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Wisconsin Region
<http://nfsawi.org>

My principles are more important
Than the money or my title

Muhammad Ali

Our principles direct how we treat and interact with people. Those in the safety and protection professions constantly maintain principles looking at people's welfare (safety and protection) and not waivering. We see that in how the fire sprinkler industry promotes the advantages, while acknowledging there is a cost. Good businesses weigh costs versus benefits through educating themselves on all aspects of both to come to an informed choice. We also see that through the industry's support of the Burn Center and Burn Camp through the Burn Center Golf Invitational and individual donations. This support to assist with current burn survivors healing and through burn prevention education keeps that principle intact.

----- Save the Date -----

Upcoming NFSA WI Chapter Events

NFSA Chapter Meeting

February 13, 2018

4:00 PM Networking and 4:30 PM Meeting

Coopers Hawk Restaurant

Brookfield, WI

June 12, 2018

9:00 AM Training – 11:30 AM Lunch Meeting – 1:00 PM Golf/Networking

Hawks Landing Golf Course

Madison, WI

30th Burn Center Golf Invitational

August 27, 2018

Grand Geneva Resort – Lake Geneva, WI

September 11, 2018

11:30 AM Lunch Meeting

Coopers Hawk Restaurant

Brookfield, WI

November 13, 2018

11:30 AM Lunch Meeting

Coopers Hawk Restaurant

Brookfield, WI

Legislative Update

While the Federal government understands the importance of fire sprinklers in buildings, we cannot get the State of Wisconsin to understand that fire sprinklers protect property and lives. This started last July 2017 when the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DPS) determined that the adopted Wisconsin Commercial Building Code conflicted with the state statutes after a request from the Wisconsin Builders Association and Wisconsin Realtors Association asked the agency for an Attorney General (AG) opinion.

This issue had come up multiple times since Wisconsin adopted the International Building Code. All four times, including a 2011 court case, it was found that the differences did not conflict. The court found that the administrative code could be stricter but could not be less than the statute. In 2011 the legislature passed Act 21 which did not allow administrative codes stricter than the statutes. This legislation did not address whether it would retroactive. The administrative code was enforced from adoption until the July 2017 DPS interpretation. The AG determined that the legislature would need to remedy this issue, but that while the code did not mention whether it was retroactive he determined that it was.

The International Code Council (ICC) has written letters in objection to the exception within the Commercial Building Code. They stated that the codes are developed in whole and do not work with exceptions. In this case, the codes were developed assuming that multi-family residences are protected with fire sprinkler systems. They do not mention what needs to be done if this was not provided. While DPS states they have identified many areas where trade-offs for fire sprinklers would need to be placed back into the building, they have no science behind the effects of these changes.

The ICC is further supported by the National Fire Protection Association and United States Fire Administration that fire sprinklers do affect survivability in a fire, as well as protect property and firefighters.

The Wisconsin Fire Chiefs Association and Wisconsin Fire Inspectors Association have attended hearings speaking in support of fire sprinkler systems. They understand the importance of fire sprinklers in protecting the lives of the occupants to safety evacuate, as well as the safety to first responders and firefighters.

We have been fortunate to have Schreiber GR Group and Regulatory Guidance and Design to assist use with working with the various legislative and political groups to educate them on the importance of fire sprinklers and assist with guidance with this issue.

It seems ironic that the Department of Safety and Professional Standards, which is responsible for the administration and enforcement of laws to assure safe conditions in public and private buildings has provided proposed legislation that conflicts with recommendations from its commercial building code advisory committee. It also is ironic that they have taken the position that they need to measure the economic effect of any legislation often placing safety behind cost.

We continue to work as the driving force in Wisconsin and the nation for education and promotion of fire sprinklers within businesses and residences.





NFSA Layout Technician Blended Learning Course

You asked, NFSA listened and delivered. This new approach to fire sprinkler training allows for a combination of self-paced and interactive online learning along with in-class sessions. The course is comprised of:

- A “40 hours of online” portion facilitated by an NFSA instructor who will monitor and assist as needed, and be available for live chat or phone calls. Segments include codes and standards, sprinkler installation, seismic protection, fire pumps and standpipes, and hydraulic calculations.
- A 5-day, in-person portion focuses on intense practical application layout and design work under the guidance of an NFSA instructor. Project management and layout and calculations of wet- and dry-pipe system will be covered.
- The final portion is a required verification that the student has received training or is competent in CAD. This is provided by the employer or mentor of the student.

Find out more at <http://bit.ly/NFSAtrng>

Because Nobody does Fire Sprinkler Training Like NFSA --- NOBODY!

