



Illinois Fire Inspectors Association

Serving Illinois Fire Departments Since 1967

A Message from the Board of Directors

Our annual Fire and Life Safety Conference will be held in March next year and is progressing well. At this point we have one registered from Maryland!

As a bonus to you, we recently added optional “round tables”. These sessions will be no longer than one-hour and will follow the morning activities. This will be a chance for a company to discuss a product, or question the attendees on various issues/concerns. We have three companies that have expressed interest in this. Watch the blasts for more information.

The “conference” will be Monday – Friday. We will start at 0900 and end at noon. The plan will be a general session on Monday, followed by two days of Fire and Life Safety programs, and that will be followed by two days of code enforcement programs.

The topics for the conference will be What’s the Big Deal About CRR?, Motivating for Behavior Change – Why Don’t People Do What We Want Them To Do?, Effective Social Media, Vision 20/20 and IL Model, Solar Plan Review, Fire Pumps, Flammable Refrigerants, and Update to NFPA 72.

The dates of the conference will be March 22 – 26, 2021. We will have three pricings. One for the full event – best value, a three-day code *or* FLSE fee – each of these includes the Monday opening session, and a daily fee. The three-day fee, for example, might be best for educators who do not have the need for code enforcements topics. Mark this down now and plan to attend.

For those that had rolled their registration from 2020 into 2021, thank you. We will refund you the difference from last year to what you choose for 2021. A one-page flyer has been e-mailed out, and is available on our website with all of the particulars. Within a week, a more detailed pre-conference program with class descriptions will be available and sent out.

On February 26th there will be a mini seminar on Clearing the Air in Fire Sprinkler Systems: Controlling Corrosion in Sprinkler Systems with Nitrogen Generators and Automatic Air Venting. Our thanks to the Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board for this class. Registration is on our website.

Now that the IFIA has a way to track hours of people through our virtual training sessions, we will award certificates only to those people **who were on line for 80% of the hours**. For a 2.5-hour mini seminar, that means being on line for two hours. The 80% is also what the OSFM uses for attendance for their courses.

We are in need for someone that would like to be our Social Committee Chair. The general idea would be for events that benefit our membership socially, such as a December holiday party, a golf outing, etc. If you are interested, contact the Office or any Board member.

The National Public Safety Educator Forum is offering a one-hour virtual seminar on February 18th at noon on elevating your virtual learning. The details: Discover ways to keep virtual presentations interactive and engaging; Get ideas on how to make presentations cohesive and appealing; Discuss how to promote virtual programs; Receive additional resources to help with your virtual program.

Register at: <https://www.911npef.org/event-details/elevate-virtual-learning>

The AFG Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) FY 2020 application period is open now through February 26, 2021 at 5:00 pm ET. FEMA is hosting webinars running through February 16, 2021 to familiarize potential applicants with the program (see below).

The FY 2020 Notice of Funding Opportunity focuses much needed attention on **supporting code officials as well as adopting, implementing, and enforcing the codes.**

- **Fire code enforcement and awareness is one of the primary objectives** of the FY 2020 FP&S grant program.
- **FP&S activities are data-driven**, focusing code enforcement activities on decreasing fire losses, structural fires, fire-related deaths, and structural property losses in excess of \$25,000.
- FP&S applications will be evaluated, in part, by a fire department's **commitment to mitigation**. This includes:
 - **Adoption and enforcement of a wildland urban interface (WUI) code** such as the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code (IWUIC)
 - **Commercial/residential sprinkler code adoption and enforcement**. A good resource here is the National Fire Sprinkler Association's 2020 Guide for Fire Sprinkler Tax Incentives which includes recent updates from the Coronavirus Economic Stabilization Act of 2020.

Of particular note, the FY 2020 FP&S grants make **Wildfire Risk Reduction - Code Enforcement and Awareness** a **funding priority**. This includes **projects that focus on first time or reinstatement of code adoption and code enforcement, including WUI fire codes for communities with a WUI-wildfire risk.**

Examples of other codes-eligible projects include:

- Assistance for the adoption or awareness of building codes
- Support for conducting inspections (including personnel costs, equipment, code books, and/or training assistance)
- Promotion of code enforcement to improve engineering and/or enacting fire-related ordinances for new construction

On February 17th at 10 am, the Firestop Contractors International Association will be offering a class on Maintaining Protection of Gypsum Assemblies. Registration can be done at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1535186917908193037>

Don't miss this webinar by Kyle Flondor, USG's Fire Systems Lead, Building Science, as he covers proper design and systems selection through the UL Product iQ. Then, follow along as he dives into the patching and repair of fire-resistance-rated gypsum assemblies.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is currently considering the development of a new standard for the fire protection of cannabis facilities that would provide clear guidance on fire and life safety provisions for the cannabis industry. This consideration comes in response to serious fires that have occurred at cannabis facilities in recent years, the rapid legalization of medical and/or recreational use of cannabis throughout the U.S., and the exponential growth of cannabis facilities around the globe.

