

# 2014 Fire Marshal Report

Prepared by Deputy Chief - Fire Marshal Greg Kleinberg

***Preventing Fires and Promoting Life Safety through:***

*Fire Code Enforcement*

*Public Education*

*Fire Protection System Oversight*

*Fire Investigation*

*Hazard Mitigation*



Fire & Life Safety Division

# Executive Summary

## **Fire Incidents: 284 Fires in Jurisdiction, 94% of Potential Losses Saved**

Medford Fire-Rescue (MFR) responded to 284 fire incidents that occurred within its jurisdiction in 2014. Of the fire incidents, 27% involved structures, 29% involved vegetation (wildland/grass), 11% involved vehicles, and 33% involved other types of fires. The fires caused \$2.72 million in property and content losses; however, over 94% of the potential losses associated with these fires were saved. This jurisdiction experienced zero civilian fatalities and five civilian injuries attributed to the structure fires. The overall trend in number of total fires occurring each year slightly decreased in the last decade. The number of fires in 2014 is close to average for the past seven years.

## **Results of 100 Fire Investigations Conducted by Fire & Life Safety Division**

The Fire and Life Safety Division (FLSD) investigated 100 out of the 284 fires in 2014 for origin and cause (the other fires were investigated by on-duty firefighters at the Company level). Of the 78 structure fires, the overall determination of cause resulted in conclusions that 76% were unintentional, 9% intentional and 15% undetermined.

## **78 Structure Fires: Residential (82%) vs. Commercial (18%)**

The structure fires primarily occurred in residential occupancies (82%), with a much smaller percentage in commercial occupancies (18%). Of the residential fires, 69% occurred in single family dwellings, 22% occurred in multifamily dwellings, and 6% occurred in duplexes. Bedrooms and Kitchens were the highest percentage area of origins (28% and 27%, respectively), with heat from radiated equipment and heat from smoldering objects leading the sources of ignition (14 and 14%, respectively). Smoke alarms were present and working in 50% of residential structure fire incidents. They alerted occupants in 31% of the incidents and 19% of the incidents had working smoke alarms but they were not a factor in alerting the occupants. In 19% of the incidents, smoke alarms did not alert the occupant or they were not present. Over 1000 residences (single family and multi-family) in this jurisdiction are now equipped with fire sprinkler systems, which greatly increases the occupants chance of survival. The overall trend in number of residential structure fires remained relatively level in the past decade, while the overall trend in the number commercial structure fires decreased in the past decade.

## **Public Education: 222 Events Reaching Nearly 9,000 People**

In 2014, MFR was involved in at least 222 public education events contacting nearly 9,000 people with fire and life safety messages. The Department continues to support a variety of events and is involved in programs that make a difference. All 4<sup>th</sup> grade students in this jurisdiction are taught fire safety information through the Survival Skills for the Home Program (Hazard House). CPR Anytime is a program started in 2012 where all middle school students in the Rogue Valley are taught hands-only CPR. Firefighters give station tours teaching fire safety and demonstrating what they do. Throughout the year the FLSD also issued a variety of media releases, conducted media interviews, and utilized social media to post incident information and fire and life safety messages to the public.

## **Compliance: 1116 Compliance Inspections, 211 Permit Inspections, 219 Plan Reviews**

MFR staff conducted 1116 compliance inspections in 2014 in both residential and commercial occupancies, noting 2061 fire code violations. Staff worked vigilantly throughout the year to ensure the violations were corrected and public safety was not jeopardized. The FLSD was also responsible for overseeing 163 operational/construction permits and performing 219 plan reviews. FLSD staff conducted 211 inspections, noting 332 fire code violations associated with the permits.

## **Summary**

In summary, MFR worked diligently in 2014 to keep this community safe. This was accomplished through both reactive responses to incidents and proactive efforts to reduce risk. We will continue to deliver a high level of service in 2015.

**M**edford Fire-Rescue's Fire and Life Safety Division (FLSD) serves a population of nearly 90,000 people that reside within a geographic area covering over 56 square miles. This area includes the City of Medford and Medford Rural Fire Protection District 2 (MRFPD2). The Division is responsible for:

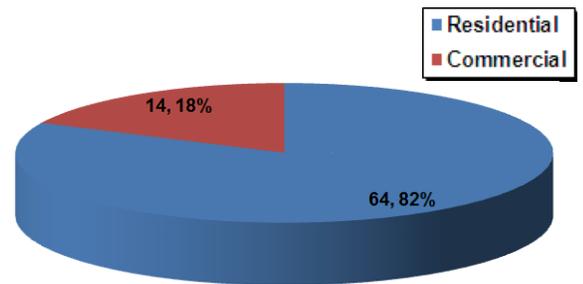
- ◆ Conducting business fire and life safety compliance inspections
- ◆ Performing origin and cause fire investigations
- ◆ Providing public education encompassing all aspects of fire and life safety issues
- ◆ Issuing fire code permits and conducting related inspections
- ◆ Reviewing land development projects for access and water supply requirements
- ◆ Conducting plan review/inspections for fire protection systems in both new and existing structures.

The following highlights fire statistics and summarizes the Division's 2014 activities.

**2014 in Retrospect**

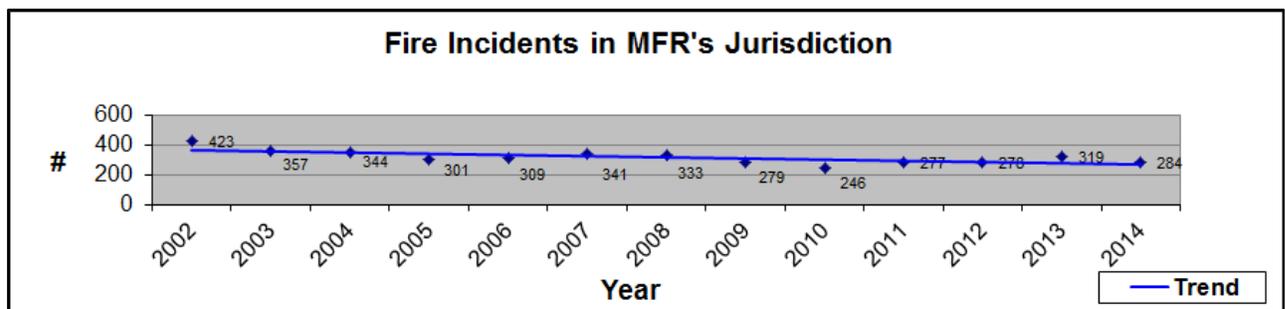
**Fire Incidents**

Medford Fire-Rescue (MFR) responded to 322 fire incidents in 2014 (73.9% City, 7.8 % MRFPD2, 18.3% other), with 284 fire incidents occurring within its jurisdiction. Fire incidents accounted for 3.5% of the total call volume. Medford experienced 78 fires involving structures in 2014 causing just over \$2.56 million in total losses\*. Over \$43.7 million in potential losses were associated with these structure related incidents. There were five civilian injuries associated with these fires, all occurring in residential occupancies. No fire fatalities occurred in 2014.



