

FIRE WATCH



JULY 2025

By The Numbers Year to Date

Inspections and Plan Reviews:

Initial Inspections: 749
Re-inspections: 564
Plan reviews for schools: 24
Plan reviews for contracted projects: 37
School acceptance inspections: 12
Contract acceptance inspections: 13
Childcare inspections: 204
Childcare consultations: 90
Residential care inspections: 659
Residential Treatment Facility inspections: 120
Group home inspections: 25
CMS initial inspections: 186
CMS re-inspections: 241

Industry Licensing and Certification:

Sprinkler Industry:

Contractor Licenses: 451
Certificate of Competency: 1218
Fitter Certifications: 1558
Field Testing Sessions: 3

Fireworks Industry:

General Display: 14
Importer: 31
Pyrotechnic Operator: 196
Retailer: 574
Wholesaler: 27

Professional Development:

Fire Service Certifications Issued: 1094

Regional Direct Delivery Program:

NFA 31 Classes: 531 students
RDD Recruit Academies: 2 academies (currently in training)
RDD Block training: 18 classes: 398 students

Washington State Fire Training Academy:

Weekday Recruit Academy: 43 students
Fire Service Open Enrollment Courses: 71 students
Fire Service Department Training: 1173 students
Law Enforcement/Military/Other Training: 70 students

Data Submission Reminder

Final Date for NFIRS: Jan. 31, 2026

232 days remaining

The State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) is urging all Washington fire departments to complete their National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) data entry prior to the program's sunset on January 31, 2026. As the U.S. Fire Administration transitions from NFIRS to the new National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS), it is critical that departments ensure their incident reporting is accurate, complete, and submitted on time.

Departments should not wait until the final deadline to finalize their data. Early completion reduces the risk of data loss, reporting discrepancies, and compliance issues with local, state, or federal reporting requirements.

Key Reminders:

- NFIRS data must be submitted through the eNFIRS system by January 31, 2026.
- Fire departments planning to transition to NERIS should ensure that all NFIRS data is complete and submitted up to the point they begin reporting in the new system.
- Departments should not report in both NFIRS and NERIS simultaneously unless required by local or state regulations.

Departments that have already begun reporting in NERIS should not continue submitting reports in NFIRS unless specifically required by a local or state mandate. Once a department transitions to NERIS, all NFIRS data should be fully entered and finalized up to the transition date to ensure complete reporting and to avoid any gaps during the handoff. Whether departments need to export their data from eNFIRS before the January 31, 2026 deadline depends on their current records retention practices. If a department already maintains incident records locally—such as through a records management system (RMS)—and this process aligns with their established retention policy, then the necessary data is likely already preserved. However, if the department does not currently retain incident data outside of the eNFIRS platform, it will be necessary to export that information and store it securely in a locally accessible format before the sunset date. Fire departments are strongly encouraged to review their records retention policies and coordinate with their IT or administrative teams to ensure all required data is properly stored and accessible after the NFIRS system is retired.

Take Action Now:

- Audit your current NFIRS data for completeness.
- Coordinate with your records management or IT team regarding local data storage.
- Set internal deadlines to complete all NFIRS reporting well before January 31, 2026.
- Contact the SFMO or your local NFIRS program manager if you have questions about data submission or export.

The timely and accurate reporting of fire incidents is essential for understanding community risk, allocating resources, and shaping future fire prevention strategies. The SFMO appreciates your continued efforts during this national reporting system transition.

For more guidance or assistance, please contact:

