Marshal Matters

March 2023 Edition

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Marshal's Minute-State Fire Marshal James A. Rivera

The first month of being appointed State Fire Marshal is almost in the books and I have really enjoyed meeting and getting know everyone at the OSFM and across the state. My goal is to continue to grow and promote the mission of the agency and I am blessed to have such a wonderful staff at the OSFM which has really helped to create a smooth transition.

The OSFM announced our Small Equipment Grant recipients this past month. I am proud to say we have been able to provide $1.5 million dollars to 64 fire departments/districts and EMS providers across the state. Through this program, these recipients will be able to purchase the equipment they needed that they may not have otherwise been able to afford. Most Illinois fire departments, fire protections districts, township fire departments, and stand-alone, nonprofit ambulance service providers were eligible to apply. All fire departments, fire protections districts and township fire department applicants were required to have participated in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for a minimum of two years prior to applying.

I want to give a big shoutout to everyone at the OSFM who have worked tirelessly on our FY 24 budget. We are excited to increase funding for our small equipment grant, cornerstone training, explorer-cadet school, firefighter peer support, MABAS and Medal of Honor and Scholarship funding. A new one-time $5 million dollar fire station rehabilitation and construction grant has been added for this upcoming fiscal year. More details about this will come out soon once we have established rules and procedures for how departments can apply.

National Volunteer Week is celebrated the third week in April every year. Did you know, around 70 percent of the Illinois Fire Service consists of volunteers? Take a few moments and thank those individuals who help keep your community safe and those who wake up in the middle of their night or leave their full-time jobs to respond to emergencies. I personally thank you for all you do for the residents of the state. Do you have what it takes? Talk to the department in your community and see how you can be of assistance.

April is recognized as National Stress Awareness Month to bring attention to the negative impact of stress. Managing stress is an essential component of a healthy lifestyle. Knowing how to manage stress can improve mental and physical well-being as well as minimize exacerbation of health-related issues. This year's theme focuses on anxiety. Studies show, long-term stress can prove to be more than just a mental issue. From headaches to stomach disorders to depression – even very serious issues like stroke and heart disease can come as a result of stress. The OSFM has resources available on our website to help with more than just stress. Visit: https://sfm.illinois.gov/resources/first-responder-resiliency-mental-health-resources.html

Vespa Memorial Page

Anthony (Tony) Vespa retired Captain from the Decatur Fire Department passed away on March 10.

Tony went to Riverton schools, graduated from high school in 1984, and attended Lincoln Land Community College to pursue a degree in Fire Science. He was hired by the Decatur Fire Department in March 1990 where he served the community for 27 years. He coordinated the fire science program at Richland from 1991-2018 where he taught hundreds of future firefighters. He was a dedicated husband and father and enjoyed being a Papa to his grandson.

Rest Easy Captain, we will take it from here!

Employee Spotlight

Emilee Nowack
DoIT Information Systems Analyst

Where are you originally from?
Grew up in Gillespie Illinois on a Dairy & Grain Farm

Tell us about your family?
I have two children, Izabel (15), and Jaxson (9) who are both amazing kids. Izzy is a volleyball player, artist, and aspiring chef. My son Jaxson is a gamer who loves math, science, and golf. My amazing husband Steve is a maintenance electrician for IDOT, the best dad to our kids and enjoys home improvement projects, he is always thinking about what we are going to update next on the house (I can't lie, I provoke those thoughts, but I do share the work with him).

Favorite food(s)?
My favorite foods are anything smoked or grilled - meat and veggies anytime anywhere!

Hobbies?
I don't have many hobbies. I prefer to spend time with my family and try to do fun things with them when time allows.

What's your favorite movie or book?
I'm more of a series person so a couple of favorites are Breaking Bad, and Yellowstone.

When you get in the car what type of music will be coming out of your speakers?
I listen to Octane, Turbo, and Hair Nation on XM/Sirius which is early 2000's, 90's & 80's Rock genre. When my teenager is in the car, we compromise on Black Eyed Peas Radio on Pandora.

What did you want to be when you were a kid?
When I was a kid, I wanted to be the boss with a high-rise corner office in a big city. I'm not sure where I got that idea because we were farmers from Central Illinois. But I remember on multiple occasions visiting downtown Chicago going to the theaters, museums, and Navy Pier with my aunt from Joliet. I loved it so much that I ended up going to college downtown at Columbia

Employee Spotlight

College Chicago. I lived in the South Loop for a long time and loved that life as a young adult. I didn't quite get that corner office, but I did end up doing something I truly enjoy and that is more than I could ever ask for!

What's your favorite part of the job?
I simply love what I do and working with the OSFM team just makes me happy to be at work! When you are having fun, it doesn't feel like work. Since the day I started, I've felt valued and respected by both OSFM and DoIT. Between web development, data collection, process improvement, and even some graphic design work, I've been in my element. I can't think of anything more rewarding than enhancing my colleagues' work lives by introducing a new tool or process that makes them more efficient and promotes better team collaboration. The absolute delight on their faces when they realize the value it provides, is the most rewarding. Sure, challenges pop up especially in the IT world, but I try to keep it positive by turning them into a learning experience to better serve the agency in the future.

What's something unique about you?
As an IT person, you probably wouldn't guess that I can hang and mud drywall like a pro. I did that and other construction projects while working with my husband for a remodeling business we owned until he accepted his current State job. (No, I do not want any side jobs! Ha!)

Where is your favorite place to vacation?
Before my babies were born, my husband and I loved traveling to Sturgis, South Dakota for the annual motorcycle rally. I always loved seeing the Western U.S. from the view of a Harley, it's so beautiful. This year we are traveling as a family to Ft. Meyers, Florida and going saltwater fishing to celebrate my husband's 50th and my daughter's 16th birthday. I'm just going to say that time is a thief!

