



HOT TOPICS



SMOKE ALARMS

Make Them WORK For You!

CHIEF'S CORNER



Each year in October, Fire Prevention Month becomes a primary focus for our department. The theme for this year's fire prevention campaign is, "Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!" Working smoke alarms can save lives.

They can reduce the risk of dying in a fire in your home by 60%. In addition to smoke alarms, you should also have carbon monoxide detectors. A great way to keep you and your family safe is by making sure you have working smoke alarms and CO detectors properly installed throughout your home.

Our Detector Trek campaign will be taking place again this year. It is our goal to prevent injuries, loss of property, and most importantly, loss of life from fires by installing smoke detectors in homes and making sure the detectors that are already there are working properly. Our firefighters will be out in neighborhoods with free detectors and batteries to install on the spot. Please allow them the opportunity to make sure you and your family are safe. They will also be able to assist you with planning your escape to exit your home in the event of fire.

Little ghosts and goblins will soon be out trick or treating too. Please slow down when driving and be alert. Grown-ups, please make sure their costumes are fire resistant too and have reflective striping. Stay safe and well. Happy Halloween!

--Chief Mike Stanley

MAKE THEM WORK FOR YOU

by John Holland,
Public Information Officer

Fire Prevention Week is October 6-12 and the theme is: "Smoke Alarms: Make Them Work for You".

Did you know that working smoke alarms cut your risk of dying in a fire in half? Three out of five fire deaths occur in homes without working smoke alarms.

Another thing you might not know is that once a smoke alarm goes off you only have about 2 minutes to make it out safely. Fires burn faster and hotter than in the past. The reason for this is the amount of synthetic materials that are in our homes these days.

To keep your family safe, you have to have working smoke alarms installed, at a bare minimum, on each level of your home, including the basement. They should be installed on the ceiling or high up on a wall. You should test them once a month and replace the batteries at least once a year. The entire detector needs to be replaced every 10 years

Continued on Page 2

SMOKE ALARMS

Continued from Page 1

This should go without saying, but when the smoke alarm goes off you need to get out immediately, go to your family's safe meeting place (you do have one don't you?), call 9-1-1, and stay out.

As usual the Oshkosh Fire Department will be out in the community spreading the fire prevention message. Just like every year, we will be out in the schools with classroom presentations, fire truck and Safe House visits. Last year we reached over 2,400 kids in the month of October.

Our 5th grade Fire Prevention Week poster contest was held this year. The winners from each school gets a ride to school in a fire truck. The winners were: Colton from Grace Lutheran Elementary, Ariana from Franklin Elementary, Olivia from Martin Luther Elementary and Jase from Oakwood Elementary.



We will also be holding our annual "Detector Trek" on the evenings of October 8-10. Detector Trek is a program in which we pick a neighborhood and go door-to-door, making sure people have enough working smoke detectors. Any missing or dead batteries are replaced and missing or expired detectors are replaced—free of charge. This year we will be in the east-central area of the city.

Fire Prevention Week is a vital reminder of the crucial role fire safety plays in protecting lives and property. Working together we can make Oshkosh a safer, more prepared community.

ody

AROUND THE FIREHOUSE



Congratulations Chris Heder

Chris Heder started with the Oshkosh Fire Department on 8/16/1999 and retired 34 years later as an Equipment Operator.

Chris was always great at his job. He was meticulous and thorough. In 2022, he was named City of Oshkosh Employee of the Year for his lifesaving work during the blizzard "Battle on Bago".

We will certainly miss his laugh; it was contagious. He could eat tacos every day unless it was Saturday; then you better be having spaghetti for lunch and firehouse pizza for dinner!

Thank you for serving our community for so many years. We know you'll enjoy retirement training your hunting dogs!

NEW AMBULANCES



It was an exciting week at Station 15 when two new ambulance arrived from our vendor in Florida. The 3 EMS Coordinators along with EMS Division Chief were key to writing the specifications for the new ambulances.

They are excited about the new look. "We were supposed to get these in 2023, but due to supply chain issues, they just arrived. So, we are way over due," said EMS Division Chief Aaron Droessler.

Typically we replace our ambulances every three years due to the high volume of EMS calls that we make

AMBULANCE TRAVELS TO PERU



(Right to Left) Oshkosh Fire Chief, Mike Stanley; Representative Lori Palmeri, 54th Assembly District; Fire Chief David Ernesto Tineao Andia from the Rimac 21 Fire Company in Lima Peru, and Oshkosh Mayor, Matt Magerauer

The Rotary Clubs of Oshkosh and Lima Peru have been collaborating on a number of projects over the years. In 2020, the one ambulance that the Rimac Volunteer Fire Department had been using since 1995 died. The department no longer was able to provide emergency medical services to their community of over 100,000 people. That same year, the Oshkosh Fire Department retired an old ambulance. Through the work of the Rotary Clubs, that ambulance traveled to Florida and then was transported by ship to Peru where it now lives.

The Oshkosh Fire Department will be sending another retired ambulance to Peru this year.

At the City Council Meeting on October 8, a proclamation was read by Mayor, Matt Magerauer describing the partnership with Lima Peru Fire Company, the Rotary International Clubs in Oshkosh and Rimac. Representative Palmari presented a proclamation from the State of Wisconsin for their 108 years of service. A Medal of Service was presented to City Manager Mark Rohloff and Mayor Matt Magerauer from Chief Tineago in gratitude for their efforts to assist the sister community of Lima Peru.

ABC GRANT PROGRAM AVAILABLE

Do you know someone interested in becoming a firefighter/paramedic? Many times, money is the only obstacle holding someone back from pursuing their dream.

In 2023, the Oshkosh Fire Department in partnership with FVTC and Firefighter ABC began a grant program. We were able to provide 13 tuition assistance grants of \$1,000 to students enrolled in fire and emergency medical services programs. Many of these students are now volunteering at local fire departments and continuing studies toward a career in the fire service

We are excited to announce that grant funding is now available again because of a generous anonymous donation. For more about this program, click on the "Apply Now" button.

[Apply Now](#)

SEPTEMBER MONTHLY METRICS

by MJ VanGompel, Management Analyst

Emergency Medical Services



764

Motor Vehicle Crashes



37

Structure Fires



14

Falls



162

Fire Alarms



51

Inspections



299

LET'S CONNECT

