

PaFED's

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December 2025



New Era

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DECEMBER IS A LEADING MONTH FOR U.S. HOME FIRES

From Security System News

SSN Staff

Updated 2:47 AM CST, Fri December 5, 2025

QUINCY, Mass. — Be extra vigilant this holiday season, December is a leading month for U.S. home fires according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

"Many of the activities we engage in during the holiday season reflect leading causes of home fires, which explains why we consistently see the number of home fires climb at this time of year," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA.

While cooking significantly contributes to the increased risk of home fires during the holiday season, other contributing factors include Christmas trees in the home, the use of holiday decorations, particularly those involving candles or electrical lighting, and the use of heating equipment.

NFPA's latest statistics (annual averages between 2020 and 2024) underscore the factors that collectively contribute to the December spike in home fires:

- Cooking is a leading cause of reported U.S. home fires, home fire injuries, and deaths. An estimated 48 percent of home structure fires, 35 percent of home fire injuries, and 16 percent of home fire deaths involved kitchen and cooking equipment.
- Heating equipment is another leading cause of U.S. home fires with nearly half (46 percent) of all home heating fires occurring from December through February.
- Holiday Decorations caused fire depts to respond to an estimated 835 home structure fires, resulting in three civilian fire deaths, 29 civilian fire injuries and \$18 million in direct property damage.
- Christmas tree, fires don't happen very often, but when they do, they tend to be more serious. U.S. fire departments responded to an average of 143 home fires that started with Christmas trees, resulting in an estimated seven civilian deaths, 13 civilian injuries, and \$15 million in property damage.

"Understanding where potential threats exist and taking the steps needed to prevent them can go a long way toward ensuring a festive, fire-safe holiday season," said Carli.

NFPA offers a wealth of information and resources to help minimize the likelihood of cooking, heating, candle, Christmas tree, and decoration fires. Learn more at [nfpa.org/winterholidaysafety](https://www.nfpa.org/winterholidaysafety).

PaFED New Era



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Camp Susquehanna: Where Young Burn Survivors Build Community and Confidence

A serious burn injury is one of the most painful traumas a human being—especially a child—can endure. Most severely burned children are put into a medically induced coma for the first several months of their recovery because they might not otherwise survive the pain of their initial healing process. Recovery often takes years or even a lifetime of difficult treatments.

Emotional suffering and social isolation compound these physical healing challenges. Maimed and facially disfigured survivors tend to be stigmatized whatever their age, and children especially face ostracism and bullying.

For kids in this situation, nothing is more healing than just “being a kid” with other children and adults who truly understand and are able to help. That’s why Camp Susquehanna exists.

What is Camp Susquehanna?

Camp Susquehanna is a sleepaway summer camp experience for children ages 7-17 who have had a burn injury. It creates potentially life-changing opportunities for children to have fun, connect with peers who are also burn survivors, and learn invaluable life skills in a safe, supportive environment.

Camp Susquehanna is the charity of choice for PAFED. It is a program of the Burn Prevention Network, a Pennsylvania statewide 501(c)(3) non-profit with the mission of reducing the risk of burns and empowering burn survivors and their families. Thanks to the support of many generous donors including PAFED, Camp Susquehanna is completely free to campers and their families. Participants can also take advantage of free roundtrip bus transportation from several different burn centers and other locations across Pennsylvania, including Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Lewistown, and Lehigh Valley.

Camp Susquehanna participants vary widely in age and abilities, so activities are tailored towards each camper’s unique developmental needs. Kids can choose to participate in an impressive range of activities, including a climbing

wall, ropes course, towed tubing, swimming, fishing, campfires, music, skits, arts and crafts, and much more.

We are celebrating Camp Susquehanna’s 30th year. It is currently being held at beautiful Camp Westmont in Poyntelle, PA. Bracketed by scenic woodlands and a lake, indoor amenities include excellent dining facilities and air-conditioned cabins. Yes, the fun here is first-class.

