

GATED WYE

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Fire Prevention Week materials still available

Materials supporting this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, *Plan Your Escape*, are still available at no cost to Oregon fire departments.

Available materials include a *Plan Your Escape* flyer and a smoke alarm media campaign toolkit. Materials are made available through grants and a partnership between the Office of State Fire Marshal, the Oregon Life Safety Team and the Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association.

The smoke alarm media campaign toolkit contains a CD and DVD with radio and television public service announcements, collateral materials, and order forms. A sample of the *Plan Your Escape* flyer will be distributed in 58 newspapers statewide during Fire Prevention Week. More flyers are available to all fire departments.

Materials may be requested by contacting Dee Anna Morgan at 503-373-1540 ext. 416 or emailing dee.anna.morgan@state.or.us. Materials may also be downloaded from the OSFM website at http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/FPW_2007.shtml.



OVFA Past President Steve Schneiderman and City of Bend Fire Department Fire Inspector Cindy Kettering hook up an OVFA mobile banner in preparation for Fire Prevention Week 2007



Front and back of the, *Plan Your Escape*, flyer



From the desk of the State Fire Marshal



“Having duplicate permitting and inspection requirements placed an undue burden on members of Oregon’s explosives industry.”

Collaboration results in government streamlining and taxpayer savings

Our mission in serving Oregonians includes not only protecting life, property and the environment from fire and hazardous materials, but also to work in their best interest to use money and resources wisely. To this end I’m proud of the successful effort by our staff to collaborate with the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE) to streamline state government and save taxpayer money.

Since the passage of federal legislation in 2002, obtaining explosive materials requires possession of a federal license and mandatory BATFE magazine storage inspections every three years. These requirements duplicated Oregon requirements administered by OSFM’s License and Permit Services unit. Having duplicate permitting and inspection requirements placed an undue burden on members of Oregon’s explosives industry.

OSFM staff worked with BATFE officials throughout 2006-2007 to align state and federal inspection dates and federal clearances with state certificates of possession making for a smooth transition from two agencies regulating explosives to one. The OSFM will continue to operate the reporting hotline for explosives magazine movement and location in order to maintain the safety of Oregon’s first responders.

As a result of this streamlining, the Office of State Fire Marshal will cease to issue certificates for possession of explosives and registrations of magazines as of January 1, 2008. This will reduce the financial and regulatory impact on Oregon businesses and individuals involved in the explosives industry while maintaining public safety.

Oregonians can be proud of this agency’s efforts to maintain service and safety while at the same time streamlining state government by reducing costs and eliminating duplicate effort.



**State Fire Marshal
Nancy Orr**

**Office of
State Fire Marshal**

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**www.sfm.state.or.us
503-373-1540**

Administration
ext. 211

Codes & Technical Services
ext. 269

Community Education
ext. 273

Community
Right-to-Know
ext. 214

Data Services
ext. 244

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 503-373-1540 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.

Plan review certification requirements effective December 2007

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) filed changes, in May 2006, to OAR 837-039 raising the certification standards for fire officials who review plans for new construction, alterations, and specifications from a fire code approved by OSFM. These new rules require fire officials who conduct plans reviews and provide input to building officials to have their ICC Fire Inspector II and ICC Fire Plans Examiner certification by December 2007 in order to continue to provide plans review input. These OSFM requirements are necessary regardless of certifications issued to a fire official by the Building Codes Division.

For questions or more information, contact Assistant Chief Deputy Stacy Warner at 503-373-1540 ext. 252.

Fire or no fires reports due monthly

Oregon fire departments are reminded fire reports and no fires reports are due monthly to the Office of State Fire Marshal's Data Services unit.

A department having no reportable fires for a particular month can report that fact in one of two ways, by sending an email stating "**(department name) had no reportable fires for (month).**" to osfm.data@state.or.us or by filling out the top section of the blue *Data Report Order Form* and mailing it to OSFM Data Services, 4760 Portland Road NE, Salem, OR 97305.

Submitting monthly fire or no fires reports enables the OSFM to meet national database quarterly reporting requirements established by the United States Fire Administration.

For more information, contact Bryan Dornon at 503-373-1540 ext. 236 or email bryan.dornan@state.or.us.