Where is your bucket list destination?
I've always wanted to visit Ireland.

Les Albert Retirement

Chief Les Albert is a name that is known not only here in Illinois and across the US, but also around the world amongst the fire service community. After nearly 47 years in the fire service and 11 years at the OSFM, Chief Albert is retiring. Chief Albert also served as Acting State Fire Marshal for a short time in 2015.

Chief Albert has worked hard at helping provide information to departments across the state when it came to our grants and loan program.

We are going to miss you! Thanks for all you have done and all the lives you have touched! Enjoy retirement Chief!

Small Equipment Grant Recipients

The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM) announced the recipients of the 2023 Small Equipment Grant Program. A total of $1.5 million was awarded to 64 fire departments/districts and EMS providers across the state. The program was established to provide grants of up to $26,000 each for the purchase of small firefighting and ambulance equipment.

This program is an innovative approach to a problem that has long caused difficulties for fire departments and not-for profit ambulance services in Illinois, particularly those that have hardships in generating the necessary revenue for small equipment. The purpose is to allow eligible applicants the opportunity to purchase small equipment that they may otherwise not be able to purchase. The OSFM received 296 applications, requesting around $4.5 million in funding for this grant period.

Most Illinois fire departments, fire protections districts, township fire departments, and stand-alone, nonprofit ambulance service providers were eligible to apply. All fire departments, fire protections districts and township fire department applicants were required to have participated in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for a minimum of two years prior to applying.

"As we all know, volunteer fire departments all around the state are struggling to maintain a safe work environment due to the lack of funding. The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal's Small Equipment Grant Program has provided us the opportunity to purchase a thermal imagining camera we desperately need that will help keep our firefighters safe," ***said Colona Fire Chief John Swan.***

"The Harristown Fire Protection District is thankful to receive the OSFM Small Equipment Grant. With this grant, the Harristown Fire Protection District will be purchasing 8 sets of turnout gear (Coats & Pants) which will be free of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

In addition, the district will be purchasing 8 particulate blocking hoods which cover the head, ears & throat to protect our firefighters from harmful fireground carcinogens. Three firefighter helmets will also be purchased to replace helmets that have passed the 10-year life. With the rising costs of PPE, this grant will reduce the strain on the district's budget allowing replacement of other items needed to continue daily operations," ***said Harristown Fire Protection District Chief Steven Gambrill.***

"The Salem Fire Protection District covers approximately 124 square miles. That includes U.S. Highway 50, two state routes, and thirteen- and one-half miles of Interstate 57 that have significant personal and commercial traffic. This results in our department responding to numerous motor vehicle accidents with occupant entrapment. Receiving this small equipment grant will provide us with the funding needed to purchase rescue tools that will enable us to perform life-saving motor vehicle extrications," ***said Salem Fire Protection District Chief James Cerny.***

Small Equipment Grant Recipients

Boone:
North Boone Fire Protection District 3- $23,225

Brown:
Brown County Fire Protection District- $25,740

Cass:
Chandlerville Volunteer Fire Department- $25,984

Champaign:
Sidney Fire Protection District- $11,725
Gifford Fire Protection District- $12,750

Champaign/Douglas:
Broadlands-Longview Fire Protection District- $25,950.97

Christian:
Morrisonville-Palmer Fire Protection District- $14,901.95

Clark:
Martinsville Fire Protection District- $25,000

Cook:
Village of Flossmoor Fire Department- $25,785

Edwards:
West Salem Fire Department- $7,183.80

Fayette:
Brownstown Fire Protection District- $23,850

Fulton:
Astoria Fire Protection District- $17,487

Hancock:
LaHarpe Fire Protection District- $23,703.40
Warsaw Rural Fire Protection District- $23,672
West Point Fire Protection District- $25,000

Hardin:
Rosiclare Fire Department- $26,000

Henry:
Clover Township- $19,542
Colona Fire Protection District- $8,568

Iroquois:
Martinton Fire- $19,505

Jackson:
Elkville Volunteer Fire Department- $25,400
Gorham- $25,944.25

Johnson:
Goreville Fire Department- $26,000

Kane:
East Dundee & Countryside Fire Protection District- $17,488.97

Knox:
Rio Township Fire Protection District- $26,000

LaSalle:
Cedar Point Fire Department- $10,580
Tonica Volunteer Fire Department- $18,500

Lee:
Amboy Fire Protection District- $26,000
Compton Community Fire Protection District- $26,000

Small Equipment Grant Recipients

Macon:
Harristown Fire Protection District- $25,841

Madison:
Grantfork Fire Protection District- $25,900
Madison Fire Department- $16,295.65
Rosewood Heights Fire Protection District- $5,355
Worden Fire Protection District- $26,000

Marion:
Sandoval Fire Protection District- $25,273.25
Salem Fire Protection District- $25,008

Marion/Clinton:
City of Centralia- $23,664

Mercer:
Rivoli Fire Protection District- $25,993

Montgomery:
Fillmore Community Fire Protection District- $16,978
Taylor Springs Fire Department- $9,020
Witt Volunteer Fire Department- $25,014

Morgan:
Waverly Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad- $25,966.95
Woodson Community Fire Protection District- $25,895

Moultrie:
Lovington Community Ambulance- $26,000

Ogle:
Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District- $23,016.80

Piatt:
Bement Fire Protection District- $26,000
Cisco Fire Protection District- $25,620

Pike:
Pleasant Hill Fire Protection District- $18,859

Pike/Adams:
Barry Fire Protection District- $26,000

Pulaski:
Olmsted Fire Department- $26,000

Randolph:
Ellis Grove Volunteer Fire Department- $25,800
Village of Evansville Fire Department- $25,837.62

Richland:
City of Olney Fire Department- $25,526.32

Sangamon:
Divernon Fire Protection District- $26,000
Pleasant Plains Fire Protection District- $26,000

