

All Hands **HERALD**

July 2009

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE SERVICES • STOW, MASSACHUSETTS



HAZMAT • CPSC RECALLS • PUBLIC EDUCATION • CODE COMPLIANCE
FIRE INVESTIGATION • MASSACHUSETTS FIREFIGHTING ACADEMY



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About the *All Hands Herald*

The *All Hands Herald* is published quarterly by the Department of Fire Services in January, April, July and October. The newsletter is meant to incorporate the traditional fire service meaning- all hands working to extinguish the fire. In the case of our newsletter, all hands includes the DFS staff providing each of you with information, training and assistance in dealing with the fire service issues which confront all levels of the fire service.

We hope that you enjoy our new look and feel and we encourage you to let us know how you like the *All Hands Herald* and what we can do to make it even more useful to you – our dedicated fire service members and customers. If you have suggestions, ideas, questions or want to make a contribution to the *All Hands Herald*, contact Jennifer Mieth 978-567-3381, Jennifer.Mieth@state.ma.us or Donna Nelson 978-567-3149 Donna.Nelson@state.ma.us

Judy O'Brien is the keen-eyed copy editor; and Jeff Harris is the graphic artist who pulls it all together. ♦

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE SERVICES

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Photo by: Barry Hyvarinen

Recent months have been very difficult as both municipal leaders and state officials struggle with the uncertainty of the FY2010 budget. As we go to press, the final decision as to the DFS budget remains in the hands of the legislative conference committee as the Governor, House, and Senate have all proposed a different budget figure for DFS. Planning for major programs and initiatives at DFS await the outcome of the legislative action. My goal, with the assistance of the fire chiefs' leadership, is to establish a budget that allows the agency to continue to deliver our core services to the fire departments in the cities and towns of the Commonwealth.

On a positive note, we thank Governor Patrick for his commitment of \$21 million of the state's federal stimulus money that will be earmarked to assist in restoring some fire department staffing. Secretary of Public Safety and Security Kevin Burke and his staff are working diligently to develop the framework for this important grant program and prepare the applications for distribution to the fire service.

Recent reorganization of programs by the Governor and the Legislature mean that the Underground Storage Tank (UST) Program and its staff will be moved from DFS to the Department of Environmental Protection as of July 1. The fire service's responsibility for preventing fires and explosions regarding flammable liquids

All Hands HERALD

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE SERVICES • STOW, MASSACHUSETTS

New Facility Scheduled to Open This Summer

The finishing touches are being added to the new DFS facility in Stow, MA as this issue of the *All Hands Herald* goes to press. The new administration building (see photos) is scheduled to open later this summer. All DFS staff on-site in Stow, MA will be on the move during this long-awaited transition. The approximately 39,000 sq. ft. building and adjacent locker room area for DFS instructors, and temporarily for recruits, is scheduled to be completed by the end of July/beginning of August 2009. As soon as this building is completed, then demolition work on the current main building is scheduled to begin sometime in early August.

DFS staff, currently located in the temporary trailers along State Road as well as staff in the current main building will be moving into new office space over a weekend this summer. Over the same weekend, all the MFA staff, now located on the second floor of the main building, will

be moving into the temporary trailers for approximately 12 months while the main building is retrofitted with new office and classroom space, lockers rooms and a physical fitness area. Crib Room and Vehicle Main-

tenance staff will remain on site until the end of the summer when the new Crib Room and Fire Station are scheduled for completion.

During this transition time, DFS will temporarily be without computers and telephones, except for the main number, beginning on a Friday and through the following Monday. We will alert all fire chiefs on the exact dates of the move. Ad-

ditional information, especially for emergency contacts, will be posted on the DFS website which will remain operational during the entire move.

Updates on the entire construction project as well as the upcoming staff move can be found on the DFS website at www.mass.gov/dfs. ♦



Photo by: DeMillo Shaffer



Photo by: DeMillo Shaffer

From the Fire Marshal

Continued from Page 1

has not changed. Prior to the July 1 transfer, chiefs will receive a DFS advisory outlining in detail how these changes will affect the fire department's response with USTs.

The DFS construction project, funded from capital rather than operational funds, continues at a rapid pace. The next milestone will be the occupancy of the new administration building this summer, followed by the crib room before the end of the summer, and the fire station in early October.

It is my hope that this year's fireworks season will be as safe as recent years have been. The code enforcement staff in the Office of the State Fire Marshal work closely with fire chiefs to ensure that the professional fireworks displays are as safe as possible and conform to our fire prevention regulations. I hope that the public heeds our annual message to leave the fireworks to the professionals. Illegal fireworks all too frequently find their way into the hands of children under 14, who spend their holiday in the emergency room.

On behalf of the DFS staff, I want to extend our condolences to the families of Beverly firefighter Paul J. Roberts who died in the line of duty on May 22, 2009 and Newton firefighter Kevin Kelly who died on active duty May 30, 2009. ♦

DFS Briefs

Starting with May, 2009, the Department of Fire Services (DFS) will be posting monthly information on training, fire prevention, advisories from the Fire Marshal, etc. on the DFS website. This will replace the monthly mailings to the fire departments via the U.S. Postal Service. *DFS Briefs* will be available by going directly to the DFS website www.mass.gov/dfs and the link will be prominently displayed in the center of the homepage. This section will include the current month's information as well as access to information from previous months. ♦

FIRE INVESTIGATION UNIT

OVER 200 ATTEND CONFERENCE

on Juvenile Firesetting

WORCESTER, MA - On May 15, 2009, over 200 mental health, fire, social service, law enforcement and juvenile justice professionals from across the United States and Canada met to learn more about the juvenile firesetting issue and to collaborate on how to address it. The 3rd annual Northeast Juvenile Firesetting Conference, *The Kids*

increase public awareness and influence practices that will save lives and reduce property loss."

Featured Speaker

Tim Vandenbrink, Assistant Fire Marshal, Edmonton Fire Rescue Services, Alberta, Canada, was the featured speaker. He is international-

ly known for his use of humor to get people to think seriously about fire.

Special Presentations by Gerald DiMillo, Director,

Maine Juvenile Fire Safety Program, Southern Maine Community College, and Anne Jordan, Commissioner, Maine Department of Public Safety, who shared the results of the exciting statewide project they are implementing in Maine using a grant from the U.S. Fire Administration. Their project is a model for other states.



Over 200 participants at this year's conference

Photo by: Jude Kara

Behind the Crisis: From Confusion to Clarity was jointly sponsored by the state Department of Fire Services, the Mass. Property Insurance Underwriting Association, the Massachusetts Association of Safety and Fire Educators (MA SAFE) and the Brandon School of Natick, MA.

Conference Increases Numbers of Trained Mental Health Professionals

State Fire Marshal, Stephen Coan, speaking during the luncheon said, "In order to increase our capacity to address this complex behavior we have long needed more specially trained mental health professionals. This conference provides the substantive training they need to partner with public safety professionals."

Dr. Timothy M. Callahan, Executive Director of the Brandon School, said of the conference, "Juvenile firesetting is a dangerous yet treatable behavior. Together we can

Conference Fosters Multi-Agency Collaboration

This conference provided a unique opportunity for mental health, fire services, burn care, schools, social service and juvenile justice professionals to receive the most up-to-date information and best practice models for multi-disciplinary collaboration in responding to problem firesetting behavior. Attendees spent the day hearing from nationally known speakers and participating in workshops that focused on various aspects of this national public safety issue. ♦

Scituate Gas Explosion Deliberate Act by Victim

On April 9, 2009, State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan, Scituate Fire Chief Richard A. Judge and Scituate Police Chief Brian Stewart announced the cause of the December 17, 2008 explosion in Scituate was the ignition of natural gas and gasoline vapors in the basement. Coan said, "District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz and I announced today that investigators have determined that the natural gas explosion was as a result of a deliberate act by David Kupris who died in the fire." The explosion destroyed the home at 27 Turner Road and damaged several neighboring houses. Two neighbors and one firefighter were also injured.

The Department of Public Utilities conducted pressure tests indicated

no failure of the utility's gas distribution equipment outside the home. Fire investigators found the natural gas drip cap had been intentionally removed, allowing gas to pour into the home. Investigators believe a neighbor smelled the gas and alerted authorities who summoned Baystate Gas to the area. Gasoline was poured throughout the basement in an attempt to increase the magnitude of the explosion; six gas cans were found at the scene. Mr. Kupris was alone in the building at the time of the explosion and evidence showed his car had been used to transport gasoline.

Chief Judge said, "The exact ignition source cannot be pinpointed exactly, but there were several appliances in the home that could have provided a

heat or spark including a stove with two burners found in the 'on' position. We cannot rule out an open flame such as a match or lighter."

Coan said, "This past winter there were several high profile explosions where natural gas was involved that caused great public concern. This case was a deliberate act by one person that sadly injured several neighbors and ruptured the lives of many more. The circumstances surrounding each of these incidents were unique." ♦

16-YEAR OLD CHARGED WITH IED at Gloucester High

On April 14, 2009, the State Police Bomb Squad responded to Gloucester High School for report of an improvised explosive device (IED), that was indeed a true explosive device. A 16-year old boy was arrested and charged with possession of an infernal machine. A consent search of the youth's home found several items and materi-

als consistent with the IED found at the high school, several partially constructed IED's, a pound of gun powder, and a 6-foot, home-made, propane-fueled potato gun. The youth was additionally charged with throwing or placing an improvised explosive device and possession of gunpowder. ♦

Quick Arrest in Hull Arson

On May 9, 2009 the Fire Investigation Unit's South Team responded to 10 Malta Street in Hull for a fire in a 3-story, 8-unit, apartment complex. There were no injuries even though six of the apartments were occupied. The investigation revealed that the fire originated on a mattress in a third floor apartment at the corner of the building. All accidental causes were eliminated and the cause was determined to be intentional.