Supporting Camp Susquehanna

There are many ways for individuals, businesses, and groups to support Camp Susquehanna. One is supporting PAFED’s fundraising events. The camp is completely free for all who attend, and there is room at the current facility for many more campers if funding permits.

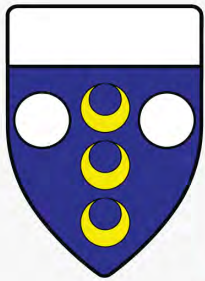
Other possibilities include:

- Acting as a chaperone on a bus bringing kids to or from camp.
- Helping to inventory, pack, label, and move camp supplies.
- Provide a lunch stop along one of the bus routes to or from camp. The kids love to stop at a fire hall and meet firefighters!
- Making possible online/virtual activities, such as regular Zoom calls with the children and their families.
- Helping to spread the word about Camp Susquehanna within your own community.

Camp applications are currently open! This year’s dates are June 14-18th. For more information about Camp Susquehanna, including this year’s volunteer application and donation links, please visit <https://www.burnprevention.org/camp-Susquehanna/>.

Additional information also on page 9 in this issue.





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VOLUNTEER FOR CAMP SUSQUEHANNA

Camp for Young Burn Survivors

A LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCE

Camp Susquehanna is sleep away camp for children with burn injuries. Volunteers make one-on-one connections, learn and have new experiences, while enjoying the great outdoors in the beautiful Pocono Mountains.

Each year, the Burn Prevention Network welcomes 100+ volunteers to make Camp Susquehanna a success!

On-site volunteer opportunities for in-person camp include counselors, fun squad, psychosocial team, photographers, nurses and more! If you cannot commit to the entire time at camp, we have other opportunities as well!

- Chaperon on the buses that bring campers to and from camp
- Packers who label, organize, inventory, and move camp supplies
- Fundraisers! Hold a raffle, a fundraising event, or recruit donors
- Assist with virtual events throughout the year (Soliciting donations, packing materials, etc.)
- Help with a lunch stop along the bus routes for the campers

VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS:

- Have experience working with children
- Complete the application
- Be at least 21 years of age
- Complete a phone interview
- Attend all days of camp
- Must have Criminal and Child Abuse check completed and mailed prior to attending camp. Anyone who has not lived in the state of PA for the last ten consecutive years must also complete an FBI fingerprint check. Clearances are valid for 60 months from date of issue.
- Burn survivors ages 18-20 may apply to the Leaders-InTraining Program

Camp Susquehanna is completely free of charge to our campers and families.

WHAT VOLUNTEERS SAY:

"Camp Susquehanna is a life changing experience. Once you attend, you will never be the same."

"Camp is just what I need to recharge my batteries for the rest of the year."

"I feel as though I get just as much from camp as the campers do. It feels like family here."



REGISTRATION

To see more information or register to volunteer for camp, visit our website. You can also email us at Jessica@burnprevention.org



CONTACT INFORMATION:

Camp Susquehanna is a program of the Burn Prevention Network.

6081 Hamilton Blvd
Suite 600-628

Allentown, PA 18106 -3107

484-224-3032

burnprevention.org/camp-susquehanna



2025-26 Schedule of Events

PAFED Board Meeting:

January 16, 2026

ISC Security Expos:

- ISC East - November 18-20, 2025
- ISC West - March 23-27, 2026

ESX Expo:

June 1-4, 2026 - Irving, TX

NFPA Conference and Expo:

June 22-24, 2026 - Las Vegas, NV

PAFED Annual Conference:

September 16-17, 2026

Renew Your Membership for 2026!

Keep an eye out for your Membership Renewal Invoice. Invoices include a link to make your dues payment. You may also mail a check or call the office to make your payment..

Dues are \$250 -

What does your membership support?

- Legislative Advocacy & Updates
- Networking Opportunities
- News via The New Era Newsletter
- Public Relations Activities

Please Support Those Who Support PaFED

THANKS to this Month's
"New Era" Advertisers

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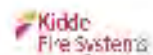
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Portable Fire Extinguishers Training (Virtual Instructor Led)

Dates:

01.07.26 at 8am EST

This Fire Extinguishers Course is designed to provide attendees an overview of how Fire Extinguishers became important, product information, information on standards, codes and the enforcement of them, selection and installation, calculating extinguisher coverage, recharging and hydrostatic testing.

