A Message from the State Fire Marshal
Chief Daniel Berlant
May 2025



Welcome to the May 2025 CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Newsletter! For this edition, we are excited to announce the upcoming Battery Energy Storage Systems Fire Safety Symposium, our preparations for peak wildfire season, and other important updates.

The newsletter highlights defensible space and its connection to burn permits, along with details on defensible space inspections. Defensible space is the buffer between a structure and surrounding vegetation, acting as a barrier to slow or stop fire and protect your home. Defensible Space Inspections (DSIs) help ensure your property is prepared for wildfire.

In addition, Fire Prevention Specialist II Natasha Fouts is featured in our Employee Spotlight video. A former Defensible Space Inspector and current Fire Prevention Specialist II with the Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation program (CWPM), Natasha also served as a Damage Inspection Specialist (DINS) on the Palisades Fire.

Along with wildfire preparedness tips, we also have information on our upcoming Battery Energy Storage Systems Fire Safety Symposium, the Pipeline Safety Division's CUPA Conference, and more.

Thanks for taking the time to catch up on the important work of our team and being an integral part in our efforts to reduce the impact of wildfires. As always, please have a fire-safe day!

Daniel Berlant
California State Fire Marshal