Witnesses saw the occupant of the apartment running from the scene just prior to the discovery of the fire. He was located, interviewed and subsequently arrested for setting the fire. The fire was jointly investigated by the Hull Fire Department, the Hull

Police Department and State Police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. ♦



DFS File Photo

4 Charged in Tewksbury CRBs

On March 19, 2009, two juveniles and two adults were charged with deploying several chemical reaction bombs at 171 Patricia Drive, Tewksbury on March 6 and 7, 2009. This incident was jointly investigated by the Tewksbury Fire Department, Tewksbury Police Department and State Police assigned to the North Team in the Fire and Explosion Investigation Unit. ♦

STUDENT CHARGED IN Millbury High School Fire

Just before 1 p.m. on Friday April 3, 2009, there was a working fire at the Millbury High School. Fortunately there were no injuries and the damage to the structure was minimal. The fire was jointly investigated by the Millbury Fire Department, Millbury Police Department and State Police in the Fire Investigation Unit's Central Team. They determined the fire was intentionally set. Millbury police officers quickly identified a juvenile suspect who was charged with attempted arson, burning property and disrupting a school assembly. ♦

Ashland Arsonist Arrested

In the early morning hours of June 1, 2009 Ashland firefighters responded to a working fire in residential structure at 17 Water Street. There were no injuries and damage was moderate in what investigators determined was an intentionally set fire. A suspect was quickly identified, found, interviewed and eventually

arrested and charged with one count of burning a dwelling and intimidation of a witness. The fire was jointly investigated by the Ashland Fire Department, the Ashland Police Department and State Police assigned to the Fire Investigation Unit's Central Team. The investigation is continuing. ♦

Arrests in Haverhill Arson

Two men were arrested and warrants issued for a third man on May 5, 2009 for setting an April 16, 2009 fire to 74-76 Temple Street, Haverhill. All three defendants are charged with one count of burning a dwelling, breaking and entering in the daytime, trespassing,

larceny and attempting to commit a crime. The fire in the empty rooming house was jointly investigated by the Haverhill Fire Department, the Haverhill Police Department, and State Police assigned the Fire Investigation Unit's North Team. ♦

Woman Arrested in Freetown Fire

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan, Freetown Police Chief Carlton E. Abbott and Freetown Fire Chief Gary Silvia announced the arrest of Barbara Conroy, age 44, for setting fire to her home at 4 Water Street, Freetown. The fire in the multi-unit dwelling has been determined to be intentionally set and she is charged with burning a dwelling.

Freetown firefighters were called to 4 Water Street at 7:55 a.m. April 10, 2009 for a report of the smoke

alarm sounding. Investigators found that two separate and distinct fires had been set in the rear apartment; one in a second floor closet and the other on the first floor where clothes had been ignited by a candle.

The fire was jointly investigated by members of the Freetown Fire Department, detectives from the Freetown Police Department and State Police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. ♦

REVERE MAN ARRESTED FOR POSSESSION OF

Stolen Property from Medford DPW

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan, Medford Fire Chief Frank A. Giliberti Jr. and Medford Chief of Police Leo A. Sacco Jr. announced that Ralph E. Smith, age 46, of Revere, was arrested on April 8, 2009 for possession of a Medford Department of Public Works (DPW) truck and equipment stolen on March 21, 2009. He was arraigned in Somerville District Court on April 9, 2009. The arrest is a result of an arson fire investigation at the Medford Water Department building on March

21. The defendant allegedly stole the water department truck and equipment that was recovered the next day in Somerville.

The truck and the equipment were stolen the same night as a major fire occurred at the DPW facility at 27 James Street. The fire is being investigated by the Medford Fire Department, Medford Police Department and State Police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The investigation is ongoing. ♦

SECURITY GUARD ARRESTED IN Taunton Mall Fire

On Friday April 10, 2009, a 19-year old former security guard at the Galleria Mall was arrested for setting an arson fire at the Taunton shopping center on April 4, 2009. The investigation also discovered stolen radios. The young man was also charged with receiving stolen property over \$250. The investigation continues. The fire was jointly investigated by the Taunton Fire Department, Taunton Police Department and State Police assigned to the Fire Investigation Unit's South Team. ♦

ELECTRICAL OVERLOAD CAUSED Attleboro Court House Fire

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Attleboro Fire Chief Ronald Churchill said their joint investigation into the May 18, 2009 blaze at the Attleboro District Court House has determined the cause of the fire was overloaded electrical circuits.

The early morning fire was jointly investigated by the Attleboro Fire Department, Attleboro Police Department, and State Police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Assistance was received from an electrical investigator. ♦

Middleborough Church Fire Electrical

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Middleborough Fire Chief Lance M. Benjamino announced their joint investigation into the Memorial Day fire at the Central Congregational Church has determined the cause of the fire was an electrical malfunction.

The historic church is located at 2 Webster Street. Chief Benjamino said, "This tragic fire affected the

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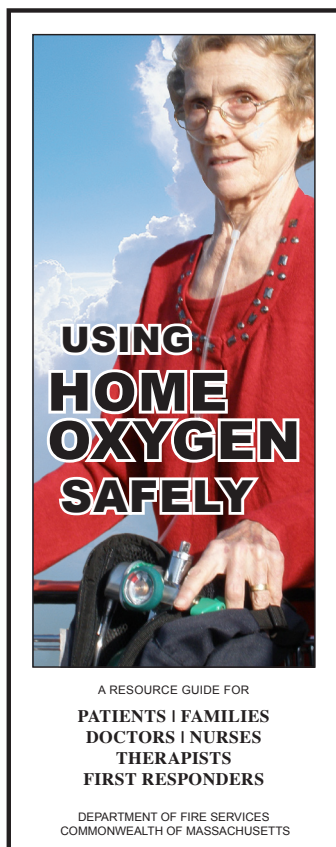
Fire Safety and Home Oxygen

When we say fire safety and home oxygen we usually mean smoking and home oxygen first and foremost. However, there are many other fire safety issues surrounding the use of home oxygen like pilot lights, cooking, space heaters, candles, and use of personal care products like petroleum jelly, electric razors and hair dryers.

The reason many people use oxygen is because they are smokers. They need a lot of help to quit and they, their families, caregivers and doctors, need to understand that smoking on home oxygen is no longer a private health matter but a public safety threat. There is some basic information that everyone needs to know about fire safety and home oxygen.

New Pamphlet

The Department of Fire Services, along with many other partners concerned with this issue, has developed an educational pamphlet that tries to educate all these groups about the increased risk of fire when oxygen is in the home. It includes specialized resources for people thinking about quitting and for information on how doctors can help. It is also posted on our website at www.mass.gov/dfs >> *Fire Safety Topics*>>*Home Oxygen Safety*. We hope that people, especially health professionals, will download it as they need copies. Printed copies are available from the DFS Public Education Unit courtesy of the Mass. Property Insurance Underwriting Association. Call the Public Education Hotline at 1-877-9NO-FIRE (1-877-966-9473).



Guidelines for Firefighter Educators: Show Your Concern

Ever get a call from a frantic neighbor in an elderly housing complex about someone next door who is on oxygen and smokes? They have good reason to be afraid. The Department of Fire Services has developed

guidelines for firefighter-educators to help inform people about the risks and hazards. Obviously fire educators have to be invited in to a person's home, but it does not hurt to express concern for the well-being of a citizen you protect and ask if you can talk to them about the topic. If such a visit can be coordinated with other family members, caregivers, or even the landlord, it might be more effective. These guidelines are also posted on the DFS website.

Policy for Elders at Risk

Fire departments might consider policies for reporting elders at risk. Sometimes the smoker is someone else in the home, not the home oxygen patient. Make a referral to the local Elders at Risk program. If you are frequently called to pick Mrs. McGillicuddy up off the floor and there's burn holes in the bed clothes, does your department have a policy to contact the local Elder Affairs regional office? If it happens on different shifts, how do you track that information? Do you have that number?

Until Smokers Quit

Encourage smokers to speak to their doctor or to call the Department of

Public Health's Smoker's Hotline just to get some information about what's available to help them quit. There is cessation counseling available by phone for people who cannot get out easily. The Smoker's Hotline number for English speakers is 1-800-879-8678 and for Spanish speakers is 1-800-833-5256. ♦

2009 YouTube™ Video Contest

In conjunction with Mass. Association of Safety and Fire Educators (MA SAFE) and the Mass. Property Insurance Underwriting Association, the Department of Fire Services has launched the 2009 YouTube Video Contest. This is a contest for Massachusetts high school students and needs to be a school sponsored project. It meets several of the Department of Education's Curriculum Framework standards. Last year's creative entries can be seen on YouTube.com by searching on DFSOSFM.