Schuyler:
City of Rushville- $26,000

Shelby/Christian:
Moweaqua Fire Protection District- $22,091.50

St. Clair:
Sauget Fire Department- $25,992.55

Stephenson:
Rock City Fire Protection District- $9,033

Tazewell:
South Pekin Fire Department- $13,517.95

Small Equipment Grant Recipients

Union:
Ware-Wolf Lake Fire Protection District- $22,775

Washington:
Okawville Community Fire Protection District- $26,000

Whiteside:
Prophetstown Fire Protection District- $26,000

Williamson/Saline:
Stonefort Fire Department- $25,615

Winnebago:
South Beloit Fire Department- $24,003.50

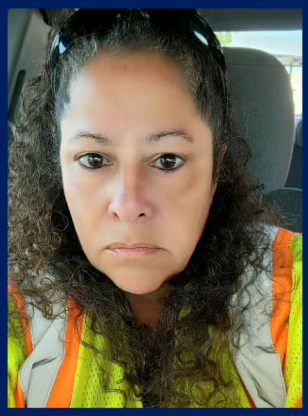
Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month and here at the OSFM we celebrate all of our amazing women who work to help serve and further the agency's mission. You are an inspiration for our future generations! Thanks for all you do! We have spotlighted just a few of our field staff members.

The NFPA estimates there were 1,041,200 career and volunteer firefighters in the United States in 2020. Of the total number of firefighters 364,300 (35%) were career firefighters and 676,900 (65%) were volunteer firefighters. In 2020, 89,600 firefighters were female (9%), with less than 5% of those females are career firefighters.

The Fire Service Women of Illinois are dedicated to the advancement of education, professionalism and providing networking opportunities for women in the Fire and Emergency Medical Services. The purpose of our foundation is to actively participate in shaping the future of the fire service through training. To learn more about this organization and programs they offer visit their website at: https://www.fswi.org/.

Women's History Month



Milly Morales
Petroleum and Chemical Safety Division

1) **Why did you choose or what inspired you to choose a career in Petroleum and Chemical Safety?**
   "After being in the Petroleum Industry for 22 years and in speaking with inspectors throughout my tenure, I realized that the inspectors appeared to genuinely enjoy their job."

2) **What would you tell other women who are interested in this career?**
   "I would definitely tell them to make the move, it's worth it and it's a great team of personnel to work with."

3) **What does working for the OSFM mean to you?**
   "Other than the fact that assisting gas station owners stay compliant with current regulations helps environmental impact, I also enjoy meeting new people and helping them out with staying compliant. There is satisfaction in knowing that the small part that I play in this field, does help with decreasing environmental impact for the future."

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Women's History Month

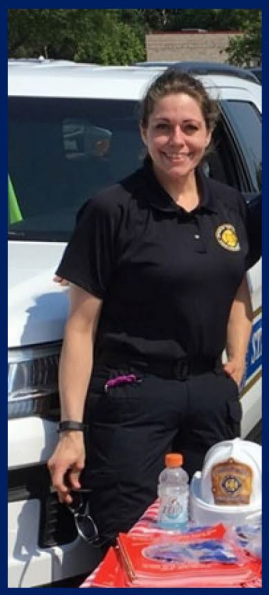
Jeanne Maki
Fire Prevention Division

1) **Why did you choose or what inspired you to choose a career in Fire Prevention?**
"Honestly, I didn't choose Fire Prevention, Fire Prevention chose me. I have been fortunate in my life to have worked in many various careers. I worked in an office, wrote a newspaper column, physically built, and owned a daycare and held multiple offices in the local Chamber of Commerce. I was able to do each of these things with the help and support of my family while helping others. Because the town I live in was small, I interacted with many members of the community and the local fire department who encouraged me to join and become a volunteer and, in this way, I was able to continue helping others in ways I could have never imagined.
Since I enjoy being busy and helping people, I became a firefighter/paramedic and was able to use many of the skills I had learned through my life. The fire service gives me a multitude of opportunities that meet my interests including Public Education and Fire Prevention and allow me to use those skills and continue to stay busy.
While at local fairs or events and even fires and emergencies I always had the chance to learn and to educate. While visiting local businesses and schools each year for inspections, I was able to continue to fill a need and share with others the importance of fire prevention while being part of such an honorable profession."
2) **What would you tell other women who are interested in this career?**
"I would like to tell more women to follow their calling. If you want to help people and enjoy working hard and being part of a large extended family, consider the fire service. I have never told any of the people, whether they were young children or teens on up that the fire service is for everyone. It is a lot of hard physical and mental work and can be very challenging at times but also incredibly rewarding and the support from within will help guide the way. Just put your mind to it and never forget to reach out for help when needed."
3) **What does working for the OSFM mean to you?**
"Working for OSFM means being able to continue helping people, continuing to grow and learn every day and most of all being part of the large extended family of the fire service and enjoying the company of so many more brothers and sisters here and around the world. OSFM works so well because we work well as a team using everyone's individual skills and I am proud to be a part of it."

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Women's History Month



Lauren Doherty
Elevator Safety Division

1)Why did you choose or what inspired you to choose a career in Elevator Safety?
"Being inspired by my father in the industry, I decided to join the trade. After being a mechanic and QEI inspector, I noticed that there was a great need for safety and compliance education and enforcement in this industry so I decided to join the Elevator Safety Division to do what I can to make an impact."

2) What would you tell other women who are interested in this career?
"Safety first is number one. Take pride in your work because people's lives could depend on it."

3) What does working for the OSFM mean to you?
"OSFM means a great deal to me. I feel like I am finally part of a team that has the publics best interest in mind when it comes to safety. I am happy to be working with a team that is full of integrity and extremely knowledgeable."

