

Juveniles with fire in Oregon data available

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) released its 2006 annual report in June. The report includes four pages of data detailing juveniles and fire in Oregon during 2006 and is available on the agency's website at http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/OSFM_History.shtml.

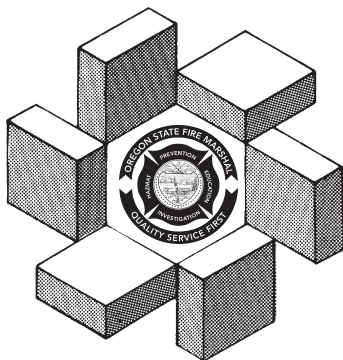
Overall, data show a downward trend in the number of juvenile incidents reported to OSFM during the years 2003 to 2006. Ignition source is of particular interest this year given efforts to focus national attention on the dangers of novelty lighters. Although OSFM is currently unable to separate data on novelty lighters from data on lighters overall, the chart (at right) indicates a growing preference by juveniles for lighters over matches.

In 2006, a match was used in 16 percent of the fire incidents and a lighter was used in 42 percent.

Ignition source

	2003	2004	2005	2006
Matches	228	142	132	104
Lighters	367	288	282	269
Fireworks	194	134	76	93
Explosives	13	12	7	19
Smoking materials	29	21	35	37
Other (misc.)	119	126	135	114
Total incidents	950	723	667	636

Last opportunity to register for August Juvenile Firesetter Interventionist 1 training



Eugene Fire & EMS Assistant Fire Marshal Doug Perry and OSFM Juvenile Firesetter Program Coordinator Judy Okulitch are scheduled trainers for a Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist 1 course August 2 & 3, 2007 at Eugene Fire & EMS Training Center. The training center is located at 1705 W. 2nd Avenue (the corner of 2nd and Chambers), Eugene, OR. Parking is free. There is no charge for the two-day class which runs 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. All meals are on your own.

The training provides students an overview of Oregon's juvenile firesetter intervention program including policies, procedures and laws, child development and communication, practice using the *Juvenile with Fire* screening tool, and intervention options including educational strategies and referral procedures. The class prepares applicants for completing the knowledge component of the task book required by DPSST for NFPA 1035 certification as a Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist 1.

To register or for more information, contact Tera Gneckow at 503-373-1540 ext. 266 or email tera.gneckow@state.or.us.

Educator pilot training earns praise

The Central Oregon Co-op, in partnership with the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM), hosted a one-day training in June at Redmond Fire Department to introduce middle school health educators to the middle school fire awareness curriculum. The curriculum, titled *It's Up to You!*, aligns with Oregon Department of Education health education standards, allowing educators to use it to fulfill part of the health education requirements.

Health education consultant Jessica Bogli and OSFM Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program Coordinator Judy Okulitch delivered training to 18 middle school health and science teachers from Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson, Lane and Marion Counties. Teachers were introduced to the health standards, assessment procedures and functional knowledge as applied to fire safety education and each received a copy of the curriculum.

Comments on the training included:

"I liked how you connected the curriculum to the health standards. It was a great review of the standards and made the curriculum seem more meaningful and compelling."

"Thanks for introducing me to the need for middle school instruction in fire prevention education."

"The most valuable part of this training was learning about fire prevention and placing it into my current health curriculum."

Based on the positive response, the OSFM is providing grant funds through 2009 to continue curriculum training for health educators throughout the state.

For more information, contact Judy Okulitch at 503-373-1540 ext. 230 or email judy.okulitch@state.or.us.

Partnership increases opportunity for curriculum outreach

As the result of a partnership with Wilson-Heirgood Insurance Associates, representatives from OSFM's Community Education unit were invited to attend the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators conference in June where they conducted valuable outreach to Oregon school superintendents and principals encouraging use of the OSFM elementary and middle school fire awareness and disaster preparedness curriculum.

Australian student studies Oregon juvenile firesetter prevention efforts

Australian Ph.D. student Kate McDonald visited Oregon in June as part of her research aimed at evaluating the effectiveness of her country's *Juvenile Fire Awareness and Intervention Program*. Kate's visits included FireSafe Children and Families program in Portland, Hillsboro Fire Department where Connie King illustrated their outreach to Hispanic families, the Oregon Youth Authority to learn about the closed custody program from Shirley Didier, discussions with Dr. Tim Kopet and Dr. Linda Nishi-Stratner on treatment issues and the OSFM to learn about the state's program and *Juvenile with Fire* screening tool. Kate also sat in on a SAFETY class in Clackamas County and the Fire Academy in Washington County. Kate sends her thanks to everyone involved for their help and hospitality.

Save this date!

Upcoming training

Cultivating Partnerships 2
September 17 & 18, 2007,
Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel
Portland, Oregon

Hosted by the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal, the Fire Safe Children and Families Program and the Oregon Burn Center, this series of seminars is designed for anyone involved with juveniles and fire.

Seminar topics include:

- Bullying and firesetters,
- Treating siblings of firesetters,
- Court mandated intervention programs,
- *Juvenile with Fire* screening tool,
- Working with special needs youth,
- Intervention programs for Spanish speaking youth and families,
- Burn Camp-what's it all about?

For more information and to register, contact Kirsten Balding at kbalding@lhs.org. Register online after June 18 by visiting www.firesafekidsandfamilies.com