The deadline for submitting 2009 entries is December 18, 2009. Fire educators are encouraged to reach out to high school media teachers this spring so they can plan to participate next fall. The Grand Prize will be a digital video camera for the school and members of the winning

team will share \$200 in gift cards from Best Buy™. The Second Place team will share \$100 in gift cards from Best Buy™. The Third Place team will share \$50 in gift cards from Best Buy™. Winners will be announced during Burn Awareness Week 2010 – February 7-13, 2010.

For more information for teachers and students, a copy of the rules, the judging rubric, or the curriculum frameworks addressed, please contact the public education unit at 978.567.3381 or check the DFS website at www.mass.gov/dfs. ♦

Everyone Wins With Fire Exploring

Written by Francesca Harris

How does your fire department recruit new trainees? A great way to train and enlist young people who are interested in a career in fire services is through a Fire Explorer program. Many local fire departments are already participating in this program. The Holden Fire Department sponsors a Fire Explorer post under the direction of Lieutenant Michael Rosen. These Explorers meet every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at the Holden Fire Headquarters.

There are many benefits for a fire department to support a Fire Explorer program. Sponsoring an Explorer post gives the fire department the opportunity to teach and recruit future fire fighters for their team. The Fire Explorer program will encourage team building within the department, create an opportunity to share career roles with young adults in the community, help prepare kids for the workforce, help develop future responsible adults, and create a safe haven for adolescents by giving them a positive alternative to negative activities, such as gang violence and drug abuse.

The Boy Scouts of America has a program available for young adults called Learning for Life. Part of this program is the work site based curriculum called the Explorer program, which is available to young men and women between the ages of 14 and 20. This is a career education course of study for young adults who want a hands-on learning experience in a particular field. By getting this training with experienced adults, a young person can transition into the career of their dreams!

Exploring programs are based on five areas of emphasis: career opportunity, citizenship, leadership experience, life skills, and character education.

Young men and women interested in pursuing a career in the field of fire services might find excitement joining a Fire Services Explorer post. By becoming a Fire Explorer, young adults will have the opportunity to

interact in real life on-the-job activities with a local fire department. Some possible projects might include: assistance with equipment, basic emergency medical technician training, assisting with public education events, chain of command and role in the community with fire service, and community emergency preparedness. Fire Explorers may also have the opportunity to visit fire trade shows and fire safety equipment companies to further expand their knowledge in the field of fire services.



Becoming an Explorer is a fun and interactive way for young adults to learn about a lifelong career. Sponsoring an Explorer post at your fire department is an excellent way to help young people gain insight into the ethics and ideals of fire and emergency services.

If you or someone you know is interested in joining or starting an Explorer post, please visit the Learning For Life web site: <http://www.learningforlife.org/exploring/fire/>. ♦

Young Heroes

Has a child, family or group of children in your S.A.F.E. community responded appropriately during an emergency, by demonstrating key fire and life safety behaviors; dialing 911 to report an incident and calmly providing information to a dispatcher; or performing a lifesaving medical maneuver? Was this child responding correctly as a result of the fire and life safety education they received from your fire department's S.A.F.E. Program? Do you think that this child's meritorious actions should be recognized? Well, Massachusetts State Fire Marshal Stephen Coan thinks so too!

That's why the Department of Fire Services, Public Education Unit instituted the "Young Heroes" program in 1995. During the last fourteen years, 230 children have been recognized as "Young Heroes" for their actions. Here are the last four Young Heroes from fiscal year 2009:

Monson

William Henry Thomas

On July 12, 2008 at 3:31 p.m. an older woman had fallen outside her home. William saw her fall and immediately went to her aid. Noticing that she had received a head injury, William went inside and advised his mother to call 911. He then got a

facecloth, wet it, and returned to the woman's side to render care until help arrived. William received his S.A.F.E. training at Granite Valley Middle School where he is in the 6th grade.

Norfolk

Meaghan Steck

On August 14, 2008 at 7:34 p.m., Meaghan Steck, an eight-year-old girl, noticed that her father was choking on some food and was unable to talk or breathe. Meaghan was able to stay calm and call 9-1-1. The food was dislodged before the fire department's arrival. Dad is doing fine and is very proud of his daughter. Meaghan received her S.A.F.E. education in the 2nd grade of the H. Olive Day School.

Plainville

Joshua Leclerc

On February 27, 2009 at 8 p.m., 7-year old, Joshua Leclerc suddenly heard his father calling for help. Joshua's dad was outside in the yard riding an all-terrain vehicle. The ATV had flipped over onto Mr. Leclerc, badly injuring him. Upon hearing his father's scream for help, Joshua immediately dialed 9-1-1 and calmly described his father's injuries.

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Grant Application Period Now Open

The application period for the 2009 National Junior Firefighter Program grants, sponsored by the Dunkin' Brands Community Foundation, is now open. Ten \$5,000 grants will be awarded to departments nationwide whose junior firefighter or Explorer Post programs demonstrate exceptional innovation, creativity, and community impact. The grant application and criteria are available on the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) web site at www.nvfc.org/juniors. Applications must be received by 5 p.m. EDT on August 15.

NVFC member departments who have had a junior firefighter program for at least three years are encouraged to apply for this competitive grant. If your department is not an NVFC member, join at www.nvfc.org/membership. Grants are to be used to help further develop or expand an existing junior firefighter or Explorer Post program. Recipients will be selected based on program innovation and impact and financial need. For full program criteria, visit www.nvfc.org/juniors.

Thanks to the support of Baskin-Robbins and Dunkin' Donuts and the Dunkin' Brands Community Foundation, which is dedicated to serving those who serve others – especially in times of crisis, the 2009 NVFC National Junior Firefighter Scholarship and Grant Program is offering a combined total of \$100,000 in scholarships to outstanding junior firefighters and grants to departments to support their junior firefighter pro-

grams. Hundreds of junior firefighters and their departments applied for last year's scholarships and grants, and this year is expected to attract even more applicants.

New in 2009, the scholarships will be awarded separately from the department grants. Ten \$5,000 scholarships will be awarded to junior firefighters nationwide who demonstrate commitment and dedication to their local junior firefighter program and the fire service. The application period for scholarships is currently open; access the full criteria and submission form at www.nvfc.org/juniors. Scholarship applications were due on May 15.

About the National Junior Firefighter Program

The NVFC National Junior Firefighter Program helps fire and EMS organizations nationwide develop, grow, and promote local programs that encourage youth participation in the fire and emergency services. In addition, youth can use the Program to find out how to join a local fire, rescue, or EMS organization, keep track of their hours of service, and earn exciting rewards after spending a set number of hours helping their department. The Program is supported by the Dunkin' Brands Community Foundation, Baskin-Robbins, Tyco International, and Spartan Motors, Inc. Find out more at www.nvfc.org/juniors. ♦

FREE NFPA COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

Preventing Arson Together

As a part of its 2008 Urban Fire Safety Project, the National Fire Protection Association worked with the Columbus (OH) Division of Fire to produce the "Preventing Arson Together" (8.2. MB) PowerPoint presentation. Although there are many approaches to solve the arson problem, this program focuses on actions people in neighborhoods can do to help prevent a variety of types of arson. This presentation is designed for fire and life safety educators to present. It is easily customizable with local statistics and photos but the photos and graphics in the presentation are copyrighted materials to be used only in the "Prevention Arson Together" pre-

sentation. It can be downloaded for free from the National Fire Protection Association's website www.nfpa.org then follow these bread crumbs: Safety Information For consumers Intentional fires and arson.

For more information, please contact NFPA's Sharon Gamache. ♦



Young Heroes

Continued from Page 6

to the dispatcher. Joshua's actions were instrumental in getting prompt medical assistance and care for his injured father. Joshua remained calm and knew how to react thanks to the fire and life safety education he received as a 1st grader at the Jackson Elementary School from the

Plainville Fire Department's S.A.F.E. Program.

Roslindale

Jack Gilbride

On May 24, 2009 around 1:00 a.m., Jack Gilbride, a 7-year old boy, woke

up to an activated smoke detector and rushed downstairs to wake up his 76-year old grandfather, a Korean War veteran who is legally blind, and his uncle during a house fire in their home. Thanks to Jack everyone got out of the house safely. ♦

Flammable Gas Training Group Holds Drill, Tests Plan

By Michael Gurnick, Assistant Coordinator
MFA Flammable Gas Program

On April 29, 2009 the Flammable Gas Training Group held the first ever *Mock Drill* organized in conjunction with the Northeast Gas Association (NGA). The NGA has been a longtime participant in the academy's flammable gas program. Some thirty NGA members attended the mock drill that was designed to test NGA's established *LNG Emergency Response Plan*. This plan was developed in order to provide local fire departments a gas industry resource whenever an accident involving LNG transport occurs. The drill was designed as a passenger vehicle and liquid natural gas (LNG) truck accident with release of some LNG product. This scenario is the type for which the plan would be



DFS File Photo

activated. The plan covers all of New England and is divided into zones so as to provide the closest industry responder to the accident scene. Over the years there have been relatively few such incidents but the nature of the LNG road transporter and LNG as a cryogenic demand specific response standards to mitigate a potentially dangerous situation. These practices were put to the test and then reviewed during an after-action session. Both proven components of the plan as well as some points

for improvement were noted. The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Flammable Gas program looks forward to continued work with NGA and the development of more such innovative training opportunities. ♦

USFA and IAFC Warn of the Dangers of Ethanol

The United State Fire Administration (USFA) and the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) want people and firefighters to become more aware of the concerns when dealing with the dangers of ethanol. Since 2000, ethanol production has nearly doubled in the U.S. with the growing concern for carbon emissions. Ethanol is used to oxygenate gas, which allows it to give out cleaner emissions as well as enhancing octane. Ethanol enriched gasoline usually consists of 90 percent gas and 10 percent ethanol. Although, in today's society when people need more miles per gallon, the new flex fuel has up to 85 percent ethanol to only 15 percent gasoline.