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

First Responder Wellness Week

Every day, around the clock, our nation's first responders give it their all. The job is uniquely rewarding. It's also uniquely challenging, with physical, mental and emotional impacts.

First Responder Wellness Week is dedicated to providing resources, support and community to help public safety personnel better understand the mental and physical health risks that come with the job.

First Responder Wellness Week was March 27-31. Each day focused on a different topic related to wellness and ways to help overcome some challenges posed by these topics.

Monday, March 27: Physical Fitness
Tuesday, March 28: Sleep and Fatigue
Wednesday, March 29: Nutrition
Thursday, March 30: Mental Health
Friday, March 31: Healthy Coping Strategies

The OSFM continues to be dedicated to helping connect first responders to resources that can help to aid in living a healthy lifestyle while on and off the job. To learn more about this week and find additional resources, visit: https://www.firstresponderwellnessweek.com/.

Surplus Firefighter Equipment for Ukraine

Surplus firefighting equipment was loaded up March 9 at the OSFM by MABAS-Illinois which is headed to Ukraine. The hose and other firefighting equipment were donated by OSFM, Venice Fire Department and Godfrey Fire Protection District.

Venice Fire Department donating hose and 4 SCBA bottles to help firefighters in Ukraine.

Save The Date for Firefighter Memorial and Medal of Honor

The 2023 Medal of Honor Ceremony and The Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2023. The Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service will begin at 10 AM at the Fallen Firefighter Memorial on the State Capitol Grounds with the Medal of Honor Ceremony to follow at the BOS Center.

IL Fire Inspectors Association Fire and Life Safety Conference

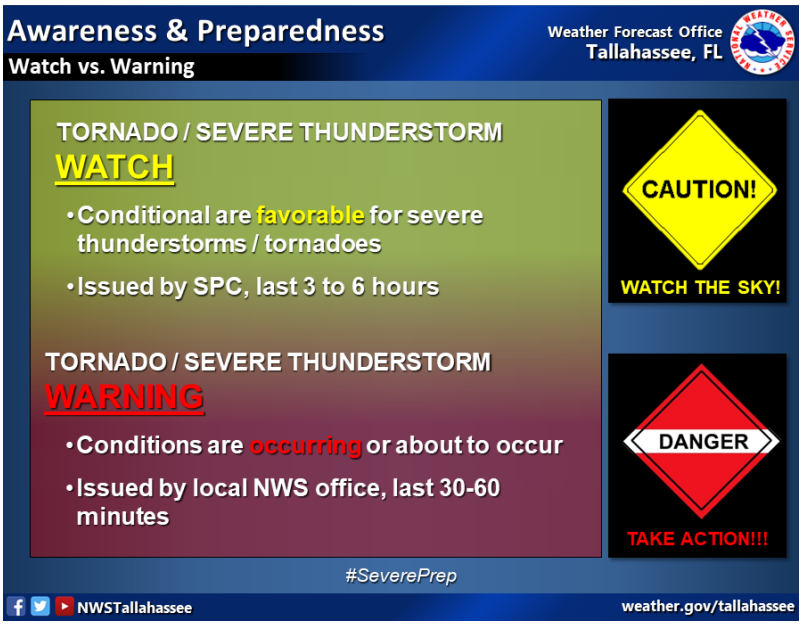
Members from the OSFM attended the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association's Fire and Life Safety Conference in East Peoria from March 22-23. State Fire Marshal James A. Rivera, pictured above, addresses members in attendance at the conference. The OSFM also had a booth where we were able to answer questions from attendees while also providing information about OSFM upcoming events and other important information.

Severe Weather Preparedness Week

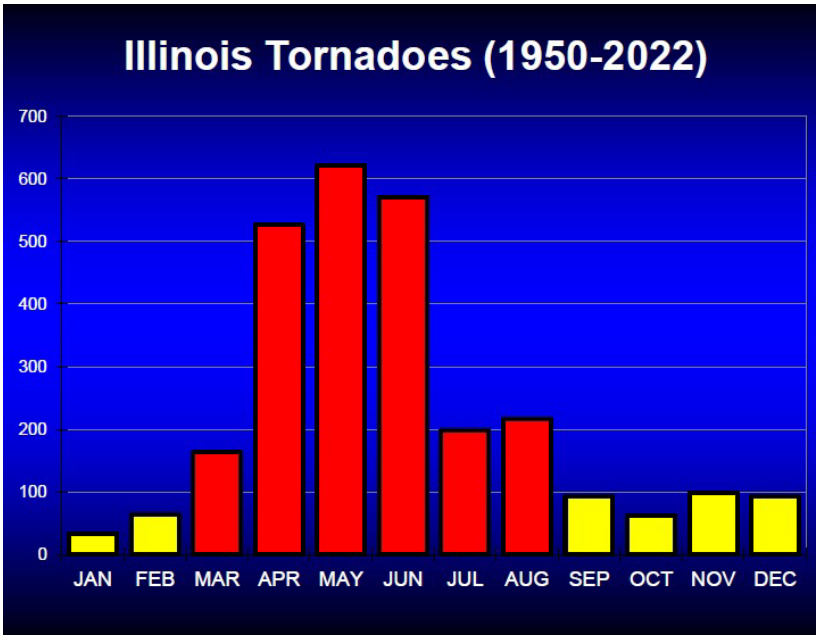
Severe Weather Preparedness Week in Illinois was March 6-10 and is a good time to review your families severe weather plans and practice those plans. Illinois averages 53 tornadoes per year and ranks fourth in the United States for the most tornadoes per square mile. The six months with the most tornadoes the past ten years include: June, May, August, July, December and November.

Illinois averages 860 reports of wind damage and large hail annually. Too often, people ignore severe thunderstorms because they believe only a tornado will cause damage or threaten their lives. The fact is, a majority of the property damage and injuries each year is from high winds and large hail.

A weather radio is the most reliable way to receive warnings about severe weather. It's important that you not only have a weather radio but have multiple ways to receive a warning such as a cell phone or a portable AM/FM radio.



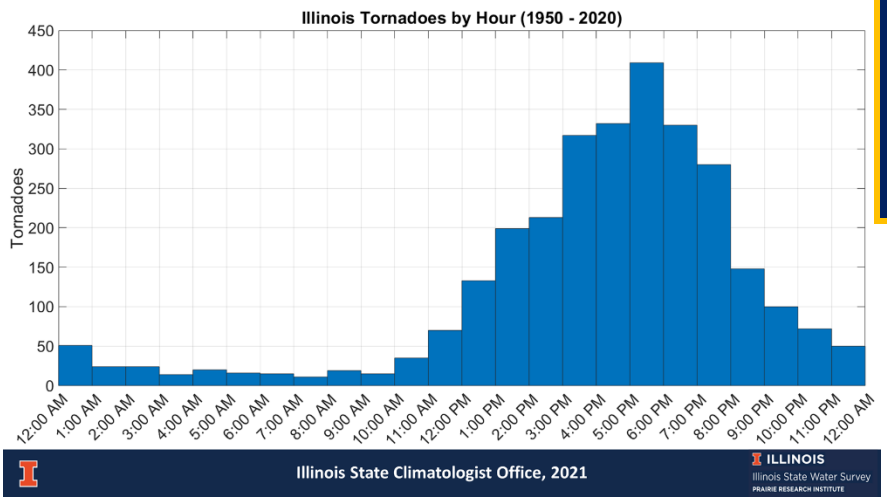
Severe Weather Preparedness Week

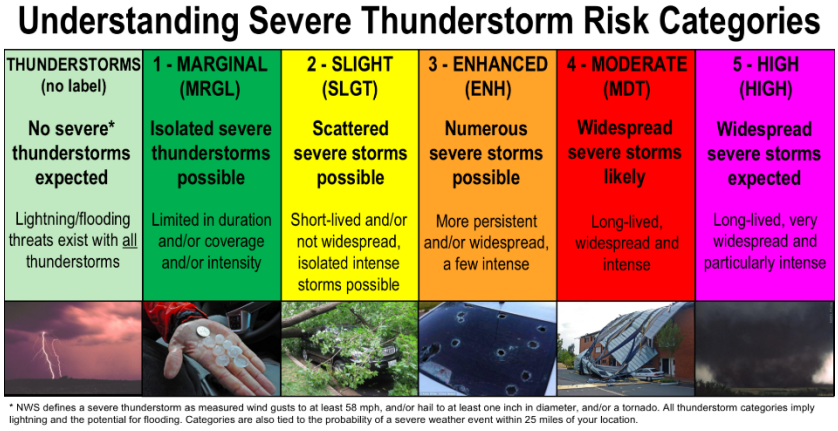


Tornadoes can occur here in Illinois any time of the year and at any time of the day. That is why it is so important that we are prepared in the event of severe weather.

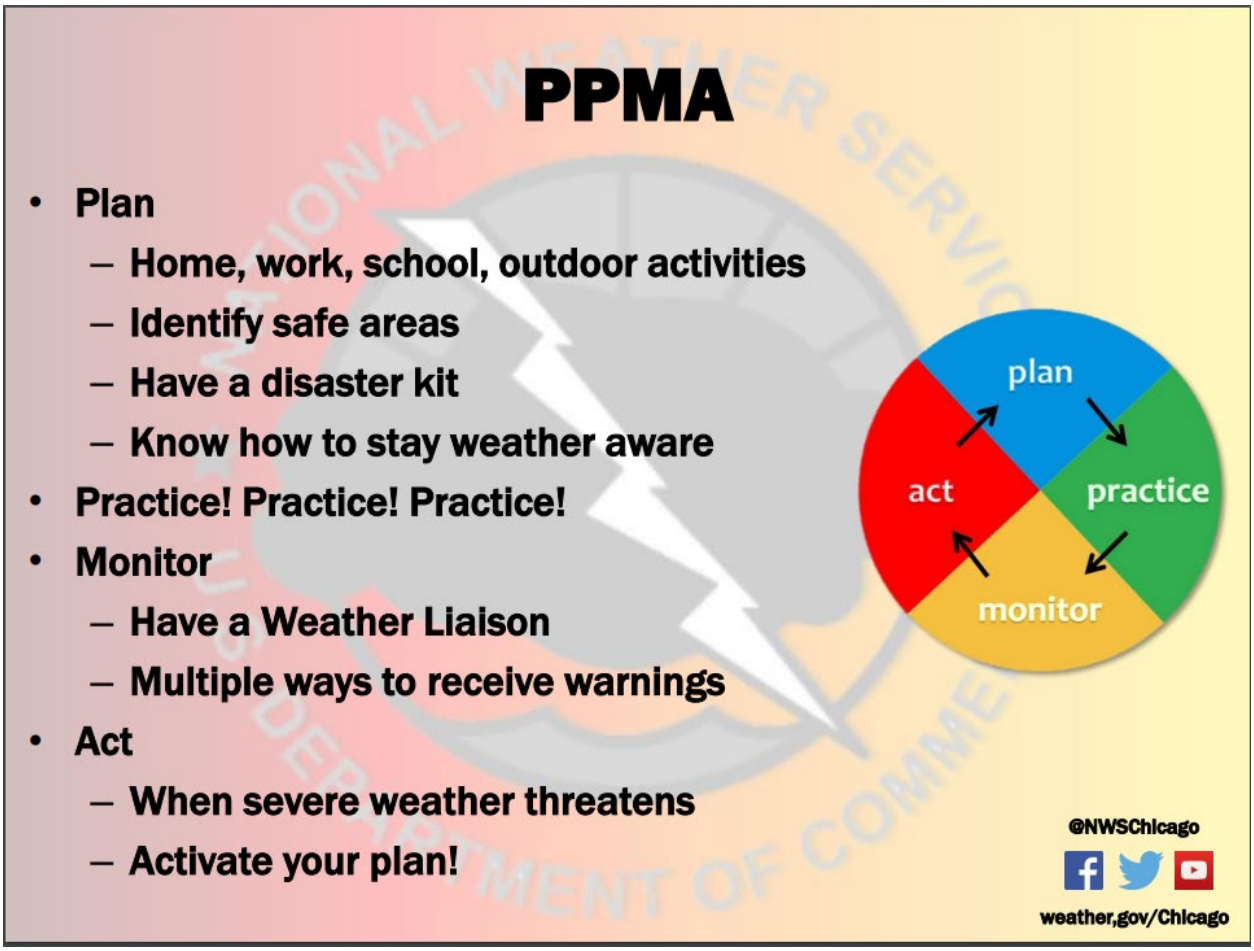
You can find a guide to help prepare you for severe weather by visiting: https://www2.illinois.gov/iema/Preparedness/Documents/severeweatherpreparedness.pdf

Don't Be Scared, Be Prepared!





Severe Weather Preparedness Week



Keep these four words in mind; Plan, Practice, Monitor and Act!

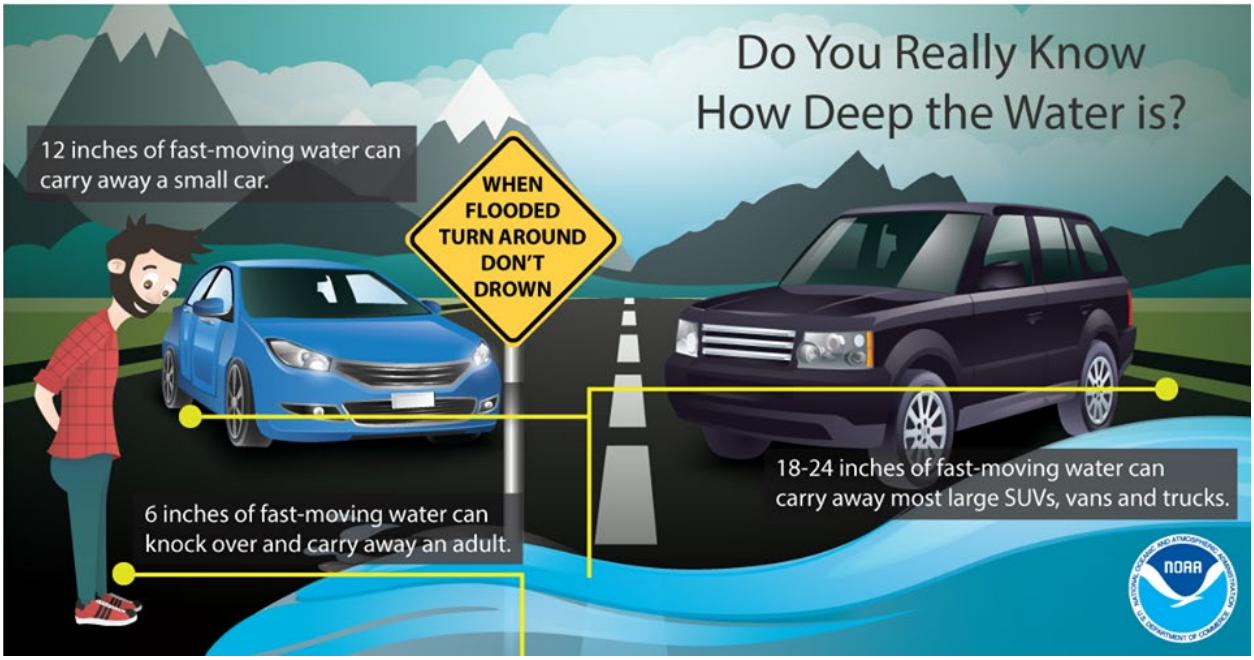
Plan: Hold a family meeting and review or create a severe weather plan. Locate your safe place in a storm.

Practice: Hold a severe weather drill. Walk through your plan and take everyone to your designated shelter.

Monitor: When severe weather is in the forecast or a watch is issued, make sure someone in the home is the designated weather watcher. Pay attention to the weather.

ACT: When a warning is issued, it's time to ACT. Put your plan into action and move your family to your designated shelter

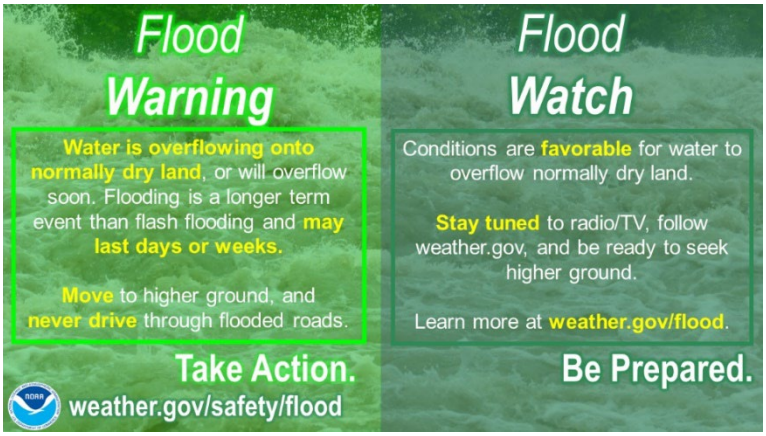
Flood Safety Awareness Week



Flood Safety Awareness Week is March 12th – 18th. The goals of Flood Safety Awareness Week are to: inform the public about NWS forecast and warning services and flood information, heighten public awareness to risks associated with all types of floods, and empower citizens to take actions necessary to protect their lives and their livelihoods.