2014 Medford Structure Fires – By Property Type

Of the structure fires that occurred, 64 (82%) occurred in residential occupancies (75% in single family dwellings and 25% in multi-family dwellings) and 14 (18%) occurred in commercial occupancies. MFR also responded to 81 vegetation fires during the year. The FLSD investigated 100 fires in 2014.



\*Total losses include property and content losses. The actual cost of fire goes well beyond these recorded losses when other factors are accounted for including fire suppression costs, income losses, medical care expenses, psychological factors, temporary housing costs, etc.

# Medford Fire-Rescue Fires 2014

## Legend

### Incidents (Selection)

★ <all other values>

### Legend

- ★ All Fires
- Streets\_JacksonCounty

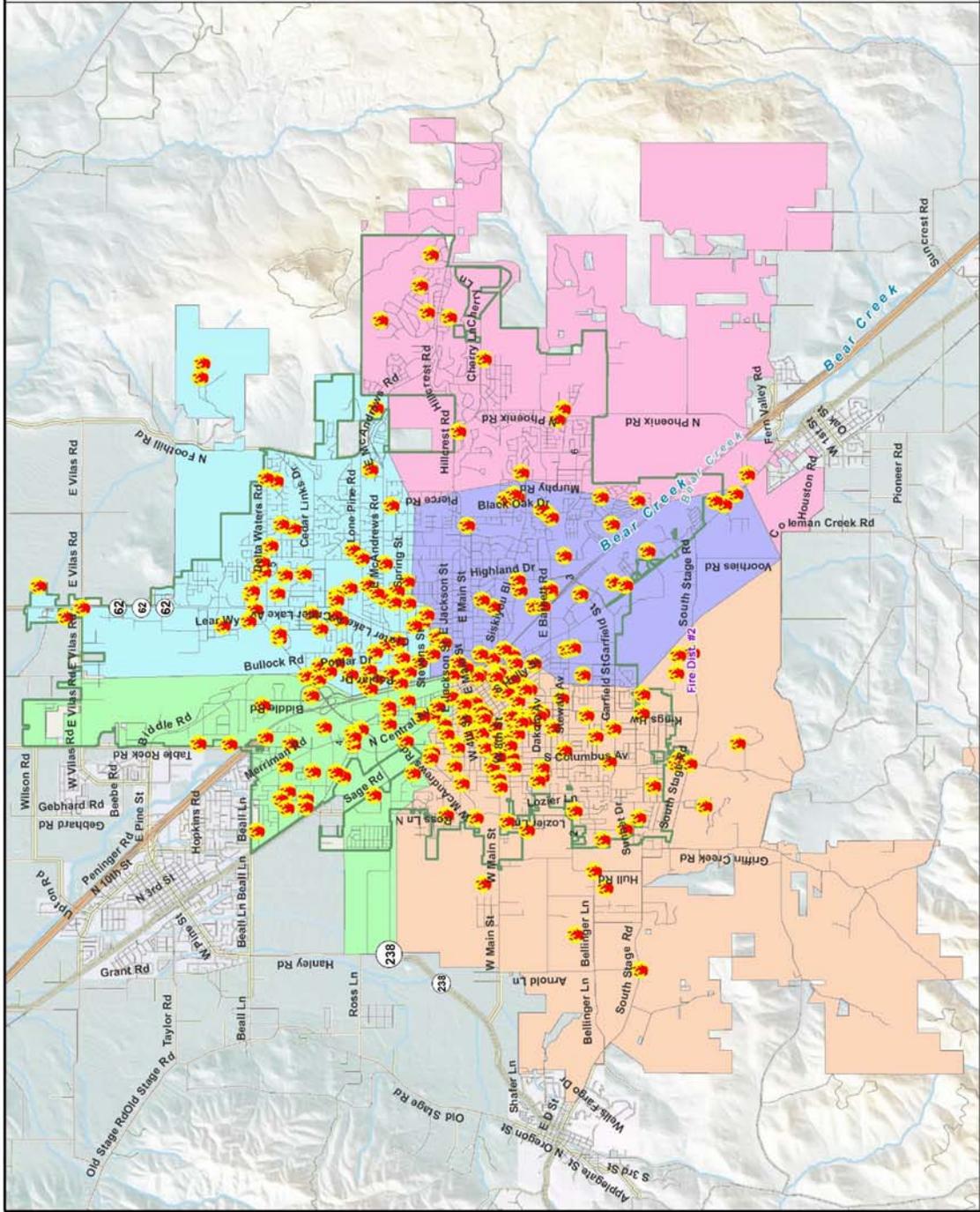
### Response\_Zones

- | ID             | Color  |
|----------------|--------|
| Fire Station 2 | Orange |
| Fire Station 3 | Blue   |
| Fire Station 4 | Green  |
| Fire Station 5 | Cyan   |
| Fire Station 6 | Pink   |

Map made by Medford Fire-Rescue  
Print Date: 02/01/15



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 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION  
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## Residential Structure Fire Statistics



Number of Fires in Jurisdiction: 64

Total \$ Loss: \$ 1,860,751

### Type\*:

- 76% building fire
- 17% cooking fire
- 5% chimney or flue fire

### Areas of Origin\*:

- 28% exterior
- 27% kitchens
- 9% bedrooms

### Initial Ignition Heat Sources\*:

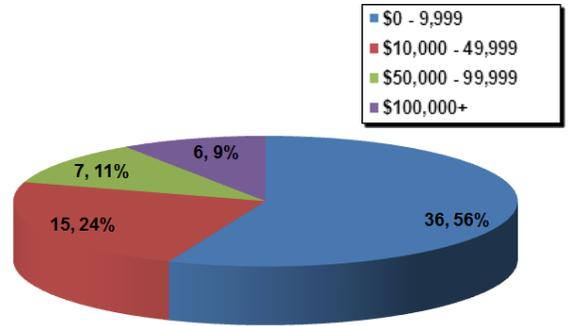
- 14% radiated/conducted heat from operating equipment
- 14% hot or smoldering object, other
- 11% heat from powered equipment
- 9% hot ember or ash

### Causes\*:

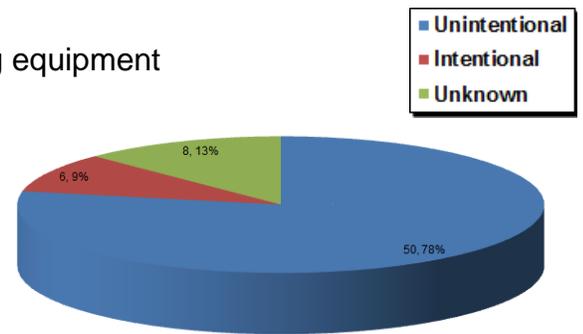
- 78% unintentional
- 9% intentional
- 13% undetermined
- 0% act of nature

