



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**

OCTOBER, 2007

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Statewide Burning Ban Issued



On August the 21, 2007 the N.C. Division of Forest Resources imposed a statewide ban on all open burning and canceled all burning permits. The reason for the ban is the drought blanketing North Carolina has made forest fuels such as pine straw and branches extremely dry and increased the amount of wildfire activity statewide. The ban was lifted on September 18, 2007 after the state received some significant rainfall. Even with the ban lifted, citizens need to take caution when burning.

By North Carolina law, a ban prohibits all open burning statewide, regardless of whether a permit was issued. The open burning ban means that all burning is prohibited if it is 100 feet or more from an occupied dwelling such as a home or residence. Open burning includes burning leaves, branches and other plant material. In all cases, it is illegal to burn trash, lumber, tires, newspapers, plastics or other non-vegetative materials.

Yadkin County was beginning to experience some critical conditions due to the drought. Pictured below is a fire department dry hydrant which is unusable located on Petty Road and a dry stream located on Fox Knob Road.



Dry Hydrant located on Petty Road, Hamptonville



Dry Stream located on Fox Knob Road, Jonesville



**“Smoke
and
Heat
Build
Quickly”**

Smoke Alarms



If a fire breaks out in your home while you're asleep, how will you know? Smoke and heat build quickly, making every second count.

A working smoke detector can alert you to the danger and make a difference between life and death. Install and maintain a smoke alarm on every level of your home. Replace the battery every year.

This message is brought to your by the United States Fire Administration



Change Your Clock.....

Change Your Battery

NC Forest Service Burning Permits



Get Your Burning Permits Online

www.dfr.state.nc.us

Upcoming Events / Deadlines

-
- Fire Chief's Association Meeting - Arlington VFD October 3, 2007
 - 1st Responder Committee Meeting - Yadkin Campus SCC October 17, 2007
 - Fire & Rescue Association Meeting - Lone Hickory VFD October 18, 2007
 - Local Emergency Planning Committee - Yadkinville VFD November 1, 2007



Training Exercise Held at Blue Rhino

Submitted By: Dale Trivette, Yadkin County Emergency Management

Several Yadkin County fire departments and other agencies participated in a two-part exercise at Blue Rhino on Buck Shoals Road in Hamptonville. On September 10th a table top exercise was held at West Yadkin VFD. Representatives from four fire departments, Arlington, Boonville, Buck Shoals, and West Yadkin, joined representatives from the Highway Patrol, Department of Transportation, EMS, EM, Fire Marshal, and Blue Rhino to plan how to deal with a major incident at the plant. Mitch Callaway of Callaway Safety Consultants led the exercise. Major concerns with an incident at the plant include containing the fire, protecting exposed tanks, evacuation of the area including Lydall, sheltering the evacuees, and rerouting traffic if US 421 and/or I-77 have to be closed.

On the morning of September 22nd the exercise resumed with operations set up at Blue Rhino. Trucks from Arlington, Boonville, Union Grove, West Yadkin, and Yadkinville converged on the scene. Ladder trucks and engines set up to direct water on the four 30,000 gallon LP gas storage tanks and other exposures, while tankers shuttled water from a dry hydrant to supplement the water available from the private water tank. The Highway Patrol closed that section of Buck Shoals Road during the exercise. Following the morning's events, the participants met at West Yadkin School for a critique of the exercise; followed by a delicious meal provided by the West Yadkin VFD Auxiliary. Funding for the exercise was made possible by a Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning (HMEP) Grant.



Blue Rhino Photo Gallery



United States Fire Administration Releases 2006 Report on Firefighter Fatalities in the United States

106 firefighters died while on duty in 2006.

- 77 volunteer firefighters and 29 career firefighters died while on duty.
- There were 6 firefighter fatality incidents where 2 or more firefighters were killed, claiming a total of 17 firefighters' lives.
- 22 firefighters were killed during activities involving brush, grass, or wildland firefighting.
- Activities related to emergency incidents resulted in the deaths of 61 firefighters.
- 36 firefighters died while engaging in activities at the scene of a fire.
- 15 firefighters died while responding to or returning from emergency incidents.
- 9 firefighters died while they were engaged in training activities.
- 20 firefighters died after the conclusion of their on-duty activity.
- Heart attacks were the most frequent cause of death for 2006, with 50 firefighter deaths.
- 19 firefighters were killed as a result of vehicle crashes.

Source: US Fire Administration "Firefighter Fatalities in the United States in 2006"

*Important
DATE!*

2006 Fireman's Relief Fund Report of Fire Conditions

*Important
DATE!*

The Report of Fire Condition forms need to be completed and sent back to the Fire Marshal's Office by October 5, 2007.

