

The COMMUNIQUE

MAY/JUNE 2009

A Publication of the Oregon Fire District Directors Association

Governor Signs
Ethics Realignment Bill

Volunteers' Corner

J.A.W.S., Just Add Water Safety • Beach Safety Guide see page 10

The COMMUNIQUE

A publication of the Oregon Fire
District Directors Association.

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MISSION STATEMENT: To serve and strengthen
through the provision and coordination of timely
information, education, and legislation.



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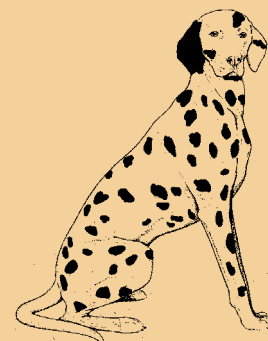
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CONTENTS

- 3 President's Message
- 4 Governor Signs Ethics Realignment Bill
- 5 Unfriendly Fire Safety
- 6 NAEFO Needs You
- 7 Legal Beagle
- 9 Volunteers' Corner
- 10 JAWS, Water Safety



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Fire Districts Not Immune to Economic Downturn

By *Connie L. Barton*

On Friday, May 15, the Legislative Fiscal Office released its latest economic forecast and, as feared, Oregon's budgetary shortfall was staggering. Our state leaders are faced with the monumental task of stretching every available resource to provide Oregon citizens with the most basic of services including those priority needs in the areas of public safety, human services, and education.

Global financial backlash has hit Oregon hard and will impact public safety in the areas of training opportunities, equipment acquisition and facility maintenance, to name just a few. Public safety proponents are faced with the dilemma of cutting expenses while continuing to meet the expectations of the public.

The opportunity for failure is great. However, I submit to you that difficult times can also produce great leaders. We, as directors, were elected to lead. That means being creative and innovative with our approach to funding and to identify inefficiencies and old habits even though "that's the way we've always done it."

Some suggestions:

- If you haven't dusted off your Strategic Plan in awhile, now is the time to re-examine your district's priorities in order and stick to them.
- Public relations are vital. The public needs to understand how the economy is affecting your district.
- Take advantage of training opportunities. OFDDA, together with its partners at SDAO, OVFA and OFCA, work hard to deliver quality training



OFDDA President Connie L. Barton

- Show your volunteers that you appreciate them. In Oregon, volunteers are the backbone of the fire service. Don't forget to let them know that they are valued.
- Don't compromise safety. In tough economic times, there is always the temptation to cut corners. Keep safety first!

Like sifting through sand and silt reveals the gold, true leaders will seize the opportunity to shine through this economic crisis.

opportunities for members of the fire service at all levels. Be sure to budget for these opportunities — including the OFDDA/OFCA Joint Conference in November.

Like sifting through sand and silt reveals the gold, true leaders will seize the opportunity to shine through this economic crisis. Will you shine? ♦



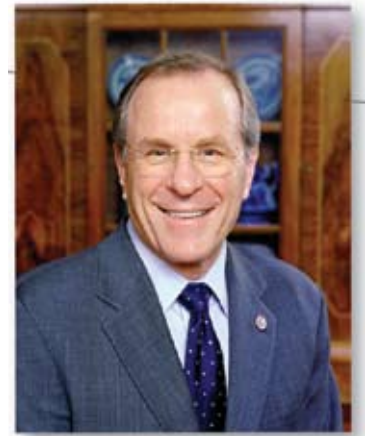
The Oregon Fire District Directors Association (OFDDA) was organized in 1950 to serve elected directors of fire districts of all sizes throughout Oregon.

The Communiqué is the official news magazine of the OFDDA. Complimentary subscriptions are provided to member districts and boards. Annual subscriptions may be purchased for \$3.



Governor Signs Ethics Realignment Bill

By Genoa Ingram, OFDDA Executive Director



Governor Ted Kulongoski

The Governor has signed SB 30, a comprehensive realignment bill, bringing clarity, reason and balance to the ethics statutes. The bill goes a long way in addressing unintended consequences of the 2007 legislature's passage of SB 10 which resulted in the resignations of hundreds of local officials across the state. Most of the legislation becomes effective on January 1, 2010; however, provisions protecting the privacy of family members whose names were included on Statement of Economic Interest forms, became effective immediately. A summary of the major components of the bill are as follows:

Provisions Impacting Gifts

Most changes center around the gift provisions and impact the giving and receiving of gifts of entertainment, food and beverage, and limitations imposed when the giver has a "legislative or administrative interest" in the public official. The total aggregate limitation on gifts from a single source in any one year continues to be \$50, whether the gift is food (with certain exceptions), entertainment, or other items of value.