Training for Fire Plans Review

The Office of State Fire Marshal is sponsoring Fire Plans Review training November 12-15, 2007, at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training. Registration deadline is November 5, 2007.

Lunch is provided for all participants. Lodging and all meals are provided for those traveling 50 or more miles to attend the training.

Class size is limited to 25 participants but may be cancelled if fewer than 10 students are registered.

The OSFM is giving priority to members of fire service agencies currently providing fire plans review but who have not met the ICC Fire Plans Examiner certification requirement.

Enrollment is limited to one staff member per department, per training. Invitations for additional staff to attend will be offered if seats are available.

If your department is responsible for providing plans review input to the building official for new construction, alterations and specifications, and are interested in attending the training, contact Mary Olson at 503-373-1540 ext. 251 or email mary.olson@state.or.us.

Office of State Fire Marshal 90th anniversary celebration

This year marks the 90th anniversary of the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and an open house is planned in celebration of this milestone and the history of OSFM. The open house is planned for Tuesday, October 23, 2007, from 12 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the OSFM office building, 4760 Portland Road NE, Salem, Oregon.

All members of the Oregon fire service and general public are invited. Light refreshments will be served.

OSFM history nugget . . .

Annual reports in 1943 and 1944 noted the challenge deputies faced in increasing their inspections of "essential and incidental war contributing plants and facilities;" public education efforts were also suspended during the war to decrease the strain on OSFM resources.

Multi-family housing fire reduction training scheduled

The Oregon Life Safety Team, in partnership with the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R), is hosting a train-the-trainer workshop covering TVF&R's Multi-Family Housing Fire Reduction Program. The workshop is scheduled October 25, 2007, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the OSFM building in Salem.

The train-the-trainer program is designed to assist fire departments desiring to provide fire and life safety training for apartment managers and includes:

- Research information on why the program was started
- All elements of the Multi-Family Housing Fire Reduction training
- Tips on implementing the program in your community
- Related training materials
- Pre and post program evaluations
- Survey information on the program

In 2006, TVF&R received the International Association of Fire Chiefs *Fire Service Award for Excellence* for its Multi-Family Housing Fire Reduction Program.

Topics in the Multi-Family Housing Fire Reduction program include:

- Landlord and tenant roles in maintaining working smoke alarms
- Fire and human behavior in multi-family properties
- Recognizing fire hazards and methods to minimize them
- Safety codes affecting multi-family properties
- The importance of educational tools to assist with language barriers
- Youth firesetting and the resources available to managers and tenants
- Landlord vigilance and policies regarding fire and life safety

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

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Fire safe candles available for loan from OSFM

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Community Education Services unit has available battery operated, fire safe candles for loan to any Oregon fire department or district. The battery operated candles use new technology enabling them to glow and flicker similar to real-flame candles. They are also made of wax and have a light vanilla scent. The flameless candles are ideal for any department hosting a media event or banquet and looking to display safe alternatives to real flame candles.



The Congressional Fire Service Institute (CFSI) is promoting the candles to organizations to consider including as part of their prevention and fund-raising efforts.

For more information on OSFM's flameless candle loan program, contact Dee Anna Morgan at 503-373-1540 ext. 416 or email dee.anna@state.or.us.

For more information from the CFSI, visit <http://www.cfsi.org/candles/>.

Fire prevention grants available from FM Global

The FM Global insurance company is offering seed grants to fire service organizations in support of a variety of fire prevention, preparedness and control programs.

Funding is available to fire departments and state, regional, local and community organizations. Supported requests may include:

- Pre-fire planning for commercial, industrial and institutional facilities
- Fighting fire in sprinklered buildings
- Fire and arson prevention and investigation
- Fire prevention education and training programs

Applications are reviewed quarterly. For more information, visit http://www.fmglobal.com/about/facts/fire_grant_program.asp.

Oregon Fire District Directors Association and Oregon Fire Chiefs Association joint conference set for November

The annual joint conference of the Oregon Fire District Directors Association (OFDDA) and the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association (OFCA) is November 8-10, 2007, at the Riverhouse Resort and Convention Center in Bend, Oregon.

