

IFIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MESSAGE



There is a lot of information in this month's message, so please read this through to the end.

Our annual Combined Conference in March is right around the corner, and prices increase on February 19th, so register now at the lower cost. The detailed program can be found on our website. One day registrations are available. Our Thursday morning keynotes may be of great interest to school officials and police officers so pass this information on to them. We are all in this together. Don't forget, this conference will count towards Fire Inspector 1 recertification.

Due to the success of last year's pre-conference, we are doing that once again. We have almost filled the room, so if you have an interest in this day, sign up now. Our speakers will be Meri-K Appy and Marsha Giesler and they will be presenting a full afternoon of information on building the next generation of fire and life safety educators. This session is free to IFIA members. For those who are not members, the cost is only \$25.

For those departments that have sent in their dues, thank you. That saves our office much work. To the remaining departments, you should have received an email on that by now. Please print that out and submit that as soon as possible. If you did not get it, please contact the office, your \$95 really makes a big difference to the IFIA throughout the year.

OSFM Inspector I recertification rules have been published, and over the course of a four year period you must accumulate 100 points in order to maintain that certification. The upcoming Combined Conference is worth 15 points towards the continuing education. Our mini-seminars and other trainings offered throughout the year will also count.

The OSFM website has a document with the specific details from the OSFM on recertification. Following some questions, submitted by a local fire department, we have made the following quick reference guide.

Questions Related to Fire Inspector 1 Recertification

How many hours of C.E. are required?
100 points over 4 years

Do they need to be spread over the course of the 4 years? Or can the C.E. requirement be front end or back end loaded (accumulate all the training hours now and submit or wait until the year before certification and do all the C.E. hours then).

They can be front or back end loaded. As soon as you obtain your hours you can submit them for recertification. You cannot apply hours for recert until the new certification period has begun.

What qualifies as C.E. hours? Do classes need to be presented by OSFM? Can it be fire department provided training? IFIA seminars?

See the OSFM recertification sheet. Basically anything that is inspection related will count. IFIA seminars will count, as will local FD training, as long as it is fire inspection related. OSFM does not present any classes.

Does the March convention qualify towards C.E. hours? If yes, how many? Which sessions?
Yes it will count. 15 contact hours, and all of the conference sessions.

How does one document the C.E. hours?
Using the OSFM tally sheet, keeping certificates, and internal training sheets, etc.

How does the C.E. hour documentation get submitted? And to whom?
Through the OSFM portal by the training officer, as is done with the Fire Investigators.

Does this apply to Inspector II as well?
At this point no, but it will be addressed when the updated NFPA standards are published.

Staying with OSFM certification, we have several classes this Spring, and some are close to capacity. Inspector I class scheduled for April in Palatine. Inspector II class is scheduled for June, also in Palatine. The Public Fire and Life Safety Educator class is scheduled for April in Downers Grove. Sign up now for these classes to ensure your seat. You are getting some of the best inspection and education instructors in the field when you attend these IFIA classes.

On February 23rd we are doing something a bit different. Our mini seminar will be held at Top Golf in Naperville. The topic will be Chapter 34 of IBC and its Transition to the ICC Existing Building Code. Included in your price is some practice time at the heated driving range. This would be a good time to get some practice in prior to the start of the golf season, following some good information from Rich Piccolo.

We are looking for nominees for the Lonnie Jackson Public Education Award. This award is granted to any member of the Association who has unselfishly contributed to the greater good of public education in the fire service through program development, delivery, organization, sharing ideas, mentoring others, and devotion to the mission of public fire and life safety education. This award named after the IFIA's first Executive Director. This award for excellence will be given at the Combined Conference in East Peoria. If you have an individual who you feel is deserving of this recognition, submit them. You can also submit people for any of the other awards that we give out annually. We know these people exist, but they must be submitted for consideration. [Click here for award forms and award descriptions.](#)

The NFSA is hosting a class in Bettendorf, IA in March. Those departments close to there may be interested. You may also want to pass this information on to your sprinkler contractors.

March 20, 2018

Sprinkler System Installations

There are hundreds of types of sprinklers in use today. Determining where to locate them can be a complex task. They need to be spaced properly and installed in specific locations to ensure coverage of the protected area and located far enough away from obstructions to ensure that the spray pattern can adequately develop and control or suppress a fire. The rules that govern this complex matrix of decisions are found in Chapter 8 of NFPA 13 on Installation Requirements. This fast paced and interactive seminar will guide the participant through series of decisions and requirements that lead to compliance with NFPA 13 and ensure the system will operate properly when needed. Attendees must bring a copy of the NFPA 13 to class.

