February is Black History Month. The OSFM is committed to helping promote diversity amongst the Illinois Fire Service community. We will be profiling a few individuals who are influencing the fire service in Illinois and helping to promote diversity. A diverse fire service or organization is stronger because all ideas are heard and promoted. To learn more about Diversity, Equity and Inclusion activities at the OSFM, you can visit our website at sfm.illinois.gov and click on the About Us tab. In that tab you will find the OSFM DEI link. Links are available to the OSFM DEI External Outreach Packet, DEI glossary and videos highlighting influential leaders in the fire service. We hope you will take a look and see how your organization or fire department can become DEI leaders in your community.

National Burn Awareness Week is February 6-12 and is an initiative of the American Burn Association. Burn Awareness Week, observed the first full week in February, is a window of opportunity for organizations to mobilize burn, fire and life safety educators to unite in sharing a common burn awareness and prevention message in communities.

The theme for National Burn Awareness Week 2022, “Burning Issues in the Kitchen”, where a common risk of injury exists from scald burns, improperly used appliances, and distracted cooking occur. Annually, in the United States, approximately 400,000 people receive medical care for treatment of burn injuries. In 2018 alone, there were 3,655 deaths from fire and smoke inhalation and another 40,000 people were treated in hospitals for burn related injuries. Cooking is the number one cause of house fires.

Every 60 seconds someone in the U.S. sustains a burn injury serious enough to require treatment. Be on alert! Stay in the kitchen while cooking and create a three-foot kid-free zone around your stove or oven when cooking. Turn pot/pan handles around when cooking, use rear burners if possible, place hot liquids in the middle of a table and out of the reach of children and make sure to wear shoes when walking on pavement during hot summer months. Following these tips will reduce the risk of an accidental burn or fire from occurring in your home.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), most “fire-related injuries” are burns. The primary causes of injury include fire-flame, scalds, contact with hot objects, electrical and chemicals. Most of the injuries occur in the home. Today, 96.8% of those who suffer burn injuries will survive. Unfortunately, many of those survivors will sustain serious scarring, life-long physical disabilities, and adjustment difficulties.
The OSFM honors our four brothers who lost their lives in the Line of Duty in 2021. Rest Easy, we will take it from here.

Wabash Fire Protection District FF Mehdi Mourad
EOW: June 27th, 2021

Chicago Fire Department FF/EMT Michael Pickering
EOW: October 11th, 2021

Sterling Fire Department Lt. Garrett Ramos
EOW: December 4th, 2021

Chicago Fire Department FF/EMT MaShawn Plummer
EOW: December 21st, 2021
Employee Spotlight

Makenzie Evans
Administration Assistant

Where are you originally from? Winchester, IL

Tell us about your family? Kids, Significant other..... No
significant other or kids, just a spoiled beagle named Spuds (like the 1980s Bud Light spokesdog, Spuds Mackenzie) haha!

Favorite food(s)? Pizza or chicken alfredo

Hobbies? Bow hunting, working out or anything outdoors, when Spuds allows it.

What’s your favorite movie or book? Movie: Nightmare Before Christmas or Four Brothers

When you get in the car what type of music will be coming out of your speakers? Hard Rock/Metal

What did you want to be when you were a kid? Forensic scientist

What’s your favorite part of the job? How helpful everyone in the office has been!

What’s something unique about you? My friends told me to put “I can put people in a headlock,” Haha! I took jiu-jitsu for a couple of years before COVID ruined it, I’m hoping to someday get back in it.

Where is your favorite place to vacation? Tennessee

Where is your bucket list destination? Australia
January is Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month. Cancer is the most dangerous and underrecognized threat to the health and safety of firefighters according to the Firefighter Cancer Support Network. The goal of this campaign is to provide fire fighters the necessary tools and guidance to develop life-saving protocols for cancer prevention and to support those with a cancer diagnosis within their departments. The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is joining forces with the Fire Fighter Cancer Support Network and the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) to raise awareness about the increased risk of cancer amongst fire fighters.

