



Yadkin County Fire Marshal's Office

THE FLAME

Emergency Services News Letter



FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

AUGUST, 2006

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Small Plane Lands at Silo Run Golf Course
- Haz/Mat & Medical Responder Class Scheduled
- Command Center Photo Gallery
- Yadkinville VFD - Live Fire Training
- Pension Fund Benefit Increases

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Fire Safety Tips 2
- Events/ Deadlines 2
- Fire Department Budgets Approved 4
- USFA Releases Firefighter Fatality Report 5
- USFA Releases Candle Fire Report 5
- Hut, Hut - Crunch Time 7

Yadkin County: Takes Delivery of Mobile Operations Command Center

On July 21st Yadkin County took possession of its new Mobile Operations Command Center. It is a 32-foot 2006 Pace American Shadow trailer from Trailers of the East Coast in Mocksville.

It came equipped with a 7kw generator, 250-watt PA system, awning, exterior lights, and an Information Technology system, including a phone and computer network. A communications room is located on one end while a command/strategy room is on the other end. Workstations line the middle room.

It was purchased with funds from the FY 2004 State Homeland Security Grant Program administered by the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management.

Hopefully, the Mobile Command Center will be fully operational within a few weeks. It should prove to be a very valuable tool in the continued effort to prepare Yadkin County for any situation – from terrorism to natural disasters to planned events.



Yadkin County Mobile Operations Command Center

John Kessler, New County Ranger

John Kessler has been appointed County Ranger, effective June 19, 2006. John has worked as Asst. County Ranger since June 2000. John, a native of Surry County attended East Surry High School and Haywood Community College and has an Associates Degree in Forestry.

Since John's employment with the NC Forest Service, he has been deployed on two Western Fire Assignments. John has also been deployed to coastal North Carolina with a chainsaw crew to assist with Hurricane recovery. We would like to congratulate John on his appointment.



Barbecue Safety



“Never grill in enclosed areas - carbon monoxide could be produced”



- Before using a grill, check the connection between the propane tank and the fuel line. Make sure the venturi tubes - where the air and gas mix - are not blocked.
- Do not overfill the propane tank.
- Do not wear loose clothing while cooking at a barbecue.
- Be careful when using lighter fluid. Do not add fluid to an already lit fire because the flame can flashback up into the container and explode.
- Keep all matches and lighters away from children. Teach your children to report any loose matches or lighters to an adult immediately. Supervise children around outdoor grills.
- Dispose of hot coals properly - douse them with plenty of water, and stir them to ensure that the fire is out. Never place them in plastic, paper or wooden containers.
- Never grill/barbecue in enclosed areas - carbon monoxide could be produced.
- Make sure everyone knows to Stop, Drop and Roll in case a piece of clothing does catch fire. Call 911 or your local emergency number if a burn warrants serious medical attention.

Source: US Fire Administration

NC Forest Service Burning Permits



Get Your Burning Permits Online

www.dfr.state.nc.us

Upcoming Events / Deadlines

- Local Emergency Planning Committee - Yadkinville VFD August 3, 2006
- 9/11 Commemorative - Yadkinville 8-9 am September 11, 2006



Small Airplane Lands at Silo Run Golf Course

A single engine airplane made an emergency landing on the driving range of Silo Run Golf Course on Friday, July 14, 2006 at approximately 3:14 pm. The pilot and passenger escaped with no serious injuries. Most of the damage to the plane was in the nose section. The Cessna's nose strut and wheel was separated from the plane during the landing. The NTSB and FAA were notified. The FAA was on the scene late Friday afternoon conducting an investigation. Responding agencies included; Fall Creek VFD, Boonville VFD, Yadkin County EMS, Yadkin County Rescue Squad, Emergency Management, Fire Marshal, Yadkin County Sheriff's Office, NC Highway Patrol and the Boonville Police Department.



Fire Department 2006-2007 Budgets Approved

Fire Department	Budget	Fire Tax Rate
Forbush	\$179,706.00	5 3/4 cents
Yadkinville	\$437,648.24	6 1/2 cents
Boonville	\$163,950.00	6 1/2 cents
East Bend	\$180,625.00	6 3/4 cents
Fall Creek	\$116,193.00	6 cents
Arlington	\$124,501.22	7 3/4 cents
West Yadkin	\$171,286.00	7 1/2 cents
Courtney	\$150,021.00	7 1/2 cents
Buck Shoals	\$71,000.00	6 cents
Lone Hickory	\$243,527.79	7 1/2 cents

Surry Community College:

Two classes scheduled for Fall Semester

Surry Community College has the following courses scheduled for the fall semester:

A 72 hour Medical Responder beginning August 22 at the Yadkin Center. Two classes are being offered, both meeting on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The first class meets from 12 noon till 3 PM and the second meets from 7 till 10 PM.

