



**State of Connecticut  
Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection  
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control**

1. **2016 Fire Service College Fair – Saturday October 22, 2016**
2. **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fire Department Car Show – Farmington – Postponed to Sunday**
3. **12 Lead ECG Class**
4. **Connecticut Fire Sprinkler Coalition Press Conference Notice**
5. **CSFA 9th Annual Hall of Fame Dinner – Nominations Due November 1st**
6. **Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week**
7. **Hydrogen Safety Training for First Responders**

-----

1. **2016 Fire Service College Fair – Saturday October 22, 2016**

The 2016 Fire Service College Fair will be held on Saturday, October 22, 2016 at the Connecticut Fire Academy from 9:30am to 3 pm. Come learn about college, training and career options in the Fire, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Management and Public Safety Communications Career Paths!

Who should come? High School Students & Parents, Junior Firefighters & Explorers, High School Guidance Counselors, Explorer Post Advisors, Adult Learners interested in Fire, EMS and Emergency Management Degree programs.

For more information contact Ian Tenney, Program Coordinator: [Ian.Tenney@ct.gov](mailto:Ian.Tenney@ct.gov)

Please post the attached flyer in your fire station(s) and plan to attend!

-----

2. **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fire Department Car Show – Farmington – Postponed to Sunday**

The Car Show has been Postponed from Saturday October 22, 2016 to Sunday 11am – 3pm – 1690 New Britain Ave, Farmington, CT. Antique, Classic, Sports and Muscle. Door Prizes for first 400 show cars! Motorcycles Welcome!

See attached

-----

3. **12 Lead ECG Class**

**Introduction to 12-Lead ECG:**     **[Click to enroll in 12 lead ECG Course](#)**

The standard 12-lead electrocardiogram is a representation of the heart's electrical activity recorded from electrodes on the body surface. This course takes the complex subject of electrocardiography and presents it in a simple approach that gives you a basic understanding of the entire ECG, and how to apply it to ECG interpretation. This classroom instructor directed ECG course is designed to educate healthcare professionals on anatomy of the heart, components of an ECG, interpretation of 12 lead ecg. This course will prepare students for understanding and interpreting 12 lead ECG's

Cost: \$600 (\$300 nonrefundable deposit required for a seat)

Cost Includes:

- Classroom Instruction
- 12 Lead ECG Art of Interpretation book
- ECG calipers and ruler
- All required training materials

**Topics for study:**

**Preparatory:**

Anatomy  
Electrophysiology  
Individual Vectors  
The Actual ECG: Paper and Ink  
ECG Tools  
The Basic Beat  
The Rate  
Rhythms

**ECG Interpretation**

The P Wave  
The PR Interval  
The QRS Complex  
The Electrical Axis  
Bundle Branch Blocks and Hemiblocks  
ST Segment and T Waves  
Acute Myocardial Infarction  
Electrolyte and Drug Effects  
Putting It All Together

-----

#### **4. Connecticut Fire Sprinkler Coalition Press Conference Notice**

*Connecticut fire service leaders to address fatal Plainfield home fire and lack of fire protection in state's new homes*

**Who:** Local fire service organizations, representatives from the Connecticut Fire Sprinkler Coalition, and the National Fire Protection Association

**What:** Safety advocates to underscore the recent fire death of a six-year-old girl in a new home and how home fire sprinklers, a proven technology to reduce the risk of dying in home fires, may have altered the outcome. Fire officials will also underscore inaction by state decision makers to pass requirements for fire sprinklering the state's new homes

**Where:** South Fire District, 445 Randolph Road, Middletown, Connecticut

**When:** Tuesday, October 25, 2016, 1 p.m.

**Why:** All U.S. model building codes include the requirement—not the option—to install fire sprinklers in new homes. Connecticut's code-making body has refused to adopt this requirement each time it has updated the state building code since 2010. Similarly, legislative bills that would have required this life-saving technology have been defeated with help from local fire sprinkler opponents. These opponents, mainly the Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Connecticut, claim this technology is “burdensome, not necessary, expensive”—all myths countered by solid research. Following this recent tragedy, the local fire service is urging state decision makers to finally pass requirements to install fire sprinklers in all new homes. For more information, visit [FireSprinklerInitiative.org/Connecticut](http://FireSprinklerInitiative.org/Connecticut).

**Contact:** Keith Flood, Fire Marshal West Haven Fire Department, 203-937-3710  
Rob Ross, Fire Chief, South Fire District, 860-347-6661

-----

#### **5. CSFA 9th Annual Hall of Fame Dinner – Nominations Due November 1st**

Please save the date for the 9th Annual Hall of Fame Dinner that will be held on Thursday, April 6, 2017 at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington, CT. A nomination form is attached and is due no later than November 1, 2016. For information visit [www.csfa.org](http://www.csfa.org) or call 860-423-5799.

-----

#### **6. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week**

**Wedged Coupling Injures Firefighter**

## **SUMMARY**

Securing a water supply is a standard prerequisite for fighting fires and is usually a quick, painless operation. Not this time. An unforeseen miscalculation when loading LDH, long before the actual incident, results in a firefighter injured while hooking up to a hydrant.