The problem that is created with ethanol and ethanol enriched gaso-

line is the way that it burns and how firefighters can stop it. When ethanol is burned it is a fire that creates less smoke, which makes it less noticeable. Also, when gas is in water it floats to the top, but on the other hand ethanol enriched gas is water-soluble. Ethanol creates another problem for firefighters when trying to put out an ethanol gas fire. This is because regular methods of fighting hydrocarbon gas fires are regularly ineffective against it. When battling this fire, the most effective way to put it out is alcohol-resistant foam.

For more information on this topic either visit the USFA website (<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/>) or the IAFC website (<http://www.iafc.org/>). ♦

Another Massachusetts First

When Sue Labrie was appointed fire chief in Goshen in 2006, she became the first woman fire chief in Massachusetts. This past spring when her brother Michael Gorski was appointed chief of the Hampden Fire Department, they became the first brother and sister fire chiefs serving concurrently in the state and we believe in the nation. The fire service has long been a family business, with fathers and sons, brothers and cousins serving together. We have had a mother and daughter both be firefighters here in Massachusetts, although not working for the same department. Thank you to Chiefs Labrie and Gorski for making Massachusetts first again. ♦

Middleborough

Continued from Page 4

community is so many ways. It interrupted our annual salute to our service men and women and it impacted a building that has been a part of our landscape for nearly two centuries, that is key to many of our community activities, and is also a place of worship for many of our residents."

Coan said, "House of worship fires are particularly devastating to a community. I want to commend the investigation team for working quickly and diligently to determine the cause."

The fire was jointly investigated by the members of the Middleborough Fire Department, Middleborough Police Department, State Police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). An electrical inspector also assisted investigators. ♦

Alcohol and Fire

Alcohol intoxication may increase the risk of starting a fire by impairing one's judgment and coordination.

A smoker, under the influence of alcohol, is more susceptible to falling asleep and dropping a lit cigarette on upholstery or clothing. The effect of alcohol may cause a failure to notice the smell of smoke or hear a smoke alarm, and escaping from a fire can be hampered by the loss of motor coordination and mental clarity, even when warning signs are heeded.

FOCUS ON FIRE SAFETY Alcohol and Fire

Understanding the Risk

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, alcohol use and the resulting impairment may be the strongest independent factor for death from fire. One study found that intoxication contributed to an estimated 40% of deaths due to residential fires. By altering one's cognitive, physiological, and motor functions, alcohol increases the

chance of starting a serious fire while at the same time reduces the chance of survival from a fire or burn injury.

Young children, older adults, and those who are dependent on a caregiver are most vulnerable to fire deaths and injuries due to their dependence on others. According to the American Medical Association, the presence of an adult with no physical or cognitive disability who was unimpaired by alcohol or other drugs reduced the risk of death in this group.

Men have been found to consistently outnumber women among fire casualties and do so with even greater disparity for fire victims under the influence of alcohol. In addition, the younger adult population (ages 15 – 24) seems to incur the greatest number of alcohol-impaired fire casualties. Drinking behaviors that are characteristic of each gender and various age groups may explain these findings.

Researchers have suggested that alcohol-related unintentional injuries have more to do with alcohol drinking patterns than the total amount of alcohol consumed per capita. Who drinks, where they drink, what they drink, and under what social, cultural and religious circumstances they drink are perhaps more significant factors than the amount of alcohol consumed. A lone drinker at home is probably at greater risk of a fire emergency than a group of people drinking in a bar or restaurant. Moreover, the number of drinks consumed in a single sitting seems to matter a great deal.

Alcohol and College Students

In cases where fire fatalities have occurred on college campuses, al-



Department of Fire Services

Alcohol and Fire

Alcohol intoxication may increase the risk of starting a fire by impairing one's judgment and coordination. A smoker, under the influence of alcohol, may fall asleep and drop a lit cigarette on upholstery or clothing. The effects of alcohol may cause a failure to

notice the smell of smoke or hear a smoke alarm, and escaping from a fire can be hampered by the loss of motor coordination and mental clarity, even when warning signs are heeded. Learn more about the dangers of alcohol and fire. Don't become a fire statistic!



FEMA

U.S. Fire Administration

For information and resources on this subject visit www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus

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Alcohol and Fire

Continued from Page 9

cohol was a factor. There is a strong link between alcohol and fire deaths. In more than 40% of adult fire fatalities, victims were under the influence at the time of the fire. Alcohol abuse often impairs judgment and hampers evacuation efforts.

Tragic scenarios, too often repeated

Chapel Hill, North Carolina...in the 1996 fraternity fire that killed five students, four of them had blood alcohol levels of over 0.14. This fire broke out following a party the evening before, as had the fire in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania where three men were killed.

Case Study: Contribution of Alcohol to Fire Fatalities in Ontario

Findings:

- Over a 7-year period (1995-2001), 19% of fire fatalities were alcohol impaired.
- Fatalities increase from noon to midnight and then decline. Alcohol-related deaths begin climbing at 4 pm and peak at 5 am.
- Alcohol related fatalities are relatively constant throughout the year.
- Nearly 70% of all alcohol-related fire fatalities were between the ages of 25 and 54.



Amherst, Massachusetts...a fire the day following a party destroyed the fraternity. There were large numbers of empty beer cans. The smoke alarms had all been covered with bags so they would not activate during the party.

Minimize Your Risk

It is possible to minimize fire risk by increasing the awareness of those who drink and those who are surrounded by regular drinkers. Understand the dangers and don't become a fire statistic! For more information go to: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus/> ♦

Case Study: Contribution of Alcohol to Fire Fatalities in Minnesota

Findings:

From 1996 to 2002, 36% of Minnesota's fire fatalities had alcohol levels of 0.1 or higher.

- 13% of children under age 15 died in fires during the 1995-2002 time period. None were alcohol impaired, but alcohol may have contributed to a number of these deaths by virtue of an alcohol- or drug-impaired caregiver.
- 69% of the alcohol-impaired fire victims in Minnesota were aged 35-54.
- Although the elderly (75+) are at high risk from fire, only 8% of the elderly victims in Minnesota were alcohol impaired.
- The cause of 26% of fire deaths was smoking. Of these deaths, 62% were alcohol impaired. There is a strong connection between smokers, drinkers, and fire deaths. ♦

USFA on Residential Fire Sprinklers

The U.S. Fire Administration has promoted research, development, testing, and demonstrations of residential fire sprinkler systems for more than 30 years. The research regarding residential fire sprinkler systems has indisputably demonstrated the following:

- Residential fire sprinklers can save the lives of building occupants.
- Residential fire sprinklers can save the lives of firefighters called to respond to a home fire.
- Residential fire sprinklers can significantly offset the risk of premature building collapse posed to firefighters by lightweight construction components when they are involved in a fire.
- Residential fire sprinklers can substantially reduce property loss caused by a fire.

The time has come to use this affordable, simple and effective technology to save lives and property where it matters most – in our homes.

In the past year, the national debate about the benefits of residential fire sprinklers passed a major milestone with the adoption of a change to the International Residential Code that will require fire sprinklers in all new construction. This code change survived rigorous scrutiny, during which all interested parties had ample opportunity to comment on the technical merits of the issue. Since then, parties who oppose this life-saving technology have started a vigorous campaign to enact laws at the state level that will prohibit adoption of sprinkler requirements for new homes.

I encourage every member of the fire service to stay abreast of this rapidly changing situation, and to be ready to voice any concerns that you have about proposed legislation to your respective state legislature. The Fire Sprinkler Initiative website

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Residential Fire Sprinklers

Continued from Page 10



Photo by: NFPA Staff

has been established to provide a central clearing house for up-to-date information. Log on to the site at <http://firesprinklerinitiative.org> – stay vigilant and keep the fire service community informed of developments in your area. Only by working together can we save lives.

It is the position of the U.S. Fire Administra-

tion that all Americans should be protected from death, injury, and property loss resulting from fire in their residence. All homes should be equipped with both smoke alarms and residential fire sprinklers, and all families should have and practice an emergency escape plan. The U.S. Fire Administration supports all efforts to reduce the tragic toll of fire losses in this nation, including the recently adopted changes to the International Residential Code that require residential fire sprinklers in all new residential construction. ♦



Photo by: NFPA Staff

Sprinklers Demonstration in Plymouth

PLYMOUTH, MA, May 26, 2009 – After house fires killed four area residents in just the past three months, the Plymouth, Mass. Fire Department and national fire safety experts vividly showed the life-saving difference home fire sprinkler systems can make. Plymouth fire officials joined the Massachusetts State Fire Marshal, Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition, and the National Fire Protection Association in a live demonstration of fire sprinklers this afternoon. The demonstration provided a graphic display of how quickly home fire sprinklers work to subdue heat, flames and smoke in a very dangerous situation. Nearly 3,000 Americans die each year in house fires. It is estimated you could have as little as three minutes to escape a home fire should one occur.