March 21, 2018

Standpipe Systems for Fire Protection

This one-day program provides the participant with the requirements for design, layout, installation and acceptance testing of standpipe systems using NFPA 14. Through discussion and activities the seminar will address topics such as system pressures, the challenges of tall buildings, requirements for horizontal standpipes and the acceptance requirements for standpipe systems.

March 22, 2018

Rough and Final Inspections of Fire Sprinkler Systems

This one day seminar provides attendees with vital information on how to conduct the field inspections for new fire sprinkler and standpipe systems.

Fire sprinklers and standpipes are installed in stages and inspections are required before commencing to the next stage. The codes require periodic on-site inspections as the work progresses, to be installed according to the approved construction documents. This work is required to be inspected and approved before being covered or before the system is commissioned. This course points out the visual and physical inspection requirements of the latest codes and standards.

Attendees must bring latest edition of NFPA 13, NFPA 14 and IBC or IFC to presentation.

Registration per seminar:

NFSA Member or AHJ: \$150 EARLY BIRD (\$175 two weeks prior)

Nonmember: \$300 EARLY BIRD (\$325 two weeks prior)

Seminar Location: Bettendorf Surrey Heights Fire Station
5002 Crow Creek Road, Bettendorf, Iowa 52722

The NFSA is also offering a class on sprinkler protection of storage, in Lafayette, IN. The attachment gives all of those details.

In December, Congress passed the most sweeping tax reform legislation since 1986. Under the new law any sprinkler system installed after September 27, 2017 in either a commercial or residential structure until December 31, 2022 will be able to be fully expensed. Therefore, the property owner will be able to immediately write off the full cost of the sprinkler system. Attached is a document that can explain this in more detail and can be given to prospective building owners to assist their decision making.

Let your voice be heard. Have you ever wished there was one source you could go to for fire and life safety messaging? Well, there is.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) sponsors the Educational Messages Advisory Committee (EMAC) made up of professionals from National fire and life safety organizations and local fire departments. The purpose of the EMAC is to provide nationally recognized, consistent fire and life safety messages.

The comment period for EMAC messages is open until Feb. 9, 2018. You can find the current messages and submission form [here](#). If you have any edits or suggestions please take the time to fill out the form. Your input is needed.

Congratulations are in order to Westmont Fire Inspector Jim Bresnahan on his retirement. He had 10 years at Westmont and 40 in fire service. Enjoy your retirement Jim.

Our Legislative Liaison, Mike Toika, continues to represent the IFIA regarding legislation on unsafe buildings and fire alarm contractor requirements. Mike has done an excellent job of making sure the IFIA membership is represented. Many issues are in the hopper right now. As things develop, we will make every effort to keep you informed. In some cases you might be asked to support or oppose a bill. Please do that. It only takes a few minutes and can be done on line. Details will be provided if that occurs.

The OSFM is holding a public school inspection class in Peoria (Peoria Co) on 03/10/2018, and in Mundelein on 03/15/2018. Interested? Check out the info on becoming qualified. Already qualified? Come back for a refresher and get an update on current codes and procedures.

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/About/Divisions/Fire-Prevention-and-Building-Safety/Pages/School-Inspection-Program.aspx>

Question should be directed to Debbie Wickenhauser at 217-785-4714 or Debbie.Wickenhauser@illinois.gov

The OSFM is looking for fire inspectors in Adams, Champaign or Coles, Kane or McHenry, and Madison Counties. If that is of interest to you, contact Dale Simpson, Fire Prevention Division Manager, Office of the State Fire Marshal.

From the ICC. If you are an Illinois code official that encounters the energy code with existing commercial buildings, please help us help you. If you are not, please forward the following to other code official that is.

The Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA) and the International Code Council (ICC) are conducting a survey of Illinois code officials to better understand how energy codes and alterations to existing commercial buildings work together, with an overall goal of helping develop programs, policies and incentives to improve compliance and make the job of code officials easier.

