



Post Indicator



President's Message – Phil Owens

Fellow FMAM members;

Our summer is drawing to a close, soon we will be lamenting the same 89 degree days that we have so recently scorned. I hope that you have had a chance to get out and enjoy some of the summer weather.

There are a number of issues before us.

Republican National Convention:

As you read this, a number of our member communities will be recovering from their participation in the RNC. Saint Paul, Minneapolis and Bloomington were most visibly impacted, but received support from a number of their neighbor communities and agencies. Planning has been on going since January. The project intensified multiple times in the last three weeks, culminating with the RNC held September 1-4 in Saint Paul. Planning, logistics, safety and security for an estimated 45,000 people, including some 22,000 delegates and dignitaries, 15,000 news media from around the world and 3,000 + happy people exercising their First Amendment rights. It was a monumental task and Fire Inspectors from these communities were in the first line of defense providing for the public safety in assembly and residential and other occupancies throughout the metro area.

Fire Prevention Week 2008:

Fire Prevention Week, October 5-11 is rapidly approaching. (Actually, I think every week is Fire Prevention Week., but, I digress.) This year's theme is "**Prevent Home Fires**". That should be a topic that we can all support as the majority of fire related injuries and deaths each year occur in the home. The theme is prevention oriented and provides each community the opportunity to craft the program to meet local needs and issues.

Changes to ISO Grading:

The Insurance Services Office is currently considering changes to its community grading schedule to recognize community efforts in fire prevention and code enforcement as well as fire safety education programs. These are two areas of recognition that Fire Prevention leaders have requested for a number of years.

Governor's Fire Prevention Day at the Fair:

The 10th annual Governor's Fire Prevention day at the fair was held on Friday August 22. Thanks to Chris Heardon, Fire Inspector, Vadnais Heights for once again organizing this important event, as well as to his crew for staffing our display booth. Thanks also to Jeff Schadegg, Fire Marshal, Inver Grove Heights for representing FMAM on the Governor's Council and to State Fire Marshal Jerry Rosendahl and his staff for their support of this excellent public fire education opportunity.

Fire Death's in Minnesota:

The State Fire Marshal reports 25 fire related deaths in the state thus far. This compares with 30 at this time last year. We are once again on track for an exceptionally low number of fire deaths. Thanks to each of you for your continuing work in preventing these tragic incidents thru code enforcement and education. You save lives every day.

ICC Conference in Minneapolis:

The International Code Council conference and final action hearings will be held in Minneapolis September 14-23. It is great to have this international event right here in our own back yard.

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I encourage each of you to participate in these code adoption activities.

The ICC promulgates our state fire, building and other construction and maintenance codes. Your participation as a governmental representative and as a code user is vital to the code process. This year is especially important as we move toward the adoption of codes requiring fire sprinklers in additional residential occupancies. To most of us this would be an easy decision, as we know that the residential occupancies are where the majority of our fire injuries and fatalities occur. However, the vote is expected to be close, with the building industry marshalling its forces to oppose the amendment.

Phil-osophy:

To gain knowledge.....Study. To gain wisdom..... Observe.

Phillip Owens, CFPS
President

Treasurer's Report

No Treasurer's Report was provided by the time that this edition of the Post Indicator was published.

Balances (as of 9/3/2008):

Checking	\$ 8,179.44
Savings	\$ 26,256.98
TOTAL	\$ 34,436.42

Editor's Note: This should not be considered an official Treasurer's Report.

**Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota
Meeting Minutes – Meeting Minutes – June 11,
2008**

CALL TO ORDER: President Phil Owens called the meeting to order at 1:30pm at the New Brighton Fire Station.

Approval of the March 12, 2008 meeting minutes as published in the June Post Indicator by Joe Berg and 2nd by Mike Urmann, motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Motion to approve the Treasurers report as published in the June Post Indicator by Tom

Pitschneider and 2nd by Gene Dugal, motion passed unanimously.

We currently have 205 paid members for 2006.

REPORTS:

PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Connie Forster informed the members that Echo TV will be producing Burn Prevention messages in multiple languages and will be broadcasted on Public Broadcasting Television. Production will begin sometime this fall.

The Fire Prevention Day at the Minnesota State Fair will be on August 22, 2008. We will need volunteers to staff the booth. Largest fire prevention get together. Trying to find a good way to get safety messages out to families.

Fire Prevention Week this year is October 5 – 11th and the message is "Prevent Home Fires".

TRAINING: Jon Nisja reported that there will be a two day Fire Alarm Class with Art Black.

Fire Team USA will be a 1 ½ day class with teams of 4 from the community attending. Kathy Osmonson has pamphlets available in the back.

We are continuing to look for quarterly education, if anyone has any suggestions please contact Kip LaMotte at kip.lamotte@newbrightonmn.gov. If anyone is interested in helping to coordinate and schedule the quarterly training, contact Kip.

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL: Jeff Schadegg reported that 2007 Report has been completed along with the 2008 goals. The report has been sent to the Governor's Office. Ted Zweig is the new Council Chairman and has done an excellent job with the council. Copies of the Report are available on line.

GOVERNOR'S FIRE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Nothing to report at this time.