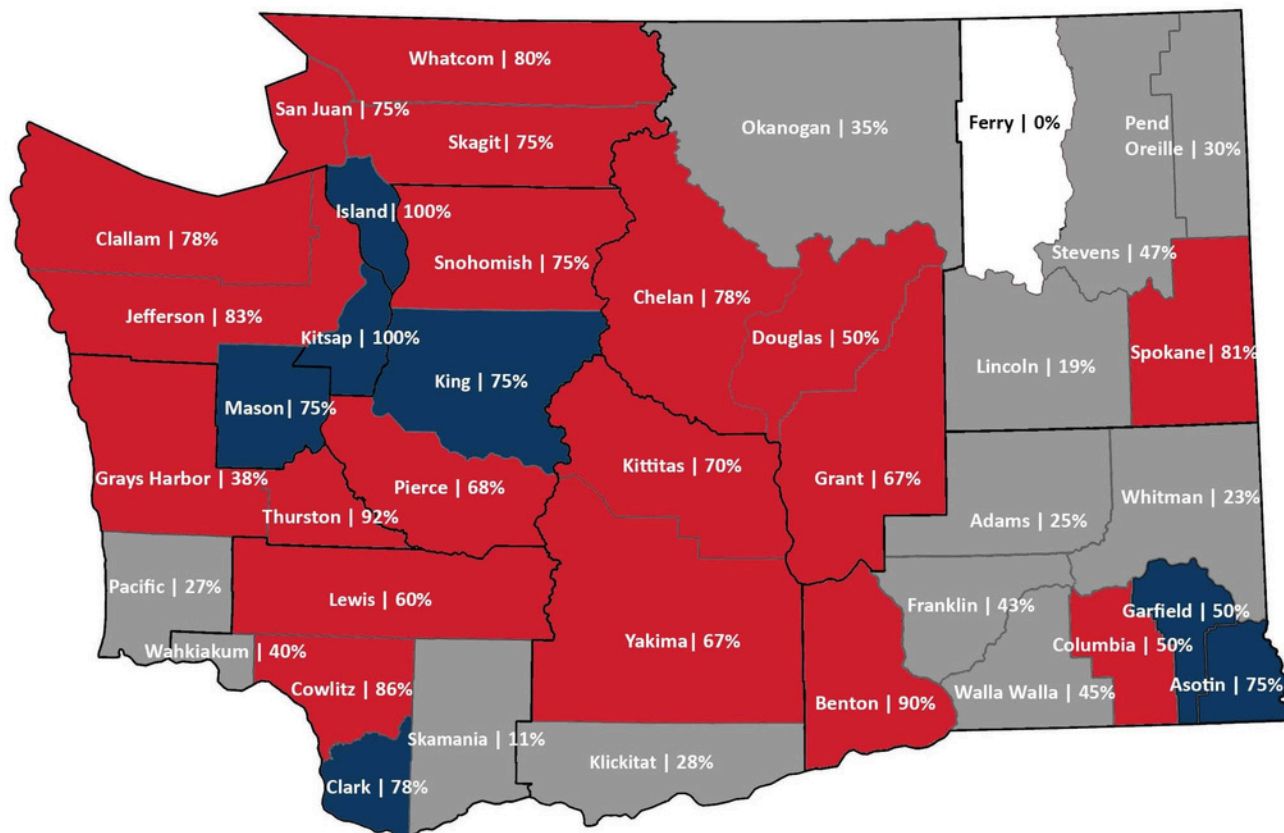
NFIRS@wsp.wa.gov or visit <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfirs/sunset/>



