

The O·C·E·O·A Enforcer

The Newsletter of the Ohio Code Enforcement Officials Association

Third Quarter, 2009

SPOTLIGHT

Tom Hall, our distinguished member from the city of Wauseon will be starting things off for us with an update on some the recent changes to the ICC which may affect you as a property maintenance or building inspector.

NEW GOVERNMENT FRIENDLY MERS SYSTEM

John Carter from the City of Dayton will be in attendance to bring you up to speed on some exciting developments concerning the MERS.

There has been some widely despairing information printed about the MERS and it's role in the tracking of mortgages.

Ohio Ethics Law: Can I Do That?

In the course of our dealings with the public, contractors, elected officials and other government employees there often comes a time when someone wants us to do a little extra for them or look the other way. They sometimes are willing to offer some form of benefit in exchange for the extraordinary consideration. What seems like a harmless exchange of favors on the surface could actually result in legal ramifications for the inspector.

This Ohio Ethics Law session will provide you with timely information regarding the Ohio Ethics Commission and about restrictions in the Ohio Ethics Law and related statutes that pertain to all public sector employees and private sectors parties who are regulated or do business with public offices.

Objectives:

- Understand how to identify and avoid acting on potential conflicts of interest
- Understand definition of public contracts and ethics prohibitions related to public contracts
- Identify potential post-employment requirements
- Learn about general assistance available from the Ohio Ethics Commission to understand and comply with the Ethics Law and related statutes

Our Ohio Ethics Law Presenter will be **Susan M. Willeke**. Susan joined the Ohio Ethics Commission in 2005 as the Training and Communications Manager where she oversees and conducts educational and communication outreach. Prior to joining the Commission, Susan served for eleven years in the communications office at the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and has also served as a legislative aide in the Ohio House of Representatives. Susan is a 1992 Summa Cum Laude graduate of Ursuline College in Pepper Pike, Ohio.

NOXIOUS WEEDS

A **noxious weed** is a plant species that has been designated by state or national agricultural authorities as a plant that is injurious to agricultural and/or horticultural crops and/or humans and livestock. Most have been introduced into a foreign ecosystem either by accident or mismanagement, but some are also native species. Typically they are plants that are aggressive growing which multiply quickly and adversely affect desirable plants or are somehow injurious to livestock or humans either by contact or when ingested. They are a large problem in many parts of the

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world, greatly affecting areas of agriculture, forest management and other open lands.

The definition of a noxious weed doesn't always suffice for the purposes of code enforcement.

Nathan Zebrowski from the City of Dayton is going to give us a closer look at the official definition of a noxious weed.

Nathan will share with us some little know facts about some of the plants found in Ohio, like where they originated and how they likely ended up in Ohio.

Nathan will explain why some plants that are often not considered weeds because of their attractiveness and appeal can actually be very destructive. Some of these plants are so evasive that they endanger other plants survival while other plants are extremely dangerous to humans.

We all know what Poison Ivy can do to us! Well there are plants found right here in Ohio that can prove to be fatal if eaten or even just from coming in contact with our skin.

2009 OCEOA Meeting Dates

- February 12, 2009 •
- May 14, 2009 •
- August 13, 2009 •
- November 12, 2009 •

All meetings will be held at the Ramada Plaza on Sinclair Road in Columbus, Toll Free Phone No. 1-877-609-6086

NEWS from CPSC
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Information and Public Affairs

Washington, DC 20207

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 9, 2009
Release # 09-266

Firm's Recall Hotline: (877) 524-2086
CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772
CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

Kidde Recalls Dual Sensor Smoke Alarms; Can Fail to Warn of a Fire

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

Name of Product: Kidde Model PI2000 Dual Sensor Smoke Alarms

Units: About 94,000

Manufacturer: Walter Kidde Portable Equipment Inc., of Mebane, N.C.

Hazard: An electrostatic discharge can damage the unit, causing it not to warn consumers of a fire.

Incidents/Injuries: The firm has received two reported incidents of smoke alarm malfunctions involving electrostatic discharge during installation. No injuries have been reported.