A 36 hour Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations beginning September 25 at 7:00 PM at Station 12. The class will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7 till 10 PM and on Saturday October 21 from 8 AM till 3 PM. Mitch Callaway will be the lead instructor.

Contact Wayne Matthews at 679-4600 ext 5226 for further details or to pre-register.

USFA Releases Report on Firefighter Fatalities in the United States in 2005

News Release Date: July 19, 2006

EMMITSBURG, MD - With deep regret, the United States Fire Administration announced today that 115 on duty firefighter fatalities occurred in the United States in 2005, plus four additional fatalities resulting from injuries sustained while on duty from previous years.

"One of the most difficult elements in this job is to hear that annual number of on duty firefighter deaths," Acting United States Fire Administrator Charlie Dickinson said. "Across the country, over one hundred more families are struggling with the terrible losses of loved ones, from an 18-year old firefighter in training to the 55 firefighters who suffered fatal heart attacks."

In 2005, there were four multiple, firefighter-fatality incidents - two in New York, three in Texas, two in Wyoming, and three in California. Tennessee lost two firefighters and New York lost one, all in separate incidents. Six firefighters died of Cerebral Vascular Accidents (CVA's). Vehicle crashes took 25 lives. Heart attack was the cause of 55 deaths, which is lower than the 61 from 2004.

The average age of firefighters who died in 2005 was 47 years - the youngest was 18 and the oldest was 76.

"Positive strides are being made through the growth of new and active firefighter health and safety programs, national safety stand downs, and the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation's Everyone Goes Home efforts," Dickinson emphasized. "USFA is committed to doing everything we can to reduce these losses and hopefully all fire departments will share and join our commitment to protect all firefighters serving their communities."

The report, Firefighter Fatalities in the United States in 2005, FA-306, can be downloaded from www.usfa.dhs.gov. Orders for printed copies will be accepted beginning in September 2006 through the USFA Publications Center.

Additional information on firefighter fatalities, including the annual fatality reports from 1986 through 2004 and the Firefighter Fatality Retrospective Study 1990-2000, can be found at USFA's Web site: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fatalities/>

USFA's National Fire Data Center Releases Findings on Candle Fires in Structural Residences

Release Date: July 20, 2006

EMMITSBURG, MD. - Acting United States Fire Administrator Charlie Dickinson announced today the completion of a report on candle fires in residential structures. Candles are responsible for an estimated 23,600 residential structure fires each year and cause 1,525 civilian injuries, 165 fatalities, and \$390 million in direct property loss.

"Typically, we call attention to the dangers of candle fires in the home around the winter holiday season, and last October's theme for Fire Prevention Week was Use Candles with Care," said Acting Fire Administrator Charlie Dickinson. "Regardless of the season, it's important to remind the public of the seriousness of candle fires."

The report, Candle Fires in Residential Structures, was developed by the USFA's National Fire Data Center as part of its Topical Fire Research Series and is based on three years of data from the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for 2002-2004. This topical report examines the causes and characteristics of candle fires. Areas of information discussed in the report include residential fire losses, seasonality of candle fires, items first ignited and area of origin, factors leading to candle fires, and product recalls, plus conclusions covering candle use during the past decade.

"Every candle having an open flame poses the risk of fire," Dickinson said. "Use all candles with care."

A copy of the topical report, Candle Fires in Residential Structures, can be downloaded from: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/statistics/reports/pubs/tfrs.shtm>

Yadkin County Mobile Operations Command Center



Work Stations - Middle Room



Command/Strategy Room



Communications Room

Hut, Hut--Crunch Time

Donnie Martin, EMT-P Supervisor



Summer has come and with it all the outdoor activities as well as all those injuries. The bites, stings, cramps and dehydration have been seen. Now it is getting time for the gridiron season to get cranked up with all the strains, sprains and fractures, not to mention the heat related problems. While treating these problems is no different from any other patient, there are however some special situations that you need to be aware of with the football player.