Titled *Burning Issues . . . Meeting the Challenges*, conference sessions include:

- The Challenge of Changing the Safety Culture
- The Thirtymile Fire Burns On – Continuing Issues in the Northwest
- Determining Your Level of Emergency Response
- Legislative Updates – Legislative Strategies Workshop
- Natural Gas Emergencies – When Buildings Blow Up!
- Ethics/Board Member Duties & Responsibilities – An Update
- Fire Chiefs' Toolbox – Modules 8 & 9
- Michael Hingson – A Man, His Guide Dog, and 9/11

A full day of pre-conference sessions is planned Thursday, November 8, subjects covered include:

- Fire Apparatus Safety & Liability Issues – A Reality Check
- Challenge of Changing the Safety Culture

Register before October 19 and receive a reduced rate. To register online or for more information, visit www.ofca.org, www.ofdda.com or call the OFCA at 1-888-846-5741 or the OFDDA at 1-800-223-9708.

Smoke alarm recommendations issued by IAFC Fire and Life Safety Section

A smoke characterization study finalized earlier this year is prompting the International Association of Fire Chief's (IAFC) Fire and Life Safety Section (FLSS) to issue recommendations to fire departments concerning the use of smoke alarms.

The study, conducted by Underwriters Laboratories and the National Fire Protection Association's Fire Protection Research Foundation, identifies differences and advantages to the two types of alarms in detecting smoke. Both ionization and photoelectric detectors are currently marketed to the public for residential installation. FLSS recommends that dual alarms using both technologies be installed for maximum protection.

"We recognize that many departments in the United States have residential safety programs where they offer and install alarms at no charge. We suggest departments continue their programs with the alarms they have on-hand, but we recommend that they upgrade to the dual-technology devices when it's time to restock," said Chief Steven Westermann, IAFC President.

"Life safety is an integrated strategy. Use the information in the FLSS position paper as part of your education plan to your community. Offer this as part of a comprehensive residential fire-protection program that includes integrating family-escape plans, proper usage of smoke alarms and installation of residential sprinkler systems," added Westermann.

FLSS presents its detailed recommendations in a position paper, which was reviewed and approved by the IAFC board of directors during their meeting in August. To view the position paper, go to www.iafc.org/flss.

For more information, contact FLSS staff liaison Joelle Fishkin at jfishkin@iafc.org or 703-537-4843.

Oregon Fire Service Office Administrators annual meeting October 17-19

The annual meeting of the Oregon Fire Service Office Administrators is set for October 17 -19, 2007, at the Best Western Hood River Inn in Hood River, Oregon.

Titled *Harvesting Your Potential*, conference sessions include:

- The Oregon Fire Service Puzzle . . . Putting it all together
- Skills for Successful Team Building
- BOLI – Harassment in the Workplace
- Wage & Hour – Payroll Record Keeping
- CPR Refresher
- Intentional Living with Shelley Lucas

Registration deadline is October 5. To register online or for more information, visit www.ofsoa.com or call 1-888-846-5741.

Juvenile firesetter intervention conference receives praise

Attendees from more than 15 states and two countries gave high praise to presenters and topics at the recent, *Cultivating Partnerships II: In Juvenile Firesetter Intervention* held in Portland.

Anchored by keynote presentations from retired Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue Division Chief Tim Birr and United States Fire Administration (USFA) Curriculum & Program Manager Tim O'Dowd, the two-day conference included topics on bullying, detecting deception, investigation of youth-set fires, the *Juvenile Fire Screening Tool* and more.



USFA Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist Curriculum & Program Manager Tim O'Dowd provides a national overview of the juvenile firesetter problem

IAFC warns of possible hazards with fog-emitting burglar alarms

The International Association of Fire Chiefs Fire and Life Safety Section (FLSS) is warning departments nationwide about potential hazards involved with fog-emitting burglar alarms, a new technology gaining popularity in Europe and the U.S.

The new burglar alarms, popularly known as 'Smokecloak,' work by emitting large volumes of fog or smoke when an intruder enters an office or retail building. The smoke eliminates visibility causing intruders to flee since they cannot see.