Firefighter-occupational cancer is the leading cause of line-of-duty deaths in the fire service. From 2015-2020, 75% of the fire fighters added to the IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial of Honor Wall in Colorado Springs, Colorado were of members who died from occupational cancer. According to a study by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), firefighters face a 9 percent increase in cancer diagnoses and a 14 percent increase in cancer-related deaths compared to the general population. While protecting the firefighter during firefighting operations, personal protective equipment (PPE) becomes contaminated. Effective on-scene decontamination can reduce the level of surface polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) by 85% following an incident.
Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month

12 Actions to Protect Yourself Against Occupational Cancer

1. Use SCBA from initial attack to finish of overhaul.
2. Do preliminary exposure reduction (field/gross decon) of PPE to remove as much soot and particulates as possible.
3. Use wet naps or baby wipes to remove as much soot as possible from head, neck, jaw, throat, underarms and hands immediately and while still on the scene.
4. Change your clothes and wash them immediately after a fire.
5. Shower thoroughly after a fire (try to shower with an hour after exposure.)
6. Clean your PPE, gloves, hood and helmet immediately after every fire.
7. Never take contaminated clothes or PPE home or store it in your vehicle.
8. Keep bunker gear out of living and sleeping quarters.
10. Stop using tobacco products.
11. Use sunscreen or sunblock.
12. Get annual medical examinations. Early detection and early treatment are essential to increasing survival.

Call to Action

With a better understanding of why occupational cancer affects the fire service, what can you do differently to limit your exposure to carcinogens?

"I can't stress enough the importance of getting screened and doing your yearly physicals. Taking this time can help to spot something early, that if not found or treated, could lead to more serious issues in the future, or worse, loss of life. This disease is killing far too many of our brothers and sisters. If we all work together to limit our exposures, get screened and improve our lifestyles, we can greatly reduce the risks of cancer and come out a healthier fire service community."

-Illinois State Fire Marshal Matt Perez

WWW.SFM.ILLINOIS.GOV/
Community Risk Reduction Week

Governor JB Pritzker has proclaimed the week of Monday, January 17, 2022 through Sunday, January 23rd, 2022 Community Risk Reduction Week in Illinois. Community Risk Reduction (CRR) is a data-driven process to identify and prioritize local risks, followed by the integrated and strategic investment of resources (emergency response and prevention) to reduce their occurrence and impact.

The goal of CRR Week is to raise awareness among the fire service that implementing CRR concepts will make communities and department safer. The idea of CRR week originated with individuals from various fire departments across the country. The focus of the week will be on the five "E's" of CRR: Education, Engineering, Enforcement, Economic Incentive and Emergency Response. Any fire department or community, big or small, rural or metro, paid or volunteer can use CRR concepts to identify risks in their communities and start to plan how to reduce those risks. Monday, January 17, 2022 is Martin Luther King Day and is nationally recognized as a National Day of Service and an opportunity for communities to reduce risks through a series of educational and other programs.

The CRR process began in the state of Illinois in late 2019, due to the pandemic, the official establishment of the State of Illinois Community Risk Reduction Taskforce was delayed until early 2021. The mission of the taskforce is to promote the importance of risk reduction in Illinois by inspiring community ownership and providing coordinated resources. Currently, the taskforce is conducting a statewide risk assessment that will identify specific risks and help provide a more targeted approach to the mitigation of those risks across the state. To learn more about the taskforce and find CRR resources visit illinoiscrr.com or follow them on facebook at @IllinoisCRR.

According to crrweek.org, every 24 seconds, a fire department in the United States responds to an emergency, and, whereas fires were responsible for 3,000 civilian deaths and 15,200 civilian injuries nationwide in 2019; and, whereas an estimated $21.9 billion in property damage nationally occurred as a result of fire in 2019; and, whereas fire service responds to a growing number of medical calls for service, surpassing 80 percent of total call volume in some jurisdictions; and, whereas Community Risk Reduction is a data driven process to identify and prioritize local risks, involving an integrated and strategic investment of resources; and, whereas the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal has established a State of Illinois Community Risk Reduction Task Force focused on addressing the “5 E’s” of Community Risk Reduction; and, whereas the goal of Community Risk Reduction is to reduce the occurrence and impact of preventable emergencies through actions in the areas of the Five E’s of Education, Engineering, Enforcement, Economic Incentive, and Emergency Response; and, therefore, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim the week of January 17, 2022 – January 23, 2022, as CRR Week to raise awareness of the importance of CRR in the fire service, community and opportunities to make communities safer.

In Witness Whereof, I have heretofore set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the City of Springfield, this 17th of January, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and twenty-two, and of the State of Illinois, the two hundred and twentieth.

[Seal]

[Signature]

Secretary of State
CRR Week- Education

Education is the key to helping residents in your community understand the importance of fire and life safety. Smoke and CO alarms are the most important tool that residents can have in their homes to stay safe. Early warning can mean the difference between having time to escape or being trapped.

The Be Alarmed! Program found that 80% of pre-existing smoke alarms in homes that received new 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms were non-functional or expired (1,466 of 1,840).

In 2021, 2,945 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms were installed in Illinois homes meaning 2,268 Illinois residents are now protected by these new working smoke alarms. These residents also were provided a fire safety education as well.

To learn more about how your department or district can participate, visit https://www.ifsa.org/programs/alarm
CRR Week - Engineering

Engineering is something that may sound intimidating for fire departments but learning more about the design of buildings or fire protection systems and how they play a role in protecting a building will impact firefighter safety. Pre-planning is key and having your firefighters prepared for what they may encounter if they must enter a building in low visibility.

The Technical Services Division of the Office of the State Fire Marshal serves to support other operating divisions within the agency as well as the fire service and regulated public with technical and engineering expertise.

Personnel in this division perform plan reviews, recommend code interpretations, represent the agency on state and national code committees and task forces, assist other divisions of the OSFM with continuing education of inspection personnel and make presentations to the public and the regulated community relative to technical issues. Technical Services also provides expert advice in the agency's rulemaking processes for a variety of subjects including: Life Safety Code enforcement, aboveground tanks holding flammable or combustible liquids regulation, liquefied petroleum gas (LP-Gas) storage regulations, and a myriad of other fire prevention and petroleum and chemical related issues.

The OSFM’s Cathy Stashak talks about the history and importance of codes on our daily lives. Learn more about the OSFM’s Technical Services Division and reviews they conduct.

https://youtu.be/Me-Ji0IcO7A
Enforcement of laws, rules and codes is an important part of the CRR process. Inspections make a community safer and are for the benefit of everyone – the fire department, the community, the property owner.

The Division of Fire Prevention conducts inspections of buildings for compliance with NFPA 101, Life Safety Code (2015 edition). While concentrating efforts on state licensed day care, state-licensed group homes, and educational occupancies, OSFM fire prevention inspectors also help ensure safety through the initial inspection of aboveground tanks holding flammable and combustible liquids, liquefied petroleum gas installations, and hotel/motel occupancies.

The division is responsible for enforcing the Fire Equipment Distributor and Employee Regulation Act, Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licensing Act, Pyrotechnic Operator and Distributor Licensing Act and the Furniture Fire Safety Act. The Division of Fire Prevention also inspects buildings and exhibits at all county fairs and the state fairs in Springfield and DuQuoin.

OSFM Fire Prevention Inspector Jeff Miller talks about what inspectors look for and some of the most common violations that are found. [https://youtu.be/lD2tRkLLrnU](https://youtu.be/lD2tRkLLrnU)
CRR Week- Economic Incentive

Budgets continue to be strained due to the pandemic and other hardships impacting departments and districts across the state. Finding partners such as local retailers and big box stores can help provide materials to help with your CRR process, public education and public safety campaigns. Finding those individuals within your department or district who are willing to dedicate themselves and volunteer their time to creating a safer community can help offset any additional costs.

Grants and low or no interest loans are available for numerous different types of needs. The OSFM has a small equipment grant program, Fire Truck and Ambulance Revolving Loan Program, AFG Grants through FEMA, and numerous other outlets can help departments purchase equipment and other items needed to continue help keep communities safe.

Illinois CRR Task Force Project Manager Marsha Geisler talks about what CRR is and what the task force is working on. She also provides some insights on how local communities can get involved in the CRR process. [https://youtu.be/I8OygO0Q1xU](https://youtu.be/I8OygO0Q1xU)
Emergency Response: Reviewing data related to emergency response in your department or district is important to improve response times and create a more efficient response. EMS was once again the top reason departments/districts were called out for response during 2020 in Illinois.

Keep these questions in mind when coming up with data to review. What are most common calls for response your department/district receives? What is the average response time? Conduct a risk assessment for your department or district so that you can find ways to help mitigate risks impacting citizens you serve.

Many department and districts have programs for residents to purchase address signs to help responders recognize the location of the property or residence where they are responding. It’s important that people know what fire department or district serves their area. Reach out through different methods to introduce your department and make those connections to help with community education.
Launched in 2018, “Be Alarmed!” was created as a fire safety education and smoke alarm installation program administered cooperatively between the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance (IFSA) and the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM). The program continues to distribute fire safety education materials and 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms to fire departments in the state of Illinois. The fire departments then deliver the education and install smoke alarms in at-risk homes within their communities. Both the educational materials and smoke alarms are provided to fire departments at no cost as a result of funding from both the IFSA and OSFM.

The program was developed to educate Illinois residents on the dangers of residential fires and how to prevent fires from occurring in the home, as well as to ensure there are properly installed, working smoke alarms in the homes. By providing 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms, it ensures that the power source cannot be removed from the unit and, if properly maintained, will last the life of the device.

The program seeks to educate Illinois residents, young and old, on home fire safety and prevention methods, reduce the number of fire-related injuries in Illinois, reduce the number of fire-related deaths in Illinois, and identify the reason for non-working smoke alarms in Illinois homes.

**2021 Recorded Data:**
- 217 active Illinois fire departments from 61 different counties participating in the program
- 3,864 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms distributed to Illinois fire departments
- $92,736 worth of life-saving smoke alarms distributed to Illinois fire departments
- 2,945 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms installed in Illinois homes
- 1,021 Illinois homes protected with new smoke alarms
- 2,268 (1,027 high-risk) Illinois residents educated on smoke alarm maintenance, home fire safety, and home fire escape plans as well as protected by new smoke alarms
- 80% of pre-existing smoke alarms in homes that received new 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms were non-functional or were expired (1,466 of 1,840 pre-existing alarms)
Fire Department Testimonials

“It has drastically helped our district because we are a poor rural district with the majority of our district low income. This has been a huge benefit to them and the elderly as well. The firefighters being the ones that put them up, we can guarantee, the smoke alarms are being put in the correct location and they have enough coverage for their home. The majority of people we have helped didn’t have their existing alarms in the right location nor did they have enough coverage. This increased coverage, and correct locations will save lives! In total for our district, we have installed close to 200 fire alarms with the majority coming through this program. I have been Fire Chief for the last five years and that was one of my main goals was to get the community safer than it was when I started. Thanks to the ‘Be Alarmed’ Program we have been able to do just that. I would highly recommend the program to every fire department in the State of Illinois! This program leads to safer communities, less fire related deaths, the knowledge of the importance of escape plans.

“A department our size would never be able to afford the amount of detectors that your program has furnished for installation. We have installed 792 detectors in 157 homes. This has allowed us to get into these homes to help with fire escape planning, and fire safety in the home. We have been able to talk to young and old about what to do during a fire, and what to expect when we get there. We have been able to hand out the literature that you have provided to each home. This has been a valuable tool in our residential fire prevention efforts. We still have a list of installs, and calls coming in.”

“We were shocked by how many homes did not have even one working smoke detector when we arrived. Additionally, this opened the door to a conversation about fire safety, fire prevention, and even the services we provide to the community. I look forward to a continued partnership with your program. We have installed almost 100 alarms and I will not be satisfied until we have at least one of your alarms in every home in our community.”

“I want to thank you for providing this program for our fire district. We have installed over 200 detectors in our rural fire district and are hoping that this program will continue in 2020. We have been thanked repeatedly by the residents of our fire district for this program. It is reassuring to know that we are helping some of our fire district residents and that if there was a fire, they have working smoke detectors.”

“Thank you for the opportunity to be a partner in the ‘Be Alarmed’ program. Response from the citizens we serve has been positive - both from contact on the village’s website, and word of mouth. We are definitely finding this program to be very beneficial, especially with our elderly population, who find it difficult to maintain adequate, up-to-date fire protection in their dwellings. People are pleasantly surprised that there is no cost for the detectors, and eagerly invite the members of our department into their homes, where a positive interaction takes place. A win-win for everyone!”
2,945
10-year sealed battery smoke alarms installed in Illinois homes

217
Illinois fire departments from 61 different counties participating in the program

1,021
Illinois homes protected with new smoke alarms

2,268
(1,027 high-risk) Illinois residents protected by new smoke alarms as well as educated on smoke alarms, home fire safety, and home fire escape plans

Replace smoke alarms every ten years

Test each smoke alarm in your home every month

80% of pre-existing smoke alarms in homes that received new smoke alarms were non-functional or expired (1,466 of 1,840)

$92,736 worth of life-saving smoke alarms distributed to Illinois fire departments

IFSA “Be Alarmed” Report

WWW.SFM.ILLINOIS.GOV
Life Safety Award Nominations

Nomination Form

Fire Prevention & Life Safety Award
This award is in recognition of the extraordinary efforts performed by individuals in furtherance of fire prevention and life safety.

Nominee Information:

Eligible Recipient categories (please check one):
- [ ] Fire Department/ Fire Protection District/ Township Fire Department
- [ ] OSFM Personnel- Operations
- [ ] OSFM Personnel- Administration

Name of Person(s) ____________________________________________
Position Title: ___________________________ Years of Service: _______
Department/Organization _______________________________________

Please give a brief summary of how this person/department has shown extraordinary efforts in the furtherance of fire prevention and life safety. (Include character, act of kindness, circumstance, bravery, particular incident, etc.)

Nominated by:
Name: ___________________________ Title: ___________________________ Phone #: ___________________________
Department/Organization: ___________________________ E-mail: ___________________________

Please submit this form to:
Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal
Attn: Robin Sudduth 1055 S. Armory
Springfield, Illinois 62703

Please provide the address, phone number and e-mail for the person(s) or department being nominated so that we may notify them if they are selected for the award.

The State Fire Marshal’s Fire Prevention and Life Safety Award nomination deadline is March 1st. This award is in recognition of the extraordinary efforts performed by individuals in the furtherance of fire prevention and life safety. Visit our website sfm.illinois.gov to print off a nomination form today!
DEI Calendar

As we embarked on a new year, our agency celebrated and recognized the following special DEI calendar events:

January 1, 2022 Baha’i: World Peace Day
January 1, 2022 Roman Catholic: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
January 4, 2022 Roman Catholic: Elizabeth Ann B. Seton Feast Day
January 6, 2022 Christian: Epiphany
January 7, 2022 Coptic Orthodox Christian: Christmas
January 9, 2022 Sikh: Guru Gobind Singh’s Birthday
January 14, 2022 Eastern Orthodox Christian: New Year
January 14, 2022 Hindu: Makar Sankranti
January 14, 2022 Hindu: Pongal
January 16, 2022 Baha’i: World Religion Day
January 17, 2022 United States: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 17, 2022 Jewish: Tu Biswat* 
January 19, 2022 Coptic Orthodox Christian: Epiphany
January 27, 2022 United Nations: International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

DEI “Peer to Peer” Working Group

Our agency DEI “Peer to Peer” Working Group met on January 6th. Among the topics and issues discussed during the meeting were:

1. Agency DEI Mission Statement
2. OSFM DEI Orientation Training
3. OSFM DEI Glossary
4. Recent DEI Training Experience presented by Joyce Armstead
5. Group Discussion … Our DEI Legacy
6. Open Forum for group members

Our next scheduled Peer to Peer meeting will be announced in February.

Any OSFM employee desiring to listen in on the conversation or join the group should contact Deputy Director Armstead or HR Director Schrage. This peer to peer exchange is completely voluntary and remains a safe place for OSFM employees to discuss DEI without fear of retribution for their personally held beliefs. We encourage authenticity at all meetings.
What’s Next?

The OSFM will be facilitating DEI orientation training for all staff on February 15th and 17th. We have also established a planning group with some of our strategic partners to jointly host an Illinois Fire Service DEI Symposium in 2022. Our first planning group meeting is scheduled for February 4th.

Our DEI Motto

Diversity = Acceptance of all
Equity = Access for all
Inclusion = Participation by all
Illinois Community Risk Reduction – Where are we Going in 2022?

As an inaugural year with limited opportunities to meet in person, 2021 still provided an opportunity for growth for the IL CRR Stakeholder Taskforce. The taskforce was able to create a foundation on which many future initiatives can be built. The group identified and clarified its membership, named a project manager, created a mission statement, developed a social media presence, hosted a full day CRR Conference, and began work on an in-depth state risk assessment (SRA). Each endeavor took time, dedication, and resolve. It was important to build solid underpinning before other CRR initiatives can take place.

What does this mean looking ahead to 2022? The IL CRR Stakeholder Taskforce looks forward to advancing the initial work to begin further community outreach across the state. While they are still in the early planning stages, discussions are underway to begin work on the following:

- Complete the Illinois State Risk Assessment
- Host a free CRR Awareness Class, followed by a free CRR Community Assessment Class
- Host a 2nd Annual CRR Conference
- Increase awareness and outreach
- Assist communities in developing their own CRR plans
- Add non-fire state agencies to the taskforce

The Illinois Fire Inspectors Association’s annual Fire and Life Safety conference will take place on March 23, 24 and 25, 2022 in Peoria. The Illinois CRR Stakeholder Taskforce will take part in a presentation by the Vision 20/20 State Coalition Engagement Framework’s Team Lead for Technical Advisors. This will be an excellent opportunity to network with others and to gain insight into tips and tricks for creating your own local CRR coalitions and initiatives.