Hands On Training is also available at various locations throughout the year.

Visit fedlearningcenter.com for more information and to register.

Description

Segment 1: Learn the basic principles of Fire Extinguishers, the fundamentals of fire, fire extinguisher basics, using fire extinguishers, standards, codes, enforcement, product testing, ratings, labeling, and the general effectiveness of fire extinguishers.

ICC # 24691, CEUs: 0.15, Contact hours: 1.5

Segment 2: A general overview regarding the installation, inspection, and maintenance requirements of Portable Fire Extinguishers.

ICC # 24924, CEUs: 0.2, Contact hours: 2

Segment 3: A deeper dive into understanding Fire Extinguishers including how to determine the number of extinguishers installed based on occupancy hazard by explaining the proper selection and calculation process.

ICC # 24925, CEUs: 0.2, Contact hours: 2

After successful completion of all segments and materials, you will receive a Certificate of Completion for this course.

Some of the course content that will be covered during the course is below:

- Types & History of Fire Extinguishers
- Basics of Using a Fire Extinguisher & Effectiveness
- Standards, Codes and Enforcement
- AHJs and their role
- Product Testing, Ratings & Labeling
- Components of Portable Fire Extinguisher
- Installation of Extinguishers
- Inspection and Maintenance Requirements
- Maintenance Checklist
- Instructor Demonstration: Inspection of Out-of-Service Extinguisher
- Review of Obsolete Fire Extinguishers
- Non-Compliant Examples
- 6-Year Maintenance
- Recharging
- Hydrostatic Pressure Testing
- DOT and Non-DOT Cylinders
- Condemning Fire Extinguishers
- Types of Occupancy Hazards
- Selection of Fire Extinguishers
- Calculating Fire Extinguisher Coverage



Pennsylvania Association of Fire Equipment Distributors

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

(Please print or type)

☐ **Active Membership** (Fire Equipment Distributor) – Annual Dues \$250 (For 2026 Membership)

☐ **Associate Membership** – Annual Dues \$250 (For 2026 Membership)

COMPANY INFORMATION:

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

Co. Website: _____ Year Company Started: _____

COMPANY CONTACT:

Designated Voting Rep: _____ Title: _____

Email: _____

CONDITIONS THAT MUST BE MET FOR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

- 1) Do you follow the provisions of the National Fire Protection Association standards and other local codes and regulations within your service area which are applicable to your business? Yes _____ No _____
- 2) Do you have a D.O.T. certified hydrotest facility? Yes _____ No _____
 - a) If yes, list your D.O.T. Number and Expiration Date _____
 - b) If no, list the name and D.O.T. number of the Company that performs your hydrostatic testing
Company _____ D.O.T. # _____
- 3) Is firm or company owned, controlled, managed or operated by any full or part-time member or employee of a regulatory agency? Yes _____ No _____
- 4) Does the firm conduct its business at a location which clearly identifies the business through a permanent commercial sign? Yes _____ No _____
 - a) Photo of permanent commercial sign must be provided
- 5) List of References: Provide at least (3) references, these may be customers, vendors or competitors.
 - a) List to include company name, address and phone number
- 6) Company maintains insurance which includes general liability and workers compensation coverage. Yes _____ No _____
 - a) Proof of Insurance – copy of Certificate of Insurance must be provided

RESPONSIBILITY OF MEMBERSHIP:

If accepted for membership in this association, we acknowledge the responsibility inherent in sale and maintenance of fire protection distributed by the industry. We pledge to perform our work and serve our customers with the highest degree of honesty, skill, and integrity that such responsibility infers.

We pledge that we will perform all work in strict accordance with legally applicable national, state and local fire codes and that violation of this pledge may mean termination of membership in this association. I further state that I have the authority to commit my firm to such precepts and principles and do so without reservation.

I and my assignees also agree that any property of PaFED will be returned upon termination of membership. I hereby certify that I have read the contents of this application and that the information provided herein is true and correct.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Payment Type: Master Card VISA AMEX Check Payable to **PAFED** _____

Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Card Holders Name: _____ Card Security Code: _____ Card zipcode: _____

Card Holders signature: _____

Please submit this application and first full year's dues payment to PaFED at the address listed above
Membership is not transferable. Dues are not refundable. Membership is based on a calendar year (January 1 thru December 31).



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PaFED "New" ERA

Official newsletter of the Pennsylvania Association of Fire Equipment Distributors

Advertising Rate Information

2025 Mechanical Size (Width x Height)	Four Issues Total (When Paid in Advance)	Two Issues Total (When Paid in Advance)	Per Issue
1/8 Page 3.5" W x 2"H	\$240	\$130	\$75
1/4 Page 3.5" W x 5"H	\$400	\$220	\$125
1/2 Page 7.5" W x 5"H	\$600	\$400	\$225
Full Page 7.5" W x 10"H	\$1,100	\$640	\$350
Inside Cover 7.5" W x 10"H	\$1,200	\$700	\$400
Back Cover 7.5" W x 7.5"H	\$1,200	\$700	\$400

About Our Publication

Frequency: Quarterly - 4 issues annually
Issues: January-March, April-June, July-September, October-December
Advertising Deadline: 15th of the month preceding publication
Advertising Copy: Camera Ready or Electronic (PDF files preferred)

Advertising Insertion Form

Size of Ad (select one) ☐ 1/8 page ☐ 1/4 page ☐ 1/2 page ☐ Full Page
Ad Frequency (select one) ☐ 4 Issues ☐ 2 Issues ☐ Individual Issue
Ad Run Cycle Beginning mm/yy: _____ to Ending mm/yy: _____
Ad Billing Frequency: ☐ Pay In Advance ☐ Pay Per Issue
Authorized By: _____ Date: _____
Company: _____
Billing Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Send completed Advertising Insertion Form with Advertising Copy to the PaFED via email or to address listed above



PAFED FIRE EXTINGUISHER INCIDENT REPORT

Company: _____ Date of Incident: _____
 Person Reporting: _____ Date of Report: _____
 Location: _____

TYPE OF FIRE

☐ Class A ☐ Class B ☐ Class C
☐ Class D ☐ Class K What was burning: _____

INDICATE SIZE AND QUANTITY

ABC: _____ Press. Water: _____
 BC: _____ Water Mist: _____
 PK: _____ Loaded Stream: _____
 CO2: _____ Class D: _____
 Clean Agent: _____ AFFF: _____
 Class K: _____ FFFP: _____

Did the extinguisher(s) extinguish the fire? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If NO, how was fire extinguished?

☐ Fire Department ☐ Occupant-used Hose ☐ Sprinkler System
☐ Self Extinguished ☐ Other System: _____ ☐ Other: _____

If extinguisher failed to extinguish fire, why?

☐ Fire Too Large ☐ Extinguisher Not Full ☐ Operator Error
☐ Extinguisher Not Pressurized ☐ Operator Not Trained ☐ Extinguisher Malfunction
☐ Wrong Type Unit ☐ Unknown ☐ Other: _____

REASON FOR MALFUNCTION

☐ No Maintenance ☐ Valve Failed To Open ☐ Improper Recharge
☐ Unknown ☐ Extinguisher Damaged ☐ Other: _____

Was the fire department called? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Did the fire department extinguish/overhaul? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If known, approximate time fire department arrival? _____

Did the fire area have fire suppression systems? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, did they activate? ☐ YES ☐ NO

What type systems were present? _____

TYPE OF OCCUPANCY

☐ Assembly ☐ Residential ☐ Industrial
☐ Educational ☐ Lodging ☐ Storage
☐ Day Care ☐ Residential Boarding ☐ Vehicle
☐ Healthcare ☐ Mercantile ☐ Construction
☐ Detention/Correction ☐ Business ☐ Other

Please describe incident:

Please submit completed incident report to PAFED.

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