

# THE BURNING NEWS

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## New burning information number

There are two ways to call before you burn.  
(toll free) 1-877-982-0011  
or 503-982-0011 The burn info. is updated daily by our dispatch center in Woodburn.

## Ballot Measure 24-286

will be on the May 19<sup>th</sup> election ballot. Below are some facts to help explain the measure and its effects.

The Aurora Rural Fire Protection District (ARFPD) provides fire suppression, emergency medical care, rescue, and fire prevention services to an area of 64 square miles. ARFPD serves the cities of Aurora and Donald as well as unincorporated areas of Clackamas and Marion counties.

### What is the history behind this proposal?

Residents served by ARFPD first approved a levy for emergency services in 2004 for five years. It will expire in 2009.

### What does this measure propose?

It proposes to replace the current expiring levy for five more years at a reduced tax rate of \$.49 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Although this is a reduction of 5.8% from the present rate of \$.52 per \$1,000, it would enable the district to provide for fire suppression and emergency services.

### When would the new levy first be collected?

It would appear for the first time on the November 2010 property tax statement. The tax rate of \$.49 per \$1,000 would be 5.8% less than the option tax currently on the individual tax bills. For example, a property owner with an assessed value of \$150,000 (estimated market value \$328,000) will presently pay \$78.00 per year in 2009. Under this proposal, their rate would drop to \$73.50 in 2010.

### What was done with the levy funds voters approved in 2004?

The focus of the previous levy was additional personnel and updated technology to improve response to fires and medical emergencies.

### What would the proposed levy pay for?

1) Retains firefighting and student sleeper positions

at their current level of staffing. These positions help ensure sufficient personnel arrive within the initial minutes of an emergency.

2) Provides funds for repairs to existing apparatus and equipment

3) Replaces firefighter safety equipment.

4) Provides tools for firefighting and emergency medical response.

5) Upgrades emergency communication equipment.

6) Continues to cover housing cost for the student sleeper positions.

### What happens if this option tax fails to pass?

Maintaining emergency response services would remain ARFPD's priority. However, severe reduction in staffing and operations would be required, because this levy provides 36% of the total District revenues.

The Aurora Fire District has launched our website. The web address is [www.aurorafire.org](http://www.aurorafire.org) We will be adding more information to the website so check back often.

## Electrical safety in the home

Is your home safe?

**Please take the time to inspect your home for potential electrical hazards.**

Replace or repair loose/frayed cords on all electrical devices.

Avoid running extension cords under carpets and across doorways.

In homes with small children, unused wall sockets and extension-cord receptacles should have plastic safety covers.

Consider having additional circuits or outlets added by a qualified electrician so you do not have to use extension cords.

Avoid overloading outlets. If outlets or switches feel warm, shut off the circuit and have them checked by an electrician.

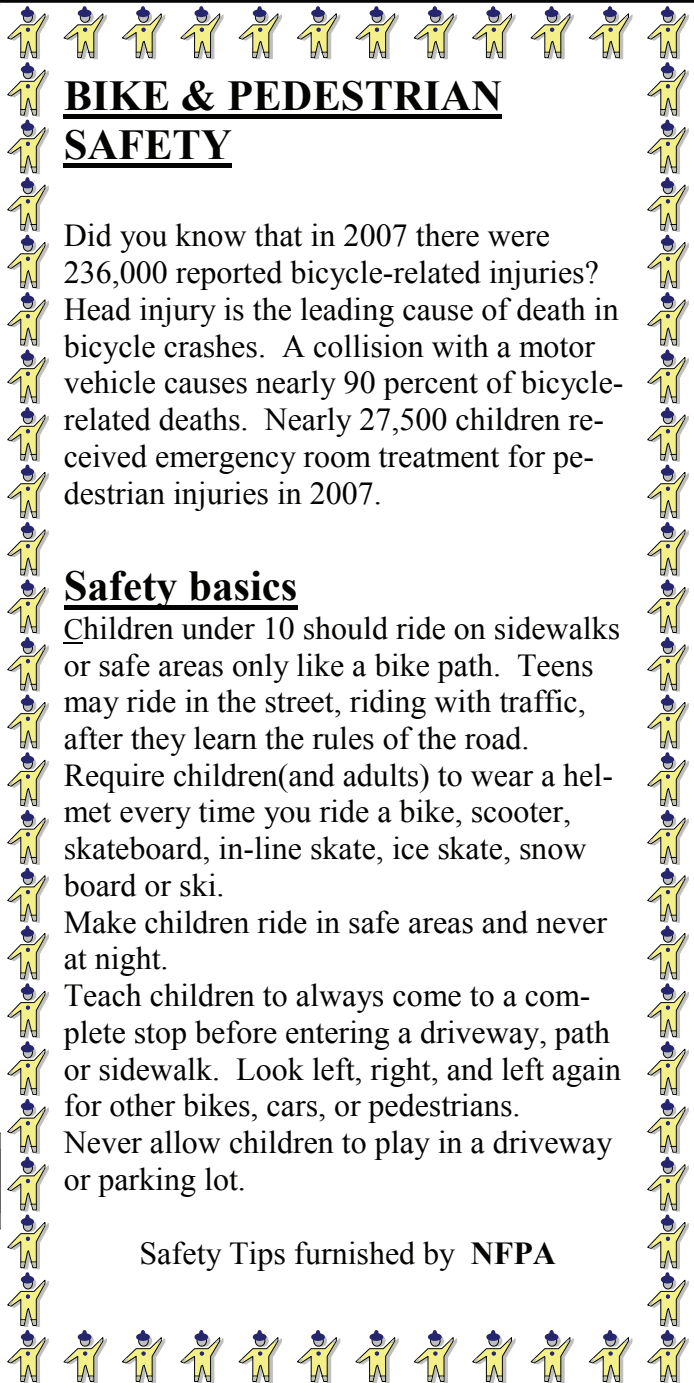
Place lamps on level surfaces, away from things that can burn and use bulbs that match the lamp's recommended wattage.

Safety Tips furnished by **NFPA**

## Local citizens make gracious donation



Tom and Donna Hammang donated a 1923 Model T roadster to the Aurora Fire District in appreciation for the services provided by the firefighters. The car will be displayed at various car shows and parades throughout the summer and either raffled off or sold at auction. The revenue we receive will be used for equipment needs in the district. We are grateful for this generous donation.



## **BIKE & PEDESTRIAN SAFETY**

Did you know that in 2007 there were 236,000 reported bicycle-related injuries? Head injury is the leading cause of death in bicycle crashes. A collision with a motor vehicle causes nearly 90 percent of bicycle-related deaths. Nearly 27,500 children received emergency room treatment for pedestrian injuries in 2007.

### **Safety basics**

Children under 10 should ride on sidewalks or safe areas only like a bike path. Teens may ride in the street, riding with traffic, after they learn the rules of the road.

Require children(and adults) to wear a helmet every time you ride a bike, scooter, skateboard, in-line skate, ice skate, snow board or ski.

Make children ride in safe areas and never at night.

Teach children to always come to a complete stop before entering a driveway, path or sidewalk. Look left, right, and left again for other bikes, cars, or pedestrians.

Never allow children to play in a driveway or parking lot.

Safety Tips furnished by **NFPA**



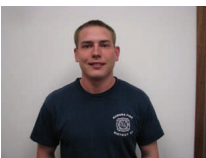
### Aurora Rural Fire Protection District Honors Volunteers

A.R.F.P.D honored 12 volunteer firefighters with a total 300 years of service at its annual awards banquet.

**First row from left to right** Walt Miller, 30 years ; John Singer, 40 years ; Carl Van Lieu,40 years ; and Wayne Yoder, 60 years . **Second row left to right** Thomas McWhirt, 25 years ; Wally Pohlsneider ,25 years ; Nick Yoder, 5 years ; Mark Niklas ,20 years; Patti Jones ,10 years ; Frank Stormo, 20 years ;and Bill Roberts ,10 years . (not pictured Greg Strecker , 15 years ) .

### Resident Student Program

Resident students bring variety and support to the district. These students are all enrolled in the Chemeketa Fire program where they are learning the skills to becoming a career firefighter/Paramedic. Three are stationed in Donald and three in Aurora. They respond on calls, perform a variety of station duties and participate in weekly drills. Their presence has been a real asset to the district



Sean Hoffmeister  
Gresham, Or.



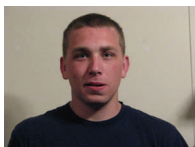
Duncan McGladrey  
Newport, Or.



Cameran Kiwokawa  
Parkdale, Or.



Scott Meuser  
Canby, Or.



Elijha Eggeers  
Haines, Or.



Jordan Kuenzi  
Salem, Or.

### Aurora Firefighters Association



### Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The firefighters organized and hosted another successful community event. On Friday evening April 10th volunteers and their families boiled and decorated some 90 dozen eggs along with several hundred plastic eggs that they filled with all types of candy. On Saturday morning the volunteers set-up at the city park and filled the park with over 1,500 eggs. The weather was good and the children were giggling with anticipation. At 1pm the siren sounded and the children filled the park searching and collecting as many eggs as they could find. This has always been an event that brings the volunteers and citizens of the community together. It is a time to socialize with the people we serve. This year was a true success. Thanks to everyone for their continued help and support.

### Donald Firefighters Association

### Annual Bingo Night

Thanks to all the volunteers and their families this years event was a great success. On Saturday March 14th citizens filled the fire hall and were greeted with smiles and a variety of foods. Thanks to the many local businesses with their contributions and continued support, this annual event continues to be a success. There were door prizes, food, and fun for all that attended. Citizens and volunteers alike visited and shared stories new and old, making for a wonderful time. Keep a look out for the next community event coming soon!



**Aurora Fire District**  
**P.O. Box 231**  
**Aurora, OR 97002**

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## Postal Customer

Phone: 503-678-5966  
Fax: 503-678-1344  
Burn Info. 503-982-0011  
Toll free 1-877-982-0011  
Website:  
[www.aurorafire.org](http://www.aurorafire.org)

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Fire Chief  
[ryoder@aurorafire.org](mailto:ryoder@aurorafire.org)

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Tim Gloy  
Fire Training  
[tgloy@aurorafire.org](mailto:tgloy@aurorafire.org)

### 2008 Calls of Service for the Aurora Fire District

First Aid	283
Motor Vehicle Accidents	146
Fire, structure, brush and vehicle	61
Mutual Aids	44
Public Assist	51
Fire Alarms	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>632</b>

### Board of Directors

President  
Fred Netter

Vice President  
Marc Anderson

Secretary  
Deb Garner

Directors:  
Donna Hammang  
Erwin Nyquist

The Board of Directors for the Aurora Fire District meets on the 3rd Wednesday of Jan., Mar., May, Jul., Sept., Nov. at the Donald station and Feb., Apr., Jun., Aug., Oct., Dec. at the Aurora station. These meetings start at 7PM standard time and 8PM during day-light savings time. The meetings are open to the general public.