### Time of Alarm:

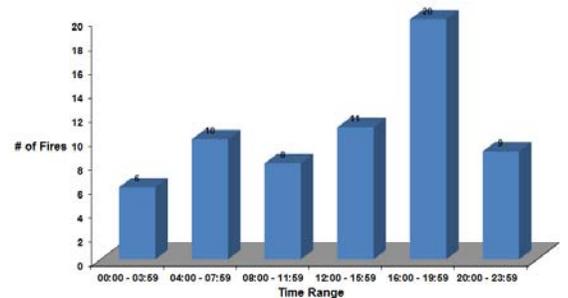
- 9.4% between 12:00 AM and 3:59 AM
- 15.6% between 4:00 AM and 7:59 AM
- 12.5% between 8:00 AM and 11:59 AM
- 17.2% between 12:00 PM and 3:59 PM
- 31.3% between 4:00 PM and 7:59 PM
- 14.1% between 8:00 PM and 11:59 PM



2014 Medford Residential Structure Fires – By Property Loss

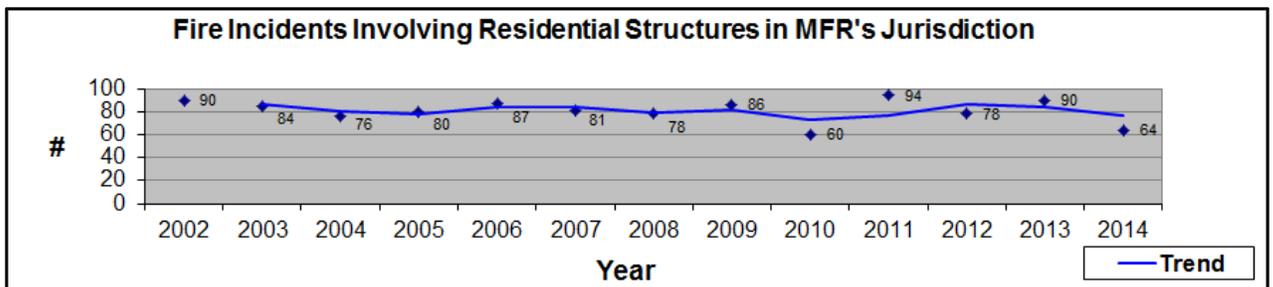


2014 Medford Residential Structure Fires – By Fire Cause



2014 Medford Residential Structure Fires – By Time of Alarm

### Trend:



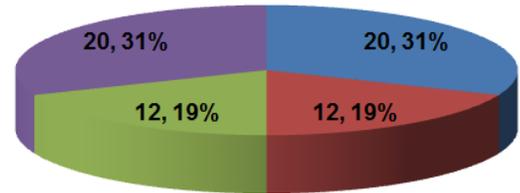
\*Only the top category percentages are shown

**Residential Smoke Alarms in Fire Incidents:**

- 50% either alerted or had working smoke alarms present
- 19% did not alert or were not present
- 31% undetermined



■	Detector Alerted Occupants
■	Working Alarm, Not a Factor in Alerting
■	Detector Did not Alert Occupants
■	Undetermined



2014 Medford Residential Structure Fires – By Smoke Alarm Alert

National surveys have shown that 96% of all households have at least one smoke alarm. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) reported that “Smoke alarms sounded in roughly half of the home fires reported to U.S.

departments” (Smoke Alarms in US Home Fires, Marty Ahrens, September 2011). Having properly placed and maintained smoke alarms in a home reduces the risk of dying in a house fire by 50%. National statistics also show that smoke alarms are missing in 2/3 of fatal residential fires. Having an early warning in a house fire is essential for effective evacuation; increasing the possibility that someone may make it out alive. Beginning in 2007 Medford Fire-Rescue implemented a program where smoke alarms were checked during any residential incident (including medicals) if deemed appropriate. We will continue to target this area.

**Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems:**

The FLSD is actively involved in promoting home fire sprinkler systems. On November 13, 2014 Fire Marshal Kleinberg gave a home fire sprinkler presentation to the City Council to promote the life-safety value of home fire sprinkler systems. The FLSD is also taking the lead in developing educational modules for the Oregon Fire Sprinkler Coalition which will be used to educate a variety of stakeholders throughout the State.

In the last decade, this jurisdiction added over 1,000 residences equipped with residential fire sprinkler systems. These include single family residences, townhomes, and apartment complexes (The codes now require all apartment complexes with 3 or more units to be equipped with an automatic fire sprinkler system). Whereas smoke alarms are important to provide an occupant an early warning signal to evacuate the home, fire sprinklers control the fire in the earliest stage, which gives the occupant a much greater chance of survival. A residential fire sprinkler system is designed to prevent flashover and thereby provide a survivable environment. Flashover is a condition of very turbulent fire behavior when there is enough radiant energy in a compartment to simultaneously ignite everything that is combustible from floor to ceiling. Flashover is a fire condition that is unsurvivable throughout a structure, even when an occupant is remote from the area of origin. Flashover can occur in as little as 3-5 minutes after ignition. Conditions deteriorate rapidly in a house fire and can become fatal in about one-half the time to flashover.

In 2014, the FLSD continued to conduct side-by-side bedroom fire demonstrations to display the value of residential fire sprinkler systems. These demonstrations dramatically showed that without fire sprinklers the occupant has a very limited time period to evacuate the home before conditions become life-threatening. The demonstrations achieved

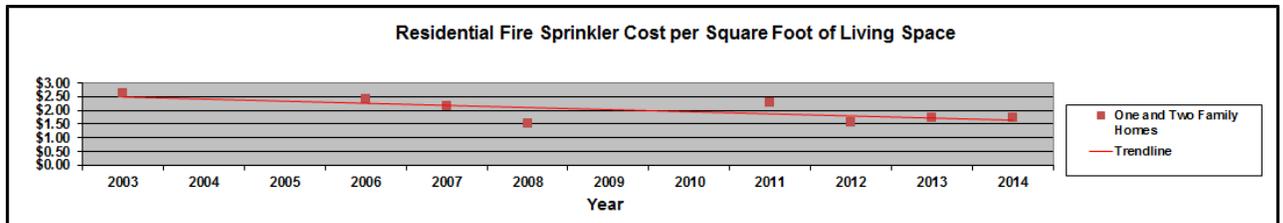


flashover within 3-5 minutes (You can view public education video presentations that were produced from these at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZM5zO3L76QU> and <http://youtu.be/AH6J-Szo8dw>). An occupant's survival is directly related to the evacuation capability of the occupant while conditions are still tenable in the structure. Young children and the elderly are 2-4 times more at risk of dying in a fire as they have reduced evacuation capabilities. Fire sprinklers control the fire while it is still small, thereby giving everyone, regardless of evacuation capability, a chance to survive. Having both smoke alarms and an automatic fire sprinkler system significantly increases the occupant's chance of surviving a home fire. The keys to success in promoting residential fire protection systems are educating the public about their benefit and trying to remove misconceptions and other barriers which exist that hinder their acceptance.

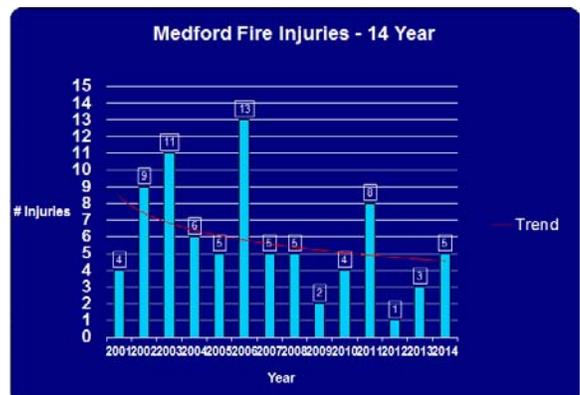
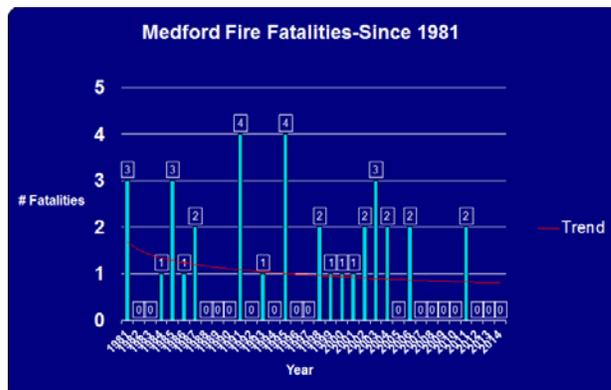


**Sprinklered - Survivable**      **Not Sprinklered - Fatal**  
 Fire Prevention Week Open House Burn Demonstration

The cost of home fire sprinkler systems has steadily decreased over the last decade. The current average cost for installing fire sprinklers in a new home is \$1.70 per square foot of living area (based on 3-year average). We appreciate the Medford Water Commission's partnership with MFR to help us to promote this life saving technology by supplying ¾" water meters at no additional system development charge for the upgraded water meter.



**Fire Civilian Casualty Trends:**



## Commercial Structure Fire Statistics



**Number of Fires in Jurisdiction: 14**

**Total \$ Loss: \$695,604**

### Areas of Origin\*:

- 36% exterior areas
- 22% cooking areas, kitchen
- 11% storage areas

### Causes\*:

- 64% unintentional
- 7% intentional
- 29% undetermined
- 0% act of nature

### Property Use\*:

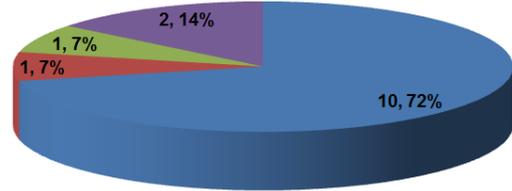
- 22% mercantile
- 22% motor vehicle or boat sales, services, repair
- 14% alcohol or substance abuse recovery center
- 14% outbuilding

### Initial Ignition Heat Sources\*:

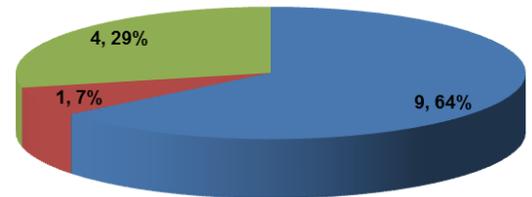
- 14% cigarette
- 14% electrical arcing
- 14% heat from powered equipment

### Time of Alarm:

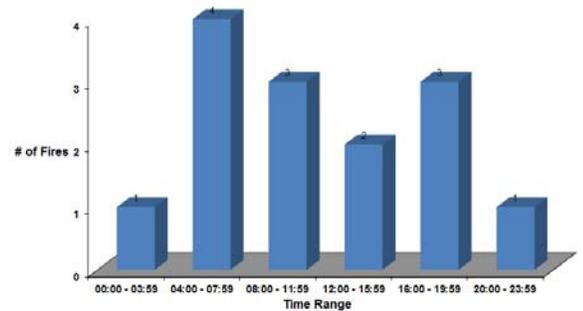
- 7.1% between 12:00 AM and 3:59 AM
- 28.6% between 4:00 AM and 7:59 AM
- 21.4% between 8:00 AM and 11:59 AM
- 14.3% between 12:00 PM and 3:59 PM
- 21.4% between 4:00 PM and 7:59 PM
- 7.1% between 8:00 PM and 11:59 PM



2014 Medford Commercial Structure Fires – By Property Loss

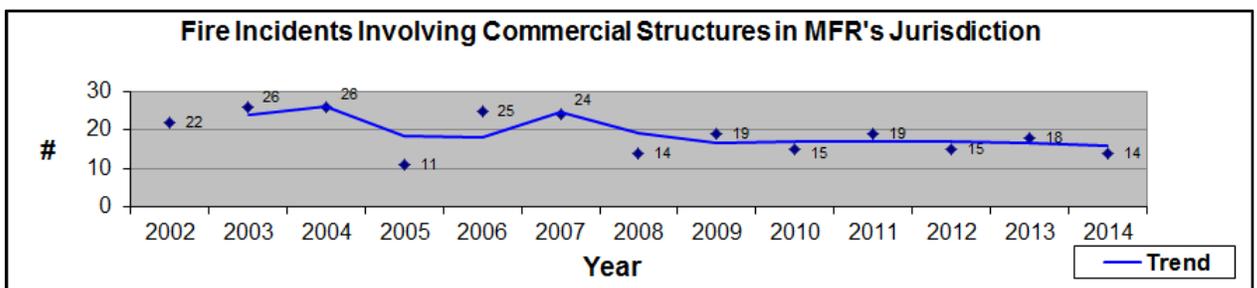


2014 Medford Commercial Structure Fires – By Fire Cause



2014 Medford Commercial Structure Fires – By Time of Alarm

### Trend:



\*Only the top category percentages are shown

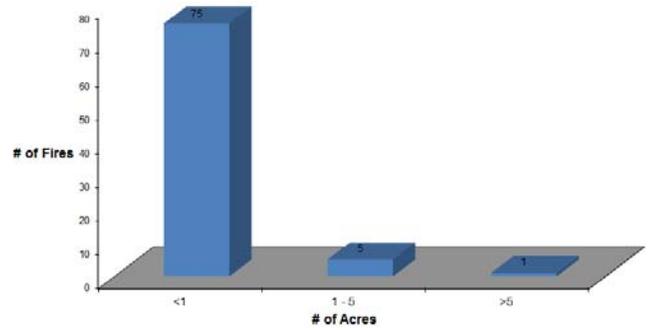
**Vegetation Fires (Includes grass, wildland, etc.)**

**Number of Fires in Jurisdiction: 81**

**Total Acres: 21**

**Acres Burned:**

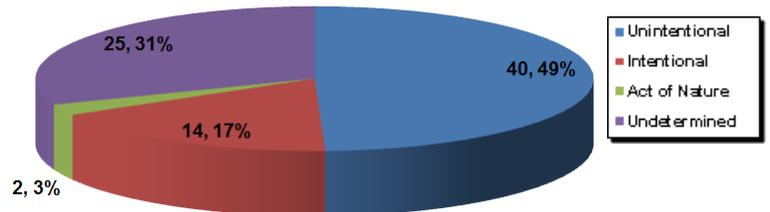
- 93% < 1 acre
- 6% 1-5 acres
- 1% > 5 acres



2014 Medford Vegetation Fires – By Acres Burned

**Causes\*:**

- 49% unintentional
- 17% intentional
- 3% act of nature
- 31% undetermined



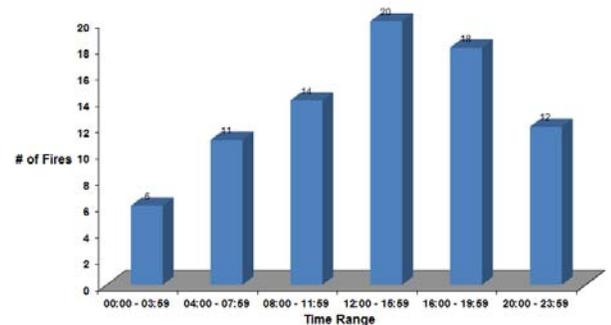
**Initial Ignition Heat Source\*:**

- 10% cigarette
- 10% open flame
- 6% fireworks

2014 Medford Vegetation Fires – By Cause of Ignition

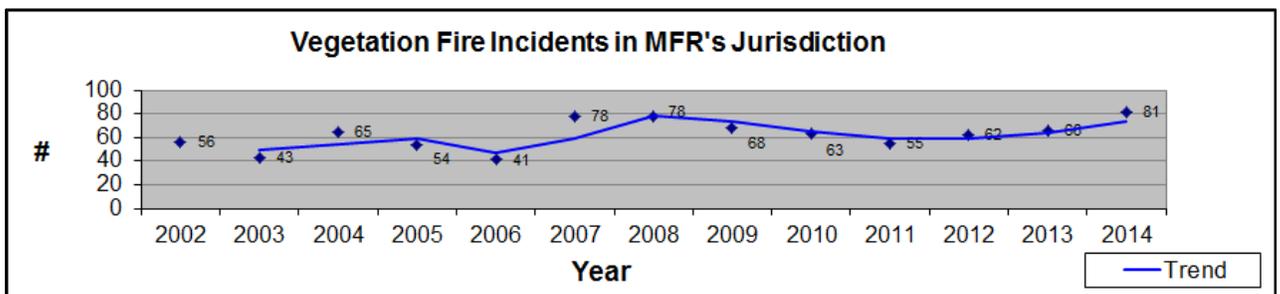
**Time of Alarm:**

- 7.4% between 12:00 AM and 3:59 AM
- 13.6% between 4:00 AM and 7:59 AM
- 17.3% between 8:00 AM and 11:59 AM
- 24.7% between 12:00 PM and 3:59 PM
- 22.2% between 4:00 PM and 7:59 PM
- 14.8% between 8:00 PM and 11:59 PM



2014 Medford Vegetation Fires – By Time of Alarm

**Trend:**

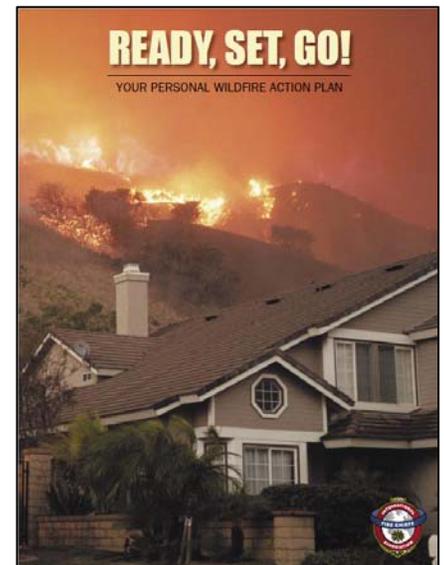


\*Only the top category percentages are shown

Medford Fire-Rescue began the Wildland-Urban Interface Home Evaluation Program in 2010. This program is a chance for homeowners living in wildfire risk areas to receive free on-site advice about how they can make their properties more resistant to wildfires. The program's goal is to ensure safe access into and out of the property, to reduce ignition hazards around the home, and to create effective defensible space. In 2013 Medford Fire-Rescue became a Ready, Set, Go (RSG) Fire Department. The RSG Program works collaboratively with existing defensible space education tools, such as Firewise, and provides the tools for our firefighters to educate individuals on preparedness, situational awareness during a wildfire event, and to evacuate early for the safety of your family and responding firefighters. The Program stresses the following:



- **Ready** – Take personal responsibility and prepare long before the threat of a wildfire so your home is ready in case of a fire. Create defensible space by clearing brush away from your home. Use fire-resistant landscaping and harden your home with fire-safe construction measures. Assemble emergency supplies and belongings in a safe spot. Make sure all residents residing within the home are on the same page, plan escape routes.
- **Set – Act immediately.** Pack your vehicle with your emergency items. Stay abreast of the latest news, both reported on news crews and your local fire department for updated information on the fire.
- **Go – Leave early!** Following your Action Plan makes you prepared at this step of the process. Firefighters are now able to best maneuver the wildfire and ensuring you and your family's safety.



Medford Fire-Rescue also began mapping properties for wildfire threat as it relates to risk management, pre-planning, citizen education, and incident management. In our jurisdiction there are over 2,800 properties located in the wildfire hazard areas. In 2014 MFR began by evaluating approximately 300 properties. Each year we plan to continue this process. The public can now view properties to see the determined assessed threat by visiting the site listed below and inputting the appropriate address. The public can also update the home risk profile based on mitigation efforts and submit the updated profile for review.