It only takes 6" of fast-moving water to knock over and carry away an adult and 18-24" of fast-moving water to carry away most large SUV's, vans and trucks. Remember this saying, Turn Around Don't Drown. If you encounter a flooded roadway, turn around and find an alternate route.

To learn more about flood safety visit: https://www.weather.gov/safety/flood



AFFI Legislative Conference in Springfield

State Fire Marshal James A. Rivera and OSFM Bureau Chief of Operations Dale Simpson both provided remarks at the Associated Fire Fighters Association Illinois Legislative Conference held in Springfield March 14-16. Fire Marshal Rivera visited with members in attendance and also spoke with Illinois Lieutenant Governor Juliana Stratton.

(Left to Right) Illinois Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton and Illinois State Fire Marshal James A. Rivera

IFSI Minute

AN UPDATE FROM THE ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE

Illinois Fire Service Institute spring training deliveries continue across the State. In the past month, we have offered courses in the Engine Company Operations, Advanced Technician Firefighter (ATF), Smoke Divers, Truck Company Operations, Structural Collapse Rescue, Confined Space Rescue, Officer Programs, Leadership Development and Decision Making, Investigation and Prevention, RIT, and NIMS/ICS Programs. This list does not include the countless Cornerstone Program training opportunities or the Basic Operations Firefighter (BOF) Blended or Fire Academy classes. We are busy! But, we remain focused on our efforts to provide top-quality and relevant training opportunities to all areas of the state.

SPECIAL EVENT UPDATE:

FIRE COLLEGE

Registration for the 99th Annual Fire College is open.

The IFSI Annual Fire College offers three days of innovative and top-quality training for first responders. Since 1925, IFSI has delivered on our statutory commitment to provide affordable, essential skills training during an annual Fire College. Over these 99 years, the event has incorporated the addition of more advanced training opportunities utilizing state-of-the-art equipment and curriculum at the forefront of national training standards. Despite these progressive changes, year after year, one thing remains consistent. Fire College is truly an annual "homecoming" for IFSI students, instructors and staff, offering the opportunity for training, networking, and camaraderie with fellow members of the fire service. **It is an event unlike any other.**

The 99th Annual Fire College will be no exception to this standard. Complete event details, including class offerings and free hotel accommodation information, are posted on the IFSI website: fsi.illinois.edu.

EXPLORER CADET FIRE SCHOOL

Registration is also open for the 20th Annual Explorer Cadet Fire School. This unique training program delivers hands-on, live fire training to Explorers, Cadets, and Junior Firefighters between the ages of 15-20 years old. IFSI Instructors have carefully designed each course to include skill building exercises, practical application evolutions, and multiple immersive training scenarios that will challenge all skill levels.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Five more no cost Light and Fight training dates are available this spring. Classes are available in Champaign, Rockford, Carbondale, and Salem. All locations offer a full day of hands-on, live fire training.

IFSI Minute

FIREFIGHTING PROGRAM:

The Basic Firefighter/NFPA Firefighter I Academy will complete the resident training program in April. To date, sixty-six candidates are expected to successfully complete the course.

The Basic Operations Firefighter (BOF) Blended program continues to work through the spring cycle. The one hundred seventy-one candidates will complete weekend practicals 5 and 6 in April and wrap up the program in late May.

NEW PROGRAM:

We continue to be grateful for your support in the fulfillment of our mission.

YFSIP Upcoming Classes- Round Lake

Youth Firesetter Intervention Class

The Round Lake Fire Protection District 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, May 8, 2023 & Tuesday, May 9, 2023

Monday: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Tuesday: 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Place: Village of Round Lake Beach Cultural & Civic Center
2007 N. Civic Center Way
Round Lake Beach, IL 60073

Registration: To register, please visit
https://sfm.illinois.gov/about/divisions/arson/yfsip/yfsip-class-registration.html

This class is limited to **25 - 30 students** due to the 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, contact Jeff Pride at 217-622-7486, or via email at jeff.pride@illinois.gov.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Round Lake!

YFSIP Upcoming Classes- Taylorville

Youth Firesetter Intervention Class

The Taylorville 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: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 & Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Tuesday: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Wednesday: 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Place: Taylorville Fire Department
202 W. Main Street
Taylorville, IL 62568

Registration: To register, please visit
https://sfm.illinois.gov/about/divisions/arson/yfsip/yfsip-class-registration.html

This class is limited to **25 students** due to the 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.

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Arson Division – YFSIP
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Springfield, IL 62703

For further information, contact Jeff Pride at 217-622-7486, or via email at jeff.pride@illinois.gov.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Taylorville!

YFSIP Upcoming Classes- Buffalo Grove

Youth Firesetter Intervention Class

The Deerfield Bannockburn 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, September 11, 2023 & Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Monday: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Tuesday: 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Place: Combined Area Fire Training Facility
851 Krause Drive
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Registration: To register, please visit
https://sfm.illinois.gov/about/divisions/arson/yfsip/yfsip-class-registration.html

This class is limited to **25 - 30 students** due to the 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, contact Jeff Pride at 217-622-7486, or via email at jeff.pride@illinois.gov.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Buffalo Grove!

YFSIP Upcoming Classes- Salem

Youth Firesetter Intervention Class

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

This is a weekend class

Date & Time: Saturday, October 14, 2023 & Sunday, October 15, 2023

Saturday: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Place: Salem Fire Protection District
303 S. Broadway
Salem, IL 62881

Registration: To register, please visit
https://sfm.illinois.gov/about/divisions/arson/yfsip/yfsip-class-registration.html

This class is limited to **25 students** due to the 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, contact Jeff Pride at 217-622-7486, or via email at jeff.pride@illinois.gov.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Salem!