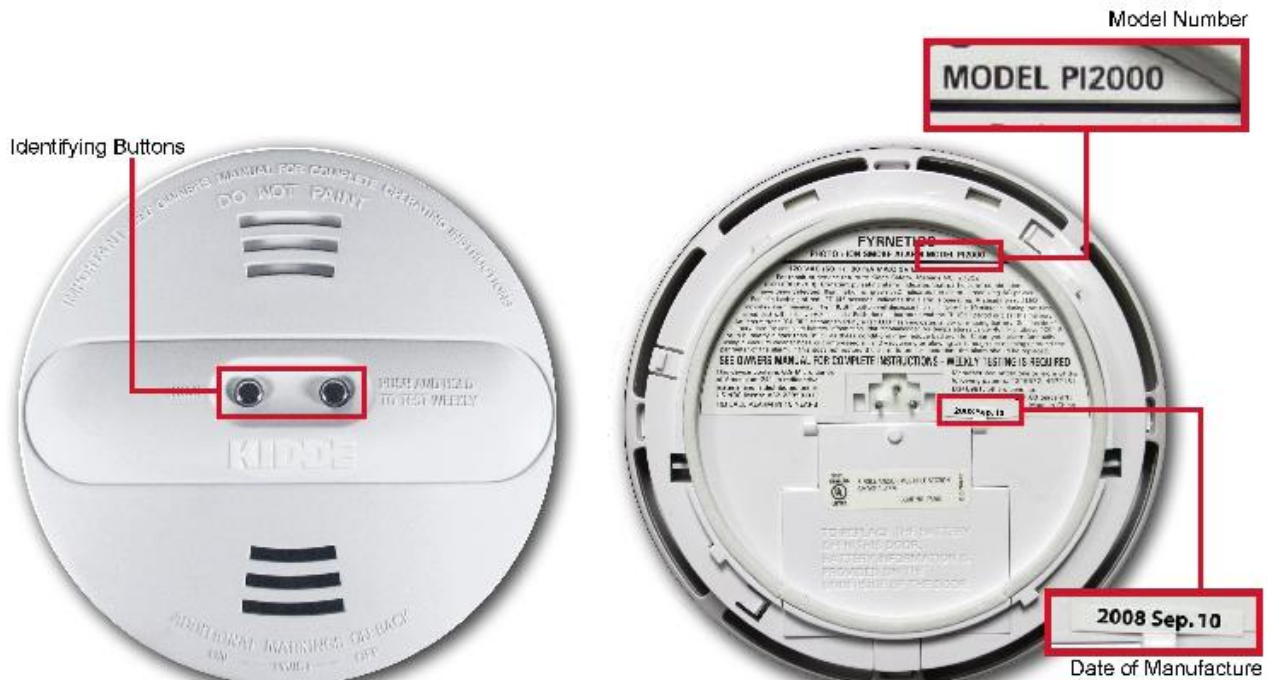
Description: This recall involves Kidde dual sensor smoke alarms model PI2000. The alarms can be identified by two buttons, "HUSH" and "PUSH AND HOLD TO TEST WEEKLY," which are located on the front/center of the alarm. The model number and date code are on the back of the smoke alarm. Only date codes 2008 Aug.01 through 2009 May 04 are included in this recall.

Sold at: Retail, department, and hardware stores and through electrical distributors nationwide from August 2008 through May 2009 for between \$30 and \$40.

Manufactured in: China

Remedy: Consumers should contact Kidde immediately to receive a free replacement smoke alarm.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact Kidde toll-free at (877) 524-2086 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at www.kidde.com





field bindweed



wild carrot



sulfur cinquefoil



giant knotweed



english ivy



bitter nightshade



poison hemlock



giant hogweed



orange hawkweed



canada thistle



tansy ragwort



yellow nutsedge

You can now download the meeting registration form and copies of the Enforcer by visiting the web site at www.oceoa.org

COFFEE BREAK

Compliments of Rick Helsinger, Candidate for a seat on the International Code Council Board of Directors.

Many portable and fixed devices run on battery power, or relay on this energy source in the event of a primary power loss.

Today's Coffee Break Training, "Battery Storage Systems," describes some of the hazards and protective features required for stationary battery systems.

Your Coffee Break can be downloaded from http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/coffee-break/cb_fp_2009_28.pdf

Always refer to nationally recognized design and installation standards, the product manufacturer or listing details for specific information.

Please share this Coffee Break Training segment and others with your peers. Previous Coffee Breaks may be found at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/coffee-break/>

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