"Sprinklers save lives," said G. Edward Bradley, Plymouth Fire Chief. "Frankly, we are seeing too many people die in residential fires in this area. Home fire sprinkler systems are the best protection you and your family can have to escape a fire in your home. This demonstration shows that quite clearly."

The demonstration included a side-by-side room display where sprinklers had been installed in only one of the rooms. The other room was not sprinklered. Both rooms were set on fire. Home fire sprinklers are designed to activate when a certain degree of heat increase is reached, so as the temperature in the display went up, the sprinklers went off. As seen in the demonstration, the fire in the sprinklered room was controlled quickly by overhead sprinklers. In contrast, the fire in the room without sprinklers burned out of control until the Plymouth Fire Department put out the fire. The fire and smoke damage in the sprinklered room was significantly less than in the room without sprinklers. The demonstration was narrated by Ron Hazelton, a national home repair expert and spokesperson for the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition. ♦



Photo by: NFPA Staff

Top Photo: The room without the sprinkler burns completely in just a minute-and-a-half.

Center Photo: The fire in the sprinkler-protected room is put out quickly.

Bottom Photo: The side-by-side comparison of the two rooms

CODE COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT

The following advisories were recently sent to local fire departments from the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The full text of the advisories may be found online at www.mass.gov/dfs then in the right hand column click on OSFM Advisories. If you have any questions, please contact the Code Compliance & Enforcement Unit at 978-567-3375 or in western Massachusetts at 413-587-3181. Building officials can contact the Department of Public Safety at 617-727-3200. As of May 1, 2009 all OSFM Advisories will only be posted online and fire departments will receive an e-mail notice.

BFPR Updates

Enclosed please find copies of regulations recently promulgated by the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations. A summary of the changes are as follows:

527CMR 9.00: Tanks and Containers Makes a technical correction to an inadvertent typographical error in paragraph 9.05 (G.) relative to cathodic protection.

527CMR 10.09(4) requires at least four school fire drills per year. By statute, Chapter 159, s. 363 of the Acts of 2000 requires the development and implementation, on an annual basis, of a multi-hazard evacuation plan for schools, which can include an emergency evacuation drill. The amendment allows one of the four drills conducted under existing regulation 527CMR 10.09(4) to be the emergency evacuation drills required by the statute, thus reducing duplication of public safety time/resources and public inconvenience.

527 CMR 14.00 has been amended by adding new definitions and a new section (4). This amendment pro-

vides definitional clarification regarding what constitutes a flammable or combustible liquid for the purposes of permitting and storage under the code. In addition to the closed cup test, it would now be determined also by means of a new standard, ASTM D 92 (open cup test) or by the amount of water contained in a high water-miscible solution.

527 CMR 32.00, a new regulation, requires the installation of smoke detectors using both photoelectric and ionization technologies, by sellers of certain residential buildings upon sale or transfer in accordance with M.G.L. c. 148 s. 22F. The regulation, as written, would be effective as of January 1, 2010. This amendment reflects technical advances and studies that favor the use of both technologies (with exceptions) depending upon the type of fire (slow moving/smoldering vs. fast moving fires).

If you have any questions, or require assistance, please contact the Code Compliance & Enforcement Unit at (978) 567-3375 or in western Massachusetts at (413) 587-3181. ♦

LP-GAS CYLINDER EXCHANGE AT Self-Service Gasoline Stations

With the approach of warmer weather, our office has seen an increase in cylinder exchange facilities at some self-service gasoline stations.

Fire departments should consider the minimum staffing levels at these service stations prior to granting a propane storage permit for a cylinder exchange operation. Particular attention should be given to 527 CMR 5.08 (5)(d) which requires that the controlling mechanism console providing power to the pump motor be in constant attendance by the owner or operator at all times while motor fuel is being dispensed. Constant attendance means that the console operator must be at the console during its operation. Section 5.08 (5)(e) requires constant contact between the controlling mechanism console operator and the pump island. Additionally, constant observation of the filling operation of each vehicle is required during the time that any of the pumps have been activated to dispense motor fuel. Unrelated business shall be operated by others [5.08 (5)(f)].

The proper exchange of propane cylinders at a self-service fuel facility requires the station attendant to exit the building (i.e. self-serve console area), proceed to the secured propane cylinder storage cage, unlock the cage, exchange the empty propane cylinder for a full one, lock the cage, and return to the self-service console area. It is not possible to operate both the propane cylinder exchange and fuel dispensing and remain in compliance with the regulations of 527 CMR 5.08 (5)(d)(e) and (f) with only one person on duty. Someone must conduct this activity other than the self-service console operator. One condition that should be considered in order to allow propane cylinder exchanges at a self-service fuel facility is the requirement that more than one attendant be on duty at all times. This should be a condition of any permit issued to allow for propane cylinder exchange at a self-service fueling facility. ♦

Underground Storage Tank Program

The UST program, by virtue of the passage of Article 87 legislation earlier this year, is being transferred to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and the federal and limited state funding which has supported the program for many years will likewise be transferred. As a result of existing legislation, four of our fulltime staff (George Nice, Dave McGonagle, John Wood and Meri

Reith) will be transferred to DEP, effective July 1, 2009. Information can be sent to:

Department of
Environmental Protection
Bureau of Waste Prevention –
UST Program
P.O. Box 120-0165
Boston, MA 01773 ♦

Curtain Vestibules

February 1, 2009

Due to energy conservation measures we are aware that “temporary” curtain vestibules are being created and installed within buildings. While current Massachusetts regulations do not specifically prohibit these curtain vestibule systems, the guidance provided in this memorandum should prove helpful. Curtain vestibules typically consist of a series of fabric curtains suspended from a metal piping/fining system and are used to create a temporary enclosure or vestibule around an entryway (inside or outside). The goal of this curtain vestibule system is to cut down on the cold air entering an establishment.

In order to provide guidance to fire and building officials on the installation of these curtain vestibule systems, the following is provided.

1. A building permit must be obtained and building permit application construction documents should include and address:
 - A plan of where the curtain vestibule is to be located.
 - Details demonstrating that the required means of egress are not negatively impacted by the curtain vestibule system, including a determination that the occupant load and egress criteria are still met.
 - Details on the curtain, hangers, and support to ensure the “vestibule system” will remain securely in place or otherwise not hamper egress regardless of the crowd impact in an emergency situation.
 - Determination, coupled with inspection verification, that exit pathways are not obstructed – i.e., the curtain is easily and predictably movable; that exit signage and emergency lighting are not masked or that any fire sprinkler heads are not masked by the curtain vestibule system or otherwise, that such masking of egress elements or fire sprinklers have been addressed in a revamped design and modification that is building code compliant.
2. The curtains system must comply with 527 CMR 21 and Chapter 8 of 780 CMR, which both reference

NFPA 701, Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Flame Propagation of Textiles and Films. The documentation showing compliance must be submitted to both the fire and building official.

If the above criteria can’t be met then a building permit should not be issued until compliance is demonstrated.

If a building or fire official should encounter an existing curtain vestibule system, such system must comply with the guidance/criteria provided herein. In addition, a building permit is required to be issued by the building department. In the interim, before compliance is demonstrated, the removal of the curtain vestibule system is required, as an impediment to egress under either 780 CMR or 527 CMR and citation of such Building Code and/or Fire Code. Fire and building officials are encouraged to work together in reviewing and inspecting this type of installation. ♦

DPS EMERGENCY Contact List

January 22, 2009

Please be advised that the Department of Public Safety (DPS) has instituted a new protocol for the reporting of incidents that require the immediate attention of the DPS. Effective immediately, The State Fire Marshal is requesting that you contact the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency at (508) 820-1444 to report DPS related incidents.

This number should be used for all DPS related events, including but not limited to the following incidents involving:

1. Building collapse/failure
2. Elevators/escalators
3. Boiler or air tank failure/explosion,
4. Amusement or tramway incidents
5. Horse carriage incidents
6. Incidents involving hoisting and excavating equipment.

If you have any questions, please call the department at (617) 727-3200 ext 25210. ♦

REPLACEMENT BATTERIES FOR Certain Smoke Detectors

BRK and First Alert issued a notice this spring regarding an issue around certain hard-wired smoke detectors and the type of battery used for replacement.

This notice is from the manufacturer and clearly identifies an issue when

using Duracell batteries in the unit instead of the same battery type that was supplied by the manufacturer. At this time, there is not a recall on the product. This information is provided as guidance, in the event you encounter this issue. ♦

Traveling Carnival Temp. Housing

In years past, during inspections of traveling carnivals, the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Fire Services have become aware of potentially serious safety issues regarding the use of makeshift box trailers at these shows. Specifically, some of the amusement operators are housing their workers, on site, in retrofitted box trailers. These box trailers are typically hidden within the

perimeter of the carnival’s rides and games and are being used for various purposes, including makeshift cafeterias and worker housing. In many cases, the condition of these trailers presents a serious life safety hazard. The interiors of these box trailers are typically modified so that there is a narrow (2½ feet wide) hallway with several small bedrooms,

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Guide for the Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services

Emmitsburg, MD - The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), working with the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), has issued a revised *Health and Wellness Guide for the Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services*. The *Health and Wellness Guide* now provides updated information on health and wellness issues, trends, and programs focused on the needs of the volunteer fire service. The document addresses fitness including aerobic exercise, flexibility, strength training, diet; smoking cessation; and other areas that will have a positive impact on volunteer firefighters. It can be found online at http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/fa_321.pdf.

"This partnership to improve the health and wellness of the volunteer fire service will support reducing the primary cause of on-duty deaths in the volunteer fire service – heart attack and stress," said Acting Assistant Administrator Dr. Denis Onieal. "Effective health and wellness programs will also be expected to con-

tribute to operational effectiveness of volunteer fire departments as well as serve as a valuable retention and recruitment instrument."

The prevalence of cardiovascular illness and deaths and work-inhibiting strains and sprains among firefighters illustrates the need for a comprehensive health and wellness program in every department. Yet department leaders often struggle to implement a program due to a variety of reasons, including resistance or lack of motivation from members, the costs associated with implementing a program, and the lack of well-defined requirements.

"With heart attack, overexertion, and strain causing more firefighter deaths and injuries than any other cause, it is critically important for departments and personnel to focus on health and wellness," said NVFC Chairman Philip C. Stittleburg. "The NVFC is pleased to partner with the USFA to create a guide to help departments develop life-saving health and wellness initiatives and over-

come the obstacles to a successful program."

The *Health and Wellness Guide* demonstrates ways to overcome these obstacles, and provides direction for developing and implementing a department program. It also highlights several existing health and wellness programs and how they have maintained their success over time. Originally released in 1992 and updated several times, the 2009 version includes new information and resources to help departments ensure the health and well-being of their members.

The *Health and Wellness Guide for the Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services* also provides the most current information on how volunteer fire departments can enhance compliance with appropriate National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Firefighter Health and Safety Standards such as NFPA Standard 1583 - *Health Related Fitness Programs for Fire Fighters*. ♦

Fireworks: Best Environmental Management Practices

The following memorandum from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was sent to fire departments in June for information purposes only. We have also provided this memorandum to all firework user certificate holders issued by our office. The purpose is to bring attention to the recent contamination of drinking water supplies by perchlorates. While there is no specific link identified at this time, DEP has requested assistance in getting this information out regarding the need for housekeeping and alternatives in certain areas.

Memorandum

To: Fireworks Contractors and Interested Parties
From: Janine Commerford, Assistant Commissioner - Waste Site Cleanup
Subject: Potential Environmental Contamination From the Use of Perchlorate-Containing Fireworks

Date: April 14, 2008

Introduction

Over the past few years, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has detected perchlorate in eleven drinking water supplies in Massachusetts, including three public water supply wells where nearby fireworks displays appear to be a source of the perchlorate contamination. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance on perchlorate-containing fireworks to prevent contamination of drinking water supplies from this potential source

Background

Perchlorate is a chemical compound comprised of one chlorine and four oxygen atoms. The wide-scale production of perchlorate for use as a solid rocket propellant has led to the

use of perchlorate compounds in a number of common products, including airbag inflators, industrial chemicals, explosives, and fireworks. Perchlorate is highly water soluble, and can travel significant distances in groundwater. Perchlorate can affect the function of the thyroid gland, which regulates the body's metabolism. Pregnant women and their fetuses, infants, children under the age of 12, and people with hypothyroidism are most susceptible. In July 2006, MassDEP promulgated a drinking water standard of two parts per billion or ppb, and notification criteria (reportable concentrations in soil and groundwater) for this contaminant under the state waste site cleanup regulations (Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000).

In response to detection of perchlorate in water supply wells in Massa-

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Perchlorate

Continued from Page 14

chusetts, MassDEP is investigating surrounding sites and activities that may have caused or contributed to contamination. Fireworks displays employing perchlorate-containing pyrotechnics have been identified in at least three locations as the possible source of drinking water contamination.

Recommendations

Although the environmental impacts from the use of perchlorate-containing fireworks have not been fully defined, MassDEP believes it is prudent for fireworks contractors to take the following reasonable steps to minimize potential problems:

1. Request low (or no) perchlorate containing fireworks. This may require that you make inquiries with your suppliers and/or manufacturers.
2. Institute rigorous "housekeeping" practices. It appears that the deposition of unburned aerial shell fragments and other pyrotechnic debris may be the primary mechanism by which groundwater becomes contaminated by perchlorate. Fireworks companies or display sponsors should remove all visible shell debris encountered during the search at first light.
3. Dispose or manage "duds" and "misfires" appropriately; all "duds" or "misfires" must be removed from the site and disposed of in accordance with applicable codes and manufacturers instructions. Contain and/or promptly address runoff in cases where water is used to douse duds or misfired materials.
4. Be aware of the existence of surrounding drinking water supplies and stay as far away from them as possible. Of particular concern are

fireworks displays within the recharge areas of public drinking water supply wells (i.e., "Zone II" and "Interim Wellhead Protection" areas). Maps of these areas and surface water supplies should be available from local officials, and can be viewed on-line at <http://www.mass.gov/mgis/> (specifically <http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/WSPA/viewer.htm>) and <http://mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/swapreps.htm>

Please contact Rose Knox at the MassDEP Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup (BWSC) at 617-556-1026 or Rosemary.Knox@state.ma.us if you would like additional information, or please refer to the following link on MassDEP's Website: <http://mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/percinfo.htm> ♦



Fire & Life Safety Education Conference

September 23-24, 2009

Devens Common Center
31 Andrews Parkway
Devens, Massachusetts

Department of Fire Services and the
Massachusetts Public Fire &
Life Safety Education Task Force

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Send an e-mail with the text "conference"
in the subject line to
Jennifer.Mieth@state.ma.us

Look online at
www.mass.gov/dfs under *What's New*
or call 978-567-3380

This conference is for:

- » S.A.F.E. Educators
- » Classroom Teachers
- » Health Education Coordinators/Teachers
- » Nurses
- » Firefighters & Fire Officers
- » EMTs
- » School Administrators
- » School Safety Officers
- » Injury Prevention Professionals
- » School Resource Officers
- » Elder Service Workers

SAVE THE DATE!

Carnivals

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partitioned by particleboard, located off the hallway. In the event of a fire or other emergency, there is inadequate ingress/egress.

Further, the location of these trailers significantly hinders the ability of the fire department to access these trailers, as there are often rides, games, and other equipment obstructing the trailers from fire department apparatus. Should a fire or other emergency develop in one of these trailers or in this area, there could be serious consequences with the potential for multiple fatalities and injuries.

Due to this situation, we are advising that any city or town issuing a permit pursuant to M.G.L. c. 140, § 181 include a condition which prohibits sleeping in box trailers on the grounds. If the city or town wishes to allow these trailers, such trailers should be inspected and meet minimum fire, building, and sanitary code requirements.

The Mass. Department of Public Health also issued a memorandum to local boards of health. A copy is posted on the DFS website along with this advisory. ♦

Office of the State Fire Marshal Resources

The Office of the State Fire Marshal has two fire protection system specialists available to assist fire prevention offices with fire and life safety system requirements

of the building code and its reference design/installation standards. Jake Nunnemacher is assigned to jurisdictions along the Massachusetts Turnpike and south, and can

be reached at 978-567-3377 (or by e-mail at jacob.nunnemacher@state.ma.us). Dana Haagensen is assigned to jurisdictions north of the Mass Pike, and can be reached at 978-567-3376 (or by e-mail at dana.haagensen@state.ma.us).

IAFC REAFFIRMS ITS POSITION OPPOSING

Public Safety Consolidation

Fairfax, Va., Feb. 3, 2009... The International Association of Fire Chief's (IAFC) board of directors has issued a position statement reaffirming the association's continued opposition to consolidating fire and emergency service and law enforcement agencies and the creation of public safety officers. The measure comes in response to a growing trend of some consultants to push consolidation as a remedy for local government officials faced with shrinking local budgets.

"As leaders in our communities, the fire and emergency service is committed to finding ways to help our communities through these difficult financial times, but not at the expense of public or responder safety," said IAFC President Chief Larry J. Grorud. "Proponents of consolidation fail to appreciate the unique role firefighters and EMTs play in both prevention and response, as well as the critical importance of assessing the specific risks and service needs of each community."

The position statement specifically addresses the association's concerns stemming from the:

- Vast differences in fire/emergency service and law enforcement mission and training;
- Erosion of the company unit;
- Exchange of the team concept for individual action;
- Lack of understanding of both the broader community service and national context in which the fire and emergency service plays a critical role.

The IAFC is working with the International Association of Fire Fighters,

other fire and emergency service organizations and law enforcement organizations to provide resources for combating misinformation being circulated locally by public-safety consolidation proponents and to raise shared concerns at the national level.

The IAFC has issued similar positions dating back to 1877, but finds no compelling reason to alter its position in our modern world. "Consolidation of fire and emergency services and law enforcement is still being offered as an easy solution to an increasingly complex problem," continued Grorud. "We need to leverage our current environment of cooperation and unprecedented resources for risk assessment and data collection, to create new and effective solutions that support continued quality of service at lower costs."

Fire chiefs are called upon to take a number of steps, including:

- Taking an active role in their community budget discussion;
- Immediately beginning to pursue the fire department accreditation process, which centers upon community-specific risk assessment;
- Establishing metrics to measure the quality of service impact of any structural, organizational or financial changes within the department;
- Preparing to educate the public on any decisions regarding department service and consequences for those changes.

