alec Carte



Alec Carte is a HazMat Information Specialist in the OSFM Community Right to Know unit. She can be reached at 503-373-1540 ext. 262, or email aleta.carte@state.or.us

New multi-hazard house available for loan

The Office of State Fire Marshal has a new Multi-Hazard House trailer available for loan to Oregon fire departments and districts. The mobile prop is an educational aid allowing participants to learn and practice:

- fire prevention,
- fire safety,
- calling 9-1-1,
- correct smoke alarm response,
- safe exiting procedures, and
- disaster and severe weather safety skills.

The prop is also equipped to demonstrate the effectiveness of a home fire sprinkler system.

For more information, visit http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/Multi_Hazard_House.shtml or to reserve the Multi-Hazard House, contact Dee Anna Morgan at 503-373-1540 ext. 416 or email dee.anna.morgan@state.or.us.



Unclassified

Position openings

Philomath Fire & Rescue is accepting applications for three full-time firefighters.

Minimum requirements: NFPA Firefighter 1, NFPA Driver, DPSST Hazardous Materials Operation, and an Oregon Drivers license. Salary range: \$2952-3129 per month depending on qualifications.

Application packets are available at Philomath Fire & Rescue, 1035 Main St., Philomath, OR, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. or by calling 541-929-3002. Application deadline is 5:00 p.m., Thursday, January 31, 2008.



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