

# Ocean County Fire Academy



## Course Catalog Spring 2023



# **FIRE ACADEMY**

## **SPRING 2023 COURSE DETAILS**

CLASS TIMES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Weekday Evening(s) – 7:00PM TO 11:00PM

Weekend Day(s) – 8:00AM TO 4:00PM

<b>MARCH</b>	
<b>Structural Protection for the Task Force Leader</b>	March 4
<b>Firefighter Down!</b> <i>Open to EMS – 2.5 CEU's</i>	March 6
<b>Mentoring: Moving Up to the Front Seat</b> <i>Open to EMS – Must attend both days</i>	March 13 & 20
<b>Fire Instructor 1</b> <i>Maximum Students: 10</i> <i>Must attend all days</i> <i>Requirements: 3 years certified firefighter, minimum age: 21</i>	March 8,11,13,15,18 March 20,22,25,27,29 April 1,3, & 5
<b>APRIL</b>	
<b>Drill Ground Instructor</b>	April 8
<b>Advanced Fire Behavior</b> <i>Maximum Students: 20</i> <i>Must attend both days</i>	April 10 & 11
<b>Fire Management of Energy Storage Systems</b> <i>Open to EMS</i>	April 17

<b>MAY</b>	
<b>Short Staffed Engine Company Operations</b> <i>Maximum Students: 24</i>	May 1
<b>Vent – Enter – Search</b> <i>Maximum Students: 15</i> <i>Must attend both days</i>	May 2 & 6
<b>Effectively Leading Change in an Organization</b> <i>Open to EMS</i>	May 15
<b>Fire Officer 1</b> <i>Maximum Students: 20</i> <i>Requirements: 3 years certified firefighter, minimum age 21</i>	May 15,17,22,24,31 June 5,7,12,14,19,21,26,28 July 5,10,12,17,31
<b>Why Are We Killing Ourselves?</b> <i>Open to EMS</i>	May 17
<b>JUNE</b>	
<b>Fire Investigations for the First Arriving</b> <i>Open to EMS and Police</i>	June 5
<b>Fire Ground Survival</b> <i>Maximum Students: 15, must attend both days</i>	June 21 & 24



**COURSE**

**DESCRIPTIONS**

## **ADVANCED FIRE BEHAVIOR**

Has it been a while since you've cracked open your science text? Haven't had any lengthy discussions on fire science in the firehouse lately? Well, then this is the perfect class for you to sharpen your skills and understanding of the dynamics of fire!

Having a firm understanding of the enemy is key in any battle. Firefighting is no exception. This understanding includes standard terminology such as combustion, oxidation, conduction, and convection, but also newer research in the areas of flow paths, ventilation-limited fires, heat release rates, and gravity currents. This class will cover all of these topics and more in order to refresh old ideas, present new ones, and expand upon both while observing a live fire.

The course is designed to complement the Art of Reading Smoke. Participants do not need to sign up for both courses, but it is recommended.

## **DRILL GROUND INSTRUCTOR**

This New Jersey Division of Fire Safety course is designed to ensure that Fire Service Instructors know and understand the safety issues inherent in each of the subject areas of firefighter training. Instructors must be capable of demonstrating the proper methods of identifying and correcting an unsafe situation as it occurs. Instructors must also demonstrate a knowledge of equipment and apparatus maintenance and safety procedures since well-maintained equipment is necessary to do the job safely and effectively.

This program is required for fire service instructors that wish to teach specified modules in the Firefighter 1 & 2 course in the State of New Jersey. It is also a good program for company officers who may conduct Fire Department drills. This course will provide the student with a basic understanding of live burn and SCBA safety concerns.

## **EFFECTIVELY LEADING CHANGE IN AN ORGANIZATION**

Change happens in an organization and if not effectively managed it can have either devastating or very positive effects in an organization. This seminar will examine some of the ways that change can be effectively managed and implemented while working within an existing organizational culture. The goal is to positively implement change and gain buy-in from department members without the battles that often sap the strength and morale of an organization. It is designed to show how to develop and work with focused teams of volunteer firefighters to evaluate and create a needs assessment and organizational evaluation that can be presented as informative and non-threatening. Topics will include those contained in NFPA Fire Officer Standards and are research-based best practices. **OPEN TO EMS**

## **FIRE INSTRUCTOR 1**

This class is required by the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety for firefighters who wish to be certified as Level 1 fire service instructors. The class is also recommended for new or up and coming fire officers.

The program is based on the current IFSTA Fire and Emergency Services Instructor book. This class is replacing the old NFA Instructional Techniques for Company Officers program.

## **FIRE GROUND SURVIVAL**

Our F.A.S.T. Team program is designed to teach you how to rescue other firefighters. This class was developed to teach you how to recognize problems that can get you into trouble, and then rescue yourself in the event you should get into trouble. All too often we read about firefighters being injured or killed at what seems to be routine calls. This class will give firefighters some skills that may be needed to rapidly exit a room or building when things begin to go wrong. Items covered are:

Why we get into trouble on the fire ground

Building Construction

Aerial and ground ladders usage and placement

Entanglement emergencies

Mayday

Wall breaches

Ladder and rope bails

Firefighter disorientation

History and cause of firefighter deaths

Personal ropes

The class is divided into two evening lectures that will prepare you for the eight-hour hands-on portion of the program. The hands-on portion is fast paced and strenuous. Firefighter safety will be kept at the forefront during the entire program.