Washington NFIRS Incident Reporting

January 2024 - December 2024

Percentage of Agencies Reporting to NFIRS Per County



No Agencies Reporting

Below 50% Reporting

Above 50% Reporting

100% Reporting

Incident Counts*



Fire:26,682



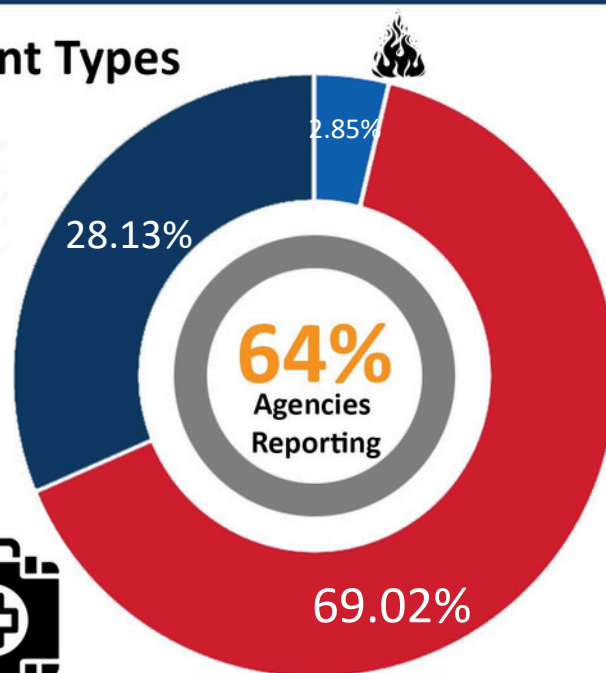
EMS:646,081



Other:263,469

936,232

Incident Types

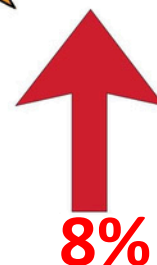
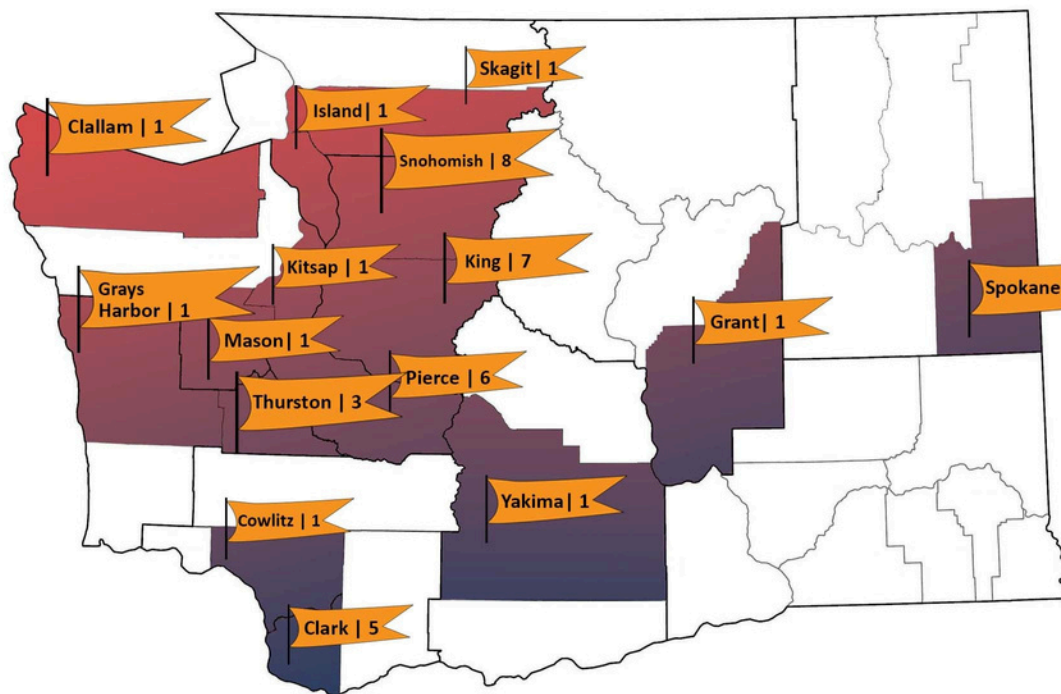


*Incident counts do not include: incidents that have not met the NFIRS validation standard, No Activity Reports, or mutual aid given incident reports.



