



NEWSLETTER

PARTNERING FOR A SAFER OREGON

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ORCEMS

mentoring available

So you want to do complete the ORCEMS certification but you're like me and not need some mentoring? Well **WE** are in luck! ORCEMS has a mentoring program. Email Bob Grist at bob.grist@multco.us

and request your mentor. He'll coordinate with you to get a mentor and you too can become one of the prestigious few who can add ORCEMS to your credentials.

FURNITURE FIRE AWARENESS

By Rob Neale, Deputy Superintendent Curriculum Instruction Branch, National Fire Academy

Any change, even a change for the better, is always accompanied by drawbacks and discomforts.
--Arnold Bennett, English novelist

There's been a major change in your home you probably didn't even notice. Over the last generation, the make-up of home furnishings has changed dramatically bringing an entirely new and dangerous threat from fire.

Unlike the wood and natural fabric furniture that was in your grandmother's house, today's furnishings are made predominantly from synthetic materials whose base is highly flammable petrochemicals: polyurethane foam padding, engineered wood with flammable glues, and both rigid and flexible plastic finishes. Even the fabric on your favorite overstuffed chair may be highly flammable if not treated with fire retardant processes.

If these materials catch fire (perhaps from a carelessly dropped cigarette, a flying spark or an unattended hot appliance) the chances of the fire spreading quickly are significant. Even worse, the dense black smoke from these materials is full of highly toxic gases that can kill you with just a few breaths in only a few seconds. The list of these gases (carbon monoxide, hydrogen sulfide, hydrogen cyanide, and sulfuric acid, just to name a few) reads like a witches' brew of toxics.

Underwriter's Laboratories, a national testing lab, conducted a side-by-side fire test of two prototypical living rooms: one with modern furniture, the other with "legacy" furnishings. The test can be seen at https://www.ul.com/room_fire/room_fire.html. Both rooms were ignited by placing a lit stick candle on the side of the sofa. The fires were allowed to grow until flashover, where the ceiling temperature reaches about 1100° F. The modern room reached flashover in 3 minutes and 30 seconds and the legacy room at 29 minutes and 30 seconds.

What does that mean for you and your family's safety? Given today's furnishings, you should evacuate immediately if your smoke alarm sounds or if you discover a fire. Don't think that your smoke alarm will give you time to get up in the middle of the night, get dressed, investigate the noise, and try to take some heroic action like trying to put the fire out.

Here are a few simple reminders:

Check your smoke alarm(s) regularly. Replace batteries at least once a year.

Smoke alarms more than ten years old should be replaced.

Have and practice a family escape plan. You can get details at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/index.shtm> or by contacting your local fire department.

In the event of a fire, get out and stay out.

Let the trained fire fighters in their protective clothing and breathing apparatus take care of the fire.

COMPUTER EASE

By Dawn Blalack

Did you know that in the newer versions of Microsoft Word you can still use the old keystrokes?

I was looking at tips and realized I wasn't sure they worked with the newest versions of Microsoft so I started typing the sequencing and up popped a box saying if I continued the sequence it would take me to the place I wanted to go.

So to all of you out there, who have used those sequences and are venturing into the newer versions, congratulations they still will work!

Just a reminder IPAWS National test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS)

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will conduct the first nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) on

Wednesday, November 9 at 2:00 p.m. (Eastern) (**11:00 am Pacific**)
and may last up to three and a half minutes.

On November 9, the public will hear a message indicating that
"This is a test."

The audio message will be the same for both radio and television.
Please inform your dispatch stations, friends, family and others who
may be surprised when radio and television go off at the same time.

For more information go to: FEMA.gov/emergency/ipaws

2011 OEMA Conference

October 10-13
Sunriver Resort
Sunriver



2012 OEMA Conference

September 17-20
Salishan Resort
Glenden Beach

OEMA Members who
have their CEM

Kelly Jo Craigmiles

Bob Grist

Thomas E. Manning

Michael J. Mumaw

Jeff Rubin

James D. Spitzer

Wayne A. Stinson

Vicky K. Vose

TRAINING LINKS

The Professional Development Committee has been working toward a one-stop-shop for training to be used by our members. Lorraine Churchill Vice-Chair has been spearheading up the project. It's taking shape and we hope to be able to unveil it in the next year. In the mean time I've put together my top three places I look for Emergency Management related trainings in the area.