“Medical and/or recreational use of cannabis is now legal in 34 states and the District of Columbia, with more states poised to follow suit,” said Kristin Bigda, technical lead of building and life safety at NFPA. “As the number of cannabis growing and processing facilities continues to increase, some groups and individuals have expressed the need for provisions that would help minimize associated fire and life safety risks for facility staff and first responders.”

As proposed, the effort would build upon the work started several years ago *in* NFPA 1, *Fire Code*, which addresses the fire protection aspects of the growing and processing facilities. The new stand-alone document would expand upon those requirements, referencing appropriate resources as needed, with the overall goal of addressing the protection of facilities from fire and related hazards where cannabis is being grown, processed, extracted and/or tested.

Activities related to the proposed project would include the development of requirements for inspecting, systems testing, and maintenance of cannabis growing, processing, and extraction facilities. The proposed standard would also determine the general skills, knowledge and experience required among facility operators and facility managers responsible for ensuring adequate levels of safety at these facilities.

NFPA is seeking comments from all interested organizations and individuals to gauge whether support exists for development of such a standard, and is soliciting feedback on the following:

- Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of an NFPA Standard pertaining to the fire protection of cannabis growing and processing facilities?
- Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development.

All comments in support or opposition to standards development related to fire protection of cannabis growing and processing facilities must be submitted by **March 31, 2021** to: stds_admin@nfpa.org.

Winter is not done yet, and people are still using tents. **There are now tents that can handle snow loads.** Anchor Industries has structures that can be installed and certified with ground snow loads of up to 40 PSF (snow load varies depending on width of tent). See this link for more information: <https://anchorinc.com/tent-manufacturer/frame-tents/snowload/>

The following are the latest recalls from the Consumer Products Safety Commission:

Target Recalls Infant Rompers Due to Choking Hazard:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Target-Recalls-Infant-Rompers-Due-to-Choking-Hazard>

Target Recalls Infant-Toddler Girl's One-Piece Rashguard Swimsuits Due to Choking Hazard: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Target-Recalls-Infant-Toddler-Girls-One-Piece-Rashguard-Swimsuits-Due-to-Choking-Hazard>

Massimo Motor Sports Recalls Percussion Massage Guns Due to Fire Hazard; Sold Exclusively at Costco: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Massimo-Motor-Sports-Recalls-Percussion-Massage-Guns-Due-to-Fire-Hazard-Sold-Exclusively-at-Costco>

Rust-Oleum Recalls Aerosol Paint Due to Injury Hazard:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Rust-Oleum-Recalls-Aerosol-Paint-Due-to-Injury-Hazard>

Academy Sports + Outdoors Recalls Ozone 500 Density Bicycles Due to Fall and Injury Hazards: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Academy-Sports-Outdoors-Recalls-Ozone-500-Density-Bicycles-Due-to-Fall-and-Injury-Hazards>

Sea to Summit Recalls Camping Pots Due to Burn and Scald Hazards:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Sea-to-Summit-Recalls-Camping-Pots-Due-to-Burn-and-Scald-Hazards>

Juratoys Recalls Toy Trumpets Due to Choking Hazard:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Juratoys-Recalls-Toy-Trumpets-Due-to-Choking-Hazard>

Belkin Recalls Portable Wireless Chargers + Stand Special Edition Due to Fire and Shock Hazards: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Belkin-Recalls-Portable-Wireless-Chargers-Stand-Special-Edition-Due-to-Fire-and-Shock-Hazards>

Rapala USA Recalls Rechargeable Fillet Knives Due to Fire Hazard:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Rapala-USA-Recalls-Rechargeable-Fillet-Knives-Due-to-Fire-Hazard>

CB2 Recalls Junction Tall Chests and Low Dressers Due to Tip-Over and Entrapment Hazards:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/CB2-Recalls-Junction-Tall-Chests-and-Low-Dressers-Due-to-Tip-Over-and-Entrapment-Hazards>

Check the website for the following upcoming events:

- February 26 Mini seminar and meeting - Clearing the Air: How Nitrogen and Automatic Air Venting Are Used to Control Corrosion in Sprinkler Systems
- March 22 - 26 Annual Fire and Life Safety Conference
- April 23 Mini seminar and meeting - Carnivals and Tents
- May 3-5, 10 & 11- Fire and Life Safety Educator class – Downers Grove