



OCTOBER 9-11, 2024
Hilton Garden Inn
Missoula, MT

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

9:00 - 5:00	Emerging Leaders in the Montana Fire Service Academy
4:00 - 8:00	Vendor Set-up (Ballroom A-D & Foyer)
5:00 - 7:00	Welcome Reception/Registration Check-in (Foyer)

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

8:00 - 9:00	Registration Check-in (Foyer)	
8:00 - 9:00	Breakfast - (provided) - Foyer	
9:00 - 9:30	Welcome and Opening Remarks (Ballroom EF) Chief Rich Cowger, MSFCA President, Chief Kevin Moritz, MSVFFA President Andrea Davis, Missoula Mayor Chief Gordy Hughes, Missoula Fire Department, Chief Paul Finlay, Missoula Rural Fire Department Welcome messages from Senator Tester, Senator Daines, Representative Rosendale	
9:30 - 10:30	<i>Moderator: Chief Rich Cowger</i> Same Objectives, Different Tactics: Having the Courage to be Responsible and Realistically Aware Jim Silvernail, Fire Chief, Kirkwood Fire Department, St. Louis County, MO, and Glendale Fire Department (MO)	
10:30 - 11:00	Networking with Vendors and Sponsors (Ballroom A-D & Foyer)	
11:00 - 12:00	<i>Moderator: Chief Matt Hoppel</i> Developing the Next Generation of Fire Service Officers Douglas Cline, Assistant Chief of the Professional Development with Horry County Fire Recue Lunch (provided) - Foyer	
12:15 - 1:15	<i>Moderator: Chief Lyn Stimpson</i> Volunteer Section Meeting Bitterroot River Room (pick up your lunch in the foyer)	<i>Moderator: Chief Jeremy Jones</i> Combo/Career Section Meeting Ballroom E (pick up your lunch in the foyer)
1:15 - 2:15	<i>Moderator: Chief Josh Waldo</i> Improving Firefighter Performance and Resilience with E.M.S. (Eating, Moving, Sleeping) and a Dose of Reality. Aaron Zamzow, Firefighter/ EMT and Training Officer in Madison, Wisconsin	
2:15 - 3:15	<i>Moderator: Chief Kevin Moritz</i> The First Five Minutes: The Critical Importance of Size-Up, Incident Action Planning, and Effective Incident Communications Charles W. Ryan, III, JD, EFO, CFO, MIFireE, Fire Chief, Tucson Fire Department	
3:15 - 3:45	Networking with Vendors and Sponsors (Ballroom A-D & Foyer)	
3:45-5:15	<i>Moderator: Chief Dustin Tetrault</i> Healthy You = Healthy Crew. How to Create a Fit and Healthy Culture Aaron Zamzow, Firefighter/ EMT and Training Officer in Madison, Wisconsin	
5:15 - 7:15	Social Reception with the Vendors and Sponsors (Ballroom A-D & Foyer)	

Thursday, October 10, 2024

8:00 - 5:30	Registration Desk Open (Foyer)
8:00 - 9:00	Breakfast - provided (Foyer)
9:00 - 9:55	<i>Moderator: Chief Rich Cowger</i> Welcome Back and Updates; Legislative; Partners; Sponsors (MT DNRC, Fire Services Training School, State Fire Marshals, MT DES)
9:55 - 10:15	WFCA Update Mark Niemeyer, Fire Chief, Boise Fire Department and President, Western Fire Chiefs Association
10:15 - 11:00	Networking Break with Vendors & Sponsors (Ballroom A-D & Foyer)

11:00 - 12:00	<i>Moderator: Chief Matt Hoppel</i> Realistic, Tactical Implementation Jim Silvernail, Fire Chief, Kirkwood Fire Department, St. Louis County, MO, and Glendale Fire Department (MO)			
12:00 - 1:30	Lunch - provided - food trucks and outdoor vendor displays Patty Wagon; Madeline's Mediterranean; Sonny's Original			
	CONCURRENT SESSIONS			
	Ballroom E	Ballroom G	Bitterroot River Room A	Bitterroot River Room BC
1:30 - 2:30	<i>Moderator: Chief Joe Calnan</i> Legal Issues in the Fire Service Catherine Locke Dinwiddie, PLLC.	<i>Moderator: Chief Steve Lauer</i> ISO & You Amanda L. Cochran, CFPS Senior Field Representative, Verisk Underwriting Solutions	<i>Moderator: Chief Ron Buck</i> Taking Friction Loss out of Procurement Shawn Stokes, Contractor Strategic Development, Public Safety, Sourcewell	<i>Moderator: Chief Jeremy Jones</i> Firefighter Mental Health - Addressing the Elephant in the Room Becky Edmonds, LMFT, EMDR Trained, Emergency Responder/ Public Safety Certified Clinician
2:30 - 3:00	Networking Break with Vendors & Sponsors (Ballroom A-D & Foyer)			
3:00 - 4:00	<i>Moderator: Chief Lyn Stimpson</i> Fireground Management Behavior: The Fire (Ground) Triangle and Fire (Ground) Tetrahedron Jason Powell, Assistant Chief/Paramedic, MBA, CFO, CEMSO, CTO, MIFireE, NRP, Johnson City Fire Department, TN			
4:00 - 4:15	TRANSITION TO CONCURRENT SESSIONS			
	Ballroom E	Ballroom G	Bitterroot River Room A	Bitterroot River Room BC
4:15 - 5:15	<i>Moderator: Chief Steve Lauer</i> Legal Issues in the Fire Service Catherine Locke Dinwiddie, PLLC.	<i>Moderator: Chief Matt Hoppel</i> ISO & You Amanda L. Cochran, CFPS Senior Field Representative, Verisk Underwriting Solutions	<i>Moderator: Chief Joe Calnan</i> Taking Friction Loss out of Procurement Shawn Stokes, Contractor Strategic Development, Public Safety, Sourcewell	<i>Moderator: Asst. Chief Jerry Brothers</i> Firefighter Mental Health - Addressing the Elephant in the Room Becky Edmonds, LMFT, EMDR Trained, Emergency Responder/ Public Safety Certified Clinician
6:00 - 8:00	Beer Fun Run (1.5 or 3 miles) to the Highlander Brewery (meet in the convention center foyer at 5:45, run will leave at 6:00 pm). If you're not running meet at Highlander at 6:00 pm Afterhours networking at Highlander Brewery, featuring music by North Fork Crossing			
Friday, October 11, 2024				
7:30 - 9:00	Breakfast - provided (Foyer)			
8:00 - 9:00	Fire Marshals Forum (Pick up your breakfast and take it to the Bitterroot River Room)			
9:00 - 10:00	<i>Moderator: Chief Brian Nickolay</i> Foundations of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Mike Burton, MS, BS, EFO, CFO, Fire Chief, Pinellas Suncoast Fire Rescue District (Ret.)			
10:00 - 11:00	<i>Moderator: Chief Rex Olson</i> Get Out of the Spotlight and Become the Floodlight: Building your legacy through others Jason Powell, Assistant Chief/Paramedic, MBA, CFO, CEMSO, CTO, MIFireE, NRP, Johnson City Fire Department, TN			
11:00 - 11:30	Networking Break with Vendors & Sponsors			
11:30 - 12:30	<i>Moderator: Spaky Hansen</i> Preserving our History while Flavoring our Future Douglas Cline, Assistant Chief of the Professional Development with Horry County Fire Recue			
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch (provided) - Foyer			
1:30 - 2:30	<i>Moderator: Alex Songstrand</i> Leading In Divisive Times Mike Burton, MS, BS, EFO, CFO, Fire Chief, Pinellas Suncoast Fire Rescue District (Ret.)			
2:30 - 3:30	<i>Moderator: Chief Raymond Ragsdale</i> Recruitment & Retention Hasn't Changed Joe Page, Fire Chief, (ret.) Whitefish Fire Department			
3:30 - 4:00	Networking with Vendors & Sponsors (Ballroom A-D and Foyer)			
4:00 - 5:00	<i>Moderator: KG Bykonen</i> The Importance of Small Unit Leadership from the Fire Chief's Perspective Charles W. Ryan, III, JD, EFO, CFO, MIFireE, Fire Chief, Tucson Fire Department			
5:00	Closing Remarks Chief Rich Cowger, MSFCA President and Chief Kevin Moritz, MSVFFA President			
5:30 - 6:30	Cocktail Hour (Foyer)			
6:30 - 10:00	Awards Banquet (Ballroom E-G)			

Saturday, October 12, 2024 (Optional)

Wildland Committee Meeting

8:30 - 9:30

Clark Fork Conference Room, DNRC Forestry Division Headquarters
2705 Spurgin Road, Missoula MT (everyone welcome)

9:00 - 11:00

Equipment Development and Communications Center Open House and Tours

EDCC – 3125 Spurgin Road, Missoula MT

The Equipment Development and Communications Center (EDCC) is an integral part of the DNRC fire program that produces wildland fire engines and tenders for both direct protection and county cooperative fire forces. EDCC also manages the Forest Service Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP) program and the Department of Defense Fire Fighter Program (FFP) for the State of Montana. Join DNRC staff for a for an open house and tour of the facility in Missoula.