<https://apps.interragroup.com/keno/>

Medford Police Department (MPD) Code Enforcement played a very active role in 2014 within the City limits and is commended for working hard to enforce the City's weeds and grass ordinance. In addition, MFR worked in the Rural District and with property owners along the Bear Creek Greenway ensuring fuel breaks were cut adjacent to developments. All of these efforts significantly reduced the risk of wildfire to this community in 2014.

## Juvenile Set Fires

In 2014, MFR responded to 6 intentionally set juvenile related fires. The 6 fires were all vegetation fires resulting in a combined \$2,000 in damages. The FLSD has personnel trained to screen juveniles after they are involved in a firesetting incident. In 2014, 9 children were screened/counseled by the Fire Inspectors, which included 11 corresponding adults. In addition, the FLSD works with the Juvenile Department and Victims Assistance/Youth Accountability (VAYA) to ensure juvenile firesetters receive intervention counseling.

## Arson Fires

Of the 284 fire incidents within MFR's jurisdiction, 52 (18.3%) were determined to be intentionally set fires. This included 21 (41%) dumpster/rubbish fires, 19 (36%) vegetation fires, 7 (13%) structure fires, and 2 (4%) vehicle fires. These fires caused \$179,833 in total losses. It should be noted that some of the fires declared as undetermined could be intentionally set fires; however, without a positive determination, they were not included in the above statistics. In 2014 this jurisdiction continued to experience a spree of intentionally set fires. Medford Fire-Rescue has a close working relationship with law enforcement agencies when conducting fire investigations. The spree of fires ceased when suspects were arrested. A suspect was arrested for a spree of vacant home fires dating back to early in 2012. He later pled guilty to several of the fires and received a sentence including 40 months in prison, three years of post-prison supervision, and a requirement to pay restitution. We also saw a rash of alley fires in the summer of 2014 which ceased when a suspect was arrested. In cooperation with the Medford Police Department, there were 70 reported offenses for arson fires in 2014, resulting in suspect 23 charges (4 for juveniles and 19 for adults).

## Fireworks Fires

In 2014, during the date period of June 23 through July 6, there were seven vegetation fires attributed to fireworks. The largest vegetation fire burned approximately 1/10 of an acre. The largest property loss (\$150) was attributed to illegal fireworks destroying landscaping. MFR did not respond to any fireworks related injuries during this period. On July 4<sup>th</sup>, MPD and MFR had dedicated units assigned to fireworks enforcement. The units issued 28 citations and confiscated nearly 1,800 illegal fireworks, which were taken into evidence for each case. A total of 40 citations were issued by MPD during the year (4 in June, 28 on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 7 other in July, and 1 in September).

**MFR Responses: Fires and Injuries Attributed to Fireworks  
2000 - 2014**

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
June 23 – July 3	2	1	1	1	0	2	2	3	3	2	5	2	0	6	2
July 4	5	6	3	4	4	2	5	3	3	3	5	2	4	2	4
July 5-6	1	1	3	1	0	1	3	3	1	1	4	5	3	3	0
<b>Total Fires</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>
Fires Igniting Structures	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	0
Fires Involving Vegetation	7	7	6	5	5	5	9	9	7	6	12	8	5	9	6
Fires Involving Other	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Acres Burned	0.11	0.42	0.05	0.15	0.11	3.61	1.10	2.5	1.3	0.3	2.91	0.9	7	1.2	?
MFR Responses/ Known Injuries	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total \$ Loss	151	2,750	100	15,000	0	0	0	5,000	0	0	8,110	17,000	0	64,800	0

Partial ban

Full ban

## Public Education

In 2014 Medford Fire-Rescue participated in 222 public education events/sessions, reaching nearly 9,000 people. The FLSD took part in 101 of these public education events/sessions, reaching more than 4,700 individuals. The FLSD also spoke to the Media throughout the year about fires and provided fire and life safety information to the public through media releases and posts to our Facebook page. Medford Fire-Rescue takes an active role in several public education programs throughout the year, including:



### **Survival Skills in the Home (Hazard House/Aerial Ladder) Program**

- Target Audience: All Elementary 4th Grade students
- Program Description: Children are taught about smoke alarms, home hazards and exit drills in the home through an interactive presentation. Students are given a homework assignment to create a home escape plan and inspect their home for hazards. At the end of the program, students are visited by a fire crew and, if chosen, have an opportunity to get a ride in our aerial ladder.
- Goal: Teach skills to promote fire and injury prevention



### **CPR Anytime Middle School Program**

- Target Audience: All Middle School Students
- Program Description: "CPR Anytime" is an all-in-one kit that has everything an individual would need to learn and practice CPR and although it is not a certifying course this is a one hour class designed to educate people in effective, continuous CPR.
- Goal: Promote CPR skills



### **CPR Adult Classes**

- Target Audience: Adults
- Program Description: Basic CPR instruction.
- Goal: Promote CPR skills

### **Family Health Program**

- Target Audience: High School Students
- Program Description: Students are taught a variety of fire and life safety information
- Goal: Educate students in fire and injury prevention

### **Juvenile Firesetter Intervention/Screening Program**

- Target Audience: Children exhibiting fire setting behaviors
- Program Description: Screening and educational sessions provided for children/parents needing help in this area.
- Goal: Intervene to help stop dangerous fire setting behavior

### **Child Safety Seat Check Program**

- Target Audience: Parents of infants/children in car seats
- Program Description:
- Goal: Educate parents in proper child safety seat installation



### Fire & Life Safety Presentations Program

- Target Audience: Adults
- Program Description: Workplace and residential facility fire & life safety workshops/presentations
- Goal: Community risk reduction through education



### Wildfire Education/Preparation/Mitigation Program

- Target Audience: Property owners living in wildfire hazard areas
- Program Description: Resident survival education through Ready, Set Go! Program and free property risk evaluations to mitigate wildfire risks.
- Goal: Community wildfire risk reduction.

### Fire Extinguisher Training Program

- Target Audience: Adults
- Program Description: Education about fire behavior and proper fire extinguisher usage (Live fire prop fire extinguisher training).
- Goal: Promote appropriate decision making and skills in fire extinguisher usage.

### Smoke Alarm Program

- Target Audience: All residential incidents /Residents who need assistance with smoke alarms
- Program Description: Department policy to check smoke alarms at all residential incident responses. Smoke alarms installed or batteries replaced in alarms in homes where people need assistance.
- Goal: Community risk reduction



### Chamber of Commerce Leadership Class Fire Science Day

- Target Audience: Community Leaders
- Program Description: Demonstrate through participation what MFR does on a daily basis and involve participants in fire and life safety education.
- Goal: Promote fire & life safety and educate community leaders about their Fire Department

### Fire Prevention Week Program

- Target Audience: MFR Community
- Program Description: Promote annual Fire Prevention Week theme and host annual Medford Fire-Rescue open house.
- Goal: Promote fire & life safety and educate the community about their Fire Department



### Fireworks Program

- Target Audience: MFR Community
- Program Description: Partnership with Medford Police Department for education and enforcement of Medford and Oregon fireworks statutes
- Goal: Community risk reduction in July

### Website/Social Media Programs

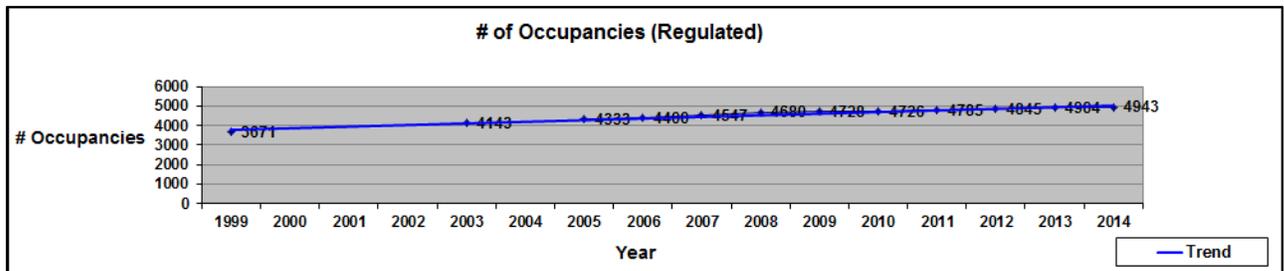
- Target Audience: General Public
- Program Description: Provide situational and seasonal proactive fire and life safety information to the community. Discuss take-home lessons learned from fire incidents.
- Goal: Community risk reduction



## Commercial Inspections and Enforcement

The approximate number of regulated commercial occupancies in Medford Fire-Rescue's jurisdiction grew by 39 in 2014 to 4,943 (4792 City/151 MRFPD2).

### Trend:



Our Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) exemption (OAR 837-039) status requires specific occupancies to be inspected at set intervals. For all occupancies regulated by the Oregon Fire Code, we are required to inspect on a frequency deemed necessary to provide a reasonable level of fire and life safety. MFR's occupancies are prioritized into three categories, High Risk, Moderate Risk, and Low Risk. Inspection intervals are based upon the risk category.

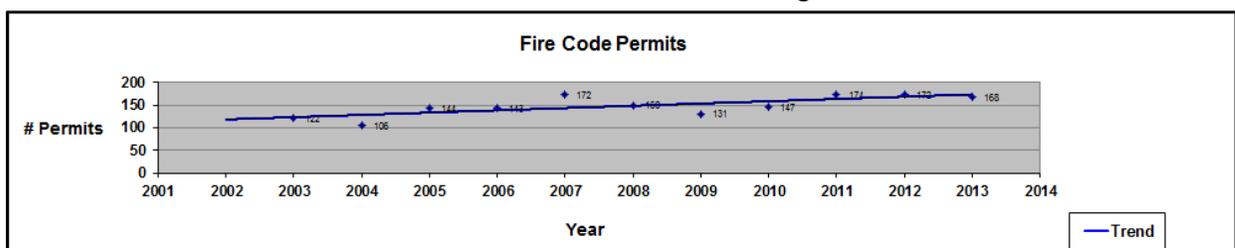
During 2014, Medford Fire-Rescue conducted 1,116 compliance inspections (1082 City/34 Rural) and 211 permitted inspections. These inspections resulted in 2061 fire code violations noted during the regular business fire inspections and 332 violations noted during the permitted inspections.

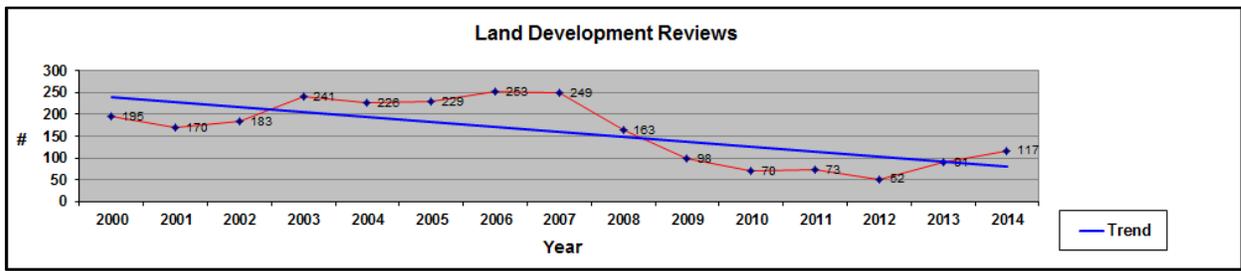
The FLSD continues to manage a Self-fire Inspection Program. Businesses conducted 231 self-fire inspections. The intent of this program is to educate low hazard businesses about fire code requirements, have them physically check their premises, and provide a safety check during the interim between longer inspection intervals.

The FLSD also reviews fire protection system contractor testing reports. Any report that has noted deficiencies is followed up on. There were 252 fire protection system testing reports reviewed by the FLSD in 2014, with 48 deficiencies noted. To ensure fire protection systems are functional, it is essential that they are tested and maintained according to national standards.

## Permits and Development

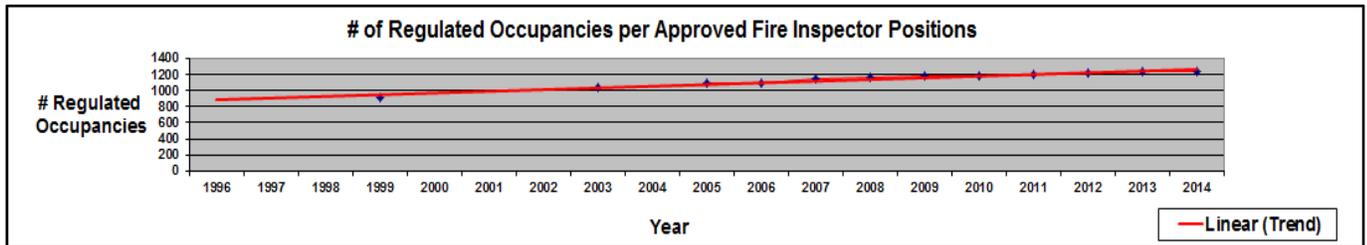
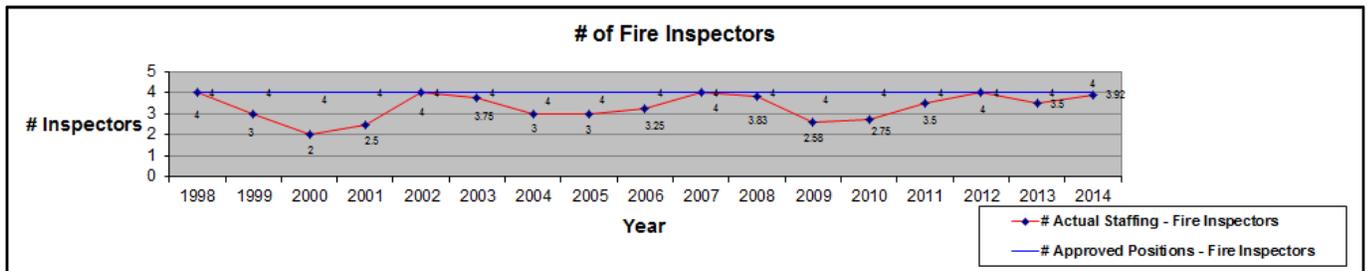
The FLSD was responsible for overseeing 196 Fire Code operational and construction permits in 2014, of which 97 were fire protection system permits. A total of 219 total plan reviews were conducted during this period, including 56 fire suppression systems, 41 fire alarm systems, and 117 site development reviews. This is an important part of fire prevention, to ensure that public events are safe and buildings are constructed with the required fire and life safety essentials. Permits associated with these FLSD activities brought in \$16,513.





### Staffing and Personnel

Approved staffing positions in the FLSD have remained the same since the 1970's, consisting of the Fire Marshal and four Fire Inspectors. A part-time Support Staff position is dedicated to the Division. The challenge over the years has been keeping up with increased responsibility (growth in population, growth in number of regulated occupancies, etc.) while maintaining adequate staffing levels. All allocated Fire Inspector positions were for filled in 2014 with the exception of one vacant Fire Inspector position for one month.



The professional achievements and qualifications that FLSD personnel have obtained continues to be impressive. In 2014, FLSD qualifications included:

- All personnel Oregon Fire Code (Fire Inspector) certified
- Two personnel possessed Oregon State Fire Marshal competency recognition
- Four personnel certified as NFPA Fire Investigators
- Two personnel certified as IAAI Certified Fire Investigators (CFI)
- Two personnel certified in Oregon as Fire Plans Examiners
- Two personnel certified as NFPA Fire Instructors
- One person certified as NFPA Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I
- One person certified as NFPA Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist II
- Four personnel certified as NFPA Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I
- One person certified as ICC Building Plans Examiner

FLSD personnel received 643 hours of training in 2014. Training is vital for personnel to keep up-to-date in their fields of expertise.

## **2015**

In 2015 we will:

- Continue to work diligently to educate the public about fire and life safety issues and target occupancies for inspections based upon the risk hazard
- Continue to take an active role in new development and construction, ensuring that new buildings have adequate access, water supply, required fire suppression and detection systems, and the required life safety systems and features in place
- Continue to promote residential smoke alarms and fire sprinkler systems
- Continue to work with the Medford Police Department to enforce fireworks regulations

Our goal is to protect people by being proactively involved in preventing tragedies, with the result of making Medford one of the safest communities to reside in.

***For more information about the Fire & Life Safety Division, visit our website at:***

<http://www.ci.medford.or.us/SectionIndex.asp?SectionID=21>

## Supplemental Information

# 2014 Annual Activity Report

<b><i>Enforcement Programs</i></b>	<b><i>Number</i></b>	<b><i>Hazards Noted</i></b>
Regular Inspections		
Inspectors	635 (601C/34R)*	1951
Company	481	110
Permitted Inspections	211	332
Self-Fire Inspections	231	5
Contractor Testing – Fire Protection	252	48
Code Referrals/Complaints	25	120
<b><i>Totals</i></b>	<b><i>1835</i></b>	<b><i>2566</i></b>

<b><i>Fire Code Permits</i></b>	<b><i>Number</i></b>
Fire Alarm Systems	41
Fire Sprinkler Systems	42
Kitchen Hood Suppression Systems	8
Fire Suppression-Clean Agent or Other	3
Standpipe	3
Fireworks-Retail Sales	5
Fireworks-Display	3
Flammable & Combustible Storage Tanks	3
Places of Assembly	34
Tents	21
<b><i>Totals</i></b>	<b><i>163</i></b>

<b><i>Other Permits Issued</i></b>	<b><i>Number</i></b>
Agricultural Burning	22
Special Burning	4
Blight	7
Residential Burns FD#2 ( <i>Approximate</i> )	3,000
<b><i>Totals</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>

<b><i>Plan Reviews</i></b>	<b><i>Number</i></b>
Fire Alarm Systems	41
Fire Suppression Systems	56
Site Development	117 (101C/16R)*
Other	5
<b><i>Totals</i></b>	<b><i>219</i></b>

\*City/Rural

<i>Fire Code - Other</i>	<i>Number</i>
Business Licenses	383
Consultations	69
Liquor License Signoff	22
Record Requests	19
<b>Totals</b>	<b>493</b>

<i>FLSD Conducted Fire Investigations</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Injuries</i>	<i>Fatalities</i>
Unintentional	43	5	0
Intentional	31	0	0
Act of Nature	0	0	0
Undetermined	26	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>

<i>Public Education</i>	<i>Number of Activities/Events</i>	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Children</i>
Public Education (FLSD)	101	1,227	3,478
Elementary School Fire Safety			
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Fire Safety - Hazd. House/Aerial	24	103	1700
Middle School			
CPR Anytime and CPR Classes	16	90	721
Residential Fire Safety Safety Presentations	2	100	0
Chamber Leadership Fire Science Day	1	25	0
Emergency Preparedness	1	75	0
Juvenile Firesetter Intervention	9	11	9
Child Safety Seat Checks/Installs	20	32	20
Fire Extinguisher Training	4	137	0
Fire Prevention Week Open House	1	250	250
RCC Ride Alongs	6	6	0
Residential Fire Sprinkler Presentations	2	50	0
Wildfire Safety Presentations	1	18	0
Citizen Recognitions	4	4	0
Other Fire & Life Safety Instruction	14	330	778
Public Education (Line Personnel)	117	1,036	3,078
<b>Totals</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>2,267</b>	<b>6,556</b>

<i>Wildfire Mitigation Program</i>	<i>Number</i>
Wildland-Urban Interface Evaluations & Intterra Mapping	302
<b>Totals</b>	<b>302</b>

<b><i>FLSD Media Events and Media Interviews</i></b>	
	<b><i>Number</i></b>
Media Releases/Facebook Posts	39
Media Interviews	29
<b><i>Totals</i></b>	<b><i>68</i></b>

<b><i>Training</i></b>	
	<b><i>Hours</i></b>
Administration	63.00
Fire Investigation	253.50
Plan Review	193.83
Fire Inspection	77.08
Public Education	55.75
<b><i>Totals</i></b>	<b><i>643.16</i></b>