Entertainment Prohibition The bill removes the outright ban on entertainment, allowing public officials to participate in community and association events. However, any gift of entertainment from a source with a "legislative or administrative interest" counts toward the \$50 gift limit.

Food and Beverage Under SB 10, food and beverage consumed by public officials (or members of the public officials household or staff) at receptions, meals or meetings was allowed under very narrow circumstances: "so long as the public official appeared to speak or answer questions as part of a scheduled program." Under the provisions of SB 30, the public official and members of household and staff may accept food and beverage at these functions so long as the public official attends as a representative of state, a local government or a special government body, each as defined in statute.

Usual and Customary SB 30 exempts from the definition of gift anything of economic value that is given as part of the "usual and customary practice" of an individual's private business or employment. For example, if a public official is also a physician and it is customary for a pharmaceuticals company to provide sample medications, those samples would not be considered "gifts" under the new revisions.

Legislative or Administrative Interest A legislative or administrative interest was previously defined very broadly as "an economic interest, distinct from that of the general public". Under the new law, that definition is more narrow. A legislative or administrative interest is now tied to the "decision or vote" of a public official acting in his or her official capacity.

Additionally, the gift prohibitions stemming from a legislative or administrative interest in an agency has been removed. Previously, for example, if an individual held a business license granted by a city, that individual could not give a gift to anyone who worked for that city because there was an "administrative interest". This prompted one inquiry to the Governor's office from an individual who explained that he held a business license from the City of Portland and wanted to know if he could give his girlfriend, who was an employee of the City, an engagement ring. (The answer was "no".)

Finally, the legislature has determined that if the giver of the gift has no legislative or administrative interest, there is no cap on the gift or gifts. However, public officials should seek advice from legal counsel if there is any doubt as to legislative or administrative interest. Public officials are strongly encouraged to make certain that there is no potential for any decision that could benefit the giver of any gift, either presently or in the future. Generally speaking, it is best that public officials do not accept gifts, except in very limited circumstances.

Reporting Provisions

More Public Officials Must File SEIs SB 30 adds over twenty public officials, including the Director of the Department
continued on page 8

Unfriendly Fire Safety

By Dave Campbell, WHA Insurance- retired

An unfriendly fire is described as a fire which has undesirable results.

For many years we have inspected fire stations in Oregon, Washington and Idaho for safety and insurance concerns. Most stations are well cared for and secure. Occasionally, conditions in and around fire stations may lead to unfriendly fires starting or accelerating.

Here are a few conditions we have observed which may lead to unfriendly fire:

1. Lack of good housekeeping and landscape efforts can increase the potential for a major fire to the building.

2. Storage of flammable liquids should always be in an approved and vented cabinet (vented to the exterior of the building); or stored in a secured facility outside the station building.

3. Outdated electrical wiring and circuit overloads can lead to arcing and combustion.

4. Propane fired and electrical portable heaters are known to have caused fires when used in heating apparatus bays or other large interior facilities.

5. Battery charging should be confined to UL approved drop cords for your trucks. We do not recommend leaving an unattended portable battery charger connected to truck batteries overnight inside the station building.

If a fire occurred in an unstaffed station late at night a total loss is a high probability. Yes, a properly insured building can be

repaired or replaced, but there are other costs to be considered.

In the above scenario, the damage to a fire station building may be \$200,000. Add building furniture and fixtures of \$20,000 or more. The total loss of an engine and a tender could increase the amount by \$500,000 or more. In addition \$50,000 for loss to portable equipment and the total is now approaching \$770,000. Valuable papers and records may also be damaged or destroyed.

The costs are not done yet! The station architectural files may need to be updated and current ADA and building code requirements may raise the replacement costs another \$100,000. Administrative and board time would be required for construction bidding and architectural work as well as other legal activities, adding another \$30,000 in costs. The unfriendly fire loss in this scenario may exceed \$900,000.

