



July 2016

*Neighbors Helping  
Neighbors...*

# Ready Neighbor News

## Natural Impacts ~ Wildfire Awareness

It has been three years since the loss of 19 wildland firefighters from the Granite Mountain Hotshots in the Yarnell Hill Fire near Prescott, Arizona. 2013 marked one of the most fatal years for wildland firefighter deaths with a toll of 34 making the highest since 1994 when 14 were killed in a burnover in Glenwood Springs, Colorado leaving 35 deaths that year. In 2003 the death toll soared once again to 30 after 8 were killed while driving near Vale, Oregon. These extraordinary death tolls have only been in more recent years with the exception of 1910 when nearly 100 died.

As I write this a report, the National Interagency Fire Center indicates there are currently 23 fires burning in the US engulfing more than 205,000 acres across primarily the western United States and Alaska. Wildfire has burned 2,007,639 since the beginning of 2016. 2015 saw the highest fire destruction in roughly a decade impacting 10,125,149 acres from 20,563 wildfires. Additionally last year, Alaska and Washington were the worst impacted by acreage of area burned while this year predictions are indicating Alaska will once again be highly impacted as well as potentially Hawaii and the Southwest.

In May, the wildfire outside of Alberta, Canada near Fort McMurray destroyed 1,600 buildings and attributed to two fatalities and an entire population of 90,000 evacuated with smoke being seen as far south as Iowa. The Fort McMurray fire is being coined the costliest for that country in history.



The level of loss is directly related to human use of land resources and global climate change. The landscape is heating up, so much so the United States Forest Service recently received a petition to include the Joshua tree, a spindly, long-living succulent in the Southwest, to the Endangered Species list. If the service agrees, it will be the first time a species gets protection as a direct result of the impact of climate change, specifically climate change fueled drought.

Drought monitoring has become an integral part of drought planning, preparedness and mitigation efforts at the national, regional and local levels with regards to fires. Drought can develop in all regions of the continent, and its effects can be devastating. Drought directly impacts the level of wildfire that could occur in an area as well as having other negative impacts including

### Inside this issue:

Wildfire Awareness	1
Wildfire Aware....cont...	2
What is a Firework?	2
What is EM Manage...?	3
Celebrate 100 years	3
HeartSaver First Aid	3
Training Calendar	4

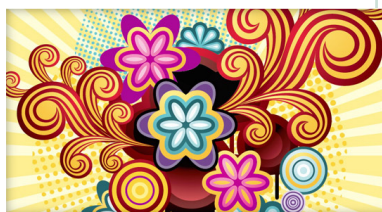
### Next Meeting Dates:

#### General Meeting:

July 13 - Station 1.  
Topic: Jenny Carver,  
American Red Cross, Shelters  
and Sheltering.

#### Leadership Meeting:

July 27 - Station 1. Topic:  
AAR for the Old Fashioned  
Fourth of July Parade  
celebration.



## Natural Impacts ~ Wildfire Awareness ...continued...

agricultural productivity, loss of species, as mentioned above, and exponential resource use.

Those living in the wildland-urban-interface could face tremendously negative impacts from wildfires due to drought or otherwise. Many naturally started fires are due to lightning strikes. Weather conditions including moisture levels, wind, and, especially, terrain factor an integral role into how quickly the fire will spread or be contained. Fires by design are already unpredictable adding in these other factors increases the potential for disastrous human related impacts.

If you live in an area where you could be impacted you should be aware of several survival aspects including making your home Firewise; planting fire resistant plants and using fire resistant materials where available and when making upgrades, cutting trees within 100 feet circumference of your home, knowing your evacuation routes, and generally being prepared; including following the locally adopted evacuation protocols; Be Ready, Be Set, Go!, having a kit, a family communication plan, and knowing where to get local information including opting into Citizen Alert, tuning the radio to 1700 AM Radio station, City of Ashland Facebook page, etc.