******* 2018 Classes *******

Blended learning - In-Class Practicum Location

February 26 – March 2, 2018
Orlando, Maryland

May 14 – 18, 2018
Richmond, Kentucky

July 16 – 20, 2018
Baltimore, Maryland

October 22 – 26, 2018
Phoenix, Arizona

40 Hour online portion available now and must be completed before registering for the in-class practicum.

Two Week Layout Technician Class Locations:

February 19 – March 2, 2018
Orlando, Florida

May 14 – 25, 2018
Seattle, Washington

July 9 – 20, 2018
Baltimore, Maryland

October 15 – 26, 2018
Phoenix, Arizona

Wisconsin Fire Sprinkler Saves

January 6, 2018

Milwaukee, WI

Firefighters were dispatched to a report of a fire at the Hawley Ridge Apartments on N. Hawley Rd. just north of Wells St. on Friday, December 29th. Officials say the fire happened in a unit on the third floor of the complex. A sprinkler system helped contain the fire to that unit. One person was taken to Froedtert Hospital as a result of this incident. Officials say between 30 and 40 people were displaced. The American Red Cross is helping those in need.

January 26, 2018

Waupun, WI

Fire damaged a unit in a Waupun apartment complex Saturday night. It happened at 913 Fraser Lane just before 6 p.m. The two tenants and three pets living in the unit were able to get out safely. Waupun Fire Chief B.J. DeMaa says the building's sprinkler system put the fire out. Fire damaged a stove, microwave and nearby kitchen cabinet in the unit on the lower level of the apartment building. The Red Cross is assisting the two tenants who were living in the fire damaged unit. DeMaa says all the other tenants were able to return to their units for the evening.

Contact me with your saves!

Contact me **A.S.A.P. at (414) 531-9542 or e-mail: king@nfsa.org** if you have information regarding a Major Fire or Sprinkler Save or fire is defined as "one where there is extensive property loss, multiple death or injury to citizens or firefighters, or any other significant circumstances regarding fire sprinkler protection or lack thereof." Our goal when the appropriate fire scenario occurs is to influence immediate post-media coverage regarding the application of fire sprinkler protection, or lack of protection." Sprinkler Saves will help inform others that the systems do work and will provide life and property saving values.

When forwarding information of a major fire include; date, time, city, state, address, sprinkled, non-sprinkled, injuries, deaths and any other fire related particulars that may be available. Also, contact me if your company replaces a sprinkler head(s) due to activation by fire.

NSFA Headquarters Update

We have added some new teammates and we have and will be losing some teammates. We have been working diligently and continually updating the Transition Management Plan as we fill the positions approved by the Board in the 2018 Operations Plan. Mollie Ryan, our Executive Assistant, went to the Naval Academy and Rory Schnurr from the Labor and Legal Department wished to remain home in New York, but will still be supportive with legislative endeavors that he was a personal advocate for in his home city and state. Dave LaFond our Regional Manager for New England, has announced his retirement effective April 1st. Dave has agreed to stay and help with the transition to the new person that will be hired for the position.

We are making offers for an ITM Specialist and 2 Field Service Coordinators. We are in the interview process for a Director of Operations (working out of headquarters), Director of Field Operations, and a Trainer. We have applications coming in to fill the Great Plains Regional Manager position as well as the three open positions in the Engineering Department. We are excited that we have added Karin Brank and Abbie Boeing to the team since you were here last. Karin is a teammate of Alex in the Finance and Administration Department and brings a lot of experience as we get ready to close the books on 2017 and prepare for the audit. Abbie Boeing joins Vickie and the Outreach and Government Relations team as our Membership and Outreach Coordinator. These two teammates will be touching everyone as members and staff in their roles and I know you join me in welcoming them.

Check the Join Our Team section of the nfsa.org website for more information on these and other open positions.

Fire Sprinklers included in Tax Reform

Since the passage of the Tax Reform Act on December 20th, that included our Fire Sprinkler Incentives passed both the House and Senate, NFSA has been working on various messages to promote these incentives. They have created a brochure in two formats (page and tri-fold) for use by chapters and members to get out the word. These have space for logos to customize for your clients. There are also ads that have been created to help spread the word.

Additional info and downloads are available at <http://members.nfsa.org/?page=TaxReform>. Please contact Marty King at nfsa.org for copies of these ads or information as to potential trade publications.

Station Nightclub Fire – 15 Years Later

The Station Nightclub fire occurred in West Warwick, Rhode Island resulting in 100 people killed. The fire began early in the concert by 1980's heavy metal band Great White when pyrotechnics ignited combustible foam insulation at the back of the stage. The tragedy spurred action from fire protection groups calling for fire sprinkler protection in assembly occupancies, though today many of these facilities remain unprotected.

While the fire has pointed the finger at many different contributing causes (pyrotechnics, foam insulation, occupant loads, inspection practices, crowd control) the science has shown that a fire sprinkler system would have controlled the fire and provided needed time for occupants to escape. Though these facts have been replaced with arguments that businesses cannot afford the costs involved with protection

As we approach the 15th Anniversary of the Station Nightclub fire, let me remind you of your perseverance and the difference it has and will make so that the losses of those impacted were not in vain. Their memory will be honored on February 20, 2018 in an event hosted by The Station Club Fire Foundation, Phoenix Society for Burn Survivors, and Common Voices. If you haven't made a donation to these organizations and wish to do so, please reach out to Vickie Pritchett (pritchett@nfsa.org) with your desire to do so.

Save the Date – 30th Anniversary of Burn Center Golf Invitational

With the completion of 29 years of successful fundraising for the Ascension Columbia-St. Mary's Burn Center, as well as the AFS Burn Camp, the BCGI has donated over \$2.4 million. The fire sprinkler industry leads the way in burn prevention and burn survivor support systems. This is accomplished through the promotion of fire safety, burn prevention, and public safety education.

This year's event looks to be better than the last (hopefully the weather) with interest before the invites and sponsorship letters have been sent. The committee will be working hard to look at different ways to succeed. Please consider not only a sponsorship but attending to network with others in the fire sprinkler industry.

Sponsorship information is expected to be mailed on February 9, 2018. You can also visit the website (www.supportcsm.org/2018bcgi) for sponsorship information

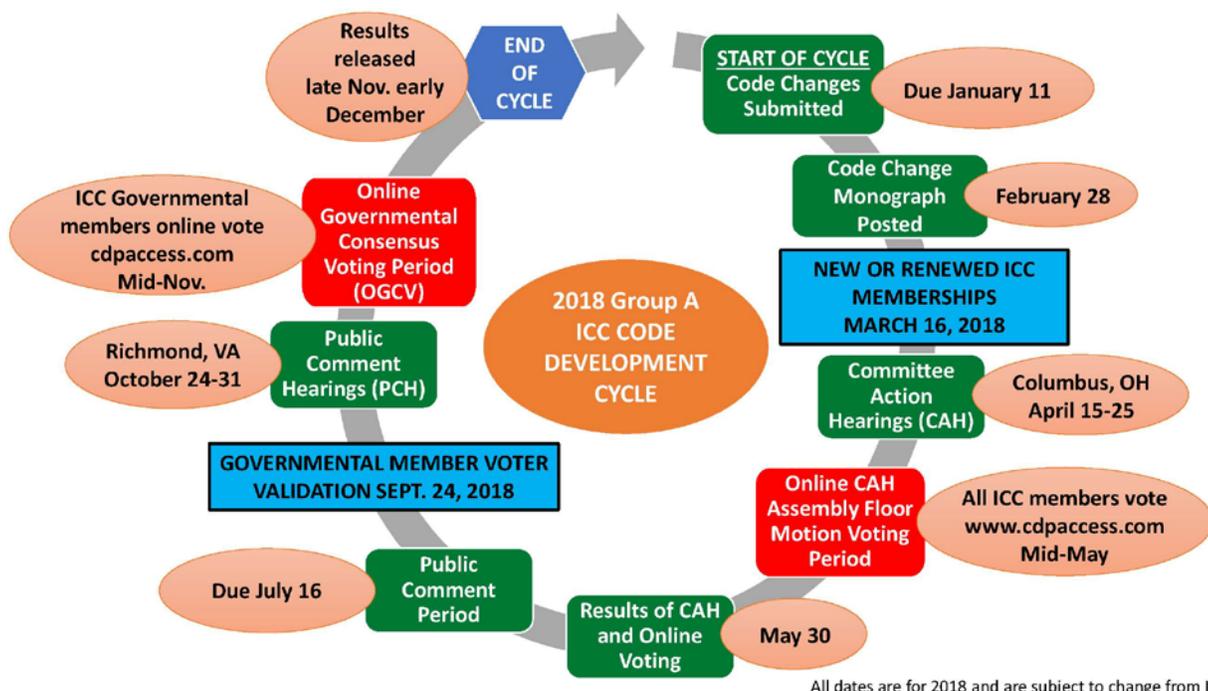
Remember August 27, 2018 and join us for a day of fun for a good cause.

ICC Voting and NFSA Member Participation in 2018 – Important March 16, 2018 Deadline

The development of the ICC Group A Cycle is underway in 2018. This includes the 2021 International Fire Code (IFC), International Building Code (IBC) and International Residential Code (IRC-plumbing). As in previous years, participating and voting in the ICC process by NFSA members can have a positive effect on future changes.

In order to participate and vote in this code cycle, you must renew or join ICC by March 16, 2018 to participate and vote in the ICC Group A (2018) cycle.

Participation of NFSA members and code officials (ICC Governmental Members) is important as these codes affect the fire sprinkler industry in every state. Voting occurs twice in 2018, once in the spring for all ICC members and once in the fall for ICC governmental members.



All dates are for 2018 and are subject to change from ICC

How to become a new or renewed ICC member in 2018:

1. Join ICC by March 16, 2018.
2. NFSA contractors, manufacturers, professional members go [here to join](#) or [here to renew](#). Choose the appropriate membership or other appropriate category. All categories can vote only in the first voting period (Online CAH Assembly Floor Motion Voting Period) in May 2018.
3. Code officials, fire code officials, fire chiefs, inspectors, plan reviewers and other authorities having jurisdiction join as governmental members and are eligible to vote all year. Information to become new or renew ICC memberships are [here to join](#) or [here to renew](#).

To be eligible to vote:

1. All new and renewed governmental members must fill out a questionnaire to become eligible [here](#) to vote before March 16, 2018.

- NOTE: If you voted in 2016, you must renew your ICC membership and fill out a NEW questionnaire for 2018. If you were an ICC member in 2017, you must renew your membership to cover the 2018 voting period.

Spring Committee Action Hearings (CAH) are being held April 15-25 in Columbus, OH and the fall Public Comment Hearings (PCH) will be after the ICC Annual Conference, from October 24-31 in Richmond, VA. These hearings are also webcast live.

If you join or renew your ICC memberships after March 16, 2018, you will not be eligible to vote the remainder of this cycle.

For more information, please contact NFSA Director of Codes and Public Fire Protection, Jeffrey M. Hugo at: hugo@nfsa.org. ICC Membership can be reached at 888-ICC-SAFE extension 33804 or members@iccsafe.org

NFSA On-Line and In-Class Seminars

The 2017 On-line Technical Seminars have been scheduled. All seminars are conducted by NFSA staff or consultants on Tuesdays and will start promptly at **10:30 A.M. Eastern Time** and run approximately 1.5-hours. Seminar topics are designed to various levels of understanding, Basic (B), Intermediate (I) and Advanced (A) levels.

FEES: \$50 per seminar for members and AHJ's. Non-member Cost: \$250.00* per seminar
 The On-Line Seminars have been approved for 1.5 –hours CEU credit in Wisconsin for the following licenses: Automatic Fire Sprinkler Contractor, Automatic Fire Sprinkler Contractor – Maintenance, Journeyman Automatic Fire Sprinkler Fitter, Automatic Fire Sprinkler Tester, and Commercial Building Inspector. From the desktop of an office or the comforts of a home, one can watch the 1½-hour live-interactive seminar and receive credit. When registering for the seminar, **the registrant needs to inform the NFSA that they are in need to receive Wisconsin CEU's.**

You can attend a NFSA Seminar without traveling to a classroom. For more information and to view a demonstration, visit our Website at www.nfsa.org and click on Training.

2017 "Technical Tuesday" Online Classes

- Features Live Q & A
- Qualify for NICET credits (.1 CEU/1 CPD each class)
- AIA/CES approved
- Classes begin at 9:30 a.m. Central Time



| <i>Date</i> | <i>Topic</i> | <i>Instructor</i> |
|-------------|---|--|
| 2/20 | Discussing Design Approaches | Louis Guerrazzi, Manager Product Standards |
| 3/20 | Understanding the 2017 Edition of NFPA 25 | John Corso, Director of Training |



The Federal Government *Now Provides A Tax Incentive* to Protect Lives and Property with Fire Sprinklers



Companies, especially small businesses, may now utilize changes made in the recently passed tax reform bill for accelerated cost recovery for the installation, upgrade, or retrofit of fire sprinkler systems in their properties.

Never before has this type of incentive for fire sprinkler systems been available. Previously, fire sprinkler systems were depreciated over 39 years in commercial buildings and 27.5 years in residential structures.

There is now a significant incentive that potentially would allow for immediate cost recovery!

The National Fire Sprinkler Association encourages business and industry owners to contact their tax professionals and refer them to the changes in Section 179 of the recently passed tax reform legislation (P.L. 115-97).

Protect Lives — Protect Your Property — The Time has Come!