For more information, the IAFC website is www.iafc.org. ♦

Section 110.8 of the *Massachusetts State Building Code* [780 CMR] requires the head of the fire department, or their designee, to review and approve or disapprove all building permit plans as they relate to Chapter 4, Chapter 9, and Chapter 34, of 780 CMR for commercial occupancies and buildings having more than two residential dwelling units. Chapters 4, Chapter 9, and Chapter 34, relate to fire and life safety systems, special use group requirements (such as hazardous material uses), and such requirements for alterations, additions, and changes of use to existing buildings.

Section 5110.6 of 780 CMR requires the head of the fire department, or their designee, to review and approve or disapprove all one- and two-family dwelling building permit plans as they relate to fire and life safety systems of Section 5313 and addition/alterations in Chapter 93.

In Massachusetts, it is primarily the above mentioned portions of the building code that are used to determine what fire and life safety systems are required in newly constructed structures and structures that undergo alterations and changes of use. The building code also defines to which standards fire and life safety systems must be designed and installed. There are also statutes within the Massachusetts General Laws, and portions of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code [527 CMR], that specify requirements for fire and life safety systems. Many times the latter provisions reference the same design and installation standards identified in 780 CMR.

Please contact us if you are looking for assistance in these reviews or you have any questions. ♦

MFIRS Training and Administration

Upcoming MFIRS Classes

If a department needs more training on MFIRS v5 and can guarantee 15 students, please contact me to set up an MFIRS v5 class. It is a 4-hour MFA class and comes with 4 OEMS credits. Enrollment must be open to other departments. The next MFIRS class will be: Tuesday, 10/20/09 @ MFA in Stow, MA from 09:00 – 13:00. Course # 200000613 Session A.

Wednesday, 11/04/09 @ Barnstable County Training Facility in Barnstable, MA from 09:30 – 13:00. Course # 200000613 Session B. Please use standard MFA registration forms and procedures.

Need for Updated Reports

Departments need to submit updated MFIRS reports once investigators have completed their investigations. Whether the SOG's allow the fire investigator, the chief, deputy chief, or officer in command, to do this, the MFIRS report needs to be updated and then resubmitted (the next time the incident reports are submitted) when anything new is discovered or an investigation is completed. This should be done even if the fire investigators are using another system other than MFIRS for their investigative reports. This is especially true for fatal or large loss fires.

Fatal or Large Loss Fires

If you have a fire or explosion with a **fatality** or **large loss (>\$1,000,000)**, please forward a paper copy of the MFIRS report with a completed Remarks section to Derryl Dion within 2 business days. The report should include the Basic, Fire, Civilian Fire &/ or Fire Service Casualty Module(s), and Structure Fire Module (needed for all structure fires). This most likely will be a preliminary report and you can file the complete report at a later date unless otherwise noted. Every effort should be taken to make sure that these reports are as complete as they can be given all of the information available at the end of your investigation.

If one of the state troopers from OSFM's Fire Investigation Unit (FIU) was involved with the investigation, please contact them periodically to see what they are reporting as their conclusions in their report. FIU reports are separate from your MFIRS reports, and using the team concept both reports should reflect the same conclusions.

Errors & Vendors

If you are getting errors on the Error Validation Report that is returned to you after submission of your monthly data, and your software is not identifying them, Please contact our unit to try and resolve this issue. We will work with any vendor to improve the quality and ease of your department's reporting.

Electronic Reporting

The e-mail address to send your electronic MFIRS reports to is: MFIRS.Report@state.ma.us. One or two days after your first submission via e-mail please call Derryl Dion at (978) 567-3382 to confirm its receipt. If you are reporting electronically please send us your reports on a monthly basis during the first two weeks of the following month.

Assistance

Please contact Derryl Dion, Research Analyst at (978) 567-3382 or Derryl.Dion@state.ma.us with any questions regarding MFIRS or to conduct fire data or histories research. ♦



Coding Tips

Summertime means barbecues and fireworks.

Fireworks

If there is a fireworks explosion with no fire, code **the Incident Type as a 243 – Fireworks explosion (no fire)**.

- Any casualty under this incident type would be classified as an EMS Casualty and not a Civilian Fire Casualty.

If fireworks ignite a fire, code the fire as the type of fire it is and **code Heat Source = 54 – Fireworks** in the Fire Module.

- If the fireworks ignited more fireworks, code **Item First Ignited = 88 - Pyrotechnics** in the Fire Module.
- If fireworks are stored at the site of the incident, code **On-Site Materials = 934– Fireworks, commercially made** on the Fire Module.

In 2008, there were 31 fires involving fireworks and 33 fireworks explosions with no ensuing fire. These 64 fireworks incidents caused \$66,560 in estimated damages. This is a 45% decrease over the 116 reported in 2007.

Gas Grills

If the fire is contained to the grill, code **the Incident Type as a 162 – Outside Equipment Fire**.

If the grill started a fire, code the fire as the type of fire it is.

- On the Fire Module **Equipment Involved in Ignition** should be **643 – Grill, hibachi, barbecue**.
- Select the appropriate code for **Equipment Power Source**:
 - 11 or 12 – Electrical Line Voltage;
 - 22 – LP Gas or Other Heavier Than Air Gas;
 - 42 – Coal, charcoal.

In 2008, there were 57 grill fires, causing seven civilian injuries and \$830,225 in estimated damages. This is a 24% increase over the 46 reported in 2007. ♦

2008 Preliminary Fire Statistics

According to preliminary data from the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS) data, there were 30,103 reported fires in 2008. The 17,186 structure fires, 3,073 motor vehicle fires and 9,845 outside and other fires caused 49 civilian deaths, one fire service death, 336 civilian injuries, 622 fire service injuries and an estimated \$249 million in property damages. This is an 11% decrease from the 33,801 fires reported to MFIRS in 2007.

In 2008 43 fatal fires killed 49 civilians: 27 men, 17 women and five children. One (1) firefighter died in a fire in 2008. The 49 civilian deaths is a 20% decrease from the 61 deaths in 2007, and the second lowest total on record. Smoking was once again the leading cause of fatal residential structure fires and residential structure fire deaths. Smoking caused 30% of fatal residential fires and 26% of residential fire deaths.

2008 Fire Data Analysis

The Fire Data Unit has closed the database for calendar year 2008. The staff has started the analysis cycle of Community Profiles, County Profiles and the 2008 MFIRS Annual Report. You can still submit incidents at any time; however once the year is closed any incidents submitted after that will not be included in the analysis.

If you have any incidents that you think may make a good anecdote for the 2008 county profiles or the annual report please forward your suggestions to Derryl Dion. These could be large loss, multiple casualty or unusual circumstance fires. ♦

If you are looking for the Fire Data & Public Education Unit, in August we will be relocated to the first floor (rear) of the new Administration building.

2009 Remembering When™: A Fire and Fall Prevention Program for Older Adults Conference

November 15-17, 2009
Boston, MA

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is committed to helping communities reduce fire and fall injuries and deaths among older adults. Since 1999, communities throughout North America have been implementing the Remembering When program, reaching thousands of older adults. To ensure that the Remembering When program is reaching the most vulnerable of older adults, NFPA will select representatives from up to 40 communities to attend the Remembering When Conference, which will emphasize reaching older adults through home visits. For this purpose, the NFPA is asking fire departments to partner with an agency whose main outreach to older adults is through home visits. Such agencies may include visiting nurse associations, home health care agencies, church outreach groups, and other organizations. Last year three teams from Massachusetts were selected to participate in the training and receive the free materials.

To get a copy of the application form go to the NFPA website at www.nfpa.org.

Here's what they're looking for:

- A partnership to support the implementation of *Remembering When* at the local level.
- A two-person team that includes the fire department and an agency serving older adults within the community through home visits, such as visiting nurses associations, home

health care agencies, places of worship, or other groups. (The partner agency must already have a home visit mechanism in place since it will conduct the home visits. After the training in Boston, the fire department will train home visitors on the *Remembering When* program.)

- Partners must have the authority, commitment, and ability to oversee local implementation of the Remembering When program

Here's what you'll receive:

- Each Remembering When Conference Award is valued at more than \$4,000 and includes:
 - A training workshop in Boston, MA, December 3-5, 2008, for each two-member team. NFPA will cover the expense of travel, hotel and group meals for each team. Attendance at all sessions is mandatory. All events and meals are funded for invited attendees only;
 - One Remembering When: Fire and Falls Prevention program curriculum for each team member;
- 100 "How to Prevent Fires" brochures for distribution to older adults; and
- 100 "How to Prevent Falls" brochures for distribution to older adults.



Applications are due by the close of business on August 3, 2009. NFPA will notify award recipients on or before September 4, 2009.

Questions? Call Sharon Gamache, Director of High-Risk Outreach Programs, at 617-984-7286. ♦

The following are excerpts from press releases issued by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) regarding products recalled for fire or burn hazards. Consumers should immediately stop using any of these products and contact the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission or the manufacturer for instructions on how to proceed. The web address is: www.cpsc.gov

AC ADAPTOR

3/26/09 09-170

AC Adaptor used w/ ThinkVision Soundbars

Lenovo Inc.

The plastic shell of the AC Adaptor can crack posing a shock risk.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09170.html>

BATTERIES

5/14/09 09-221

Lithium-ion Batteries used in Hewlett-Packard & Compaq Computers Hewlett-Packard Co.

The batteries can overheat.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09221.html>

CANDLES



5/12/09 09-215

DayNa Decker 16 ounce Botanika Candles

Southern California Candle Co. Inc.

The glass can break during use.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09215.html>

CLAMP METER

5/15/09 09-222

Fluke Digital Clamp Meters

Fluke Corp.

The meters can fail to give an appropriate voltage reading, resulting in the operator falsely believing the electrical power is off.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09222.html>

CLOTHES IRON

3/31/09 09-173

Clothes Iron

Conair Corp.

The clothes iron can overheat.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09173.html>

COFFEEMAKERS

4/6/09 09-184

Signature Gourmet 12-Cup Programmable Coffeemakers & Kitchen Gourmet 10-Cup Coffeemakers

Atico International USA Inc.

These coffeemakers can ignite due to an electrical failure.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09184.html>

4/15/09 09-194

Philips Senseo One-Cup Coffeemakers

Philips Consumer Lifestyle

An electrical fault & the buildup of calcium from hard or medium water can cause an obstruction in the coffeemaker. If this happens, the boiler can burst.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09194.html>



5/21/09 09-227

Bunn Single Cup Pod Brewers

Burn-O-Matic Corp.

The pod drawer of the pod brewer can open unexpectedly during a brew cycle.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09227.html>

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

3/12/09 09-151

Kidde XL Fire Extinguishers

Walter Kidde Portable Equipment Inc.

The pressurized cylinders could lose pressure & fail to operate.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09151.html>

FLOOR CLEANERS

4/29/09 09-204

Majestic 360 Floor Cleaners

HMI Industries Inc.

The wiring can overheat, causing electrical arcing & melting.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09204.html>

FUEL FUNNELS

3/26/09 09-171

Outerwears Funnel Pre-Filters

Outerwears Inc.

The funnel pre-filters can create a flash when they are removed from the fuel tank posing a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09171.html>

HAIR DRYERS

4/29/09 09-205

Special and Narita Hair Dryers

Universalink International Trading Inc.

The hair dryers are not equipped with an immersion protection device that prevents electrocution if the hair dryer falls into water.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09205.html>

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

3/25/09 09-165

Fresh Décor 10 Count LED Star String Lights

Four Star Group USA Inc.

Electrical wiring in the lights can overheat.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09165.html>

PAINT SPRAYERS



5/5/09 09-210

Wagner Paint Sprayers

Wagner Spray Tech Corp.

The on-off switch can be dislodged from the casing, resulting in exposure of electrical connections.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09210.html>

PORTABLE POWER SOURCE

4/2/09 09-182

Rocketfish Model RF-INV80 Universal AC/DC/USB Portable Power Source Best Buy Co. Inc.

While charging the battery, the power source can unexpectedly ignite.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09182.html>

PROPANE GAS

3/12/09 09-152

Propane (LP) Gas

Valero Marketing & Supply Co.

An odorant added to the propane might not have been added at the appropriate levels. Consumers may not be able to detect a leak.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09152.html>

RANGE

4/8/09 09-189

GE Profile Freestanding Dual Fuel Ranges

GE Consumer & Industrial

The wiring in the rear of the range can overheat.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09189.html>

ROBES

4/24/09 09-200

Full Length Women's Chenille Robes

Blair LLC

Some robes fail to meet federal flammability requirements & present a risk of serious burns to consumers if they are exposed to an open flame.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09200.html>

ROCKER SWITCHES

4/2/09 09-180

Illuminated Round Rocker Switches

RadioShack Corp.

The wiring diagram on the switch's package is incorrect. The Neutral & Line notation is reversed.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09180.html>

STUD SENSORS

4/7/09 09-185

Stanley Stud Sensors 200 & Stanley FatMax Stud Sensors 400 Solarwide Industrial Ltd.

The stud sensor can fail to calibrate properly & detect AC electrical wires behind the wall.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09185.html>

TELEVISION



4/2/09 09-183

Insignia 26" Flat Panel LCD model # IS-LCDTV26 TV Best Buy Co. Inc.

The television's power supply can fail.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09183.html>

TOASTER OVEN

4/23/09 09-199

Toaster Oven/Broiler

Lun Dar Electric Ind. Ltd.

Electrical connections in the toaster oven/broiler can become loose.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09199.html>

VACUUM CLEANERS

3/26/09 09-169

Ergorapido, Pronto & Precision Vacuums

Electrolux Home Care Products Inc.

The vacuum's battery can expand & burst.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09169.html> ♦



LICENSING EXAMS

The Office of the State Fire Marshal issues licenses to people and companies engaged in fireworks, blasting, explosives, cannon and mortar firing, special effects, special hazard systems and portable fire extinguishers. Information on applications, exam dates, to obtain new licenses, or to renew existing licenses may be obtained by calling 978-567-3700. Examinations for licenses are held quarterly. Filing deadlines, exam locations, dates and times can be found online at: http://www.mass.gov/dfs/osfm/license_exams.htm.

All license exams are offered at both Department of Fire Services locations: State Road in Stow, MA and One Prince Street (Northampton State Hospital) in Northampton, MA. Due to construction at DFS Stow, parking is severely limited and may include off-site parking. Please ride-share with co-workers whenever possible.

Applicants must be pre-registered for all license exams, no walk-ins permitted. Completed applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline date listed below. If an

application is received after the applicable deadline, the applicant will not be allowed to sit for the exam.

Directions to our offices are listed on the web at:

http://www.mass.gov/dfs/about_dfs/dfsmap.htm

A list of study materials for each examination are listed on the web at:

http://www.mass.gov/dfs/osfm/license_exams.htm

All exams begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. ♦

2009 License Examination Schedule

Examinations	Examination Dates	Application Deadlines
Fire Extinguishers	July 22, 2009 (Wednesday) October 28, 2009 (Wednesday)	July 10, 2009 (Friday) October 16, 2009 (Friday)
Cannon/Mortar Fireworks Special Effects Blasting Blasting R&D	August 19, 2009 (Wednesday) November 18, 2009 (Wednesday)	August 7, 2009 (Friday) November 6, 2009 (Friday)

STATUS REPORT OF

Compliance and Enforcement Actions

The following is a status report of recent compliance and enforcement actions taken by the Office of the State Fire Marshal against individuals or companies for violations of MGL Chap. 148 and 527 CMR. The status of the action is provided and notation is made

regarding the effective date of the action. While other actions may be pending, only those individuals or companies who have had administrative hearings with decisions rendered will be documented in this space.

Should there be any question regarding the status of any license or certificate, please call the Office of the State Fire Marshal at any time for verification at 978-567-3700. ♦

Compliance and Enforcement Actions by the Department of Fire Services

Name	Action Taken	Terms	Ends
Blasting Certificate of Competency			
A.F. Amorello & Sons	Explosives Users Certificate	1 year to serve	1/5/2010
Wayne E. Martin	2-year suspension	1 year to serve	7/24/2009
David V. Anderson	120 day suspension	60 days to serve	7/10/2009
Fire Equipment Certificate of Competency			
James Tecce	Permanent Revocation	Prohibited from ever again holding a business reg. of any kind from DFS	

GRADUATIONS

Recruit Class #184

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Director Edmund M. Walker presented certificates of completion to members of the 184th Recruit Firefighter Training Class in a June 19, 2009 graduation ceremony at the Nashoba Regional High School in Bolton, MA.

44 Graduates from 32 Fire Departments

The 44 graduates, 40 men and four women, represent the 32 departments of: Andover, Arlington, Bedford, Beverly, Blackstone, Boxborough, Cambridge, Charlton, Easton, Fairhaven,

Holden, Hyannis, Lincoln, Malden, Marblehead, Marshfield, Medford, Nahant, Plymouth, Raynham, Reading, Southborough, Southbridge,

Stow, Sutton, Tewksbury, Wakefield, Wellesley, Wellfleet, Westborough, Whitman and Woburn. ♦



Class 184

Photo by: Bruce Gauvin

CALL/VOLUNTEER

Firefighter Training Program

The Call/Volunteer Firefighter Training program is unique in that it delivers a standard recruit training curriculum, meeting national standards, on nights and weekends to accommodate the schedule of firefighters in suburban and rural areas. Bringing the training closer to the firefighters often means more firefighters can participate. This program was held at area fire department training facilities. The Fire Chiefs' Association of Massachusetts persuaded the Legislature to financially support this innovative delivery of off-site training.

Class #27

Deputy Chief Robert Tucker, representing the MA Fire Training Council presented certificates of completion to members of the Call/Volunteer Firefighter Training class #27 in a graduation ceremony on June 10, 2009. The recruit graduation took place at Case High School, Swansea, MA

44 Local Firefighters Call/Volunteer Firefighter Training

The 44 graduates, 40 men and four women, represent the 11 fire departments of: Berkley, Dartmouth, Dighton, Mattapoisett,

Middleboro, North Attleboro, Rehoboth, Seekonk, Swansea, Wareham and Westport.

Class #28

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan presented certificates of completion to members of the Call/Volunteer Firefighter Training class #28 in a graduation ceremony on June 25, 2009 in Palmer, MA.

The 31 graduates, three women and twenty-eight men, represent the 16 fire departments of: Alford, belchertown, Bondsville, Brimfield, Chesterfield, Granby, Great Barrington, Palmer, South hadley #2, Southwick, Three Rivers, Wales, Ware, West Boylston,, Westhampton, and Williamsburg ♦



Class 28

Photo by: Class Instructor



Class 27

Photo by: Lt. Ken Lima