## **FIRE INVESTIGATIONS FOR THE FIRST ARRIVING**

This course gives first responders a better understanding of their roles in fire investigations when they are first on scene. It provides an idea of what information investigators will be looking for from them and makes responders aware of laws and standards that dictate how scenes are to be controlled and handled during an incident, prior to and when an investigator is on scene. It will help first responders understand when they should call for a fire investigator to respond or other ways of handling incidents. This course will provide attendees with the resources to help them in the event they are unsure or have questions involving a scene. **OPEN TO POLICE & EMS**

## **FIRE MANAGEMENT OF ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS**

Energy Storage Systems (ESSs) are new technologies which present new challenges for firefighters and first responders. Unfortunately, as with many new technologies, first responders are usually the last to know or understand the safety impacts related to them; however, they are usually the first to encounter them in emergencies. Emergency situations involving these new systems can progress slowly (sometimes unnoticed for long periods) or extremely rapid depending on the nature of the incident. This variability in incident development can dramatically affect the methods in which responders address ESS situations. With the rapid adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) and broad deployments of stationary ESSs within residential, commercial and industrial locations, firefighters need to understand hazards, best practices, fire management strategies, and new techniques to ensure the safety of their communities and their crews accordingly. This course is intended to provide firefighters with a basic understanding of different types of ESS's, ESS hazards, firefighting techniques, and recommended practices for fire suppression and management for electric vehicles and stationary ESS's. **OPEN TO EMS**



## **FIRE OFFICER 1**

This program is designed to prepare the participants to obtain the Fire Officer I certification under New Jersey Division of Fire Safety Fire Officer Regulations. The course also meets the objectives of NFPA 1021, Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications.

## **FIREFIGHTER DOWN!**

A revision of Firefighter CPR, this course will outline the causes of firefighter-related cardiac events and how to quickly begin CPR on a downed firefighter in full turnout gear with SCBA. Rapid removal of PPE is imperative in order to transfer care of the firefighter to EMS. In addition, this course will present suggested practices during and after a firefighter down situation. With a national average of approximately 100 firefighters who die in the line of duty annually, many of them from cardiac events, early CPR and properly established practices are our best hope to save a life!

## **MENTORING: MOVING UP TO THE FRONT SEAT**

The target audience for this course are new officers in the fire/ems service who want to effectively make the change from being strictly a technical expert to effectively leading a team of emergency service professionals on and off the fire ground. This course will discuss several topics from the Fire Officer text including knowing yourself, leading others, applying effective strategy and tactics, leading a team, networking, training, basic administrative duties, and being an important part of the emergency planning and response team. This course will help you to effectively grow in your fire / emergency services career.

**OPEN TO EMS**

# **SHORT STAFFED ENGINE COMPANY OPERATIONS**

The lack of adequate staffing is a difficulty that many firefighters struggle with across the Nation. Due to this, many have utilized different methods and some changes in our equipment and tactics, which has proven successful for them. This program will discuss those methods, which will include single and two firefighter nozzle technique, hose line advancement, options for hose loads, options for hose stretching (short and long distance), equipment simplicity, proper operating pressures, and general aggressive engine company techniques. This program is an update and replacement to the former Efficient Engine Company Operations class, as the particular topic has had a great deal of interest.

# **STRUCTURAL PROTECTION FOR THE TASK FORCE LEADER**

This course was designed to familiarize the student with the roles and duties of a strike team or task force leader responding to incidents as part of the Ocean County Forest Fire Action Plan. The information presented will help you to understand your department's role in this type of event. Topics will include:

1. A review of the current version of the plan
2. The command structure used.
3. How staging and demobilization work.
4. Forest Fire terms that might be used.
5. Building / Structure triage.
6. Preparing the property to be defensible.

Attendance at this program is a prerequisite for a fire officer to be selected to act as a Strike Team or Task Force Leader in Ocean County.

Current fire chiefs and fire officers will be given preference in seating, followed by former chiefs, officers and then firefighters.

## **V.E.S. (Vent, Enter, Search)**

Vent, Enter, Search (VES) is a time-tested proven rescue technique that aims to provide rapid rescues through deliberately targeted search areas. Thus, increasing survivability of our victims. We will cover V.E.S. and ladder tactics, history and the aggressive search and rescue mindset. Then, practical training, where under live fire conditions, you will execute these ground ladder tactics, including unconscious victim removal from upper floors, one person ladder throws (25 & 35 foot), rapid masking up procedures and more!!!

The instructors aim to make this class as REAL as possible and utilize some extremely experienced instructors who provide real life experience in what works and gives your victims the best chance of survival.

Tonight could be the night: ARE YOU READY to make the SAVE?

## **WHY ARE WE KILLING OURSELVES?**

The elephant is in the room, perhaps it is time we acknowledge its presence! A recent study found that more emergency responders died of suicide in 2017 than in the line of duty.

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation reported that fire departments are four times more likely within a given year to experience a suicide than a "traditional" line-of-duty death. Research suggests that firefighters are not immune to the excessive stressful nature of their careers, making firefighter mental health a critical issue of firefighter wellness and safety. This program will offer an open forum to discuss what we can do to help each other and what resources are available as well as some warning signs we should all know about. **OPEN TO**

**EMS**

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