[https://www.nifc.gov/safety/safety\\_documents/Fatalities-by-Year.pdf](https://www.nifc.gov/safety/safety_documents/Fatalities-by-Year.pdf)

[http://www.outsideonline.com/2091656/joshua-tree-may-force-us-address-climate-change?utm\\_source=dispatch&utm\\_medium=newsletter&utm\\_campaign=06232016&spMailingID=25816620&spUserID=MTEyNDQ0MjM0MDE2S0&spJobID=823593407&spReportId=ODIzNTkzNDA3S0](http://www.outsideonline.com/2091656/joshua-tree-may-force-us-address-climate-change?utm_source=dispatch&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=06232016&spMailingID=25816620&spUserID=MTEyNDQ0MjM0MDE2S0&spJobID=823593407&spReportId=ODIzNTkzNDA3S0)

[https://www.nifc.gov/fireInfo/fireInfo\\_stats\\_totalFires.html](https://www.nifc.gov/fireInfo/fireInfo_stats_totalFires.html)

## What is a Firework?

Science teachers love fireworks because they teach you about chemistry and physics at the same time, in a very dynamic and colorful method. The word firework comes from the Greek word *pyrotechnics*, which means, very appropriately, fire art or fire skill. A firework is essentially a missile designed to explode in a controlled environment which dazzles spectators due to the chemical reactions happening simultaneously or in rapid sequence.

For example, when gunpowder burns it is a mixture of potassium nitrate, sulfur, and carbon in coal form changing to potassium sulfide and nitrogen gas. Fireworks, when activated by heat, become essentially activated energy releasing smoke and exhaust gases such as carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, and nitrogen in the process similar to gunpowder, or a bullet.

According to a basic law of physics called the conservation of energy, the total chemical energy packed into the firework before it ignites must be the same as the total remaining after it explodes, plus the energy released as light, heat, sound, and movement to create the spectators display. Physics are playing a role the moment the fuse is lit creating action and reaction causing it to shoot into the air.

The Chinese are believed to have made exploding rockets in the 6th century, the Arabian world acquired rocket

technology during the 7th century, by the mid 13th century experiments were underway in manufacturing gunpowder, Europe created the common firework in the 17th century, and fireworks finally became popular in the US during the 19th century. Fireworks are now a common themed celebration; especially for the Fourth of July.

Fireworks create joy and pleasure for many millions of people annually, but need to be treated with utmost respect because they are extremely dangerous. If you get too close to one it could burn you badly, disfigure you for life, or even kill you. Every year, millions of dollars of damage is done by stray fireworks setting fire to property and there's also the distress that fireworks cause to pets to consider.

That's why the sale and use of fireworks is restricted by law in the City of Ashland and in many countries. If you're having anything to do with fireworks, be sure to read and follow all the safety instructions. Better still, why not leave handling fireworks to the pyro-technician and watch the Chamber display?

Have a safe holiday.



## What is Emergency Management?

**Emergency Management:** Organized analysis, planning, decision-making, and assignment of available resources to mitigate (lessen the effect of or prevent), prepare for, respond to, and recover from the effects of all hazards. The goal of emergency management is to save lives, prevent injuries, and protect property and the environment if an emergency occurs.

**Emergency management refers to the day-to-day activities that fire or police departments perform** that are part of their planned, anticipated, budgeted daily routine. These activities may include putting out fires, rescuing injured victims from vehicle accidents, tending to heart attack victims, directing traffic, or even rescuing cats from trees. In addition to being part of the planned daily routine which does not upset the overall patterns of a community, these types of events do not generate unmet organizational needs. **Disaster management refers to those situations, events, or occasions when a community's resources are perceived as not sufficient**, and unmet social needs are generated. Social life becomes disrupted for much of the community, and the community must reach to the outside environment for additional resources.

## Celebrate 100 years

Old-Fashioned Fourth of July Celebration in downtown Ashland. Monday July 4 (parade begins at 10am).

2016 marks the 100 year anniversary of the development of Lithia Park which was formally dedicated over the Independence Holiday in 1916. Lithia Park was designed by John McLaren, the supervisor and designer of the Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. The park is situated on 93-acres bordering Ashland Creek of which 42 are on the National Register of Historic Places. Lithia Park, according to the 1982 National Historic Places designation, is significant primarily as the singular example of landscape design in Oregon by John McLaren. It is a complete reflection of the public park movement, from its beginnings in the Chautauqua movement, to an Olmsted-style naturalistic park, to its improvements by the Works Project Administration between 1935 and 1938.