Oregon Emergency Management (OEM)

http://www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM/plans_train/train_exercise.shtml

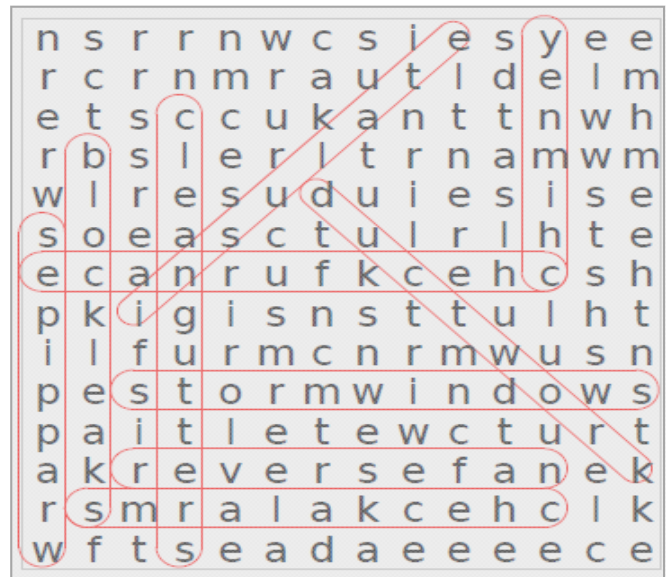
Washington Emergency Management

<http://www.emd.wa.gov/training/training.shtml>

FEMA Region X

<http://fema.mhsoftware.com/View.html>

If you have a place that you think people should be looking, send me a note at dawn.blalack@gmail.com and I'll add it.



Want to read a prior newsletter?

Jeff Sargent's got us covered. All past newsletters are posted on the website under "About Us/Archives".

http://www.oregonemergency.com/about-meeting_minutes.php

The Archives not only have prior newsletters, but meeting notes etc. If you've missed something now you know where to look.

From the OEMA President

It's time for a leadership change; this change is written in our By-Laws and should come to all members as a smooth transition. As a volunteer organization and the only statewide organization that brings together both public and private-sector partners that work on emergency management issues in our communities I have been honored to serve as the President since July 2010.

Special thanks go to Mary Davis, for her hard work in keeping everything running, Mary has been critical to my success as President. She is always on top of things, from committees, to new members, and lastly keeps me focused between meetings. During this time period membership has grown to new highs that we have not seen in many, many years and I would also like to extend my thanks to Doug McGillivray. Doug provided the spark to the current growth, thank you both!

In past newsletter's I wrote about; professional development, the March 10, 2011 Japanese earthquake (tsunami and radiation event), gave an update on legislative issues, and the realities of the stress and strain on reductions in funding, regardless of source. I hope you have found these bits of information useful. In closing, I hope each of you support our incoming President as you did me and ask that you stay connected over the next year with OEMA, we need each other! Mike



TRAINING VIDEOS

The following is a copy of information from <http://orise.orau.gov/csepp/resources/videos/index.html>

Training videos have been developed for the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) to provide government agencies, emergency planners and responders, and private citizens with instructions on what to do in the event of certain emergencies.

The following videos provide specific information related to emergency situations that may require evacuation, shelter-in-place or other emergency response. Some of these files require that the latest version of Apple QuickTime™ is installed on your computer.

Programmatic training videos

Emergency Planner's Companion
Operations Level Training - A refresher for responders
Re-ACT FAST II video

Medical training materials

Don't be a Victim! Medical Management of Patients Contaminated with Chemical Agents video
Exposure and Contamination - Factors Affecting the Toxicology of Chemical, Biological and Radiological Agents video

Protective action training videos

Animals in Emergencies for Owners (also in Spanish) and Planners video
Business Shelter-In-Place video
Communicating Public Information in Emergencies video
Residential Shelter-In-Place video
Evacuation Planning video
Emergency Planning for People with Access and Functional Needs video
Shelter-in-place (QuickTime™)

State-developed training

The following videos were developed by the Talladega County (Ala.) Emergency Management Agency (EMA). To play these videos, you will need the latest version of Apple QuickTime™ installed on your computer.

Talledega County EMA youth "all hazards" news reports
Kids newscast
Teens newscast
Emergency preparedness for people with special needs
Version 1 - English (with sign language)
Version 2 - En Español
Version 3 - English (with subtitles)

ORCEMS Updates

Bob Grist, Ph.D., CEM, ORCEMS

This last year saw two OEMA members complete requirements for their "Oregon Certified Emergency Management Specialist" (ORCEMS) designation. Al Rhodes, recently from Providence Health Systems, provided additional supporting documentation required for one of his contributions to the profession and is now recognized as a member of the class of 2011 of ORCEMS recipients. The second is Derek White who, as the Emergency Manager of Columbia County, completed his packet and had it approved prior to his leaving government service to take a position in the private sector. Derek has assured us he will remain active with the Oregon side of the Columbia River even though he finds himself assigned north of it.

I have spent this year reworking the ORCEMS Manual, also known as Attachment (A) of the Association's By-Laws, seeking others to read through and comment, making adjustments, and will be seeking to have it approved at the upcoming general membership meeting. (See below for an *executive summary* of the pending changes). Changes in the ORCEMS Manual have necessitated changes in the Application Packets as well. I have revised the Initial Certification Packet as a prototype of the changes to take place in the Recertification Packets and other applications once the Manual is approved. Copies of both documents will be available for review at the conference. Many of the changes are simply cosmetic and written to clarify the language while preserving the intent and integrity of the program as it was initially conceived. Modeled after IAEM's prestigious CEM program, the ORCEMS designation seeks to acknowledge Emergency Managers in Oregon who meet the high standards expected of them.