Washington Fire Fatality Statistics

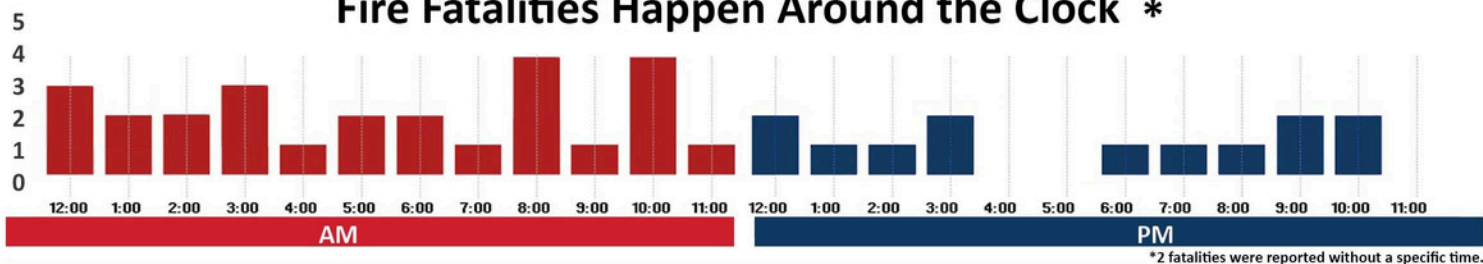
January 1 – May 31, 2025



INCREASE
in number of fatalities
compared to 27 in May 2024

Data is derived from reports submitted to SFMO from outside departments and their respective investigators. Subject to change as more information becomes available.

Fire Fatalities Happen Around the Clock *



Property Use:

Single Family Homes - 10
RV/Motor Homes - 7
Outdoor - 6
Multi-family Homes - 5
Vehicle - 4
Manufactured Homes - 4
Garage - 2
Commercial - 1



Smoke Alarms:

Unknown/Unavailable - 15
Alarm Not Present - 15
Alarm Present - 9



Fire Fatalities by Age and Gender:

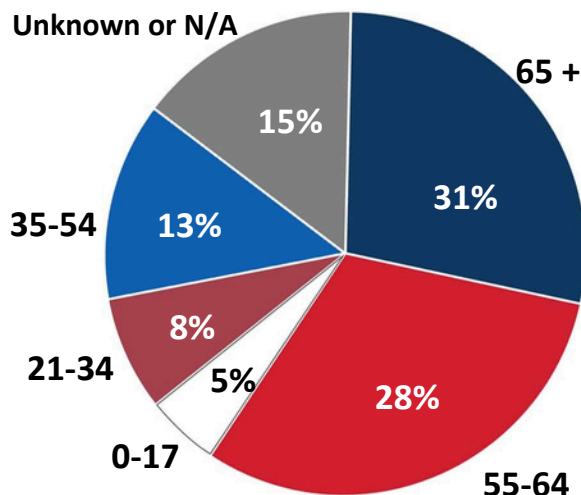
70% Male



30% Female



Unknown or N/A



Recent Inspection Findings

A state-licensed facility, currently undergoing commercial kitchen renovations, leased a temporary kitchen trailer and a separate dishwashing/pantry trailer from an out-of-state vendor. Both units are semi-truck-style trailers and were permitted through the local authority having jurisdiction. Over the past 18 months, the facility has experienced several delays with the kitchen remodel.

Recently, a fire occurred in both the temporary kitchen and dishwashing/pantry trailers. During the investigation, a review of the inspection, testing, and maintenance (ITM) records revealed that critical fire and life safety systems- including the suppression system and portable fire extinguishers- had not been serviced in the past 12 months.

Additionally, no carbon monoxide detectors were installed in either trailer.

Upon contacting the rental company, it was clarified that compliance with fire and life safety codes is the responsibility of the lessee and subject to enforcement by the local jurisdiction. The rental company does not assume responsibility for ITM of any fire protection systems or equipment.

Interviews conducted with facility staff, local code officials, the fire department, and the rental company confirmed that the lessee bears full responsibility for the inspection, testing, maintenance, and code compliance of any temporary kitchen or support trailers in use.

This incident serves as a reminder that ensuring fire and life safety, especially in non-traditional or temporary setups, is a shared responsibility that requires coordination with local authorities. Fortunately, there were no injuries as a result of either fire.

Residential Fire Sprinkler Trailer Demonstrations

The Washington State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) offers a free, interactive outreach opportunity with its Residential Fire Sprinkler Demonstration Trailer. This mobile unit provides a compelling demonstration showcasing the speed and effectiveness of fire sprinkler systems in controlling fires. It is an impactful way to educate your community on home fire safety in a controlled and safe environment. Recently, SFMO staff participated in Central Kitsap's 38th Annual Kids' Day event.



Education and Outreach Opportunities

Free Online Sprinkler Training Available

Enhance your knowledge with our free online sprinkler system training courses, available now. These sessions are designed to help you better understand system components, inspection requirements, and maintenance essentials. The remaining courses have been adjusted to allow additional participants, so please check again for any courses that may have previously been full.

Register here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4AADAD2CA0FCC16-54319122-introduction#/>

Bring Fire Safety to Life at Your Next Event- Apply to Reserve the Free Residential Fire Sprinkler Demonstration Trailer

The Washington State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) offers a free, interactive outreach opportunity with its Residential Fire Sprinkler Demonstration Trailer. This mobile unit provides a compelling demonstration showcasing the speed and effectiveness of fire sprinkler systems in controlling fires. It's an impactful way to educate your community on home fire safety in a controlled and safe environment. Ideal for public safety fairs, open houses, and community events, the trailer comes fully staffed and equipped. To request the trailer for your event, complete the reservation form and email it to fpbpio@wsp.wa.gov.

Request the trailer here:
[Reservation Form](#)

Community Risk Reduction

The State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) is working to offer Community Risk Reduction (CRR) courses throughout the state. We are in the process of identifying local partners, hosts and venues for a variety of one, two, and six day in-field classes that will be offered for free under an Assistance to Firefighters Grant. Meanwhile, these free online courses offered by the National Fire Academy (NFA) provide a basis of understanding of what the Community Risk Reduction planning process looks like. They will serve as the basis of knowledge for which the in field classes will build upon.

We encourage every firefighter, prevention practitioner, and fire service leader in the state to familiarize themselves with what CRR is— and what it is not, by taking these online courses. Each one takes about 5 hours to complete, and will result in NFA credits for training purposes.

Introduction to Strategic Community Risk Reduction (Q0841) is an online self-study course that empowers the learner with basic understanding of what constitutes a strategic CRR process. The course takes students approximately five hours to complete.

<https://apps.usfa.fema.gov/nfacourses/catalog/details/10802>

Introduction to Community Risk Assessments (Q0843) is an online self-study course that provides fundamental knowledge of how to perform a basic community risk assessment. The course takes students approximately five hours to complete.

<https://apps.usfa.fema.gov/nfacourses/catalog/details/10807>



*The Washington State Fire Marshal's Office,
Vancouver Fire Department, and the Washington Public Fire Educators*
Supported Training

NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY OFF – CAMPUS COURSE

Building Organizational Support for Community Risk Reduction (F0636) is a two-day course designed to help fire and emergency services learn what community risk reduction is and how to build organizational support for it. This course examines challenges fire departments face in shifting their priorities from response to prevention. In many departments community risk reduction is still considered a low priority. This course demonstrates how organizational support for strategic CRR can help foster safe, healthy, prepared and resilient communities.

This is a field course which is scheduled by state training agencies through the NFA annual course call.

DATE:	July 31 and August 1, 2025
TIME:	0800-1700 hours each day
LOCATION:	2106 Norris Road, Vancouver, WA 98661 (Vancouver Fire Department, Station 2-Training Room)
FEE:	There is <u>NO COST</u> for this course
PREREQUISITES:	Pre-course assignment, ICS-100-level (Q0462) and ICS-200-level (Q0463)
MATERIALS:	Course Syllabus, Pre-course Assignment, Bring Your Own Device
LUNCH:	Coffee, snacks, and water will be available (lunch not provided)
STUDENT ID's:	Registration requires an identification number obtained online at: https://cdp.dhs.gov/FEMASID
REGISTRATION:	State Fire Marshal's Office: Community Risk Reduction Contact for questions: courtney.chambers@wsp.wa.gov
LOCAL CONTACT:	Heidi Scarpelli, Vancouver Fire Department, Fire Marshal (e) Heidi.Scarpelli@cityofvancouver.us (o) 360-487-7212



*The Washington State Fire Marshal's Office,
Central Pierce Fire and Rescue, and the Washington Public Fire
Educators*

Supported Training NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY OFF – CAMPUS NO COST COURSE

Youth Firesetting Interviewing and Educational Intervention Strategies (F0621) is a two-day course that provides students with the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to perform an interview/screening and develop an educational intervention program for identified youth exhibiting fire misuse behaviors. The course addresses how to establish and implement these strategies to meet the needs of these youths and their families.

Participants will learn how to interview youth who have engaged in high-risk behaviors such as youth firesetting (YFS) or experimentation with incendiary/explosive devices. Participants will also learn how to provide educational intervention options for simple and complex youth firesetting situations.

- DATE:** July 31 and August 1, 2025
- TIME:** 0800-1700 hours each day
- LOCATION:** 3809 5th St SE, Puyallup, WA 98374 (Central Pierce Fire & Rescue Station 72)
- PREREQUISITES:** Pre-course assignment
<https://apps.usfa.fema.gov/nfacourses/catalog/details/10866>
ICS-100-level (Q0462) and ICS-200-level (Q0463) training, Youth Firesetting Intervention Specialist Course (F06633)
- MATERIALS:** Course Syllabus, Pre-course Assignment, Bring Your Own Device
- LUNCH:** Coffee, snacks, and water will be available (lunch not provided)
- STUDENT ID's:** Registration requires an identification number obtained online at:
<https://cdp.dhs.gov/FEMASID>
- REGISTRATION:** [State Fire Marshal's Office: Community Risk Reduction](#)
Contact for questions: courtney.chambers@wsp.wa.gov
- LOCAL CONTACT:** Courtney Thompson, Central Pierce Fire and Rescue, Public Educator,
(e) CThompson@centralpiercefirerescue.org (c) 253-778-9319 | (o) 253-538-6429

Fire Hazard Recalls: Stay Informed and Stay Safe

The State Fire Marshal's Office has compiled a list of items currently under recall by the Consumer Product Safety Commission due to fire or burn hazards. As these products pose potential risks to safety, it is important to stay informed. Please review the following list to help ensure your safety and take appropriate action if any of these items are in your possession.

- **DEMDACO Maril Brand Scented Candles**

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2025/DEMDACO-Recalls-Maril-Brand-Scented-Candles-Due-to-Laceration-and-Fire-Hazards>

- **Yamaha Corporation of America Power Adaptors for Digital Pianos and Music Workstations**

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2025/Yamaha-Corporation-of-America-Recalls-Power-Adaptors-for-Digital-Pianos-and-Music-Workstations-Due-to-Burn-and-Fire-Hazards>

- **Kohl's Tea Light Candle Holders**

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2025/Kohls-Recalls-Tea-Light-Candle-Holders-Due-to-Fire-Hazard>

- **Baseus Portable Chargers**

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2025/Baseus-Portable-Chargers-Recalled-Due-to-Fire-Hazard-Sold-on-Amazon-com-by-Shenzhen-Baseus-Technology>

- **Santa Cruz Electric Bicycles**

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2025/Santa-Cruz-Bicycles-Recalls-Electric-Bicycles-Due-to-Fire-Hazard>

- **Casely Wireless Portable Power Banks**

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2025/Casely-Recalls-Wireless-Portable-Power-Banks-Due-to-Fire-and-Burn-Hazards>

For more information and to search for recalls on specific products, please visit:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls>



Fire Officer III Course

The Washington State Fire Training Academy's online Fire Officer III course is underway with 14 students!

This advanced-level course meets the NFPA 1021 Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications. It's designed to equip fire and emergency services officers with the skills necessary to serve in chief officer roles effectively. Topics covered include human resource management, community and government relations, administration, inspections and investigations, emergency service delivery, health and safety, and emergency management concerning fire and emergency services.

The online format offers flexibility for busy professionals while ensuring the highest education standards. Participants will gain the advanced leadership skills required to manage and lead fire service organizations confidently. See our upcoming open enrollment courses listed on page 12 for future Fire Officer I & II dates.

Regional Direct Delivery Academy Graduations

With great pride and appreciation, the Regional Direct Delivery (RDD) program celebrates the graduation of 43 new volunteer firefighters from two RDD Recruit Academies. These dedicated individuals have successfully completed rigorous training programs in Lewis County and Grays Harbor, representing a total of 11 departments. Their commitment to service and readiness to protect their communities marks an important milestone in their personal journeys and contributes to the continued strength and resilience of the regions they now serve.



Important Notice: Updated Fire Training Academy Facility Cancellation Policy

To support the efficient scheduling and operation of our training facilities, the Fire Training Division will implement a new cancellation policy and associated fee structure for facility use and scheduled training events. This change will take effect July 1, 2025, and will apply to all new reservations after that date. Departments, agencies, or organizations that have a standing Facility Use Agreement will receive an amendment that details and implements said policy. This amendment must be signed before any future training will be scheduled.

This policy is intended to reduce last-minute cancellations and no-shows, which can significantly disrupt training operations and resource planning. We appreciate your continued partnership and understanding as we work to improve efficiency and ensure the best use of our training resources. If you have any questions or would like to discuss upcoming reservations, please contact our scheduling team at FireTrainingAcademy@wsp.wa.gov.

Upcoming Courses Offered at the Fire Training Academy

Below is a list of available courses and testing dates offered at the Fire Training Academy (FTA) If you are interested in attending, please contact the FTA at (425) 453-3000 or FireTrainingAcademy@wsp.wa.gov. For full course details, prerequisites, and updates, visit the Fire Training Academy website: <https://wsp.wa.gov/fire-training-academy/>

In-Person Courses

Fire Control I

July 19, 2025

Search and Rescue

July 20, 2025

Driver/Operator- Pumper *WAITLIST*

Dates: July 28 – August 1, 2025

Testing: August 2, 2025

Driver/Operator- Pumper

Dates: October 6-10, 2025

Testing: October 11, 2025

Hazardous Materials Technician

Course Dates:

Week 1: November 3 – 7, 2025

Week 2: November 10 – 14, 2025

*Note: No training on November 11 (Veterans Day)

Testing: November 15, 2025

IFSAC Testing

Hazardous Materials Awareness

Written and Practical: June 21, 2025

Hazardous Materials Operations

Written and Practical: June 21, 2025

Firefighter I

Live Fire: June 28, 2025

Written and Practical: July 5, 2025

Firefighter II

Live Fire: June 28, 2025

Written and Practical: July 12, 2025

Online Courses (via WSU Registration)

Fire Instructor I

Registration/Payment Due: August 11, 2025

Zoom Introduction: August 12, 2025

Coursework: August 13 – September 3, 2025

In-Person Practice (Voluntary): September 4, 2025

Testing: September 5, 2025

Fire Officer I

Registration/Payment Due: September 8, 2025

Zoom Introduction: September 9, 2025

Coursework: September 10 – 24, 2025

Testing: September 26, 2025

Fire Instructor II

Registration/Payment Due: September 29, 2025

Zoom Introduction: September 30, 2025

Coursework: October 1 – 22, 2025

In-Person Practice (Voluntary): October 23, 2025

Testing: October 24, 2025

Fire Officer II

Registration/Payment Due: October 27, 2025

Zoom Introduction: October 28, 2025

Coursework: October 29 – November 6, 2025

Testing: November 7, 2025



Contact List

STATE FIRE MARSHAL
Chad Cross
Chad.Cross@wsp.wa.gov
(360) 596-3902

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

Assistant State Fire Marshal
Melissa Gannie
Melissa.Gannie@wsp.wa.gov
(360) 596-3903

Inspection Section
Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal
Barbara Maier
Barbara.Maier@wsp.wa.gov
(509) 969-4536

Plan Review Section
Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal
Cozetta Christian
Cozetta.Christian@wsp.wa.gov
(360) 596-3906

Education, Enforcement, and Analytics Section
Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal
Gregory Baruso
Gregory.Baruso@wsp.wa.gov
(360) 596-3929

Professional Development and Response Section
Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal
Bill Slosson
William.Slosson@wsp.wa.gov
(360) 596-3928

FIRE TRAINING DIVISION

Assistant State Fire Marshal
Kelly Merz
Kelly.Merz@wsp.wa.gov
(425) 453-3000 Ext. 102

Chief of Instruction
Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal
Brian Smith
Brian.Smith@wsp.wa.gov
(425) 453-3000 Ext. 104

Regional Direct Delivery
Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal
Howard Scartozzi
Howard.Scartozzi@wsp.wa.gov
(425) 401-7732