Stand Up for Grain Safety Week

Stand Up 4 Grain Safety Week was March 27-31 with this year's theme, "Small Changes, Big Impacts." The week is set aside to raise awareness about the dangers of working in and around grain bins and helps to promote safety amongst member of this industry.

Stand Up 4 Grain Safety Week was first held in 2017 as a local event and continues to grow as the organizations combine their talents, resources, and knowledge to develop more training and educational offerings, expand partnerships with other industry organizations, and reach across the entire grain industry spectrum.

To learn more about this event and ways to participate next year, visit https://standup4grainsafety.org/.

Stand Up for Grain Safety Week

ATTENTION • NOTICE

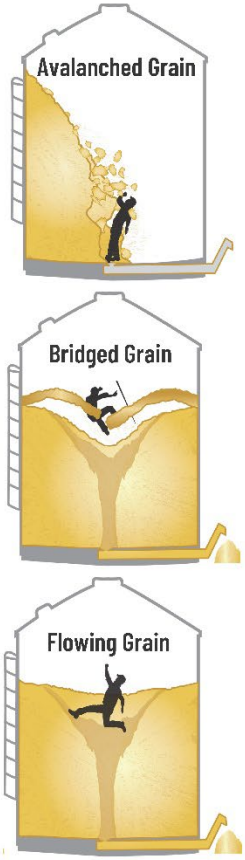
GRAIN SAFETY FACTS

HAPPENS FAST!

5 seconds trapped to knees. Need help to get out.

30 - 45 seconds for total engulfment!

HOW ENGULMENT OCCURS



5 STEPS TO SAFE BIN ENTRY

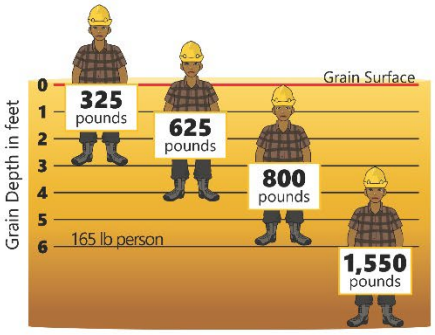
1. Use a Permit or Checklist
2. Always **LOTO**
3. Check Atmosphere
4. Use a Lifeline
5. **NEVER ALONE**

Pro Tip: Guard sump holes & sweep augers to prevent entanglement.

KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS

- Do not sink when walking on grain about 12 inches.
- Out of condition grain - smell, high moisture content, caked/clumped, towers, side build-up.
- Uneven slopes. Angle of repose not 22-28 degrees.
- No evidence of prior removal (bridging condition)

EXTRACTION FORCES



GRAIN HANDLING SAFETY COUNCIL
Visit grainsafety.org

Homewood-Flossmoor HS Career Fair

OSFM's Fire Service Outreach Coordinator Lee Buxton and Fire Certification Specialist Supervisor Chris Bednarek attended a career fair on March 13 at Homewood-Flossmoor High School. Lee and Chris visited with students and told them about the career opportunities the OSFM can provide and also more about what the OSFM does as a whole. Students enjoyed the swag that the OSFM had on hand.

SWIC Career Fair

OSFM's PIO JC Fultz, Diversity Officer and Hispanic Liaison Roberto Lopez and Special Project's Roger Branson attended a career fair at Southwestern Illinois College in Belleville on March 20. They visited with students about the different division of the OSFM and future career opportunities the agency can provide.

Older Adult Fire Safety

Prevent home fires. Protect what matters.

Older adults are more likely to die in home fires. They may move more slowly or have trouble hearing a smoke alarm because of hearing loss.

Protect

Keep heaters at least 3 feet away from things that can burn. Heaters can cause fires if they are too close to furniture, beds, curtains, or other materials that can burn. Turn space heaters off before you leave the home.

Prepare

Have working smoke alarms on every level of your home. You should have a smoke alarm inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas. Test to make sure the sound of the alarm is loud enough to wake you.

Plan

Make an escape plan around your abilities. If you need to use a wheelchair or cane, make sure you can get to them quickly. Keep glasses or hearing aids next to the bed.

Learn more about fire prevention: **www.usfa.fema.gov**

Prevenga incendios. Proteja lo importante.

Los adultos mayores tienen más probabilidad de morir en incendios en el hogar. Los adultos mayores se mueven más lento o tienen problemas escuchando los detectores de humo.

Protéjase

Mantenga los calefactores a 3 pies como mínimo de elementos que podrían incendiarse, como las camas, muebles, cortinas u otros materiales que puedan incendiarse. Apague los calefactores antes de salir de la casa.

Prepárese

Mantenga los detectores de humo funcionando en cada nivel de su hogar. Debe tener un detector de humo dentro y fuera de cada dormitorio. Compruebe que el sonido del detector se encuentra lo suficientemente alto como para despertarle.

Planifíquese

Cree un plan de escape dentro de sus capacidades. Si necesita una silla de ruedas o un bastón, asegúrese de que pueda alcanzarlos lo más rápido posible. Mantenga los espejuelos o auxiliares auditivos cerca de la cama.

Aprenda más sobre la prevención de incendios en: **www.usfa.fema.gov**

Shout Outs/Kudos

The OSFM thanks Simony Weyforth for her 20 years of service and we wish her the best in retirement. Simony was an Administrative Assistant in our Arson Division and was instrumental in helping set up Youth Firesetter Classes across the state. Enjoy your retirement, Simony!

Mary Torricelli and Janet Patterson attended the YMCA Wellness Event in Springfield on Saturday, March 18th. The OSFM is always out helping raise awareness about our agency. If you see us at an event stop by and say hello! We usually have some fun giveaways!

Kids' Corner

NFPA Kids

Visit Sparky.org to join Sparky's Fire Safety Club!