Insurance coverage and limits will address the direct loss to building, contents and vehicles. Absent from the cost calculation is:

- The time and frustration for your personnel in overseeing building and vehicles replacement or repairs,

- Working around the loss of the response location and equipment for a year or more,

- Borrowing or renting interim trucks and equipment may have limited options, and



- Personnel may need to be trained on interim equipment

The moral of the story is the exact message your fire prevention personnel try to convey to the public... the best unfriendly fire you can have is the one that does not happen! ♦



**MEMBERSHIP
INFORMATION CAN
BE FOUND AT
www.ofdda.com**



**FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant
Program web page is
www.firegrantsupport.com**

NAEFO Needs You

*By Burton Weast, Executive Director
The National Association of Elected Fire Officials*

Inside this edition of the Communique, you will find a membership application for the National Association of Elected Fire Officials, or NAEFO. Please take a minute, and let me explain why you should belong.

First, NAEFO is the only national organization that represents the directors and commissioners of fire districts. While there are groups, and very effective ones, for fire chiefs, volunteer and career firefighters and city and county officials,

New York as a state member. In the last few years, NAEFO has become truly national, and is beginning to have a nationwide presence for fire officials.

For 2009, NAEFO has board members representing states such as New York, Oregon, California and Washington and director representatives on the board from California and Washington. Representing Oregon on the board is Mark Kreutzer, a member of the OFDDA board. All board meetings are open to members and are



Burton Weast, Executive Director
The National Association of Elected Fire Officials

Belonging to NAEFO is also a chance to support our industry from an elected official point of view.

there has been a historical void for elected fire officials. The first efforts to change this started over a decade ago when representatives of fire district associations from California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona and Montana met in Las Vegas. The purpose was to create a voice and national organization. In 1990, that idea became reality with the creation of NAEFO.

The new group however, faced several challenges such as a limited budget, no paid staff and representation from only the west coast, which led some to dismiss the organization as a regional, not a national association.

All that has changed in the last several years, with staff, a broad national membership, and the addition of the Association of Fire Districts of the State of

held at locations around the country. This year our May meeting will be in Olympia and our August meeting will be in Dallas, Texas.

Also, NAEFO has expanded its annual membership meeting into a truly worthwhile learning event for directors and commissioners. The conference this year will be in Las Vegas, and in 2010 will be in Chicago, in conjunction with the Fire and Rescue International event sponsored by the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

This years event, which is on September 28th and 29th, will feature speakers on national issues as well as reports from various states on problems and events around the country. This will be your opportunity to meet fellow directors from many states as well as hear interesting programs and

share in social events. As a further bonus, NAEFO members get a special \$45 room rate in the newly remodeled and expanded Golden Nugget.

Also, as a NAEFO member, you will receive our email updates on national and regional issues. Learn what other states are doing on IRS audits, what national legislation is being planned and how you can connect with other leaders on our members-only web page.

Belonging to NAEFO is also a chance to support our industry from an elected official point of view. Talk to your fellow board members and have your district join by paying your board's membership dues, which are only \$85 per year. Help us grow so we can do a professional and solid job for the fire service. ♦



The Low Down on LOSAP

*By Christy Monson, The Local Government Law Group, Attorneys at Law
and Gwen Griffith, Tonkin Torp, Attorneys at Law*



As many of you know, the Oregon Fire District Directors Association recently took over the task of administering the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) from the Special Districts Association of Oregon. This keeps alive a beneficial volunteer program for fire district volunteers and assists the OFDDA towards its goal of volunteer recruitment and retention.

Transitions often present an opportunity to improve upon or simplify old ways of

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doing things. The OFDDA Board, the OVFA Board, and the LOSAP Advisory Board (Director Allen Forster, OFDDA; Director Kevin VanDyke, OFDDA; Volunteer Kourosh Modjtabai, OVFA; Volunteer Scott Mullen, OVFA; and Chief Tay Robertson, OFCA) decided that this particular transition allowed them to simplify the LOSAP Plan. However, some of these changes have led to questions and a few concerns from fire districts.

With this article, Gwen Griffith and I attempt to answer some of the most common questions regarding the new

LOSAP plan. Please feel free to email any further questions or comments to the OFDDA offices.

What is the OFDDA LOSAP Program?

The OFDDA LOSAP Program is a program in which fire organization can contribute funds on behalf of volunteers to fund a "length of service award" without having to create their own program.

What is the structure of the LOSAP Program and how does the money flow?

Districts adopt the Plan Document and agree to the Trust Agreement. Then, these districts contribute money to accounts established on behalf of eligible volunteers. After a volunteer leaves the active volunteer service, he or she may be entitled to an award, which is the value of the individual's account at the time of distribution. Districts do not guarantee any particular amount. All of the funds of the participating districts are held in an account with the Investment Provider until distributions are made or until a District terminates its participation in the Plan.

The District writes a check to the OFDDA LOSAP Trust. The Administrator records the contributions and forwards the funds to the Investment Provider, which invests the funds in accordance with instructions. When a participant is entitled to an award, the District gives instructions to the Administrator, which instructs the Investment Provider to make a payment to the Participant. The Participant receives the funds directly from the Investment Provider.

Is my District automatically "grandfathered in" to the new LOSAP Plan if we had the old LOSAP Plan with SDAO?

No. Not automatically. Your District Board should carefully review the new LOSAP Plan Document (Revised March 31, 2009) and adopt it by passing a resolution and signing the document. If you do not have the revised version of the document, you can get it from the OFDDA website.

Some Districts wish to keep certain aspects of their old plan. This is possible, to a great extent. To do this, your District must both adopt the LOSAP Plan Document and the Trust Agreement. Your District must also review and sign the document titled, "Plan Document Adoption Agreement" (Revised March 31, 2009). The Adoption Agreement allows your District to customize its LOSAP program by choosing certain options, such as participation requirements, eligibility requirements, allocation of contributions, vesting schedules, and credit toward vesting.

If your District has concerns about these documents or would like a further range of choices, it is important that it contact the LOSAP Advisory Board, as this group will periodically review the documents to make sure they are responsibly meeting the memberships' needs.

How does the LOSAP Program "fit in" with other volunteer payments? Doesn't the IRS have a rule against making an award to a volunteer of more than \$3,000 per year?

A LOSAP program should not be viewed as separate and independent of any other volunteer plans. If your District

continued on page 8

GOVERNOR SIGNS ETHICS REALIGNMENT BILL

continued from page 4

of Corrections, the Director of the Office of Emergency Management, and the Director of the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST), who must now file Statements of Economic Interest (SEIs) with the Ethics Commission. Special District Board members, with the exception of Ports, need not file.

Household Income Previously, public officials were required to report their top five sources of income, regardless of how small the amount. Under SB 30, only those amounts that represent more than ten percent of the household income need be reported.

Family Members and Members of Household Public officials who are required to file SEIs were also previously required to list names of family members 18 years or older as well as members of the public officials' households who 18 years or older. The new law deletes that requirement, which was one of the most onerous provisions of SB 10 and was the most frequently cited reason for local public official resignations.

Electronic Reporting The Ethics Commission was instructed in 2007 to implement an electronic searchable data base of all SEI filings submitted by public officials. Originally, that data base was to become operable on January 1, 2010; however, SB 30 delays that function until 2013.

Safe Harbor Provisions

Guide for Public Officials Prior to passage of SB 10 in 2007, the Ethics Commission published the *Guide for Public Officials*, a document heavily relied upon by public officials to assist them with compliance of the ethics laws. The publication contained a "safe harbor" provision stating that the public officials relying on the Guide in good faith would not be subject to sanctions. However, following passage of SB 10, that safe harbor provision was removed from the Guide. SB 30 states the Ethics Commission may not impose a penalty on a public official

for any good faith action the public official takes in reliance on the Guide.

Staff Advisory Opinions Likewise, public officials acting in good faith in reliance on Ethics Commission staff advisory opinions are not subject to sanctions other than a letter of reprimand. However, the Commission *may* impose a penalty for reliance on a staff advisory opinion if the Commission determines that the individual requesting the opinion omitted or misstated material facts in making the request.

Other Provisions

Appreciation of Public Officials SB 30 contains provisions reflecting the legislature's recognition of the value of all public officials, including volunteers. The bill states that "*The Legislative Assembly recognizes and values the work of all public officials, whether elected or appointed*" and "*The Legislative Assembly recognizes that many public officials are volunteers and serve without compensation.*"

Legislative Strategy

The passage of SB 30 represents a two-pronged approach to ethics revisions for the 2009 legislative session. The legislature promised and delivered a "fast track" provision aimed at correcting the most egregious provisions of 2007's SB 10. A second bill, HB 2518 represents the second half of that effort and will examine issues relating to teachers, school board members, and treatment of domestic partnerships under the ethics laws, as well as several other issues. As of this writing, that bill has been referred to the House Floor with a "do pass" recommendation. The legislature is on track for a mid to late June adjournment. ♦

The Low Down on LOSAP

continued from page 7

has other ways of recognizing volunteers, the LOSAP program must be coordinated with these other programs. One reason that LOSAP is attractive is that it is a kind of IRS "safe harbor", which gives districts more comfort that they are doing the right thing. However, under the LOSAP rules, a District can only contribute up to \$3,000

per year to a volunteer in the LOSAP program. If a District makes other kinds of payments to volunteers (other than reimbursements of actual expenses under an accountable plan) these amounts would likely be counted against that \$3,000 limit.

Does the LOSAP Plan Document (Revised March 31, 2009) allow districts to include EMTs as participants in a LOSAP plan?

Yes. Districts may create their own participation requirements through filling out and signing the Adoption Agreement. Remember, any participants must meet the criteria of being a volunteer. Employees are not eligible for LOSAP participation.

Can my District Amend the Plan Document on its own?

No. The District makes its choices by making selections provided in the Adoption Agreement. The LOSAP Advisory Board has discussed whether it would be better for the Advisory Board to have the power to amend, rather than the individual districts. The LOSAP Advisory Board agreed that it would be best to avoid a patchwork of different plans throughout the state. This also reduces the administrative costs of the LOSAP Plan. ♦

For more information regarding the OFDDA LOSAP Plan, call the OFDDA offices or go to: www.ofdda.com

VISIT THE FIRE SERVICE CENTER

When in Salem, do stop by and visit us at the Oregon Fire Service Center, home to Oregon Fire District Directors Association (OFDDA), the Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association (OVFA) and the administrative offices of the Oregon Fire Service Museum and Learning Center. We are located at 1284 Court Street, just a block and a half east of the State Capitol.

Volunteers' Corner

By Jim Oeder, Secretary/Treasurer, Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association



The Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association has been busy over the last few months preparing for our Annual Conference which is coming up June 24-27 in White City.

The Conference also presents an opportunity to elect new Board members. If anyone is interested in running for the Board we will have some positions open.

and we will do our best to help you.

We are always interested in assisting with training needs. Working closely with OFIA, we can assist in finding instructors for the classes needed.

Legislatively, it has been a tough year due to the economy. However, there was some good news recently in that HB 2460, extending the volunteer EMT tax credit until 2016, passed out of the House Veterans and Emergency Services Committee and referred to the House Revenue Committee where it will undergo additional scrutiny. OVFA is hopeful, since the Legislative Fiscal Office has indicated that the bill will have minimal impact on Oregon's economy. The EMT tax credit program was scheduled to sunset in January 2010. Under HB 2460, the program would be expanded to include additional rural areas.

If you have not visited our web site recently, it has received a face lift and has many new features. Visit us at www.ovfa.org ♦

For those districts with smaller budgets that cannot afford to send anyone, please check out our grants for conference.

Jackson County Fire District #3 has done a great job putting together the classes and instructors. If you have not received the flier for it you can find it on the OVFA web site (listed below).

For those districts with smaller budgets that cannot afford to send anyone, please check out our grants for conference. We are looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Another project that we have gotten off the ground recently is an addition to our surplus program. If you have any apparatus, compressors or anything else along these lines that you would like to donate, there is now a process for OVFA to receive the donation and then distribute it to districts that cannot afford to purchase them. Remember that the storage unit contains lots of equipment; if your district has needs, please let us know

Visit us at www.ovfa.org

> The OVFA Annual Conference is scheduled for June 24-27, 2009 in White City, Oregon

and offers a variety of training opportunities for volunteer firefighters. Please go to www.ovfa.org to view the Conference Brochure which contains information about the program, lodging and registration.

Mark Your Calendars ✓

SEE YOU IN WHITE CITY!

J.A.W.S.

JUST ADD WATER SAFETY

JUST ADD WATER SAFETY

People seem to fear what lurks deep in the ocean. In reality, there is very little to fear undersea or on our beaches, if you take a few little precautions. Our coast is a fascinating and beautiful place to visit. The sound of the waves, the sand under your feet and smell of the ocean is almost magical as you play in the surf, explore tide pools or hunt for shells or glass floats. People forget just how powerful the ocean is and make mistakes that can turn a pleasant day at the beach into a tragedy.

Here are a few tips to help you
“**BE BEACH SMART**”!

SNEAKER WAVES

They appear without warning, often surging high up on the beach with deadly force, and are impossible to predict. Sneaker waves also carry a large amount of sand that can saturate your clothes, weighing you down and making escape difficult if not impossible.

BE BEACH SMART: Never turn your back on the ocean.

LOGS

The ocean is strong enough to pick up even the biggest log and place it down on top of you. Some logs might look small, but even tiny ones can be waterlogged and weigh tons. It only takes 4 inches of water to move a 5-ton log!

BE BEACH SMART: If you see a log in the surf or on wet sand, stay off it.

HIGH TIDES & WAVES

Tides and waves can sweep over rocks, jetties and headlands, knocking you off and carrying you out to sea.

BE BEACH SMART: Assume nothing is “high enough” and avoid exposed rocks, jetties and headlands during strong wave action.

RIP CURRENTS

Rip currents are strong currents of water that rush out to sea. They are stronger than even the best swimmer. These currents can swiftly sweep unwary beachcombers and waders off their feet and out to sea. Rip currents may appear as dark, choppy water.

BE BEACH SMART: Parents, keep your kids close when playing in the ocean. If caught in a rip current, don't panic. Swim parallel to the beach until you are out of the current, then head for the beach.

KNOW THE TIDES

Incoming tides isolate rocks from headlands and the shore. Avoid the temptation of strolling out to an interesting rock without knowing when the tide rolls back in. Free tide tables are readily available at state park offices, information centers and many shops, motels, restaurants and some local papers.

BE BEACH SMART: Stay off rocks and small, enclosed beaches. Know when the tide is coming in by picking up a tide table.

BEWARE OF CLIFFS

Assume that all cliff edges are unstable. Wet trails or soft sand and earth can make for unstable footing. Rocks can be slippery even when it isn't raining.

BE BEACH SMART: Make sure you wear proper footwear, and stick to the trails. Stay behind fences and railings, and do not get too close to the edge.

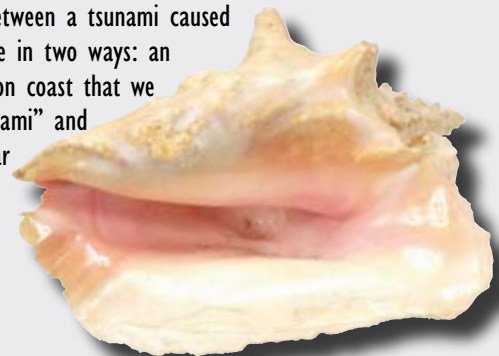
LOOK UP

Standing at the base of an ocean-side cliff can be dangerous, especially if it has an overhang. In some places, winter storms and high waves have eroded the shoreline, increasing the chance of collapse and slides.

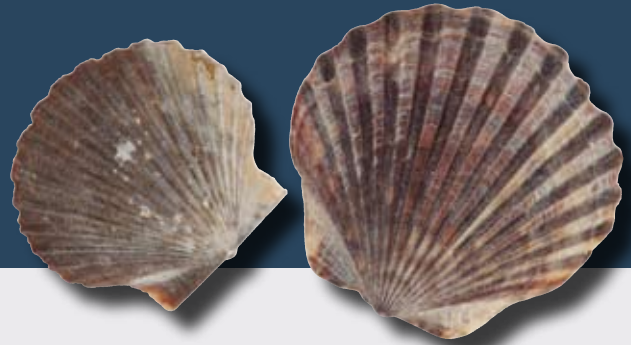
BE BEACH SMART: Beware of falling rocks, and do not climb on bluffs or eroding hillsides. Do not walk along the base of cliffs.

TSUNAMIS

The Oregon, Washington and northern California coast has some of the most scenic vistas in the world. Much of this beauty has been made by seasonal rains, pounding waves and seismic activity. Research indicates that tsunamis have struck the Oregon coast on a regular basis. A Tsunami (Japanese for “Harbor Wave”) is a series of waves, usually caused by a displacement of the ocean floor by an undersea earthquake or landslide. As tsunamis enter shallow water near land, they increase in height and can cause great loss of life and property damage. We distinguish between a tsunami caused by an undersea earthquake in two ways: an earthquake near the Oregon coast that we feel is called a “local tsunami” and an undersea earthquake far away from our coast that we don't feel is called a “distant tsunami”.



