

News from Portland Fire & Rescue



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Portland Fire Leads Regional Campaign Against Illegal Fireworks



Each year we celebrate Independence Day with community parades, picnics, barbecues, and fireworks. But sadly, the Fourth of July also includes tragic events, injuries, and trauma that result from the use of illegal fireworks. In the past few years, Portland Fire & Rescue has fought multiple fires on July 4th as a result of illegal fireworks use, causing millions of dollars in property damage. Illegal fireworks can also be traumatic for children, animals, and many war veterans.

Illegal Fireworks

Oregon law forbids the possession, use or sale of fireworks that fly, explode, or travel more than six feet on the ground or 12 inches in the air. Bottle rockets, Roman Candles, Mortars, and the like are illegal in Oregon. Legal fireworks can be purchased from firework retailers and stands permitted and located in the State of Oregon.

Operation Lower the Boom

Portland Fire & Rescue and Portland Police will again join forces to conduct a campaign against illegal fireworks - Operation Lower the Boom. Three years ago, PF&R deputized Portland Police officers, enabling them to write citations to those caught in the possession of illegal fireworks. Fines for a first offense could cost violators up to \$1,000.

Leave Big Fireworks to the Pros

Watching one of the numerous professional fireworks displays in our region is a smart way to enjoy the Fourth of July in a safe and legal manner. Find out about public, professional fireworks shows here:

<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/fire/article/493680>

Enjoy Legal Fireworks Safely

- Observe the law: Oregon law bans possession, use, or sale of any fireworks that fly, explode, or travel more than six feet on the ground or 12 inches in the air. These fireworks are illegal.
- Do not allow young children to play with fireworks under any circumstances. Older children should be permitted to use fireworks only under close adult supervision.
- When using legal fireworks, only set them off outdoors, in a clear area, away from homes, dry leaves, or grass and other flammable materials.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby for emergencies and for pouring on fireworks that fail to ignite or explode.
- Do not try to relight or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Soak them with water and throw them away.
- Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place.

Remember Your Pets

During the week surrounding Independence Day, area shelters report a 25% increase in the number of pets coming into the shelters as compared with a typical summer week. Remember to keep your pets in a safe, secure place on the Fourth as fireworks can cause animals to panic and flee.

Standing Together

This Fourth of July, Portland Fire & Rescue will again conduct a campaign against illegal fireworks with its regional partners. Those partners include: Clackamas

Fire, Gresham Fire, Lake Oswego Fire, Portland Police Bureau, Oregon Humane Society, Multnomah and Clackamas County Animal Services, Dove Lewis Animal Hospital, Legacy Emanuel Hospital, Neighborhood Emergency Teams (NET's) and others. Together, we urge you to consider the negative affects of illegal fireworks in our community. Our goal is to make this Independence Day safe and enjoyable for all through a comprehensive education and enforcement campaign.

For more info on firework safety visit
<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/fire/fireworks>

Free CPR Training at all Sunday Parkways

Portland Fire Chief Erin Janssens is on a mission to make sure as many people know CPR as possible.

"While everyone knows how important it is to get to fires and rescues quickly with the right team and equipment, every second counts when it comes to medical emergencies, too," says Janssens. "If a person can't breathe, permanent brain damage begins within four to six minutes. When cardiac arrest occurs, the chance to save a life decreases ten percent for every minute that treatment is delayed. That's why it's so important for everyone to get trained in CPR so they can start delivering help right away while we're en route."



To provide an opportunity to learn this easy medical intervention, Portland firefighters will be going out into the community to instruct people on how to do "hands-only" CPR, including free sessions at every Sunday Parkways event in the city.

PF&R's first CPR event at the East Portland Sunday Parkways at Glenwood Park on May 11th. The training was a huge hit, with everyone from kids to retirees hopping off their bikes in order to learn the basics so they can assist their family, neighbors, friends and even strangers should they suffer cardiac arrest. Participants got to practice on mannequins to help demonstrate proper hand placement, amount of pressure needed and rate required for effective compressions.

The next Sunday Parkways is on June 22nd and covers North Portland. We'll be at Arbor Lodge Park --hope to see you there!

Chief Campbell Memorial & the Union Oil Fire of 1911

June 26, 2014 will mark the 103rd anniversary of Fire Chief David Campbell's untimely death in the line of duty in 1911. This remembrance will take place at the David Campbell memorial, a monument to the risks Portland firefighters take every time they go out on a call. Indeed, the memorial is for all Portland firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty as much as it is for David Campbell. The ceremony will take place at West 19th & Burnside at 10:00 am and will begin with a processional, bagpipes, and Honor Guard.



Aftermath of the Union Oil Fire in which Chief David Campbell was killed.