## **EVENT DESCRIPTION**

In December 2015, a fire-apparatus operator was seriously injured when a supply line being deployed by a quint fire apparatus became wedged in the hose bed chute, resulting in a violent reaction at the fire hydrant. The hose and appliances whipped around the hydrant with tremendous force, striking the operator in the ankle and legs, causing multiple fractures. He was hospitalized for 11 days and endured multiple surgeries.

[View the report: Apparatus Operator Injured by Run-Away Supply Hose](#)

## **TAKE-AWAYS**

Fighting fire is more preparation than action, and preparing hose for future deployment is fundamental. A supply line flowing smoothly off a vehicle as it lays hose from the hydrant is the direct result of the way it's loaded. When this lay doesn't function properly, bad things can happen. It's important that we don't get complacent, as the potential for damage can be substantial.

In the incident described in this week's report, an investigation revealed that a coupling became wedged in the hose bed during deployment and a firefighter was injured. While the incident occurred on the fireground, it's important to understand that it began at the station.

Staying safe on the job occurs when you expect the unexpected and keep yourself from harm's way when things go wrong. This week's report includes some recommended tactics that may help prevent injuries.

## **DISCUSSION**

- Does your department have vehicle-specific plans for loading hose?
- As this incident illustrates, wrapping the supply line around the hydrant can result in devastating forces should the hose become lodged during deployment. Would using break-away straps make this a safer operation?
- Does your department's SOPs/SOGs include a safe position for firefighters to stand during hydrant ops?

## **LEADING PRACTICES**

Most of us regard catching a hydrant and laying supply lines as a simple job we want to accomplish rapidly so we can get on with fighting the fire. It usually works out that way. In this writer's career of nearly 30 years on the job, I only witnessed it going bad once.

In my department, we were taught to wrap the hydrant and stand on the hose until the truck had pulled away. I can attest to the fact that the weight of a skinny rookie is not enough to keep the hose from whipping around the hydrant if it hangs up during the layout. Chasing and grabbing the end of the hose is not a good idea either; take my word for it.

Large-diameter hose has been a game changer regarding water supply. It's a heavy hitter in terms of the amount of water it produces at the pump, but its use requires some forethought and planning.

Empty, moving a 100-foot section of five-inch hose is a two-person job; when it's filled with water, the same section can weigh nearly half a ton. The couplings are large and can do real damage to both equipment and bystanders should they be put in motion, as this week's report illustrates.

Please review and critique the hydrant operations of your department from the perspective of "What if something goes wrong?" and recommend changes if called for. Here are some basic concepts to consider:

- The human body should not be used as a hose anchor.
- Apparatus should move slowly when deploying hose.
- If the supply line snags during the layout, what happens and where?
- Load couplings near the rear of the load.
- Wait until the apparatus has stopped before making connections.

If there's a job that makes hooking up to a hydrant look exciting, it's loading hose back on the truck. Not only is the adrenalin-fueled anticipation of fighting a fire missing in most cases, but we're also fatigued as well. A perfect situation to become complacent and make a mistake.

In most cases, it requires teamwork, and crews are combined to reload the hose bed. It's crucial that someone with intimate knowledge of the specific apparatus being reloaded supervise the operation. As this week's report shows, some vehicles can be finicky about how the hose feeds off during layout, and a miscalculation during reloading can have a huge impact, even months later.

When loading supply hose, try to visualize each section slipping off the apparatus. If you see something questionable, don't hesitate to voice your concern to your crew mates or officer. Be sure couplings are positioned to be pulled off the bed in a straight line, with no flips or turns, and avoid contact with the metal hose bed.

For more examples of what can go wrong during water-supply operations, check out the Near Miss Reports below.

### **RELATED NEAR MISS REPORTS**

- [LDH supply hose falls out of bed while responding](#)
- [Supply line connection fails](#)
- [Supply line hangs up and drags FF](#)
- [Supply line knocks FF to the ground](#)
- [FFs dragged while hooking up supply line](#)

### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- [Ladder One LDH Hose Load](#)
- [Martin County Fire Rescue Modified Flat Load for 5" Supply](#)
- [FireflowTechnology.com Article: Back to Basics, Laying a Large Diameter Hose Supply](#)

-----

## **7. Hydrogen Safety Training for First Responders**

The Connecticut Fire Academy will host a Hydrogen Safety Training for First Responders program presented by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory on Thursday, November 10, 2016 at the CT Fire Academy from 8:30 a.m. to Noon.

Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and support infrastructure is anticipated to arrive in Connecticut and neighboring states in the spring of 2017.

The program will include 3 hour classroom lecture followed by an inspection of a Fuel Cell Vehicle.

To register for this **Free** program email Kim Taylor, CFA Registrar at [Kim.Taylor@CT.GOV](mailto:Kim.Taylor@CT.GOV) or call (860) 264-9238. Provide your name, affiliation and email address. **3 FM Credits Approved**

**PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL**