



MI Prevention Newsletter

December 11, 2023

We hope you are all enjoying your Holidays and getting the opportunity to spend time with your family.

MI Prevention Updates:

- **NEW: Reading in schools and FIRE Prevention Month 2023 –**
 - State Fire Marshal Sehlmeier visited 22 Elementary schools and attended numerous FP events throughout Michigan this year.
 - We will be choosing MI Prevention partner communities throughout the year, reading to a school, one each month. We have already started as we have been in schools in November, December and have one scheduled for January.
 - If you're a MI Prevention partner, please send Kymberly an email so we can get you on the schedule to read in your school.



- **NEW: USA Hockey –**

- MI Prevention partnered with USA Hockey to develop PSAs on Fire Safety and attended their Fire Prevention game night. During the game, ticket holders and kids received T-shirts, magnets, and story books. Sparky made an appearance and multiple FD supported the event by having their Trucks and Engines out front for a “Touch a Truck” event.



- **NEW – Funding:**

- The State has added again this year to the BFS Budget a one-time \$1 million dollar line item towards the purchase of more smoke alarms!!
- All our efforts to partner with all of you have been beneficial!
- Why do we keep pushing DATA? DATA is KING!
- All the smoke alarm installations and documentation into the app are making a difference.
- SFM reports to State Leadership monthly on the installations and Fire Departments partnering with us and this has got their attention to keep supporting MI Prevention and all of **YOU!**

- **Recap – Sound Off Calendar:**

Thank you for all that delivered Sound Off Calendars to your schools. We delivered 6000 Calendars to 2nd and 3rd grade teachers across the state.

- **What we learned:**

- Not every school got a calendar, because there was not a complete and accurate list of schools or teachers available. The Department of education list was quite inaccurate, and we called every school, however, more than 70% did not get back with us on #s.
- Although the calendars were liked by many, the SFM showed up too many schools and classrooms with the calendars sitting in a pile on a teacher's desk or in the main office.
- Evaluation of future calendars or gifts are being evaluated for schools.
- Any ideas or suggestions, please email Kymberly at Pashkowskyk@michigan.gov

- **NEW: MI Prevention Data Analysts and Part-time Contract Positions:**

- The BFS was approved to hire a Data Analyst for MI Prevention, this job was posted, and **Macie Smith** accepted the position.
- There is a learning curve for Macie in this position, so please stay tuned to her helping you on the apps and data analytics of MI Prevention.
- We were approved for Four (4) contract positions and these positions were filled by the following:
 - **Aaron O'Donnell** – Currently helps with the App and alarms, will be transitioning to the YFS project when Macie is up and running.
 - **Stan Barnes** – Currently working with Southfield FD on the Smart Burner Project.
 - **Chad Everett** – Currently handling the region of Lansing area and south and over to the Kalamazoo regions. His main goal is to build Community Safety Coalitions and work with FDs directly on improving and enhancing their partnerships with MI Prevention.
 - **Kyle Svoboda** – Currently helping with the new database system and the transition of the old system to new system.
- These 4 positions for MI Prevention will be contract State employees. This will allow us to pay someone for help with MI Prevention specific projects that need extra hands on.
- This is the beginning process towards producing future full time MI Prevention positions in future budget line items.
- Currently, if you are interested in a contract position, please contact

Kymberly. She will discuss this opportunity with you. At this time, choosing people will be based on the location of projects around the state. However, it is very valuable to know who is interested and where you are located. These projects will change often, and the 4 part time positions will rotate through projects.

For example: We have a project in Southfield, it is a temporary project, however, when complete, it is done. We also do not want someone from West Michigan to work in Southfield daily. So, the location and project are varied and changing.

- **NEW – Data Management System (DMS) - MI Prevention:**

- Although, this is a Recap of information, please note we are working diligently in building this new system. This program was broken down into 3 phases, our 1st phase, will be everything you currently do on the app. Our goals are to complete this 1st phase in the beginning of the year 2024, with the 2nd and 3rd phases following shortly after.
- We will show our phases in our MI Prevention Meeting.

State Fire Marshal Kevin Sehlmeier was instrumental in the Bureau of Fire Services purchasing the ESRI system, and all contracts have been finalized towards our new Database for MI Prevention to maintain, evaluate, and expand our DMS.

- We are currently building the system and hoping to make it an enhanced resource towards CRR in your community.
- We are striving towards a sustainability plan with the goal of expanding access to our DMS by developing a system where every fire department could access their own city or township dashboard and print reports to assist in improving community risk reduction efforts in each local community. Stay tuned as this project develops.
- We will continue with a web-based app, however, the app and the forms you fill out will change to the new system. We will keep you informed when this happens, until then, keep utilizing MIP app.
- If you find any errors with the current app or system, please contact Kymberly to make her aware. We are transitioning into a new system, and you will start seeing certain things disappear. We are doing our best to keep the most important daily functions active for you.
- We will inform you how to connect to the new system when it is up and running.

- **NEW: Lithium-Ion Batteries:**

Kymberly Pashkowsky is part of “The FSRI Public Safety Education Advisory Committee (PAC)” This past year, this committee came together towards the development of the following materials:

- Fires from lithium-ion battery-powered devices are increasing at an alarming rate. With the holiday season approaching, now is the time to learn how to Take C.H.A.R.G.E. of Battery Safety. Watch FSRI’s new PSA to learn tips on how to prevent these fires by using lithium-ion battery-powered devices safely.
- **HOW TO CODE ON NFIRS:**
<https://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfirs/coding-help/lithium-batteries/>
- **Learn more at:** <https://batteryfiresafety.org/>
- <https://fb.watch/okYCEU8oQf/>

- **NEW: Smart Burner Project - Southfield:**

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has been awarded a \$1.85 million Building our Largest Dementia Infrastructure (BOLD) grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The funding will be used to implement a public health approach to addressing Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias (ADRD).

- In August 2023, MDHHS reached out to MI Prevention towards spending \$25k leftover of grant towards a project. We partnered with South Field FD and chose a building that has 100 apartments, focused on aging in place. Southfield FD has attended several cooking fire related calls to this apartment complex, which made it an ideal location to execute this project.
- In January 2024, we will be installing, along with Southfield FD, smart burners in all 100 apartments. This partnership with MDHHS, Southfield FD and Pioneering Technology has been a wonderful example of Community Work towards Community Risk Reduction.
- If you would like information on the Smart Burners for you community, please reach out to Kymberly Pashkowsky at Pashkowskyk@michigan.gov
- **Also visit:** <https://preventcookingfires.com/>

- **NEW – Youth Fire Setting (YFS)**

- Just prior to Covid, MI Prevention put out a link for anyone interested in YFS, informing us by filling out a form that you can find on the app.
- MI Prevention came together last month to start tackling the efforts towards a YFS State Coalition.
- **If you filled this form out in the past, you do not need to do it again, you are still on the list.**
- Our first step towards this coalition is to develop a work group to start working on a strategic plan.
- We encourage anyone involved with YFS to consider utilizing the YFIRES database to document your cases.
 - <https://yfires.com/>
- We will be scheduling our first meeting in January, with a follow up work session in spring.
- First Meeting (Virtual): **January 23, 2023 10am** – watch for invite to follow newsletter.
- If you are interested in this coalition, please fill out the following form: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/miprevention/yfssafetycoalitioncommitteeregistration>

- **New - 2024 NCOAA Committee Work Groups and CO Summit – National Carbon Monoxide Awareness Association (NCOAA):**

- MI Prevention continues to partner and move the NCOAA Coalition forward. NCOAA 1st Safety Summit was a smashing success this past summer and NASFM is adding the NCOAA Safety Summit back again this summer in Kansas City.
- **Did you miss the 2023 Summit?** <https://www.coalition.ncoaa.us/summit-resource-library-2023>
- **If you are interested in getting involved with Carbon Monoxide, we encourage you to sign up for a committee work group and be part of the solutions towards reducing carbon monoxide poisoning.**
- **Sign up:** <https://www.coalition.ncoaa.us/co-safety-coalition>
- **2024 NCOAA Safety Summit:** Kansas City, Missouri on July 29th through August 1st, 2024.
- NCOAA has partnered with NFFF to develop a 45 min CO education and training that will be available on the Hero Learning network. Stay tuned for more information, we will share once it is live.

- **NEW – MIPrevention.org**

- Please visit our new website
- We have made lots of new and updated changes
- You will find many, many resources for CRR and Educational needs, including those Fire Inspector credits for installing smoke alarms.
- Any suggestions or additions to website, please email Kymberly.

- **NEW – CRR Week**

- <https://crrweek.org/>
- CRR Week 2024 kicks off on Martin Luther King Day, a National Day of Service, which is Monday, January 15, 2024. It runs through Sunday, January 21.
- **CRR WEEK Theme 2024** - Promoting Awareness of Community Risk Reduction - Getting Ahead of the Call



- **Recap: Defective Smoke Alarms:**

- We have a new form on the app!!
- <https://www.cognitoforms.com/miprevention/defectivealarmform>
- When you come across defective smoke alarms or any of our alarms, please fill this form out.
- Once you input data into app, the form will deduct from your inventory #s to keep you accurate!

- **Recap – Sound Off On-line System:**

I have attached directions to our new Sound Off Online system, see attached.

With **Sound Off Online** you can:

- Communicate directly with teachers by email to schedule a classroom visit, ask a question, or just stay in touch.
- Monitor classroom progress through the core *Sound Off* activities at all schools in your area and reach out by email to teachers who may need help.
- Receive directly from teachers contact information for families that have requested a home safety visit and free smoke alarms.
- Maintain detailed records of home safety visits conducted by your team, including the number and type of free smoke alarms installed.
- Track team progress with real-time statistics on the number of participating students and classrooms, the number of home visits completed, and the number of smoke alarms installed.

- Contact our state team and the *Sound Off* management team to solve problems and celebrate your success.
- **Recap: Educational Video Specifically for Firefighters:** Sound Off has developed a new class and video to teach firefighters how to implement the Sound Off program in your local school systems and utilize all the components of the Sound Off curriculum in your community.
 - This is a great eLearning course for fire academy's towards CRR subject homework assignments.

To get to the Sound Off for Firefighters E-Learning course go to:

<https://ymiclassroom.com/lesson-plans/sound-off-soff/>

Scroll down and click on the “Sound Off for Firefighters” title (second from the left) to get to the instructions on how to enroll in this ResourceOne e-learning course.

Top 20 MI Prevention Installers

Row Labels	TTL Visits	Occupants	TTL Smoke Alarms	TTL CO Alarms	TTL Special Alarms	TTL Alarms (Smoke/CO/SPCL)	Rank By Installations
Alpena FD	144	329	458	117	5	580	8
Benton Harbor Department of Public Safety	261	537	1114	197	2	1313	3
Bloomfield Twp FD	60	84	281	14	0	295	19
Cascade Twp FD	101	155	344	0	0	344	13
City of Rochester Hills	268	500	778	327	14	1119	5
Comstock Twp Fire & Rescue	55	127	263	58	4	325	15
Detroit FD	599	1910	1185	0	0	1185	4
Dutton FD	79	185	212	88	18	318	17
Flint FD	111	248	537	252	0	789	7
Grand Traverse Metro FD	149	279	275	45	6	326	14
Kentwood FD	197	440	720	134	12	866	6
Muskegon FD	52	110	269	48	8	325	15
Muskegon Twp FD	124	237	397	32	0	429	11
New Amsterdam Condos - Jenison	200	235	385	173	0	558	9
Oxford FD	65	143	195	97	0	292	20
Plainfield FD	268	573	1628	384	27	2039	1
Warren FD	340	699	1499	256	0	1755	2
Wayne FD	54	112	293	18	0	311	18
Windsor Twp Emergency Services	59	130	332	36	0	368	12
Wright Tallmadge FD	104	189	376	78	1	455	10

NOTE: To keep valuable information on the newsletter, however, not to crowd all the new information, I am moving the **ONGOING** topics to the end. Keep reading and scrolling to see the **ONGOING MESSAGES** from MI Prevention.

MI Prevention's Top Resources to share:

- <https://www.ready.gov/>
- https://home-fire-risk.github.io/smoke_alarm_map/
- <https://xplorlabs.org/fire-forensics/>
- <https://www.pioneeringtech.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/How-SmartBurner-Works.mp4>
- <https://xplorlabs.org/>

Next MI Prevention Zoom Meeting:

Topic: MI Prevention Partnership Meeting January 2024

Date: January 22, 2024

Time: 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86276460051?pwd=MkNiN25ORTdIZjhQWm1VQnc2MVZLdz09>

Meeting ID: 862 7646 0051

Passcode: 049346

If you have any questions, you can reach me by phone at 616-250-4147 or by email at PashkowskyK@michigan.gov.

Yours in Fire and CO Safety,
Kymberly Pashkowsky
MI Prevention
Community Risk Reduction Chief



ONGOING Messages:

- **ONGOING – Smoke Alarms “How do I get them or I have been on a waiting list”:** See Attached sheet about warehouse pickup.
 - We have received a new shipment of smoke alarms and we have been filling orders for departments on the wait list and for departments requesting more alarms. To receive your smoke alarms faster, you may schedule an appointment to pick them up at the State of Michigan's warehouse in Lansing. To schedule an appointment, please send an email to Kymberly Pashkowsky at PashkowskyK@michigan.gov **AND** Kurt Weber at WeberK1@michigan.gov.
 - **To receive alarms fill out Proper form:**

- **1st time getting alarms from us waitlist:**
 - <https://www.cognitoforms.com/MIPrevention/michiganbfssmokealarmrequest>
- **You have alarms with us before and NEED MORE waitlist:**
 - <https://www.cognitoforms.com/MIPrevention/ineedtorequestmorealarms>
- **IMPORTANT:** You **must** schedule an appointment to pick up the smoke alarms to ensure the warehouse staff are available to assist you. Their staff covers the entire State of Michigan, and most days are on the road away from the warehouse for part of their workday.
- **ONGOING - Smoke Alarm Program: We need your help!** After you have picked up smoke alarms at the State of Michigan's warehouse, please contact Kymberly Pashkowsky via text at 616-250-4147 or email at PashkowskyK@michigan.gov and provide the following information:
 - The date the alarms were picked up.
 - The number of alarms you picked up.
 - ***This is important.*** Your department's ability to install smoke alarms will not be active until your new inventory is added to your fire department's account in the MI Prevention App.
 - The name and contact information for your primary contact person for the smoke alarm program.
 - This person will be responsible for alarm installation tracking for your department.
 - **Note:** If changes occur due to promotions, staffing changes, or retirements, please notify Kymberly Pashkowsky via email at PashkowskyK@michigan.gov and provide the name and contact information for the new contact person for your fire department.
- **ONGOING – Combination Smoke Alarms/CO Detectors:**
 - Our one-time \$1 million appropriated smoke alarm order got renewed again this year!
 - This means, same rules apply, and we can only order Combo alarms vs straight CO Detector.
 - Moving forward, you will begin receiving some combination smoke alarms/CO detectors when you request alarms.
 - **Note:** In the past you received a certain number of smoke alarms and a smaller number of CO detectors per order. In theory this will still happen, however, you will receive a smaller amount of combination alarms in place of the standalone CO detectors. Also, because the cost of the combination smoke and CO alarms is much higher than the standalone smoke alarms, we will continue to utilize the standalone smoke alarms as the primary smoke alarm during home safety visits in bedrooms and sleeping areas.
 - For each home, there should be:
 - One combination alarm on each level of the home, preferably outside of each sleeping area due to CO Exposure.
 - One combination alarm in the mechanical room due to CO exposures.
 - One standalone Smoke Alarm installed in each bedroom or sleeping area.
 - One standalone Smoke Alarm installed on each level of the home.

We must continue to be purposeful to make the biggest impact. We must be mindful about the types of alarms we install and where each alarm is installed during each home safety visit. By working together, we can reach more Michigan homes and accomplish more home safety visits while providing the right number of alarms for early alerting of fires and CO issues to make the biggest impact in 2023