HAUNTED HOUSE



Visit Our Haunted House
And

Halloween Carnival

Wednesday October 31st

At East Bend Volunteer Fire Dept.

From 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Admission To Haunted House is \$5.00

Children 6 to 12 \$3.00 5 and Under Free

Admission To Carnival Is FREE

All Proceeds Will Go To

Brenner's Children's Hospital

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Fire Prevention Week

October 7-13, 2007

The time is now to plan and practice it - home fire escape

Many people and families follow a series of items on a schedule or a to-do list to keep things running smoothly. Sound familiar? There is one item that should get top billing on everyone's list - plan and practice a home fire escape. This item should be marked "must-do now!" Whether the list of tasks is posted on the refrigerator door, is a running tally in your head or takes on the form of a reminder that lives in your latest organizer gadget - the time is now to get this item moved to your "done" list.

Everyone thinks that tragedies like home fires happen in other communities and to other people. That's probably what the people affected by the 381,000 home fires that occurred in the United States in 2005 thought too, before it happened to them. Unlike many things that can get postponed for a day or two with little consequence, planning and practicing your home fire escape simply isn't one of them.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, 3,030 were killed in those fires - that's one person every three hours. Does preparing for escape still sound like something that can be put off for another day?

As well as being prepared to escape a fire, it is equally important to be vigilant about preventing one from happening in the first place. Many times there is something that you can do so that a fire doesn't start fire, like paying attention to what you are cooking, for example. Cooking is the number one cause of home fires and unattended cooking is the leading cause. The next time you have dinner on the stove and think about leaving the room, think again.

If a fire occurs don't you want to be prepared to escape from it? If you and your neighbors in Yadkin County have not taken the time to plan and practice your home fire escape plan, unfortunately you are not alone - nationally studies show that only 23% of households have. This is something that can literally mean the difference between surviving a fire or being the victim of one.

It's time for the residents of Yadkin County to get ready for the very real possibility that a fire can occur in their home and being prepared to escape from one is extremely important.

(continued on page 7)

Fire Prevention Week Continued

(continued from page 6)

Here's what you need to do right now:

- Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home and have one inside each sleep room and outside of each sleeping area.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.
- Develop a fire escape plan that identifies two ways out of each room and a family meeting place outside.
- Make sure your plan allows for any specific needs in your household. If everyone knows what to do, everyone can get out quickly.
- Practice using the plan, at least twice a year. If everyone knows that everyone else is ready to exit quickly, no one will lose precious time trying to help someone who doesn't need help.
- Some children and adults may not awaken to the sound of the smoke alarm. They may need help to wake up.

This October 7-13 is Fire Prevention Week, and this year's theme is Practice Your Escape Plan. What better time to remind Yadkin County residents that the time is now to make a fire escape plan and practice it? There is also an opportunity individuals and communities to join together to promote fire safety and be a part of The Great American Fire Drill.

For more information visit www.firepreventionweek.org or www.sparky.org.

Don't let another day go by without planning and practicing your home fire escape plan – you never know when you may need to use it. And don't forget once you move it to your "done" list, it is something that should be reviewed and practiced at least twice a year.

Reproduced from NFPA's Fire Prevention Week Web site, www.firepreventionweek.org. ©2007 NFPA.



Winter Weather Terminology

Submitted By: Phil Hysell, National Weather Service

Heavy Snow - Snow accumulating 4 inches or more in 12 hours or less, or 5 inches or more in 12-24 hours.

Blizzard - Sustained winds or frequent gusts of 35 mph or greater and considerable falling and/or blowing snow frequently reducing the visibility to less than one-quarter of a mile. Such conditions must last for a period of 3 hours or more in order for the storm to be classified as a blizzard.

Freezing Rain/Freezing Drizzle - Freezing rain or freezing drizzle occurs when precipitation falls in liquid form, but freezes on impact with the ground or other objects when surface temperatures are below freezing. Freezing rain results in a coating of glaze ice on all exposed objects. Damage to trees and power lines will be greater when the freezing rain is accompanied by high winds.

Sleet - Sleet or ice pellets are solid grains of ice which form from the freezing of raindrops or the re-freezing of melted snowflakes. Sleet bounces upon hitting a hard surface.

Snow - The term 'snow', used in forecasts without a qualifier such as 'intermittent' or 'occasional' means that snow is expected to be steady and probably will continue for several hours without letup.

Flurries - Intermittent very light snow. No accumulation is expected.

Snow Showers - Intermittent snow falling at varying intensities. Minor accumulations are possible.

Snow Squalls - Intermittent snow falling at varying intensities, briefly reducing visibility to a quarter-mile or less. Total accumulations are generally light, but snowfall rates can be briefly extreme (1/2 inch in 15 minutes).

Winter Storm Watch - a Winter Storm Watch is issued to inform the public of the possibility of a combination of any of the following events: blizzard conditions, heavy snow, or significant and damaging accumulations of freezing rain or sleet. A watch usually gives 12 to 36 hours advance notice of the onset of winter weather conditions.

Winter Storm Warning - a Winter Storm Warning is issued when a mixture of heavy snow, freezing rain, freezing drizzle or sleet is occurring, is imminent, or is very likely. If the precipitation is only expected to fall as snow, a **Heavy Snow Warning** will be issued.

Ice Storm Warning - an Ice Storm Warning is issued when the only winter weather event expected is significant ice accumulation from freezing rain. Significant accumulations of ice will down trees and utility lines.

Blizzard Warning - a Blizzard Warning is issued when blizzard conditions are expected to last for three hours or more.

High Wind Warning - a High Wind Warning is issued when sustained winds of 40 mph or greater are expected to last for one hour or longer, or wind gusts of 58 mph or greater are expected for any duration. A High Wind Warning is issued when the winds are not associated with thunderstorms.

Wind Chill Warning - a Wind Chill Warning will be issued for dangerous or life threatening wind chills of 20 below zero or lower are expected, with a minimum wind of 5 mph.

Winter Weather Advisory - Winter Weather Advisories are issued for winter weather events, such as snow, sleet, and/or freezing rain that are hazardous, but not enough to warrant a warning.

Wind Chill Advisory - a Wind Chill Advisory is issued for expected wind chill values of 5 to 19 below zero, with a minimum wind of 5 mph.

Dense Fog Advisory - Dense Fog Advisories are issued when fog restricts visibility to one-quarter mile or less over a widespread area.

Wind Advisory - Wind Advisories are issued when sustained winds of 30 to 39 mph are expected to last for one hour or more, or wind gusts of 45 to 57 mph are expected for any duration. Wind Advisories are issued for winds not associated with thunderstorms.



Mark Johnson



Relief Fund BBQ Chicken Supper

Saturday October 13, 2007
4PM-7PM

Sponsored by Forbush Fire Department
 All proceeds will go to the
Mark Johnson Relief Fund

Make checks payable to the Forbush VFD Mark Johnson Relief Fund



Mark Johnson is a Firefighter with the Forbush Fire Department. He is married with 4 children. Mark is a firefighter currently employed with the Lewisville Fire Department and self-employed lawn care service. He was diagnosed with Rectum and Liver Cancer and taking treatments for the cancer. His treatments have taken him out of work. As you can imagine his bills will be growing as his money is decreasing. Please help us help Mark and his family in this time of need.

You may go by any SUNTRUST Bank and make donations to the *Forbush V.F.D. Mark Johnson Relief Fund*

Questions ? Call Forbush Fire Department 961.8376

Tickets are \$8.00 each. This will be take out only.

DON'T BE YOUR NEXT VICTIM!



5,500 first responders were injured in 15,900 vehicle collisions in 2003.
33 died. Don't be a statistic.

Buckle your seatbelt. Anticipate driver reactions. Stay alert at the scene.

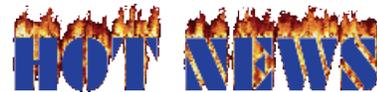


SAVE LIVES...INCLUDING YOUR OWN.

For more information go to www.iafc.org and click on **Staying Alive**.
IAFF is a registered service mark of the International Brotherhood of Firefighters.

Forbush Fire Department

Submitted By: Dale Couch



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Forbush is accepting applications for 3 Part Time paid engineer positions through October 31, 2007. Applications can be picked up at the station Monday thru Friday from 08:00 thru 17:00. Applicant has to be Firefighter I and II, Haz-Mat Operations Certified and a minimum of Yadkin County First Responder. Position will pay \$10.00 per hour.



What's it all about?

Sound the alarm: it's time for the Great American Fire Drill! During Fire Prevention Week 2007, NFPA is asking kids and families all across North America to practice their home fire escape plans. Just how big will the Great American Fire Drill be? With your help, we're hoping to have the world's biggest fire drill. So let's get started!

- Pick a date – anytime in October.
- Make your plan.
- Practice your escape drill.

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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

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