



# *Illinois Fire Inspectors Association*

Serving Illinois Fire Departments Since 1967

## **A Message from the Board of Directors**

A huge thank you needs to go out to Erik at the Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board. He was able to get great speakers to present two half-day classes on sprinklers, standpipes, and fire pumps. Over 130 people attended both of the classes. When this was originally planned, it was to be a one day in person class at Plainfield, but obvious circumstance prevented that. The result, none the less, was still outstanding. Hopefully we can continue to do these. IF you have any suggestions on classes you might be interested in contact the IFIA office at [ifiafire@illinoisfireinspectors.org](mailto:ifiafire@illinoisfireinspectors.org).

No one needs to say that classes, seminars, etc. this year have not been like the past, which has resulted in income being down considerably. To help offset that and continue to maintain our office, we have decided to offer a raffle. Details will be available very soon on our website and email blasts. Tickets are \$20, and the prizes are an LG 49" television, a 4.7 gallon Yet cooler – donated by 1-800-Boardup, and a William Sonoma cutting board. The drawing will be on October 15<sup>th</sup> on Zoom. Ticket holders will receive the link for the drawing.

If you are in need of the Fire Inspector II class, one starts on October 1<sup>st</sup>, in New Lenox. There is ample room for social distancing concerns. Registration can be done on our website.

The Fire and Life Safety Educator class will be offered in May of 2021 at Downers Grove. If you might be interested in this class, let the IFIA office know by signing an interest form on the website so we can plan accordingly. Billing will not occur until registration is done closer to the class. If you desire a Basic Fire Prevention Officer certification from the OSFM, this class is needed.

We are not confident that the IFIA will be able to meet as a group in September, so we have decided to not do our annual Fire Prevention Awards luncheon this year. This is not to say we don't want to recognize those that are deserving. What we will be doing is presenting that award to the person at their Department. We still have some time to nominate anyone you know, even from a different organization, that might be worthy of recognition. There is no question that some of your people have gone above and beyond in fire prevention and/or fire and life safety activities. This is your chance to showcase your people for their efforts. A list of awards, and the nomination form, can be found on our website.

While Fire Prevention Week activities will be different for most organizations, remember that you may have occasions to use one of three fire sprinkler trailers for demonstrations. Contact the IFIA office if this is of interest to you.

Eight Principles of Crisis Architecture Can Help Mitigate Active Shooters. A facility itself can't stop an active shooter attack, but it can help occupants survive one. Here's how:

[https://www.facilitiesnet.com/security/article/8-Principles-of-Crisis-Architecture-Can-Help-Mitigate-Active-Shooters--18996?source=facility\\_insider&utm\\_source=facility\\_insider&utm\\_campaign=fnnewsletter-2020&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.facilitiesnet.com/security/article/8-Principles-of-Crisis-Architecture-Can-Help-Mitigate-Active-Shooters--18996?source=facility_insider&utm_source=facility_insider&utm_campaign=fnnewsletter-2020&utm_medium=email)

From Mike Weller, Training Specialist – Program Manager, Community Risk Reduction, National Fire Academy: The NFA is pleased to announce the addition of the new (and sibling to Introduction to Strategic CRR known as ISCRR) online self-study course on community risk reduction (CRR). When completed in tandem, the courses build an excellent foundation for those new to risk reduction.

This new **self-study course**, “Introduction to Community Risk Assessments” (ICRA) empowers the learner with a foundational understanding of the components, benefits, and process of conducting a basic community risk assessment. The course takes approximately five hours to complete and can be accomplished in segments at the student's convenience.

Many departments are integrating these courses into recruit academies, station-based training and officer development. These courses are also appropriate for other non-fire service audiences such as law enforcement, educators, allied health professionals, juvenile justice officials, and wildland urban interface partners.

While the two courses can be stand-alone offerings, it is highly recommended that students take the ISCRR course prior to enrolling in ICRA to receive the maximum benefit. Both courses use interactive realistic scenarios to expose students to real-life CRR situations.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available for ISCRR (Course # Q0841) and ICRA (Course # Q0843).

To enroll in these free training courses, go to: <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/new-self-study-crr-courses.html>

From Mike Love, with the Montgomery County, MD, fire service for over three decades: We sometimes get so used to the hazards in our community that we sometimes just take for granted that everything will work out. The more things work out and there are no problems the more we become comfortable and possible not become aware of changes to the hazards or to emerging hazards. I guess it's just human nature. But then we have a jolting reality check like the unimaginable storage of 2,700 some tons of ammonium nitrate in a Beirut warehouse that was stored with other hazardous materials and as bad timing would have it the other hazardous materials caught fire. We know that ammonium nitrate is a bad actor under the right circumstances, guess what, one of the worst conditions for a bad actor like ammonium nitrate is to be exposed to a fire. We know the outcome and it was the same unthinkable outcome firefighters faced in [Texas City, Texas in 1947](#), [Kansas City 1988](#) and [West Texas 2013](#) - an out of control fire exposed to ammonium nitrate. In all three of these U.S. incidents the community

