

IMPORTANT UPDATE: MFSI staff email addresses have changed. Please see pg. 8 for an updated list.

BASIC PUMPS TRAIN-THE- TRAINER

The August program in Kennebunk had an overwhelming response. We will do all we can to offer more to meet the demand.

IN-STATE NFA WEEKEND - SEATS STILL AVAILABLE!

We will be hosting an in-state NFA Decision Making for the Initial Company Operations (F0457). This two-day program runs September 21 & 22, 2024. There is still room and we will accept applications until seats are filled. This course is an excellent review for experienced COs. Prerequisites: ICS-100-level and ICS-200-level training.

PRO BOARD RE- ACCREDITATION SITE VISIT

MFSI is the statewide authority on accreditation for fire training in Maine. Every few years, major step towards reaccreditation is a site visit from Committee of Accreditation members from Pro Board. Our application is currently under review and this site visit is a vital step in the evaluation process.



*Celebrating 75 Years of Service
1948 - 2023*

THE BUGLE'S ECHO

Maine Fire Service Institute September - October 2024

This issue is dedicated to the 343 FDNY firefighters that lost their lives in the line of duty on September 11, 2001. "Lest we forget" May they forever rest in peace.



FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES INSTRUCTOR I/II

Two (2) programs for Fire Instructor I/II are kicking off in Waldoboro and Alfred this month. Both classes are filled to capacity. We are planning Fire Instructor programs in Cumberland and Aroostook counties this January. More programs will follow and this annual schedule can be found on our website.

LIVE FIRE INSTRUCTOR LIVE FIRE INSTRUCTOR-IN-CHARGE

Live Fire Instructor and Instructor-in-Charge has started, and they are currently working on the didactic portion of the program. They report to the Scarborough Fire Department on September 26th for two days of classroom training and then to Yarmouth for two days of setting up and executing live fire training operations in accordance with the facility and the NFPA 1403 Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions. We will share on Facebook the program's progress and a class photo.

FIRE OFFICER I

Fire Officer I in Gorham kicks off this month, and FOI Winthrop begins in October. MFSI is working hard to meet the demand for these programs.

LETTER FROM THE MFSI DIRECTOR

Dear Maine Fire Service Professionals:

I hope this edition of the Bugle's Echo finds you all well and each of you was able to enjoy the summer as it is short here in Maine. We at MFSI have been working hard to see improvements made across all our programming, including new offerings, and have been thrilled to welcome Region II's Training Program Manager, Chris Azevedo to the MFSI team!

In August, we had an opportunity to work with an excellent group of Maine Fire Service personnel during our weeklong Fire Officer II Academy. Like all programs, our goal is to enhance the experience of each delivery, so we are taking time to review evaluations and make course adjustments. We plan to run another Fire Officer II program next summer, location TBD. Some staff were asked why we picked the summer to run these programs. The honest answer is cheaper lodging at the dormitories at MFSI HQ on the Southern Maine Community College Mid Coast campus. Keeping costs as low as possible for individuals and municipalities is vital, while still providing a positive, quality learning environment.

The academy/immersion model is a way to support a candidate's focus and limit outside distractions during an intensive curriculum. The feedback received from most all the graduates said that they enjoyed being together and requested that we extend the academy duration so that they could have more time to network and get to know their cohort members. The networking was impressive to witness; the first day folks were a bit standoffish and by the end of the program we saw classmates shaking hands and exchanging phone numbers and email contacts as they had created a new professional relationship that will last decades.

Myself, part of MSFO Class of 2001, remain in contact with many fire service leaders from my academy class: Chief David Groder - Augusta Fire Department, Chief Darrell White - Presque Isle Fire Department, Lt. Gerry Gay - Sanford Fire Department and the PFFM, Lt Harold Smith - Sanford Fire Department, Lt. Francis (Rick) Johnson - Rockland Fire Department (Retired) and MFSI Deputy Director, Jim Roy. The relationships built in all our academy programs have served many of us well and one of the spillover benefits is the advancement of the Maine Fire Service. Please consider being part of this amazing program in the future.

In closing, it is fall season here in Maine, and I hope all of you get a chance to enjoy all that fall has to offer: cool nights, colorful sights, pumpkin spice, and maybe a trip into the backcountry for some sporting adventures.

Stay safe out there. We need all of you.



Director Jim Graves



MEET CHRIS AZEVEDO: MFSI'S NEW TRAINING PROGRAM MANAGER FOR REGION II

New Training Program Manager - Chris Azevedo has begun his time in the position of Region II (West) Training Program Manager. Chris will be meeting with instructors in person in the upcoming weeks. The premise of these meetings will be to hear from our instructors and hope to improve communications, along with instructor development and support for the programs in the field. Please join us in welcoming Chris to our MFSI team. We expect wonderful things from Chris in the future.

TRAINING RECORD SCANNING UPGRADE: PROGRESS REPORT

A significant amount of work has been completed on this project over the past two years and with the excellent assistance from work study student, Sandrine Ishimwe, this young lady has worked diligently to assist and support this overwhelming project- from individual records to program records that stretch back to the 1970's.

Now a few mouse clicks and we can locate vital training records. These records are secured in a restricted drive on the college server. They are backed up regularly. **Individuals looking to obtain a physical copy of their certificates on file can make a request and pay a \$10 processing fee, or at no cost request an electronic delivery.**



SMCC-MFSI ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETS ON DECEMBER 6, 2024 @ 10:00AM

Held at MFSI headquarters in Brunswick, on the SMCC Mid Coast campus, all are welcome to attend. Please let MFSI know if attending so that ample seating is arranged. An agenda is submitted to all members of the committee two weeks prior. There is a five-minute public comment period.

MFSI INSTRUCTORS PLAYED VARIOUS ROLES IN THE FIRST FIRE OFFICER II ACADEMY

Thank you to TPM Hammond, Instructors: McLaughlin, Rice, Harris, Brooks, Poremba, Schools. With support from Whytock, Heckman, Hooper, Sullivan, Bouchard, & Hardy. Congratulations SFI Stewart and Hernandez!



FIRE OFFICER II ACADEMY LAUNCHES WITH GREAT SUCCESS AND FUTURE PLANS

24 candidates representing at least 24 municipalities across the state dedicated over 120 hours to completing Fire Officer II. From early mornings to late nights in the classroom, on active simulations, studying for examinations, and focusing within small groups, these candidates will no doubt bring home invaluable skills to better support their communities across the State of Maine. We are proud to be able to provide this Pro Board-accredited program and are committed to continuous growth and improvement to better serve future cohorts. The amount of course preparation from our instructors to adapt the curriculum, create simulations, and foster relationships across towns is also a testament to the commitment the fire service has to strengthen our response and training.

Congratulations to the Fire Officer II Academy candidates for successfully completing and excelling at the tasks put in front of you! Continue to train and lead with professionalism, dedication, and excellence.

Represented: Rockland, Auburn, Winthrop, Easton, OOB, Bangor, Saco, Windham, Brunswick, S. Thomaston, Rockland, Augusta, Waterville, Westbrook, Addison, Trenton, MDI, Gardiner, Waterboro, Orrington, Kingfield, Farmington, Windham, Brunswick, Bowdoinham, Scarborough, Standish

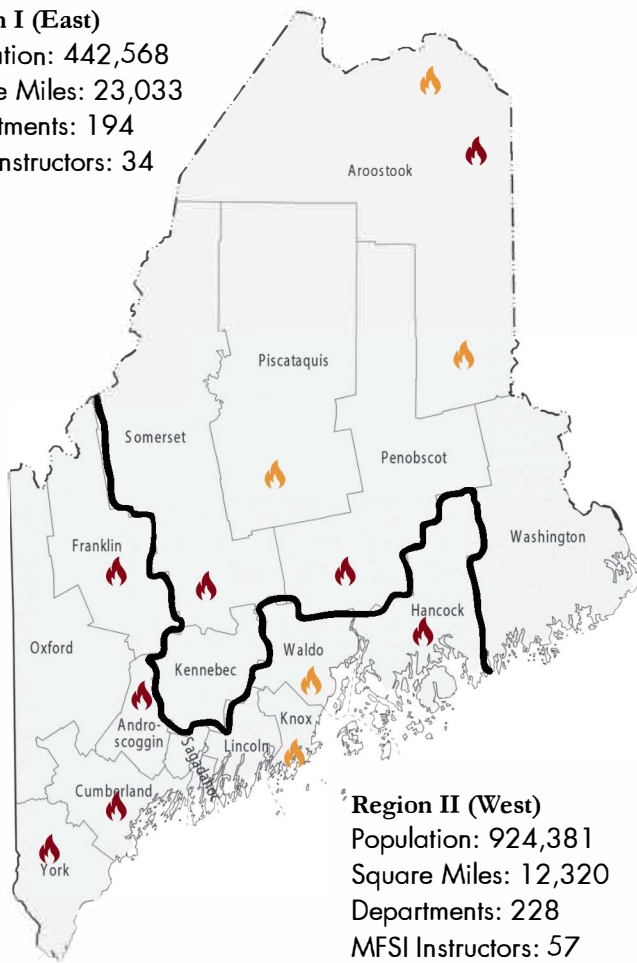
As of now, MFSI will host one (1) Fire Officer II Academy per year and conversations to bring a Pro Board Fire Officer III are ongoing.



Senior Fire Investigator Jeremy Damren with arson dogs Harry & Dallas





Region I (East)
 Population: 442,568
 Square Miles: 23,033
 Departments: 194
 MFSI Instructors: 34



- Androscoggin** - VACANT
- Aroostook** - Darren Woods
- Cumberland** - Mike Robitaille
- Franklin** - Steve Bunker
- Hancock** - Ray Gale
- Kennebec** - Dave Groder
- Knox** - Phil Meunier
- Lincoln** - Paul Smeltzer
- Offshore Islands** - Chris Farley
- Oxford** - Bill Dingee
- Penobscot** - Pete Metcalf
- Piscataquis** - Mike Surdick
- Sagadahoc** - Chris McLaughlin
- Somerset** - Jim Roy
- Waldo** - Phil Meunier
- Washington** - VACANT
- York** - Roger Green

Region II (West)
 Population: 924,381
 Square Miles: 12,320
 Departments: 228
 MFSI Instructors: 57

-  Alternate Facilities
-  Live Fire Training Facilities

County Representatives are MFSI Instructors who attend county meetings and report on localized fire training news and training demands. This intel is very important to MFSI as it provides additional information to inform priorities and further both instructor and program development.

FREQUENTLY ASKED CERTIFICATION QUESTIONS

“I just completed a Fire Fighter I & II program. When can I expect my certificate?”

Please give MFSI’s Certification Office 30-45 days for processing. The clock starts once all progress charts have been received from the Program Coordinator and upon successful completion of exams.

“Who do I talk to regarding replacement of certificates?” Contact Deputy Director Jim Roy at MFSI.

“If I fail my exam, when can I retest? How many attempts do I get?”

Should a candidate fail an exam, they have one (1) year within the most recent NFPA standard change to retest and will be eligible to take the test a total of three times. The candidate must wait 30 days before a retest can be granted. The retest may be scheduled by submitting a request to the Certification Manager at the MFSI office.

“I want to take a BPOC or EVDT certification course. Where can I find one?”

Begin by networking with neighboring departments. While MFSI does send instructors to BPOC/EVDT courses, many of the program deliveries are in-house and very localized.



UPCOMING SUV CAR FIRE PROP TRAIN-THE-TRAINERS

To be able to request and use this prop, you must be an active participant in this Train-the-Trainer and show proficiency.

- Saco Fire (Station TBD) - September 11
- Bangor Training Facility - September 17
- Fairfield Fire (Station TBD) September 22
- Brunswick Emerson Station - October 2

FOR SIGN-UP INFO: Visit Upcoming Events



After more than a year out of service the 2014 SCBA Air Management Trailer aka the "Black Maze" is returning with an 80% rehab of the unit thanks to the good people of Maine Trailer in Hampden.

We hope to get ten more years out of this unit as it has served the State of Maine in Fire Training extremely well over the past nine years.

LEADING A FIRE FIGHTER I & II PROGRAM THIS FALL/WINTER?

MFSI can help promote Fire Fighter I & II programs. We often field inquiries from the public about where to take Fire Fighter I & II or Basic Fire Schools.

1. Visit MFSI website at mfsi.me.edu
2. Under Fire Training Certification
3. Select Fire Fighter
4. Scroll down the page
5. Locate and submit the "Training Notification" form (pictured below)

FOR PROGRAM COORDINATOR USE ONLY: Fire Fighter I & II Training Notification

This form is to be used by Program Coordinators to report Fire Fighter trainings across the state so that MFSI can help inform interested candidates on where/when trainings occur. For more program and curriculum support, contact the Certification Office via Deputy Director, Jim Roy or Certification Program Manager, John Churchill.

STORIES "FROM THE FIELD"

Have a program with our props and/or instructors? Tag "Maine Fire Service Institute" on Facebook and we will share the news!



Maine Fire Service Institute

Published by Shannon Els

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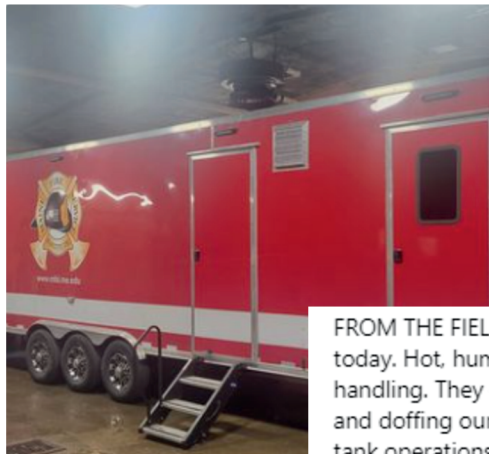
MFSI senior instructors are hanging out in the City of Rockland providing a Basic Pumps (BPOC) program. From what we hear these students are top-notch and are having a great time in the Maine heat. We thank all departments involved to make this training opportunity rock. Special thanks to Senior State Fire Instructors, Timmy "TD" Hardy, Alan Stewart, and Cory Wyman who are taking time away from the communities they serve to give back to others in Maine. That's the Maine way.



Departments can request certain courses and props for training.

Visit mfsi.me.edu "Request a Course"

MFSI Instructor [Andrew Guerrette](#) is leading SCBA Training at [Frenchville Fire Department](#). Few spots available - contact them to get reps through the 'Red Maze' and practice breathing techniques in tight quarters and stressful situations.



As much as possible, please request courses and training with ample lead time for planning.

FROM THE FIELD: SFI Stewart and SFI Surdick report, 'Proud of the class at Milo Basic Fire School today. Hot, humid, 100% chance of rain. Worked on some hoseline advancement and nozzle handling. They did good. Many had never touched a nozzle or hoseline. We worked on donning and doffing our gear. Went over hose loads, rolls, hydrant dressing, ground monitors and dump tank operations. The weekend was full of Basic Fire School training.' [MiloFire Dept Town of Milo, Maine](#)

Ass... See more

When making requests for props, please specify the day and time that training begins to ensure timely delivery and preparation.



MAINE FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE

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STAFF DIRECTORY 2024

MFSI
FIRE TRAINING
SINCE 1948



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