CERTIFICATION REPORT: Phil Owens reported the Fire Inspector II exam is in progress and should be completed soon. The Certification Board is looking for evaluators for Firefighter I and II. They have also issued new ID cards with the certifications on the back with the expiration date. Now using one card rather than multiple. Not sure

how this will effect persons that have more than one employer paying for certifications.

LEGISLATION: See State Fire Marshal Report.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT: State Fire Marshal Jerry Rosendahl recognized Jon Nisja on his years of serves on the IFMA board representing Minnesota.

Tom Joachim is recovering from recent by-pass surgery; we wish him well and a speedy recovery.

Preliminary report of Fire In Minnesota 2007 is completed as in previous years it will be handed out to departments at the Chief's Conference in October. Incidents are on the rise and fires on the decline. Number one cause is still cooking, and number two is heating. 95% of fire departments are reporting to MFIRS. A new on-line Internet access for report should be available January of 2009.

Year to date Minnesota has had 21 fire deaths.

Fire Safety Account will take a couple of years to determine the amount collected by insurance companies. An Executive Director will be hired this year for the Fire Training Board.

Legislative issues:

- CO detectors required in existing single-family homes.
- Firefighter license plates will need the Fire Chief's signature.
- A permit is no longer needed for firefighters to carry portable radios (pagers, pack sets) in their personal vehicles.
- Fireworks were expanded from 200 grams to 500 grams, they still can not go bang or leave the ground.

Additional information can be accessed through the State Fire Marshal's Web site at

<http://www.dps.state.mn.us/fmarshal/fmarshal.html>

Information is also disseminated through the list server for more information about the list server contact Bob Dahm at

<http://www.dps.state.mn.us/fmarshal/ListServer.html> .

MERCHANDISE: Streich Designs will now be doing all of the merchandise for FMAM. A link will be established to her site for ordering merchandise including clothing, videos, CD's etc.

NEW BUSINESS: Nothing to report.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE MEMBERSHIP:

Marilyn Arnlund asked that all fire departments get involved and register so they can vote at the ICC hearings regarding residential sprinklers. Mailings have been going out to departments as well as emails and stops for representatives from the coalition. Your support is needed. Meetings are held every other Monday and they are open to the public. The goal is to get 400 registered votes.

Jon Nisja informed the members that one of our Charter Life Members Stan Anderson has passed away. In recognition of all his years of service to this membership and to the fire service, we will miss Stan.

The core curriculum thru Hennepin Tech and Inver Hills should be available in spring of 2009. Emails will be sent out regarding updates.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn at 3:00 pm by Kip LaMotte and 2nd by Jason Mallinger; motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Robbie Bartholomew, Secretary

**Fire Marshal's Association of Minnesota
BOARD MEETING
August 13, 2008**

Members Present: President Phil Owens, Vice-President Kip LaMotte, Interim Secretary Robbie Bartholomew, Board members: Angie Leitner, Tom Pitschneider and Roy Kingsley, Past President Jon Nisja, Public Educator Connie Forster and State Fire Marshal Jerry Rosendahl.

Call to Order:

President Phil Owens called the meeting to order at 9:06am.

Marilyn Arnlund provided the board with an update on the upcoming IRC. It appears that the residential sprinkler vote could be on Sunday but most likely on Monday. Quick action notification will be done to all interested persons, pagers, email, text message, etc will be used to notify as many as possible when the vote will be. We are

showing low numbers on the registration to date and need to get everyone registered ASAP. Reminder that we need a 2/3 majority to get this passed. It is suggested that 1st time attendees go to the rooms and watch the process prior to the voting. There is a free 13D class Saturday and Sunday at the Westly Church next door; over 100 people have already registered for the class. Hotel rooms are still available. The Sprinkler Trailer will be set up in the exhibition hall and conducting scheduled live burns. It is imperative that anyone interested in voting register at both the ICC and IRC websites.

Motion to approve the May 14, 2008 Board Meeting Minutes as published in the June Post Indicator by Kip LaMotte and 2nd by Angie Leitner, motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

No detailed report available.

Membership Report: Currently 205 paid members for 2008.

MERCHANDISE: Kip will contact Lori Streich and set up a link from our website to hers.

PUBLIC EDUCATION REPORT:

Connie Forster will contact Paula Peterson and Echo TV to get an up date on the Public Education Broadcasts. The Brainstorming group is working on putting together a list of age appropriate messages for children. FMAM and the State Fire Marshal Division will link to the site. Free Stuff from Shiner's Hospitals – check it out at www.shrinershospital.org. Attempting to set up mass purchasing suggested through suggested companies. Rainbow Valley has a wonderful reputation and we'll be looking into them. Suggestion for FMAM to set up a lending library for Public Education videos, books, DVDs, cd, etc.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:

State Fire Marshal Jerry Rosendahl reported to the Board, Year to date Minnesota has had 21 fire deaths. Fire Safety Account will take a couple of years to determine the amount collected by insurance companies. An Executive Director will be hired this year for the Fire Training Board.

Legislative issues:

- CO detectors required in existing single-family homes.