The question still remains for many in the State: "Why haven't **YOU** put together your packet and become certified?" I've heard the excuses but not many good reasons . . .

Looking forward, the Professional Development Committee will launch a campaign this year to increase the number of ORCEMS designation awardees by 25%. This is a renewal year for many of the first awardees (the 15-year mark for the program!) and it would be a great honor to increase the number of members who have achieved this distinction. The gauntlet has been cast!

Questions, at any time, can be address to me: Dr. Bob Grist at bobgrist@hotmail.com or (503) 869-8198

Executive Summary of proposed changes:

The certification year would be moved from the physical year to the State fiscal year, enabling new awardees and recertified individuals to be recognized at the Fall Conference rather than waiting nearly a full year for this honor.

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The opportunity for certification is extended to private sector, volunteer, and military personnel functioning in an emergency management role in or near Oregon who have made contributions to programs which benefit Oregon.

The management of the ORCEMS program has been moved from a separate committee to a sub-committee of the Professional Development Committee. Members of the sub-committee must still be ORCEMS awardees except for the "ex officio" members (the OEMA President-elect and the OEM representative) who will be encouraged to become certified, if eligible.

Training hour limitations are specified as "no more than 12 hours in any subject area" rather than "25% of the total required." Trainings must be in different courses, not simply different topics presented in a single course.

A new category has been added to the review form to allow minor corrections to packets without rejecting the packet entirely. This gives the applicant 90 days to make the necessary changes without penalty or additional cost. If not completed in this 90 day period, the packet will either stand or fall on the original material submitted, subject to appeal.

A special note with respect to contributions to the profession: As we model the IAEM program and changes, additions, and modifications are made in their program, similar changes will also be considered for the ORCEMS program under the "Other" category. This does not require Board or Committee action to implement except on appeal and may be made by the Sub-Committee with the intent to preserve the spirit of the designation and with the strongest consideration made on behalf of the applicant making the contributions.

On the "Summary of Training Hours Form," applicants must indicate a name for their subject areas, such as "ICS Courses" or "Independent Study Courses." Except in rare cases when courses are not available, training should include some classroom, workshop, or conference training experiences requiring discussion and networking with other students rather than simply completing independent study courses.

Coursework used to satisfy an educational requirement cannot be used to also satisfy a training requirement. An example of this would be claiming a "BA in Business management" and then citing individual courses for general management training.

House Winterization Dawn Blalack

n	s	r	r	n	w	c	s	i	e	s	y	e	e
r	c	r	n	m	r	a	u	t	l	d	e	l	m
e	t	s	c	c	u	k	a	n	t	t	n	w	h
r	b	s	l	e	r	l	t	r	n	a	m	w	m
w	l	r	e	s	u	d	u	i	e	s	i	s	e
s	o	e	a	s	c	t	u	l	r	l	h	t	e
e	c	a	n	r	u	f	k	c	e	h	c	s	h
p	k	i	g	i	s	n	s	t	t	u	l	h	t
i	l	f	u	r	m	c	n	r	m	w	u	s	n
p	e	s	t	o	r	m	w	i	n	d	o	w	s
p	a	i	t	l	e	t	e	w	c	t	u	r	t
a	k	r	e	v	e	r	s	e	f	a	n	e	k
r	s	m	r	a	l	a	k	c	e	h	c	l	k
w	f	t	s	e	a	d	a	e	e	e	e	c	e

- Clean Gutters
- Block Leaks
- Insulate
- Check Furnace
- Ductwork
- Storm windows
- Chimney
- Reverse fan
- Wrap pipes
- Check alarms

October Historical Disasters

- 1825 - Miramichi Fire, disaster in New Brunswick
- 1877 - Blantyre mining disaster, Scotland. Kills 207 miners. Widows and orphans unable to support themselves were evicted by mine owners and sent to the Poor House.
- 1913 - Senghenydd Colliery Disaster, United Kingdom's worst coal mining accident, claimed 439 lives.
- 1940 - Balham tube disaster during the Blitz.
- 1960 - Disaster on USSR (Baikonor) launch pad, kills missile expert Nedelin & team (165 die-unconfirmed)
- 1982 - UEFA Cup match between FC Spartak Moscow and HFC Haarlem, 66 people are crushed-Luzhniki disaster.
- 2002 - Ho Chi Minh City ITC Inferno. Fire destroys luxurious dept store with 1500 people shopping. 60 died, over 100 missing. Deadliest peacetime disaster in Vietnam.

OEMA

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