Come out and celebrate this annual Ashland cultural experience. Happy Independence Day.

## AHA HeartSaver First Aid / CPR / AED Course

HeartSaver First Aid, CPR, AED, is a classroom, video-based, instructor-led course that teaches students critical skills needed to respond to and manage a first aid, choking or sudden cardiac arrest emergency in the first few minutes until emergency medical services (EMS) arrives. Students learn skills such as how to treat bleeding, sprains, broken bones, shock and other first aid emergencies. This course also teaches adult CPR and AED use.

The cost for this course is \$55, which includes a student study book and card\*. The class takes approximately 8 hours to complete. All fees must be prepaid prior to the class date to confirm reservation. Please register early to reserve your space.

\*Upon successful completion, students will receive an American Heart Association HeartSaver First Aid, CPR, AED Course Completion Card that is valid for two years.

**When:** Saturday, July 23, 2016

**Where:** Ashland Fire Station 2

**Time:** 9am-5pm

**Cost:** \$55

**Registration is first-come, first-served according to when class fees are paid.** Classes are typically limited to 8 people. Participants may register by mailing a check or by paying in person 8 AM - 4 PM Monday - Friday at Station 1, 455 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland, OR 97520. Make checks payable to City of Ashland.

For information or to register contact the Ashland CERT Program Coordinator  
541-552-2226 | cert@ashland.or.us



# CERT 2016 Calendar of Events

January 2016	February 2016	March 2016
General Meeting - January 13 ( <i>Calculating Risk</i> ) <b>Search &amp; Rescue Tactics - Jan 23</b> Leadership Meeting - January 27 ( <i>CERT member handbook</i> )	General Meeting - February 10 (Eric Dittmer - Seismic Activity) <b>Terrorism Response Awareness - Feb 20</b> Leadership Meeting - February 24 (Everbridge Training)	General Meeting - March 9 ( <i>CERT Skills Training</i> ) NO Leadership Meeting <b>Base Activity - March 12</b> <b>CPR Night - March 16 (6pm)</b>
April 2016	May 2016	June 2016
General Meeting - April 13 ( <i>Building Assessment &amp; Triage</i> ) Leadership Meeting - April 27 ( <i>Planning for Basic Training</i> ) <b>Basic Training - April 21-23 and May 5-7</b>	General Meeting - May 11 - Basic Graduation <b>Base Bike Ride - May 15</b> Leadership Meeting - May 25 (Basic Training AAR) <b>Annual Phone Tree Test - TBA</b>	General Meeting June 8 ( <i>SCBA filling at JCFD5</i> ) <b>Evacuation Training - June 11</b> Leadership Meeting June 22 ( <i>Final Planning for 4th of July</i> )
July 2016	August 2016	September 2016
<b>Parade Support - July 4</b> General Meeting - July 13 ( <i>Mission Training</i> ) <b>Firefighter Rehab Training - July 16</b> Leadership Meeting - July 27 ( <i>4th of July AAR</i> )	<b>DATE CHANGE - JULY 17 - CERT BBQ</b> General Meeting - August 10 ( <i>TBA</i> ) Leadership Meeting - August 24 ( <i>Fire Department Communications</i> )	<b>Ashland Is Ready (AIR) - September 10</b> General Meeting - September 14 <b>Family &amp; Friends CPR - September 24</b> Leadership Meeting - September 28
October 2016	November 2016	December 2016
<b>Basic Training - October 6-8 and 13-15</b> General Meeting - October 12 Leadership Meeting October 26 <b>Base Bike Ride - October 23</b>	General Meeting - Nov. 9 - ( <i>Basic Graduation</i> ) <b>Certified Driver Training - November 19</b> Leadership Meeting - November 16 ( <i>Annual Training Planning Session</i> )	<b>CERT Year in Review</b> <b>December 14 - 6:30 to 8:00 PM</b> No Meetings <b>Holiday Season ~ Training Stand Down</b>

**Note:** General meetings are open to the public. Doors open at 6pm. Meetings are from 6:30pm-8pm at Fire Station1.

Ashland CERT  
455 Siskiyou Boulevard  
Ashland, OR 97520

TO: