



2023 Safety Stand Down Activity Ideas

Safety Stand Down 2023 takes place June 18-24 with the theme “Lithium-Ion Batteries: Are You Ready?” Use this week to focus department training and activities on preparing for incidents involving lithium-ion batteries. Here are some ideas to get you started.

- Develop a training plan for the week that covers the five daily focus topics of recognition of hazards, firefighting operations, firefighter safety, post-incident considerations, and public education. Depending on your department’s training schedule and duty shifts, you can cover multiple topics in one training session or divide them out over multiple shifts and drill nights. Use the video introductions and Fact Sheet/Training Points for each of the topics available on the Safety Stand Down web site at www.safetystanddown.org/event-planning.
- Before or at the start of Safety Stand Down, challenge your department’s members to take the Safety Stand Down Quiz to test their knowledge of this year’s theme and be entered for a chance to win a limited-edition challenge coin. After Safety Stand Down, have your members take the quiz again to see if their score has improved. Take the quiz here: www.riddle.com/view/Mm6pkpuf
- Review your department’s SOPs/SOGs to make sure they include incidents involving lithium-ion batteries and that they are up to date. You can find sample SOPs/SOGs on the Safety Stand Down web site at www.safetystanddown.org/resources/.
- Promote Safety Stand Down in your department and to other departments in your region. Utilize your department’s newsletter, intranet site, meetings, drill night, email, social media, and other resources to promote that Safety Stand Down will take place June 18-24 and encouraging participation.
- Fill out the Safety Stand Down Success Story form to share your activities and successes to help inspire other departments. Fill out the Success Story form here: <https://nvfc.wufoo.com/forms/safety-stand-down/>. Read past Success Stories here: www.safetystanddown.org/success-stories/.
- Use Safety Stand Down as an opportunity to do a basic risk assessment in your community to learn where there may be greater possibilities for lithium-ion battery emergencies. Look at call data; drive through neighborhoods and look for electric vehicles on the streets or in driveways; look at car dealerships and auto salvage and/or tow yards; look for the presence of residential or commercial alternate energy systems such as photovoltaic cells or battery energy storage systems; and go to retailers and see who is selling what in terms of rechargeable devices – everything from cordless tools to lawn equipment, to personal mobility devices (e-bikes or scooters), or home energy storage systems. Come back to the station and talk about what was seen and learned.
- Take an online training course relating to lithium-ion battery response. Either have your members take the training as a self-study, or take the training together during a drill night. You can find many free online training courses on the Safety Stand Down web site at www.safetystanddown.org/resources/. These include the NFPA’s *Alternative Fuel Vehicles Training Program for Emergency Responders*, the NVFC’s *Electric Vehicle Safety: An Awareness Level Training*, and UL FSRI’s *Science of Fire and Explosion Hazards from Lithium-Ion Batteries*.
- Watch the 2023 Safety Stand Down Roundtable Talk featuring representatives from FDSOA, IAFC, IAFF, NFPA, and NVFC as they discuss the importance of this year’s theme, the daily focus topics, and some key takeaways regarding lithium-ion batteries. View the recording here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7XNWxLN6qRY>
- Use public education resources from the NFPA, USFA, and others to educate your community members on safety considerations regarding lithium-ion batteries, what to do in an emergency involving lithium-ion batteries, and safe disposal of devices containing lithium-ion batteries. Find resources at www.safetystanddown.org/resources/.