

Mosier Fire Log

December 2012

CALL SUMMARY

	<u>DEC</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>12/11</u>	<u>11 YTD</u>	<u>12/10</u>	<u>10 YTD</u>
MEDICAL:	3	48	5	66	2	38
FIRE:	2	20	1	17	2	17

Medical calls in December:

- **Psychological issue**, downtown Mosier, on scene in six minutes.
- **Fainting**, downtown Mosier, on scene in four minutes.
- **Flu-like symptoms**, downtown Mosier, on scene in two minutes.

Fire calls in December:

- **12/15**: Apparent false alarm for a **vehicle crash**, eastbound I-84 at milepost 68, on scene in 10 minutes. Called to a rollover in icy conditions. Nothing found.
- **12/25**: Non-injury **vehicle crash**, I-84 eastbound at milepost 70.5, on scene in ten minutes.

carbon monoxide

Carbon monoxide (CO) is colorless and odorless. It's produced by poor combustion. Some faulty conditions in the home can produce a harmful or lethal dose of CO. If you have a fire place or any indoor appliance which burns anything – wood, gas, oil – you should also have at least one carbon monoxide detector. They save lives.

- **Where to put a CO detector**. CO is about the same density as air, so the detector doesn't need to be up high. Place near sleeping areas and possible CO sources.
- **What type of CO detector**. Doesn't matter. Consider one which plugs into an electrical outlet and has a backup battery. Check batteries regularly.
- **Clean and maintain your appliances**. Gas and oil appliances should be cleaned and inspected periodically to ensure safe operation. Wood stoves should have the chimney cleaned and inspected at least once per year. If your home is sealed very tightly, a wood stove or fire place may need a window open a crack for make-up air.
- **If your CO alarm goes off**:
 - Turn off appliances, close dampers on wood stoves or other sources of enclosed combustion. *Do not use until the CO source is identified and repaired.*
 - Get fresh air into the premises.
 - Call a qualified technician to fix the problem causing the alarm to sound.
 - Do not remove batteries in the detector.
 - If anyone is experiencing head ache, light headedness, grogginess, nausea, itchy eyes, or other symptoms of CO poisoning, **call 911** and leave the premises. Do not return until a properly functioning CO alarm stays off.

REVERSE 911

The Wasco County Sheriff and Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue recently launched a reverse 911 system, which notifies by phone in emergencies. It's set up to make phone calls to just about every resident and business in the county, and it can be sorted in just about any way you can imagine as well as by a simple radius around a street address.

It has one weakness: cell phone numbers. Cell phones don't always have a local address, and they might not be part of the records used in the reverse 911 system.

If you want to be sure the reverse 911 system will call your cell phone if there's an emergency, go to the County's website, www.co.wasco.or.us, and click on the button for "**Citizen Alert Notification Sign Up**".

The system does a lot more than just make phone calls. It can deliver text, email, fax, and it can take into account special needs such as if you can't walk. It habla Espanol. And Tagalog! But you have to tell it to do so.

You can set it to notify you if your kid's school gets an emergency notification. If you live elsewhere but have friends or family in Mosier, you can sign up to get a 911 text if their house is in the evacuation zone of a fire.

You have to go to the [website](#) and "opt in" to those and many more features if you want them. For more information, please call the Fire Chief at 541-478-3333.

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Volunteer News:

Pete Wright and **Marc Berry** traveled to New Jersey to help with relief efforts following hurricane Sandy. Marc spent twenty-one days working in shelters for the American Red Cross, as part of an Oregon team. Pete went with a crew of volunteers from Fire Fighters for Christ. He drove across the country pulling his tractor on a flatbed trailer, and helped clear debris and sand for two weeks. Both of them tell of massive devastation and loss, and of the outpouring of help.

Mosier EMT **Jane Herman** traveled to Anniston, Alabama to train for a week with FEMA. She now qualifies to deploy as an EMT to major disasters.

Pine Beetle Public Workshop

WHO: Glen Ahrens, Oregon State University Forester
WHAT: Tree Health Workshop
WHEN: Saturday, January 12, 2013, 10 AM to noon
WHERE: The Oregon State University Extension office,
2990 Experiment Station Drive, Hood River

The ongoing infestation of pine bark beetles is entering its third season, with significant mortality showing up in and around Mosier.

The culprit, *Ips paraconfusus*, or the California Five-Spined Ips (“CFI”), is apparently new to this area as of 2010, after migrating from southern Oregon over the last two decades. CFI is behaving in ways no one has documented before – typically it's only lethal to pines when other bugs are also present, but in Mosier CFI is killing trees all on its own. CFI is also in a state of sustained overpopulation, which experts are calling an “outbreak”. The bugs are spreading in our spring and summer west winds, and many patches of sick and dying trees can now be seen from the west side of Hood River all the way to The Dalles.

Chief Appleton recently attended a meeting of a dozen entomologists and foresters to look at CFI in Mosier. Here are a few notable findings from that group:

- CFI's **life cycle** has two main periods of flight: early spring and mid summer. Land owners wishing to disrupt a CFI outbreak should fall dead trees before March if possible. Simply removing the bark, and burning branches, will kill most of the bugs.
- **Limbing** green pine trees appears to attract CFI. Experts advise against limbing green trees for the next couple of years if at all possible. If green trees must be limbed, they advise doing so before January 1, to allow trees time to heal the open cuts before the beetles emerge in early spring.
- It's possible to treat high-value trees with **insecticide**, though the cost and effort is prohibitive.

To learn more about CFI, please come to the Tree Health Workshop!

Burn Permits:

Mosier Fire Chief has mailed new burn permits to anyone who had one in 2012. The new permits are valid through 12/31/2013. If you need a burn permit, or if you think we forgot to mail yours, please call the Fire Chief at 541-478-3333.

All burning in the Mosier Fire District requires a valid permit, year-round.