Everyone has had a strain or a sprain. They hurt! But what is the difference? A strain is involving a muscle or muscle group that had been stretched too far or over used resulting in a muscle injury. These types of injuries are common during the first days of the season and with rest and time they heal just fine. Sometimes however a strain can lead to a tear if the athlete does not take care of the injury. Pain is the overwhelming symptom. The patient won't want to move the area and has a history of overuse or too much stretch of the muscle. These are easily treated with ice and rest. Sprains involve the ligaments around a joint when the joint is forced beyond its normal range of motion. Sprains are painful and there is a history of twisting of the joint. Swelling is common and even discoloration is noted. Ankles and knees are most often injured but any joint can be injured. Treatment is accomplished with the acronym RICE. Rest, Ice, Compression and Elevation. Stabilizing the joint is important to decrease movement and that in turn eases the pain somewhat. One of the best splints to use for ankles, knees, elbows, and wrist is a simple pillow splint. A soft splint makes it easier to use and is easily x-rayed through. Applying ice to the site with a compression bandage eases the pain and decreases swelling. Remember when using compression bandages check for distal circulation. Elevate the area and reassess. Sprains can be serious and they are painful. Fractures or broken bones are painful. They present with swelling and often the extremity may be deformed and occasionally there may be an open fracture. Treatment is the same as with any patient. Rigid splints are better suited for long bone fractures. Ice will help as well. For open fractures just apply a moist dressing over the bone end in addition to other treatment.

Stingers or burners are painful injuries that involve trauma to nerves. These are very painful and can mimic the pain of a sprain, fracture or dislocation. This injury is caused by the stretching of nerves that run across the shoulders under the collarbone and into the arm. These patient's will complain of pain shooting into an arm and fingers feeling like a shocking tingling sensation. Weakness and numbness also occur. Most of these symptoms will subside after a few minutes but can last for long periods. Most of these players will return to action with some additional padding after a period of rest and ice. A good history of this injury is that the player will come off the field with his affected arm hanging by his side with intense pain. What make stingers worrisome are the similar symptoms one may have with a spinal cord injury. The best treatment is time. The pain usually goes away after a few minutes. If ever unsure about this injury treat for the spinal cord injury.

Treating the spinal injured or potentially injured player takes time and must be done with deliberate care. There must be coordination with all personnel to properly treat this patient. The game/practice will wait and you should take all the time you need to do this correctly. The basic principals apply with a few differences. Do not remove the helmet or remove the chin strap. The mouth piece can be removed easily. On the rare occasion when an airway problem occurs, you can cut the face mask clips and remove it or log roll the patient to clear the airway and suction as needed. C-spine traction as always and the person at the head is in charge of moving. Leave the shoulder pads on as well. Cervical collars usually won't fit because of the shoulder pad height and helmet. You can roll towels and use them. Make sure you pad all the voids when placing the patient onto the board. Make sure that the patient is secured to the board at the head, chest and hips. Tape works well in addition to straps. If you arrive and the patient's helmet has already been removed then the shoulder pads must be removed before placing the patient on the board. If you don't know how to remove the pads ask the coach how, to avoid undue movement of the player. If you need to cut the pads off, then cut. Treat these patients like any other patient with constant reassessment.

Injuries on the football field are going to happen and you will get the call to respond. Remember the basics, get a good history of the events that lead to the injury and treat it as you normally would.

Yadkinville VFD: Live Fire Training

Submitted By: Alan Dunn

The Yadkinville Volunteer Fire Department conducted a live fire training exercise on July 8, 2006. The evolutions were very successful. We had several mutual aid departments to participate including; West Yadkin, Boonville, Forbush, Courtney, and the Yadkin County Rescue Squad for personnel recovery. The training provided firefighters with some intense heat over their heads. This gave them the feel of what it might be like on a real structure fire. The structure provided approximately 30 training fires due to the professionalism of the instructors on scene.

In other department news, the Yadkinville Volunteer Fire Dept. was dispatched to 1,023 calls in fiscal year 2005-2006. This is the largest number of calls Yadkinville has ever received and we expect this number to increase next year.

The Yadkinville Volunteer Fire Dept. has another house to burn in town at the corner of Jackson and Willow Streets. The tentative date scheduled for this Live Burn exercise is August 26, 2006. If you or your fire department would like to participate in this live fire exercise please contact Alan Dunn at 336-679-8691.



Pension Fund Benefits Increase

Retirees of the Firemen's and Rescue Squad Workers' Pension Fund will be receiving a \$2.00 increase. The monthly benefit will increase from \$163.00 to \$165.00.



Firefighter Maintenance Program

- **Regular Medical Check-ups.**

Yes – they can be a pain, but if you don't do it for you – do it for those who need you.

- **Regular Exercise.**

Even walking makes a BIG difference!
Walk a mile a day and watch the changes.

- **Eat Healthy.**

Think about what you are eating, and then picture operating interior at a working fire 30 minutes later.

Now, what do you want to eat?



NEWS LETTER INFORMATION

Submit news letter information to **Eddie Weatherman**
eweatherman@yadkincountync.gov

To receive a copy of the news letter, send email request.

Yadkin County Fire Marshal's Office

P. O. Box 1002
213 East Elm Street
Yadkinville, NC 27055
Phone: 336-679-4231
Fax: 336-679-2443
E-mail: eweatherman@yadkincountync.gov



REMEMBERING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