had significant losses to its fire department - two departments were completely lost. It always makes us think - can this happen here? It brings our focus back to the risk we face and the hazards we know exist. So now may be that time to prioritize and look at our Community Risk Assessment as an emergent function of our CRR efforts. I love what I have heard Vision 20/20 project manager Stephen Hrustich say about CRR. He described it as scalable, or just simply the scope of efforts can be sized or focused larger or smaller based on priorities and the given needs. Its the beauty of CRR and especially of the function of the community risk assessment (CRA). In regard to our CRR plans and actions we should have them set up so that we can turn on a dime and immediately focus depending on our most compelling needs and available resources. I see the CRA as one of the most important tools we have in CRR because if we have taken steps to discover and assess our risk and documented it in a written plan the we have gone a long way toward mitigating that risk. Along with this concept we should be able to ramp up and re-assess as needed even if that means that the CRA becomes an emergent action. Shipping ports around the world got the message loud and clear that they may have been ignoring a catastrophic hazard stored with in plain sight. As a result, they are now investigating to see if, like Beirut, they have similar risk, and guess what - they are discovering they do have similar risk. Here is a link to an article in the August 23, 2020 Washington Post outlining efforts international ports are taking to discover hazardous risk. *Beirut explosion prompts other ports to search for dangerous chemicals* by Adam Taylor Click [HERE](#) for article.

**It's always better to discover a problem before you have to manage the consequences.**

The IFIA has two bookcases full of NFPA, IFSTA, Delmar, Jones and Bartlett, and Thompson books that we are looking to get rid of to free up some space. Some of these are current editions, some only one edition old, and some quite old – going back to the 80s. While the majority are fire related, there are many EMS books.

The cost of the books starts at \$3. If you are interested in any of these books, arrangements can be made to pick them up at the office. If desired, we can ship them to you, with the only additional cost being whatever the shipping fee is.

We've done our best to indicate if this book is current or one edition old, but if that is a factor for you, do your diligence to confirm that information.

The following are the latest recalls from the Consumer Products Safety Commission:

**Transform Recalls Four-Drawer Chests Due to Tip-Over and Entrapment Hazards; Sold Exclusively at Kmart:** <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/Transform-Recalls-Four-Drawer-Chests-Due-to-Tip-Over-and-Entrapment-Hazards-Sold-Exclusively-at-Kmart>

**Active Brands Recalls Bicycle Helmets Due to Risk of Head Injury:** <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/Active-Brands-Recalls-Bicycle-Helmets-Due-to-Risk-of-Head-Injury>

**CPSC and Crown Darts UK Warn Consumers to Stop Using and Dispose of Banned Lawn Dart Sets; Recalling Firm is Unable to Conduct**

**Recall:**<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/CPSC-and-Crown-Darts-UK-Warn-Consumers-to-Stop-Using-and-Dispose-of-Banned-Lawn-Dart-Sets-Recalling-Firm-is-Unable-to-Conduct-Recal> 1

**Thule Recalls Strollers Due to Injury Hazard:** <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/Thule-Recalls-Strollers-Due-to-Injury-Hazard>

**Intertex Recalls Blowers Due To Fire Hazard:** <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/Intertex-Recalls-Blowers-Due-To-Fire-Hazard>

**Pier 1 Recalls Three-Wick Halloween Candles Due to Fire and Burn Hazards:**  
<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/Pier-1-Recalls-Three-Wick-Halloween-Candles-Due-to-Fire-and-Burn-Hazards>

**Lithonia Lighting Recalls to Repair CFMK Surface Mount Brackets Used with CPANL LEDs Due to Impact Hazard:** <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/Lithonia-Lighting-Recalls-to-Repair-CFMK-Surface-Mount-Brackets-Used-with-CPANL-LEDs-Due-to-Impact-Hazard>

**Signature Hardware Recalls Medicine Cabinets Due to Injury Hazard:**  
<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/Signature-Hardware-Recalls-Medicine-Cabinets-Due-to-Injury-Hazard>

**Hasbro Recalls Super Soaker XP 20 and XP 30 Water Blasters Due to Violation of Federal Lead Content Ban; Sold Exclusively at Target:** <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/Hasbro-Recalls-Super-Soaker-XP-20-and-XP-30-Water-Blasters-Due-to-Violation-of-Federal-Lead-Content-Ban-Sold-Exclusively-at-Target>

**Communicorp Recalls Plush Aflac Doctor Duck Due to Violation of Federal Lead Content Ban; Lead Poisoning Hazard:** <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/Communicorp-Recalls-Plush-Aflac-Doctor-Duck-Due-to-Violation-of-Federal-Lead-Content-Ban-Lead-Poisoning-Hazard>

**CMP Group Recalls Dock Ladders Due to Laceration Hazard:**  
<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/CMP-Group-Recalls-Dock-Ladders-Due-to-Laceration-Hazard>

**IMMI Recalls Harnesses Made for Polaris, Can-Am, and Kawasaki UTVs Due to Injury Hazard:** <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/IMMI-Recalls-Harnesses-Made-for-Polaris-Can-Am-and-Kawasaki-UTVs-Due-to-Injury-Hazard>

**Advantus Recalls Fluorescent Computer Task Lamps Due to Burn Hazard:**

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/Advantus-Recalls-Fluorescent-Computer-Task-Lamps-Due-to-Burn-Hazard>

**Check the website for the following upcoming events:**

October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Inspector 2, New Lenox

Oct 23 - Kitchen systems seminar and meeting

Nov 20 - Did You Know seminar and meeting

Feb 17 - School safety round table full day

March 24 – 26 Annual Fire and Life Safety Conference

May 3-5, 10 and 11– Fire and Life Safety Educator – Downers Grove