The FLSS is concerned the release of smoke will activate a fire alarm causing firefighters to respond to a situation in which they may unknowingly encounter a burglary in progress and possible confrontation with an armed perpetrator. In addition, firefighters may be hindered with the building and entranceway full of smoke.

The FLSS also believes devices like these are prohibited by the International Building Code, the International Fire Code and the National Fire Protection Association's Life Safety Code.

The FLSS is requesting departments having experience with fog-emitting alarm devices provide information to FLSS staff liaison Joelle Fishkin at jfishkin@iafc.org. More information about FLSS concerns is available in their informational bulletin at http://www.iafc.org/associations/4685/files/Fog-Emitting_Burglar_Alarm_Bulletin.pdf. To view the Smokecloak device, visit <http://www.smokecloak.com/home/?lang=en>.



Chemical of the month by Alec Carte

Vinyl Acetate (C₄H₆O₂)

Description:

- Clear liquid with a sweet, pleasant, fruity odor at low concentrations but may be sharp and irritating at higher levels
- Flash Point: 16°F
- LEL: 2.6%; UEL: 13.4%
- Hazard Class: (3.2) Flammable Liquid (FP between 0°F and 73°F; (4.4) Reactive Materials; (6.3) Acute Health Hazard; (6.4) Chronic Health Hazard
- CAS No.: 108-05-4
- UN/NA: 1301
- EPA Extremely Hazardous Substance with a TPQ of 1000

NFPA Information:

- Health: 2
- Flammability: 3
- Reactivity: 2
- Special: none

Uses and Occurrences:

- Raw material in adhesives, water based paints, inks, films, lacquers
- Monomer in the production of polyvinyl acetate

Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Hazardous polymerization can occur especially in contact with peroxides and caustic materials resulting in possible explosion and violent rupture of the container
- At elevated temperatures such as under fire conditions polymerization will occur
- Usually inhibited with hydroquinone or diphenylamine
- Vapors form an explosive mixture with air
- Vapors may travel considerable distances to an ignition source and then flash back
- Incompatibles include: peroxides, reducing and oxidizing agents, strong mineral acids and bases

Health Hazards:

- OSHA PEL: None established
- Acute hazards include severe irritation
- Absorption from the skin can result in systemic toxicity

Personal Protective Equipment:

- Emergency responders must wear Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and full protective equipment
- Wear chemical resistant clothing as appropriate, including boots and butyl rubber gloves
- Wear chemical splash goggles and face shield
- Use appropriate respiratory protection

Inspection and Storage Tips:

- Containers stored more than three months should have the inhibitor level checked
- Keep away from all sources of ignition
- Avoid exposure to heat especially above 96.8° F

IFC Information:

- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per S occupancy control area:
 - Unprotected by sprinklers or approved storage cabinets: 120 gallons
 - In sprinklered building, not within approved storage cabinets: 240 gallons
 - In unsprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 240 gallons
 - In sprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 480 gallons
- For storage of quantities exceeding the MAQ for S occupancy, the storage facility must conform to H-3 occupancy requirements

Incident Reporting and Information:

- There are two facilities in Oregon currently reporting Vinyl Acetate on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey
- There has been one hazardous materials incident reported in Oregon since 1986 involving Vinyl Acetate

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 aleta.carte@state.or.us

Multi-Hazard House available for loan

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal has available a new Multi-Hazard House trailer 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 may also be used 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 this new resource, contact Dee Anna Morgan at 503-373-1540 ext. 416 or email dee.anna.morgan@state.or.us.



Office of State Fire Marshal
4760 Portland Road N.E.
Salem, Oregon 97305-1760

Unclassifieds

Position opening

Fire Chief – City of McMinnville

Send cover letter and current resume to City of McMinnville, attention Rose Lorenzen, 230 NE Second Street, McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

Submission deadline is 5:00 p.m., Friday, October 5, 2007. For more information, visit http://www.ci.mcminnville.or.us/images/stories/employment/announcements/fire_chief_announcement.pdf.

For sale

3500 gallon tender; 1972 Ford PTO pump; 534 cubic inch gas engine; 5 speed transmission/4 speed aux box; all good faith offers considered. For more information, call Mill City RFPD at 503-897-2390.