The survey should only take 5-10 minutes to complete, and to express our gratitude, you will have the option of receiving a \$5 Starbucks gift card.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ILcommercialenergycodealtsurvey>

All information gathered is anonymous and for research purposes only; responses cannot be identified by the responder's name, email address or jurisdiction, and only aggregate responses will be shared outside the research group. While a previous survey from a year ago inquired about new construction, this survey concerns only existing buildings. MEEA is a collaborative network advancing energy efficiency in the Midwest for sustainable economic development and environmental stewardship. MEEA serves a 13-state region, including Illinois, and promotes best working practices of energy efficiency through policies such as energy code development, adoption and compliance. Read more about MEEA's work on energy codes [here](#). The ICC is a member-focused association with over 64,000 members. It is dedicated to developing model codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance process to construct safe, sustainable, affordable and resilient structures.

The National Wooden Pallet & Container Association (NWPCA) announces the release of a new industry resource publication, "NWPCA Fire Code Compliance Manual for Outdoor Storage of Wood Pallets." The complimentary manual was produced to assist industry in compliance with the new outdoor pallet storage provisions incorporated in the 2018 International Fire Code (IFC) Section

2810 of the International Code Council, and NFPA 1, Section 34.10.4, of the National Fire Protection Association, that were adopted in the summer of 2017.

NWPCA worked closely with fire safety and code experts, and hosted several forums for NWPCA members to share safety experiences. All input received led to the development of this comprehensive voluntary resource guide. "The revised sections of the 2018 fire codes for both the International Code Council (ICC) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), accurately reflect proven best practices for pallet manufacturing and pallet recycling facilities," commented Dr. Brad Gething, NWPCA Director of Science & Technology Integration.

"By implementing the guidelines outlined in the fire code compliance manual, industry is taking a significant and proactive step to ensure its pallet facilities are operating under proven best practices. Following the outline allows our industry to build safety programs that prevent fires from starting, mitigate against their spread, and protect the life safety of our employees, first responders, and the communities we live and work," added NWPCA Chair, Shane Thompson, WestWind Logistics.

Changes to fire code documents are processed every three years. The new NWPCA manual is intended for pallet manufacturing and pallet recycling facilities to help them understand and build a compliance plan consistent with the revised 2018 fire codes of both the ICC and NFPA. The new guideline, "NWPCA Fire Code Compliance Manual for Outdoor Storage of Wood Pallets," is available as a free download, and can be accessed at www.palletcentral.com/compliancemanual

From Tim Schmitz, our regional ICC rep: Hello everyone. Attached to this document is the information for this year's Building Safety Month. If you would like me to edit your proclamation for your chapter or community, please let me know and I will be glad to make the appropriate edits. Otherwise, as in past years, they are a .doc for your use. This is not reserved just for building officials. Let's show support to those we work with. Let's work to make the 2018 Building Safety campaign one of the best!

This month the International Code Council celebrates its 15-year anniversary as an international association dedicated to building safety in the U.S. and around the world. With over 100 years of experience, the Code Council has driven the development of the International Codes (I-Codes), a coordinated, modern, efficient set of building codes used in all 50 U.S. states and many other countries.

Formed in 1994 and officially incorporated in 2003 by three legacy organizations – the Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Inc. (BOCA), the International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO), and the Southern Building Code Congress International, Inc. (SBCCI) – the Code Council was founded at the request of the design and construction industry to develop a single set of comprehensive national model codes. Since 2003, the Code Council has brought building safety to the forefront of the national debate through trainings, speaking engagements, conferences, media appearances, public awareness campaigns and more.

"In 1994 our members and stakeholders gave us a mandate – help the U.S. and the world develop a safer built environment that will not stifle economic development or the use of innovative products – and we responded," said Code Council Chief Executive Officer Dominic Sims, CBO. "Together with our members, our strategic partners and our stakeholders, we have led the charge for safer buildings and more resilient communities. Recent storms, fires and other disasters have highlighted the importance of building safety as we look to the next 15 years."

"One of our core strengths is our membership of over 64,000 professionals. They come from a wide variety of backgrounds; they are architects, engineers, contractors, government officials and students. After 15 years, their passion for building safety and their work to make our buildings and

our communities stronger continues to influence the daily lives of people across the globe,” said Code Council Board President Jay Elbettar, P.E., CBO, LEED AP, CASp.

ICC 2018 Committee Action Hearings — Group A Codes

Your expertise is needed!

This year’s Committee Action Hearings offer code and fire officials, architects, builders, engineers, designers and plumbing, mechanical and energy conservation professionals an opportunity to provide input on proposed code changes to the Group A International Codes.

The Committee Action Hearings are free to attend and pre-registration is encouraged. So whether you attend the hearings in person or participate online using cdpACCESS, you can help develop quality building codes that drive growth and affordability through innovation and safety.

Group A Codes Include:

International Building Code® (IBC®)—IBC-E, IBC-FS, IBC-G

International Fire Code® (IFC®)

International Fuel Gas Code® (IFGC®)

International Mechanical Code® (IMC®)

International Plumbing Code® (IPC®)

International Property Maintenance Code® (IPMC®)

International Private Sewage Disposal Code® (IPSDC®)

International Residential Code® (IRC®)—IRC-M, IRC-P

International Swimming Pool and Spa Code® (ISPSC®)

International Wildland-Urban Interface Code® (IWUIC®)

International Zoning Code® (IZC®)

See page 2 of the 2018/2019 Code Development Schedule for details on code chapters, notes and committee information for the Group A codes, click here (<https://cdn-web.iccsafe.org/wp-content/uploads/2018-2019-Code-Development-Schedule.pdf>).

Voting Status

All ICC Primary Representatives must validate their Governmental Member Voting Representatives by March 16 to participate in the Online CAH Assembly Floor Motion Vote that follows the Committee Action Hearings. Check voting status.

(<https://av.iccsafe.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=ICC&WebKey=43e9d27c-c3b5-453f-94e8-a1222237bba7>)

Burn Awareness Week

February 4-10 is [National Burn Awareness Week](#). Sponsored by the American Burn Association, the first full week in February is a window of opportunity to unite in sharing a common burn awareness and prevention message. The 2018 campaign provides Burn Injury Fact Sheets, Infographics, Sample Press Releases, Social Media Posts, and Burn Safety Tip Sheets. Detailed information can be found [HERE](#).

The most recent Consumer Product Safety Commission recalls are listed below:

Fujifilm Recalls Power Adapter Wall Plugs Sold with Digital Cameras Due to Shock

Hazard: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2018/Fujifilm-Recalls-Power-Adapter-Wall-Plugs-Sold-with-Digital-Cameras-Due-to-Shock-Hazard>

Bed Bath & Beyond Recalls Hudson Comforters by UGG Due to Risk of Mold
Exposure: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2018/Bed-Bath--Beyond-Recalls-Hudson-Comforters-by-UGG-Due-to-Risk-of-Mold-Exposure>

VTech Recalls Lights & Lullabies Travel Mobiles Due to Injury
Hazard: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2018/VTech-Recalls-Lights-Lullabies-Travel-Mobiles-Due-to-Injury-Hazard>

Elkay Recalls Water Coolers and Bottle Filling Stations Due to Shock
Hazard: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2018/Elkay-Recalls-Water-Coolers-and-Bottle-Filling-Stations-Due-to-Shock-Hazard>

VTech Recalls Infant Rattles Due to Choking Hazard: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2018/VTech-Recalls-Infant-Rattles-Due-to-Choking-Hazard>

Vornado Air Recalls Cribside Space Heaters Due to Fire and Burn
Hazards: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2018/Vornado-Air-Recalls-Cribside-Space-Heaters-Due-to-Fire-and-Burn-Hazards>

LEDVANCE Recalls Recessed Canister Light Kits Due to Shock and
Electrocution Hazards: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2018/LEDVANCE-Recalls-Recessed-Canister-Light-Kits-Due-to-Shock-and-Electrocution-Hazards>

Skip Hop Recalls Convertible High Chairs Due to Fall Hazard
Recall Date: January 9, 2017
Recall Number: 18-078

HP Recalls Batteries for Notebook Computers and Mobile Workstations Due to Fire and Burn
Hazards Recall Date: January 4, 2017 Recall Number: 18-077

Comfort Research Recalls Bean Bag Chair Covers Due to Risks of Entrapment, Suffocation to
Children Recall Date: January 4, 2017 Recall Number: 18-076

Walgreens Pain and Itch Relief Cream Recalled by Natureplex Due to Failure to Meet Child
Resistant Closure Requirement:
<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2018/Walgreens-Pain-and-Itch-Relief-Cream-Recalled-by-Natureplex-Due-to-Failure-to-Meet-Child-Resistant-Closure-Requirement>

Until next month...

Check the website for the following upcoming events:

February 23	mini seminar at Top Golf in Naperville on Chapter 34 of the IBC
March 21-23	IFIA Combined Conference in East Peoria
April/May	Inspector I- Palatine
April/May	PFLSE - Downers Grove
June	Inspector II- Palatine