The Union Oil Fire of 1911

On June 26, 1911, an alarm came in from E. Salmon and Water Street shortly after 7:45 a.m. An oil pump at the Union Oil distributing plant had thrown a spark, igniting gas accumulated in its motor pit. As he got into his automobile, Chief Campbell knew the fire would be hot. One of the first at the scene, he began directing arriving engine companies. By 8:30, every fire company in the city was on the line, an incredible jumble of men, machines and horses, slipping in inches of water as they tried to position themselves.

Realizing that the fire was out of control and their only hope for controlling it would come from an interior attack, Campbell borrowed a turnout coat from one of his men and disappeared into the building. At 8:39, there was an ominous rumble from the basement as accumulated gases approached their flashpoint.

Bodies were hurtled across the street, tank heads flew 200 feet in the air, the north wall was tossed across the street and the roof fell back to the ground. Campbell was last seen silhouetted against the flames, holding up his arms to brace against the falling roof.

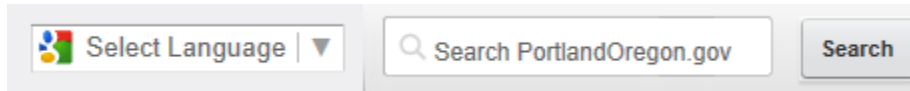
By 10:15 a.m. when the fire was brought under control, word had passed from engine company to engine company that Chief Campbell had gone into the building before the explosion and had not come out. Rescue efforts began, and his body was found huddled in his borrowed turnout coat with the letters "F.D." still visible on the buttons.

To learn more about David Campbell visit

<http://portlandfirefightersmemorial.org/component/content/article/50.html>

New Website Feature - Language Translation Tool

Portland Fire & Rescue's website can now be translated to multiple languages. Simply select the down arrow on the Language Translation widget located to the left of the search box at the top of the page.



Window Fall Prevention



Each year, fire agencies across Oregon respond to incidents involving children falling out of windows. Window falls most often occur during the spring and summer months when windows are open due to warmer weather. In the United States, around 3,300 children under the age of six fall from windows every year, with 70% of them falling from second or third story windows. In Oregon alone, about 50 children ages zero to five fall annually.

Portland Fire & Rescue reminds citizens with small children to restrict their windows from opening more than four inches. However, it is important to remember that windows also serve as secondary means of emergency escape, so make sure they are still accessible and can be opened fully by adults without special tools or equipment.

Parents can purchase window safety products at the following locations:

Safety Store at Randall Children's Hospital

Legacy Emanuel
501 N. Graham Street
Portland, OR 97227

Belmont Firehouse & Safety Learning Center

Portland Fire & Rescue
900 SE 35th Avenue
Portland, OR 97214

For additional tips on how to keep your children safe around windows in your home visit <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/fire/windowsafety>



PF&R in the News

72 **As Oregon legislators grapple with oil train safety, Portland fire chief warns city is not equipped**

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Oil Trains
Rob Davis takes an in-depth look at oil trains in the Pacific Northwest

Just a few miles away from a briefing for state legislators, oil tank cars — an older version without protective steel shields — unloaded their contents. Rob Davis/The Oregonian

April 29: [As Oregon legislators grapple with oil train safety, Portland fire chief warns city is not equipped](#)

May 1: [Portland mayor's proposed public safety budgets don't deliver chiefs' requests](#)

May 3: [String of Fires in North Portland](#)

May 6: [CPR survival rates in Portland area better than national average](#)

May 8: [Free CPR classes offered during Sunday Parkways in SE Portland](#)

May 8: [DOT Requires Better Oil By Rail Notice, But Some Unknowns Remain for NW Responders](#)

May 8: [Firefighters say quick response limits damage in 2-alarm apartment fire](#)

May 16: [After 5-alarm fire destroys unfinished apartments, officials order tighter security at construction sites](#)

May 25: [Portland high angle rescue team on rope rescue at Audubon Society](#)

May 29: [Portland firefighter awarded Silver Medal of Valor](#)

June 5: [Preventing window falls after boy's tragic death](#)

June 9: [Prevent fires: Review this home checklist and fix issues before they blaze out of control](#)

June 11: [Bear tranquilized, pulled from NE Portland tree by Portland Firefighters](#)

June 17: [Firefighters worry about vacant house fires](#)

About Us

Portland's fire service history began in the spring of 1851, with the founding of the Pioneer Engine Company, the same year the City of Portland was officially incorporated. No more than a bucket brigade, it was a volunteer force of 37 fire fighters wearing red shirts with a single hand pump.

Today, Portland Fire & Rescue (PF&R) is the largest fire and emergency services provider in the State of Oregon with 725 employees and serves a population of 588,000. In 2013, PF&R responded to 70,386 emergency incidents.

Portland Fire & Rescue

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