- Firefighter license plates will need the Fire Chief's signature.
- A permit is no longer needed for firefighters to carry portable radios (pagers, pack sets) in their personal vehicles.
- Fireworks were expanded from 200 grams to 500 grams, they still can not go bang or leave the ground.
- The legislature will be taking 2 million dollars from the Fire Safety Account.
- December 1, 2008 the reduced ignition propensity cigarette law goes into effect for Minnesota, for a total of 20 states.
- With the RNC comes planning and ensuring all inspections are up to date for Hotels, Assemblies, etc.
- The State Fire Marshal Update is available on the State web site and you can also receive it by email if you sign up on their web site.

TRAINING/EDUCATION:

The FMAM meeting for September will be at Bloomington Station 1 and the December meeting will be at the Apple Valley station. We'll send out email notice in advance. September's training will be on smoke dampers and December's on inspection software. The State Fire Marshal Division is currently asking for RFP's for on-line vendors for NFIRS reports via the internet.

Dan Kaiser from SFMD will be conducting a 4 day sprinkler class, the New Brighton class is filled, Mankato is almost full and they are considering offering another a third one in the southern metro.

LEGISLATION: Nothing new to report.

OLD BUSINESS: Social Events, Kip will look into a dinner cruise for this fall.

Recording of Board motions since the last meeting.

Motion to reimburse parking fees and their mileage is using their personal vehicle at the current federal rate to staff the FMAM Booth during Fire Prevention Day at the Fair by Robbie Bartholomew and 2nd by Tom Pitschneider, motion approved.

Motion to Endorse Pat Parsley for ICC Board of Directors by Phil Owens and 2nd by Angie Leinter, motion approved.

Motion that when a member of FMAM is either asked by the Board of Directors to represent FMAM

or the member is on the Board of IFMA, NFPA, or ICC and their employer is unable or unwilling to pay for registration fees, meals, travel, and lodging expenses FMAM may reimburse reasonable expenses by Robbie Bartholomew and 2nd by Kip LaMotte, motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

The board discussed the mailing of the Post Indicator, it has become too costly and time consuming to mail the Post Indicator. Motion that effective January 2009 the Post Indicator will only be available by Email and regular mail will be discontinued by Tom Pitschneider and 2nd by Roy Kingsley.

Some cities that enforce Municipal Property Code Maintenance may have some difficulties in the future. The League of Minnesota Cities is looking into how it may affect property code enforcement issues. Discussions on what would happen by adopting the International Property Maintenance Code in the Building Code.

Gordy Bates asked for the Boards and FMAM's position regarding qualifications needed to take the journeyman test. The Board's direction to Gordy is that we believe both training and education are necessary.

The Board was asked to consider a resolution "The Community Building Code Administration Grant Act of 2007". The board felt that it could not support the resolution.

Motion to adjourn at 11:50 pm by Angie Leitner and 2nd by Kip LaMotte, Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:
Robbie Bartholomew, Interim Secretary

Public Fire Safety Education By Connie Forster

Prevent Home Fires Fire Prevention Theme 2008

Most fire injuries and deaths occur in the home. The 2008 Fire Prevention Week "Prevent Home Fires" helps address this. However, let's go beyond and include other hazards in the home as well to create a safer living environment. Encourage residents to take a virtual home safety tour on the

Home Safety Council's new interactive web site. It is an easy site to navigate and gives valuable suggestions on making homes safer. Go to www.mysafehome.org and check it out.

Other Good Fire Prevention Resources:

Burn Awareness-gasoline safety for children:

www.shrinershospital.org

Children's activity pages: www.homesafetycouncil.org

Fire prevention week activities for children:

www.nfpa.org

Home safety information for adults:

www.homesafetycouncil.org

Materials for "Get Your Butt Outside" Campaign:

<http://www.getyourbuttsoutside.com/index.php>

Fire Prevention Activities:

- Fire Prevention Week: October 4-11, 2008 "Prevent Home Fires"
- Informal brainstorming group meeting November 3, 2008 at 10 at Brooklyn Center. Get together with other prevention educators to discuss best ways to reach people with prevention messages. Contact Shelby Wolf at 763-230-7006 for more information.
- Education Conference: January 24-27th, 2009. More information to follow.

Builders Association of Minnesota Memo to Minnesota Building Officials

TO: Minnesota Building Code Officials
FROM: Karen Linner, Director of Codes and Research

Phone: 651-269-0944

E-mail: karenl@bamn.org

DATE: August 29, 2008

RE: Exercise Your Right to Vote...Should Single Family Homes Require Fire Sprinklers?

How Many Fire Departments Does It Take to Screw in A Residential Sprinkler?

In mid September we'll find out. Fire departments around the country and especially in Minnesota are preparing travel plans and phone trees to be at the ready to vote at the 2009 International Code Council's Final Action Hearings at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Three code proposals: RB-62, RB-64 and RB-65 will be considered during the code hearings for the 2009 International Residential Code. If any of these proposals pass, fire sprinklers will be mandatory in all single-family homes whenever Minnesota adopts the 2009 version of the

IRC. These important votes are scheduled to occur on the evening of Saturday September 20th or the morning of Sunday September 21st.

Why Should You Care?

If building code officials don't register and show up for these hearings, fire fighters, not code officials will be writing the building code. Last week there were 148 fire fighters from Minnesota registered to vote at the hearings. Yesterday 24 more joined. We expect a flood of additional fire departments to join next week. The Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM) does not oppose the right of fire fighters to use the ICC process to overturn the position of every IRC Code Committee and the Association of Minnesota Building Officials (AMBO) IRC Committee. What we do oppose is having this important decision made by a majority of individuals who are not responsible for creating or enforcing the building code in its entirety, like building code officials are. Sprinkler proponents will have to gain a 2/3 majority to get these proposals into the code. Your vote can and will make a difference! If fire sprinklers do end up being mandated in the 2009 IRC it will be a hard and uphill battle to get that provision amended out of the Minnesota State Building Code. Vote now to avoid this fight in the future.

Fire Sprinkler Facts

- The IRC Committee of the International Code Council has consistently voted against mandatory fire sprinklers for single-family homes at every step of the code process as have a majority of ICC members in all rounds of past code hearings.
- The Association of Minnesota Building Official's (AMBO) IRC Committee does not support and never has supported fire sprinkler code mandates for Minnesota homes. Their voting guides confirm this.
- Fire officials have cited zero cases of residential fire fatalities in homes built to the 2000 or 2006 IRC standards in Minnesota. Why? Because the current Minnesota State Building Code requires all new single homes to have smoke alarms that are hardwired, interconnected, and equipped with battery back-ups.
- Smoke alarms work. Consumers feel safe without sprinklers and the demand is not there. Homeowners aren't voluntarily choosing to install sprinklers; why should the building code

require this unwanted and unneeded mandate? The court of public opinion has answered this mandate with a resounding "No!"

- The cost of mandatory sprinkler provisions will price homeowners out of the safest housing stock ever built in our state. The average installed cost of a sprinkler system is \$4,800 for a 2,400 square foot home and this is a conservative estimate. These costs soar even higher if a home isn't connected to a community water supply.

Who Can Vote at the 2009 Final Action Hearings?

Although BAM is a member of the ICC, we and other non-governmental members are not allowed to vote during the Final Action Hearings. Only government agencies that have (1) joined the ICC and have (2) registered voting representatives can vote at the Final Action Hearings. Building inspection departments and cities can join ICC just like fire departments have. The entire registration process must be completed by mail or fax by September 5th. Follow the steps below to secure your right to vote on this and other important code issues.

Step 1: Have your department join the IMMEDIATELY if you aren't already ICC members. The \$100-\$280 yearly membership fee is based on population: <http://www.iccsafe.org/e/newmember.html>

Step 2: Register your allotted number of votes for department employees, policy makers or public officials. <http://www.iccsafe.org/membership/faq-vote.html>
You'll need your login and password or you can ask ICC staff for help logging in. You'll have 4, 8, or 12 votes based on your community's population.

Step 3: Pre-register your voters for the FREE final action hearings: <http://abm.iccsafe.org/2008/splash.html>

Step 4: Pick up your voting badge at the ICC Registration Desk BEFORE 5 pm on Saturday 9/21. If you show up after 5pm on 9/21 you won't be able to vote! The ICC Registration Desk is open from 9am – 5pm Monday through Saturday and from 7am – 5pm.

Step 5: Show up and be counted. Sign up to receive for our voter alert text/e-mail message.

We encourage you, on behalf of the public you serve, to be part of this historic vote or it will be overwhelming decided by sprinkler advocates.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at karenl@bamn.org or 651-269-0944. Thank you for considering our side of this important public policy issue. A BAM Voter Guide on selected code issues will be mailed to all building code officials who are registered for the 2009 ICC Final Action Hearings.

A Response from a Retired Fire Marshal

Members of BAMN:

You folks ought to be totally ashamed of yourselves for your outdated, antiquated position on fire sprinklers. I now live in South Carolina, but within the last couple of years there have been several disastrous fires in NEW "McMansions" as I like to call them. These are million dollar plus home that have burned to the ground, even with career firefighters arriving on scene within minutes. In nearly every case, one sprinkler head would have controlled and most likely extinguished the fire long before it got out of control. In most of these cases, the homeowners were not home to hear the smoke alarm. Yes, smoke alarms do save lives, but so do fire sprinklers.

Your example of a sprinkler system costing \$4,600.00 is almost laughable. In our new home (in a Dell Webb Sun City) the whirlpool tub cost \$6,000.00. If your builders think that is a better deal than installing fire sprinklers for less money, you do not belong in the building business. I recently talked with two builders who had constructed a 4.1 million dollar home that was being used as a showcase for a charitable organization. I told them they did a great job (my dad was a builder in the Twin Cities in the 1960-70's so I am familiar with building trades), but they forgot one thing. The first thing they said, "Oh, the swimming pool?". I told them "No, a fire sprinkler system." Their reply - "We don't put them in unless we are required to". When I explained that they could have put the system in for about \$2.00 a sq. ft. they were amazed and said that they would sure look into it on their next home - and they did. This was an 11,000 sq. ft home, about the same size as the one three blocks away that went to the ground in a fire.

I investigated a single family dwelling fire a number of years ago when a woman, her boy friend, her two little boys and the family dog all died in a fire. The home had five smoke detectors in it, all brand

new. This fire was in Burnsville, just in case you want to see if I am telling the truth. One fire sprinkler head in the bedroom room of origin would have stopped that fire in its tracks. Instead four human lives were lost. Is that what the Builder's Association of Minnesota is all about? Grow up guys and do something for someone other than yourself.

Bruce E. Ryden
Retired Roseville, Minnesota Fire Marshal

Multiple Fatality Fires Throughout the Country in 2007 and 2008

Ed Comeau has assembled a map of the United States showing the multiple fatality fires (3 or more persons) throughout the United States for 2007 and 2008.

Ed tracks these fires through media reports. They are also color-coded by season of the year. It is interesting to note how the fatalities are clustered in terms of both geographic areas of the country and the time of year.

For the 2008 map, go to:

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=115991696693412527503.000442be65205a5649da3&ll=44.21371,-113.730469&spn=55.559805,97.03125&z=3>

For the 2007 map, go to:

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=115991696693412527503.00043769ef44817536a4b&ll=40.913513,-102.392578&spn=29.4007,59.765625&z=4&om=1>

For more information, contact Ed at:

ecomeau@writer-tech.com

PATTERNS AND TRENDS OF U.S. FIRE LOSSES

From the National Fire Protection Association

Fire departments responded to 1,557,500 fires.

In 2007, U.S. municipal fire departments responded to an estimated 1,557,500 fires. These fires killed 3,430 civilians (non-firefighters) and caused 17,675 reported civilian fire injuries. Direct property damage was estimated at \$14.6 billion dollars. One hundred and two (102) firefighters died while on duty or of injuries incurred while on duty. During

2007, the 530,500 structure fires accounted for 34% of the reported fires.

Figure 1 and Table 1 (on page 13) show that reported fires fell 52% from 3,264,000 in 1977 to 1,557,500 in 2007, the second lowest point since data collection began. Reported fires fell 5% from 1,642,500 in 2006.

Rate of reported fires fell even more sharply over the past three decades.

According to the U.S. Census, the resident population of the US grew 37% from 1977 to 2007. Figure 2 (on page 14) shows that the rate of fires per 1,000 population fell 65% from 14.9 in 1977 to 5.2 in 2007.

Home fires dominate the structure fire problem.

Seventy-eight percent (414,000) of the 530,500 structure fires occurred in residential properties, including homes, hotels, motels, rooming houses and dormitories; 75% (399,000) occurred in homes. (NFPA uses the term "home" to include one- and two-family dwellings, apartments and manufactured housing.) Home structure fires fell 45% from the 723,500 reported in 1977. They rose 1% from the 396,000 reported in 2006.

Fifty-seven percent (300,500) of all reported structure fires occurred in one- and two-family dwellings, including manufactured homes; 19% (98,500) occurred in apartments.

Figure 4 (on page 14) shows where fire fatalities occur. Single family homes lead the list with 69% of the nation's fire deaths occurring in these occupancies.

NFPA produces a variety of reports about general and specific causes and circumstances of home fires. The general overview of home structure fires, free to all, is available at <http://www.nfpa.org/osds>. NFPA members may download more specific reports at no cost. Purchasing details for non-members are also found on the site.

State Fire Marshal Quick Response Newsletter

Each month, the Fire Protection Section at the State Fire Marshal Division publishes a newsletter known as the Quick Response. For the past couple of months and continuing for the next few months,

the QR is focusing on fire pumps. You can visit the QR at: <http://www.fire.state.mn.us/firesprink.html>

Our thanks to Dan Kaiser, Ralph Peterson, and David Stegura for providing this information.

Fire Prevention Degree Curriculum

Representatives of FMAM and other fire service groups have been working with Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) to develop a Fire Prevention Degree Program. This program is modeled after a design established by the National Fire Academy.

It appears that this program will become a reality in 2009. It will most likely be at Inver Hills Community College in cooperation with the Building Inspection Technology (BIT) Program.

The following is a draft of the curriculum for this program:

Core Curriculum:

Course Name:	Cr.	Source:
*core completion would be a fire prevention certificate		
Fire Prevention	3	none existing
Fire Behavior & Combustion	2	HTC
Principles of Emergency Services (incl. Some legal aspects)	2 + 1	HTC
Fire Administration / Leadership (incl. Some legal aspects)	3	HTC
Fire & Life Safety Education	3	none existing
Human Behavior in Fire	3	none existing
Principles of Code Enforcement	3	NHCC
Fire Protection Systems (<i>BIT suppression 2 credits</i>)	3	IHCC & NHCC

General Education:

Public Speaking	3	IHCC/HTC
Sociology or Psychology	4	IHCC
Technical Writing	4	IHCC
*pre-requisite English 1108	4	IHCC
Creative Problem Solving	3	IHCC
Logic or Ethics	3	IHCC/HTC

Electives: (20 needed to fill out credit requirement)

Public Education Emphasis:

Juvenile Firesetter Intervention	3	none existing
Juvenile Justice	3	IHCC
Managing & Develop. Programs	3	none existing
Community Risk Reduction	3	none existing
Developing Strategies	3	none existing

* Currently investigating whether we can use existing NFA curriculum, or if we need to create these courses.

Engineering Emphasis:

Advanced Concepts in Structural Fire Protection	3	none existing
Performance Based Design	3	none existing
Fire Protection Water Supply	3	none existing

Investigations Emphasis:

Fire Investigation I	2	HTC
Fire Investigation II	2	HTC
Hazardous Materials Chemistry	3	none existing
Fire Protection Water Supply	3	none existing
BCA alternate		

Code Enforcement Emphasis:

BIT electives	14	NHCC / IHCC
Plans Review / non structural (on line)	2	BIT 1300
Fire Inspector I	2	HTC
Fire Inspector II	2	HTC

Electives:

Local Fire Marshals Get Promoted to Fire Chief Positions

In the past year, three local fire marshals have been appointed to fire chief positions; FMAM congratulates them on these promotions.

In Coon Rapids, former Fire Marshal **John Piper** was promoted to Fire Chief to fill the vacancy created with the retirement of Tim Farmer. Piper's fire marshal position was filled by **Todd Williams**.

A former Red Wing Fire Marshal, **Tom Schneider**, was promoted to Red Wing Fire Chief effective June 9, 2008. Tom was fire marshal until about three years ago when he returned to a shift captain position. Tom replaces Mike Amendolar who retired. **Andy Speltz** was promoted to Red Wing Fire Marshal on November 26, 2007.

Jerry Streich, former Ramsey Fire Marshal is the new chief for the Centennial Fire District; Jerry replaces retiring Fire Chief Milo Bennett. Forest Lake Fire Inspector **Matt Kohner** has replaced Jerry in Ramsey.

Carbon Monoxide Information for Fire Department Responders and Homeowners

On the following few pages are copies of a checklist and informational sheet developed by the Red Wing Fire Department for responses to Carbon Monoxide alarm calls.



**Carbon Monoxide Activation
Notice of Findings**

The Red Wing Fire Department responded to a possible carbon monoxide problem at:

Date and Time	Location	ICR Number
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Carbon monoxide was not found by our instruments. This does not mean that this was a false alarm.

Our instruments found the highest interior level of carbon monoxide to be: _____ppm (parts per million).

WHAT DOES THIS READING MEAN?

9 ppm or less: Our instruments did not detect elevated levels *at this time*. However, this does not mean that higher levels did not exist prior to our arrival or that higher levels will not accumulate after our departure. Check your carbon monoxide detector according to the manufacturer's directions. Call the manufacturer for additional information (the phone number may be on the back of the unit). Replace or reset the detector as directed by the manufacturer's instructions. Do not place the sensor in freezing temperatures.

10 to 35 ppm: Our instruments have detected levels of carbon monoxide that may cause health problems in some people after long-term exposure. We recommend that you open windows and institute repairs or leave the building.

35 to 200 ppm: Our instruments have detected potentially dangerous levels of carbon monoxide. We recommend that you *leave the building immediately*. We feel that it is unsafe to re-occupy this building until repairs are made and your detector is replaced or reset according to manufacturer's specifications.

35 ppm is the maximum allowable concentration for continuous exposure in any 8-hour period according to MNOSHA.

200 ppm or greater: *We have detected a potentially lethal level of carbon monoxide in your home. Leave your building immediately.* It is not safe until repairs are made or the source is found and corrected. Have your sources of carbon monoxide examined and, if necessary, repaired by a qualified repair technician. Replace or reset your detector according to manufacturer's specifications.

Issued by (Print name and date): _____

Received by: _____

Customer Copy

CARBON MONOXIDE CHECKLIST

QUICK CHECKLIST: Headache? Fatigue? Nausea? Dizziness? Confusion?

Are any members of the household feeling ill?	Yes	No
Do they feel better when away from the house?	Yes	No
Have any residents had health problems in the recent past?	Yes	No

When? _____

Explain: _____

Since the detector's alarm went off, what has the resident done?

Shut off carbon monoxide sources? Yes No

If yes, which ones? _____

Let in fresh air? _____

If yes, how and for how long? _____

CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR

Make: _____ Model: _____ Type: _____

Has the carbon monoxide detector gone off in the past? Yes No

If yes, when? _____

Explain: _____

Entry Reading: _____ PPM (**SCBA required at 200 ppm and over**)

	Location	Initial PPM	Test PPM
Fireplace:			
Gas Wood Possible			
downdraft	_____	_____	_____
Portable Heater	_____	_____	_____
Gas Water Heater	_____	_____	_____
Gas Oven/Cooktop	_____	_____	_____
Gas Clothes Dryer	_____	_____	_____
Furnace (other than electric)	_____	_____	_____
Barbecue Grill			
In enclosed area Gas LP	_____	_____	_____
Attached Garage	_____	_____	_____
Car or other engine started recently?	_____	_____	_____

Final PPM reading inside structure before leaving _____

Officer completing check list _____

EFFECTS OF CO POISONING

CARBON MONOXIDE is an odorless, colorless gas that is **DEADLY**. It is a by-product of combustion. It can cause unconsciousness and even **death**, as well as symptoms that can mimic the flu. Many appliances around the home are capable of producing carbon monoxide when a faulty or unusual condition exists. **Since the source may be transient in nature, the source may not always be detectable.**

When a person breaths in carbon monoxide, it is absorbed by hemoglobin, the oxygen-carrying protein in the blood. "Carboxyhemoglobin" is then formed, replacing oxygen, preventing its release in the body and eventually causing suffocation. While everyone is at risk for CO poisoning, carbon monoxide affects individuals differently depending on the size, age, and medical history of the occupants. Infants, young children, pregnant women, senior citizens, and people with heart and lung problems are at higher risk due to their greater oxygen needs. These families should take extra precautions in the event that carbon monoxide is detected.

Mild Exposure

Flu-like symptoms including slight headache, nausea, vomiting and fatigue.

Medium Exposure

Severe headache, drowsiness, confusion, and a fast heart rate.
Prolonged exposure to medium levels of CO can result in death.

Extreme Exposure

Loss of consciousness, convulsions, heart and lung failure, possible brain damage, and death.

WHAT ARE SOME SOURCES OF CO?

Gas stoves Hot water heaters Gas or oil furnaces Charcoal grills
Gas and fuel space heaters Wood burning stoves Fireplaces Lawnmowers
Pilot lights Car exhaust fumes Tobacco smoke

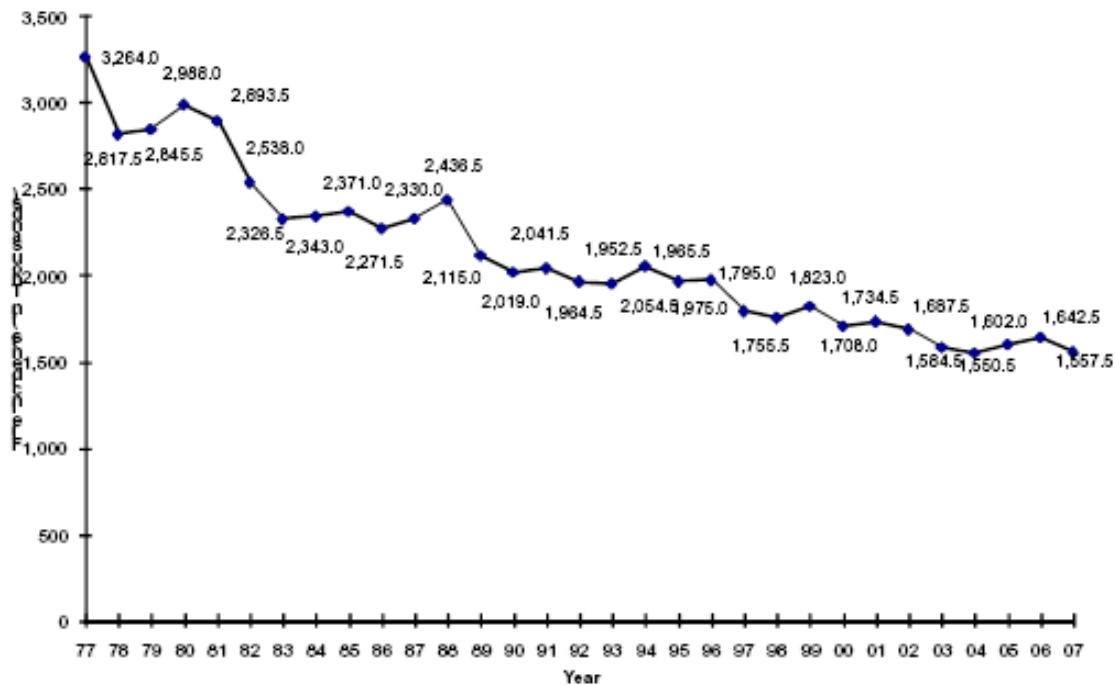
HOW TO PREVENT CO POISONING

There are many simple precautions you can take to protect your family from this silent killer.

- Inspect flues and chimneys for cracks, corrosion, holes, debris, or blockages
- Buy fuel powered heaters with automatic shut-off features
- Use fuel heaters in well ventilated areas
- Service heaters before the first use of the winter season
- Open windows periodically to air out your house
Homes with energy-efficient insulation can trap CO-polluted air inside
- Use a gas stove for cooking purposes only
- Operate gas-burning appliances in a well ventilated room
- Never leave a car running in a garage

Customer Copy

**Figure 1. U.S. Fire Incident Trends
(in Thousands)” 1977-2007**



**Table 1.
The U.S. Fire Problem in 2007 Compared to 2006, 1997, 1987 and 1977**

Reported to Fire Departments	2007	2006	COMPARED TO		
			1997	1987	1977
Fire Incidents	1,557,500	Down 5%	Down 13%	Down 33%	Down 52%
Civilian Deaths	3,430	Up 6%	Down 15%	Down 41%	Down 54%
Firefighter Deaths	102	Up 15%	Up 3%	Down 23%	Down 35%
Civilian Injuries	16,400	Up 7%	Unchanged	Down 31%	Down 42%
Direct Property Damage Adjusted for Inflation	\$14,639,000,000	Up 29%	Up 72%	Up 104%	Up 211%
		Up 26%	Up 33%	Up 12%	Down 9%
Civilian Deaths per Thousand Fires	2.2	Down 11%	Down 2%	Down 12%	Down 3%
Civilian Deaths per Million Population	11.4	Up 4%	Down 25%	Down 52%	Down 67%
Property Damage per Structure Fire Adjusted for Inflation	\$20,053	Up 9%	Up 56%	Up 144%	Up 434%
		Up 6%	Up 21%	Up 34%	Up 56%

Figure 2. Trend in Reported Fire Rates per Thousand Population 1977-2007

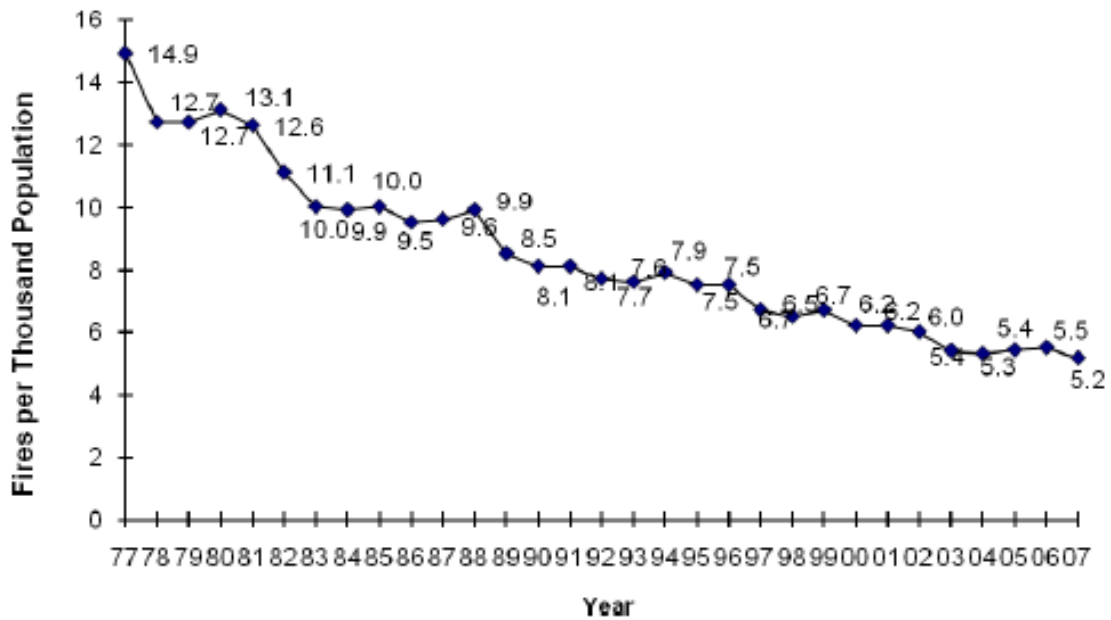
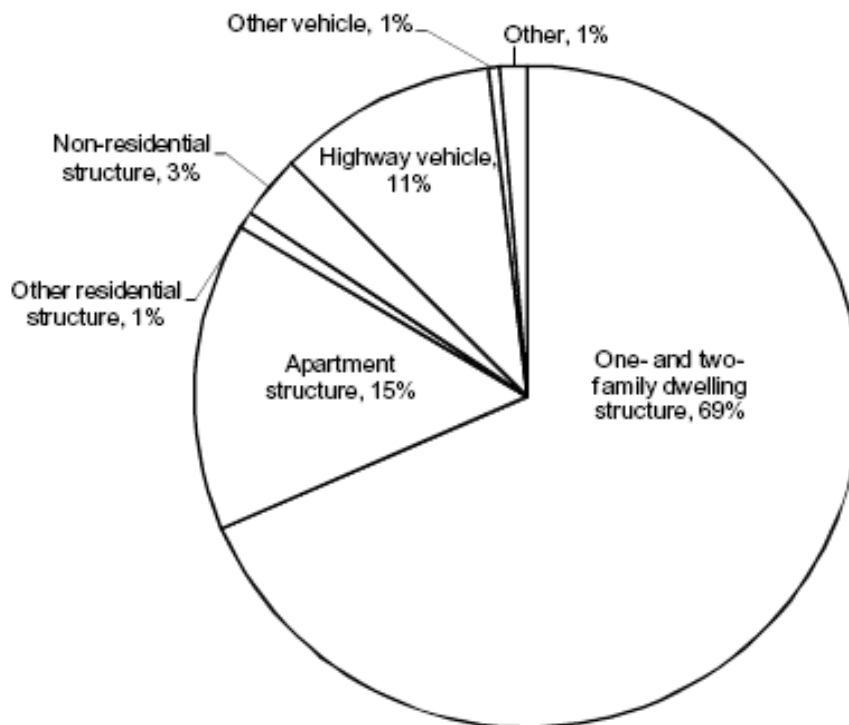


Figure 4. Civilian Fire Deaths by Major Property Class 2007



FMAM Meeting Notice & Calendar

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

Bloomington Fire Station #1 – 95th & Nicollet Avenues

1:00 p.m. – Education Program

2:00 p.m. – Business Meeting

Other Important Dates (2008):

September 17-23, 2008 – ICC Annual Conference & Code Hearings – Minneapolis Convention Center

Wednesday, December 10, 2008 – Quarterly Meeting – Apple Valley Fire Station #1

Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota
Post Indicator; Jon Nisja - Editor
678 Pinewood Drive
Shoreview, MN 55126-4749