BEACH SAFETY GUIDE



LOCAL TSUNAMI

A local tsunami could come ashore within minutes after an earthquake—before there is time for any official warning. The ground shaking from the earthquake may be the only warning you have. Do not pack or delay; evacuate quickly!

- Drop, cover & hold until the earthquake is over.
- Move immediately inland to higher ground.
- Go on foot if at all possible.
- Do not wait for official warning.
- Wait for the “all clear” from local emergency officials before returning to low lying areas.

BE BEACH SMART: Find out where the nearest high ground is from your location and locate evacuation routes. A tsunami can occur any time, day or night, so know where to go!

DISTANT TSUNAMI

A distant tsunami may take 3 to 4 hours or more to come ashore. You will feel no earthquake. Typically, there is time for an official warning and evacuation to safety. If you hear a continuous siren wail for more than a couple of minutes, it is a tsunami warning. Turn your radio to 102.7 FM, 1400 AM or check your NOAA weather radio tuned to frequency 162.55 for further information. Evacuate to higher ground!

BE BEACH SMART: Know if you are in a tsunami zone. Pick up a local tsunami evacuation map at North Lincoln Fire & Rescue or at City Hall.

KNOW YOUR LIMITS AND THE RULES

Tragic water accidents can happen quickly. The most common reason for aquatic mishaps is a lack of safety knowledge. Follow these safety tips:

- Learn to swim (remember the ocean is no swimming pool).
- Never swim or play at the beach alone.
- Supervise children closely and keep them away from the surf, unless they are with an adult.
- Don't rely on floatation devices such as rafts—you may lose them in the water. Children should wear USCG approved floatation devices.
- If caught in a rip current, swim sideways until free, don't swim against the pull of the current.
- Alcohol and swimming don't mix.
- Protect your head, neck and spine—don't dive into unfamiliar waters—walk in feet first the first time.
- If you are in trouble, call or wave for help.

- Follow Oregon State Parks warnings and regulations.
- Swim parallel to shore if you wish to swim long distances.
- Avoid using glass containers at the beach—broken glass and bare feet don't mix.
- Keep beach fires small and only in designated areas. Fire residue and superheated sand can severely burn bare feet and large fires can burn for days and threaten homes from embers picked up by coastal winds.
- Report hazardous conditions to North Lincoln Fire & Rescue or Oregon State Parks immediately.
- Stay clear of coastal bluffs, they can collapse and cause injury.
- Never turn your back to the ocean—you may be swept off coastal bluffs or tide pool areas and into the water by waves that can come without warning.

WANT TO LEARN MORE

Ask yourself: Are you SET for the next natural disaster to hit? If not, to assist you in understanding and preparing for what natural threats visit our region, North Lincoln Fire & Rescue District #1 has established the Severe Event Training (S.E.T.) Book. This book will help you plan for different disasters such as winter storms, floods, wildfires, earthquakes and tsunamis. The S.E.T. book helps you plan ways to “weather” these events and create different strategies for your unique situation. North Lincoln Fire & Rescue District #1 has used the books at lectures about disaster preparedness to civic organizations, schools and businesses. You can pick up a copy at North Lincoln Fire & Rescue's Taft or Oceanlake Stations or at City Hall.

For more information, you can contact: North Lincoln Fire & Rescue 541-996-2233 or 541-994-3100

Sponsored By:



North Lincoln Fire & Rescue

PO Box 200
Lincoln City, OR 97367
541-996-2233 or 541-994-3100



The Oregon Fire Service
Honor Guard
and
The Department of Public
Safety Standards and Training
Cordially invites you
to attend the
Oregon Fallen Fire Fighters
Memorial Ceremony
September 17, 2009
at 1:00 p.m.

The Memorial will be held at the
Oregon Public Safety Academy
4190 Aumsville Highway SE
Salem, Oregon 97317



Protocol: Uniform (Class A preferred).
Memorial bands should be worn over badges.

For additional information, please contact
Julie Olsen-Fink at (503) 378-2297.