Do you Know?

The definition of Community Risk Reduction (CRR) is a process to identify and prioritize local risks, followed by the integrated and strategic investment of resources (emergency response and prevention) to reduce their occurrence and impact (Vision 20/20). A State Risk Assessment (SRA) provides an overview of the state, reporting on all aspects of the state’s demographics, income, geography, weather, target hazards, statewide fire incidents, fire department response and data collection, fire injury and fire fatality data, among other relevant information.

It is through an examination of this data that focused and targeted efforts can support departments and communities in preventing and mitigating their highest risks.
Here is the first of several ‘Do you Know?’ segments about Illinois.

**Do you know** what percentage of the registered Illinois fire departments are each of the following: Volunteer, Mostly Volunteer, Mostly Career, and Career?

The State of Illinois had 1,100 registered fire departments according to the 2021 National Fire Department Registry Summary produced by the United States Fire Administration. From a national perspective the state ranks sixth in registered fire departments breaking down to 13.2% career, 6.5% mostly career, 14.5% mostly volunteer and 65.9% volunteer. This closely mirrors data on a national level which equate to 9.1% career, 4.8% mostly career, 15.7% mostly volunteer and 70.4% volunteer. The State of Illinois shows slightly higher levels of career departments which can likely be attributed to the state ranking of sixth in national population which directly correlates to greater numbers of career departments protecting higher populous locations across the state as compared to national statistics.

Visit [www.illinoiscrr.com](http://www.illinoiscrr.com) for relevant notices, links to classes, trainings, downloadable articles for use in your community, and other resources.

You can find more information, along with free and downloadable CRR planning guides, at Vision 20/20’s website [www.strategicfire.org](http://www.strategicfire.org).

We invite you to contact the IL CRR Stakeholder Taskforce at [info@illinoisfirechiefs.org](mailto:info@illinoisfirechiefs.org) for resources and CRR updates. We welcome your questions, requests, and suggestions.
AN UPDATE FROM THE ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE

A brief update from the IFSI Team.

SPRING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:
Limited seats are still available in upcoming classes. Many of these courses are available at no cost to Illinois departments or students. Visit the IFSI website for a complete list of available classes open this spring.

ENGINE COMPANY OPERATIONS
FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 2
TRUCK COMPANY OPERATIONS
MARCH 2 - 4

TWO NO COST®
TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN CHAMPAIGN
REGISTER ONLINE: FSI.ILLINOIS.EDU

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
AND DECISION MAKING
MARCH 28 - APRIL 1, 2022
CHAMPAIGN
REGISTER ONLINE:
FSI.ILLINOIS.EDU

AF
ADVANCED TECHNICIAN
FIREGROUND
NFPA Knowledge
MARCH 7
CHAMPAIGN
COST: $1,000
REGISTER ONLINE:
FSI.ILLINOIS.EDU

WINTER FIRE SCHOOL:
The 27th Annual Winter Fire School was a success! On January 22-23, IFSI welcomed 156 students, representing 65 departments and 34 Illinois counties to the training grounds. Out of the 156 students, 70% were first-time event attendees. Congratulations to the students, instructors, staff, departments, partners, and affiliates that all contributed to another successful training event.

NEXT UP:
SAVE THE DATE for the 98th Annual Fire College – June 2-5 in Champaign. Class offerings and complete event details will be posted in April.

2021 TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS:
Did you participate in training in 2021? IFSI just released the 2021 Training Highlights video. This annual compilation showcases training activities from all IFSI programs, including classes delivered across the state and country. Check out the video on the IFSI Facebook page or YouTube Channel to see great moments from the year.

fsi.illinois.edu
Illinois Fire Service Institute
YFSI Romeoville Class

Youth Firesetter Intervention Class

The Romeoville Fire Department is pleased to announce they will be hosting a Youth Firesetter Intervention Program class for the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Here is the training information:

Date & Time: Monday, March 28, 2022 & Tuesday, March 29, 2022
Monday: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Tuesday: 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Place: Romeoville Fire Department – Station 3
698 Birch Lane
Romeoville, IL 60446

If you would like to register for this training, please click here
https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/Events/Pages/Youth-Fire-Setter-.aspx

This class is limited to 25 - 30 students due to the current COVID-19 distancing safety measures.

There is a fee of $100 per student for this class. Please make the check payable to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and mail it to the Office, prior to the training date.

Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal
Arson Division – YFSIP
1035 Stevenson Drive
Springfield, IL 62703

For further information, please feel free to call me at (217) 415-7206, or email me Simony.Weyforth@illinois.gov.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Romeoville!

Simony Weyforth
Youth Fire Setter Program Coordinator
OSFM at Calumet City Safety Training Center

CALUMET CITY PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER
24 STATE ST. CALUMET CITY IL 60409

ATTENTION FIRE CHIEFS & TRAINING OFFICERS

Office of the
Illinois State Fire Marshal

UPDATE
FEBRUARY 14TH 2022
0900 - 1200

THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WILL BE PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED

- Illinois administrative rulemaking process as it applies to JCAR and the fire service

- NFPA ProQual standard review

- Recertification requirements and procedures (Recertification Task Books & Section 141.390)

- The State Target/Vector Solutions enterprise platform (free vs. premium subscribers)

- Q&A SESSION

PLEASE RSVP TO
svega@calumetcity.org
Winter Fire Safety

Put a FREEZE on Winter Fires

Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter, be fire smart!

- **Half of all home heating fires** occur in December, January and February.
- **1 in every 7** home fires and **1 in every 5** home fire deaths involves heating equipment.
- Keep anything that can burn **at least 3 feet** from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters.
- Keep portable generators **outside, away from windows**, and as far **away** from your home as possible.
- Install and test carbon monoxide alarms **at least once a month**.
- Plug only **1 heat-producing appliance** (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a **time**.
- Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year**.
- Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it **outside at least 10 feet** from your home and any nearby buildings.

For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov/winter](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/winter) and [www.nfpa.org/winter](http://www.nfpa.org/winter).
Winter Storm Fire Safety

Fire Safety during Winter Storms

Winter storms can happen almost anywhere. They can cause us problems. Know what to do before, during and after a storm. This will help keep you and your family safe from a winter fire.

• Test all smoke alarms. Do this at least once a month. This way you will know they are working. Install carbon monoxide alarms in your home. Test the alarms.
• Plan two ways out of the home in case of an emergency. Clear driveway and front walk of ice and snow. This will provide easy access to your home.
• Make sure your house number can be seen from the street. If you need help, firefighters will be able to find you.
• Be ready in case the power goes out. Have flashlights on hand. Also have battery-powered lighting and fresh batteries. Never use candles.
• Stay aware of winter weather. Listen to the television or radio for updates. Watch for bulletins online.
• Check on neighbors. Check on others who may need help.
• Generators should be used outdoors. Keep them away from windows and doors. Do not run a generator inside your garage, even if the door is open.
• Stay away from downed wires. Report any downed wires to authorities.
• Be ready if the heat stops working. Use extra layers of clothes and blankets to stay warm. If you use an emergency heat source, keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away.
• Turn portable heaters off when you leave the room. Turn them off when you go to bed.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

There are more home fires in winter than in any other season. Half of all home heating fires happen in December, January and February.

As you stay cozy and warm this winter season, be fire smart!

Fact

Nearly half of all space heater fires involve electric space heaters.
Batavia Fire Chief Randy Deicke

Fire Marshal Perez honored retiring Batavia Fire Chief Randy Deicke for his 44 dedicated years to the fire service. Thank you, Chief for your service and leadership! Enjoy your well-deserved retirement.

City of Batavia
Invites you to attend the Retirement Celebration Honoring Chief Randy Deicke For 44 dedicated years to the fire service, 16 of those years with the City of Batavia Fire Department

Friday, January 28, 2022
OPEN HOUSE
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m
Serving Cake
PRESENTATIONS & FINAL Walk Out
4:00 p.m.
City of Batavia Fire Department
Station 1 East Side
800 E. Wilson Street
Batavia, IL

*Masks Required
Join the City of Batavia in wishing Chief Randy Deicke a wonderful retirement!
Shout Outs/Kudos

State Fire Marshal Matt Perez honored Daniel Starks from Division of Petroleum and Chemical Safety for his 20 years of service to the OSFM. Pictured Left to Right: Dale Simpson Chief of Operations, Daniel Starks, State Fire Marshal Matt Perez and Senior Policy Advisor Fred Schneller.

Kudos for Deanne Lock Division of Petroleum and Chemical Safety

On Monday morning, I received a call from Deanne Lock. She was kind, understanding and professional as I discussed the dilemma, I was given to resolve with a February 4, 2022 deadline. We had a sound discussion on the issues, and she provided excellent direction. In addition, she would follow with a letter and links to the correct areas so I would be successful. I received that letter late in the morning! I was now even more impressed. It was thorough and I remembered what she said we are here to be of service. Yes, indeed, she was.

It took two days to get all the documents together and on Wednesday, my office submitted the form and documents for review. I called her during lunch hours, as a courtesy, to thank her and that we filed. Again, I was blessed as she picked up and I made her aware of the filing. What happened next further cemented my high regard for her. She opened the file reviewed it, saw all items were in place and indicated it was approved. This fantastic event does not end here. I asked how I could alert the City of Chicago environmental person that this plan was approved. She then immediately sent an e-mail to that agent indicating approval was granted. I am sure if I look in the dictionary, I would find Deanne Lock’s name listed as a synonym for helping others.

When one meets someone, who give 110% so others can be successful, they need to be recognized. I hope you will shake her hand for me.

Lou Filosa
President
Effluent Technology
Kid’s Corner

Sparky® Says: Stay Safe and Warm This Winter

Dear Family,

It’s winter! The days are shorter, the outside temperature is lower, and in some places it’s cold, icy, and snowy. No matter where you live, winter brings a change in season and a time to think about home-heating safety.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has developed the following safety tips and fun family activity to help you stay safe this winter.

Best wishes for a warm and safe winter season!

Sparky’s Home-Heating Safety Tips

Hang this checklist on your refrigerator to remember to stay safe and warm this (and every!) winter.

Safety tips:

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from heating equipment (furnace, woodstove, or portable heater).
- Do not use your oven to heat your home.
- Portable space heaters should be turned off every time you leave the room and before going to bed.
- Make sure your fireplace has a sturdy screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room.
- Allow fireplace and woodstove ashes to cool before disposing in a metal container.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys inspected and cleaned every year.
- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Test smoke alarms monthly.
- Install and maintain carbon monoxide alarms to avoid the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.
Kid’s Corner

A Warm Family Meal

Create a fun story the whole family will love! Work together to fill in the blanks (don’t peek)! Then read the story aloud. Repeat again and again to make a new story each time! Have fun and be as silly as you want!!

1. Your Family’s Name: __________________________
2. Adjective: __________________________
3. A Food: __________________________
4. A Food: __________________________
5. Kind of Animal: __________________________
6. Pet Name: __________________________
7. Plural Food: __________________________
8. Silly Word: __________________________
9. Boy’s Name: __________________________
10. Silly Adult Name: __________________________
11. Adjective: __________________________
12. Noun: __________________________
13. Girl’s Name: __________________________
14. Plural Noun: __________________________
15. Adjective: __________________________
16. Silly Adult Name: __________________________
17. Same Girl’s Name: __________________________
18. Exclamation: __________________________
19. Same Boy’s Name: __________________________
20. Adjective: __________________________
21. An Emotion: __________________________
22. Animal Sound: __________________________
23. Pet Name: __________________________
24. Verb + ing: __________________________
25. Your Family’s Name: __________________________
26. Adjective: __________________________

The __________________________ family enjoyed a __________________________ dinner of cheesy __________________________ and buttery __________________________.

(1. Your Family’s Name) Their pet __________________________ begged for __________________________ at their feet.

“________________________, it’s cold in here!” said __________________________. “Let’s set up the space heater.”
(8. Silly Word) (9. Boy’s Name)

“After dinner,” said __________________________. “First you have to move your __________________________. We need to leave three feet of space around the heater.”
(10. Silly Adult Name) (11. Adjective)

“Can we light a fire in the fireplace instead?” asked __________________________. “Then he won’t have to move his stinky __________________________.”

“Very __________________________,” said __________________________. “Well, we did have the chimney cleaned and inspected this year. I also put a new screen in front of the fireplace.”
(15. Adjective) (16. Silly Adult Name)

“Plus, we tested our smoke alarms just last week,” said __________________________. “The __________________________ always makes me __________.”
(17. Same Girl’s Name) (18. Same Boy’s Name) (19. Same Boy’s Name) (20. Adjective)

“________________________!” shouted __________________________. “The __________________________ glow of the fireplace

always makes me __________________________ around the room.
The __________________________ laughed and enjoyed the __________________________.
(25. Your Family’s Name) (26. Adjective)

The name and image of society are registered trademarks of NFPA.

WWW.SFM.ILLINOIS.GOV/